

# 1. Parish: Harkstead

**Meaning:** Hereca's Place

**2. Hundred:** Samford

**Deanery:** Samford

**Union:** Samford

**RDC/UDC:** (E. Suffolk) Samford R.D. (-1974),  
Babergh D.C. (1974-)

Other administrative details:

Samford Petty Sessional Division  
Ipswich County Court District

**3. Area:** 1,740 acres land, 166 acres tidal water, 284 acres  
foreshore (1912)

**4. Soils:**

**Mixed**

- a. Deep well drained fine loam, coarse loam and sandy soils, locally flinty and in places over gravel. Slight risk water erosion.
- b. Deep often stoneless coarse loam. Some slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged coarse and fine loam over clay.

**5. Types of farming:**

1086		12½ acres meadow, 1 cob, 7 cattle, 31 pigs, sheep, 27 goats, 1 sill, woodland for 30 pigs
1500-1640	Thirsk:	Sheep-corn region where sheep are main fertilizing agent, bred for fattening. Barley main cash crop. Also has similarities with wood-pasture region with pasture, meadow, dairying and some pig-keeping.
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 and barley
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

**6. Enclosure:**

**7. Settlement:**

1958/1977 River Stour forms natural boundary to the South. Small but well spaced development. Church situated separately to the north of settlement. Secondary settlement at Needle Corner. Scattered farms.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 36, 1801 – not recorded,  
1851 – 66 , 1871 – 84, 1901 – 85,  
1951 – 94, 1981 – 105

**8. Communications:**

Road: To Holbrook, Erwarton and Woolverstone  
1891 3 carriers to Ipswich daily  
1912 2 carriers to Ipswich daily (except Wednesday)

Rail: 1891 6 miles Bentley station. Bentley–Hadleigh line opened  
1874, closed for passengers 1932, closed for goods  
1965  
Colchester–Ipswich line, opened 1849, station  
Closed for passengers 1966, closed for goods 1964

River: River Stour: Made navigable by Act of Parliament 1705.  
Jetty built at Harkstead. Last barge travelled as far as  
Dedham 1928.

**9. Population:**

1086 – 48 recorded  
1327 – 13 taxpayers paid £1 1s. 5d.  
1524 – 26 taxpayers paid £2 10s. 5d.  
1603 – 40 adults  
1674 – 36 households  
1676 – Not recorded  
1801 – 214 inhabitants  
1831 – 329 inhabitants  
1851 – 341 inhabitants  
1871 – 372 inhabitants  
1901 – 388 inhabitants  
1931 – 336 inhabitants  
1951 – 331 inhabitants  
1971 – 296 inhabitants  
1981 – 287 inhabitants

- 10. Benefice: Rectory**
- 1254 Valued £4 13s. 4d.  
 1291 Valued £5  
 1535 Valued £11 3s. 9d.  
 1831 1 curate, stipend £60 p.a. Glebe House unfit for occupation  
 Gross income £520 p.a. Incumbent also holds Rectory of Erwarton with Woolverstone.  
 55 acres IR 26P glebe. £479 p.a. in lieu of tithes 1839  
 Commodious residence built c.1857
- 1891 Valued £518  
 1912 Nett value £335 p.a. 50 acres glebe and residence.
- Patrons: John Osborne (1603), R. Berners (1831), Rev. R. Berners (1844), Rev. H.A. Berners (1891)

- 11. Church St. Mary**  
 (Chancel, N. Vestry, nave, S .aisle, porch, W. tower)
- 1086 1 church. 1 church + 24 acres  
 Norman 2 windows in N. wall (reopened 1875) and doorway  
 14<sup>th</sup> cent. Windows  
 Mid 14<sup>th</sup> cent. Tower
- 1565 Letter describes church as 'defaced and spoiled of lead and timber ('East Suffolk' by Barker)  
 1867 Chancel restored
- Seats: 300 (1831)

**Chapel of St. Clement**

- 15<sup>th</sup> cent. Situated between Harkstead and Erwarton by 'John all alone's'  
 1540 Grant made to Sir Percival Harts of all possessions in this parish of the late monastery of Dartford, Kent (mentioned in reference to the Chapel) ('East Suffolk', by Barker p.223)  
 1844 Site believed to be in field known as Chapel/Chapely Down

