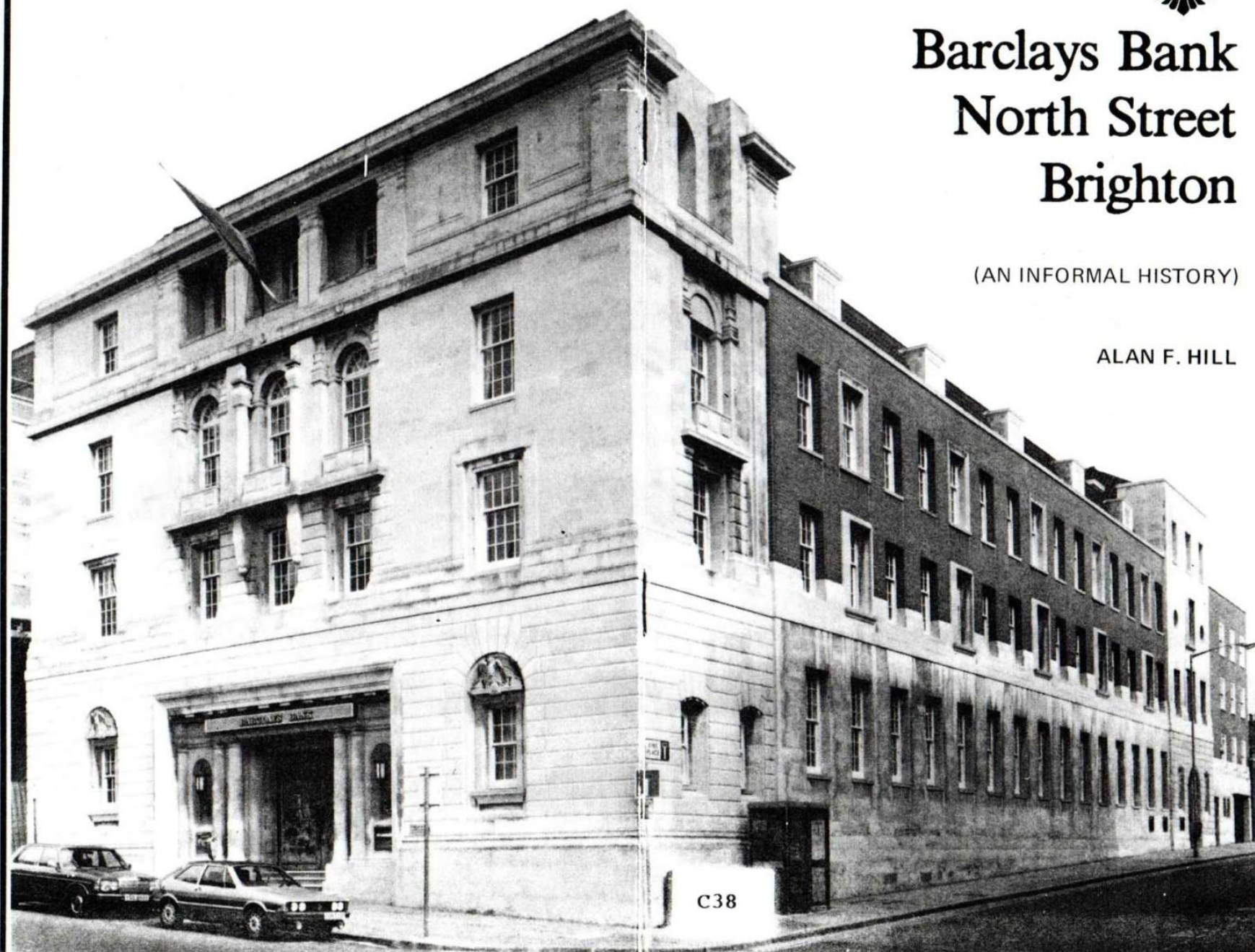




# Barclays Bank North Street Brighton

(AN INFORMAL HISTORY)

ALAN F. HILL



ILLUSTRATIONS

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2 September 1988

I am very pleased that Alan Hill has written this history of Barclays Bank North Street, Brighton, and I am delighted to accept his invitation to write a foreword to it.

He has written it at a particularly opportune time, shortly after the amalgamation of the former Brighton District with Maidstone District to form the new South East Region. A great deal of time and effort has gone into research for this task, and the result is the most comprehensive history written of the bank in Brighton. I commend it to all members of the staff of the former Brighton District, especially those who have served in Brighton itself.

David W. Hill



## PREFACE

The development and growth of Brighton has been particularly well documented over the years, but Brighton's only surviving locally formed commercial bank has received scant attention. Its history was originally reviewed in a chapter of Matthews & Tuke, History of Barclays Bank published in 1926 and it is now time to widen and add to this view.

