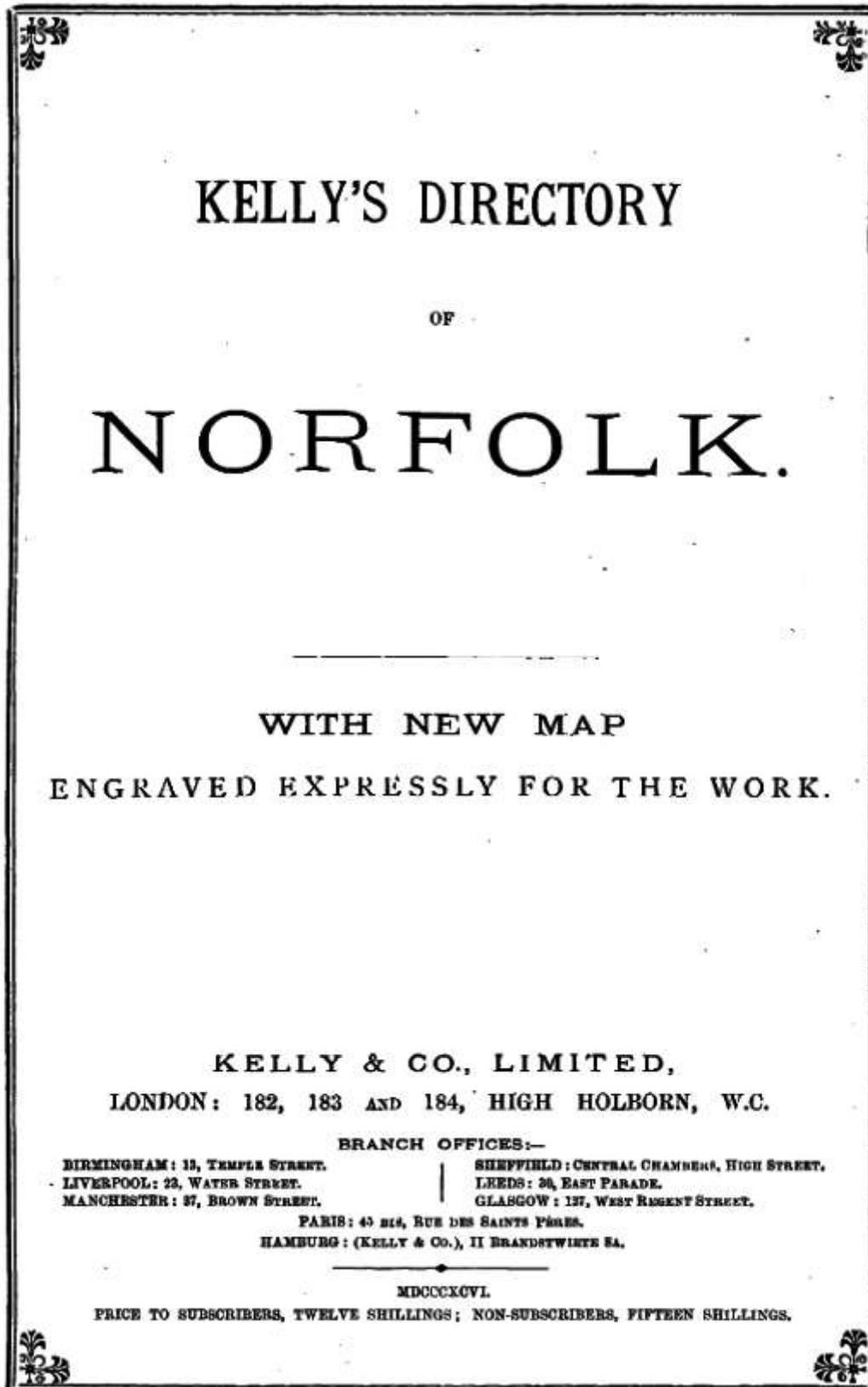


# Directory Descriptions of the Parish of Tharston



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### Notes:

All transcriptions are freshly undertaken and are not copies of other sources.

