

# 1. Parish: Haverhill

**Meaning:** Hill where oats were grow

2. **Hundred:** Risbridge (part Hickford Hundred, Essex – 1879)

**Deanery:** Clare

**Union:** Risbridge

**RDC/UDC:** Haverhill UD (in part 1894–1896, entirely 1896–1974),  
St. Edmundsbury DC (1974–)

## Other administrative details:

Risbridge Petty Sessional Division  
Haverhill County Court District

3. **Area:** 2,530 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 1500–1640	Thirsk:	8 acres meadow, wood for 27 pigs 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		Predominantly urbanised area

6. **Enclosure:**

1857 619 acres enclosed under General Act 1854

## 7. Settlement:

1958 Large market town spreading to west of railway (which crosses parish NW–SE). Main settlement radiating out from central church and market area. Secondary settlement at Burton End where second church was situated

**Inhabited houses:** 1674 – 76, 1801 – 150, 1851 – 417 in Suffolk, 541 in Essex, 1871 – 544 in Suffolk, 70 in Essex, 1901 – 1,050, 1951 – 1,409, 1981 – not recorded

## 8. Communications:

**Roads:** To Sturmer, Withersfield, Little Wratting and Shudy Camps  
1844 Coaches to London daily except Sunday  
Carriers to London daily except Sunday to Bury St. Edmunds on Wednesday to Cambridge and Newmarket on Tuesday to Clare on Monday, Thursday and Saturday  
1891: Omnibus from Woolpack public house meets all trains  
Carrier to and from rail station to Thurlow, and Kedington on Tuesday and Friday  
1912: Omnibus from Bell Hotel meets trains  
Carriers to and from station and to Withersfield, Great and Little Wratting, Great and Little Bradley, Thurlow and Kedington daily

**Rail:** 1891: Haverhill station:  
Haverhill South: Haverhill–Halstead line opened 1863, closed 1962  
Haverhill North: Haverhill–Sudbury line opened 1865, closed for goods and made unmanned halt 1966, closed for passengers 1967

## 9. Population:

1086 – 56 recorded  
1327 – 32 taxpayers paid £4 11s. 6d.  
1524 – 4 listed, (membrane illegible)  
1603 – 300 adults  
1674 – 173 households  
1676 – 640 adults

1801 – 1,308 inhabitants  
 1831 – 2,025 inhabitants  
 1851 – 2,535 inhabitants  
 1871 – 3,031 inhabitants  
 1901 – 4,862 inhabitants  
 1931 – 3,828 inhabitants  
 1951 – 4,096 inhabitants  
 1966 – Report on population in parish box file in RO  
 1971 – 12,360 inhabitants  
 1981 – not given

**10. Benefice: Vicarage 1831, Discharged Vicarage 1844**

1254	Valued £13 6s. 8d. Portion of Prior of Castleacre £3 6s. 8d. Portion of same Prior in separate tithes £1 Portion of Prior of Stoke (by Clare) (separate tithe) £1 Portion of Parson of Asse (Campsey Ash 6s. 8d. <span style="float: right;"><u>£19</u></span>
1291	Valued £16 13s. 4d. Portion of Prior of Castleacre £4 6s. 8d. Portion of Prior of Stoke £1 <span style="float: right;"><u>£22</u></span> Living appropriated to Castleacre Priory, Norfolk at early date (not known).
1535	Valued £6 5s.
1537/38	Rectory and advowson granted to Thomas Cromwell
1831	No glebe house. Gross income £125 p.a. Incumbent also holds Vicarage of Blyton, Lincs.
1841	Modus of £220 p.a. awarded
1873	Value £170
1887	No glebe recorded
1912	Net value £200 p.a. with residence

**Patrons:** Thomas Cole (1603), Sir G.H.W. Beaumont (1831)

**11. Church**

1086	Church plus 5 acres (possibly refers to St. Botolph's)  <u>St. Mary</u> (otherwise Lower Church of St. Mary) (Chancel, S. chapel, vestry, nave with aisles, S. porch, W. tower)
12 <sup>th</sup> cent.	Given to Castleacre Priory. Referred to as 'the chapel of St. Mary in the market belonging to the mother church in the upper part of town')
13/14 <sup>th</sup> cent.	Tower and parts of chancel (upper portion of tower is 15 <sup>th</sup> cent.)
14/15 <sup>th</sup> cent.	Main structure
1643	Puritanical Vandals (William Dowsing) destroyed approximately 100 pictures, 2 popish inscriptions and beat down a great 'stoneing' cross on top of church.

