

- 10 26 High Street**
15th century. Built as a chantry: a college for religious learning.
- 11 Billson's**
16th century. Since the road was widened in the 1970s the pavement has run through an old butcher's shop.
- 12 Tortoise Stove**
Standing in the area between Portway's Foundry and the old railway line.
- 13 Empire Theatre**
Halstead's first purpose-built theatre and cinema, opened in May 1915.
- 14 Colne Valley Cinema**
Halstead's second picture palace, opened 1916. Renamed The Savoy in the 1950s, it closed in the early 1960s.
- 15 Holy Trinity Church**
Designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott, built 1843-1844. Open daily.
- 16 Halstead Public Gardens**
Funded by public donations and opened in 1901.
- 17 Library**
Opened as a corn exchange in 1866 and had several uses before becoming a library in 1969.

Halstead 21st Century Group
Registered charity no. 1180748

Halstead & District Local History Society
Registered charity no. 289304

All drawings by Angelina Kanadys

An Introduction to Halstead

Halstead now has population of more than 12,000 residents.

Archaeological finds suggest that the area was inhabited as early as 3,500 years ago.

The Domesday Book of 1086 lists Halstead as a settlement with 117 householders including freemen, smallholders, and two manorial lords. The town probably already had a market by then, perhaps near the junction that is still at the top of the hill.

Halstead's past is hinted at in the town's layout, street names, and architecture, whilst the recurring names of some families suggest their importance in the town's development. Our trail features a selection of sites to introduce you to Halstead's heritage.

Trail time: approximately 40 minutes at an easy pace with short stops.

Trail distance: approximately 1.2 miles.

Halstead Heritage Museum
The Queen's Hall, Chipping Hill,
Halstead, Essex CO9 2BY

Open 13:30 – 16:00, Wednesday and
Sunday, February to November.



Halstead21stCentury.org.uk
HalsteadHistory.org.uk



**Halstead &
District Local
History Society**

1 Townsford Mill

Built 1775, converted from a corn to a silk mill in 1826 by Courtaulds. The mill manager lived in adjoining Mill House. The gatehouse (Community Fridge), and stables (JCB Petcare) are nearby.

2 River Colne

Diverted, narrowed and deepened to power Townsford Mill.

3 The Blacksmith's Workshop

Can be seen across the river.

4 The Causeway

Built by Courtaulds for their foremen in 1883. The Royal British Legion Club was the mill's dining room.

5 Factory Terrace

Built by Courtaulds in 1872.

6 Gable End

Built in 1904 as the second boiler room on the site, the arch once held the door to the factory canteen.

7 31 High Street

The early 20th century front hides older parts of The Croft, once home to Charles Portway, foundry owner.

8 St Andrew's Church

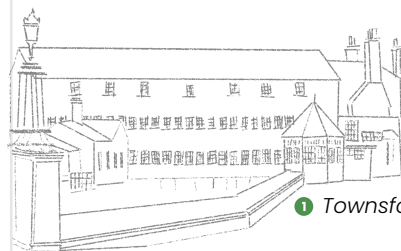
Although Victorian in appearance, parts date from the 14th century. Holds tombs of the de Bouchiers, a prominent family from Norman to Tudor times.

9 Jubilee Fountain

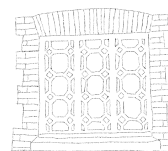
Donated by George Courtauld in 1887 to mark Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee.



- Pedestrian Crossing
- Church
- Public Parking
- Halstead Heritage Museum
- Trail Start
- Trail Path
- Trail End



1 Townsford Mill



5 Factory Terrace Window



9 Jubilee Fountain



7 31 High Street



8 St Andrew's Church