

# Staplehurst 1851 Census

## About the Data

### **Data Source**

The original data is in the custody of the National Archives 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 but as far as I am aware there is no other index for Staplehurst 1851 census.

### **Data Reference : TNA (PRO) HO 107/1616**

TNA is The National Archives which was previously known as the Public Records Office (PRO). HO 107 is the reference for the 1851 census while 1616 is the piece which includes Staplehurst.

**Census Date:** 30/31 March 1851.

### **Quality of Data**

I have transcribed this data from a copy of the film held at the Kent History and Library Center 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 and I will correct. You will find my contact information from the home page.

Some pages are extremely difficult to read due to fading of the writing. This is particularly true of District 7 which proved extremely hard to read for almost the whole of the district due to the poor quality of the film.

Generally, the writing was fairly legible compared to other census records seen. I have done the best I can. If you do find mistakes, please let me know.

### **Regional Description**

County of Kent, Kent Western Division

Registration District: Maidstone

Registration Sub-District: Marden

Ecclesiastical Parish: Staplehurst

Number of Enumeration Districts 6, 7, 8.

### **District**

The first column contains the District. Staplehurst was divided into 3 enumeration districts (6, 7, and 8) for this census. The description of the

districts is copied from the census book as follows.

**District 6** - The whole of the village of Staplehurst (including the Rectory, the Cottages, Bly Court, Loddenden, Mr. Butcher's Farm, and the Windmill Cottages.)

Enumerator: Edward Field  
Registrar: Nathaniel Wattenden

Number of inhabited houses: 91  
Number uninhabited houses: 5

**District 7** – All that part of the Parish of Staplehurst which lies West of the Turnpike Road leading from Maidstone to Cranbrook (except the village) (Including Great Pagehurst, Little Pagehurst, Little Doorn, Great Doorn, Brick Kiln Farm, Staplehurst Plain, Little Hartsheath, Great Hartsheath, Boundsend, Knoxbridge Cottage (West), Tole House, Staplehurst Quarter (West), Chapel Cottages, Cuckolds Corner, the Railway Station and Cottages, Wards Cottage, and Hartley).

Enumerator: George Willsher  
Registrar: Nathaniel Wattenden

Number if inhabited houses: 123  
Number of uninhabited houses: 2

**District 8** – All that part of the Parish of Staplehurst which lies East of the Turnpike Road leading from Maidstone to Cranbrook (except the village) (including Lowdwells farm, Cross at Hand Cottages, Newstead farm, Slaney Place, Milking Pail farm, Carley's farm, Chickenden, Thorpes farm, Exhurst, Craddocks Cottage, Maplehurst, Old House farm, Great and Little Wadd, Knoxbridge, Knoxbridge Cottages (East), Iden, Staplehurst Place and Staplehurst Quarter (East)).

Enumerator: George Willsher  
Registrar: Nathaniel Wattenden

Number if inhabited houses: 84  
Number of uninhabited houses: 3

### **Folio**

The second column holds the folio 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. This forms part of the reference number for the data.

## **Household**

In the column marked 'HH', the enumerator recorded a number against each household. For each district the number restarts at 1.

## **Address**

The address column includes the address as recorded by the enumerator. Many of the houses in the village are just recorded as High Street or left blank but most of the farms and bigger houses are identified.

## **Names**

The first name and surname are included in separate columns. These can be difficult to read at times and when in doubt, I have indicated so with a '?'. Spelling is transcribed as written in the original.

## **Relationship**

The relationship column records an individual's relationship to the Head of the household.

## **Marital Status**

In this column is recorded for all adults their marital status. The abbreviations used are: W = married, U = unmarried, W = widow or widower.

## **Ages**

Ages are in 2 columns, 'M' for male and 'F' for female. The enumerator recorded the actual age of the person in years except those children under 1 and then it includes the number of months (m), weeks (w), and a couple of times days (d).

## **Occupations**

The occupations are recorded. The term Ag. Lab. stands for Agricultural Labourer and covers many trades in farming. In some cases, the data has been modified when the enumerator was summarising the data. Generally it is domestic added to servant or similar these changes are noted in brackets. For farmers there is generally included the number of acres which I have abbreviated to 'a' and the number employed which again has been abbreviated to 'emp'.

## **Where Born**

The persons place of birth is generally given as parish and county