A F HILL  
LEWES

MAY 1988

## INTRODUCTION

Provincial bankers developed and multiplied during the second part of the 18th and early 19th centuries, and it was in this environment that banking developed in the expanding town of Brighton, with the first recorded instance being in 1787 when Thomas Harben and Associates opened an office. It was a volatile time for the infant banking industry, for during the period 1787-1842 seven private banks were formed in the town, but only one survived, the Brighton Union Bank later to be merged with Barclay & Co. of Lombard Street, London in 1894.

The first two banking firms to open in Brighton had their roots in Lewes, where they had previously traded. In fact, there are records of Provincial Bankers operating in that town as early as 1767, some twenty years before any recorded activity in Brighton.

The first provincial bankers were wealthy, respectable, solvent folk, being well respected in the community for their integrity and honesty, and were usually drawn from trade, industry or the professions.

Their main function covered four areas of primary finance, though the embryo banker might not deal in all types of activity.

- 1) The receipt of deposits and the provision of a means of payment and remittance.
- 2) Providing facilities to customers by way of loan or discount of bills.
- 3) That of financial intermediaries acting as an agent in seeking outlets for money on behalf of entrepreneurs.
- 4) Remittance of funds between London and the provinces, principally to traders and the collectors of government revenue.

Complete specialisation was however delayed until 1826 when the prohibition of the formation of Joint Stock Banking Companies was lifted. Early banking in consequence was mainly combined with other business pursuits and this greatly coloured the thinking, judgement and policies of the first bankers and subsequently the traditions of English banking.

In the 18th, 19th and early part of the 20th century Provincial Bankers were very involved within the community and could be found as members of management of organisations for local improvement, as was the case with the partners of the Brighton Union Bank and subsequently the Local Directors of Barclays Bank.

Confidentiality restricts any analysis of the growth and development of the bank's business, except to state that from modest beginnings the bank's business has prospered and so has its clients', with Barclays now the largest of the clearers in the town.

## CHAPTER I

The Brighton Union Bank opened for business on the 1st August 1805 and was unique insomuch as its partners were entrepreneurs from both London and the locality, which is an interesting development, for prior to the start of the 19th century the majority of venture capital used to develop the town was predominantly locally based.

The capital brought into the business by the original partners William Golding, James Browne, Nathaniel Hall, Richard Lashmar and Thomas West was £2,000, each individual subscribing £400 and partners were also to be entitled to 5% per annum on their respective shares, prior to any division of profits.

Regrettably, the records have suffered the ravages of time and the background available in respect of some of the partners is rather sketchy, but we will endeavour to give as much background as we can on each individual.

### Partners

#### William Golding

William Golding was a partner in the Borough Bank, who were known as Weston, Sir John Pinhorn & Co. at that time. The firm acted as London Agents to the infant Brighton Union Bank. We assume that Golding was middle aged when he joined the firm for he died in 1807 and it is recorded that his capital was returned to his Executors in 1808 but at that time no profits had been made.

#### James Browne

Little is known of the origins of James Browne or of his involvement in the firm.



### Nathaniel Hall III

A member of a well known Sussex yeoman farming family with roots in the area from the late 1500s. Apart from his farming activities Nathaniel Hall had many local business interests, he was a member of a brewing partnership in Southwick, undertook corn and flour broking in Lewes, had an interest in a wine merchants in North Street, Brighton and recent research has established that he was also involved in another banking venture in the area. This was the Lewes Bank which was formed in September 1805 and traded for 20 years finally ceasing operations during the panic of 1825, (See Appendix 5). In the early development of Brighton wealthy local farmers lent money as mortgages and bonds to the developers of the town and it is assumed that Nathaniel Hall's entry into private banking was by this route. The family farm was situated at Southwick and the farmhouse is now used as a Community Centre.

### Richard Lashmar

A member of an old Brighton family, in fact a John Lashmar was Headborough of Brighthelmstone in 1750 and Kings and Window Tax Collector in 1753. Richard Lashmar had a considerable commercial base in the town in the early 1800s and appears to have been a man of entrepreneurial flair. He was proprietor of a grocer's and draper's business at 15 Middle Street, owned two lodging houses in Marine Parade and Old Steine and appears to have been involved in a coal merchant's business with a Mr. Brown and Mr. Hargreaves from premises in West Street, Middle Street and Ship Street.

Lashmar abandoned the banking partnership in 1818 to start the banking firm of Lashmar and Muggridge who were known as Brighton & Sussex Bank and traded from premises in St. James's Street. This had a very short life and was caught up in the panic of 1825. It closed its doors for a time, opened up again in 1826 but finally collapsed for good in 1828.

In 1826 Richard Lashmar was in financial difficulties being made bankrupt, and on the 31st May 1826 land he owned was surrendered to his creditors who included Nathaniel Hall

(AMS 5776 ESRO). It is imagined that he quickly obtained his discharge as his bank continued to trade for a further two years.

### Thomas West

We believe that Thomas West was formerly a clerk with Rickman Wigney & Co. Bankers of Castle Square, Brighton, before he joined the Brighton Union Bank. Little is known of his roots, except that he was born in Claines, a village near Worcester. He appears to have moved into the town in his early teens and by the time he joined the Brighton Union Bank he had a good commercial background. He died in 1859 and was succeeded in the firm by his son Henry Thomas West in 1860, who was the issue of his second marriage. Between father and son there was 93 years service to the partnership and firm.



