

1. Parish: Stanningfield

Meaning: Stony field.

2. **Hundred:** Thedwastre

Deanery: Thedwastre (-1884), Horningsheath (1884-1914), Horringer (1914-1972), Lavenham (1972-)

Union: Thingoe (1836-1907), Bury St. Edmunds (1907-1930)

RDC/UDC: Thingoe RD (-1974), St. Edmundsbury DC (1974-)

Other administrative details:

1884 Civil boundary change
Thingoe and Thedwastre Petty Sessional division.
Bury St. Edmunds County Court district

3. **Area:** 1469 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:** Slowly permeable calcareous/non calcareous clay soils.
Slight risk water erosion.

5. Types of farming:

1086	15 acres meadow, 1 mill
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, sugar beet, oats, barley
1969	Trist: More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet.

6. **Enclosure:**

7. **Settlement:**

1958 Extremely small points of habitation. These are at Hoggards Green and at the church. Scattered farms. Roman road forms portion of S.E. boundary.

Inhabited houses: 1674 - 22, 1801 - 34, 1851 - 66, 1871 - 75, 1901 - 61, 1951 - 75, 1981 - 155.

8. Communications:

Road: To Gt. Whelnetham, Lawshall and Cockfield. Length of Roman road. 1891 Carrier passes through to Bury St. Edmunds on Wednesday and Saturday.

Rail: 1891 2 miles Cockfield station. Bury St. Edmunds to Long Melford line opened 1865, closed passengers 1961, closed goods 1965

9. Population:

1086 – 26 recorded

1327 – 18 taxpayers paid £3 2s. (includes Bradfield Combust)

1524 – 15 taxpayers paid £3 2s.

1603 – 68 adults

1674 – 39 households

1676 – 121 adults

1801 – 248 inhabitants

1831 – 306 inhabitants

1851 – 320 inhabitants

1871 – 337 inhabitants

1901 – 258 inhabitants

1931 – 221 inhabitants

1951 – 236 inhabitants

1971 – 415 inhabitants

1981 – 395 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory.

1254 Valued £5 6s. 8d.

1291 Valued £8.

1535 Valued £8 0s. 2½d.

1831 Glebe House unfit for residence, gross income £354 p.a. Incumbent also holds rectory of Whepstead. Good rectory house built (1872), sold 1975.

1887 43 acres 2R 34P glebe, gross rent £38 17s. 6d. p.a. Modus of £350 p.a. in lieu of tithes 1840

1891 43 acres of glebe.

1912 Value £235 p.a., 13 acres glebe

Patrons: Ambrose Rookwoode (1603), R.G. Rockwood (1831), Sir Thomas Gage (1844) J.V.H. Rees (1874), H.P. Bartley (1891), E. Faning (1912)

11. Church St. Nicholas.

(Chancel, nave, S. porch, W. tower (incomplete))

1086 Church + 16 acres free land as alms.

Norman Walls, nave, N. doorway

C. 1300 Chancel, rebuilt by Rokewode family

14th cent. Stoup inside S. doorway

Seats: 2 appropriated pews, 170 free (1874)

12. Nonconformity etc:

1593	Robert Rookwood, gent. Reputed recusant
1603	11 recusants
1676	16 papists
1606	14 recusant papists, 1 person refusing to attend church
1611	7 popish recusants
1824	1 house set aside for worship

13. Manorial:

Stanningfield Hall

1066	Estate held of Elflet, a free woman under Abbot of St. Edmunds (1 carucate)
1086	Estate belonging to Ralph Baignard whose lands became forfeit in 12 th cent.
12 th cent.	Robert Fitz-Walter owns but almost immediately manor became vested in the Abbey
1286	Edmund de Illeigh is chief lord.
1359	links with Acton, Stoke by Nayland and Preston (Sir John de Rookwode)
1759	Links with Preston, Fornham St. Genevieve, Fornham St. Martin, Hengrave and Harleston (Sir Thomas Rookwode Gage)
1885	Richard Halt Lomax owns
1896	Col. H. Trafford–Rawson owns.

Sub-Manors:

Coldham Hall

1348	Thomas de Swynburn died seized
c.1387	Absorbed by main manor (Rookwood family)

Saxies

14 th cent.	Edmund Saxy owns
c.1627	George Coppinge owns

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844	£1788 rental value
1891	£1599 rateable value
1912	£1298 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844	Sir Thomas Gage, principal owner
------	----------------------------------

1891/1912 Land sub-divided

17. Resident gentry:

1674 Sir Robert Rookwood
1891 R.H. Holt-Lomax
1912 T.K. Crossfield, J.P., Rev. R.E. Faning, M.A., Mrs Trafford-Rawson

18. Occupations:

1550–1599 3 husbandmen, 2 yeoman, 1 rector
1600–1649 1 husbandman, 9 yeomen, 1 tailor
1650–1699 1 bleacher, 1 clerk, 10 yeomen, 1 carpenter
1831
1844 Tuscan straw plait gives some employment. Shopkeeper, shoemakers (2), thatcher/beerhouse keeper, gamekeeper, blacksmith, surgeon, 9 farmers, maltster
1912 Sub-postmaster, schoolmistress, 7 farmers, shopkeeper, beer retailer, insurance agent, publican, baker, carpenter, assistant overseer

19. Education:

1818 1 Sunday school (27 attend) (more than half the parish are Catholics 'who allure the lower classes from the church and their children from the Sunday school')
1833 1 Sunday school (14 attend)
1891 Church of England school, average attendance 42
1912 Public Elementary school built 1871, average attendance 34

20. Poor relief:

1776 £99 17s. 4d.
1803 £210 14s. 5½d.
1818 £388 9s.
1830 £330 15s.
1832 £298 10s.
1834 £204 18s.

21. Charities:

Corders Charity.

1636 By the will of John Corder. 20s. p.a. to Minister and Churchwardens for distribution among poor.

22. Other institutions:

23. Recreation:

1844 Beerhouse
1891 Beer retailer, The Fox Inn

1912 Beer retailer, The Fox public house
1948 Farmers club

24. Personal:

1696 Ambrose Rokewode implicated in and executed for his part in the Gunpowder Plot.
1753–1821 Mrs. Inchbald (nee Simpson), popular novelist and dramatic writer born in the parish. Her novel 'A Simple Story' is widely believed to have been the inspiration behind 'Jane Eyre'.
1952 Lieut-Col. H.E. Hambro, Coldham Hall, for many years Deputy Lieutenant of Suffolk and High Sheriff of Suffolk 1930, Director of Hambro's Bank 1931–1937, Master of Suffolk Hounds 1939.

25. Other information:

Coldham Hall: built 1574 by Robert Rokewode. Contains chapel of 1770's bell turret and stables, dated 1851.

Swing Riot uprisings (2) provoked by agrarian unrest 1830s.

Village won Best Kept Village award 1985.