

Staplehurst 1861 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.

Data Reference : TNA(PRO) RG9 /498

TNA is The National Archives which was previously known as the Public Records Office (PRO). RG9 is the reference for the 1861 census while 498 is the piece which includes Staplehurst.

Census Date: 08 April 1861.

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 and I will correct. You will find my contact information from the home page.

Some pages are 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

Superintendent Register's District: Maidstone

Registrar's Sub District: Marden

Ecclesiastical Parish: Staplehurst

Number of Enumeration Districts 6, 7, 8.

District

The first column headed 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, Butchers Farm, and the Windmill Cottages.

Enumerator: Edward Field

Registrar: Nathaniel Walter Junior

District 7 – All that part of the Parish of Staplehurst comprising all the houses and cottages on the West side 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), Toll House, Fuller House, Staplehurst Quarter (West), Chapel Cottages, Bigg Barn Cottages, Cuckolds Corner, Railway Station and Cottages, Wards Cottage (otherwise Knowles Hill Cottages), and Hartleys. (A note in the margin added states: Note, Boundsend House is in the Parish of Cranbrook).

Enumerator: William Taylor

Registrar: Nathaniel Walter Junior

District 8 – Part of the Parish of Staplehurst, comprising all the houses and cottages on the East Side of the Turnpike Road leading from Maidstone to Cranbrook (except the village) including Lowdwells farm, Cross at Hand Cottages, Couchma Green Cottages, Newstead farm, Slaney Place, Milking Pail farm, Carley's farm, Chickenden, Thorps farm, Exhurst, Craddocks Cottage, Maplehurst, Old House farm, Great and Little Wadd, Knoxbridge, Knoxbridge Cottages (East), Iden, Staplehurst Place, Staplehurst Quarter (East) and Pinnock House, Commercial Hotel, and Cottages (East).

Enumerator: Richard Samson

Registrar: Nathaniel Walter Junior

Folio

The second column holds the folio (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'. 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.

When considering the number of households, it should be noted that the enumerators used different methods. In district 6, a lodger was included within the household number of the family he was living with while in district 7, each lodger was given a new household number. If classed as a boarder, they are included in the household.

Address

The address column includes the address as recorded by the enumerator. Many of the houses in the village are just recorded as 'Village' 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 to Head

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

Marital Status (M/S)

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. 'N.K.' stands for Not Known.