There has been no editing of the texts, e.g.: spellings and grammar, but some simple licence was taken with the layout to ensure readability.

## White's History, Gazetteer and Directory of Norfolk, 1854

Transcribed from page 361

THARSTON, 1 mile N.W. of Long Stratton, and 10 miles S. by W. of Norwich, is a pleasant village and parish, with 65 houses, 374 souls, and 1,584a. 3r. 14p. of land, belonging to various owners, the largest of whom is Sir Robert J. Harvey, the lord of the manor, and patron of the living. The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, has a square tower and four bells; and the living is a vicarage, valued in the King's book at £5 1s. 8d., now enjoyed by the Rev. Wm. Biggs, M.A., who has a neat vicarage house, erected in 1847. The Rev. Jno. Hy. and Rev. E. B. Sparke's are lessees of the rectorial tithes, commuted in 1838 for £420, and the vicarial for £123 6s. 8d. There are 5½a. of glebe. On a stone in front of Mr. Barber's house, is the following inscription: - "This house, with the brick kiln, built by Major Gen. Sir Robt. Harvey, in 1847, in which year two millions of bricks were burnt for the E. U. Railway." On Mr. Ringer's farm is a venerable oak, which measures 39½ feet in girth, and is supposed to be upwards of 500 years old. The poor's land, 2a., is let for £3, and given in bread. The poor's allotment, 8a. 29p., awarded at the enclosure in 1802, is let for £18, which is expended in coals. The poor have also the dividends of £173 7s. 10d. stock, purchased with £200, the gift of Thos. Clabborn, in 1815, and the interest of £100 given by Sir R. J. Harvey, in 1843, for the benefit of poor women of 50 years of age, born and residing in the parish.

# Craven and Co.'s Commercial Directory Of The County of Norfolk, 1856

Transcribed from pages 455, 459 & 460

THARSTON is a village and parish in the hundred of Depwade, one mile north-west of Long Stratton, containing, by the last census, 374 souls. The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is a small neat edifice, with tower containing four bells. The living is a vicarage in the patronage of Sir Robert J. Harvey, who is lord of the manor, and incumbency of the Rev. Wm. Biggs. There are 5½ acres of glebe, and the rectorial tithes were commuted in 1838 for £120, and the vicarial for £123 8s. 6d. Here are some small charities and a National School. Area, 1584 acres.

# Kelly's Post Office Directory of Cambridge, Norfolk & Suffolk 1869

## [Part 2: Norfolk]

Transcription from pages 456 & 457

THARSTON is a village and parish, a mile from Forncett station, 2 miles from Long Stratton, and 10 miles from Norwich, in the South-Eastern division of the county, Depwade hundred and union, Harleston county court district, rural deanery of Depwade, archdeaconry of Norfolk, and diocese of Norwich. The church of St. Mary the Virgin is a small edifice, with a square tower containing 4 bells. The register dates from the year 1558. The living is a vicarage, yearly value £120, in the gift of the Bishop of Norwich, and held by the Rev. William Biggs, M.A., of St. Edmund Hall, Oxford. Here is a school on the National system, supported by contributions and a small weekly payment by the children. Sir Robert J. Harvey Harvey, Bart., is lord of the manor and principal landowner. The soil is various; subsoil, clay. The chief crops are wheat, barley and beans. The parish contains 1,571 acres; rateable value, £2,748 5s.; the population in 1861 was 351.

## **J. G. Harrod & Co.'s Royal County Directory of Norfolk, 1877**

Transcribed from pages 657 & 658

THARSTON is a parish and village, in Depwade hundred, union, and rural deanery, diocese of Norwich, archdeaconry of Norfolk, and Harleston county court district, S.E. of Norfolk, distant 1 mile from Forncett station, and 10 from Norwich. The church, Virgin Mary, is a small structure, having a nave, chancel, and lofty square tower, containing four bells. In the churchyard is a fine monument in memory of General Sir Robert John Harvey, C.B., who died in 1860. The living is a vicarage, in the gift of the Bishop of Norwich, value £300 per annum; held by the Rev. S. Cutler Hooley, M.A. Here is a National school. The area of the parish is about 1,584 acres, belonging to Sir Charles Harvey, Bart., who is also lord of the manor. The population in 1871 was 859.

## Kelly's Post Office Directory of the County of Norfolk - 1879

THARSTON is a village and parish 1 mile north-east from Forncett station and 10 miles south-by-west from Norwich, in the Southern division of the county, Depwade hundred and union, Harleston county court district, rural deanery of Depwade, archdeaconry of Norfolk and diocese of Norwich. The church of St. Mary the Virgin is a small edifice, and consists of chancel, nave, north porch and a square tower containing 4 bells. The register dates from the year 1558. The living is a vicarage, yearly value £250, with residence and 5 acres of glebe, in the gift of the Bishop of Norwich and held by the Rev. Samuel Cutler Hooley. Clatburn's charity of £5 yearly is for fuel, and the fuel allotment of 8 acres produces £22 yearly, and £3 5s. derived from the land is for bread. Sir Charles Harvey Harvey bart. is lord of the manor and principal landowner. The soil is various; subsoil, clay. The chief crops are wheat, barley and beans. The parish contains 1,572 acres; rateable value, £3,036; the population in 1871 was 359.

## **Kelly's Directory for Cambridgeshire, Norfolk & Suffolk, 1883**

THARSTON is village and parish 1 mile north-east from Forncett station and 10 miles south-by-west from Norwich, in the Southern division of the county, Depwade hundred, and union, Harleston county court district, rural deanery of Depwade, archdeaconry of Norfolk and diocese of Norwich. The church of St. Mary is a small edifice of flint with stone dressings, and consists of chancel, nave, north porch and a square tower containing 4 bells. The register dates from the year 1558. The living is a vicarage, net yearly value £250, with residence and 5 acres of glebe, in the gift of the Bishop of Norwich and held since 1874 by the Rev. Samuel Cutler Hooley. Clatburn's charity of £5 yearly is for fuel, and the fuel allotment of 8 acres produces £22 yearly, and £3 5s. derived from the land is for bread. Sir Charles Harvey Harvey bart. is lord of the manor and principal landowner. The soil is various; subsoil clay. The chief crops are wheat, barley and beans. The parish contains 1,572 acres; rateable value £2,431; the population in 1881 was 375.

# White's History, Gazetteer and Directory of Norfolk, 1883

Transcribed from page 725

THARSTON is a parish and a pleasant village about 1 mile N.E. of Fornsett station, 10 miles S. by W. of Norwich, and 1 mile W. of Long Stratton, in Depwade union, hundred, and petty sessional division, Harleston county court district, Ipswich bankruptcy district, Stratton polling district of South Norfolk, Depwade rural deanery, and Norfolk archdeaconry. It had 375 inhabitants in 1881, living on 1582 acres, and has a rateable value of £2682. The soil belongs to many proprietors, the largest of whom are Sir Charles Harvey, William B. Ringer, Robert John Fitch, and Robert Fitch, Esqs., and the former of whom is lord of the manor, in which the fines are certain. The Hall, a large Elizabethan mansion of brick, is the seat of Mr. William Gowing. In the Oak-field, which belongs to William Ringer, Esq., stands an extraordinary oak tree, supposed to be at least 500 years old. Though of the pollard kind its boughs cover a space of 90 yards in circumference. At a foot from the base its trunk is 26 feet, and at five feet high 24 feet in circumference. At six feet from the ground it is divided into two great trunks, which, four feet higher, diverge into five grand divisions, each about the size of an ordinary tree. The CHURCH (Virgin Mary) comprises nave, chancel, and lofty square tower with four bells. In the churchyard is a mausoleum, erected in 1855 by the late General Sir Robert John Harvey, C.B., who was buried beneath it in 1860. The chancel was restored some years ago by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and the nave has recently been newly-roofed and re-seated, &c., through the exertions of the present vicar. The vicarage, valued in K.B. at £5 1s. 8d., is in the patronage of the Bishop of Norwich, and incumbency of the Rev. S. Cutler Hooley, who has a good residence, built in 1846, and enlarged in 1876. The tithes were commuted in 1838 - the rectorial for £460, and the vicarial for £120 a year. The gross income of the living, augmented by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, is £297. The SCHOOL is attended by about 60 children. The rent of 2 acres of old Poor's Land (£3) is distributed in bread. The Poor's Allotment, 8A. 29P., awarded at the enclosure in 1802, is let for £25, which is distributed in coal. For distributions of bread, the poor have also the dividends of £173 7s. 10d., new 3½ per cents., purchased with £200, left by Thomas Clabburn in 1815, and of £100 3½ per cents., left by Sir R. J. Harvey, Kt., in 1860; also £200 consols, the interest of which is distributed yearly in clothing to six men and women.

# White's History, Gazetteer and Directory of Norfolk, 1890

Transcribed from pages 828 & 829

THARSTON is a parish and a pleasant village about 1 mile N.E. of Fornsett station, 10 miles S. by W. of Norwich, and 1 mile W. of Long Stratton, in Depwade union, hundred, and petty sessional division, Harleston county court district, Ipswich bankruptcy district, Depwade rural deanery, and Norfolk archdeaconry. It had 375 inhabitants in 1881, living on 1,582 acres, and has a rateable value of £2,491. The soil belongs to many proprietors, the largest of whom are Sir Charles Harvey, William B. Ringer, Robert John Fitch, and Robert Fitch, Esqs., and the former of whom is lord of the manor, in which the fines are certain. The HALL, a large Elizabethan mansion of brick, is the seat of Mr. William Gowing. In the Oakfield, which belongs to William Ringer, Esq., stands an extraordinary oak tree, supposed to be at least 500 years old. Though of the pollard kind, its boughs cover a space of 90 yards in circumference. At a foot from the base its trunk is 26 feet, and at five feet high 24 feet in circumference. At six feet from the ground it is divided into two great trunks, which, four feet higher, diverge into five grand divisions, each about the size of an ordinary tree.

The CHURCH (Virgin Mary) comprises nave, chancel, and lofty square tower with four bells. In the churchyard is a mausoleum erected in 1855 by the late General Sir Robert John Harvey, C.B., who was buried beneath it in 1860. The chancel was restored some years ago by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and the nave has recently been newly roofed and reseated, &c., through the exertions of the present vicar. The church has been recently thoroughly restored. Register dates from 1558. The vicarage, valued in K.B. at £5 ls. 8d., is in the patronage of the Bishop of Norwich and incumbency of the Rev. S. Cutler Hooley, M.A., who has a good residence, built in 1846, and enlarged in 1876. The tithes were commuted in 1838 - the rectorial for £460, and the vicarial for £120 a year. The gross income of the living, augmented by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, is £297.

The SCHOOL is attended by about 60 children. The rent of 2 acres of old Poor's Land (£3) is distributed in bread. The Poor's Allotment, 5a. 29p., awarded at the enclosure in 1802, is let for £25, which is distributed in coal. For distributions of bread, the poor have also the dividends of £173 7s. 10d. New 3½ per Cents., purchased with £200 left by Thomas Clabburn in 1815, and of £100 3½ per cents. left by Sir R. J. Harvey, Kt., in 1860; also £200 consols, the interest of which is distributed yearly in clothing to six men and women.

# Kelly's Directory of Cambridgeshire, Norfolk & Suffolk, 1892

Transcript from pages 663 & 664

THARSTON is a village and scattered parish 1 mile north-east from Fornsett junction station on the Ipswich and Norwich section of the Great Eastern railway, and 10 miles south-by-west from Norwich, in the Southern division of the county, Depwade hundred, petty sessional division and union, Harleston county court district, rural deanery of Depwade, archdeaconry of Norfolk and diocese of Norwich. The church of St. Mary the Virgin is a small edifice of flint with stone dressings, consisting of chancel, nave, north porch and an embattled western tower, with small pinnacles at the angles, containing 4 bells : in the chancel is a piscine : there are monuments and tablets to John Woolmer esq. ob. 1598, and Alice his wife, and other members of the family; Thomas Woode, ob. 1763; Robert Woode, son of Sir Robert Woode, ob. 1623, and other members of that family; in the chancel is a monument, with figures of two soldiers standing with reversed arms, to the late General Sir Robert John Harvey K.C.B K.T.S K.C.B.E. d. 18 June 18960, and to Charlotte Mary his wife, d. 1869: on the south side of the chancel is a stained window, presented by Julia (Harvey), wife of Peter Wells esq. in memory of her brother, Sir Robert John Harvey Harvey bart. M.P. d. 19 July, 1870, and to Lady Henrietta Augusta his wife, daughter of Robert, 7th Earl of Cavan: the nave was thoroughly restored and re-seated with open benches in 1881, and in 1886 the porch and tower were restored: the church affords 178 sittings. In the churchyard is a mausoleum of red brick, erected in 1835 by the late General Sir Robert John Harvey K.C.B. The register dates from the year 1558. The living is a vicarage, average tithe rent-charge £225, net yearly value £196, including 6 acres of glebe, with residence, in the gift of the Bishop of Norwich, and held since 1874 by the Rev. Samuel Cutler Hooley. Thomas Clabburn's charity of £4 15s. 4d. yearly, being the interest on £200, left in 1816 is for fuel, and the fuel allotment of 8 acres produces £18 yearly; there is also a sum of £2 15s. derived from 2 acres of land called "Nellands' Pightle," which is for bread; Sir Robert John Harvey K.C.B. by deed dated 1843, left £100 in (then) £3 per Cents, the interest to be given to poor widows and single women over 60 years of age; Maria Fuller's charity of £5 10s. yearly is for warm clothing, to be given at the discretion of the vicar and churchwardens. In a field on a farm in this parish, now occupied by Mr. H. Clamp, is a remarkable oak tree, eight yards in circumference, and supposed to be over 500 years old. Tharston Hall, an ancient red brick mansion in the Elizabethan style, is the residence of William Gowing esq. Major Sir Charles Harvey bart. J.P. of Rainthorpe Hall, Flordon, is lord of the manor and principal landowner. The soil is various; subsoil, clay. The chief crops are wheat, barley and beans. The Parish contains 1,572 acres; ratable value, £2,324; the population in 1891 was 288.

## Kelly's Directory of Norfolk, 1896

Transcript from page 431

THARSTON is a scattered parish and village 1 mile north-east from Fornsett junction station on the Ipswich and Norwich section of the Great Eastern railway, and 10 miles south-by-west from Norwich, in the Southern division of the county, Depwade hundred, petty sessional division and union, Harleston county court district, rural deanery of Depwade, archdeaconry of Norfolk and diocese of Norwich. The church of St. Mary the Virgin is an edifice of flint with stone dressings, consisting of chancel, nave, north porch and an embattled western tower, with small pinnacles at the angles, containing 4 bells: in the chancel is a piscina: there are monuments and tablets to John Woolmcr esq. ob. 1568, and Alice his wife, and other members of their family; Thomas Woode, ob. 1763; Robert Woode, son of Sir Robert Woode, ob. 1623, and other members of that family: in the chancel is a monument, with figures of two soldiers standing with reversed arms, to General Sir Robert John Harvey K.C.B., K.T.S., K.C.B.A. d. 18 June, 1860, and to Charlotte Mary his wife, d. 1869: on the south side of the chancel is a stained window, presented by Julia (Harvey), wife of Peter Wells esq. in memory of her brother, Sir Robert John Harvey Harvey bart. M.P. d. 19 July, 1870, and to Lady Henrietta Augusta his wife, daughter of Robert, 7th Earl of Cavan: the nave was thoroughly restored and re-seated with open benches in 1881, and in 1886 the porch and tower were restored: the church affords 178 sittings. In the churchyard is a mausoleum of red brick, erected in 1835 by the late General Sir R. J. Harvey K.C.B. The register dates from the year 1558. The living is a vicarage, average tithe rent-charge £297, net yearly value £172, including 6 acres of glebe, with residence, in the gift of the Bishop of Norwich, and held since 1874 by the Rev. Samuel Cutler Hooley. Thomas Clabburn's charity of £4 15s. 4d. yearly; being the interest on £200, left in 1816, is for fuel, and the fuel allotment of 8 acres produces £18 yearly; there is also a sum of £2 15s. derived from 2 acres of land called "Nellands' Pightle," which is for bread, and is distributed by the parish council; Sir Robert John Harvey K.C.B. by deed dated 1843, left £100 in (then) £3 per Cents. the interest to be given yearly to poor widows and single women over 60 years of age; Maria Fuller's charity of £5 10s. yearly is for warm clothing, to be given at the discretion of the vicar and churchwardens. In a field in this parish, now occupied by Mr. Thos. Richard Potter, is a remarkable cluster of 8 fine oak trees about 15 yards apart; the largest is 33 feet and the smallest 16 feet in girth, and supposed to be over 500 years old. Tharston Hall, an ancient red brick mansion in the Elizabethan style, is now occupied as a farm house. Lieut. Col. Sir Charles Harvey bart. of Rainthorpe Hall, Flordon, is lord of the manor and principal landowner. The soil is various; subsoil, clay. The chief crops are wheat, barley and beans. The parish contains 1,572 acres; rateable value, £2,097; the population in 1891 was 288.

## Kelly's Directory of Norfolk, 1904

Transcribed from page 467

THARSTON is a scattered parish and village, 1 mile north-east from Forncett junction station on the Ipswich and Norwich section of the Great Eastern railway, and 10 miles south-by-west from Norwich, in the Southern division of the county, Depwade hundred, petty sessional division and union, Harleston county court district, rural deanery of Depwade, archdeaconry of Norfolk and diocese of Norwich. The church of St. Mary the Virgin is an edifice of flint with stone dressings, consisting of chancel, nave, north porch and an embattled western tower, with small pinnacles at the angles, containing 4 bells: in the chancel is a piscina: there are monuments and tablets to John Woolmer esq. ob. 1568, and Alice his wife, and other members of their family; Thomas Woode, ob. 1763; Robert Woode, son of Sir Robert Woode, ob. 1623 and other members of that family: in the chancel is a monument, with figures of two soldiers standing with reversed arms, to General Sir Robert John Harvey K.C.B., K.T.S., K.C.B.A. d. 18 June, 1860, and to Charlotte Mary his wife, d. 1869: on the south side of the chancel is a stained window, presented by Julia {Harvey}, wife of Peter Wells esq. in memory of her brother, Sir Robert John Harvey Harvey bart. M.P. d. 19 July, 1870, and to Lady Henrietta Augusta his wife, daughter of Robert, 7th Earl of Cavan: the font is octagonal, and dates from the reign of Hen. VII.: the nave was thoroughly restored and re-seated with open benches in 1881, and in 1886 the porch and tower were restored: the church affords 179 sittings. In the churchyard is a mausoleum of red brick, erected in 1835 by the late General Sir R. J. Harvey K.C.B. The register dates from the year 1558. The living is a vicarage, net yearly value £183, including 6 acres of glebe, with residence, in the gift of the Bishop of Norwich, and held since 1902 by the Rev. William John Garrould B.A. of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. Thomas Clabburn's charity of £4 15s. 4d. yearly, being the interest on £200 left in 1816, is for fuel, and the fuel allotment of 8 acres produces £18 yearly; there is also a sum of £2 15s. derived from 2 acres of land called "Nellands' Pightle," which is for bread, and is distributed by the parish Council; Sir Robert John Harvey K.C.B. by deed dated 1843, left £100 in (then) £3 per Cents. the interest to be given yearly to poor widows and single women over 60 years of age; Maria Fuller's charity of £5 10s. yearly is for warm clothing, to be given at the discretion of the vicar and churchwardens. In a field in this parish, now occupied by the Misses Hylton, is a remarkable cluster of 8 fine oak trees about 15 yards apart; the largest is 33 feet and the smallest 16 feet in girth, and supposed to be over 500 years old. Tharston Hall, an ancient red brick mansion in the Elizabethan style, is now occupied as a farm house. Col. Sir Charles Harvey bart. of Rainthorpe Hall, Flordon, is lord of the manor and principal landowner. The soil is various; subsoil, clay. The chief crops are wheat, barley and beans. The parish contains 1,572 acres; rateable value, £2,001; the population in 1901 was 270.

## Kelly's Directory of Norfolk, 1912

Transcribed from page 488

THARSTON is a scattered parish and village, 1 mile north-east from Forncett junction station on the Ipswich and Norwich section of the Great Eastern railway, and 10 miles south-by-west from Norwich, in the Southern division of the county, Depwade hundred, petty sessional division and union, Harleston county court district, rural deanery of Depwade, archdeaconry of Norfolk and diocese of Norwich. The church of St. Mary the Virgin is an edifice of flint with stone dressings, consisting of chancel, nave, north porch and an embattled western tower, with small pinnacles at the angles, containing 4 bells : in the chancel is a piscine : there are monuments and tablets to John Woolmer esq. ob. 1598, and Alice his wife, and other members of the family; Thomas Woode, ob. 1763; Robert Woode, son of Sir Robert Woode, ob. 1623, and other members of that family; in the chancel is a monument, with figures of two soldiers standing with reversed arms, to General Sir Robert John Harvey K.C.B., K.T.S., K.C.B.A. d. 18 June 1860, and to Charlotte Mary his wife, d. 1869: on the south side of the chancel is a stained window, presented by Julia (Harvey), wife of Peter Wells esq. in memory of her brother, Sir Robert John Harvey Harvey bart. M.P. d. 19 July, 1870, and to Lady Henrietta Augusta his wife, daughter of Robert, 7th Earl of Cavan: the font is octagonal and dates from the reign of Hen. VII: the nave was thoroughly restored and re-seated with open benches in 1881, and in 1886 the porch and tower were restored: the church affords 179 sittings. In the churchyard is a mausoleum of red brick, erected in 1835 by the late General Sir Robert John Harvey K.C.B. The register dates from the year 1558. The living is a vicarage, net yearly value £183, including 6 acres of glebe, with residence, in the gift of the Bishop of Norwich, and held since 1902 by the Rev. William John Garrould B.A. of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. Thomas Clabburn's charity of £4 6s. 7d. yearly, being the interest on £200 left in 1816, is for fuel, and the fuel allotment of 8 acres produces £16 10s. yearly; there is also a sum of £2 10s. derived from 2 acres of land called "Nellands' Pightle," which is for bread, and is distributed by the Parish Council; Sir Robert John Harvey K.O.B. by deed dated 1843, left £100 in (then) £3 per Cents, the interest to be given to poor widows and single women; Maria Fuller's charity of £5 yearly is for warm clothing, to be given to six poor persons at the discretion of the vicar and churchwardens. In a field in this parish is a remarkable cluster of eight fine oak trees about 15 yards apart; the largest is 33 feet and the smallest 16 feet in girth, and supposed to be over 500 years old. Tharston Hall, an ancient red brick mansion in the Elizabethan style, is now occupied as a farm house. Sir Charles Harvey bart. of Rainthorpe Hall, Flordon, is lord of the manor, and the Harvey-Keppel Trust are the principal landowners. The soil is various; subsoil, clay. The chief crops are wheat, barley and beans. The Parish contains 1,572 acres; ratable value, £2,085; the population in 1911 was 296.

