1. Parish: Reydon

Meaning: Rye hill

2. Hundred: Blything


Union: Blything


Other administrative details:

- Included Chapelry of Southwold. Separate civil parish status early. Some parochial rights since 15th cent., separate ecclesiastical parish status 1752
- Blything Petty Sessional Division
- Halesworth County Court District

3. Area: 2,729 acres (1912)

4. Soils:

Mixed:

a. Deep well-drained sandy soils, some very acid, risk of wind erosion.
b. Deep stoneless, mainly calcareous, clay soils, flat land, risk of flooding by river.

5. Types of farming:

1086 Wood for 60 pigs, 1 cob, 5 cattle, 30 pigs, 110 sheep, 15 goats
1818 Marshall: Management varies with condition of sandy soils. Rotation usually turnip, barley, clover, wheat or turnips as preparation for corn and grass.
1937 Main crops: Wheat, barley, oats, turnips.
1969 Trist: Barley and sugar beet are the main crops with some rye grown on poorer lands and a little wheat, herbage seeds and carrots.

6. Enclosure:

1800 504 acres enclosed under Private Act of Lands 1798

7. Settlement:
1976 River Blyth, Wolseys Creek and Buss Creek form natural boundaries to south. Associated wet lands restrict development in this area. Marshland to north similarly restricts development. Large compact development to north of Mights Bridge. Church situated separately to the west of development. Scattered farms


8. **Communications:**

**Road:** To Southwold, Eastern Bavents, South Cove, Wangford and Blythburgh.

**Rail:** 1891 – 2 miles Southwold station: Southwold–Halesworth line, opened 1879, closed 1929.

**Water:** River Blyth: navigable to Halesworth 1761, silted up. Remains of wharf (possibly 13th cent.) at Wood’s End Creek.

9. **Population:**

1086 – 62 recorded
1327 – 55 taxpayers paid £4 14s. 1½d. (includes Easton Bavents)
1524 – 30 taxpayers paid £3 1s. 1d.
1674 – 24 households
1676 – Not recorded
1801 – 317 inhabitants
1831 – 338 inhabitants
1851 – 337 inhabitants
1871 – 275 inhabitants
1901 – 453 inhabitants
1931 – 981 inhabitants
1951 – 1,447 inhabitants
1971 – 2,136 inhabitants
1981 – 2,204 inhabitants

10. **Benefice:** *Vicarage*

1254 Valued £13 6s. 8d. (includes Southwold)
1291 Valued £17 6s. 8d.
To vicar in same £6 13s. 4d. (probably includes Southwold) £24 0s. 0d. **£24 13s 4d**
1535 Valued £13 6s. 8d. (includes Southwold)
1831 No glebe house. Gross income £220 pa
1844 Tithes commuted for £410 to the impropriator and £218 pa to the vicar.
1891 Incumbent resides in Wangford
1912 Consolidated with Henham and Wangford. Joint nett value £175. 3 acres glebe and residence. Incumbent resides in Wangford.
Patrons: Earl of Stradbroke (1831 and 1912)

11. Church **St Margaret**
   (Chancel, nave, south porch, west tower)

1086  2 churches + 1 carucate land, valued 10s.
C.1200 Appears granted to Wangford Priory
13th cent. Chancel
14th cent. Tower
15th cent. North aisle destroyed
1877 Restoration
1952 Foundations of north chapel discovered. Believed to be 14th cent. origins, destroyed c.16th cent. PSIA Vol XXVI, p.58.

Seats: 150 (1915)

Chapel **St Margaret de Rissemera** (Rissemera being the former name for Reydon)

C.1200 Grant of the church of Reydon with the chapel of Rissmere to Wangford Priory. Victoria County History Vol II, p.88.

11a Other religious institutions:

College **St Mary, St John Baptist and St Andrew**

1362 Said to be founded by Sir John Wingfield.
C.1535 Valued at £50 3s. 5d. and granted to the Bishop of Norwich. This, however, has been unsubstantiated from any other source except Raven Pamphlets Vol 20, No 7.