## CHAPTER II

Before the growth and development of the partnership is told, it would be an advantage to give a brief resume of the economic development of the Brighton area. Until the mid-eighteenth century Brighton's economic fortunes rested partially on its sheep - corn agriculture of its downland hinterland, but principally on its fishing fleet. The fishing employment was crucial to the town's prosperity, being very labour intensive and in poor years great hardship was suffered by the whole community.

In 1750 a Dr. Richard Russell of Lewes published a book advocating the use of sea water as a cure for many ills and moved to Brighton and established a successful practice. The brothers of George III visited the town in 1766 to take the waters and in 1783 Brighton was visited by the Prince of Wales. He returned regularly to the town until 1827 and in 1787 had a Marine Pavilion built in the Steine, which was re-modelled by John Nash between 1815-20. Royal patronage was continued by William IV until his death in 1837.

During the period 1750-1837 Brighton developed into a resort of health and fashion and from the onset of the Victorian era the town developed two seasons. The months between Easter and September were devoted to trippers and the less well off, for whom the beach, maritime amusements and the music hall were the attraction. The other months of the year, Brighton was the winter mecca for the fashionable, surpassing Bath as the provincial capital of 'Social Life'. In fact, Brighton was known as London by the sea and even today retains that image.

The completion of the railway in 1841 and the introduction of the excursion ticket was an added stimulation to the town's growth. Brighton's population expanding from 2000 in 1760, 12,000 in 1811, 46,700 in 1841, 126,000 in 1901 to 161,350 in 1971 (the date of the last census).

In this environment of expansion within the local economy the partnership prospered, though its growth was steady, weathering the economic storms that beset the infant banking industry. A major crisis was the loss of confidence in the private Banks nationally during the Autumn of 1825. In fact, there is an interesting series of articles and notices in the Sussex Weekly Advertiser of the 26th December 1825 where gentry and tradesmen re-affirm their confidence in accepting bank notes issued by the Brighton Old Bank, Brighthelmstone Bank and the Brighton Union Bank. The list of names is headed by the Earl of Egremont and must contain at least 150 tradesmen. Also in this edition is a much smaller notice headed by Lord Gage and other persons of substance who guarantee the notes issued by The Lewes Old Bank to the extent of £202,000 for a period of six months.

In this time of economic pressure, competition was reduced in the town for the Brighton Old Bank eventually closed its doors in 1826 as did Richard Lashmar's venture, the Brighton & Sussex Bank. The Brighton Old Bank was originally formed in 1787 by Thomas Harben and failed in 1793 along with his other ventures into banking in both Horsham and Lewes. The Business based in Brighton was continued by Messrs. Shergold Michell Mills & Co. and as previously stated closed for good in 1826.

The Brighthelmstone Bank was formed in 1794 by Richard Peters Rickman and William Wigney. Rickman was originally running a corn dealing and Banking business in the Cliffe, Lewes. He wound up his financial activities in Lewes in 1793, and moved to the expanding Brighton area as did many other Lewesian entrepreneurs during the early development of Brighton. Richard Rickman died in 1801, and his banking activities were continued by his son John Rickman. He withdrew from Brighton in 1814 returning to Lewes to concentrate on his milling and shipping interests. The Banking firm was continued by William Wigney and his sons and failed in 1842 causing a great local scandal.

There is an interesting Barclays connection with the Rickman family for the daughters of John Rickman, the Quaker miller and former Banker of Lewes and Brighton married Jeffrey and Edward Lucas in 1827 & 1836 respectively, who were partners in the Hitchin Bank of Sharples Tuke Lucas & Co. This Bank became part of the Barclays Group on the amalgamation of twenty private Bankers in 1896.

