

# 1. Parish: Little Finborough

**Meaning:** Woodpeckers hill (Ekwall)

**2. Hundred:** Stow

**Deanery:** Stow ( -1931), Bosmere (1931- )

**Union:** Stow

**RDC/UDC:** E. Stow RD (1894-1934), Gipping RD (1934-1974), Mid Suffolk DC (1974- )

## Other administrative details:

1884 Civil boundary change  
1934 Ecclesiastical boundary change  
Stowmarket Petty Sessional Division  
Stowmarket County Court District

**3. Area:** 322 acres (1912)

**4. Soils:**

Slowly permeable calcareous/non calcareous clay soils.  
Slight risk water erosion.

**5. Types of farming:**

1086	Finborough:	43½ acres meadow, 10 cattle, 14 pigs woodland for 12 pigs, 1 mill, 100 sheep.
1500–1640	Thirsk:	Wood-pasture region. Mainly pasture, meadow, engaged in rearing and dairying with some pigs keeping, horse breeding and poultry. Crops mainly barley with some wheat, rye, oats, peas, vetches, hops and occasionally hemp.
1804	Young:	Large acreages of hops grown
1818	Marshall:	Course of crops varies usually including summer fallow as preparation for corn products
1937	Main crops:	Wheat, barley, beans
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet.

**6. Enclosure:**

**7. Settlement:**

1958 Extremely small parish with no obvious development.  
Church and hall appear isolated.

**Inhabited houses:** 1851 – 16, 1871 – 16, 1901 – 8, 1951 – 6, 1981 – 20

**8. Communications:**

**Road:** Road to Great Finborough

**Rail:** 1891 3 miles Stowmarket station. Ipswich – Norwich line opened (1846), line electrified (1985)

**9. Population:**

1086 — 62 recorded (includes Great Finborough)

1327 — Not listed

1524 — 54 taxpayers paid £5. 3d. 3s. (includes Combs)

1603 — Not listed

1674 — Not listed

1676 — Not recorded

1801 — 64 inhabitants

1831 — 73 inhabitants

1851 — 64 inhabitants

1871 — 72 inhabitants

1901 — 33 inhabitants

1931 — 45 inhabitants

1951 — 21 inhabitants

1971 — 41 inhabitants

1981 — 62 inhabitants

**10. Benefice: Perpetual Curacy**

1254 Value - nil

1291 Valued £1. 10s.

1535 Not given

1831 No glebe house. Gross income £12 p.a. Incumbent also holds Rectory of Ringshall.

1844 Valued £11. Tithes commuted for £96 p.a. (Tithes belong to Kings College Cambridge)

1912 Valued £70. 11 acres glebe.

**Patrons:** Kings College, Cambridge (1831)

- 11. Church**      **St. Mary**  
 (Chancel, nave, W. turret)
- 1086              Finborough: Church + 30 acres free land, 1 acre meadow.
- 14<sup>th</sup> cent.        Original structure
- 1856/57         Nave rebuilt, chancel restored (original construction lath and plaster at west end). Thatch roof replaced by tile. Costs defrayed by Kings College, Cambridge.

**Seats:**                      80

**12. Nonconformity etc:**

- 1611              2 persons neglect to attend church
- 1711-1821       2 houses set aside for worship

**13. Manorial:**

**Finborough Parva**

- 13<sup>th</sup> cent.        Hugh de Cantilupe owns
- Mid-13<sup>th</sup> cent. Robert de Insula owns
- Circa 1342      Priory of Bricett owns
- 1426             Kings College Cambridge owns
- 1658             Links with Stowmarket (William Keeble)

**14. Markets/Fairs**

**15. Real property:**

- 1844             £453 rental value
- 1891             £338 rateable value
- 1912             £222 rateable value

**16. Land ownership:**

- 1844             Land-subdivided
- 1891/1912      R.J. Petteward, principle owner and some small owners

**17. Resident gentry:**

**18. Occupations:**

- 1550–1599      1 carpenter
- 1600–1649      1 carpenter, 1 comber, 2 yeomen
- 1650–1699      1 wool comber, 1 yeoman
- 1844             None given
- 1912             Sub-postmaster, 2 farmers

**19. Education:**

1912 Children attend school at Great Finborough, Combs or Battsford

**20. Poor relief:**

1776	£37. 4s. 5d.	spent on poor relief
1803	£79. 11s. 6d.	spent on poor relief
1818	£106. 15s.	spent on poor relief
1830	£25. 8s.	spent on poor relief
1832	£14. 6s.	spent on poor relief
1834	£10. 13s.	spent on poor relief

**21. Charities:**

**Fowlers Charity Estate**

1671 Property settled for use of poor by William Fowler. Messuage called Bennetts and garden and 6 acre croft., let at £12 p.a.. Land – 8 poles x 6 let at 2s p.a. Rents distributed among poor.

**22. Other institutions:**

**23. Recreation:**

**24. Personal:**

**25. Other information:**

**Archaeological Sites**

Sax. Cemetery (circumstantial evidence) (CRN 5433)

Sax. Game counter (CRN 5434)