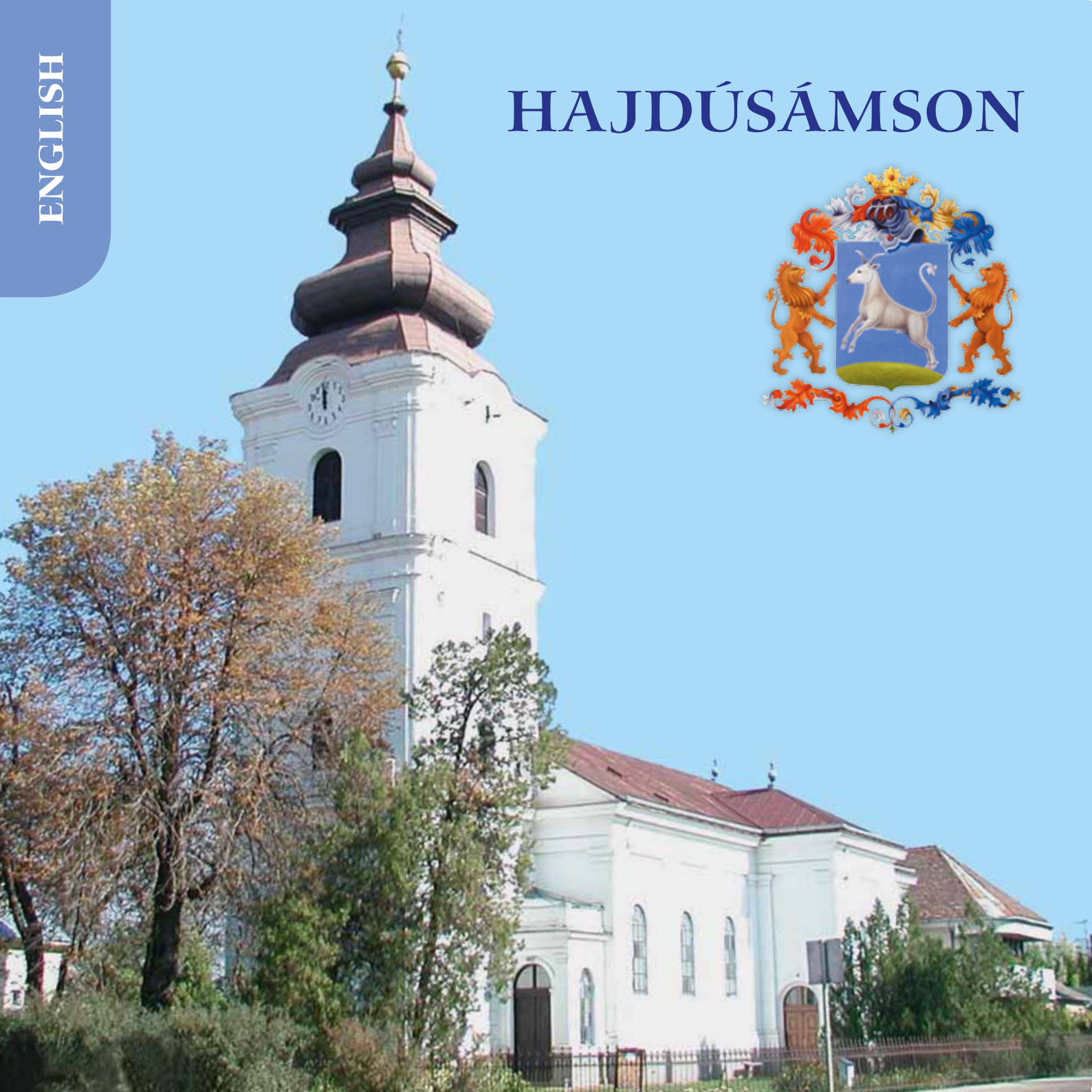




ENGLISH

# HAJDÚSÁMSON





Hajdúsámson lies in the north-eastern region of Hajdú-Bihar County, 10 km from Debrecen on Road 471.

The town is linked to the railway-line between Debrecen and Mátészalka. Three settlements, Martinka, Sámsonkert and Ligettanya also belong to the town.