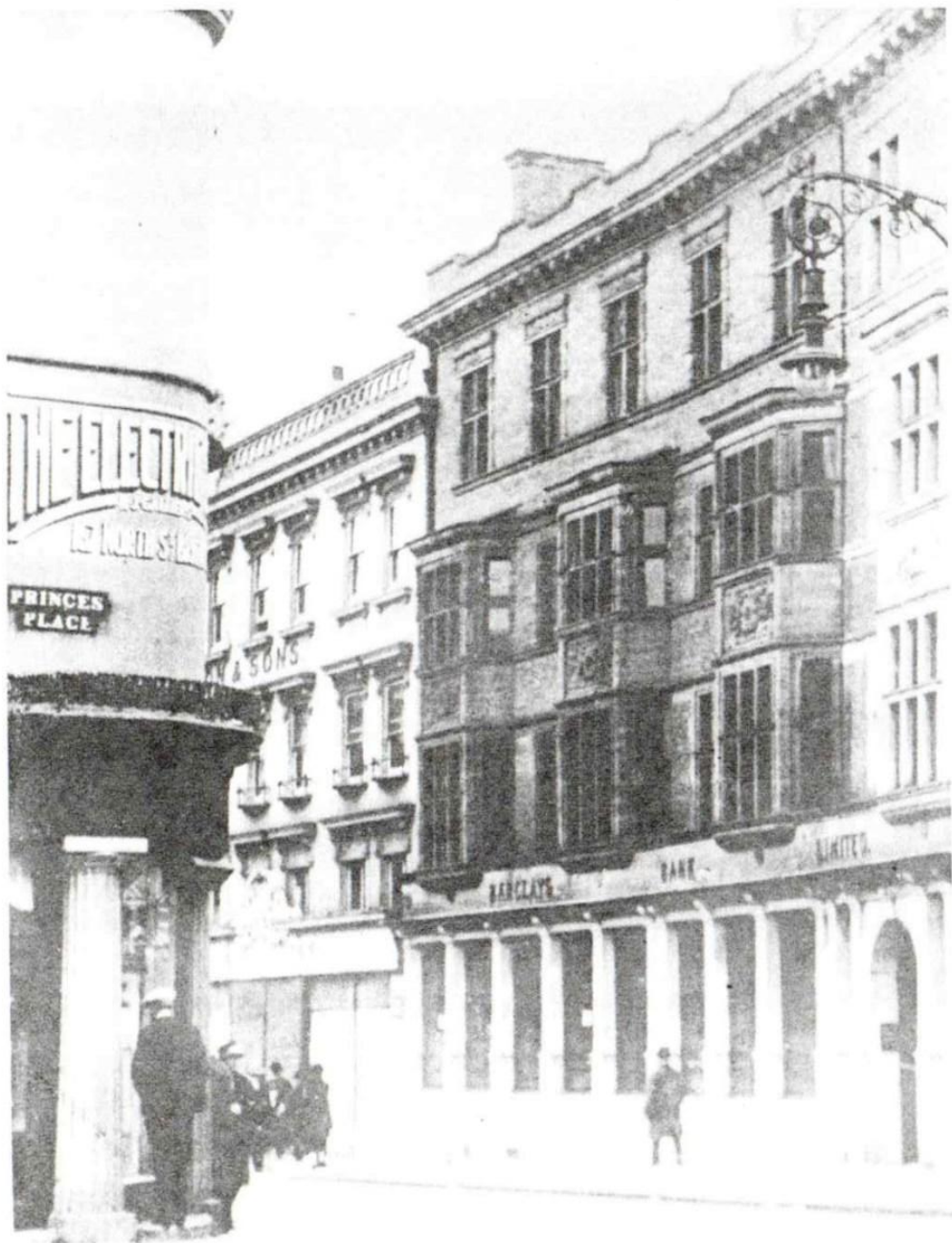
### CHAPTER III

By December 1805 70 accounts had been opened by the partnership for clients and by 1820 this number had risen to 350. The first customer was Daniel Constable, a draper whose shop was at 3 North Street. Daniel Constable sold his business in 1808 with it eventually being purchased during that year by a Mr. S. Hannington. This business has now developed into Brighton's leading Department Store and apart from a short spell at Wigney's Bank has continued to Bank with Barclays.

A letter in the first correspondence book (1805/1809) to the Excise Officers is interesting. It is to solicit the opening of an account, and the partners undertook to guarantee the payment of their notes if accepted by the Excise Officers in payment of excise. Generally all banknotes were guaranteed for payment to the full extent of the partners' private property, but we can only assume that some sort of priority guarantee scheme existed for the Customs & Excise Department. The government had frequently been caught by defaulting bankers and demanded a prior charge on the assets of firms with whom they placed money.

