

Staplehurst 1841 Census

About the Data

Source of Data

The original data is in the custody of The National Archives (TNA) in the UK. The enumerator books have been filmed and can be found in some local archives, libraries and Family History Centres. Dependent on the area of interest, there are some surname indexes available and I would recommend you contact the Family History Society for the county of interest. The Kent Family History Society has various indexes available. As far as I am aware, there is no other 1841 surname index available for Staplehurst.

Data Reference : TNA (PRO) HO 107/475/22

TNA is The National Archives which was previously known as the Public Records Office (PRO). HO 107 is the reference for the 1841 census while 475/22 is the Staplehurst reference.

I would like to thank the TNA for their permission to include the census details in this site.

Census Date: 06 June 1841.

The instructions for the enumerators stated:

- To include every living person who slept in the dwelling the preceding night.
- If there were 2 first names, only enter the first one.
- The correct age was to be written for everyone under 15 years of age.
- For persons 15 and over, the age was to be rounded down to the nearest multiple of 5.
- Under occupations, widows, single woman or men having no occupation but living on their means were classed an Independent or Ind.
- The profession of wives, sons or daughters, living with their husband or parents and assisting them but not receiving a wage, need not be entered.
- For professional trades 'J' is for journeyman, 'AP' for apprentice, and 'SH' for shop man.
- The last column shows 'S' for those born in Scotland, 'I' for Ireland, and 'F' for Foreign.
- 'Yes' or 'Y' in the column Born in County is used to denote those born in Kent while 'No' or 'N' indicates they were born in another English county.

Quality of Data

I have transcribed this data from a copy of the film held at the Kent History and Library Centre in Maidstone. Like all transcriptions, there will be errors which I will apologize for in advance although the use of this data is at your own risk. If you do find errors in the transcription, please notify me via the Contact button and I will correct.

Some pages are extremely difficult to read due to fading of the writing. Other pages are difficult to read due to the quality of the original writing. I have done the best I can.

You need to also note that the spelling of names is transcribed as written and this may well differ to what you expect.

Regional Description

County of Kent
Lathe of Scray
Hundred of Marden
Parish of Staplehurst

Superintendent Registrar's District of Maidstone Registrar's District of Marden No. of Enumeration Districts 5, 6, 7 & 8

District

The first column contains the District. Staplehurst was divided into 4 enumeration districts for this census which are as follows.

- District 5: All that part of the parish of Staplehurst which lies to the east of the Turnpike road leading from Cranbrook to Maidstone and south of the road leading from Cuckold Corner to Hawkenbury Bridge.
- District 6: All that part of the Parish of Staplehurst which lies to the east of the Turnpike road leading from Cranbrook to Maidstone and north of the road from Cuckold corner to Hawkenbury Bridge.
- District 7: All that part of the Parish of Staplehurst which lies to the west of the Turnpike road leading from Cranbrook to Maidstone and south of the road from Cuckold corner to Marden Thorn.
- District 8: All that part of the Parish of Staplehurst which lies to the west of the Turnpike road leading from Cranbrook to Maidstone and north of the road from Cuckold corner to Marden Thorn.

For those people with a road map of Kent, the Turnpike road mentioned above is today the A229 . The road leading from Cuckold corner to Hawkenbury Bridge is today referred to as the Headcorn Road; and, going the opposite direction towards Marden Thorn, it is called Marden Road.

Folio

The second column holds the folio (or page) number as defined by the TNA with the addition of the character 'a' or 'b' with 'a' being the left hand page and 'b' being the right'.

Household (HH)

The enumerators used a bold stroke to indicate a change of household. I have numbered the households starting at one again for each district. This number is not held on the census sheets and is included purely to simplify identification of households.

Address

The address is in the fourth column. Some people will be disappointed as many addresses are either blank or generic such as 'village'. The larger houses and farms are named.

Names

When in doubt either from quality of the film or poor handwriting, I have indicated so with a '?'. Spelling is transcribed as written in the original.

Ages

Ages are in 2 columns: 'M' for male and 'F' for female. The enumerator was directed to record the actual age of children under 15 and to round the age down to the nearest multiple of 5 for those over 15 years. For children under the age of one, the number is followed with 'mths' for months and 'wks' for weeks. When the pages were summarized and checked, a large line was drawn through ages. This means that sometimes they are difficult to read and again I use a '?' if unsure.

Occupations

The occupations are generally in abbreviated form.

M.S.	Male Servant
F.S.	Female Servant
Ag.Lab.	Agricultural Labourer
Ind.	Independent Means.
J.	Journeyman

BiC - Born in County

The 1841 census only reference to place of birth is the 'Born in County' indicator. It is purely a 'y' to indicate that the person was born in the current county (Kent) or 'n' to indicate otherwise.

Foreign

The enumerators were instructed to use this column to indicate where someone was born outside of England. They were to use 'I' for Ireland, 'S' for Scotland, 'W' for Wales and 'F' for everywhere else. I only found one instance of this column being used and that contains an I.