

1. Parish: Higham

Meaning: High enclosure

2. Hundred: Lackford

Deanery: Clare (1861–1884), Thurlow (1884–1916), Newmarket (1916–1972), Mildenhall (1972–)

Union: Newmarket

RDC/UDC: Moulton RD (1894–1935). Mildenhall RD (1935–1974), Forest Heath DC (1974–)

Other administrative details:

Hamlet of Gazeley. Separate civil parish 1866, separate ecclesiastical parish 1861
Lackford Petty Sessional Division
Mildenhall County Court District

3. Area: 2,717 acres (1912)

4. Soils:

Mixed:

- a. Deep well drained fine and coarse loams over clay, some with calcareous clay subsoils
- b. Chalk and fine loam over chalk rubble, some deep non-chalk loams, slight risk water erosion
- c. Slowly permeable calcareous clay soils, some clay, slight risk water erosion

5. Types of farming:

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

1660 Blome: 'being clay ground husbanded chiefly for the Dairy and fielding abounding with excellent corn of all sorts'

1818 Marshall: Course of crops varies usually including summer fallow as preparation for corn products

1937 Main crops: Wheat, barley, beans, oats, turnips

1969 Trist: More intensive cereal growing and sugar beet

- 6. Enclosure:**
1823 1,682 acres enclosed under Private Act of Lands 1821
- 7. Settlement:**
1958 Small well spaced settlement with concentrations of occupation at Upper Green (the Hall), Middle Green (Baptist Church), Lower Green (Church) and the Station. Icknield Way forms northern boundary. Railway runs across parish from W–E.
- Inhabited houses:** 1674 – 8, 1851 – 58, 1871 – 81,
1901 – 76, 1951 – 76, 1981 – 44
- 8. Communications:**
- Roads:** To Gazeley, Tuddenham and Barrow.
1844 Carriers from Gazeley to Bury St Edmunds on Monday
1844 Carriers to Cambridge on Saturday to Newmarket on Tuesday
- Rail:** 1891 Rail station: Newmarket – Bury St Edmunds line opened 1854, closed for goods 1964, closed for passengers 1967
- 9. Population:**
- 1327 – 17 taxpayers paid £1 13s. 1d.
1524 – 15 taxpayers paid £0 10s. 2d.
1603 – not recorded
1674 – 11 households
1676 – not recorded
1801 – not recorded
1831 – 311 inhabitants
1851 – 343 inhabitants
1871 – not recorded
1901 – 320 inhabitants
1931 – 289 inhabitants
1951 – 263 inhabitants
1971 – 146 inhabitants
1981 – 105 inhabitants
- 10. Benefice: Vicarage**
- 1891 Valued £165 p.a.
1918 Valued £105 p.a.
- Patrons:** In gift to J. G. Barclay (1891)

- 11. Church** **St Stephen**
(Chancel, nave, N. aisle, S. porch, round. tower)
- 1861 Built in Early English style from designs by Sir G. Gilbert Scott
- Seats:** 210
- 12. Nonconformity etc:**
- 1836 Baptist chapel, rebuilt 1879
1908 Gospel Hall built
- 13. Manorial:**
- 14. Markets/Fairs:**
- 15. Real property:**
- 1844 £2,640 (includes Gazeley and Needham) rental value
1891 not recorded
1912 £1,981 rateable value
- 16. Land ownership:**
- 1844 Land sub-divided
1891 J. G. Barclay, principal owner
1912 Land sub-divided
- 17. Resident gentry:**
- 18. Occupations:**
- 1550–1599 1 yeoman,
1600–1649 1 labourer
1650–1699 3 husbandmen, 3 yeomen, 1 blacksmith, 1 spinster
1844 Victualler, miller/maltster, 5 farmers, 2 shopkeepers
1912 Sub-postmaster, schoolmaster, smallholder,
 grocer/draper, farm bailiff, chimney sweep, gamekeeper,
 4 farmers, publican, beer retailer, builder/smith
- 19. Education:**
- 1818/1833 Children attend school at Gazeley
1833 Free school built by R. Barclay
1867 British school built by J.C. Barclay
1861 Public Elementary school built, enlarged 1892, average
 attendance 1912 85

20. Poor relief:

1776 £47 15s. 2d. spent on poor relief

21. Charities:

1912 Rent of the Fuel Lands distributed in coals to the poor

22. Other institutions:

Reading Room opened 1908 (gift of R.L. Barclay)

23. Recreation:

1844 1 Public House The Lamb

1891 The Station Inn public house

1912 1 beer retailer, The Station Inn public house

1950 Cricket club

24. Personal:

25. Other information:

Constituted a civil and ecclesiastical parish 1894

Icknield Way passes through parish