**Pigot & Co Directory 1840 for Sussex, Bexhill, Pevensey & Westham**

**BEXHILL** is a village and parish, in the hundred of its name and rape of Hastings, between five and six miles west from that town, and sixty-four S.S.E. from London; pleasantly situated on a commanding eminence overlooking he sea, and on the road from Brighton to Hastings. It is an inconsiderable town in respect of trade, but is visited in the summer months, for the purpose of sea bathing, by a few respectable families, for whose accommodation there are machines on the beach, which is about half a mile from the village. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a respectable looking edifice, especially when seen from the beach, and imparts and air of importance to the place, to which, in fact, it has no real claim: the benefice is a vicarage, in the patronage of the Bishop of Chichester. The Wesleyan Methodists have a chapel, and there is a school for poor children, conducted upon the national system. A small fair is held here on the first of July. The parish contained, by the returns for 1831, 1,931 persons.

**PEVENSEY** is a parish and member of the town and port of Hastings, in the lowey and rape of its name, about four miles from Bexhill. Though now but a small village, it was formerly a town of consequence and a good seaport; its decline has been caused by the receding of the sea, and its only shadow of importance remaining is that of its having a bailiff, jurats and commonalty for its government; who have power to try prisoners for petty offences, for which purpose quarter sessions are held. Pevensey bay is rendered famous for having been the landing place of William the Conqueror. The only object deriving notice at the present day is the ruins of the castle, of great antiquity and extend, evidently of Roman construction; and before the reign of James I was a parcel of the possessions of the dutchy of Lancaster. The fortress is of a circular form, having an area of seven acres: on the south side is a moat, and within is a smaller fortification, also moated; on the north and west are round towers, formerly entered by draw bridges. The east wall stands on what appears to be a cliff, as if the sea had once come up to it; but this is contradictory to the appearance of the village below, from which the waters must have receded before the castle was built. The church, which is dedicated to St. Nicholas, and stands near the eastern entrance to the castle, is of great antiquity, and its interior is adorned with several ancient monuments. The living is a vicarage, in the gift of the chancellor in Chichester cathedral. A national school, for the education of children of both sexes, and five almshouses, are the charities. A fair is held on the 5th July for cattle and pedlery. The parish contained, by the last returns, 343 inhabitants.

Adjoining to the parish of Pevensey is that of **WESTHAM**; the village is inconsiderable, possessing nothing meriting particular notice. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small and ancient edifice: the living is a vicarage, in the patronage Lord George Cavendish. Population of the parish, in 1831, 752.

**POST OFFICE**, BEXHILL, Henry Mate, *Post Master*. – Letters from BATTLE and all parts arrive every morning at ten, and are despatched every afternoon at four in winter and five in summer.

**GENTRY AND CLERGY.**Brook Mr. Arthur, Bexhill  
Brown Mrs. - , Bexhill  
Burch Rev. Thomas, D.D. Vicarage, Bexhill  
Day Richard, esq. Bexhill  
Grace Rev. Henry Thos. Westham  
Nouaille Rev. Julius, Pevensey  
Whiteman John, esq. Westham  
Wilson Stephen, esq. Bexhill

**ACADEMIES.**Holland Miss, Bexhill  
Jefferson John, Bexhill  
Jefferson M.A. Bexhill

**BAKERS.**Barham Thomas, Pevensey  
Ockenden James, Bexhill  
White Daniel, Bexhill  
BOOT AND SHOE MAKERS.  
Barnard Thomas, Bexhill  
Coppard Thomas, Pevensey  
Gilham John, Bexhill  
Miller Charles, Westham  
Miller Edward, Westham  
Pattenden John, Westham  
Pelling Deering, Bexhill  
Prior Edward, Bexhill

**BUTCHERS.**Geering Arthur, Westham  
Thwaites Thos. (& salesman), Bexhill  
Vincent Stephen, Bexhill

**CARPENTERS.**Geering James, Westham  
Ockenden Samuel, Bexhill  
Parker John, Bexhill

**CHYMISTS AND DRUGGISTS.**Ford William, Bexhill  
Harman, John, Bexhill

**COAL MERCHANTS.**Barrow Stephen, Bexhill  
Fowler Wm. (and maltster), Pevensey

**GROCERS AND DEALERS IN SUNDRIES.**Britt James, Bexhill  
Honisett James, Westham  
Kenward William, Westham  
Oliver Joseph, Bexhill  
Ranson Stephen, Bexhill  
Reeves Henry (and draper), Bexhill  
Russell Ann, Pevensey  
Stanley Elizabeth, Bexhill  
Stone R.B. Pevensey  
Stride Robert, Bexhill  
Walters Ann, Westham

**INNS AND PUBLIC HOUSES.**Bell (& posting), Peter Smith, Bexhill  
Castle, Thomas Pearce, Pevensey  
New Inn, Peter Balcomb, Pevensey  
New Inn, Michael Bean, Westham  
New Inn, Richd. Cousins, Sidley grn  
Queen’s Head, John Mauley, Bexhill  
Wheat Sheaf, Thos. Miller, Bexhill

**MILLERS.**Crisford Charles & Son, Westham  
Hayward Samuel, Bexhill  
Thomas William, Bexhill  
White Daniel, Bexhill

**SMITHS.**Geering Henry, Westham  
Sinden John, Bexhill  
Sinden William, Bexhill  
Weston William, Bexhill  
Winborn Arthur, Bexhill

**SURGEONS.**Bretton Thomas, Bexhill  
Duke Walter, Bexhill

**WATCH MAKER.**Dallaway Thomas (and stationer and hardwareman), Bexhill

**WHEELWRIGHTS.**Barrow Stephen, Bexhill  
Edmonds George, Bexhill  
Geering Aaron, Westham

**Miscellaneous.**Barnard James, bricklayer, Westham  
Flemming John, bookbinder, Bexhill  
Lynn Roger, tailor, Bexhill  
Mewett Robert, cooper, Bexhill  
Morris George, fruiterer, Bexhill  
Rich William, saddler, Bexhill  
Smith & Crowhurst, plumbers, &c. Bexhill  
Tester John, gardener & seedsman, Bexhill  
Thomas George, auctioneer and surveyor, Bexhill

**COACHES.**To **BRIGHTON**, the *Hero* (from Hastings) every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday; goes through Bexhill, Westham, Pevensey, Eastbourne, Lewes, &c.  
To **HASTINGS**, the *Hero* (from Brighton) every Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

**VANS.**For Passengers and Goods.  
To **BRIGHTON**, - Orton’s *Van* (from Hastings), every morning at ten; - Elgar, daily (Sunday excepted) 0 andd – Reed, every Monday, Wednesday and Friday; all go through Bexhill, Westham, Pevensey, Eastbourne, Lewes, &c.  
To **HASTINGS**, - Orton’s *Van* (from Brighton), every afternoon at three – and – Reed, every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

**CARRIERS.**To **BATTLE**, Edward Ling, every Monday.  
To **EASTBOURNE**, Edward Ling, from Pevensey, every Tuesday and Saturday.  
To **HASTINGS**, Elizabeth Gander, from Bexhill, daily – Aaron Banks, every Tuesday & Friday – and Thomas Diveall, every Wednesday and Saturday.  
To **LEWES**, - Manser, from Pevensey, every Friday.