

1. Parish: Wickham Market

Meaning: Dwelling place, manor with a market

2. Hundred: Wilford

Deanery: Wilford (-1914), Loes (1914 -)

Union: Plomesgaste

RDC/UDC: (E. Suffolk) Plomesgate R.D. (1894-1934), Deben R.D. (1934-1974), Suffolk Coastal D.C. (1974-)

Other administrative details:

Woodbridge Petty Sessional Division and
County Court District

3. Area: 1,186 acres (1912)

4. Soils:

Mixed: a. Deep well drained sandy soil, risk of acidity and
Wind erosion
b. Fine loam and sandy soil
Problems of acidity and trace element deficiency

5. Types of farming:

1086		8 pigs, 30 sheep
1500-1640	Thirsk:	Sheep-corn region, sheep main fertilising agent, bred for fattening. Barley main cash crop
1804	Young:	'This corner of Suffolk practices better Husbandry than elsewhere'... identified as carrot growing region
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:	Intensive farming system involving crop and Livestock husbandry together with fruit farming
1969	Trist:	Dairying has been replaced by arable farming

6. Enclosure:

7. Settlement:

1983 Moderate small town development around market centre and junctions of Charsfield – Marlsford road and roads to Pettistree and Dallinghoo.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 79, 1801 – 90, 1851 – 306,
1871 – 334, 1901 – 327, 1951 – 380,
1981 – 759

8. Communications:

Road: A12 former turnpike road. Roads to Charsfield, Marlesford, Pettistree and Dallinghoo

1844 Carriers to Woodbridge daily
Coaches and carriers daily to Ipswich, Woodbridge, Halesworth, Saxmundham and Yarmouth

1891 Carriers to Halesworth on Tuesday
to Ipswich on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
to Saxmundham on Tuesday
to Sradbrooke on Tuesday
to Woodbridge on Monday and Wednesday

1912 Main road London – Yarmouth
Carriers to Ipswich and Woodbridge on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday
A12 trunk road crosses through east side of parish (20th century)

Rail: 1891 Rail station: Ipswich–Lowestoft Line opened 1859, line to Framlingham opened 1859, station closed for passengers 1952, closed for goods 1965

9. Population:

1086 – 25 recorded

Domesday vill of Harpole: 21 recorded

1327 – 34 taxpayers paid £2 18s. 3d.

(includes Pettistree and Loudham)

1524 – 61 taxpayers paid £10. 4s. 2d.

1603 – 314 adults

1674 – 119 households

1676 – Not recorded

1801 – 896 inhabitants

1831 – 1,358 inhabitants

1851 – 1,697 inhabitants

1871 – 1,541 inhabitants

1901 – 1,417 inhabitants

1931 – 1,210 inhabitants

1951 – 1,167 inhabitants

1971 – 1,436 inhabitants
1981 – 2,164 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Vicarage

1254 Valued £6 13s. 4d.
1291 Valued £8 13s. 4d.
1535 Valued £6 16s. 8d.
1603 Impropriation endowed with vicarage.
Valued £6 13s. 4d.
Glebe, tithes and profits arising to vicar £20 p.a. Queen Anne's Bounty was augmented to supplement sums to vicarage 1716
14 acres purchased for glebe land 1723
1831 Glebe house. Gross income £214 p.a.
Tithes commuted for £105 p.a. to vicar and £195 to impropriate rectory 1844. Rectory belongs to Pemberton Charity.
1912 Nett value £180. Residence.

Patrons: Sir Robert de Ufford (1313), Prioress and Nuns of Campesse (1342–1515), Sir A. Wingfield (1546), The Bishop (1555), The Crown (1590–1866), Mrs. E. Ostle (1889/96), Trustees (1912)

11. Church All Saints

(Chancel, side chapels, nave, S. octagonal tower with Spire) (Note: from summit of tower 30 churches can be seen)

1300/1309 Church built
14th cent. N. aisle, chancel
1489 S, aisle added by Walter Fulbourne (Tudor brick)
15th cent. S. aisle roof
W. front/canopied door
1875 Restoration. Pulpit said to come from Savoy Chapel, London.
Puritanical Vandals (William Dowsing) destroyed 15 pictures and 2 crosses 1643

Seats: 350 (1912)

12. Nonconformity etc:

Attempts to introduce Congregationalism was accompanied by riots and damage to property resulting in court appearances c.1800

House opened for divine worship 1812
Congregational chapel built 1815/1826, seats 650

13. Manorial:

- 1066 Manor of 33 acres held by Azor under patronage of Edric
 1086 Manor of 33 acres belonging to Hervey of Bourge held by Ranulf
 1066 Manor of 8 acres (in Harpole) belonging to Count Alan, valued £23 11s.

