

1. Parish: NAYLAND (with WISSINGTON)

Meaning: Island, river land

2. **Hundred:** Babergh

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

Union: Sudbury

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

Other administrative details:

Former chapelry in Stoke by Nayland. Separate civil parish at early date, Abolished as civil parish 1884 to create Nayland with Wissington.
Separate ecclesiastical parish pre 1855
Boxford Petty Sessional Division
Colchester Court District

3. **Area:** 2,558 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Mixed:

- a. Deep fine loam over clay soils with slowly permeable subsoils and slight seasonable waterlogging. Some slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loam over clay soils, calcareous subsoils in places.
- b. Coarse loams and sandy soil, locally flinty and in places over gravel. Slight risk water erosion
- c. Clay soils, in places calcareous, variably affected by groundwater

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		1 mill, 3 horses at Hall, 31 cattle, 45 pigs, 80 sheep, 35 goats
1500–1640	Thirsk:	Region of wood pasture and dairying which also had weaving industry to fall back on Crops mainly barley with some wheat, rye, oats, peas, vetches, hops, and occasionally hemp Also has similarities with sheep-corn region where sheep are main fertilizing agent, bred for fattening, barley main cash crop
1818	Marshall:	Wide variations of crop and management techniques including summer fallow in preparation for corn and rotation of turnip, barley clover, wheat on lighter lands

1937 Main crops: Wheat, barely,oats
1969 Trist: Above average number of cattle kept, More
Intensive cereal growing but sugar beet limited

6. Enclosure:

1817 408 acres in Nayland with Wissington, Assington, Stoke-by-Nayland and Polstead enclosed under Private Act of Lands 1815

7. Settlement:

1953 River Stour forms southern boundary. Nayland is a compact development radiating out from the river and river crossing (which probably influenced development). Church situated within main concentration. Wissington is small hamlet of few houses to SW of Nayland
Scattered farms
Inhabited houses: 1674 – 133 , 1801 – 147, 1851 – 236, 1871 – 235, 1901 – 248 (including Wissington) , 1951 – 309, 1981 – 437

8. Communications:

Road: To Long Melford and Sudbury
1844 Coaches to Colchester and Stowmarket daily
Waggons to London Tuesday and Friday
to Ipswich Monday
to Colchester Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday
1891 Omnibus to Colchester daily except Sunday
Carrier to Colchester daily
to Sudbury Thursday
to Boxford and Colchester Wednesday and Saturday
1912 Omnibus to Sudbury Thursday
to Colchester twice daily
to Ipswich Tuesday
Carriers to Colchester Wednesday and Saturday
to Sudbury Thursday

Rail: 1891 5 miles Bures Station: Marks Tey–Sudbury line, opened 1849, station closed for goods 1964, closed for passengers 1967

Water: River Stour. Navigable c.1724, toll-table 1741/1750 gives cargo. Decline began c.1860. Navigation company went into voluntary liquidation 1913. Lock and weir.

9. Population:

1086 – 15 recorded
1327 – 22 taxpayers paid £2 11s. 4d.
1524 – 100 taxpayers paid £58 13s. 4d.
1603 – Not recorded
1674 – 64 households
1676 – 600 adults 1,047 inhabitants
1801 – 881 inhabitants
1831 – 1,047 inhabitants
1851 – 1,153 inhabitants
1871 – 980 inhabitants
1901 – 1,061 inhabitants (includes Wissington hereafter)
1931 – 1,268 inhabitants
1951 – 1,139 inhabitants
1971 – 1,297 inhabitants
1981 – 1,330 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Perpetual Curacy

–c.1855 Chapelry of Stoke by Nayland
1831 No glebe house, curate, stipend £90 p.a. Gross income £151 p.a. Incumbent also holds Rectories of West Bergholt, West Tofts, Norfolk and the Perpetual Curacy of Santon Downham, Suffolk Valued £139 1835
Tithes commuted for £286 15s. 9d. p.a.
Vicarage house built 1887
1912 Nett value £140. 48 acres and residence

Patrons: Rowley family (–1844), Sir J.T. Rowley (1912)

11. Church St. James

(Chancel, clerestoried nave, aisles, N. & S. porches tower)

14th cent. Eastern part of church. Remainder 15/16th cent.
1441 North Porch
14th cent. Tower, brick top
1525 S. porch built by clothier called Abel. Rebuilt 1884
1643 Puritanical Vandals (William Dowsing) ordered removal of cross from steeple, 30 pictures and 2 popish inscriptions.
1834 Spire removed. Brick top removed and replaced by flint and stone spire 1963
1872/83 Restorations

Seats: 460 appropriated, 92 free (1873)12.