Facts and figures  
(data as on 1st January, 2010):  
Area: 17166 acres/6947 hectares  
Population: 13.198

[www.hajdusamson.hu](http://www.hajdusamson.hu)  
[www.e-tarsulas.hu/hajdusamson](http://www.e-tarsulas.hu/hajdusamson)

Front page: Reformed Church  
Back page: Central park with the statue of Petőfi Sándor

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# ENTERPRISES



There are several large industrial businesses, several smaller ones either in the industrial or in the servicing branch and countless trading ones. The municipality has decided to establish an industrial park in order to support continuous development. Several significant companies have indicated their willingness to invest in this area.





The Hunting Association was founded in 1995, with the profile of shooting game on commission. It was converted into an association managing a certain area after the new hunting law had been passed in 1996. The association has two of whom are professional hunters and it manages an area of 6800 hectares.

Mainly small game lives in the area, such as deers, hares and pheasants.

Germans, Danes, Arabians, Cypriots, Americans, Swiss, Spaniards and Italians have been here to hunt and left with total satisfaction. In the future, we would like to extend the area of the hunting ground, improve game management and increase the fame of the hunting association and the town.





I would like to introduce an increasingly populated dynamic settlement and its municipality, institutions, enterprises and citizens to you – whether you are a visitor or someone with roots in our town. Let us guide you through the past and present of Hajdúsámson, a town surviving storms of centuries since 1213. The citizens living here are hard working and hospitable, they love their nation, whose sons and daughters live all over the world.

I hope our brochure makes you interested in our hometown.

Yours sincerely,

*Hamza Gábor*

Hamza Gábor  
Mayor

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Town Hall, built in 1936

**ZIP code: 4251****Telephone area code: +36 52**

Mayor's Office

✉ Szabadság tér 5.  
☎ 590-590 ☎ 590-591

E-mail: polgmesthivhsamson@t-online.hu

II. Rákóczi Ferenc Primary School  
and Art School

✉ Kossuth u. 2-8.  
☎ 590-400, ☎ 590-407

Member Schools

✉ Jókai u. 61. ☎ 201-721  
✉ Szatmári u. 16.  
☎ 200-463  
✉ Martinka I., Török u. 46.  
☎ 201-388  
✉ Sámsonkert, Fő u. 1.  
☎ 200-660

Eszterlánc Nursery School

✉ Kossuth u. 15.  
☎ 200-025

Petőfi Sándor Library,  
Culture House and Museum

✉ Szabadság tér 7.  
☎ 200-026, ☎ 590-013

Municipal Infant School

✉ Rákóczi u. 9. ☎ 200-464

Family Social Center

✉ Árpád u. 22.  
☎ 200-800, 201-343

Children Welfare Service

✉ Árpád u. 22/a,  
☎ 201-346

Stove Collection

✉ Krúdy u. 21. ☎ 200-907

Healthcare Centre

✉ Hársfa u. 3-5. ☎ 200-781

Central Emergency Service

☎ 702-779

Surgery

✉ Hársfa u. 3-5.  
☎ 200-804, 200-082

Pediatrics Surgery I.

✉ Hársfa u. 3-5. ☎ 200-057

Pediatrics Surgery II.

✉ Hársfa u. 3-5.  
☎ 200-585

District Nurse Service

✉ Hársfa u. 3-5.  
☎ +36-20-501-3833  
+36-20-500-5430

Pharmacy Sámson

✉ Petőfi u. 4. ☎ 590-020

Pharmacy Hárs

✉ Hunyadi u. 2. ☎ 201-936

Police Station

✉ Kossuth u. 3. ☎ 200-080

Post Office

✉ Rákóczi u. 1.  
☎ 200-028, ☎ 200-019

Savings Bank Hajdú Takaréék

✉ Rákóczi u. 6. ☎ 200-032

Reformed Congregation

✉ Rákóczi u. 2. ☎ 200-534

Railway Station

✉ Vasút tér 18. ☎ 200-015

Petrol Station

✉ Hadházi u. ☎ 200-307  
✉ Kiscsere dűlő 1.  
☎ 200-469

Garages

✉ Jánostava u. 1.  
☎ 200-076  
✉ Hajnal u.17. ☎ 200-215  
✉ Petőfi u. 44. ☎ 200-330

Aqua Plastech Ltd.

