Originally a small village built at the western end of a ridge of Thanet sand (coloured yellow). In 1821 there were 33 homes with 189 inhabitants but the arrival of the railway and the proximity to Croydon and London resulted in growth to 1,000 people by 1901 and thence onwards to nearly 13,000 today.

ALL SAINTS’ CHURCH.
Built of knapped flint and stone, the church dates from as early as 1230, with later alterations. In 1936 a new extension was constructed on the north side together with a Lady Chapel. In World War II there was bomb damage.

SANDERSTEAD COURT.
Formerly the main residence and situated near the church. Dating from before 1670 but demolished in 1958 after damage in World War II.

‘THE WHITE HOUSE’, LIMPSFIELD ROAD.
This remains as the oldest secular building in the area dating in part from the 15th century and carefully restored around 1930 by Sir Bertram Jones.
"THE RECTORY", LIMPSFIELD ROAD.
Built in the 18th century. This picture was painted in 1825 by John Hassell. The original watercolour is held by Museum of Croydon.

THE VILLAGE POND.
The old pond still remains although it is now at the junction of two main roads and is not as idyllic as shown in this picture painted a century ago (1918) by Alfred Reid.

THE FORMER VILLAGE SHOP AND POST OFFICE, LIMPSFIELD ROAD.
Two 19th century cottages were acquired by James Frosel c.1878 initially for a small shop and later then also used as a post office from 1891. Completely, but carefully, reconstructed as a house in 2015.
THE VILLAGE SCHOOL.
The furthest building is the school and the former schoolteacher’s house, built in 1875. It remains as one of the buildings of Atwood School.

THE OLD FORGE.
The former blacksmith’s forge in Limpsfield Road dates from the 18th century. It is now used by the Catholic Church of the Holy Family.

SANDERSTEAD RAILWAY STATION.
The railway line from London to Brighton passed near the Brighton Road from 1841 but the main change to Sanderstead itself came in 1884 when the line to Oxted opened together with Sanderstead Station. Other stations followed in the area: Purley Oaks (1899) and much later, Riddlesdown (1927).
MAYFIELD ROAD.
With the station came development of the area. Mayfield Road was built parallel to the railway tracks around 1900.

SHOPS.
The housing in the station area led to the need for shops and a number were opened in Sanderstead Road from 1901.

CRANLEIGH PARADE,
LIMPSFIELD ROAD.
Sanderstead’s main shops were built from 1932 to 1938, followed in 1933 by Hamsey Green Parade to the south.
WAITROSE SUPERMARKET.
Remnants of the farm buildings had been used for other purposes for many years. Change came with the 21st century when the old buildings were demolished and 'Waitrose' built Sanderstead’s first large supermarket (2004). This was a complete change for the area but it soon became the main shopping venue.

BOROUGH FARM.
Limpsfield Road, Sanderstead, post World War II, then used mainly as a dairy.

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Supermarket 2005
- and barley and leaf-cutter ant motifs along the boundary wall.

Photographs: Robert Warner