

1. Parish: Heveningham

Meaning: The enclosure/meadow of Heff's people

2. **Hundred:** Blything

Deanery: Dunwich (–1868), Dunwich (South) (1868–1914), S Dunwich (1914–1972), Halesworth (1972–)

Union: Blything

RDC/UDC: (E Suffolk) Blything RD (1894–1934), Blyth RD (1934–1974), Suffolk Coastal DC (1974–)

Other administrative details:

Abolished ecclesiastically to create Heveningham and Ubbeston 1971

Blything Petty Sessional Division

Halesworth County Court District

3. **Area:** 1,669 acres (1912)

4. **Soils:**

Mixed:

- a. Slowly permeable calcareous/non-calcareous clay soils, slight risk of water erosion.
- b. Slowly permeable, seasonally waterlogged clay and fine loam over clay soils, some calcareous.
- c. Deep peat soils associated with clay over sandy soils, in part very acid. High groundwater levels, risk of flooding near river.

5. **Types of farming:**

1086		3 ¹ / ₂ acres meadow, wood for 48 pigs, 1 cob, 4 cattle, 10 pigs, 22 sheep.
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.
1818	Marshall:	Course of crops varies, usually including summer fallow as preparation for corn products.
1891		Great quantity of hemp formerly grown in and around the parish.
1937	Main crops:	Wheat, barley, turnips, beans, some pasture.
1969	Trist:	More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet.

6. **Enclosure:**

7. Settlement:

1983 Roman road crosses parish NW–SE. River Blyth forms natural boundary to the north. Heveningham Park occupies majority of eastern sector of parish and probably had great influence on settlement patterns. Small compact development in NW corner, restricted to the north by the river. Church centrally situated. Few scattered farms.

Inhabited houses: 1674 – 33, 1801 – 63, 1851 –86 , 1871 – 73, 1901 – 56, 1951 – 55, 1981 – 39.

8. Communications:

Road: Roads to Ubbeston, Huntingfield, Peasenhall and Sibton.
1891 Carrier to Halesworth Tuesday and Friday.
1912 Carriers to Halesworth Tuesday and Friday.

Rail: 1891 5 miles Halesworth station: East Suffolk line opened in 1854, closed for goods in 1964.
Southwold–Halesworth line, opened 1879, closed 1929.
Halesworth–Beccles–Haddiscoe line, opened 1854, closed 1959.

Water: River Blyth: navigable to Halesworth 1761, silted up.

9. Population:

1086 – 16 recorded
1327 – 18 taxpayers paid £1 11s.
1524 – 25 taxpayers paid £18 13s. 10d.
1603 – 85 adults
1674 – 36 households
1676 – Not recorded
1801 – 305 inhabitants
1831 – 423 inhabitants
1851 – 422 inhabitants
1871 – 351 inhabitants
1901 – 291 inhabitants
1931 – 189 inhabitants
1951 – 177 inhabitants
1971 – 110 inhabitants
1981 – 111 inhabitants

10. Benefice: Rectory

1254	Valued at £8	
1291	Valued at £11 6s. 8d.	
	Portion of St Neots £1	<u>£12 6s. 8d.</u>
1535	Valued at £11 6s. 8d.	

1624 Parsonage has 5 hearths
 1650 Valued at £52
 1831 Glebe house. Gross income £455 pa. Incumbent also holds Perpetual Curacy of Aldringham with Thorpe and Linstead Magna.
 1835 Valued at £436
 1844 Good residence, 40 acres glebe valued with tithe rent at £550 pa.
 1891 Valued at £516. 30 acres of glebe.
 1912 Nett value £330 pa. 40 acres glebe and residence.

Patrons: Crown (1603–), Lord Chancellor (1912–)

11. Church **St Margaret**
 (Chancel, N vestry, nave, N chapel, S aisle and porch, W tower)

1086 4th part of church + ½ acre land
 14th cent. Chancel and nave, S arcade of 5 bays
 15th cent. Main structure
 16th/17th cent. Clerestory
 1643 Puritanical vandals (William Dowsing) destroyed 8 superstitious pictures and 2 inscriptions in brass.
 1847/1866 Restoration

Seats: 250 (1915)

12. Nonconformity etc:

1597 Rector does not wear the surplice.
 1887 Wesleyan chapel built: seats 100.

13. Manorial:

1066 Manor of 1 carucate held by Stanwin, a free man under patronage of Harold.
 1086 Manor of 1 carucate belonging to Roger Bigot and held by Ansketel.
 12th cent Robert Fitz Walter owns
 late 12th cent. William de Heveningham owns, remained with the Heneningham family until –
 1700 sold to John Bence (linked to Carlton, Kelsale and Cookley)
 1719 George Dashwood owns
 1745 Joseph Damer owns
 1752 Sir Joshua Vanneck (linked to numerous manors throughout Suffolk)
 1909 Joshua Charles Vanneck, 4th Baron Huntingfield owns (linked to Huntingfield, Leiston, Linstead Magna and Linstead Parva)

