

Timeline information - Seaside towns

Worthing

- 1845 Worthing railway station opens, connecting Worthing to London via Brighton
- 1850 Board of Health enquiry finds that bad drainage and discharging of sewage onto the beach were causing a health hazard
- 1852 Local Board of Health is set up to run the town
- 1853 - 1857 Water supply improved with the laying of water mains
- 1857 Mains sewer is installed in Worthing
- 1862 Opening of first Worthing pier
- 1867 Worthing water supply is improved with new well
- 1868 Worthing gasworks are enlarged
- 1870s Market gardening becomes an important industry as new techniques in construction and ventilation make it possible to build larger glasshouses to grow fruit and vegetables
- 1878 New mains sewers are built
- 1882 Worthing gasworks are enlarged again
- 1893 A typhoid epidemic causes over 1,000 deaths

Littlehampton

- 1847 First gasworks are opened
- 1853 Local Board of Health is set up to run the town
- 1863 Littlehampton branch railway line opens
- 1863 The London Brighton and South Coast Railway (LBSCR) company starts a steamboat service from Littlehampton Harbour across the Channel to France
- 1871 The Wey and Arun Canal closes and Littlehampton Harbour is no longer connected to London
- 1880s The shipbuilding industry declines as wooden sailing ships are replaced by large iron and steel steamships
- 1881 New water mains and a drainage scheme are completed
- 1882 The LBSCR stops running the cross-channel steamboat service from Littlehampton
- 1887 A new railway line at Ford connects Littlehampton to the Mid-Sussex line, giving faster access to London
- 1893 Littlehampton becomes an Urban District

Summary of Changes - The Census: Population growth of Sussex towns

Bognor Regis

- 1852 Opening of first gasworks in Bognor
- 1864 Bognor branch railway line opens
- 1865 Opening of Bognor pier
- 1866 Local Board of Health is set up to run the town
- 1879 Water supply is improved with Bognor's first water mains

Shoreham-by-Sea

- 1841 Shoreham-Brighton-London railway line is completed
- 1854-5 eastern section of Shoreham harbour is extended, with a lock at its entrance so that ships can dock at high or low tide.
- 1870 Portslade gas-works are built, near Shoreham Harbour
- 1870s Chemical works open on Shoreham Beach (using gas by-products)
- 1877-78 the last two sailing ships are built in Shoreham