

1. Parish: Nettlestead

Meaning: Place where nettles grew

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

Deanery: Bosmere

Union: Bosmere and Claydon

RDC/UDC: Bosmere and Claydon R.D. (1894–1934), Gipping R.D. (1934–1974), Mid Suffolk DC (1974–)

Other administrative details:

Civil boundary change 1884, loses detached parts to Somersham and Flowton gains parts of Offton and Willisham

Bosmere and Claydon Petty Sessional Division
Ipswich County Court District

3. **Area:** 991 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Mixed: a. Slowly permeable calcareous/non calcareous clay soils, slight risk water erosion
b. Slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loam over clay, some calcareous clay soils

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		16 acres meadow, 1 mill, 1 cob, 27 pigs, 36 sheep
Domesday vill of Tunstall:		4 acres meadow, 1 cob, 1 cow, 60 sheep
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, pens, 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, roots
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

6. **Enclosure:**

7. Settlement:

1958/1973 Small well spaced development along road to Somersham. Church situated in central position. Few scattered farms.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 9, 1801 – 16, 1851 – 18,
1871 – 22, 1901 – 17, 1951 – 25,
1981 – 32

8. Communications:

Road: To Baylham, Somersham and Lt. Blakenham
1891 Carriers to Ipswich Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday

Rail: 1891 2½ miles Claydon station: Ipswich–Bury St. Edmunds
line opened 1845, station closed 1963

9. Population:

1086 – 44 recorded
1327 – 21 taxpayers paid £1 10s. 6d.
1524 – 28 taxpayers paid £27 18s.
1603 – 30 adults
1674 – 15 households
1676 – Not recorded
1801 – 87 inhabitants
1831 – 74 inhabitants
1851 – 81 inhabitants
1871 – 114 inhabitants
1901 – 74 inhabitants
1931 – 88 inhabitants
1951 – 65 inhabitants
1971 – 03 inhabitants
1981 – 89 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory
(annexed to Lt. Blakenham)

1254 Valued £6 13s. 4d.
1291 Valued £6 13s. 4d.
Prior and Monastery of Thetford £2
£8 13s. 4d.
1535 Valued £8 11s. 10½ d.
1603 Curate, stipend £5
1720 Valued £27 11s. 10d.
1831 No glebe house. Gross income £197 p.a.
Modus of £196 p.a. in lieu of tithes 1840
1844 4 acres glebe

c.1890/ Consolidated with Lt. Blakenham. Incumbent resides
1891 at Little Blakenham
1912 Joint nett value £220 p.a. 3 acres glebe. Incumbent
resides at Little Blakenham

Patrons: S. Jackson (1831), Rev. John Jackson (1891), Rev.
W.A. French (1912)

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

1086 Church + 8 acres land
Church + 70½ acres land
c.1170 Suggested date of dedication
Norman Window in N. wall of nave
12th cent. Carved stone: exterior turret stair, S.side tower
14/15th cent. Main structure
1644 Puritanical vandals (William Dowsing) removed
Inscriptions
3 superstitious pictures and 6 un-defaced apostles
1897 Restoration

Seats: 150 (1915)

12. Nonconformity etc:

13. Manorial:

1066 Manor of 5 carucates held by Gauti a free man
1086 Manor of 5 carucates belonging to Count Alan and
Held by Erland
1086 Manor of 60 acres belonging to Count Alan and held
By Humphrey

Domesday vill of Tunstall

1066 Manor of 1 carucate 20 acres held by Leofwin a free man
1086 Manor of 1 carucate 20 acres belonging to William of
Warrenne and held by Nicholas

Nettlestead Manor

1171 John de Dreux owns
13th cent. Robert de Tibetot owns (linked to Lt. Blakenham,
Bramford and Somersham)
1336 240 acres land, 30 acres meadow, 4 pasture, 3 acres
wood , 1 park

1424	Sir Philip le Despencer died seised. Consisted of manor house, 160 acres land, an old Orchard and 13s. 4d. rents.
1447	Sir Philip Wentworth owns
1645	William Lodge owns (linked to Lt. Blakenham)
1704	John Fuller owns
1763	Richard Philipson owns (linked to Kesgrave)
1802	Lionel Henry Moore owns
1814	William Tylney Spurdens owns
1838	James Cudden owns (linked to Offton)
1859	Ernest George Pretyman owns (linked to numerous manors throughout Suffolk)

14. Markets/Fairs:

15. Real property:

1844	£1,049 rental value
1891	£954 rateable value
1912	£802 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844–1912 Land sub-divided

17. Resident gentry:

1524 Sir Richard Wentworth

18. Occupations:

1500–1549	1 husbandman
1550–1599	None recorded
1600–1649	3 yeomen, 1 husbandman
1650–1699	2 yeomen
1831	14 in agriculture, 5 in domestic service, 1 other
1844	3 farmers
1912	2 farmers, market gardener, physician

19. Education:

1833	1 Sunday school (12 attend)
1891/1912	Children attend school at Baylham

20. Poor relief:

1776	£28 10s. 8d.
1803	£25 3s. 2d.
1818	£99 15s.
1830	£121 16s.
1832	£154 14s.
1834	£84 13s.

21. Charities:

22. Other institutions:

23. Recreation:

24. Personal:

Wentworth family seat from 1450–17th cent. 'Three Branches of the Family of Wentworth', by W.L. Rutton 1891.
'Wentworth of Nettlestead'. East Anglian Notes and Queries, New Series Vol. 2, p.279 gives pedigree of Wentworth of Nettlestead.

25. Other information:

Nettlestead Hall: said to have been rebuilt by Sir Thomas Wentworth (16th cent.)

The Chace: ancient gateway to hall remains exhibiting quartered arms of the Wentworth family (1450–1643). Drawing by Henry Davy 1823. reproduced in 'Three Branches of the Family of Wentworth', by W.L. Rutton 1891.

Present house 19th cent. Dovecot attributed to late 16th cent.

High House: Elizabethan red brick building, fragment of larger building.