

PODE HOLE ANNUAL RAINFALL

<u>Year</u>	<u>Inches</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1891	25.13	No rain in February.
1892	22.75	"Holland" wheel lowered 4 inches - total 3ft. since 1825. New Dredger launched.
1893	18.13	Very dry summer.
1894	22.38	Welland again heavily landed up by Tides.
1895	21.91	February 9th - 35 degrees of frost in Spalding.
1896	22.75	
1897	23.64	Glen North Bank broke at Guthram, highest known flood in Glen.
1898	20.25	
1899	20.91	Portion of Counter Drain cleaned out, inner bank strengthened. North Fen Steam Engine not to work unless water stood at a depth of 6ft. 3ins. on gauge.
1900	28.50	Improvement of River Glen, mud ploughing and casting out.
1901	22.38	Delph Drain deepened and widened.
1902	22.63	
1903	30.74	Wet year. Rainfall in October, 6.25 inches.
1904	22.25	"Kesteven" wheel lowered 4 inches - total 3ft. since 1825.
1905	24.63	High tide in Welland January 6th - 17ft. 9ins. on Glen Sluice gauge. River overflowed bank at Pigeon End. Maxey Surveyor instructed to repair the Low Lock Door and clean out the south half of the River Welland.
1906	25.75	
1907	22.46	Dredger "Nesta" launched November.
1908	17.22	Extensive repairs to Vernatts Sea Gates.
1909	24.00	River Glen stops, Tongue End, lowered 2ft.
1910	26.12	Glen North Bank broke near Tongue End, 3rd December.
1911	18.98	Horseshoe, Money and Cuckoo Bridge re-built in Ferro-concrete. New steam engine for North Fen from Messrs. Clayton and Shuttleworth and Company for £180.
1912	29.38	Rainfall August 26th - 2.14 inches in 24 hours. Highest recorded flood in Glen August 27th.
1913	21.11	South Drove Drain cleaned out. Crowland Bridge re-built in Ferro-concrete.
1914	21.85	Diesel engine and pump started work, April.

FROM 1891 TO 1940

<u>Year</u>	<u>Inches</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1915	25.74	North Drove Drain cleaned out. Vernatt's Drain Improvement.
1916	27.89	Delph Drain Improvement commenced.
1917	19.94	Low rainfall (under 20 inches).
1918	26.46	Heavy rainfall - September.
1919	26.49	
1920	24.08	
1921	12.66	Driest year on this record.
1922	26.31	
1923	22.89	
1924	26.45	
1925	23.00	
1926	23.47	Proprietors of Helpston Paper Mills requested to filter their water before entering Board's drains.
1927	29.49	Highest reading ever recorded on Vernatt's Gauge (December) 12ft. 4ins.
1928	25.29	Old Steam engines replaced by "William Dennis" Pump.
1929	20.90	New oil engine for North Fen purchased from Messrs. Blackstones of Stamford for £352-8-3.
1930	25.04	
1931	25.77	
1932	25.35	New engine shed at North Fen for £128-10-0.
1933	18.10	
1934	18.63	New Lighter Boat introduced.
1935	23.87	
1936	25.81	
1937	29.86	
1938	19.73	First meeting of the newly constituted North Welland Internal Drainage Board. Repairs undertaken to Risegate Eau Outfall Sluice.
1939	28.14	First meeting of the newly constituted Deeping Fen, Spalding and Pinchbeck Internal Drainage Board. "Dennis" pump ran 396 hours without stop.
1940	22.38	"Henry Bain" pump installed. Improvement schemes undertaken in Maxey Area at request of Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.