✉ Kiscsere dűlő 23/a  
☎ 200-228

Restaurant Club 471

✉ Szabadság tér 4.  
☎ 200-375

Pizza Delivery

☎ +36-30-549-2801

Inn Sándor

471-es road ☎ 715-977

Discount Shop Dózsa

✉ Dózsa Gy. u. 1.  
☎ 200-003

Non-stop Shop Família

✉ Rákóczi u. 3-5. ☎ 200-096

Supermarket Reál Élelmiszer

✉ Rákóczi u. 15. ☎ 201-345  
✉ Rákóczi u. 20. ☎ 200-038

Farmer Shop

☎ 200-038

Building and combustible  
materials

✉ Hadházi u. 15. ☎ 200-006



A special natural treasure of the town is the **pasturage in Martinka** with its turf and wet sandy meadows and the surrounding oak forest outside the town, which belong to the Hajdúsági Nature Reserve Area. Hajdúsámson has a significant 82 hectares of nature reserve area.

**János Bardi's collection of cast iron stoves** is a unique tourist attraction, which can be visited in the Museum. The collection consists of approximately 180 stoves, just as many coal-heated irons, 80 iron mortars, small plastic art pieces. It is especially interesting about the stoves that their places of origin cover entire Hungary, as they were produced in the various former iron factories such as: Dolha, Anina, Munkács-Frigyesfalva, Kalán, Ruszkabánya, Hisnyóvíz, Bólyai Kemence, Debreceni Patkógyár. The oldest pieces of the collection derive from the end of the 1700s.

In the centre, in Kossuth Street, the **reformed church** (see cover page), a historic building built at the end of the 19th century can be seen. The memorial plaque of Bálint Tóth, the minister serving the community from 1841 to 1890, was unveiled in 2001 in the churchyard. He wrote "Data to the history of the reformed church of Sámson" in 1880, which is a very valuable source for the study of local history.

Several public monuments can be seen in the centre, in Szabadság square.

The oldest one is **the memorial monument of the World War**, the statues of which were made by László Némethy. The monument originally commemorated the 273 victims of the 1st World War, but a marble plaque was added in 1998 listing the names of the 122 soldiers who were killed and the 188 Jews, who were deported in the 2nd World War. A ceremony is held every April.

**The memorial tree of Imre Harangi**, the famous son of the town, grows next to the monument. The oak was planted on the memory of his success at the Olympic Games of 1936. The tree is 18-20 tall today and next to it a memorial plaque was unveiled in 2000 by the sport club bearing his name.

The piece of art called "**Petőfi's tree**" (see front page) was created by E. Lakatos Aranka. The statue was unveiled in 1998 in honour to the 150th anniversary of the 1848-49 revolution and war of independence. The monument was erected on the initiative from the municipality with the support of Public Fund for the Development of Hajdúsámson and local enterprises.

The **1956 monument** unveiled in 2002 and bestowed upon the town by the 1956 Order.

The newest public piece of art is the **Monument of Trianon**, which has commemorated by the local government for its 90th anniversary in 2010.



