

## Rainham Heritage Walk - Places of Interest

### D • The Phoenix Pub

The Phoenix has certainly lived up to its name, being rebuilt in the 1730s, 1790s and again in the 1890s. A posthouse in the 1820s and 1830s, the pub also became a telegraph office in the 1870s.

### E • Vicarage

The original vicarage had probably disappeared by the mid 17th century and in 1710 the dwelling was rebuilt. Grade II listed, the building is now a private residence.

### F • Redbury House

Dating from around 1800 this Grade II listed building is now a guest house. The carriageway at the side retains its stone and granite set paving and its oriel window on the first floor overlooks the yard; it is believed that John Harle may have had an office there.

### G • The Angel Inn

Adjoining Redbury House, the Angel Inn was rebuilt in 1907 and together with 'The Bell' on the opposite side of the road, forms the gateway to the village from the north along Bridge Road.

### H • Rainham Wharf

Used for local stock in the 13th century, by the 17th century, goods and passengers were being brought from London. John Harle

acquired Rainham Wharf in the early 1700s, and began importing building materials and coal. His business prospered and by 1729 he had built Rainham Hall.

### I • The Bell Pub

Situated opposite 'The Angel', The Bell has retained its Victorian appearance, complete with sash windows. In the 17th century its owner bequeathed the land on which it stands to the St-Giles-in-the-Fields-Charity ensuring its continued support for almshouses near Drury Lane, London.

To the right of the pub is a Grade II listed red telephone kiosk.

### J • The War Memorial

Unveiled in 1921 the memorial originally commemorated those that lost their lives during World War I. It stands on a site formerly known as 'The Green' and now includes those that were lost during World War II and civilian casualties.

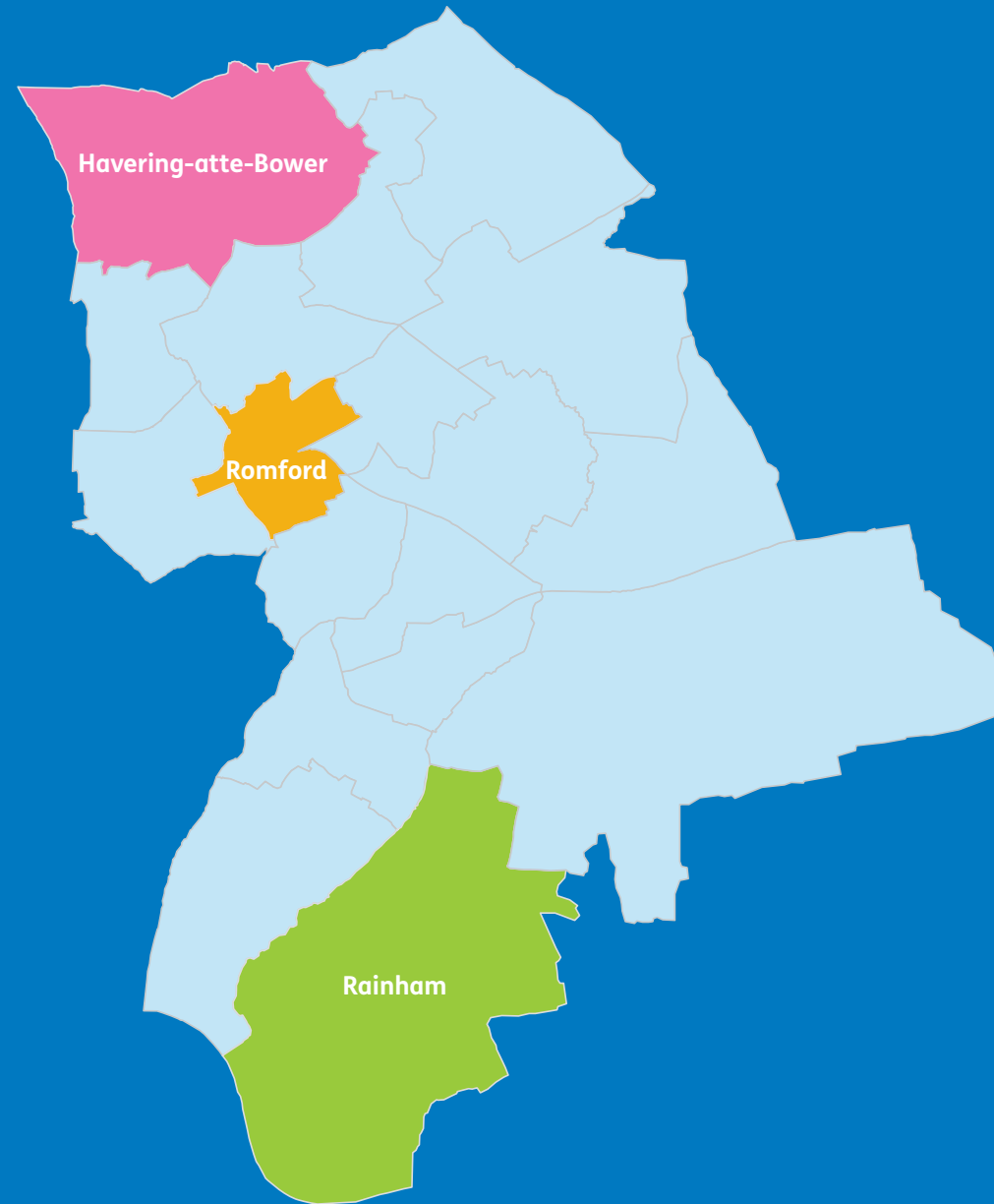
### Did You Know?