Sub-manors:

Burton Haugh

16 th cent.	Cardinal Wolsey's College at Ipswich (linked to numerous manors through Suffolk)
1550	Lady Lucy Clifford owns
1554	Edward More owns
1623	Robert Hanrill and Folliott Pruslowe own

Blaunchards

1317	Richard Blaunchard owns
1453	Sir John Heveningham owns (absorbed by main manor)

14. Markets/Fairs

15. Real property:

1844	£1,838 rental value
1891	£2,159 rateable value
1912	£1,629 rateable value

16. Land ownership:

1844	Sir R.S. Adair and few small owners
1891	Lord Huntingfield and few small owners
1912	Lord Huntingfield principal owner

17. Resident gentry:

1524	John Heveningham, Knight and Thomas Baryngton, gent
1674	Lady Heveningham
1679	William Heveningham
1844	Lord Huntingfield and Rev. Harry Owen MA
1891	Hon. Col. J. Vanneck and Rt. Hon. Lord Huntingfield JP DL
1912	Lord Huntingfield JP, Hon. Anne Vanneck, Hon. Frances Vanneck and Rev. R. Dewe MA

18. Occupations:

1600–1649	husbandman, 8 yeomen, 1 spinster and 1 tailor
1650–1699	3 husbandmen, 7 yeomen, 1 linen weaver, 1 spinster, 1 cheese factor, 1 clerk, 1 butcher, 1 grocer.
1831	65 in agriculture, 1 in manufacturing, 23 in retail trade, 2 professionals, 27 in domestic service, 3 others.
1844	Gamekeeper, 2 boot/shoemakers, tailor, victualler, brick and tile maker, schoolmaster, grocer/drapery, wheelwright, 2 blacksmiths, 10 farmers.
1912	Sub-postmaster, school teacher, 2 farm bailiffs, 9 farmers, publican, ironmonger\agricultrual implement

agent, grocer, 2 carriers, gardener, butcher, sheep dresser, gamekeeper.

19. Education:

1515 Daily school
1818 Endowed school (35 attend), (15 free), daily school (25 attend), 1 Sunday school (63 attend).
1833 2 daily schools (27 attend), 1 Sunday school (30 attend).
1844 Schoolmaster listed
1859 School built, 70 attend in 1891. Enlarged in 1895 partly supported by Heveningham Charities. Average attendance of 63 in 1912.

20. Poor relief:

1776 £50 3s. 6d.
1803 £96 16s. 8¹/₂d.
1818 £225 19s.
1830 £293 1s.
1832 £386 6s.
1834 £359 13s.

21. Charities:

Town and Poor Estates

1789/91 vested in Feoffees
1840 5 tenements including Town house let at £10 5s.
Messuage + 4 acres let at £6
Farm and 52 acres land let at £60 pa applied to repairs of church and highway, general expenses and relief of poor.

22. Other institutions:

23. Recreation:

1844–1912 The White Lion public house

24. Personal:

1752 Vanneck family: Lords Huntingfield. Wealthy Dutch family who bought Heneningham Hall.
1777 Sir Joshua Vanneck died, and
1796 his son, Joshua, was created Baron Huntingfield.

25. Other information:

The Old Hall was reputedly supported with oak pillars.

Queen Elizabeth I was entertained in the previous hall by Lord Hudson (her cousin). Queen Elizabeth's oak an alleged vantage point used by her while on a deer hunt.

1674 Assessed as containing 32 hearths

1782 Trunk of Queen Elizabeth's Oak was 11 yards in circumference and 7' high (CRN 6789).

1778 Heveningham Hall built by Sir Gerard Vanneck. Described as 'grandest Georgian mansion in Suffolk', designed by Sir Robert Taylor. Old red brick Queen Anne house incorporated into central block of the present hall (neo classical style).

1781–82 Gardens laid out by Capability Brown. 1782 print of Heveningham Hall by T Hearne in RO.

1884 Park extends to approximately 600 acres, well wooded. Shooting parties were regular events at which Edward VII was a frequent visitor.

1970 Purchased by the Government for the nation.

1977 Estate extends to 500 acres although formerly it covered 25,000 acres including Leiston Abbey.

1979 Open to the public.

1981 Sold to Abdhul Al-Ghazzi.

1982 Reopened to the public. In the same year restoration work revealed 18th century prints.

1983 Ice house situated in Heveningham Park close to the Halesworth Road.

'Heveningham Hall', by Mark Bence-Jones. East Anglian Life, Vol 9 (May 1967).

'The Temple, Heveningham Hall', by R. Bowden-Smith. Decimus Publications, 1986.