

1. Parish: Aspoll

Meaning: Overgrown with Aspens

2. **Hundred:** Hartismere

Deanery: Hartismere (–1897), Hartismere (South) (1897–1931), S. Hartismere (1931–1972), Loes (1972–)

Union: Hartismere

RDC/UDC: (E. Suffolk) Hartismere RD (1974), Mid Suffolk DC(1974)

Other administrative details:

Hartismere Petty Sessional Division
Eye County Court District

3. **Area:** 843 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Fine loam over clay soils. Subject to seasonal waterlogging

5. **Types of farming:**

1500–1640	Thirsk:	Wood-pasture region, mainly pasture, meadow, engaged in rearing and dairying with some pig-keeping, horse breeding and poultry. Crops mainly barley with some wheat, rye, oats, peas, vetches, hops and occasionally hemp
1818	Marshall:	Course of crops varies usually including summer fallow as preparation for corn products
1937	Main crops:	wheat, barley, clover, beans and fruit
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

6. **Enclosure:**

7. **Settlement:**

1958 Very diverse parish with 3 centres of habitation: Aspoll House and large green; Aspoll Hall; and Church and School.
Vicarage situated on boundary with Debenham
Scattered farms

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 15, 1801 – 16, 1851 – 25, 1871 – 31, 1901 – 24, 1951 – 30, 1981 – 17

8. Communications:

Road: To Rishangles and Debenham

Rail: 1912 Rail station: Mid Suffolk Light Railway opened for goods 1904, for passengers 1908, closed 1952
7 miles Eye Station: Mellis–Eye line opened 1867, closed for passengers 1931, closed for goods 1964

9. Population:

1086 – 26 recorded
1327 – 15 taxpayers paid £1 12s.
1524 – 15 taxpayers paid £2 4s. 2d.
1603 – Not recorded
1674 – 15 households
1676 – 37 recorded
1801 – 87 inhabitants
1831 – 126 inhabitants
1851 – 143 inhabitants
1871 – 150 inhabitants
1901 – 116 inhabitants
1931 – 113 inhabitants
1951 – 95 inhabitants
1971 – 45 inhabitants
1981 – 50 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Perpetual Curacy (1831), Donative (1855)

1254 Valued £6 of which Prior of Castleacre has £1 6s. 8d.
1291 Valued £5 6s. 8d. Improprate rectory belonging at one time to the Prior of Castleacre and later to Butley
1831 Glebe house unfit for residence. Gross income £150 p.a. Incumbent also holds vicarage of Cransford. Tithes commuted for £252 13s. p.a. 1843 Rectory house built of Woolpit brick 1853. 26 acres 2 R glebe
Valued £149 1855
1912 Nett income £200. 25 acres glebe and residence

Patrons: John Chevallier (1831), Mrs. Chevallier (1912)

11. Church St. Mary of Grace

(Chancel, nave, modern N. porch vestry, W. embattled tower)

14th cent. Chancel and nave
15th cent. Tower

Note: 1086 1 church divided between lands of Robert Malet and Ranulf Peverel

Seats: 140

12. Nonconformity etc:

13. Manorial:

1066 Manor of 30 acres belonging to Brictrmer under patronage of Edric
1086 Manor of 30 acres belonging to Robert Malet's mother
1086 Manor of 30 acres belonging to Robert Malet in the hands of Sirie

Aspall Manor

1352 de la Pole family owns (linked to Debenham)
15th cent. Sir Edward Brooke owns
1702 Temple Chevallier of Jersey owns (family said to have brought the "spirit of Cyder-making" with them), remains in the Chevallier family

14. Markets/Fairs

1086 3rd part of fair recorded

15. Real property:

1844 £997 rental value
1891 £1,025 rateable value
1912 £828 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844 C. Chevallier and J. Freeman, principle owners
1891 Land sub-divided
1912 J.B.T. Chevallier JP J.C. Freeman, principle owners

17. Resident gentry:

1680 2 gentleman
1841 2 gents, John and Charles Chevallier
1912 J.B.T. Chevallier JP and Rev. T. Bingham MA

18. Occupations:

1550–1599 1 yeoman, 1 husbandman
1600–1649 1 yeoman
1650–1699 1 yeoman, 1 spinster
1728 Cyder production at Aspall Hall
1831 29 in agriculture, 3 professionals, 15 in domestic service

1912 4 farmers, cyder production
1937 2 farmers, 1 fruit farmer, bailiff, insurance agent, Cyder production

19. Education:

1833 6 children attend Sunday school at Rishangles.
National school built 1855 36 attend, enlarged 1885,
average attendance 1912 30

20. Poor relief:

1776 £44 10s. 1d.
1803 £26 3s. 8½d.
1818 £152
1830 £91 11s.
1832 £120 3s.
1834 £150 7s.

21. Charities:

22. Other institutions:

23. Recreation:

24. Personal:

25. Other information:

Cyder Production: Cyder mill built 1728. Originally produced 25 hogsheads of cider. In 1950 production was approx. 5,000 gallons per annum. The original press, built 1729, still exists as a museum piece at Aspall Hall.

New plant built 1971 to mechanize production.

Diversified to include vinegar and juice production 1975.

Aspall Hall: 16th cent. unusual brickwork decorates cider house and mill together with decorated chimneys.

'Early Sixteenth Century Decorated Bricks at Aspall Hall', PSIA Vol. XXIX, p.342.

Old Rectory House: Converted into asylum by Rev. C.H. Chevallier (no dates).