*Stove collection*



*Organ of the Reformed Church*



*Monument of Trianon*





*Folk dancers of the school*



*Majorette meeting*



*National Ceremony 15<sup>th</sup> March*



*St Stephen's Day*



*Ceremony at the World War Monument*



### *Archeological Findings*

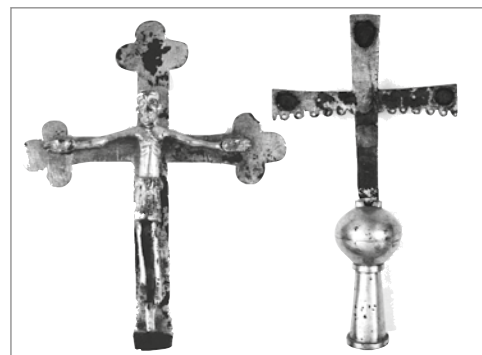
Archeological findings from as early as the middle Bronze Age have been found in the area of Hajdúsámson. The collection of twelve war-axes and a beautifully ornamented sword called the Treasure of Hajdúsámson, which had been hidden in the ground **in the middle of the second millennium BC**, is stored in Museum Déri in Debrecen. Findings from the Iron Age and ones of Sarmatian origin have also been excavated in the Hajdúsámson-Csemetekert area. Pottery findings from the 9<sup>th</sup>–11<sup>th</sup> century indicate the presence of Avar people who were oversettled by the conquering Hungarians. One of the richest findings from the Conquest Period is the well-equipped horse tomb found in 1906 on the so-called Majorsági area. A golden object from this period was found in 1997 on the courtyard of the Liget-tanya school.

### *Sámson in the Middle Ages*

The first written documents about the settlement date back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century. It is first mentioned under the name Túrsámson **in 1213** in the so-called Várad Registry of a hot-iron-trial. Research has shown that both parts of this early name originate in personal names and refer to former landlords of the settlement.

The town is called Sámson in the Várad Episcopal Registry of Thites **between 1291 and 1294**. The settlement must have belonged to the smaller villages of the decimal district on the basis of the amount of the granary thites collected. Two red copper crosses from the 13<sup>th</sup> century have been found in the Diósvár grapeyards. As far as the landlords are concerned, it is the Gutkeled family, whose residence is documented at the earliest date. Sources mention another settlement called Sámson, the so-called Szalóksámson, which, however, had been deserted just like other nearby villages.

Túrsámson is mentioned in King Sigismund's certificate **in 1399** concerning the donation of the local customs. In the following few centuries the settlement is simply referred to as Sámson. We do not have direct information about the life of the local peasantry, but they must have lived the life of an average Hungarian village in the Middle Ages, which was based (both socially and economically) on the units of ground-pieces. These were made up of two elements: the internal site (the house and courtyard) and the inseparable right to use the undivided fields and meadows around the village. Besides arable farming, keeping a significant amount of livestock contributed to the living expenses.



*Crosses from the Árpád era*



*Catholic church*



*Cottage*



### *The Turkish reign and Rákóczi's camp*

Sámson passed under Turkish rule **in 1552** and had to pay taxes. In this era, the village had to survive both Turkish and imperial devastation.

Based on a contemporary registry of peasant ground-pieces, the population is estimated to have been 0 650 but in 10 years' time it was so deserted that it is referred to as a desolate region. Later it belonged to Transylvania but the residents kept paying taxes to the Turks, which wasn't unusual at the time. At the beginning of the 1600s it became deserted again and an agreement had to be made for its re-peopling. It had to survive some more devastation during this century and the situation didn't get better when the Turks left because the fights between pro-Austrian and Pro-Hungarian troops broke out. According to the registry of 1692 it was one of the poorest village in Bihar county. By the end of the century Debrecen, owing more than half of the property in Sámson, gains on significance. The relationship with the town has an impact on the spread of reformation as well. Citizens are proud of the memory of **26<sup>th</sup> July 1703**, when the camp of Rákóczi II arrived in Sámson. This memory is preserved in the living legend of the so-called Bényei poplar.

### *The feudal village*

A valuable source of data about the economy and local relations is the questionnaire including nine clauses on the socage situation, which is also noteworthy for featuring the present court of arms of the settlement. According to the first national census (1784–1787), Sámson had a population of about one and a half thousand and from this time on the population was quickly increasing. Although quite a few noblemen live here, Sámson is a peasant village nevertheless and the socio-economic relations are defined by the socage situation. By the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century industrialisation begins, an example of which is Imre Budaházy's spirits-factory.