1665 Extensive damage caused by fire  
1867 Major restoration

**Seats:** 200 appropriated, 380 free (1873)

**St. Botolph's** (otherwise Upper Church of St. Mary)  
(St. Botolph believed corruption of Button Church)

12<sup>th</sup> cent. Believed to be of early Saxon origin having apsidal east end.  
Under jurisdiction of Castleacre Priory. Rebuilt  
15<sup>th</sup> cent. Wills refer to lower/nether church and upper/over church  
1624 Known as the Boton (Button) church  
c.early 17<sup>th</sup> century Destroyed  
1855 Remains uncovered (PSIA Vol.IV) but exact location  
unrecorded although churchyard position is known

### **Chapels of Aneaton and Hanchett**

Mention in wills of 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> cent. Locations unknown

## **12. Nonconformity etc:**

1662 Minister ejected  
1674 Land bequeathed by Thomas Ewin for Quaker burial ground  
1676 30 nonconformists  
1707 Baptist chapel built  
1707 Presbyterian chapel built, rebuilt 1843  
1811 Meeting house built (no date) enlarged 1811  
1829 New chapel mentioned  
1834 New meeting house built  
1829–1839 7 houses set aside for worship  
1839 Independent chapel built  
1858 Independent chapel in Haverhill hamlet built, partly rebuilt and  
enlarged c.1873, used as school room 1891. New chapel  
opened 1891 seats 650  
1874 Primitive Methodist chapel built, enlarged 1888, seats 300  
1912 Salvation Army Hall listed

'Quakers of Haverhill 1656–1873', by L. Mizon and H.  
Donoghue

## **13. Manorial:**

### **Haverhill Manor called The Castle**

1086–1314 de Clare family own (linked to numerous manors throughout  
Suffolk)  
14<sup>th</sup> cent. Hugh de Audley owns  
1327 Thomas, Earl of Stafford owns  
1403 Humphrey, Duke of Buckingham owns

1523	Licence to alienate to John Smyth of Cavendish
1566	Survey of manor and rectory amongst Exchequer Special Commissions
1616	Thomas Cole owns
1784	George Howland owns
1827	Sir George Howland Willoughby Beaumont owns

**Sub-manors:**

**Hersham**

Appears always to have been annexed to main manor

**Helions/Helyon Haverhill**

1066	Manor of 2½ carucates held by Clarenbold
1086	Manor of 2½ carucates belonging to Tihel of Hellean
12 <sup>th</sup> cent.	Robert of Helion owns
1391	Inquis of Henry de Helion – 1 messuage, 66 acres land, 9 acres meadow, 3 acres pasture, 8 acres wood, 62s. rent and 1 mill
16 <sup>th</sup> cent.	Duke of Buckingham owns (absorbed by main manor)

**14. Markets/Fairs**

1086	Market in existence
17 <sup>th</sup> cent.	Described as market town
c.1618	Fairs held on May Day, Our First Lady in Harvest day and 15 <sup>th</sup> August
1679	Small market on Wednesday
1759	Fairs held on 12 May and 26 <sup>th</sup> August (toys) Said to have had ancient market house or cross (taken down circa 1832)
1844	Market formerly held on Wednesday now held on Friday Fairs held on 12 <sup>th</sup> May for cattle and 10 <sup>th</sup> October for pedlary and pleasure
1891	Fat stock sales held every Friday in yard of Rose and Crown.
1912	Market still held on Friday with special periodical sales for sheep and cattle
1960	Fat stock market closed through lack of support

