

# 1. Parish: Drinkstone

**Meaning:** Dremic's homestead

2. **Hundred:** Thedwastre

**Deanery:** Thedwastre (-1972), Lavenham (1972-)

**Union:** Stow

**RDC/UDC:** Thedwastre (-1974), Mid Suffolk DC (1974-)

## Other administrative details:

Thingoe and Thedwastre Petty Sessional division  
Stowmarket County Court district

3. **Area:** 2,186 acres land, 10 acres of water (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Fine loam over clay with slowly permeable subsoils, slight seasonal waterlogging. Some calcareous/non-calcareous slowly permeable clay soils

5. **Types of farming:**

|           |             |   |
|-----------|-------------|---|
| 1036      |             | Woodland for 100 pigs, 6 acres meadow, 2 horses at hall, 10 cattle, 32 pigs, 30 sheep, 8 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 + 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, oats, peas, bean, sugar beet, roots.   |
| 1969      | Trist:      | More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet.   |

6. **Enclosure:** 34 acres enclosed at Drinkstone Great Green under General Acts, 1848

## 7. Settlement:

Main development around Drinkstone Green with secondary settlement to N. at church. Blackbourn river meanders through parish from W. to N.E. Disused pits occupy N.E. corner of parish. Scattered farms

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 31, 1801 – 61, 1851 – 110, 1871 – 114,  
1901 – 103, 1951 – 122, 1981 – 153

## 8. Communications:

**Road:** To Woolpit, Rattlesden, Gedding, Tostock, Beyton and Hessett  
1844 Carrier listed  
1891/1912 Carrier to Bury St Edmunds on Wednesday and Saturday

**Rail:** 1891 2½ miles Elmswell Station (Bury St Eds–Cambridge line) opened 1879, unmanned halt 1967

## 9. Population:

1086 – 39 recorded  
1327 – 24 taxpayers paid £2 18s. 10d.  
1524 – 42 taxpayers paid £8 3s. 8d.  
1603 – 160 adults  
1674 – 60 households  
1676 – Not listed  
1801 – 369 inhabitants  
1831 – 469 inhabitants  
1851 – 543 inhabitants  
1871 – 492 inhabitants  
1901 – 382 inhabitants  
1931 – 377 inhabitants  
1951 – 375 inhabitants  
1971 – 419 inhabitants  
1981 – 452 inhabitants

## 10. Benefice: Rectory

1254 Valued £13 6s. 8d.  
1291 Valued £17 6s. 8d.  
1535 Valued £16 17s. 1d.  
Modus of £546 p.a. in lieu of tithes 1840  
1887 86 acres 3R 9P glebe. Gross rent £86 15s. p.a.  
1891 Value £650. 90 acres glebe  
1912 Value £356. 89 acres glebe, residence  
1970 Benefice united with Woolpit

**Patrons:** Sir James Skidmore (1603), Rev. E. Rust (1844), Rev. F.E. Horne (1891), Rev. W. Horne (1874)

- 11. Church All Saints**  
(Chancel, nave, aisles, S. porch, W. tower (red brick))
- |                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| 1086                   | Church + 12 acres  |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> cent. | Chancel, N. aisle and arcades, S. porch contains 14 <sup>th</sup> century stoup        |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> cent. | Nave, traceried screen with remains of original colour<br>Tower built c.1694 (Pevsner) |
| 1866/67                | Restoration. Tower still required attention  |
| 1872                   | Porch rebuilt  |
- Seats:** 250 appropriated, 150 free (1874)

**12. Nonconformity etc:**

1704–1850 5 houses set aside for worship  
Wesleyan chapel built 1866

**13. Manorial:**

**Drinkstone Hall/Lovayne's**

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 13 <sup>th</sup> cent.      | Matthew de Lovaine owns (d. 1262) (Links with Felsham)  |
| 1267                        | Market, pillory, ducking stool, view of frankpledge and a fair.                                 |
| 1302–16 <sup>th</sup> cent. | Passes in same course as Bildeston – Earls of Essex own (Devereux family) (links with Shelland) |
| 1609                        | Links with Shelland (Sir James Skudamore)   |
| 1648                        | Edward Diggs owns   |
| 1840                        | Links with Rattlesden (John Moseley)  |
| 1838                        | Consisted of 2,000 acres producing £99 14s.3½d. p.a.  |