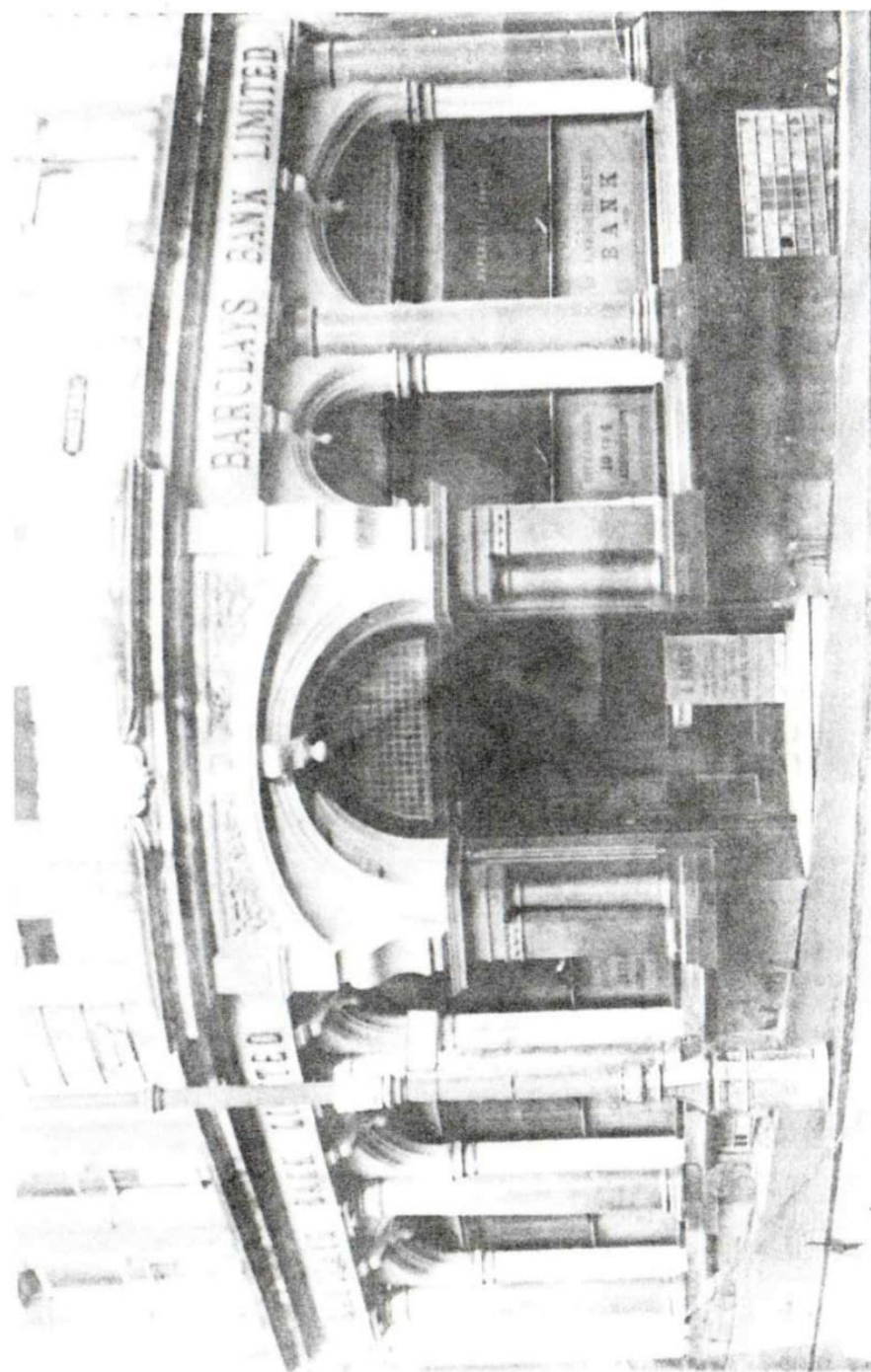
The Bank continued to trade from 6 North Street and over the years acquired Nos. 7, 8 & 9 North Street. It is interesting to see in the Baxter Directory of Brighton of 1822 that apart from the Brighton Union Bank in 6 North Street premises the firm of West & Hall Wines and Spirits Merchants operated, and that business, we understand, continued until 1860. Thomas West is also shown as agent for the Imperial Fire Office.





6 - 9 NORTH STREET BRIGHTON C 1920's

PREMISES NOW INCORPORATED INTO HANNINGTONS DEPARTMENT STORE



CLOCK TOWER BRANCH - PREVIOUSLY LONDON SOUTH WESTERN BANK OFFICE  
PREMISES DEMOLISHED FOR ROAD WIDENING

#### CHAPTER IV

Private Banks of the 18th and 19th Century were permitted to issue their own notes under licence and the Brighton Union Bank did circulate its own paper. The note circulation was fixed by Act of Parliament of 1844 and the firm's figure was set at £33,774 though before that date they did have more notes in circulation. The Partnership suffered a major robbery in 1812 of notes in transit from London. On the 5th February 1812 arrangements had been made by the Borough Bank (Weston Sir John Pinhorn & Co.) the firm's London Agent, to transfer between £3/4000 of notes to Brighton using a secured box locked inside the coachman's box which was fitted beneath the seat of the Blue Coach. This coach ran daily between London and Brighton.

An elaborate plan appears to have been devised by the thieves to effect the robbery. Six persons were booked for inside places including one lady on the coach that day. Only two (a lady and a gentleman) took up their places, the others did not appear, though two gentlemen were then picked up en route.

Upon reaching Sutton the lady was taken suddenly ill and obliged to leave the coach with her companion. On reaching Reigate, the two remaining passengers left the coach to make an enquiry, they, however, returned quickly and told the unsuspecting coachman that the person they were expecting to meet in Brighton had returned to London and they left the coach. The robbery was discovered upon unlocking the seat in the coach on its arrival in Brighton. It is assumed that one of the party picked the lock to the driver's box, while the coach had stopped and the coachman's attention was diverted.

A reward of £300 was immediately offered, although the thieves were never discovered, but attempts were made to pass the notes during the next few years.

In 1820 the stolen notes were still being put into circulation and a caution was published in the Sussex Weekly Advertiser of the 10th July warning the public to be on their guard.