**15. Real property:**

1844	£2,485 rental value
1891	£8,908 rateable value
1912	£13,291 rateable value

**16. Land ownership:**

1844–1912 Land subdivided

**17. Resident gentry:**

1680	2 gents
1891	Daniel Gurteen JP and D. Gurteen Jnr. JP
1912	F.C. Christmas JP, D.M. Gurteen JP, W.B. Gurteen JP, T. Bates, Rev. H.C. Newberry MA and Rev. F.G. Tizzard MA

**18. Occupations:**

1500–1549	Butcher, husbandman, tanner, sicklesmith, cordwainer/shoemaker, shearman (one who cuts woollen cloth
1550–1599	3 yeomen, mercer, 4 husbandmen, innholder, 2 labourers, fuller
1600–1649	5 yeomen, 2 glovers, 3 husbandmen, 2 weavers, 1 thatcher, fustian maker, spinster, 2 coopers, barber, carpenter, ploughwright
1650–1699	7 yeomen, comber, 4 butchers, 2 fustian weavers, 3 cordwainer/shoemakers, 6 innholders, weaver, 3 millers, plumber, 2 fustian makers, spinster, tallow chandler, brazier, 3 tailors, collar maker, blacksmith
1679	Considerable trade in making fustians Town described as adjoining the 'Saffron grounds'
1831	119 in agriculture, 173 in manufacturing, 110 in retail trade, 13 professionals, 5 in labouring, 56 in domestic service, 12 others
1844	Formerly noted for manufacture of checks, cottons and fustians. Silk mill employs 70 and several manufacturers of drabbetts made up into smock-frocks – employs approx. 330 weavers. The silk is woven into umbrella and parasol fabric. Tuscan straw plat manufacture Gardener/nurseryman, millwright, cart owner, farrier, fellmonger/leather cutter/glover, brick/tile maker, hop/tea merchant, 3 travellers, governor of workhouse, bankers, confectioner, rope maker, 5 fire and life officers, 7 publicans, 6 teachers, 2 attorneys, 7 bakers, 9 beerhouse keepers, 5 blacksmiths, 2 booksellers, 8 boot/shoemakers, 2 tinner/braziers, 3 bricklayers, 3 butchers, 2 cabinet makers, chemist, coachmaker/wheelwright, 2 coopers, 2 corn/flour dealers, 8 corn millers, 10 farmers, 3 glass/china dealers, 5 grocer/drapers, 2 hairdressers, 3 ironmongers, 5 joiner/builders, 3 maltsters, 5 milliners, 4 plumber/glaziers, 3 saddlers, 3 shopkeepers, 1 silk manufacturer, 2 straw hat makers, 3 straw plat manufacturers, 3 surgeons, 5 tailors/drapers, 3 watchmakers.
1912	Principal manufacture – clothing for wholesale, drabbetts, cheese-cloth, towels, huckaback, crash, scrim and other cotton/linen fabrics. Manufacture of crinoline and horse hair cloth, rugs, mats

(3,000 persons employed in above). Wholesale manufacture of ropes etc.

Brick works. Anglo-American Oil Co. Ltd.

Public officers, teachers, journalists, 2 station masters, 3 hoteliers, 3 hairdressers, 3 coal merchants, 3 tobacconist/confectioners, plasterer, 11 shopkeepers, brewers agent, private school owner, boot repairer, 3 newsagents, 8 farmers, clothier, thrashing machine owner, 2 auctioneer/estate agents, 5 bankers, painter/paperhanger, teacher of music, 4 solicitors, 2 saddlers, 3 drapers, tailor/outfitter, 5 beer retailers, artificial teeth maker, 13 publicans, district nurse, coal merchant, 2 chimney sweeps, wholesale manufacturers of turnery ware, 3 cycle agents, builder/undertaker, plumber/painter, plumber, vet, 5 insurance agents, corn/coal merchant, 3 watch makers, 3 brewers, fishmonger, wheelwright, printer/fruiterer, 3 bakers, manager of gas works, nurseryman/seedsman, 3 blacksmiths, 6 butchers, printer, fishmonger/greengrocer, carrier, 4 confectioners, 3 surgeons, midwife, photographer, dentist, stone/marble mason, wheelwright, 2 tailors, coach builder, fancy repository, customs/excise officer, cemetery keeper, 4 boot/shoemakers, school attendance officer, upholsterer, 2 grocers, whip maker, grocer/drapery, asst. overseer, printer/publisher, 2 dressmakers, brick maker, 2 outfitters, fancy bazaar, basket manufacturer, refreshment rooms owner, house furnishers, farm bailiff, 2 engineers, 2 mineral water manufacturers, 2 chemists, 2 millers, wholesale ale/stout merchant, 2 greengrocers, ironmonger, picture frame maker, marine store dealer, builder, hardware dealer, 2 silk manufacturers, agricultural implements dealers.

