

## Norfolk Slip Collection Report

### Introduction

Thanks to the kind support of Jim and Mary Ann Wilkes we have been able to undertake research to investigate if the collection of material in the library of the English Place-Name Society relating to Norfolk will support the writing-up of a dictionary of Norfolk place-names. Such an outcome would be planned for the EPNS Popular Series, and, in the tradition of the publication of Alfred Oscroft's work on Hampshire, would ensure that work done by earlier scholars was made available. This generous donation has enabled Ellen Fisher to spend a month working through the archive, assessing its scope and coverage, under the supervision of Dr Paul Cavill, and we are delighted to report on the results below.

### Overview

There are thirty-three historical Hundreds in the county of Norfolk as well as the four boroughs of Norwich, King's Lynn, Thetford and Yarmouth. In these thirty-three Hundreds there are nearly 700 parishes. To date, the EPNS have published three county volumes, which cover the city of Norwich and the following seven Hundreds: North Erpingham, South Erpingham, East Flegg, West Flegg, Happing, Holt and Tunstead.

Figure 1 provides the number of parishes per Hundred in the county, with those already published printed in **bold** type.

Figure 1

<b>Hundred</b>	<b>Number of parishes</b>
Blofield	19
Brothercross	10
Clacklose	34
Clavering	19
Depwade	21
Diss	15
Earsham	14
<b>Erpingham, North</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Erpingham, South</b>	<b>37</b>
Eynsford	30
<b>Flegg, East</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Flegg, West</b>	<b>11</b>
Forehoe	24
Freebridge Lynn	36
Freebridge Marshland	17
Gallow	32
Greenhoe, North	18
Greenhoe South	24
Grimshoe	16
Guiltcross	14

<b>Happing</b>	<b>16</b>
Henstead	18
<b>Holt</b>	<b>26</b>
Humbleyard	19
Launditch	32
Loddon	22
Mitford	18
Shropham	20
Smithdon	20
Taverham	18
<b>Tunstead</b>	<b>26</b>
Walsham	13
Wayland	16

The general coverage in the Norfolk slips collection is good and largely consistent throughout. There is an extensive amount of material for some areas and there are very few parishes missing from the collection overall. The main area where the level of cover varies is in the field names.

#### Sources

The major sources excerpted are as follows: Domesday Book, Assize Rolls, Charter Rolls, Close Rolls, Curia Regis Rolls, Feudal Aids, Feet of Fines, Calendar of Inquisitions post mortem, Pipe Rolls, Patent Rolls, *Rotuli Hundredorum*, *The Valuation of Norwich* and *Valor Ecclesiasticus*. Each of the sources listed above appear in the slips for nearly every parish. New sources include cartularies and priory registers and other more localized documents: the Register of Thetford Priory, the Field Book and Flitcham Estate Manuscripts occur quite commonly; Carthew's *The Hundred of Launditch and Deanery of Brisley* is the predominant source for Launditch Hundred, and the Register of Langley Abbey is frequent in the slips for Loddon Hundred. Maps are also a common source for minor names: a total of fourteen maps are employed, seven of which were also used across the previous three volumes on Norfolk.

#### Gaps and missing material

There are some gaps in the material, but these are not substantial. The majority of material for the parish of Colkirk (Launditch Hd) is missing. In Eynsford Hundred, eleven of the thirty parishes are missing. The missing parishes are: Bintree, Billingford, Brandiston, Bylaugh (Belaugh), Elsing, Foulsham, Foxley, Guestwick, Guist, Hackford and Haveringland.

There are only a few slips for the River Ant and there is no material in the collection for the other main estuaries and rivers of the Norfolk Broads, which are the River Chet, the River Wensum and the River Waveney. There are a few slips for much smaller rivers and estuaries in Norfolk, but this is not a complete collection.

The coverage of field-names is extensive in some areas, but lacking in others. There are seventeen parishes that have no field names. These parishes are: Thorpe Abbots,

Pensthorpe, Pudding Norton, Colveston, Warham All Saints, Langford, South Pickenham, Houghton-on-the-hill, Whitlingham, Markshall (lost), Hethersett, Flordon, Swardeston, Alington, Thuxton, New Buckenham and Stow Bedon. These are marked in red on the map, Figure 2.

Compared to the material in the collection on the Hundreds that have already been published there is a consistent and similar level of coverage in the unpublished material. The main areas that need more work are the missing parishes indicated on the maps, some further field- and street-name material in some parishes and the rivers in Norfolk. Overall, there appears to be a high level of detailed coverage completed for the county of Norfolk and it may be possible to complete the few highlighted areas during the process of writing a popular dictionary.

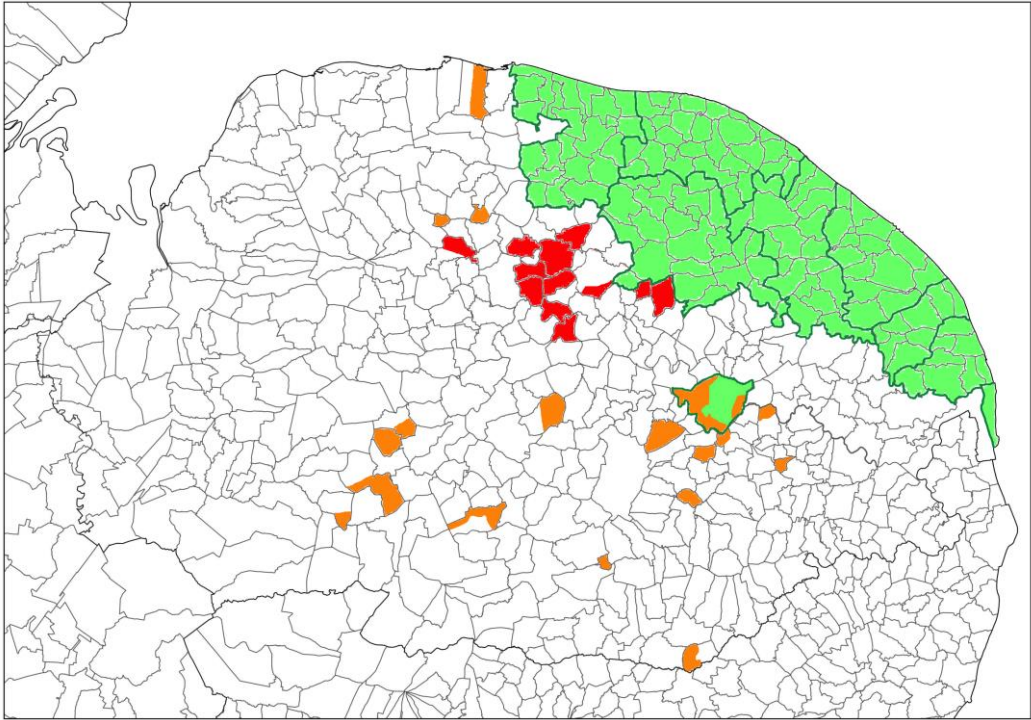


Figure 2. Base map sourced from Ordnance Survey Open Data showing the modern parish councils in Norfolk, layered using QGIS.