During the war of independence (1848-1849) the town set up three troops of 240 soldiers. After 1848 the emancipation of serfs took place here as well. In the 1850s there was a socage-process, after which a new order of land tenure came into force. Several changes took place in the life of the village during the period of the dual monarchy. It became a so-called large village **in 1871** and it was attached to Hajdú county **in 1876**. Since then the prefix Hajdú is used in the settlement's name. Although the village bears traces of the process of industrialisation and the development of the bourgeois status and mentality, all in all it has mostly agricultural features. The foundation of the Reading Association, Women's Society



*Bust of Ferenc Rákóczi II. in the school building*



*Old house (1866)*



*Town events and ceremonies are organised by this institute, the most important of which are the following:*

**15<sup>th</sup> MARCH** Commemoration and wreathing ceremony at the Petőfi statue

**THE LAST SUNDAY OF APRIL** – Commemoration and wreathing ceremony at the World War Monument. The event has been organised since 1995 on the initiative from Vitéz István Bakó, a retired parachutist.

**1<sup>st</sup> MAY** – all day open air programme on the sports field.

**ST STEPHEN'S DAY** – It is traditionally organised on the eve of the memorial day of the state foundation, on 19th of August. Entertaining groups arriving in Debrecen for the flower carnival make the programme more colourful.

**28<sup>th</sup> AUGUST DAY OF THE TOWN** (because the town status awarded in August 2004)

**23<sup>rd</sup> OCTOBER.** – Ceremony of commemoration. The title “Citizen of Honour” is awarded on this occasion.

**CHRISTMAS FLOODLIGHT** – First Sunday of Advent

In addition to the above list of events, several children performances, exhibitions and courses offer the community a lively cultural life.

## *Sport, freetime*

There are two sports club in the town, and the sports activities of the school are also significant.

The sports field has a football pitch covered with asphalt and one covered with grass and footballers play within the organisational framework of the Technical Mass and Youth Sport and Freetime Club. The adult team plays in the 1st division of the county and there is coaching for the new generation in children, youth and adolescent teams as well. The Harangi Imre Sport Club runs sections for boxing, table tennis, chess and horse carriage driving.

There are four playgrounds in the town, in Radnóti Street, in Szeder Street, in Martinka and in Oncsa (parts of settlement). Health and recreational programs can be pursued in the fitness centre in Radnóti Street, where there is a gym, a sauna and a solarium.



*Sports Hall*



*Imre Harangi Memorial Boxing Contest*



*Imre Harangi's Oak*



Freetime is organized in a way so that talents can be fostered in the following fields: folk dance, theology, folk crafts, drama, foreign languages, gymnastics, music kindergarten, painting and drawing, football school. From the parents' initiative and with the support of the employees, the Fund for Nursery School Children of Hajdúsámson was founded in 1997 with the aim of improving the standard of kindergarten life and providing a wider range of toys and equipment.

### ***Municipal Infant School***

The municipal infant school is located in the heart of Hajdúsámson, where a friendly, safe, well equipped and nice environment contributes to the optimal mental and physical development of the children. The community rooms have been furnished in a way that matches the infants' needs. Their range of toys is ideal for the physical and mental development of all age groups. There is a garden with trees and a lawn, which is very popular with the children.

### ***Family Social Service and Care Centre***

The institute was established in 1997 in order to handle social issues. The organisation helps those in need in many areas, its services include family assistance and care, catering, problem-management, household assistance, psychological counselling and legal advising, a club for the elderly, a self-help club for addicts, summer camps for schoolchildren.

### ***Children Welfare Service***

Having been established in 1997, the institute's profile is to manage tasks identified by the law on the protection of children and custody. It provides information about the rights of parents and children, and about what kinds of financial and social forms of support and supply there are. The service gives assistance with the management of legal and official affairs and provides legal advice and psychological counselling, helps families solve their problems, especially if it concerns children being able to live in families. If necessary, the institute organises freetime activities

### ***Petőfi Sándor Library, Culture House and Museum***

The public library has nearly 16000 volumes. Besides traditional library services, free Internet access is provided on ten computers for the population.

There are three art groups working in the culture house: two Majorette Groups, „Muskátli” Folk Song Club, Needlework Club.



*Muskátli Folk Song Club*



### *Between the two World Wars*

The population had a steady increase until the First World War, according to the national census of **1910** the village had 5000 residents. A community newspaper called Hajdúsámson News was launched in 1911.