To prevent the circulation of the stolen notes a new series of notes were printed from a plate that would perfectly distinguish the new issue from the stolen notes.



# ROBBERY

OF THE

*Brighton Union Bank Notes,*

OUT OF THE

**BLUE COACH,**

THE 5th OF FEBRUARY, 1812.

## TAKE NOTICE,

YOU are hereby cautioned against receiving any Notes of the above Bank of a date BEFORE THE YEAR 1812; and if any such Notes should be offered to you by any person whomsoever, you are hereby requested to detain such Notes, and give notice to Messrs. BROWNE, HALL, and CO. of Brighton, who will indemnify you for such detention, being stolen property.

Messrs. B. H. and CO. request the proprietor or proprietors of this shop to stick this notice up in a conspicuous part thereof, to serve as a caution, and with a view to the detection of the villains, who are going about the metropolis endeavouring to pass the above Notes.

Alterations have been made to the numbers of most of the Notes, which, independent of their being stolen, render them of no value.

Witness to the delivery of this Notice,

W. FLEET, PRINTER, BRIGHTON.



**BRIGHTON UNION BANK.**

BALANCE SHEET SEPTEMBER 30th, 1891.

[illegible]

We hereby certify from an examination of the Books and Securities of Messrs. HALL, BEVAN, WEST, and BEVANS, that the above Balance Sheet correctly represents their Liabilities and Assets on September 30th, 1891.

C. F. KEMP, FORD & Co.

73, Lombard Street, London.

October 15th, 1891.

ASSETS.		Gr.	
	£	s.	d.
By CASH in hand, and at London Bankers and Discount Houses	180,788	6	0
By INVESTMENTS :—			
„ Consols and other British Government Securities	241,159	19	0
„ India 3 per Cent. Stock	4,778	3	0
„ Railway Debentures and Debenture and Guaranteed Stocks	89,550	4	2
„ Metropolitan Board of Works 3 per Cent. Stock, and City of London Bonds	47,731	16	4
„ Corporation Stocks and Bonds	36,508	5	5
„ Deposits at other Banks	10,000	0	0
„ Colonial Government and other Investments	108,314	8	4
„ Bank Premises	12,114	0	0
„ Bills Discounted, Loans, and Advances	165,004	0	3
	£895,949	2	6



There was no legal requirement for Private Bankers to publish their balance sheets as the Joint Stock Banks had, but in the 1890's it became fashionable to do so and confirm to the public their financial strength and liquidity. However, the publication of an Annual Balance Sheet in no way altered the private character of the Bank, or the responsibility of the Partners to the full extent of their property should the business fail.

The business was taken over on the 22nd August 1894 by Barclay Bevan Tritton Ransom Bouverie & Co. of 54 Lombard Street, London who were looking for an avenue to enter the field of provincial banking. There is little doubt that the extensive local family connection of the Bevans was an important factor in the negotiation that culminated in this amalgamation. Richard Alexander Bevan became a partner in the Lombard Street firm and all other local partners became employees.

In fact from 1891 onwards the Bevan family began to dominate the partnership and in 1896 when Barclay & Co. Ltd., was formed, four members of the family were appointed Local Directors of the Local Head Office that was formed in Brighton at 6 North Street.

They were:-

Richard Alexander Bevan  
Richard Hunter Bevan  
Launcelot Polhill Bevan  
Bertrand Yorke Bevan

During the term of the partnership and overlapping into the Company we have seen three long periods of service by the families involved. Thomas West 1805-1859, Richard A. Bevan 1859-1918, and Bertrand Y. Bevan 1891-1946.

How fortunate for the developing business community of Brighton to have the continuity of financial skills of these individuals within the town.

## CHAPTER VI

The failure of Wigneys Bank in 1842 was one of the most spectacular events in Brighton's economic development and caused a great deal of hardship as its depositors were only paid out one shilling (5 pence) in the pound. The Brighton Union Bank benefitted from this situation and was able to increase its representation by taking over some of the failed bank's business.

The Brighton Commissioners (forerunners of Brighton Corporation) approached John Borrer at that time who agreed to take over the account and advance the sum of £4,448. 3s. 5d. He was also appointed Treasurer, a post he held for twelve years. He retired in 1854 and was succeeded by Eardley Nicholas Hall, again a partner in the firm, in fact a representative of the Bank held the Treasurer's post until 1936. (See Appendix I)

It is not realised today how involved the partners of the firm and subsequently the Local Directors were in the social development of the Brighton area, as in the 19th century people of integrity and proven financial expertise were at a premium. Apart from the Treasurership of Brighton Corporation the partners were Treasurers of the Royal Sussex County Hospital from its creation in 1825 to 1947 when the hospital was integrated into the National Health Service. (See Appendix II) Treasurers of the Brighton Savings Bank from its inception in 1817 until it became part of the South East Trustee Savings Bank organisation and finally Treasurers of the Sussex Mutual Provident Friendly Society, a local scheme which provided sickness benefit, insurance cover and mortgage facilities much supported by the working population before the introduction of the National Insurance Act of 1946. The Bank was, and still is involved in numerous other Public Authorities and Charitable Institutions.

