

1. Parish: Great Finborough

Meaning: Woodpeckers hill (Ekwall)

2. Hundred: Stow

Deanery: Stow (-1972), Stowmarket (1972-)

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: 1,695 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.
1813	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, sugar beet, pasture.
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet.

6. Enclosure:

7. Settlement:

1958 Large parish. Main centre of development near church and western boundary. Secondary development at High Street Green.
Scattered farms.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 46, 1801 – 57, 1851 – 93, 1871 – 101,
1901 – 96, 1951 – 114, 1981 – 152

8. Communications:

Road: Roads to Onehouse, Buxhall, Hitcham and Lt. Finborough
Rail: 1891 2½ miles Stowmarket station. Ipswich – Norwich line opened (1846), line electrified (1985).
Water: River Gipping: Gipping Navigation Act 1790. Navigable to Ipswich. Decline began with advent of railways (circa 1846)

9. Population:

1086 — 62 recorded (includes Little Finborough)
1327 — 31 taxpayers paid £2. 4s. 2d.
1524 — 34 taxpayers paid £7. 11s. 10d.
1603 — 120 adults
1674 — 59 households
1676 — 182 recorded
1801 — 325 inhabitants
1831 — 421 inhabitants
1851 — 436 inhabitants
1871 — 406 inhabitants
1901 — 412 inhabitants
1931 — 400 inhabitants
1951 — 390 inhabitants
1971 — 406 inhabitants
1981 — 457 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Vicarage

1254 Valued £13. 6s. 8d.
1291 Valued £13. 6s. 8d.
1535 Valued £5. 1s. 3d.
1831 No glebe house. Gross income £130 p.a.
7½ acres glebe. Modus of £146. 2s. 9d. p.a. awarded when rectorial tithes commuted for £284. 14s. p.a. (1841)
1873 An apportionment from rectorial tithes of £139. 19s. 11d. granted.
Residence provided (1893)
1912 Valued £188
Patrons: The King (1603), Bishop of Ely (1831), Bishop of Norwich (1891)

11. Church **St. Andrew**
(Chancel, nave, north chapel, south porch, west tower and spire)

1086 Finborough: Church and 30 acres free land, 1 acre meadow
14th cent. Original building
1874-77 Completely rebuilt, except for porch

Seats: Approximately 300

12. Nonconformity etc:

1611 6 persons neglect to attend church
1645 Rev. Philip Parsons ejected by Suffolk Committee for Scandalous Ministers
1676 7 non-conformists
1703-1823 6 houses set aside for worship
Congregational chapel built (1862)

13. Manorial:

Finborough Magna

1066 Manor of 2 carucates held by Leofson, a free man under patronage of Guthmund.
1086 Manor of 2 carucates belonging to Roger de Auberville
1254 Robert Musgrose owns
1459 William Skreyve owns
1475 Links with Little Waldringfield, Stoke by Nayland, Polstead, Gedding and Rattlesden (Sir Robert Chamberlayne)
1497 Simon Digby owns
16th cent. Links with Old Newton (Henry Gilbert)
17th cent. Links with Boulge and Mildenhall (Sir Roger North)
1656 William Wollaston owns
Circa 1800 Links with Harleston and Onehouse (Roger Petteward)

Sub-Manors:

Finborough al Ardens al Arders al Adders

12th cent. Links with Aldringham, and Combs (Ranulph de Clanville)
1236 Appears to become monastic land
1540 Links with Bacton, Cotton, Occold and Thwaite (Anne of Cleves)
1575 Absorbed by main manor (Henry Gilbert)

Cantilupe's al Canterlowes al Cantelo's

12 th cent.	Links with Buxhall (Emma de Cantelon)
1210-1212	Held by Honor of Boulogne
1227	Ralph Fitz-Nicholas owns
1309	Links with Exning (Edmund de Botiller)
1474	Annexed to main manor (Sir John Skeynes)
1475	Absorbed by main manor (Sir Robert Chamberlayne)

Boyton Hall

1294	Links with Old Newton (William de Boyton)
1481	Links with Drinkstone (Timperley family)
1794	Consists of 295 acres 2R 26P

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844	£1,721 rental value
1891	£2,130 rateable value
1912	£1,570 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844/91	Land sub-divided
1912	Charles C. Petteward, principle owner