**12. Nonconformity etc:**

**13. Manorial:**

- 1066 Manor of 5 carucates (cutlier of lands of Brightlingsea, Essex) held by Harold  
 1086 Manor of 5 carucates belonging to the King  
 1066 Manor of 30 acres held by Aelfrio, a free man under patronage

1086 Manor of 30 acres belonging to Robert Gernon  
1066 manor of 7 carucates held by Edeva the fair  
1086 manor of 7 carucates belonging to Countess of Aumale

### **Harkstead**

1086 Believed to be the lands of the Countess of Aumale above  
1214 Linked to Washbrook (William de Fortibus, 7<sup>th</sup> Earl of Albemarle)  
13<sup>th</sup> cent. Baldwin de Riparlis/Redvers (Earl of Devon) owns  
1275 William le Breton owns  
c.1536 John Beaumont owns  
1729 Linked to Woolverstone (Knox Ward)  
c.1741 Thomas Staunton owns  
c.1783– Linked to Freston, Erwarton and Holbook (Berners family)  
1910

### **Sub-manors**

#### **Buckler's Bond**

14<sup>th</sup> cent. Linked to Trimley St. Mary and Freston (Nicholas Bonde)  
1335 Licence granted to crenelate a chamber to be built in his dwelling house at Harkstead  
1428 John Sampson owns

#### **Brandeston/Brampston**

14<sup>th</sup> cent. Nunnery of Dartford, Kent owns  
1540 Linked to Washbrook (Sir Percival Hart)  
1729 Absorbed by main manor (Knox Ward)

#### **Netherhall**

14<sup>th</sup> cent. Annexed to Buckler's Bond (Nicholas Bonde and followed by John Sampson)  
16/17<sup>th</sup> cent. Whittell family owns  
1618 Richard Sutton owns  
17<sup>th</sup> cent. John Ashfield owns

#### **14. Markets/Fairs:**

#### **15. Real property:**

1844 £1,909 rental value  
1891 £2,421 rateable value  
1912 £1,435 rateable value

**16. Land ownership:**

1844	Ven. Archdeacon Berners and trustees of A.J.W. Deane principal owners
1891	Lands sub-divided
1912	C.H. Berners, principal owner

**17. Resident gentry:**

1680	2 gents
1912	Rev. H.A. Berner, MA

**18. Occupations:**

1550–1599	2 yeomen, 2 fishermen, 2 husbandmen, 1 sailor/mariner
1600–1649	5 yeomen, 1 labourers, 2 fishermen, 3 husbandmen, 4 sailors/mariners, 1 brick striker
1650–1699	6 yeomen, 1 clerk
1831	64 in agriculture, 8 in retail trade, 1 professional 8 in domestic service, 1 other
1844	Blacksmith, 2 shoemakers, viotualler, wheelwright, shopkeeper/shoemaker, joiner, shopkeeper, 6 farmers
1912	Sub-postmistress, schoolmaster, 2 carriers, 4 farmers, shopkeeper/beer retailer, blacksmith, saddler/harness maker, greengrocer, bailiff, publican

**19. Education:**

1818	1 day school, 1 Sunday school (39 attend)
1833	1 daily school supported by Archdeacon Berners (56 attend) 1 day and boarding school (32 attend) 1 Sunday school (51 attend) New house adjoining school built 1890
1891	National school enlarged c.1891, average attendance 66
1912	Public Elementary school, enlarged 1894, average attendance 85

**20. Poor relief:**

1776	£83 14s. 10d.
1803	£148 4s.
1818	£314 1s.
1830	£266 7s.
1832	£245 12s.
1834	£225 1s.

**21. Charities:**

**22. Other institutions:**

**23. Recreation:**

1844/1891	The Rose public house
1912	1 beer retailer, The Rose public house

**24. Personal:**

1381 Thomas Sampson led agrarian uprisings in south-east Suffolk.

**25. Other information:**