## CHAPTER VII

With the continued expansion of the Brighton Area in the late 1800's the firm began to expand its representation and the following branch offices were opened before the amalgamation:-

Cuckfield 1866	Hove 1871 (Brunswick Place)
Burgess Hill 1877	Haywards Heath 1878
Preston 1880	Shoreham mid 1880's

It is interesting to note that the expansion was in a fifteen mile radius of Brighton and mainly associated with towns enjoying the prosperity brought by the railway.

In 1896 Barclays Bank became a public limited company, with the amalgamation of twenty private banks which were then in business in many parts of the country. The only effect of this merger locally was the transfer of the office of Molineux Whitfeld & Co. (the Lewes Old Bank) from 134 North Street to 178 Western Road. The Branch had opened in 1893 and moved in 1896 finally closing in 1926. A further Branch was opened at 92 Church Road, Hove before the turn of the century.

There was a further increase in our representation in the town when in 1918 the London and South Western Bank Ltd. and the London and Provincial Bank Ltd. were acquired by Barclays Bank. This increased our representation in Brighton by a further three branches, 142 Western Road, Clock Tower and London Road.

After the 1939-45 war the Local Head Office network was consolidated with Lewes Local Head Office merging with Brighton on the 6th May 1946.

In 1959 the main banking office and Local Head Office moved from No. 6 North Street to its present site at 139-142 North Street thus ending a 154 year occupation of the site. At the same time the Clock Tower Branch was closed and its business merged with North Street.

In 1969 a further merger took place with Martins Bank Ltd. being taken over. Martins were represented in North Street, opening in 1936 and finally merging with 139 North Street Branch in 1983.



## CHAPTER VIII

By reference to the 1851 and 1861 censuses we have been able to piece together more background on the partners' roots.

The lineage of the Hall family is well documented back to the late 1500's with the family being based in the Southwick area. The route of involvement goes from Nathaniel Hall III (1755-18 ), to his brother John Hall (1761-1840) and then to his son Eardley Nicholas Hall (1804-1887) to his son John Eardley Hall (1842-1915). The Hall family being involved with the firm throughout its 89 year existence prior to it merging with Barclay Bevan & Co. of Lombard Street. The family chain is further complicated by two of Nathaniel Hall III daughters marrying members of the Borrer family. Ann Hall married John Hamlen Borrer in 1813 and he was a partner in the firm from 1823-1855. Elizabeth Hall married William Borrer. A daughter of this union Ann 1813-1898 married her cousin Eardley Nicholas Hall and finally Emmeline, a daughter of this match married Henry Thomas West (1840-1907) a partner of the Brighton Union Bank and son of one of the original partners Thomas West.

To research the background of the West family proved to be a most difficult task, but it was established that Thomas West (1775-1859) moved into the town from Worcester in his teens and according to his obituary in the Brighton Guardian (27.7.1859) had a business career of over seventy years in the community, beginning as a lodging house keeper in Marine Parade, progressing to bank clerk and finally to the principal proprietor of the Brighton Union Bank. He was alleged to be excessively frugal in his habits, but nevertheless charitable and philanthropic and was also committed to the non-conformist church. In fact he was involved in several dissenter organisations in the town. An interesting pointer to the ultimate direction of the firm is that Robert C.L. Bevan partner in Barclay Bevan & Co. of Lombard Street was also a member of one of

those organisations. Thomas West was twice married and his son of the second marriage Henry Thomas West married a daughter of Eardley Hall. The West family home was 3 Lewes Crescent, Brighton, while Henry West who joined the firm in 1860 lived in the Albourne-Woodmancote area for most of his married life.

The Borrer family is well known in central Sussex being based in the Henfield-Horsham area. The involvement with the Hall family and subsequently the Bank came about by the marriage of two daughters of Nathaniel Hall III to members of the family. According to the 1851 census John Hamlin Borrer, partner in the bank, was living at 19 Gloucester Place, Brighton. The other member of the Borrer family involved was William who lived at Portslade House, a botanist and was well known in Victorian times for his Dictionary on Natural Biography.

The Bevan family involvement with the Union Bank began in 1859 when Richard Alexander Bevan (1834-1918) joined the firm at the age of 24 years, after obtaining a degree at Cambridge. His father was Richard Bevan, the seventh child of Silvanus and Louisa Bevan, the banker of Lombard Street. The family home was situated at 128 Marine Parade, Brighton and it is interesting to note that Richard junior was born in the town in 1834. He married Mary Polhill in 1861 and lived for some time at 17 Brunswick Square, Hove before moving to Cuckfield. His second son Launcelot Polhill Bevan (1863-1919) became a Partner in 1891 and Local Director in 1896, though he retired in 1914 due to ill health. He again lived in Cuckfield.