Wickham Market/Wickham with the members

- 1275 De Ufford family owns (linked to numerous manors throughout Suffolk)
 14th cent. Granted t manor of Campsey Priory (Patent Rolls 1383)
 1538 Sir A. Wingfield owns (linked to Dallinghoo, Hollesley, Debach and Pettistree)
 17th cent. William Nassau owns (linked to Easton)
 1895 Trustees of 12th Duke of Hamilton owns

Sub-Manors:

Harpole

- 1066 Manor of 100 acres held by Huna
 1086 Manor of 100 acres belonging to Robert Malet and held by his mother
 13th cent. Hovel family owns (linked t Wyverstone and Market Weston)
 1389 Licence to grant to Manor of Campsey Priory (probably absorbed by main manor)

Gelham/Gelham Hall

- 1373 William de Ufford released his right to Adam Mauttrys and becomes property of Priory of Campsey (probably absorbed by main manor)

14. Markets/Fairs

- 14th cent. Grant to hold market and fair 1268/69
 Town held right to hold a market
 Grant to hold weekly market and 2 fairs 1440
 Sir Robert Wingfield held grant of fairs and markets 1582
 Obsolete 1912

15. Real property:

- 1844 £3,014 rental value
 1891 £3,721 rateable value
 1912 £3,484 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844/1912 Land sub-divided

17. Resident gentry:

1680 1 Knight and 1 gent recorded
1686 John Barker, Seckford Gosnold
R. Leman, High Sheriff of Suffolk 1744

18. Occupations:

1448–1482 1 spicer, 1 vicar, 1 barber
1550–1549 1 butcher, 1 draper
1550–1599 1 butcher, 2 clothmakers, 1 smith, 1 miller, 1 twill weaver,
1 cordwainer, 1 shearman (one who cuts woollen cloth), 4
husbandmen, 2 yeomen, 1 joiner, 1 vicar, 1 woollen
draper
1600–1649 5 husbandmen, 1 joiner, 1 boat wright, 1 tanner, 8
yeomen, 1 miller, 2 innkeepers, 1 tailor, 2 cordwainers, 1
weaver, 1 shearman, 2 blacksmiths, 1 baker, 1
haberdasher, 1 carpenter, 1 twill weaver, 1 linen weaver,
1 draper, 1 wheelwright, 1 paldavis weaver (a coarse
canvas or sacking originally woven in Brittany and
formerly used for sailcloth)
1650–1699 1 collarmaker, 1 wheelwright, 8 yeomen, 2 husbandmen,
1 tanner, 1 labourer, 1 beer brewer, 3 drapers, 1
apothecary, 2 grocers, 1 innholder, 1 fellmonger, 1 glover,
1 butcher, 1 spinster
1831 84 in agriculture, 102 in retail trade, 20 professionals, 20
labourers, 54 in domestic service, 36 others
1844 3 solicitors, tinner/brazier, bricklayer, 2
plumber/builder/decorators, 2 surgeons, 2 marble/stone
masons, cooper, corn chandler, bricklayer, 2 clock/watch
makers, 2 cabinet makers, whitesmith, gardener, basket
maker/game dealer, gun maker, police officer, fancy
repository, wine/spirit merchant, workhouse governor, 2
ironmongers, fishmonger, coach builder, glover, 2
harness makers, brick/tile maker, lodging house keeper,
auctioneers, straw hat maker, chemist, 5 publicans, 7
teachers, 3 bakers, 3 blacksmiths, 7 farmers, 8
grocer/drapers, 2 hairdressers, 2 joiners, 3 milliners, 4
tailors
1874 Manufacturing mill
1912 4 vets, teachers, 2 saddlers, 3 shopkeepers, 2 coach
builders, decorators, fishdealer, 2 bankers,
new/insurances agent, 2 port butchers, fishmonger, 4
surgeons, 2 butchers, motor engineer, laundress, 2
builders, outfitter, 4 farmers, stone mason, 4
dressmakers, 3 grocer/drapers, blacksmith, 2 carriers, 4
publicans, plumber, chimney sweep, 2 cabinet makers, 2
jobbing gardeners, chemist, marine store dealer,

boot/shoe repairer, bootmaker, maltster, miller, coal merchant, solicitor, tailor, 2 hotel keepers, beer retailer/baker, insurance agent, dairyman, confectioner, 2 bakers, hairdresser, ironmonger, watch/clockmaker, wheelwright, market gardener

