

1. Parish: Thwaite

Meaning: A forest clearing; a piece of land fenced off or enclosed; a low meadow

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
Eye County Court District

3. **Area:** 833 acres (1912)

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

5. Types of farming:

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:	4 course system: wheat/barley/clover/roots
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet.

6. Enclosure:

7. Settlement:

1958 Diverse settlement around junction of Yaxley, Little Stonham road and along road to Wickham Skeith. Roman road passes through parish N – S. Scattered farms.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 21, 1801 – 18, 1851 – 33, 1871 – 31, 1901 – 23, 1951 – 30, 1981 – 32

8. Communications:

Road: To Yaxley, Little Stonham, Wickham Skeith
1912 Carrier to Eye from Mendlesham passes through Monday and Wednesday

Rail: 1891 5 miles Eye station: Mellis–Eye line opened 1867, closed for passengers 1931, closed for goods 1964

9. Population:

1086 – Not recorded
1327 – 16 taxpayers paid £1 1s. 8d.
1524 – 23 taxpayers paid £2 8s. 6d.
1603 – 47 adults
1674 – 24 households
1676 – 94 adults
1801 – 129 inhabitants
1831 – 175 inhabitants
1851 – 179 inhabitants
1871 – 151 inhabitants
1901 – 105 inhabitants
1931 – 89 inhabitants
1951 – 100 inhabitants
1971 – 95 inhabitants
1981 – 94 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Discharged Rectory

1254 Valued £5 6s. 8d.
1291 Valued £5 6s. 8d.
1535 Valued £6 3s. 1½d.
1831 Glebe house unfit for occupation. Gross income £110 p.a.
21 acres glebe. Rent charge of £234. 5s. 2d. in lieu of tithes
1839
New residence built 1842
1912 Nett value £176. 21 acres glebe and residence.

Patrons: Mr Anthony Penninge (1603), Executors of late J.W. Sheppard (1831), J.G. Sheppard (1855), Mrs A.E. Carpenter (1912)

11. Church St George

(Chancel, nave, N. vestry, S. porch, W. turret)

14th cent. Doors at W. end of nave
15th cent. Pulpit.
16th cent. S.porch
c.1800 Tower fell in
1846/71 Restorations
1870 Bellcote probably added
1904 Re-roofed

Seats: 90

Possible site of chapel within parish (Harl. MSS 1005)

12. Nonconformity etc:

13. Manorial:

Thwaite Manor

1316 Abbot of St. Edmunds owns
1557 Anne of Cleves owns (linked to numerous manors throughout Suffolk)
1793 John Sheppard owns (linked to Brockford)

14. Markets/Fairs

Franchise to Sir George Reeve for 2 markets and/or fairs per year 1671
Fairs for cattle and toys held on June 30th and November 26th 1759
1891 2 fairs for cattle in June and November

15. Real property:

1844 £1, 243 rental value
1891 £1, 022 rateable value
1912 £751 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844 J.G. Sheppard, principal owner
1891–1912 Land sub-divided

17. Resident gentry:

1673 Sir George Reve
1674 1 Bart., 1 gentleman
1912 F. Rose JP

18. Occupations:

1550–1599 2 yeomen, 1 husbandman, 1 woollen weaver, 1 tanner
1600–1649 2 yeomen, 1 husbandman, 1 miller
1650–1699 4 yeomen, 1 cordwainer, 1 woollen weaver
1831 37 in agriculture, 4 in retail trade, 1 professional, 1 in labouring, 7 in domestic service, 1 other
1844 Victualler, grocer, 5 farmers, carpenter
1912 Sub-postmistress, publican, 3 farmers, carpenter, shopkeeper

19. Education:

1833 1 day school (20 attend)
National school built 1853, used for winter meetings and classes
1912 Children to attend school at Stoke Ash.

20. Poor relief:

1776 £30 6s. 7d.
1803 £93 15s.
1818 £165 16s.
1830 £217 7s.

1832	£174 11s.
1834	£181 5s.

21. Charities:

Town Estate:

1840	Cottage occupied by paupers. 2 acres let at £3 10s. p.a. to overseers of the poor
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22. Other institutions:

1844	Petty Sessions held monthly at the Buck Inn.
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23. Recreation:

1844–1912	The Bucks Head public house
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24. Personal:

No dates	Orlando Whistlecraft b.1810 resident of the parish. Weather prophet and poet.
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25. Other information: