

Oyster River Hornpipe

James Bryan

The musical score for "Oyster River Hornpipe" is presented in six systems, each with two staves. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The first system begins with a triplet of eighth notes. Chord symbols (G, Em, G, D, G, D) are placed above the first staff. The second system includes first and second endings. The third system has chord symbols (G, D, Em, Am, G) above the first staff and (Em, G, Am, G, D, G, G) below the second staff. The fourth system also includes first and second endings. The fifth system has chord symbols (G, Em, D) above the first staff and (D, G, D, A, D, D) below the second staff. The sixth system concludes with first and second endings and a final double bar line with repeat dots.

Often played as a two part tune, notably by Lotus Dickey. It appears in many old tune collections including Ryan's Mammoth Collection, 1883 and it's reissue - Cole's 1000 Fiddle Tunes, 1940. The origin of the third part is uncertain and possibly recent. I learned the three part version from a James Bryan workshop in 2004. His order of parts is (AABBCC) +AA (last time).