

1. Parish : Glemsford

Meaning: Ford over the gleaming river (EKWALL)

2. **Hundred:** Babergh

Deanery: Sudbury (-1864), Sudbury (Western) (1864-1884),
Sudbury (1884 -)

Union: Sudbury

RDC/UDC: (W. Suffolk) Melford RD (1894-1896, Glemsford UD
(1896-1935), Melford RD (1935-1974), Babergh DC
(1974 -)

Other administrative details:

Melford Petty Sessional Division
Sudbury County Court District

3. **Area:** 2, 235 acres land, 11 acres water (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Mixed: a) Some slowly permeable calcareous/non calcareous
clay soils, slight risk water erosion
b) Small amount deep well drained fine loam, coarse
loam and sandy soils, locally flinty and in places over
gravel

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		Wood for 5 pigs, 1 mill, 3 horses at hall, 8 cattle, 200 sheep, 32 pigs
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:	Wheat, barley, oats
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet. Better loams attract orchard and soft fruit growers

6. **Enclosure:**

7. Settlement:

1953 Long well spaced development situated mainly along link road but also extending northwards to incorporate Brook Street. The church is placed at a point to the extreme east of main settlement. Scattered farms. River Stour and railway form southern boundary while River Glem forms eastern boundary.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 159, 1801 – 247, 1851 – 291, 1871 – 452, 1901 – 456, 1951 – 472, 1981 – 855

8. Communications:

Roads: Roads to Cavendish, Boxted, Stanstead.
Link road to Long Melford to Clare road.
1844: Carrier to Bury St. Edmunds on Wednesday
Cart owner
1891: Railway carrier
Carriers to Long Melford and Sudbury daily to Bury St. Edmunds on Wednesday
1912: Carrier to Sudbury on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday

Rail: 1891: Railway station: Stour Valley line opened (1868), closed for goods (1966), closed for passengers (1967)

Water: River Stour: navigable (circa 1724). Toll tables (1741 and 1750) give lists of cargo. Decline (1860's), Navigation Company liquidated (1913)
River Glem

9. Population:

1086 — 41 recorded
1327 — 29 taxpayers paid £2. 12s. 10d.
1524 — 122 taxpayers paid £26. 6s. 4d.
1603 — 800 adults
1674 — 237 households
1676 — approx. 679 adults
1801 — 1,215 inhabitants
1831 — 1,470 inhabitants
1851 — 1,626 inhabitants
1871 — 2,251 inhabitants
1901 — 1,975 inhabitants
1931 — 1,261 inhabitants
1951 — 1,334 inhabitants
1971 — 1,898 inhabitants
1981 — 2,423 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory

1254	Portion of parson £8. 13s. 4d Portion of vicar £8	<u>£16. 13s. 4d.</u>
1291	Valued £23. 6s. 8d.	
1535	Valued £30. 0s. 0½d.	
1831	Curate, stipend of £105 p.a. Glebe house. Gross income £582 p.a.	
1844	Commodious residence. 75 acres glebe	
1912	Nett value £420. 75 acres glebe and residence	

Patrons: Bishop of Ely (1603 -)

11. Church St. Mary

(Chancel, clerestoried nave of 3 bays, aisles, N & S. porches, W. tower)

1086	Church plus 30 acres free land
12 th cent.	Chancel arches and nave, lower stages of tower
14 th cent.	Remainder of tower
15/16 th cent.	Main structure
1873	Restoration
1955-60	Further restoration

Seats: 700 free (1873)

11a. Other Religious Institutions

Collegiate Society of Brethren: Dedicated to St. Mary

Founded under Edward the Confessor
Records cease after (1272)

12. Nonconformity etc:

1606	1 person not receiving communion
1676	Approx. 9 nonconformists
1712-1818	9 houses set aside for worship
1758	Newly erected meeting house in Agreeman Street
1830	Ebenezer Baptist chapel built, seats 340
1859	Hunts Hill Baptist chapel built, seats 600
1908	Primitive Methodist chapel

13. Manorial:

1066/1086	Manor of 8 carucates belonging to Abbot of St. Ethelreda's
1066	Manor of 30 acres held by Blackwin under patronage of Siward
1086	Manor of 30 acres belonging to Ranulf Peverel

