

1. Parish: Mickfield

Meaning: Large grove, marsh and field

2. **Hundred:** Bosmere (–1327), Bosmere and Claydon

Deanery: Bosmere

Union: Bosmere and Claydon

RDC/UDC: Bosmere and Claydon HD (1894–1934), Gipping RD (1934–1974), Mid Suffolk DC (1974–)

Other administrative details:

Civil boundary change 1883, 35 acres 33P land, farmhouse and cottage lost to Stonham Aspal

Abolished ecclesiastically 1973 to create Aspal and Mickfield

Bosmere and Claydon Petty Sessional Division

Stowmarket County Court District

3. **Area:** 1,274 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:** Slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loam over clay

5. **Types of farming:**

1086 5 acres meadow, 5 cattle, 10 pigs, 27 sheep, 21 goats

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, beans

1969 Trist: More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet.

6. **Enclosure:**

7. **Settlement:**

1958 Mendlesham airfield intrudes into parish to the north. Small compact development slightly to east of church. Few scattered farms.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 17, 1801 – 33, 1851 – 54, 1871 – 52, 1901 – 44, 1951 – 49, 1981 – 50

8. Communications:

Road: To Wetheringsett, Stonham Aspal, Stonham Parva and Debenham

Air: Mendlesham airfield: RAF station, operational 1943, became inactive 1954. Light industry non occupies site

9. Population:

1086 – 14 recorded
1327 – 32 taxpayers paid £3 9s. (includes Stonham Aspal)
1524 – 17 taxpayers paid £2 11s. 6d.
1603 – 55 adults
1674 – 18 households
1676 – not recorded
1801 – 173 inhabitants
1831 – 257 inhabitants
1851 – 256 inhabitants
1871 – 243 inhabitants
1901 – 199 inhabitants
1931 – 158 inhabitants
1951 – 172 inhabitants
1971 – 126 inhabitants
1981 – 142 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory

1254 Valued £5 13s. 4d.
1291 Valued £8.
Portion of Wangford 5s.
Portion of Grestein 10s. £8 15s.
1535 Valued £9 11s. 0½d.
1831 Glebe house. Gross income £359 p.a.
Modus of £390/400 p.a. in lieu of tithes 1838
1844 26 acres glebe
1912 Nett value £250 p.a. 26 acres glebe and residence.

Patrons: Michael Hare (1603), Rev. N. Simpson (1831), Mrs. Chenery (1891), Rev. J.M.S. Brooke (1912)

11. Church St Andrew
(Chancel, nave, S.porch, S.tower)

1086 Church + 8 acres land, ½ plough
½ church + 2½ acres land
14th cent. Tower

14/15th cent. Main structure
 1644 Puritanical Vandals (William Dowsing) ordered 2 crosses to be removed
 1977 Declared redundant

Seats: 120 (1915)

12. Nonconformity etc:

1603 2 recusants, 1 person does not receive communion

13. Manorial:

1066/1086 Manor of 60 acres belonging to Abbot of St Edmunds
 12th cent. Roger de Hoo owns
 1316 Sir John de Boyland owns
 1428 Thomas Singleton owns
 1439 William Mikyefeld owns
 c.1541 William Hare owns

Sub-manors:

Hammonds

1515 John Garneys owns. This family was still in possession 1706

Flede Hall

1764 William Middleton owns (linked to Barnham, Baylham, Bramford, Stonham Aspal)
 1909 Lord de Saumarez owns (linked to numerous manors throughout Suffolk)

Wolney Hall

Anciently in the possession of alien priory of Grestein, Normandy
 1347 Sold to Sydemams de Lymbergh
 1764 Lord Orwell owns
 1855 Sir R.S. Adair owns (linked to Lt. Bricett, Naughton, Fressingfield, Mendham, Depden and Cratfield)
 1909 Sir F.E.S. Adair owns (linked to Creeting St. Olave, Ringshall, Naughton, Fressingfield, Syleham and Wingfield)

14. Markets/Fairs:

15. Real property:

1844	£1, 796 rental value
1891	£1, 445 rateable value
1912	£1, 174 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844–1912 Land sub-divided

17. Resident gentry:

1844	Rev. M. Simpson BA
1891	Rev. H.T. Curry MA

18. Occupations:

1550–1599	3 yeomen
1600–1649	12 yeomen, 2 tailors
1650–1699	6 yeomen, 1 cooper, 1 rector
1831	50 in agriculture, 5 in retail trade, 2 professionals, 18 in domestic service, 4 others
1844	Shoemaker, blacksmith, shopkeeper, wheelwright, 8 farmers
1912	Sub-postmaster, teacher, cycle agent/repairer, 7 farmers, farm bailiff, blacksmith, beer retailer, basket maker, dressmaker

19. Education:

1818/1833	1 Sunday school (20 attend)
1891	Parochial National school, 42 attend. Average attendance 1912 50

20. Poor relief:

1776	£43 2s. 0d.
1803	£54 9s. 9½ d.
1818	£165 5s.
1830	£198 17s.
1832	£253 5s.
1834	£178 2s.

21. Charities:

Town Estate:

1612	Devised by Rev. John Metcalf: Messuage called Breadstreet, Woodbridge, let at £20 p.a. Administered with Church-rate. 2 cottages let at £5 p.a. also applied with Church-rate
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22. Other institutions:

23. Recreation:

1891/1912 Beer retailer

24. Personal:

25. Other information:

Suffolk Parish Registers: Marriages Vol.4.

Mickfield Hall: stud and plaster construction, gabled and barge-boarded ends. Moated. Approached by causeway 1918. East Anglian Miscellany 1918, p.27 and 46.