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:

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

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
1971 – 1,297 inhabitants
1981 – 1,330 inhabitants

10. **Benefice:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>–c.1855</td>
<td>Chapelry of Stoke by Nayland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1831</td>
<td>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</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1912</td>
<td>Nett value £140. 48 acres and residence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

11. **Church**

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

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

12. **Nonconformity etc.:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1429</td>
<td>1 accused of Lollardy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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 braizer, 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, braizer/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 5th

Love's charity:

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

White's charity:

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

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

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 almhouses
  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.

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.


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.

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