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1941	30.79	Vernatts Improvement Scheme started.
1942	22.21	New pump for Fosdyke Marsh Area.
1943	18.75	Shoals Drain Improvement Scheme commenced.
1944	23.88	Vernatts Scheme completed.
1945	20.17	
1946	27.19	Work commenced on Bourne South Fen Pumping Station. Improvement Scheme for Risegate Eau.
1947	18.88	First meeting of the newly constituted Baston, Langtoft and the Deepings Internal Drainage Board. Great flood (breach Crowland Bank and River Glen Bank). Considerable scour in Risegate Eau as result of unprecedented flood conditions. Scheme approved to improve the drains of the Baston Board.
1948	23.16	Work commenced on North and South Drove Drains Scheme.
1949	20.06	Opening of Bourne South Fen Pumping Station.
1950	24.19	Deeping St. James Improvement Scheme undertaken.
1951	27.67	Old Beam engine at Pinchbeck Marsh operated for longest period on record. Improvement of Gravel Drain.
1952	22.64	Demolition of Holland and Kesteven Steam Engines.
1953	23.15	First meeting of the newly constituted Maxey Internal Drainage Board. Opening of Fourth District and Pinchbeck Marsh New Pumping Stations. Two breaches in tidal bank on Fosdyke Marsh.
1954	29.41	Delph Diversion and Counter Drain Washes Improvement Scheme commenced.
1955	20.55	Jordan's Drain Diversion and Hallmeadow Drain Schemes undertaken.
1956	23.07	Lock's Dyke Improvement Scheme completed.
1957	23.95	Opening of the Adventurer's New Pumping Station. Scheme approved for new electric pump for North Fen. New sluice doors fitted at Five Towns Sluice.
1958	31.39	Work started on North and South Drove Drains Improvement Scheme.

FROM 1941 TO 1966

<u>Year</u>	<u>Inches</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1959	17.98	Pode Hole Bridge and Cuckoo Bridge re-built. Crowland and Cowbit Washes Improvement Scheme commenced at Lock's Mill.
1960	29.97	Rasens Dyke Improvement. Reconstruction of Cottages at Pode Hole. Flooding in Northborough. Maxey Board complained to Welland River Board that the chief cause of flooding was excessive flow in the new Maxey Cut impeding discharge of Clayfield Drain.
1961	21.47	Westlode and Pennygate Drain Improvement Schemes. Tidal surge 20th March, 1961 - two breaches in Vernatt's Bank. Heightening of Vernatt's Drain Bank commenced.
1962	18.23	Work commenced on new pumping station at Pode Hole:- three new diesel pumps. New inner safety doors fitted at Risegate Eau and Five Towns Sluices. Overflow weirs placed in Gravel Drain.
1963	20.14	New freshwater intake tunnel from River Welland near Cross Drain. Freshwater supply scheme for Baston and Langtoft area. Opening of new Five Towns Pumping Station. Scheme approved for new pumping station at outfall of Risegate Eau.
1964	16.77	Barron's Bridge reconstruction. Improvement of Blue Gowt Outfall Drain and Crowland Common Main Drain.
1965	25.96	Official opening of new diesel engine pumping station at Pode Hole. Improvement of Fantial Drain, Sir John's Dyke and 5th District Cradge Dyke. New pump for Fosdyke Marsh and new pump for Frampton and Kirton Marsh.
1966	26.50	Newborough Wash Improvement Scheme. Reconstruction of Stowgate Bridge. Coolin's Drain Improvement Scheme. King Street Dyke made Main River.



PODE HOLE ANNUAL RAINFALL

<u>Year</u>	<u>Inches</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1967	20.42	Work in progress on new Pumping Station for Crowland and Cowbit Washes. Improvement of Green Drain and 6th District Cross Road Dyke. Category 'B' Drains taken over by the Board after improvement. New house for Pump Attendant at Pode Hole. "William Dennis" and "Henry Bain" Pumps demolished.
1968	26.43	Official opening of the new Pumping Station for Crowland and Cowbit Washes. Frognall Drain and Hallmeadow Drain Improvement Schemes. Severe "blow" of "black-lands" in March. 11th July - 4.51 inches of rainfall recorded in Spalding. New tidal doors fitted at Risegate Eau Outfall.
1969	25.09	Improvement of the New River, Crowland and Cowbit Washes. Improvement to Hallmeadow Drain, Frognall Drain, Tallington Drain, Old Sea Drain and Deeplake Hole. New method of roding with bucket mower attached to hydraulic excavator. Very wet spring - moisture deficit in the Fen virtually nil since July, 1968. Drainage Scheme for Godsey Lane, Market Deeping.
1970	20.77	Improvement of Westlode Drain and Broughton's Drain. Piping-in of Park Road Dyke to drain Spalding. Hill Marsh, Pinchbeck, Improvement Scheme. New Flail mower attached to tractor for cutting "batters". New Wilder-Powell weedcutter. New pumping stations for Surfleet and Surfleet Marsh.
1971	20.04	North and South Drove Drains Improvement Scheme (1971) commenced at Pode Hole. Reconstruction of Town End Tunnel, Deeping St. James. Improvement of 5th District Cross Road Dyke. Maxey Board strongly opposed scheme of Welland and Nene River Authority to divert storm water from Bretton through Brook Drain.