## Kelly's Directory of Norfolk, 1933

Transcribed from pages 504-505

THARSTON is a scattered parish and village, 1 mile north-east from Forncett junction station on the Ipswich and Norwich section of the London and North Eastern railway, and 10 south-by-west from Norwich, in the Southern division of the county, Depwade hundred, petty sessional division and rural district, Harleston county court district, rural deanery of Depwade, archdeaconry of Norfolk and diocese of Norwich. The church of St. Mary the Virgin is an edifice of flint with stone dressings, consisting of Chancel, nave, north porch and an embattled western tower, with small pinnacles at the angles, containing 5 bells: in the chancel is a piscine: there are monuments and tablets to John Woolmer esq. Ob. 1562, and Alice his wife, and other members of their family; Thomas Woode, ob. 1763; Robert Woode, son of Sir Robert Woode, ob. 1623, and other members of that family; in the chancel is a monument, with figures of two soldiers standing with reversed arms, to General Sir Robert John Harvey K.C.B., K.T.S., K.C.B.A. d. 18 June 1860, and to Charlotte Mary his wife, d. 1869; on the south side of the chancel is a stained glass, presented by Julia (Harvey), wife of Peter Wells esq. in memory of her brother, Sir Robert John Harvey Harvey bart. M.P. d. 19 July, 1870, and to Lady Henrietta Augusta his wife, daughter of Robert, 7th Earl of Cavan: the font is octagonal, and dates from the reign of Hen. VII.: the nave was thoroughly restored and re-seated with open benches in 1881, and in 1886 the porch and tower were restored: in 1928 the choir seats were renovated in memory of the Rev. J. W. Garrould: there are 170 sittings. In the churchyard is a mausoleum of red brick, erected in 1835 by the late General Sir R. J. Harvey K.C.B. The register dates from the year 1558. The living is a vicarage, net yearly value £280, including 7 acres of glebe, with residence, in the gift of the Bishop of Norwich, and held since 1927 by the Rev. Charles Thomas Mourilyan M.A. of Wadham College, Oxford. Thomas Clabburn's charity of £4 6s. 7d. Yearly, being the interest on £200 left in 1816, is for fuel, and the fuel allotment of 8 acres produces £36 yearly; there is also a sum of £3 derived from 2 acres of land called "Nellands' Pightle," which is for bread, and is distributed by the Parish Council; Sir Robert John Harvey K.C.B. by deed dated 1843, left £100 in (then) £3 per Cents. the interest to be given to poor widows and single women; Maria Fuller's charity of £5 yearly is for warm clothing, to be given to six poor persons at the discretion of the vicar and the churchwardens. In a field in this parish is a remarkable cluster of fine oak trees about 15 yards apart; the largest is 38 feet and the smallest 16 feet in girth, and supposed to be over 500 years old. Tharston Hall, an ancient red brick farm in the Elizabethan style, is now occupied as a farm house. There are several landowners. The soil is various; subsoil, clay. The chief crops are wheat, barley and beans. The parish contains 1,633 acra; the population in 1921 was 261.

## **Postscript:**

Having transcribed and read the descriptions the individual directories gave for the village of Tharston I was surprised at the similarities between entries. Did they just repeat what was entered in the last directory, copy the content of another directory or start with a fresh text?

By looking at some of the details within the descriptions some useful social aspects of Tharston life can be gleaned: e.g.: who was living at Tharston Hall, who were the main landowners and who was the vicar of Tharston.

Some numeric data can be gleaned from the information, such as values of charities, but care should be taken with accuracy. The 1871 Census gives the Tharston population as 361 – the Harrod & Co.'s Royal County Directory of Norfolk, 1877, states "The population in 1871 was 859"!

Using the Tharston Past website, the persons and their occupations given in the complete transcripts for Tharston can be searched