

1. Parish : Stanstead

Meaning: Stony place (EKWALL)

2. **Hundred:** Babergh

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

Union: Sudbury

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

Other administrative details:

Melford Petty Sessional Division
Sudbury County Court District

3. **Area:** 1,191 acres land, 4 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		1 mill, wood for 20 pigs, 4 horses, 16 cattle, 60 pigs, 100 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, 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 Small extremely well spaced, development mainly situated along road to Hartest but also along Long Melford - Boxted road at hamlet of Stanstead Street. Church and Hall centrally situated. River Glem forms western boundary. Scattered farms.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 40, 1801 – 50, 1851 – 85, 1871 – 90, 1901 – 76, 1951 – 84, 1981 – 114

8. Communications:

Roads: Roads to Hartest, Boxted, Glemsford, Long Melford
1891:Carrier to Sudbury on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday to Bury St. Edmunds on Wednesday
1912:Carrier to Sudbury on Thursday and Saturday to Bury St. Edmunds on Wednesday

Rail: 1891:3½ miles Melford station:
Bury St. Edmunds - Long Melford line, opened (1865), closed for passengers (1961), closed for goods (1965), line to Sudbury closed (1967)

Water: River Glem

9. Population:

1086 — 20 recorded
1327 — 15 taxpayers paid £1. 12s. 11d.
1524 — 34 taxpayers paid £2. 7s. 4d.
1603 — 160 adults
1674 — 59 households
1676 — 120 adults
1801 — 258 inhabitants
1831 — 353 inhabitants
1851 — 412 inhabitants
1871 — 399 inhabitants
1901 — 326 inhabitants
1931 — 270 inhabitants
1951 — 247 inhabitants
1971 — 247 inhabitants
1981 — 301 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory

1254 Valued £6. 13s. 4d
1291 Valued £10
1535 Valued £10

1831 Glebe house. Gross income £263 p.a.
 1839 24 acres glebe. Modus of £277 p.a.
 1843 Residence enlarged
 1912 Nett income £180. 27 acres glebe and residence

Patrons: Jane Alington (1603), Incumbent (1831), Rev. G. Aitkens (1912)

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

1086 Church plus 25 acres free land
 14th cent. Tower and N. doorway
 15/16th cent. Main structure
 1643 Puritanical Vandals (William Dowsing) destroyed 6
 superstitious pictures and popish inscriptions in brass
 1865 Chancel restored
 1877/78 General restoration

Seats: 200 appropriated, 60 free (1873)

12. Nonconformity etc:

1606 1 person negligent in attending church
 1611 5 persons not receiving communion
 1 recusant papist
 1627 1 popish recusant
 1676 Some absenting from communion
 1829-1844 2 houses set aside for worship

13. Manorial:

1066 Manor of 5 carucates held by Guthmund a thane
 1086 Manor of 5 carucates held by belonging to Hugh de
 Montfort

Stanstead/Overhall

1219 Osbert de Wachesham owns
 1454 Sir William Paston owns
 circa 1572 Robert Jerny of Norwich owns but about same time the manor
 passes to Richard Martyn of Long Melford (linked to Alpheton)
 1885 Bence family owns (linked to Long Melford)

Sub-Manors:

Netherhall

1219 William de Verdon owns
 14th cent. Manor passes to Sir John Pilkington by marriage
 16th cent. Martyn family owns (absorbed by main manor)

Woodhouse:

1418 Robert Hunter owns
1555 Inquis p.m. of John Wiseman

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844 £1,453 rental value
1891 £1,375 rateable value
1912 £1,050 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844 Land subdivided
1891 E.S. Bence and J.G.W. Poley, principal owners
1912 Col. J.H. Rivett-Carnac and J.G.W. Poley, principal owners

17. Resident gentry:

1844 Rev. S. Sheen MA
1912 Lieut. Col. J.G. Lutyens and Col. J.H. Rivett-Carnac

18. Occupations:

1484 Carpenters
1550-1599 3 husbandmen, 1 cartwright, 3 fullers, 1 clothmaker
(additional information for this group from 'The Springs of Lavenham' by B. McClenaghan)
1550-1599 1 carpenter, 1 rector, 1 husbandman, 4 yeomen, 3 weavers, 1 shoemaker, 1 mason, 2 labourers
1600-1649 1 clothworker, 2 carpenters, 8 yeomen, 2 weavers, 6 clothiers, 1 baymaker, 1 shoemaker, 1 blacksmith, 1 glazier
1650-1699 1 tailor, 1 rector, 7 yeomen, 1 weaver, 3 clothiers, 1 blacksmith, 1 maltster, 1 spinster, 1 grocer
1831 66 in agriculture, 14 in retail trade, 2 in manufacturing, 2 professionals, 1 in labouring, 10 in domestic service, 3 others
1844 Wood dealer, relieving officer, shopkeeper, 2 shoemakers, blacksmith, maltster, miller, publican, 7 farmers
1912 Sub-postmistress, teachers, 3 farmers, 2 shopkeepers, blacksmith, corn merchant, carpenter, publican, bootmaker, carrier

19. Education:

1818	Day school on Dr. Bells system held on Sunday and 3 evenings per week (35 boys attend)
1833	3 small day schools (30 attend), 1 Sunday school (43 attend)
1871	National school built (80 attend), enlarged (1892), average attendance (1912) 52

20. Poor relief:

1776	£71. 18s. 8d.	spent on poor relief
1803	£131. 4s. 10d.	spent on poor relief
1818	£523. 4s.	spent on poor relief
1830	£304. 7s.	spent on poor relief
1832	£282. 13s.	spent on poor relief
1834	£202. 6s.	spent on poor relief

21. Charities:

Poors Lands: Doles:

1840	4½ acres called Huntsmans Yard, Dollons and Calves Meadow let at £5. 10s. p.a. Portion from Poleys estate of £7. 7s. p.a. Portion from Corders estate of £1. 7s. p.a. plus 12s. 6d. from other sources Distributed among poor according to size of family.
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Poley's Charity:

1840	One fifth rents annually distributed among poor
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22. Other institutions:

1524	Guilds of St. Peter and St. Margaret
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23. Recreation:

1844/1912	The White Hart public house
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24. Personal:

25. Other information:

Stanstead Hall: built (circa 1620)

'A Fragment of Nicholas Trevet on the Mass'. PSIA Vol.XXIII p.179