273 citizens fell victim to the World War I, who are commemorated by a monument in the centre of the settlement. The socio-economic crisis between the two world wars had its impact here as well. Those owning land had problems with production and sales and the problems of those not having land were not solved with the reform on land. Churches were organically integrated in the life of the village due to their schools and social activities. The new war brought misery and insecurity again. 122 people died at the front, 188 Jews were deported.

### *Public facilities are built*

Village life was re-adjusted to the socio-economic and political changes after the war. Agriculture still played a crucial role due to the production co-operatives. Life was slowly reorganised, production, education and cultural life were re-launched. The nationalisation of properties was in process. There was a local movement **in 1956** and a Revolutionary Committee was established.

The biggest achievement of the period was the establishment of public utilities. By 1952 electricity was installed all over the village, water works was built and more and more houses were linked to the water-supply network. **In 1971** Hajdúsámson was given the status of a big village. There were few opportunities of employment as the local co-operative, metal works, canning factory, shops and civil services provided work only for few. In 1985, 82% of those capable of work commuted to work. The development of the settlement was stagnant.

### *After the political changes*

After the political changes a municipality-system was introduced. Development has accelerated in the private sphere, large enterprises have been set up providing more employment, but the number of private businesses has also been high. By the middle of the 1990s the telephone and gas network was almost entirely completed, garbage collection was organised. The health care service has improved. **Between 1990 and 2003** the number of population increased by 3500, which is primarily due to the fact that the settlement – being close – attracts families wanting to move from Debrecen. In 2001 a new school with a gym was inaugurated as the biggest investment in the history of the town. The municipality has applied for the extension of a nursery school. **The town status awarded in 2004 implies that the settlement entered a new era of development.**

### **Biography:**

- The History and Ethnography of Hajdúsámson, edited by István Gazdag, Hajdúsámson, 2000
- The Library of a Hundred Hungarian Villages, Hajdúsámson, edited by István Gazdag



*1956 Monument*



*Pharmacy Sámson*



*Healthcare Centre*



*Pharmacy Hárs*

The health care system provides a high quality service with three general practitioners, two paediatricians, two dentists, a central emergency service, maternal and infant care, five welfare workers and a school nurse. There is also a laboratory in the medical centre for the health service of the population.

There are more and more flats and houses as the population grows. There were 3,757 residential buildings registered in 2003, a hundred of which were newly built.



*Private House*



*Private House*



The settlement has the basic technical and human infrastructure, its degree of supply matches the average level in the county. Gas, telephone and electricity are available everywhere in the town. Drinking water is available in 98 % of the area. Drinking water is provided from three deep-bored wells, which supply the additional settlements Sámsonkert and Martinka as well. The cable TV network is being extended. Solid waste has been deposited since 1995, communal refuse is transported on a weekly basis. The selective collection of refuse has also been possible since 2004.

Town leaders still have a considerable amount of work to do, e.g. building canals, making roads free of dust, covering roads with solid plaster. Their aim is to build a complete waste canal system, which will have been finished by 2006 with the support of the EU.

## PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

### *II. Rákóczi Ferenc Primary and Art School*

It is an institute with multiple educational objectives providing primary education in eight years and artistic training in twelve years. The central building was inaugurated in 2001 in which there are forty-nine classrooms, a huge assembly hall, a large sports hall, a library, computer rooms, a modern kitchen and a dining room. There are member schools in Sámsonkert and Martinka.

Since 1963 a section for mentally slightly disabled has also been in operation. Also an evening school opened a couple of years ago as a member school of the Budakalász High School.

The artistic training has been continuously extending its range of courses. At present schoolchildren can improve their skills in three artistic branches: they can learn how to play the piano, the pipe, the flute, the violin, brass instruments and the cither, dance folk dances, painting and learn music theory and solmization.

### *Eszterlánc Nursery School*

The dynamic growth in population is reflected in an increase of the number of children going to nursery school. The nursery school can be found in the centre of town in separate buildings close to the school. In order to increase its capacity, the municipality has applied for the financial means of the extension. New building which consists of 500 space has been presented in 2007. The children going to the nursery school come from all over the town and the nearby settlements.



*School*



*Nursery School*