FROM 1967 TO 1974

<u>Year</u>	<u>Inches</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1972	18.21	Reconstruction of Platts Bridge over the Vernatt's Drain. Experiments with Diuron to control submerged weeds. Proposals to amalgamate Deeping Fen, Maxey, Baston and North Welland Internal Drainage Boards. The winter of 1971/72 very dry and little pumping required at Pode Hole.
1973	20.21	Another very dry winter with little pumping required at Pode Hole. New additional pump at Crowland and Cowbit Wash Pumping Station. Additional drains to be "taken-over" in the interior of Deeping Fen. Last meeting of the North Welland Internal Drainage Board. Last meeting of the Baston, Langtoft and the Deepings Internal Drainage Board. Last meeting of the Maxey Internal Drainage Board. Last meeting of the Deeping Fen, Spalding and Pinchbeck Internal Drainage Board. First meeting of the newly constituted Welland and Deepings Internal Drainage Board.
1974		Improvement of Coll Drain, Gosberton. Scheme to lower pumps at Bourne South Fen. Underpinning of Railway Bridge and Luck's Bridge, South Drove Drain. The third very dry winter.



# PODE HOLE RAINFALL

..... 1829 to August 1974 .....

	<u>Monthly Average</u>	<u>Monthly Recorded Highest</u>	<u>Lowest</u>	<u>Actual Monthly 1971 1972 1973 1974</u>
<u>January</u>	1.95	(1956) 4.89	0.25 (1858) (1880)	2.68 1.92 0.60 1.50
<u>February</u>	1.59	(1900) 5.25	0.00 (1891)	0.32 1.11 0.66 1.59
<u>March</u>	1.56	(1947) 4.23	0.19 (1929) (1944)	1.67 2.48 0.61 0.98
<u>April</u>	1.65	(1829) 4.87	0.13 (1893)	1.43 1.29 1.56 0.30
<u>May</u>	1.90	(1843) 5.60	0.15 (1836)	2.02 1.57 3.84 0.67
<u>June</u>	2.05	(1861) 5.63	0.12 (1925) (1962)	1.98 1.23 3.52 2.21
<u>July</u>	2.49	(1875) 9.00	0.25 (1885) (1952)	1.14 1.47 2.98 2.13
<u>August</u>	2.50	(1878) 6.75	0.05 (1947)	2.97 0.50 0.53 3.42
<u>September</u>	2.10	(1880) 5.91	0.25 (1843) (1855) (1890)	0.80 1.82 2.33
<u>October</u>	2.31	(1865) (1880)	5.75 0.13 (1888)	1.46 0.28 1.43
<u>November</u>	2.22	(1852) 5.25	0.42 (1909)	2.17 2.34 0.72
<u>December</u>	1.98	(1910) 4.97	0.25 (1843)	1.40 2.20 1.43
<u>Yearly Average</u>	24.33			

# LENGTH OF DRAINS MAINTAINED

	<u>Miles</u>	<u>Chains</u>
Kirton and Frampton Marsh	5	4
Fosdyke Marsh	3	22
Five Towns District	23	3
Risegate Eau District	41	61
Spalding and Pinchbeck District	24	20½
Deeping Fen		
1st District	5	44
2nd District	3	35½
3rd District	6	49½
4th District	5	61
5th District	12	79
6th District	13	29½
General District	82	49
Crowland Common	7	48
Deeping St. James	9	48½
Bourne and Thurlby District	23	26½
Crowland and Cowbit Washes	33	64
Baston, Langtoft and Deepings District	28	13
Maxey District	54	32
	<u>384</u>	<u>50</u>