12. Nonconformity etc:

13. Manorial:

Reydon Manor

C.1205 Sir High de Cressy owns (linked to Gt Glemham and Thelnetham)
C.1276 William de Valence, Earl of Pembroke owns (linked to Westleton, Exning, Mutford and Offton).
1325 Laurance de Hastings owns. Yearly value £51 18s. 3½d.
C.1519 Charles Somerset, Earl of Worcester owns
1562 Francis Rous owns
1909 Earl of Stradbroke owns (linked to Sotherton, Stoven, Uggeshall, Wangford, Henham, Dennington, Tannington and Bruisyard).
Sub-manors:

**Reydon Blevilis**

Mid 16th cent. Sir George Somerset owns (linked to Wickhambrook)
16th cent. Thomas Rous owns (becoming absorbed by main manor)(linked to Burgh, Clopton and Cransford).

**Reydon Wingfields/Reydon Ugghall**

Nothing significant known and probably became absorbed into main manor.

14. **Markets/Fairs**

1310 Grant of market and fair.

15. **Real property:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1844</td>
<td>£2,000 rental value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1891</td>
<td>£2,749 rateable value</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>£4,407 rateable value</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

16. **Land ownership:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Owners</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1844/1891</td>
<td>Land sub-divided</td>
<td>Earl of Stradbroke and Mrs Ewen principal owners.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

17. **Resident gentry:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1844</td>
<td>Mrs and Miss Elizabeth and Agnes Strickland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1891</td>
<td>Rev. J.N.F. Ewen MA and Rev. J.A. Patrick MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>Rev. K. MacKinnon MA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

18. **Occupations:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1550–1599</td>
<td>1 yeoman, 1 labourer, 3 husbandmen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1600–1649</td>
<td>2 husbandmen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1650–1699</td>
<td>1 maltster, 1 carpenter, 2 yeomen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1831</td>
<td>59 in agriculture, 3 in retail trade, 3 professionals, 5 in labouring, 15 in domestic service, 1 other.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1844</td>
<td>Shopkeeper/shoemaker/victualer, blacksmith, 9 farmers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>2 sub-postmasters, school teacher, hotel owner, 4 shopkeepers, 9 farmers, farm bailiff, 4 apartment house owners, house decorator, engineer, builder/blacksmith/wheelwright, head mistress to girls school, dairyman.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

19. **Education:**
1818 Some attend school in Southwold
1833 1 Sunday school, established 1827 (35 attend)
1866 National school built (30 attend in 1891)
1908 East Suffolk County Council School built, enlarged in
1912 when average attendance was 161.
1912 St Felix School for Girls in existence.

20. Poor relief:

1776 £62 7s.
1803 £115 0s. 1/4d.
1818 £277 15s.
1830 £258 7s.
1832 £257
1834 £333 8s.

21. Charities:

Church land

1840 4/5 acres let at £7–£8 pa applied to church repairs.

Poors allotments

1840 22 acres acquired on enclosure let at £18 pa laid out in coals.

Walter’s dole

1589 by will of Matthew Walters: 10s. pa (discontinued 1840)

22. Other institutions:

1908 ‘The Rest for the aged Poor of Southworld’ built: 4
cottages (housing for 8) arranged on 3 sides of
quadranegel with central garden.
1472 Guilds of St Margaret and St Mary

23. Recreation:

1844 The Bear public house
1891 The Quay Inn public house
1912 The Randolph Hotel

24. Personal:

1844 Mrs and Miss Elizabeth and Agnes Strickland, residents
of Reydon Hall, authors of ‘Queens of England’
1796–1874 ‘Agnes Strickland and her birthplace’ by E.R. Cooper
PSIA Vol XXIV, p.33.
25. **Other information:**

Parish is reputedly site of ancient park.

- **c.1200** Water mill and dam at Reydon granted to Wangford Priory.
- **1472** Pilgrimages made to an Image of St Remigius.
- **1684** Hall in the park taken down by Oliver Dave.
- **1747** Sluice for drainage of low lands constructed at Wolsey Bridge by Sir John Rous. Tradition says Cardinal Wolsey built this bridge but this is unsubstantiated.
- **1754** Described by Gardner as enjoying ‘a market and a park, there being some lands still retaining the appellation of the market close with high, low and middle park pieces and park lane’.
- **1860** Reydon Hall alterations and additions. Reydon Hall east wing bears the date 1682. No date for rebuilding. Water mill and quay once existed near Wood’s End Creek. Quay probably declined as Southwold gained domination.