Glemsford Manor

1361 Given in frankalmoign to Bishop of Ely
1600 Alienated to the Crown
18th cent. John Moore owns (linked to Cavendish, Long Melford,
 Lavenham and Cockfield)
1834 John Wright owns

Sub-Manors:

Method's and Wimbolds

1515 William Medewold holds
1569 John Allen owns (absorbs Callis)
circa 17th cent. Appleton family owns (linked to Lt. Waldingfield and
 Edwardstone)

Callis al Tynes

1439 Possibly held by Thomas Caleys
1569 John Allen owns (absorbed by Method's)

Glemsford al Peverells

14/15th cent. Appears to be disputed ownership between Richard de
 Muneworth and Hugh de Glemsford
1497 William Felton died seised

14. Markets/Fairs

Fair held on June 24th for toys (1759), for pedlary and toys (1885),
obsolete by (1912)

15. Real property:

1844 £3,675 rental value
1891 £4,975 rateable value
1912 £4,450 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844/1912 Land subdivided

17. Resident gentry:

1680 2 gents listed
1686 Edmund Baldero DD
1912 S.W. Downs, Councillor and Rev. H. Hall MA

18. Occupations:

1494	Millwright
1478/94	2 fullers
1500-1549	2 yeomen, 5 weavers, 20 clothmakers, 3 husbandmen, 1 labourer, 1 spinster, 4 fullers (additional information for this group from 'The Springs of Lavenham' by B. McClenaghan)
1550-1599	9 clothiers, 4 yeomen, 7 weavers, 1 clothmaker, 5 husbandmen, 1 tailor, 1 labourer, 2 shearmen (one who cuts woollen cloth), clockmaker, 1 clothworker, 1 smith
1600-1649	14 clothiers, 11 yeomen, 12 weavers, 4 husbandmen, 3 tailors, 3 labourers, 2 blacksmiths, 1 shoemaker, 2 shearmen, 1 glover, 1 miller, 1 millwright, 1 parson, 1 clerk, 1 knacker
1650-1699	9 clothiers, 8 yeomen, 1 weaver, 2 husbandmen, 3 tailors, 2 bay makers, 1 webster (female weaver), 2 carpenters, 5 spinsters, 1 blacksmith, 2 bricklayers, 1 miller, 1 grocer, 1 butcher, 1 cordwainer
1824	Silk Throwsting mill opened employing 230 hands. By (1844) 60 hands were employed, some weaving silk and velvet for Sudbury manufacturers
1831	184 in agriculture, 79 in retail trade, 44 in manufacturing 4 professionals, 2 in labouring, 18 in domestic service, 29 others
1844	2 beerhouse keepers, carrier, 2 butchers, miller, hairdresser, thatcher, teachers, silk throwsters, cart owner, soap boiler/tallow chandler, collar/harness maker, 2 plumber/glaziers, 4 publicans, 4 blacksmiths, 2 bricklayers, 12 farmers, 4 joiners, machine maker, millwright, 3 maltsters, 3 shoemakers, 8 shopkeepers, 5 tailors, 4 wheelwrights Manufacture of horse hair seating and coconut matting established (1844) employing 700
1891	Umbrella silk factory established
1912	Silk throwing mill, 2/3 small hair weaving and mat factories employing mainly women and girls. Sub-postmaster, council officers, teachers, 2 police officers, station master, silk throwsters, 2 hair cloth manufacturers, 4 horse hair manufacturers, 4 beer retailers, bankers, 7 farmers, 9 shopkeepers, coal merchant, 2 grocer/drapers, hairdresser, butcher, 3 coconut mat makers, 2 grocers, builder, machinists/engineers, 4 publicans, 3 bakers, hotel keeper, wheelwright, boarding house owner, 3 mat manufacturers, pig/poultry breeder, 3 shoemakers, blacksmith, carpenter, artificial teeth manufacturer, plumber/glazier, surgeon, market gardener, relieving officer, sanitary inspector, tailor, basket maker
1916-1925	Glemsford flax industry - produced linen for war effort