'The Story of a Family Firm', by D. Gurteen & Sons Ltd. 1973.

'Representative List of Haverhill Industries' 1980.

'Building industry in Haverhill', by P. Crouch. Suffolk Review Vol.5 No. 4, p.155.

'High Technology in the Heart of Rural Suffolk'.

Suffolk Fair (June 1982), p.91.

'Spin a long thread', by E. Rayner. East Anglian Magazine Vol.33, p.214.

Hopkins and Williams Ltd. est. 1850: 'A century of Progress'.

Chemical business 1950

## 19. Education:

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 1818 | 2 National day schools (119 attend), 2 Sunday schools (119 attend)  |
| 1833 | 6 infants schools (59 attend), 3 boarding schools (32 girls attend 2 schools, 60 boys attend the other school), 2 day |

	and Sunday schools (133 attend), 1 Independent Sunday school (45 attend). Parochial library
1844	National school listed 5 Academies listed
1873	School board formed, ceased to exist (1903)
1877	Board school built (Cangle School). Average attendance 1891 747, enlarged 1879 and 1882, secondary school extension added 1906, celebrated centenary 1977
1887	Infants school built
1891	2 Ladies schools listed
1903	School Board of six managers formed
1912	Private school listed run by Misses Ashplant Private school run by Miss E. Low
1940	Grammar school pupils attend Sudbury
c.1960	Secondary school opened (Castle Manor)
1965	Place Farm Primary opened
c.1969	Middle school built
1970	4 primary schools
c.1970	Second middle school built
1975	Haverhill County Music School opened

## 20. Poor relief:

1776	£301 2s. 5d.
1803	£2,665 18s. 10d.
1818	£2,557 19s.
1830	£2,380 11s.
1832	£1,987 17s.
1834	£1,379 8s.

## 21. Charities:

## 22. Other institutions:

1475	Guild of St. John Baptist
1489	Church house in building
Date not Known	Risbridge Union Workhouse: enlarged 1836 for Accommodation of 280 paupers. Houses 106 in 1841 and 134 in 1843. Removed to Kedington 1856 when building was declared too small
1836	Savings Bank established
1840	Infirmary for lame and sick persons of Risbridge Union built, stands near workhouse. 15 patients 1841, 8 in 1843
1844	5 fire and life officers
1854	Gas works built and lights the town. Enlarged 1862, purchased by local Board 1886. Ceased 1947. Gas holders demolished 1980
1857	Court house built Corn Exchange built
1883	Town Hall presented by Daniel Gurteen to the town to commemorate his Golden Wedding, enlarged 1909



- 1886 Ancient Order of Shepherds  
Infectious Diseases Hospital, Moles Croft built  
Police station built – complement of Inspector and 5 constables, new station built 1962 – also houses courthouse
- 1891 Lecture Hall and reading room built at Burton End  
Petty Sessions held at police station every alternate Monday  
County Court held in Court House every alternate month  
Literary Institute and Reading room  
South West Suffolk Echo published Friday (½d.)  
Parish governed by Urban District Council since Act of 1895, abolished 1974
- 1897 Water works built, under control of UDC
- 1900 Recreation ground presented by W.B. Gurteen
- 1903 Open air swimming pool built
- 1912 Fire Brigade (9 officers)  
Territorial Army (5<sup>th</sup> Battalion Suffolk Regiment)  
Conservative and Unionist Association  
Co-operative Society Heading Rooms  
Liberal Association
- 1934 Ex-Servicemans Club built
- 1972 Booklet on Sewage Treatment Plant in parish box file (also gives brief history of first treatment plant)