12 Nonconformity etc.:

1429 1 accused of Lollardy

1555 1 burnt for religious beliefs
 1676 25 nonconformists
 Congregational chapel founded 1610, re-erected 1873,
 seats 250
 Independent chapel built 1732
 House and barn set aside for worship 1765/1822
 Catholic church built in Decorated Gothic style 1902.
 Dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus

13. Manorial:

Nayland Manor:

1066 Manor of 2 carucates held by Robert, Sweins father
 1086 Manor of 2 carucates belonging to Swein of Essex
 13th cent. Granted to Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent
 1336 Geoffrey de Scrope owns (linked to Stoke by Nayland)
 1494 500 acres land, 200 acres meadow, 500 acres pasture,
 200 acres wood, value £30
 c.1600 Sir Jerome Weston owns
 1814 Rowley family own (linked to Stoke by Nayland, Polstead,
 Groton, and Boxford)

14. Markets/Fairs:

Market and fair in use 1227/28
 Baron Weston granted right to hold market 1627
 Mean market held on Friday 1679
 Fair held on 21st September 1732/4
 Fair held on October 2nd for horses and cattle 1759
 1844 Former weekly market on Friday (obsolete)
 Fair for cattle etc. held on Wednesday after October 2nd
 obsolete by 1891

15. Real property:

1844 £ 2,134 rental value
 1891 £ 4,664 rateable value (includes Wissington)
 1912 £ 4,330 rateable value (includes Wissington)

16. Land ownership:

1844/1891/1912 Sir J.T. Rowley

17. Resident gentry:

1680 3 gentlemen
 1844 I. Garrard
 1912 Sir J.T. Rowley

18. Occupations:

1441	1 barker (tanner/one who strips bark from trees)
1500–1549	8 weavers, 1 clerk, 4 fullers, 14 clothmakers (additional information from 'The Springs of Lavenham by B.McClenaghan)
1550–1599	2 clothiers, 6 weavers, 3 yeoman, 2 husbandmen, 1 wire drawer, 1 cordwainer, 5 butchers, 2 shearmen (one who cuts woollen cloth), 1 carpenter 1 linen draper, 1 tanner, 1 smith, 1 labourer, 1 beer brewer
1600–1649	5 clothiers, 3 weavers, 4 yeomen, 2 husbandmen, 3 tailors, 1 inn holder, 3 cordwainers, 1 thatcher 1 broad weaver, 1 oatmeal maker, 2 shearmen, 1 pail maker, 1 bricklayer, 1 scrivener, 1 spinster
1650–1699	2 weavers, 5 yeoman, 2 husbandmen, 1 tailor, 1 draper, 1 hatter, 1 shoemaker, 1 clerk, 1 woolcomber, 2 butchers, 1 oatmeal maker, 2 blacksmiths, 1 carpenter, 1 tanner, 1 wheelwright, 1 say weaver, 1 bricklayer, 1 metal man (worker in metal), 1 spinster, 1 brazier, 1 maltster, 2 fellmongers
1831	77 in agriculture, 107 in retail trade, 14 professionals, 43 in labouring, 42 in domestic service, 17 others. Nayland had been a centre for a flourishing woollen manufacture – obsolete 1844
1844	Large silk throwsting mill, soap manufacture, brewery, and several malt kilns. Coal dealer, solicitor, beer seller, silk throwster, brazier/ironmonger, brewer/maltster, leather cutters, cooper/basket makers, saddler, beer-house keeper, vet, currier, cowkeeper, dealer in Irish linens, milliner, wheelwright, blacksmith fellmonger/grocer, miller, watchmaker, hairdresser, tea dealer, soap boiler, 4 publicans, 6 teachers, 3 bakers, 9 boot/shoemakers, 2 bricklayers, 3 butchers, 7 farmers, 2 grocers/drapers, 5 joiners, 3 maltsters, 2 plumber/glaziers, 6 shopkeepers, 2 straw hat makers, 2 surgeons, 6 tailors
1912	River trade consists of corn, coals, bricks and timber. Also said to have good fishing facilities.

