

BOXTED

Boxted lies five miles north of Colchester, partly within the Dedham Vale AONB. Its soil is largely glacial drift of sand, gravel and loam with the underlying London clay exposed in the valleys of the Stour and its tributaries. No main roads pass through the parish, though it is well connected with Colchester (bus service), Sudbury and Ipswich.

It has two churches: St. Peter's (C of E), a largely Norman building with later additions, and a Methodist Church. There is a pre-school, a thriving primary school housed in a new building (2005), an excellent butcher/greengrocer, fruit farm and garden centres, several social and sports clubs and a village hall, though no post office or pub (despite the fact there were once eight!).



St. Peter's Church



The village of Boxted lies on the edge of the Dedham Vale AONB which is marked green

Boxted's rich history can be traced back to Neolithic times and is well documented through every era since. The two manor houses, Boxted Hall and Rivers Hall are both thought to be of Saxon origin and the oldest cottage dates from 1280, the oldest in Essex. The famous Walker Survey (1586) of the Rivers Hall Estate depicts much of the northern part of the village. For most of its history it was an agricultural community, though in the 16th century the weaving of woollen cloth was a major occupation of the inhabitants.

Today it is largely a dormitory village, with a little light industry. The open land is still farmed, albeit with a greatly reduced labour force.

For more information visit the Village of Boxted website at:

www.boxted.org.uk