19. Education:

1818	House in churchyard said to have been used as school National school of industry (131 attend)
1833	2 infant schools (29 attend), 4 daily schools (57 attend) 1 Established Church Sunday school (100 attend) 1 Baptist Sunday school (112 attend)
1840	National school established, used as Sunday school (1891)
1844	Old school in churchyard (occupied by paupers)
1871	School Board formed
1873	Schools built for 600. Average attendance (1912) 262
1903	School Council formed

'Education in Glemsford in the 19th cent.' by J.B. Breckman (1976)

20. Poor relief:

1776	£301. 15s. 7d.	spent on poor relief
1803	£1,372. 5s. 4d.	spent on poor relief
1818	£3,815. 13s.	spent on poor relief
1830	£2,079. 19s.	spent on poor relief
1832	£2,179. 14s.	spent on poor relief
1834	£1,504. 9s.	spent on poor relief

21. Charities:

Hammond's Charity:

1670 by will of Thomas Hammond: 9 acres called New Croft let at £12 p.a. distributed among 6 old men in December

Doles:

1840 Lands let at £9. 17s. p.a. distributed at Christmas

School House:

1840 House in churchyard part let at 50s p.a. part occupied by poor

Bible Meadow:

1669 by deed of Edmund Bodero: land let at £1. 5s p.a. applied to purchase of bibles and religious books

Kerrington's Gift:

1687 by will of Capt. Nicholas Kerrington: £5 p.a. distributed among poor (discontinued 1840)

Corder's Charity:

40s p.a. for distribution among poor

Poley's Charity:

One fifth rents annually distributed among poor

22. Other institutions:

1776	Workhouse (50 inmates)
1803	2 Friendly Societies (36 members)
1891	Lodges of Oddfellows and Druids Clothing, Sick and Benefit Clubs Police inspector
1912	Police station: compliment of 1 inspector and 1 constable
1905	Water works erected to supply town with water (water tower). Surveyors office on 1st floor sometime used for parish council meetings.
1982	Village Hall and library opened

23. Recreation:

1844	2 beerhouses, 4 public houses
1883	Boys Brigade founded by Sir William Smith
circa 1887	Football team established
1891	3 beerhouses, 2 beer retailers, 7 public houses
1893	Glemsford Brass Band
1912	4 beer retailers, 4 public houses, 1 hotel
1927	Girl Guides formed
1935	Womens Institute established
20 th cent.	Annual Flower Show

24. Personal:

George Cavendish (1554): author of 'The Life of Cardinal Wolsey'.
Ted Hartley (1978) recalls Glemsford in 1920's (typescript in parish folder)(R0)

25. Other information:

'A Short History' by F.H. Richold (1946)

'A Short History of Glemsford' by K.W. Glass (1962)

Transcript Survey of Manor of Glemsford (1621) by E. McCutcheon and Richard Deeks.

'Glorious Glemsford' by Richard Deeks (1977)

Transcripts of wills of the Strutt family from (1516) (in parish folder)(R0)

Carving of Archangel Michael (15th cent.) is feature corner post of Angel House

3 cases of incendiarism due to agrarian unrest (1843/44)

Copy deeds of Glemsford Silk Mill (1887) (in parish folder)(RO)

Greyhound Public House closed (1907). The final night marked by coffin being carried in procession, after closing time, to the Churchyard (symbolically containing the 'spirit' of the old inn). Free beer was liberally consumed.

Glemsford silk mills have supplied yarn for the Queens coronation robe, Prince of Wales investiture and Princess Anne's wedding dress (1975)

Industrial starter units established (1985) in former horsehair factory.

Suffolk Studio Glass opened (1980), employed 20 (1985)

Photographs of peace celebrations in 'Glorious Glemsford' (1919)

Duke of Kent opened Womens Institute Hall (1937)

German prisoners were detained at Arnold & Gould's Hair factory in Bells Lane (1917)

'The Great Adventure: Halstead Co-op (1960)' by A.E. Hodgkinson

'Glemsfords Links with the Royal Wedding' by B. Underwood. Suffolk Fair (Jan. 1985) p.43

'Those Transported from Glemsford to Australia 1787-1868' by R. Deeks (1987)