

1. Parish : Great Wratting

Meaning: Place where crosswort grew

2. **Hundred:** Risbridge

Deanery: Clare

Union: Risbridge

RDC/UDC: (W. Suffolk) Clare RD (-1974), St. Edmundsbury DC (1974-)

Other administrative details:

Abolished ecclesiastically 1819 to create Great Wratting with Little Wratting
Risbridge Petty Sessional Division
Haverhill County Court District

3. **Area:** 1,348 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Mixed:

- a. Slowly permeable calcareous/non calcareous clay soils, slight risk water erosion
- b. Deep well drained fine loam, coarse loam and sandy soils, locally flinty and in places over gravel. Slight risk water erosion

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		Wratting: 23 acres meadow, 2 oxen, 2 mills, 5 cobs, 23 cattle, 106 pigs, 800 sheep, 40 goats, wood for 8 pigs, 6 beehives
1500–1640	Thirsk:	Wood-pasture region, mainly pasture, meadow, engaged in rearing and dairying with some pig keeping, horse breeding and poultry. Crops mainly barley with some wheat, rye, oats, peas, vetches, hops and occasionally hemp. Also has similarities with sheep–corn region where sheep are main fertilising agent, bred for fattening, barley main cash crop.
1818	Marshall:	Wide variations of crop and management techniques including summer fallow in preparation for corn and rotation of turnip, barley, clover, wheat on lighter lands
1937	Main crops:	Wheat, barley, beans, peas, roots

1831 – 344 inhabitants
 1851 – 391 inhabitants
 1871 – 446 inhabitants
 1901 – 331 inhabitants
 1931 – 220 inhabitants
 1951 – 212 inhabitants
 1971 – 154 inhabitants
 1981 – 211 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory (consolidated with Little Wrattling)

1254 Valued £6 13s. 4d.
 Portion of Prior of Hatfield 10s.
 Portion of Prior of Ruislip (separate tithe) £1 8s.
£8 11s. 4d.

1291 Valued £8.
 Portion of Prior of Hatfield Regis 10s.
 Portion of Prior of Okeburn £1. £9 10s.

1535 Valued £8.
 1603 Incumbent also holds parsonage of Kedington
 1648 Parsonage house damaged by fire
 1831 Glebe house. Joint gross income £450 p.a.
 1841 Tithes commuted for £341 p.a.
 Little Wrattling being £250 p.a.

1870 Residence built
 1873 Joint value £673
 1891 96 acres glebe
 1912 Joint value £460 p.a. plus 30 acres glebe and residence

Patrons: T.B. Syer (1831), F. Drake (1873)

11. Church St. Mary
 (Chancel, nave, N & S. porches, W. tower)

1086 Wrattling:
 Church plus 32 acres free land
 Church plus 13 acres

13th cent. Chancel
 14th cent. Nave
 15th cent. Tower and N. porch
 1887 Nave and porch restored
 19th cent. S. porch added

Seats: 35 appropriated, 200 free (1873)

12. Nonconformity etc:

1606 4 persons negligent in receiving communion at Easter
 1662 Minister ejected
 1833 1 house set aside for worship

13. Manorial:

Wratting Magna

-c.1184.	de Clare family owns (linked to numerous manors throughout Suffolk)
c.1184	Gilbert de Vere owns (linked to numerous manors throughout Suffolk)
14 th cent.	Sir Peter de Talewithe held of Honor of Clare
1341	John Bouchier owns
Late 14 th cent.	Sir Thomas Mortimer owns
1540	Anne of Cleves owns (linked to Bacton, Cotton, Occold, Thwaite, Gt. Finborough, Stratford St. Mary, Hundon)
1543	Thomas Barnardiston owns (linked to Gt. Thurlow)
1770	Edward, Lord Thurlow owns
c.1885	Rt. Hon. W.H. Smith owns

14. Markets/Fairs:

15. Real property:

1844	£1,206 rental value
1891	£1,388 rateable value
1912	£1,034 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844	Land subdivided
1891	Rt. Hon. W.H. Smith, principal owner
1912	Land subdivided

17. Resident gentry:

1844	Rev. T.B. Syer RA
1912	C. Sharpe Goodchild JP

18. Occupations:

1500–1549	1 husbandman
1550–1599	4 husbandmen, 4 yeomen, 1 wheelwright, 1 painter, 1 tanner, 1 rector
1600–1649	4 husbandmen, 5 yeomen, 2 labourers, 1 glover, 1 timberman, 1 tailor
1650–1699	4 husbandmen, 2 yeomen, 1 labourer, 1 glover, 1 clerk, 1 carpenter, 1 baker, 1 miller
1831	81 in agriculture, 8 in retail trade, 15 in domestic service, 2 others
1844	2 victuallers, blacksmith, shopkeeper, 2 shoemakers, 6 farmers
1881	Wrating Brick Works

1912 Sub-postmaster, schoolmistress, farm bailiff, publicans,
blacksmith, wheelwright, farmer
1974 Haverhill Meat Products Factory

19. Education:

1870 Church school built, became Sunday school and Village
Hall late 19th cent., converted to dwelling house 1964
1891 National schoolmistress listed
1906 Council school built, average attendance 1912 59, closed
1964, converted to dwelling house

20. Poor relief:

1776 £82 6s. 9d.
1803 £213 18s.
1818 £189 1s.
1830 £208 14s.
1832 £169 9s.
1834 £193 2s.

21. Charities:

Church Estate:

1840 2½ acres let at £5. 5s. applied to church repairs
2 tenements occupied rent free by poor persons

Vernons Workhouse Charity:

1747 by Indenture of Hon. James Vernon. Annuity from lands
to provide messuage for habitation for poor persons of
Barnardiston, Gt. Wrating and Gt. Thurlow.
Workhouse disused apart from one section which is
occupied rent free by one person of this parish 1840.

22. Other institutions:

c.1747 Workhouse located in messuage called Weathercock
Farm. Disused by 1844
1803 1 Friendly Society (20 members)

23. Recreation:

1844–1912 The Bell and The Red Lion public houses

24. Personal:

25. Other information:

Archway outside Red Lion public house: 15/16th cent. Building, described as bones of giant whale. Is in fact wooden crux (ancient chief support of a building).

Red Field: reputed site of the battle of Risbridge fought in 635 AD between King Sigebert of East Anglia and Penda of the Midlands

'Tallow Wratting' by G.H. Sergeant(1972.

Pumping station for water supply opened 1963.

'Parish Council Survey' 1974.

'Years Ago' by D. Tulloch.

Designated conservation area(1968.

'The Ganwick' is site of oldest house in village. Med. origins 13–15th cent. described as moated farmhouse.

Millhouse with windmill recorded 1780. Had disappeared by 1876.