19. Education:

- 1818 School endowed by Barker Charity (13 attend)
1 large girls boarding school
5 Dames schools
1 school run at expense of vicar (16 girls attend)
1 Sunday school (86 attend)
- 1833 1 endowed school (30 attend, 10 fee paying)
1 daily school (65 girls attend)
7 other schools, 2 other day and boarding schools
2 Sunday schools (1 run by Dissenters)
National school built 1842, altered and enlarged 1866 and 1872, average attendance 1912 265, closed 1934
- 1874 1 Preparatory school, 1 teacher of French, 1 Private day school
New Primary school opened 1934

20. Poor relief:

- 1776 £108 9s. 1d.
1803 £230 18s. 1d.
1818 £1,007 11s.
1830 £588 9s.
1832 £672 11s.
1834 £711 6s.

21. Charities:

Town Lands:

- 1894 39 acres 29P called Chapel Meadow and Old Town lands let at £131 12s. 6d. p.a. to church repairs, churchwardens expenses, apprenticing ½ boys, repair/upkeep of pump, repair of cottages occupied by poor.
£26 pa. to support of school

Wood's Charity

- 1690 by will of Rev. T. Wood: 4 men from Wickham have place in hospital at Ufford

Will's Charity:

5s. for distribution of bread at church quarterly

22. Other institutions:

1803 Guild of St. John 1517. Mid 15th century Guildhall said to have been pulled down
3 Friendly Societies (80 members)
Plomesgate Union Workhouse built 1836/37 to accommodate 400
Shire Hall (no dates): Quarter Sessions held in until removed to Woodbridge. Shire Hall then demolished

1874 Police station, 2 fire engines
Town Hall built 1846

23. Recreation:

Inns recorded in Churchwarden's Accounts: 1652/53
The White Hart, The Crown, The George and The Blue Boar

1844 Wine/spirit merchant, The Chaise and Pair public house (private house by 1988), The Chequers, The Crown, The George and The White Hart public houses

1874 The Chaise and Pair, The Crown, The Golden Lion and The Vine public houses, The Chequers Inn, 1 beerhouse and 1 brewer

1912 The Chequers, The Crown (in existence 1640, closed 1950, The George, The Vine Inn (originally called the Grapes Inn, now Post Office 1977, (closed c.1950)
1 beer retailer and 1 Temperance Hotel
Association for the Prosecution of Felons established 1799, ended 1876
Working Mens Institute established 1872 (40 members)
Wickham Market Rifle Volunteers (5th Suffolk) 1860 (68 members)
White Hart Commercial Hotel 1874
Bottle and Glass (former beerhouse), cottages 1977)
The Volunteer public house, closed c.1969
Ancient Order of Foresters, Bowling Green Club
Camping Close: field for ball game called 'Camping') said to have consisted of 4 acres near the church – purchased for glebe land 1723

24. Personal:

John Kirby 1732–1753: author of Suffolk Traveller lived in Wickham Market

25. Other information:

'The Annals of Wickham Market and other papers', by V.B. Redstone. I am

given to understand the accuracy of this publication is questionable.
Village stocks said to have been sited near the Crown Inn.
Crosses: Palmecross said to have been built at expense of John Hobbys
1447.
Dettons Cross said to have stood by meadow of Thomas Smith,
Spicer 1477.
Symonds Market Cross said to have been erected to rear of Crown
Inn by John Symonds c.1481, destroyed by William Dowsing
1644.
Gibbet at Potsford Gibbet/Gallows Hill said to have last been used 1699.
Churchwarden's accounts 1652/53 refer to quartering of soldiers at four inns
in the town.
'Bronze Patera found at Wickham Market, Suffolk', by J.E. Whitwell. PSIA
Vol.XVI, p.179.
Wickham Market: Deben Valley Place Names 1977.