17. Resident gentry:

1723	John Boggas, High Sheriff
1766	William Wollaston, High Sheriff
1811	Roger Petteward, High Sheriff
1844	R.J. Bussell
1891	R.J. Petteward, J.P.
1912	Rev. F. Fitz-Patrick M.A., C. Petteward J.P., A.J.M. Savill JP

18. Occupations:

1500-1549	2 husbandmen
1550-1599	4 husbandmen, 4 yeomen
1600-1649	2 husbandmen, 13 yeomen
1650-1699	2 house carpenters, 2 husbandmen, 9 yeomen, 1 miller, 1 spinster, 1 tailor, 1 shoemaker, 1 carpenter
1844	Gardener, auctioneer/valuer, victualler, shoemaker, shopkeeper, corn miller, joiner, wheelwright, schoolmistresses, blacksmith, joiner/builder, 12 farmers
1912	Sub-postmaster, schoolmaster and mistress, police officer, bootmaker, 9 farmers, thatcher/reed layer, grocer,

hosiery knitter, publican,
blacksmith/wheelwright/carpenter/cycle agent

19. Education:

1818 1 Dissenters Sunday school (32 attend)
1833 2 daily schools (26 attend), 1 Sunday school (42 attend)
1844 Boarding and Day school listed
1873 Public Elementary school built by R.J. Pettiward, enlarged
(possibly 1881), average attendance (1912) – 59
1980 St. Georges Boarding School for Boys (previously based
at Wicklewood, near Wymondam) established at
Finborough Hall. 250 pupils (1985).

20. Poor relief:

1776	£121. 1s. 1d.	spent on poor relief
1803	£363. 17s. 11d.	spent on poor relief
1818	£499. 17s.	spent on poor relief
1830	£506. 13s.	spent on poor relief
1832	£424. 15s.	spent on poor relief
1834	£420. 15s.	spent on poor relief

21. Charities:

Town Estate:

1840 Farmhouse, outbuildings, 2 cottages, 60 acres let at £52.
10s. p.a. distributed by feoffees among poor (of ancient
origin – no dates)

Roger Pettiward's Request

1833 £666. 13s. 4d. consolidated annuity. Dividends for 6
brown great coats and 6 red cloaks for 12 poor men and
women. Residue distributed in coals.

22. Other institutions:

1891 Finborough Co-operative Society Ltd.
Police officer listed

23. Recreation:

1844 The White Horse public house (brewed its own beer)
1876 Landlord moved across the road and changed the name
to The Chestnut Horse pubic house, still operative (1912)

24. Personal:

- 1844 Rev. William Wollaston (d. 1724), author of 'Religion of Nature Delineated', said to have sold 10,000+ copies
- 1977 John Peel, Radio One Disc Jockey lives in parish and helps run local Youth Club.

25. Other information:

Fragment of poem preserved in Chronicle edited by Bishop Gibson (reproduced in Copinger's 'Suffolk Manors') appears to commemorate Saxon defence of town/fortress of Finborough (no date).

Finborough Hall: Rebuilt (1795) after previous building burnt down. Built of Woolpit brick by Roger Pettiward. Park of 200 acres. Embowered walk leads to church. Used as convalescence home for soldiers (1914).

Sale of catalogue of Contents of Finborough Hall (1935).

Used as Eastern Electricity Board HQ (1977).

Occupied by St. Georges Boarding School for Boys (1980).

Engraving of Hall by H. Davy (Suffolk Artists 1793-1865) reproduced in 'Views of the Seats of The Noblemen and Gentlemen of Suffolk' (1826).

Finborough Park: Incorporates Stowmarket Golf Club's 18-hole course. Finborough Park Nature Reserve open to public (1978).

Sam's Wood: Named after the last park-keeper at Finborough Park, Sam Francis. Now part of Nature Reserve, game-keeper's cottage to be used as study centre.

Village Hall and Club Room exists (1935).

Dormitory village for Stowmarket (1977)

£1 million development project undertaken (1982) for Aged Pilgrim Friends Society (12 bungalows – sheltered accommodation for elderly).

Archaeological Sites

Med. moated sites (CRN 5436, 5439, 5435)

PMed mound (CRN 5437)

Sax. Cemetery (circumstantial evidence) (CRN 5444)

Stray finds: Med. potter (CRN 5438)

Rom. Coin, pottery and shackle (CRN 5440, 5443, 5442)

Sax. Strap end (CRN 5441)