19. Education:

1818	Day school (117 attended) Independent Sunday school (85 attended)
1833	5 daily schools (2 partly aided by Independent Church) (96 attended) 1 Day and Sunday National school (86 attended) Feoffees of Nayland supported school for 40 1709
1844	3 Academies. Tenement used as a National School National school built 1848, average attendance 1912 160 School Council formed 1900

20. Poor relief:

1776	£346 18s.8d.
1803	£611 9s. 10½d.
1818	£817 7s.
1830	£760 5s.
1832	£777 2s.
1834	£660 3s.

21. Charities:

Caley's charity:

1703	by will of Abraham Caley: 1 acre in Lewis meadow let at £2 10s. p.a. distributed in bread on November 5 th
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Love's charity :

1564	by will of Thomas Love: £210s. p.a. to the distribution of bread on Shrove Tuesday
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White's charity:

1773	by will of Rev. Stephen White: Yearly sum for the distribution among poor housekeepers
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Charity Trust:

1840	8 tenements let to overseer of the poor 1 messuage as workhouse, 1 tenement used as National School £1,481 15s.11d. from sales and dividends 79 acres 3R 1P let at £126 8s. Common land let at £15 6s. Disposed of at the discretion of the trustees for general benefit of the poor
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22. Other Institutions

	Guilds of St.Mary, Holy Trinity, and St. Thomas 1524
1776	Workhouse (40 inmates)
1803	3 Friendly Societies (81 members)
1891	Gas Works
	East Anglian Sanatorium building erected 1901, annexed by Maltings farm Sanatorium 1904
1912	Police Officer
	Fire Brigade, compliment of 9 men
	Workhouse in Fenn Street established 1726, later converted into almshouses
	Guildhall built in Court Street 1470

23 Recreations:

1732–1679 7 public houses
1844 1 beer seller, 1 brewer, 1 beerhouse, 4 public houses
1891 5 beerhouses, 1 brewer, 1 beer retailer, 3 public houses,
1 hotel
The Vine public house closed 1909
1912 3 beer retailers, 1 brewer, 3 public houses, 1 hotel
Working Mens Club
20th cent. Royal British Legion
Over 60's Club and Mothers Union

24. Personal

John Kynget accused of Lollardy at Norwich Heresy Trials 1429.
James Abbs burned at Bury St. Edmunds for his religious beliefs 1555.
'Peter Collingwood: weaver', by D. Chapman. East Anglian Magazine Vol.40
p.462.

25. Other Information:

Village Stocks erected 1569, last used 1855.

Ditch called 'Court Knoll' believed to be the original site of the village.

Fire Engine acquired 1752.

Napoleonic wars: Press gang had H.Q. on 1st floor of the Anchor public house
c.1872.

Village lock up situated in Fenn Street.

Windyridge specialist (probation) hostel opened c.1955. Duke of Gloucester
visited for the 25th anniversary 1980.

Village Hall built 1972.

Gas lamps replaced oil lamps for street lighting 1874.

Nayland Electric Light and Power Co. Electricity generated from old flour mills
replaced gas for lighting 1919.

Constables painting 'Christ Blessing the Bread and Wine' stolen from church
altar 1985, recovered 1985.

'History of Nayland', by Dr. S. Slade and Miss M. Syrett 1939.

'The Nayland Figure-stone', by M.F. Layard. PSIA Vol. IV, p.3.

'Nayland', by N.A.M. Butler, East Anglian Magazine, Vol.33, p.20.

Mansion house of Nayland manor anciently situated in pasture ground called 'The Courts'.