

1. Parish: Milden

Meaning: Place where the orch grew

2. **Hundred:** Babergh

Deanery: Sudbury (–1864), Sudbury (Eastern)(1864–1884),
Lavenham (1884–)

Union: Cosford

RDC/UDC: (W.Suffolk) Cosford RD (–1974), Babergh DC (1974–)

Other administrative details:

Boxford Petty Sessional Division
Hadleigh County Court Division

3. **Area:** 1,343 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:** Some slowly permeable calcareous/non calcareous clay soils, some fine lime over clay with slowly permeable subsoils with slight risk of seasonal waterlogging or water erosion.

5. Types of farming:

1086		Wood for six pigs, 3 oxen, 1 mill, 2 horses, 7 cattle, 22 pigs, 50 sheep, 16 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 and vetches, hops and occasionally hemp.
1818	Marshall:	Course of crops varies usually including summer fallow as preparation for corn products.
1937	Main crops:	Wheat, beans, barley, turnips.
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet.

6. Enclosure:

7. Settlement:

1974: Small well-spaced community with no apparent centre of development. Church situated near to eastern boundary. Scattered farms.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 17, 1801 – 21, 1851 – 42, 1871 – 40,
1901– 36, 1951 – 40, 1981 – 41

8. Communications:

Road: To Brent Eleigh, Monks Eleigh, Edwardstone, Groton
and Lt. Waldingfield

Rail: 1891 4 miles Lavenham station: Bury St Edmunds–Long
Melford Line, opened 1865, closed for passengers 1961,
closed for goods 1965.

9. Population:

1086 – 19 recorded
1327 – 13 taxpayers paid £1.19s.6d.
1524 – 10 taxpayers paid £0. 14s. 10d.
1603 – 45 adults
1674 – 22 households
1676 – 70 adults
1801 – 130 inhabitants
1831 – 177 inhabitants
1851 – 165 inhabitants
1871 – 170 inhabitants
1901 – 152 inhabitants
1931 – 136 inhabitants
1951 – 120 inhabitants
1971 – 107 inhabitants
1981 – 104 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory (Amalgamated with Brent Eleigh 1928)

1254 Valued £6. 13s. 4d.
1291 Valued £10. 13s. 4d.
1535 Valued £10. 13s. 4d.
1674 Parsonage has 5 hearths
1831 Glebe House. Gross income £320 p.a.
Modus of £340 p.a. 1841
1912 Nett value £186. 28 acres glebe and residence

Patrons: Guydo de St.Clare (1332/1350), John de Sutton (1370)
Geoffrey Michael (1403), William Schelton (1409/1418)
James Hobart (1479/1483), William Spring (1555/1567)
Thomas Ffeltham (1603), William, Lord Alington (1662/1678),
Miles Burkitt (1703/1753), Gurdon family (1831/1882)
Rev.H. Carter (1907–1943).

11. Church St. Peter
(Chancel, nave, S.porch, small W. turret)

1086 Church & 15 acres free land
11th/12th cent. Nave and S. doorway

14 th cent.	Tower and chancel Tower demolished as unsafe 1827
1974–1981	Church repairs

Seats: 4 appropriated, 206 free (1873)

12. Nonconformity etc:

1603	1 recusant
1611/1627	1 popish recusant

13. Manorial:

1066	Manor of 2 carucates held by Leofwin of Bacton, a thane of King Edward
1086	Manor of 2 carucates belonging to the holdings of Theodoric but held by Walter the Deacon

Milden Manor at Wells Hall

12 th cent.	Sir Peter Melding was seised
1335	Guy de Clare owns
1409	William Shelton owns (linked to Brent Eleigh)
1599	Paul D'Ewes owns (linked to Long Melford, Lavenham, Brent Eleigh and Stowlangtoft)
Late 17 th cent.	Colman family owns (linked to Gt. Waldingfield and Brent Eleigh)
1890	Major Cecil Du Pre Penton Powney owns

Sub-Manors:

Bures/Bowers

1314	Robert de Bures owns
c.1360	de Grey family owns (linked to Gt. & Lt. Cornard and Cavendish)
15 th cent.	Thomas Spring owns (linked to Lt.Waldingfield, Cockfield, Shimpling, Preston. Polstead and Long Melford)
1599	James Allington owns
1764	John Canham said to own (questionable)

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844	£1, 473 rental value
1891	£1,355 rateable value
1912	£940 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844/1912 Land sub-divided

17. Resident gentry:

1680 2 gentry recorded
1686 Robert Canham
1912 Rev. W.D. Churchill MA

18. Occupations:

1550–1599 3 yeomen, 1 Rector, 1 carpenter
1600–1649 2 yeomen, 1 clerk
1650–1699 4 yeomen
1831 43 in agriculture, 1 in retail trade, 1 professional
12 in domestic service
1844 6 farmers
1912 3 farmers, beer retailer, farm bailiff

19. Education:

1818 1 day school (19 attend), 1 Sunday school (16 attend)
1833 1 daily school (40 attend), 1 Sunday school (20 attend)
1844 Rents applied to support school for poor children
1891 1 school (30 attend)
1912 Children attend school at Monks Eleigh or Brent Eleigh

20. Poor relief:

1776 £95. 3s. 7d.
1803 £176. 3s. 10¼.
1818 £272. 11s.
1830 £278. 6s.
1832 £296. 5s.
1834 £187. 14s.

21. Charities:

Poors Estate:

1653 by will of James Allington: 3 cottages in Monks Eleigh for the poor let at £4.2s. p.a. distributed among the poor. Rebuilt 1861

Canham's Gift:

1840 £1 p.a. distributed among poor

Thomas Canham's Gift:

(lost due to insolvency)

Birkett's Gift:

1700 by will of Rev. William Birkett: 2 cottages and orchard let at £5. 2s. p.a. to support of day school

22. Other institutions:

1703 Parochial library established 1703, dispersed 1912 (Rev. W. Birkett's library)

1803 School of Industry (6 children)

23. Recreation:

1891/1912 1 beerhouse/retailer

24. Personal:

25. Other information:

Milden Hall: built c.18th cent.

Milden Castle: said to have existed near the church. Known as Foxburrow Hill. Fosse, revetment and bailey much mutilated (probably by gravel digging). Victoria County History p.602.

Beating the bounds ceremony revived in aid of charity 1977, raised £180.

Gateway to Wells Hall: listed monument