Rainham Hall was used as a crèche during World War II.

The Ministry of Defence used Rainham Marshes as a firing range.

The pub, The Three crowns, on Ferry lane became a resort for daytrippers during the late 19th century.

# London Borough of Havering



For more information visit:

[www.havering.gov.uk/discoverhavering](http://www.havering.gov.uk/discoverhavering)

Design & Print by London Borough of Havering • Job no: 10544

# 'havering walks'

## Industrial Heritage Rainham



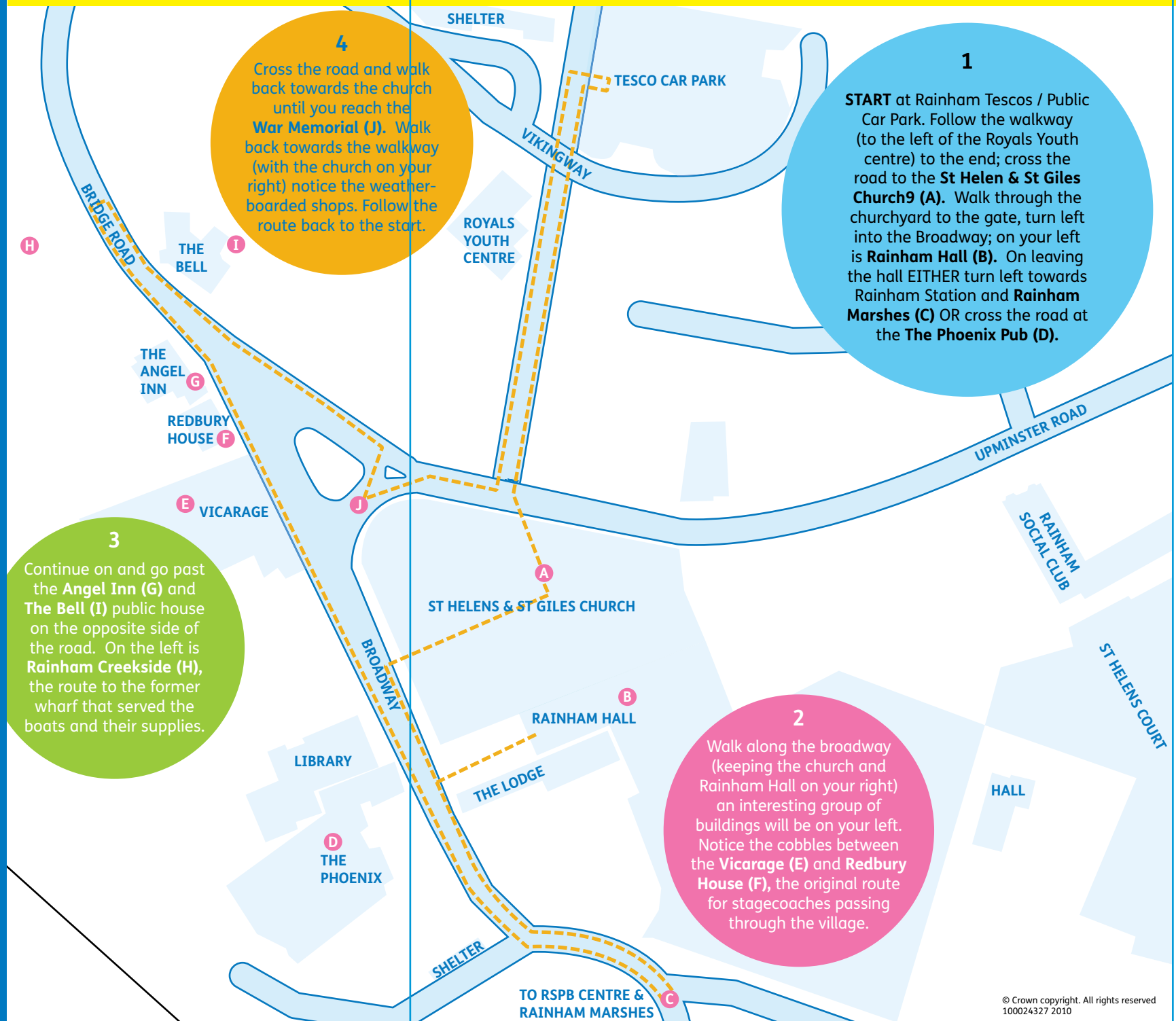
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## From Saxon settlement to industrial anchor



