

1. Parish: Herringswell

Meaning: Spring of the Hyrningas

2. **Hundred:** Lackford

Deanery: Fordwich (–1862), Fordwich (Suffolk) (1862–1884), Mildenhall (1884–)

Union: Mildenhall

RDC/UDC: (W. Suffolk) Mildenhall RD (–1974), Forest Heath DC (1974–)

Other administrative details:

Ecclesiastical boundary change 1973
Lackford Petty Sessional Division
Mildenhall County Court District

3. **Area:** 2,242 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Mixed:

- a. Well drained calcareous sandy soils
- b. Deep well drained sandy soils, very acid in places, risk wind erosion
- c. Deep permeable sand and peat soils affected by groundwater

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		1 mill, 1 cob, 5 cattle, 12 pigs, 140 sheep
1500–1640	Thirsk:	Sheep-corn region, sheep main fertilizing agent, bred for fattening, barley main cash crop.
1818	Marshall:	Management varies with condition of sandy soils. Rotation usually turnip, barley, clover, wheat or turnips as preparation for corn and grass.
1937	Main crops:	Wheat, barley, oats, roots
1969	Trist:	Barley and sugar beet are the main crops with some rye grown on poorer lands and a little wheat, herbage seeds and carrots

6. **Enclosure:**

1810 2,158 acres enclosed under Private Act of Lands 1807

7. Settlement:

1958 Small compact development situated on Kennett–Tuddenham road. Settlement appears surrounded by plantation.
Some scattered farms.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 20, 1801 – 23, 1851 – 42, 1871 – 41, 1901 – 41, 1951 – 58, 1981 – 82

8. Communications:

Roads: To Kennett, Tuddenham, and Gazeley

Rail: 1891 – 2¾ miles Kennett station: Newmarket–Bury St Edmunds line, opened 1854, still operational

9. Population:

1086 – 26 recorded
1327 – 22 taxpayers paid £2 9s. 8d.
1524 – 16 taxpayers paid £0 12s. 8d.
1603 – 64 adults
1674 – 25 households
1676 – 65 adults
1801 – 126 inhabitants
1831 – 239 inhabitants
1851 – 225 inhabitants
1871 – 173 inhabitants
1901 – 178 inhabitants
1931 – 160 inhabitants
1951 – 199 inhabitants
1971 – 313 inhabitants
1981 – 210 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory 1831, Discharged Rectory 1844

1254 Valued £8 13s. 4d.
To manor of St. Edmund £10
To manor of St. Saviours £2 £20 13s. 4d.

1291 Valued £13 6s. 8d.
1535 Valued £9 9s. 9½ d
1831 Curate, stipend £60 p.a. Glebe house. Gross income £200 p.a.
Incumbent also holds Rectory of Hillington and Vicarage of Hemsby, Norfolk
Valued £200 1835

1844 Tithes commuted at enclosure for allotments of 360 acres, sold c.1891 for £7,500

New residence built 1865, 6 acres glebe
Glebe: nil 1887

Patrons: Sir Stephen Soame (1603), J.T. Hales (1831), Sir W. Gilstrap (1891), Mrs L.T. Davies (1918)

11. Church **St Ethelbert**
(Chancel, nave, transept, W. tower)

1086 Church + 30 acres free land
14th cent. Main structure (remains at E. end of nave indicates
Norman origins)
1869 Burned down
1869/70 Rebuilt by Blomfield

Note: Ethelbert: King of East Anglia, beheaded by Offa,
King of Mercia 792

Seats: 200 (1918)

12. Nonconformity etc:

1676 2 nonconformists
1832 2 burials of Herringswell persons listed at Barton Mills chapel
1842/46 2 houses set aside for worship
1851 Chapel for Primitive Methodists and schoolroom

13. Manorial:

Herringswell Manor

1066/86 Manor of 4 carucates belonging to Abbot of St Edmunds
1311 Walter de Norwich owns (linked to Dalham, Bredfield and
Dallinghoo)
1382 de Ufford family own (linked to numerous manors
throughout Suffolk)
1542 Sir Thomas Audley owns (linked to Cavenham)
17th cent. Sir Stephen Soame owns (linked to Freckenham)
1653 Robert Eade owns
1707 Henry Jermyn owns (linked to Gt. Waldingfield and
Preston)
1724 Richard Burton owns
1815 Mure/Mure–Image family owns
1909 Leopold Frederick Davies owns

Sub-Manors

Blunts/Blouncks al Waywashyard al Lanes

1307	Inquis p/m/ of Joan wife of Gilbert de Clare (linked to Milden, Chilton, Cavendish, Sudbury, Cavenham and Lakenheath)
1428	Henry Trass/Trace owns (linked to Moulton)
1545	William Pleasance owns (linked to Tuddenham)
1588	190 acres land, 20 li pasture, 10 acres meadow (Honor of Clare)
1747	John Holden owns

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844	£1,157 rental value
1891	£1,421 rateable value
1912	£1,359 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844	John Turner Hales and George Mure, principal owners
1891	Sir W. Gilstrap and Mrs Mure-Image, principal owners
1912	Leopold F. Davies and Arthur W. Balance, principal owners

17. Resident gentry:

1887	William Edmund Image, High Sheriff of Suffolk
1891	George Mure and J. T. Hales

18. Occupations:

1361/1386	2 chaplains
1550–1599	1 husbandman, 1 rector, 1 shepherd
1600–1649	3 yeomen, 4 husbandman
1650–1699	4 yeomen, 2 husbandmen, 1 spinster, 1 carpenter, 2 blacksmiths
1831	41 in agriculture, 1 in retail trade, 1 professional, 34 in domestic service
1844	2 farmers
1912	Sub-postmaster, police constable, schoolmistress, blacksmith, 2 farm bailiffs, estate manager, head gamekeeper, clerk to estate office, beer retailer, gamekeeper

19. Education:

1818	Day school (26 assisted places)
1833	Daily school (24 girls attend assisted by S. Mure)
1870	Parochial school built by Sir William Gilstrap (48 attend) average attendance 1912 42

20. Poor relief:

1776	£13 1s. 4d.
1803	£76 15s. 6d.
1818	£172 14s.
1830	£131 1s.
1832	£161 3s.
1834	£129 6s.

21. Charities:

22. Other institutions:

1389	Guild of St. Ethelbert and St. Peter
1891	Police officer recorded
1892	Reading Room established by Sir William Gilstrap
1917	Davies Memorial Hall opened (village hall)

23. Recreation:

1891	1 beer retailer
1907	Football club established
1912	1 beer retailer
pre 1917	Mens Club met in Church Farm
c.1917	Cricket and Quoits Club formed

24. Personal:

Dr. Image 1903: Keen archaeologist, said to have remarkable collection of locally found flints, pottery and coins

25. Other information:

Two Roman tumuli on Herringswell Heath said to mark site of battles.

Fishing industry 8th cent.

Icknield Way and site of gallows denoted boundary land between Freckenham and Herringswell 1928.

War memorial erected 1920.

Herringswell Manor: built 1906 on site of Herringswell Hall (demolished c.1903), built in Elizabethan style.

Owned by Medina Rajneesh commune c.1982–1985.

Acquired for use as the She-Tennoji Educational Institute 1985.

Japanese Buddhist temple built in grounds 1986.