

SEMLEY is a parish, running nearly east and west, and lying in a beautiful valley, with a station, 1¹/₄ miles from the church, on the Salisbury and Yeovil branch of the Southern railway, 20 miles south-west from Salisbury, 6 south-east from Mere, 3 north from Shaftesbury and 101 from London, in the Salisbury division of the county, Chalke hundred, Tisbury rural district, Shaftesbury county court district, Tisbury and Mere petty sessional division, rural deanery of Chalke (Tisbury portion), archdeaconry and diocese of Salisbury. There is richly wooded country in the background on the north, and the Dorsetshire hills are seen in the distance stretching along its front in the south. The old church of St. Leonard, an ancient cruciform structure, was pulled down in January, 1874, and the present building erected in 1875, at the expense of the Dowager Marchioness of Westminster; it is of stone, in the Early Decorated style, and consists of chancel with south aisle, nave of four bays, south aisle and a loft embattled western tower with clock and 6 bells. There is a stained window in the chancel to the Rev. Henry Hall, M.A. and others to Arthur and Lucy Fane. Vere Fane Benett-Stanford esg., to John Edward Benett of Pythouse, to seven officers killed at the Gate Pa in New Zealand, 30th April 1864, and to Mrs. Pike of Musters; in the nave are two tables to the Benett-Stanford and Pike families. The church affords 350 sittings. In the churchyard is a bronze equestrian monument to Lt. Armstrong and also a memorial cross of Cornish granite to the men of the parish who fell in the Great War, 1914-1918. The register dates from the year 1657. The living is a rectory, net yearly value £650, with residence, in the gift of Christ Church, Oxford, and held since 1914 by the Rev. Richard Morgan Rees M.A. of that college. There is a Baptist chapel, which was built in 1817, to seat 260 persons. £3 3s. yearly was left in 1779 by John Parham for clothes, and the interest on £300 left by Miss Dinah Bracher, for the poor of the parish. Anne, Lady Arundell of Wardour is lady of the manor. The principal landowners are Lt. Col. J. M. Fane-Bennett-Stanford J.P. and Walter Richard Shaw-Stewart esg., M.B.E., D.L., J.P. The soil is clay, subsoil gravel. The land is principally pasturage, but wheat, oats and barley are grown. The area is 2,981 acres of land and 5 of water. The population in 1921 was 556.

Sexton - William Hull

Post Office - Letters through Shaftesbury, nearest Money Order Office & Semley Railway Station nearest Telegraph & Telephone Call office.

Railway Station - A motor conveyance meets certain trains and conveys passengers to Shaftesbury.

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
Bapty	George Frederick W.			Gutch Common
Giberne	Harold Buller, Snr.			
Heavens	George	Rev.	Congregational Minister	The Manse
Lambe	Charles Laverock	Air Vice Marshall, CB, CMG, DSO		Grove House
Rees	Richard Morgan	M.A	Rector	The Rectory
Wightwick	Edward Arthur			Broad Oak

Gentry and Private Residents

Traders

Surname	Given Names	Title	Industry/Occupation	Place/Parish
		Southern Counties Agricultural Trading		

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		Society Ltd.		
		Stainer's Motor Garage		
		United Dairies Wholesale		Tel. Shaftesbury 36
Alford	Felix		Bootmaker	
Baker	Emily	Mrs.	Farmer	Westwood
Bartlett	Percy Edward		Farmer	Church Farm
Board	Shadrack		Farmer	Marshes Farm
Coles	Frederick		Farmer	Glebe Farm
Coombes	George		Farmer	Amberleaze Farm
Coward	Ernest		Honorary Secretary, Semley Reading Room	
Cross	Henry Gerald		Farmer	
Doggrell	William		Farmer	Hatt's Farm
Edmunds	Herbert		Grocer	Barker's Hill
Garrett	Tom		Farmer	*
Grocott		& Sons	Grocers, Bakers, Hardware &c.	
Hiscock	Leonard Allan		Farmer	Chaldicott's Farm
Hull	William		Sexton	
Langford	Sydney		Farmer	Kirton Farm
Mallett	William		Hotel Proprietor	Railway Hotel, Semley Station
Masters	Bryant		Farmer	Leggatt's Farm
Nutbeem	Sidney		Farmer	Knipe's Farm
Parham	John		Chimney Sweep	Gutch Common
Parsons	James		Farmer	
Pike	Walter S.		Farmer	Whitebridge Farm
Pitman	John		Poultry Dealer	
Pitman	William		Poultry Dealers	
Randolph	Fred		Innkeeper	Benett Arms Inn
Sampson	William Charles		Farmer	Hook Farm
Sully	William		Blacksmith	
Westcott	J.	& Son	Coal Merchants	
Young	Ernest G.		Farmer	Harthill Farm
Young	Samuel		Farmer	Bull Marsh *

Farms of 150 acres or over are marked *

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