### 23. Recreation:

- 1660–1699 6 innholders
- 1844 7 inns and taverns, 9 beerhouses
- 1883 Football Club in existence
- 1891 Coffee rooms, coffee tavern, 9 beer retailers, 3 brewers, 13 public houses
- 1900 Recreation Ground opened
- 1912 Bell hotel, Rose and Crown Hotel, Temperance Hotel  
5 beer retailers, 12 public houses  
Cricket Club c.1912  
Golf Club  
Refreshment Rooms
- 20th cent Water Polo Club
- c.1965 Conservative Club formed
- 1967 New public library opened
- 1970 Puddlebrook Adventure Playground opened
- 1974 Indoor bowls green opened  
Scarlet Pimpernel public house on Chalkstone Estate opened
- 1976 'Organizations in Haverhill'
- 1986 'Empire and Playhouse. The Story Of Haverhill's lost cinemas' by R. Brazier

### 24. Personal:

Dr. Samuel Ward d.1643: Celebrated divine, native of parish. Master of Sidney College, Cambridge and attended synod of Dort.  
Imprisonment for extreme puritan sympathies during civil war occasioned his death in 1643. His father had been vicar of Haverhill.  
Thomas Cobb: d.1555 – martyr. Butcher by trade, burned at Thetford for his beliefs.  
Tournour family have long associations with parish  
'The Gurteens of Haverhill, Two Hundred Years of Suffolk Textiles', by S. Payne 1984

## **25. Other information:**

'A Glimpse into Haverhill between the Wars' 20<sup>th</sup> cent.  
'Haverhill and District local history group publications'.

Survey undertaken and published by Anglia Echo Newspapers Ltd. 1974.  
'Glimpse of Victorian Haverhill' 20<sup>th</sup> cent.

Haverhill and District Archaeology Group Newsletters (1976–84) 3 volumes  
'A Glimpse of Edwardian Haverhill 20<sup>th</sup> cent.

'Haverhill Town Trail' (no date).

Sketch maps showing field boundaries from 1737 – see Vol.2 of above Newsletters, p.12.

Official Guides.

Host to GLC overspill resulting in major expansion both in housing and population, commenced 1958.

Parkway estate built 1963 (540 houses).

Clements estate built 1962 (997 houses).

Chalkstone estate built 1966 (750 houses).

Withersfield Road estate built 1964 (80 houses).

Coupals Road estate built 1964 (87 houses).

Holland Road Industrial estate established late 1950's/early 1960's

Council offices built 1964.

'Haverhill Magazine', 19<sup>th</sup> cent. 2 volumes 1883.

'Haverhill Master Plan', issued by Haverhill UDC 1971.

Youth Centre opened c.1964 destroyed by fire 1987 arson suspected

Public convenience was situated at Cangle junction early 20<sup>th</sup> cent.

Fire caused extreme damage to town 1665 destroying many of town records

Job centre opened 1975.

Cleve House: former vicarage, renovated 1975. Dates from 15/16<sup>th</sup> cent. and was reputedly a gift from Henry VIII to Anne of Cleves on their wedding. Also served as manor house for the Beaumont family.  
Local History Centre at Cangle First school opened 1985.

St. Marys Church Hall: built 1851 (known as the British School) to be sold 1985 to help pay for church repairs.

Haverhill Town map and comments c.1962 and 1947-54.

Factual Survey and Outline plan for town expansion 1952.

Social Survey 1970.

Central Area Redevelopment Reports 1971 and 1973.

'The Future of Haverhill: Joint Technical Report' c.1981.

Survey and Outline plan 1956.

'How Haverhill expanded'. Suffolk Fair (August, 1979), p.45.

'Haverhill'. PSIA Vol.IV, p.99.

Portfolio of photographs 1972, 70 prints in RO.

Haverhill castle: suspected Roman station fortification with possible British or Saxon antecedents. Situated to NW of town, rectangular site almost obliterated.

Workhouse: Documents 1778 - 1818 in RO. Records of goods and chattels in workhouse 1779 in RO.

Haverhill Local Board of Health established 1878, taken over by UDC 1895.