**Sub-Manors**

**Halls At Timperley's**

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 1402 | John Hall owns   |
| 1528 | Linked to Gt. Finborough and Hintlesham (William Timperley died seised)  |
| 1612 | Disputed a. said to be vested in Isaac Mootham<br>b. said to be owned by Thomas Wood<br>passing to estates of Sir Henry Wood |

**14. Markets/Fairs**

1266/67 Grant of market and fair

**15. Real property:**

|      |                       |
|------|-----------------------|
| 1844 | £2,673 rental value   |
| 1891 | £2,883 rateable value |

1912 £2,133 rateable value

**16. Land ownership:**

1844–1912 Land always sub-divided

**17. Resident gentry:**

1810 Joshua Grigby, High Sheriff

1844 J.H. Powell, Mrs Grigsby, H. Franklyn

1912 Rev. J.H. Chell, M.A., J.R.Hargreaves, J.P., Rev. F.E.Horne,  
Major L.H. Prioleau, J.E. Townsend.

**18. Occupations:**

1500–1549 1 husbandman

1550–1599 2 yeomen, 3 husbandmen, 1 labourer, 1 shoemaker

1600–1649 12 yeomen, 5 husbandmen, 2 millers, 1 labourer, 1  
weaver, 1 tailor

1650–1699 1 cordwainer, 10 yeomen, 1 husbandman, 1 miller, 1  
rector, 1 clerk, 1 grocer

1844 Butcher, corn miller, land steward, surgeon, wheelwright,  
2 maltsters, 2 shopkeepers, schoolmistress, blacksmith,  
beerhousekeeper, 11 farmers

1912 Sub-postmistress, schoolmistress, carrier, 3 head  
gardeners, blacksmith/implement repairers, shoemaker,  
miller, 7 farmers, grocer/draper, dressmaker, publican,  
beer retailer

**19. Education:**

1804 1 day and Sunday school endowed by Rev. R. Moseley for  
Drinkstone and Rattlesden (44–60 attend)

1833 1 daily school (34 attend), 1 Sunday school (endowed as above)  
(58 attend)

1844 1 schoolmistress listed

National school built 1859 (60 attend), average attendance 1912  
67. Day and boarding school listed

**20. Poor relief:**

1776 £106 10s. 6d.

1803 £208 13s.9d.

1818 £471 19s.

1830 £463 19s.

1832 £459 14s.

1834 £363 2s.

## **21. Charities:**

### **Wrenn's Charity:**

1564 by Deed of Feoffment by John Wrenn. 15 acres for use of poor householders. Land let at £17. 10s. p.a. (1840). Rents laid out in bread corn, distributed to poor.

### **Camborne's Charity:**

1692 by will of Thomas Camborne: 27 acres 2R 26P + house and outbuildings together with lands called 'Shortlands' let at £46 p.a. 1840. Rents to apprenticing poor children.

### **Widows Cottage:**

Originally cottage and small garden for poor widows. Let at £1 15s. p.a. 1840. Rents applied to coals

### **Church Land:**

1840 5 acres let at £6. 6s. p.a. to church repairs

### **Moseley's Charity:**

1804 by will of Richard Moseley: Bequest of £700. Dividends applied to support of Sunday school and weekly day school for Drinkstone and Rattlesden

## **22. Other institutions:**

St. Johns Guild 1523

## **23. Recreation:**

1844 1 beerhouse

1891/1912 THE CHERRY TREE public house, 1 beerhouse/retailer

## **24. Personal:**

## **25. Other information:**

Drinkstone Park: well wooded, 230 acres (129 acres in Hessett). Mansion built 1760 by Joshua Grigsby. Surrounded with plantation.

Demolished c.1953. Site now occupied by Hall Farm.

'An Old Cottage Saved' by Society for Protection of Ancient Buildings 1921

Record of renovation of cottages in Drinkstone

Post mill in working order 1974.

Village sign erected 1978.

Copy of Trust Deed: Drinkstone school (parish folder)

Ice well located at Home Farm when heifer fell in 1958. 18 feet deep.

Provided Drinkstone Hall with ice. Last used c.1900.

Drinkstone Green: open common land to South of stream, ceased to exist at enclosure 1854.

2 cases of incendiaries due to agrarian unrest 1843/44