Rainham offers a myriad of contrasts; quintessential English village; hub of industry; home to medieval marshlands, and abound with rumours of river-linked smuggling! The village boasts many original buildings including the Norman Church of St Helen & St Giles and the Georgian Rainham Hall. This walk will look at the influence of trade upon the area and how it informed much of the heritage still visible today.

The walk around the village will take approximately one hour taken at a leisurely pace. If you decide to walk to the RSPB Centre please allow at least an hour to reach the centre and one hour to return.



## Rainham Hall



Built in 1729 for merchant and shipowner Captain John Harle, Rainham Hall has retained many of its original features. It is a brick built building of 3 storeys with an impressive wooden porch, marble fireplace, wooden panelling and a carved wooden staircase featuring the original trompe-l'oeuil frescos on the walls. Many of the rooms have Delft tiles in the fireplaces indicating the wealth of the owner, who had built up a considerable business in Rainham importing building materials. The wrought iron gates at the front of the building have the initials of John Harle and his wife, Mary, intertwined, and some have suggested that they are the work of Jean Tijou, the master blacksmith responsible for the ironwork at Hampton Court Palace. The gardens still house furniture from Captain Harle's time including an urn of some ten feet which sits in the formal garden. Later additions include Victorian dog kennels and the traces of the herringbone path laid out in the 1920s. The Hall was given to the National Trust in 1949 but legend has it that the ghost of a former owner, Colonel Mulliner, still haunts the house and the gardens. Check the National Trust website for opening times.

## St Helen & St Giles Church

Built in c.1170 this remarkably complete church consists of nave with aisles, chancel and west tower. The oldest building in Havering, the church was built by Richard de Lucy, Sheriff of Essex and Chief Justiciar of England under Henry II. As well as its original round-headed arches the church also retains a piece of 14th century graffiti on its chalk staircase, a carving of a ship, probably seen on the nearby Rainham creek.



## Rainham Marshes

Stretching to the banks of the River Thames, Rainham Marshes remain one of the few ancient marshlands in London, and hold the key to the area's thriving industrial history. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries the area enjoyed a boom in the increase of manufacturing companies along the riverside including Daldy & Co, the coal and timber merchants; Phoenix Timber, and Murex, iron-founders and ferroalloy manufacturers, whilst the marshes were used as a military firing range. Following the acquisition of the land by the RSPB in the year 2000, the area has been developed into a nature reserve and is home to an array of wildlife, from water voles to dragonflies, and birds of prey such as the peregrine falcon.

