

Village History

Wyverstone is a small parish situated some 7 miles north of Stowmarket in Mid Suffolk in East Anglia. It is 1,558 acres in size today with a population of over 380 in a predominantly arable farming setting. The name Wyverstone is said to be Old English for Wigferth's farmstead although Reverend Walter W. Skeat states it is the Anglo Saxon name Wigferthe but goes on to say that the proper spelling is Wigfrith, and therefore Wyverstone derives from Wigfrith's farm. Wyverstone is recorded in the Domesday Survey where there are nine entries, recording three manors. In Copinger it is noted that there were three manors in Saxon times which by the 15th century had merged in to one.

The parish is roughly triangular in shape with each side being between 3.2km and 3.8km long. The soils are fine loams over clay with the main farming being arable. An unnamed stream rises in the parish, marking part of the eastern boundary with the parish of Bacton, and flows in a North Easterly direction to eventually meet up with the river Waveney. The highest point of the parish is the northwest corner at just over 65 metres whilst the lowest is at the point where the stream crosses in to the parish of Westhorpe at just under 50 metres above mean sea level.

The main routes are to Bury St Edmunds to the west, Westhorpe to the east and to Stowmarket (via Bacton) to the southeast. The Church (dedicated to St. George) is located at the eastern end and is medieval in origin. Other significant buildings include the Methodist Chapel (now converted to a domestic dwelling), and a number of large former farmhouses several of which are grade 2 (one grade 2*) listed, a village hall, a modern Middle School and the former Church of England school building (also now converted to a domestic dwelling).