

# 1. Parish: Wyverstone

**Meaning:** Wigferp's homestead

2. **Hundred:** Hartismere

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

**Union:** Hartismere

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

## Other administrative details:

Hartismere Petty Sessional Division  
Stowmarket County Court District

3. **Area:** 1,558 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:** Fine loam over clay soil with slowly permeable subsoil. subject to seasonal waterlogging.

## 5. Types of farming:

1086	Wood for 54 pigs, 20 pigs, 2 cobs, 6 cattle, 36 goats
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, peas, clover, sugar beet
1969	Trist: More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet.

6. **Enclosure:**

7. **Settlement:**

1958 Four main centres of occupation set in a rough rectangle.  
a. Church and site of Wyverstone Hall.  
b. Wyverstone Street, post office and Methodist chapel.  
c. Wyverstone Green and  
d. The Plough Beerhouse.  
Scattered farms.

**Inhabited houses:** 1674 – 27, 1801 – 29, 1851 – 69, 1871 – 63,  
1901 – 57, 1951 – 75, 1981 – 91.

**8. Communications:**

**Road:** To Ashfield, Westhorpe and Bacton

**Rail:** 1891 – two miles to Finningham Station: Ipswich–Norwich line, opened 1849 station closed 1966

**9. Population:**

1086 – 42 recorded  
1327 – 17 taxpayers paid £1 15s. 1d.  
1524 – 13 taxpayers paid £1 1s. 10d.  
1603 – 60 adults  
1674 – 31 households  
1676 – 97 adults  
1801 – 243 inhabitants  
1831 – 316 inhabitants  
1851 – 329 inhabitants  
1871 – 300 inhabitants  
1901 – 238 inhabitants  
1931 – 216 inhabitants  
1951 – 264 inhabitants  
1971 – 253 inhabitants  
1981 – 275 inhabitants

**10. Benefice: Rectory**

1254 Valued £6 13s. 4d.  
Tithe of the Prior of Eye 13s. 4d. £7 6s. 8d.  
1291 Valued £9 6s. 8d.  
Portion to Prior of Eye 13s. 4d. £10 0s. 0d.  
1535 Valued £8 14s. 9½d.  
1831 Glebe House Gross income £278 p.a.  
15 acres glebe Good Residence. Tithes commuted for  
£354 p.a. 1839  
1912 Nett value £210. 15 acres of glebe and residence.

**Patrons:** J. Moseley (1831), Lord Chancellor (1912)

**11. Church St. George**  
(Chancel, Nave, S. porch and W. tower)

1086 Church + 16 acres land, ½ plough  
14<sup>th</sup> cent. Tower  
15<sup>th</sup> cent. S. porch with King post roof; nave and chancel.  
1900 Restoration  
Major repairs to tower completed 1983.

**Seats:** 120

**12. Nonconformity etc:**

1676 19 nonconformists  
Primitive Methodist chapel built c.1899

**13. Manorial:**

1066 Manor of 100 acres held by Alwin under patronage of Edric  
1086 Manor of 100 acres belonging to Robert Malet  
1066 Manor of 30 acres held by 4 persons.  
1086 Manor of 30 acres belonging to Robert Malet  
1066 Manor of 1 carucate held by Leofwin the Bald  
1086 Manor of 1 carucate belonging to Hubert of Mont-Carisy

**Wyverstone Manor**

11<sup>th</sup> cent. Robert Hovel held under Robert Malet, (an account of the Hovel family of Wyverstone given in 'Suffolk Manorial Families by J.J. Muskett).  
13<sup>th</sup> cent. Hovel family own (linked to Weston, Westhorpe).  
1450 William de la Pole owns (linked to numerous manors throughout Suffolk).  
1507 Thomas Grey, Marquis of Dorset owns in tail male.  
1558 Sir Nicholas Bacon owns (linked to numerous manors throughout Suffolk).  
19<sup>th</sup> cent. Charles James Grimwade owns (linked to Hadleigh)

**Sub-Manors:**

**Hovells**

11/12<sup>th</sup> cent. Hovel family owns (absorbed by main manor).  
c.1450 William de la Pole owns,(linked to main manor).

**14. Markets/Fair**

Weekly market held on Tuesday and 3 day fair 1231, grant renewed 1272.

**15. Real property:**

1844 £1,749 rental value  
1891 £1,743 rateable value  
1912 £1,162 rateable value

**16. Land ownership:**

1844–1912 Land sub-divided

**17. Resident gentry:**

1680 1 gentleman  
1844 W.C. Steggalls

1912 Rev. O.J. Loynes B.A.

**18. Occupations:**

1500–1549 1 clerk  
1550–1599 6 yeomen, 1 glover, 1 husbandman  
1600–1649 8 yeomen, 4 husbandmen, 1 bricklayer  
1650– 1699 6 yeomen, 2 husbandmen, 1 spinster  
1831 42 in agriculture, 11 in retail trade, 16 in domestic service  
1 other.  
1844 3 shoemakers, tailor, miller, blacksmith, tinner/beerhouse  
keeper, carpenter, 11 farmers.  
1912 Sub-postmaster, 9 farmers, threshing machine owner, 2  
shopkeepers, beer retailers, thatcher.

**19. Education:**

1833 2 schoolmasters/tutors recorded 1597–1776  
Sunday school (100 attend)  
1 schoolmistress listed 1855  
Parochial school built 1869, 46 attend, average  
attendance 1912 18.

**20. Poor relief:**

1776 £65 12s. 8d.  
1803 £190 12s. 6½d.  
1818 £313 16s.  
1830 £508 6s.  
1832 £399 4s.  
1834 £365 11s.

**21. Charities:**

**Town Estate**

1840 Town House occupied by paupers.  
Cottage and 1R 30P let to poor persons rent free.  
35 acres 3R + property let at £43 10s. p.a. to repairs to  
town house, church and other general purposes.

**22. Other institutions:**

1840 Town house in existence

**23. Recreation:**

1844–1912 1 beerhouse/retailer  
1937 The Plough, public house

**24. Personal:**

**25. Other information:**