Next to R.A. Bevan's home in Marine Parade was another Bevan house, 127 Marine Parade - Eastern corner of Marine Square, the marine residence of Robert Cooper Lee Bevan (a partner in the Lombard Street firm). The 1851 census shows the family in residence, together with two visitors and thirteen domestic staff, though the 1861 census shows only a housekeeper and two maids in occupancy, but reference to the street directory for that year confirms that R.C.L. Bevan was still the householder.



Another member of the Bevan family involved with both the partnership and the company was Bertrand Yorke Bevan (1867-1948), son of Francis Augustus Bevan the first Chairman of Barclays Bank. Bertrand joined the partnership in 1891 and retired as a Local Director in 1946. Again he had early links with the area being educated at Rottindean before going to Harrow, and also lived at Cuckfield in his later years.

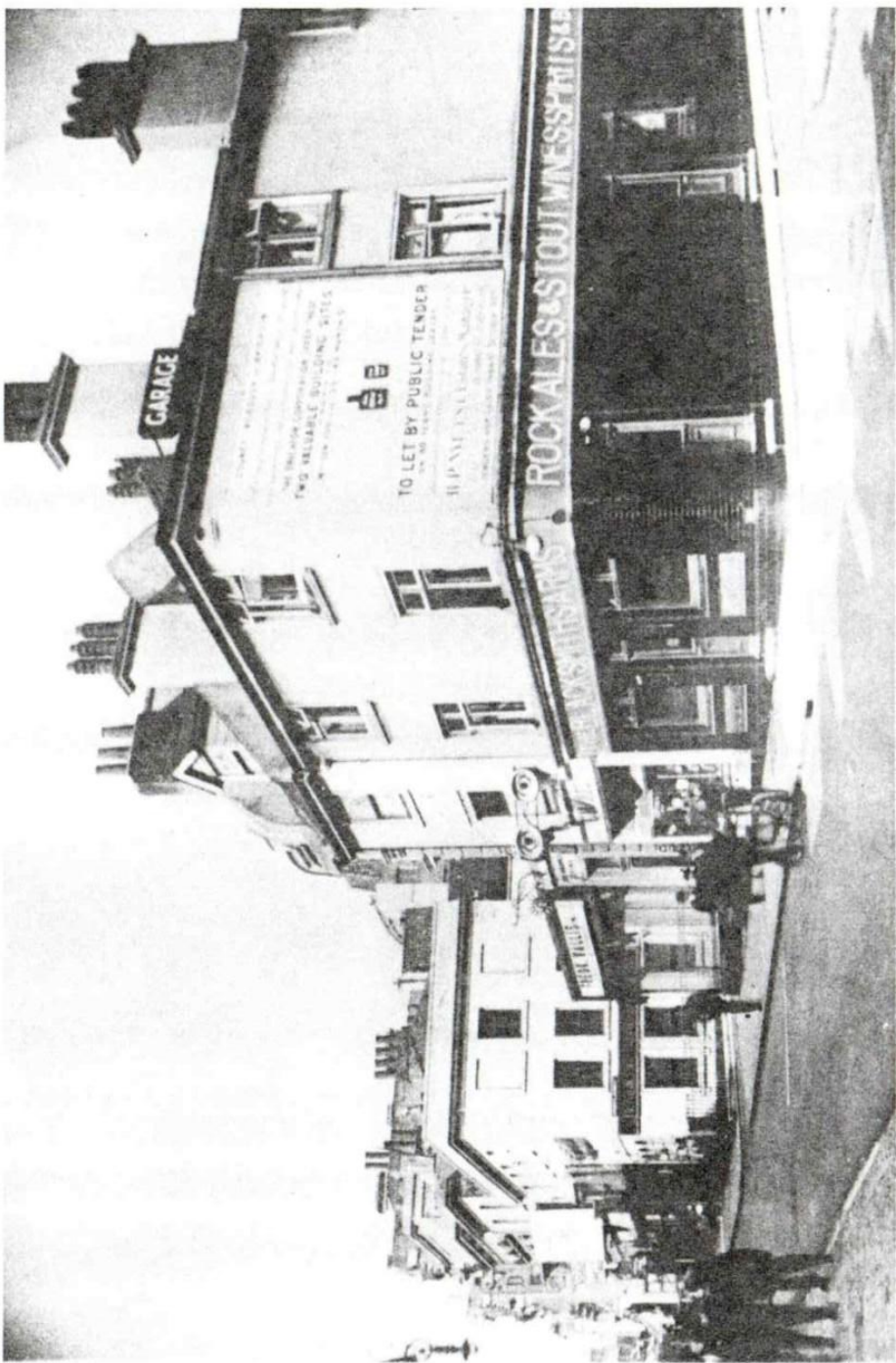
The Hall family were benefactors to the churches at Henfield, Portslade and Southwick and Eardley Hall was also Churchwarden at Henfield for many years. John Eardley Hall gave land for the building of an infants' school in Portslade in 1903. Memorials to the Hall family can be seen at both Southwick and Henfield churches.



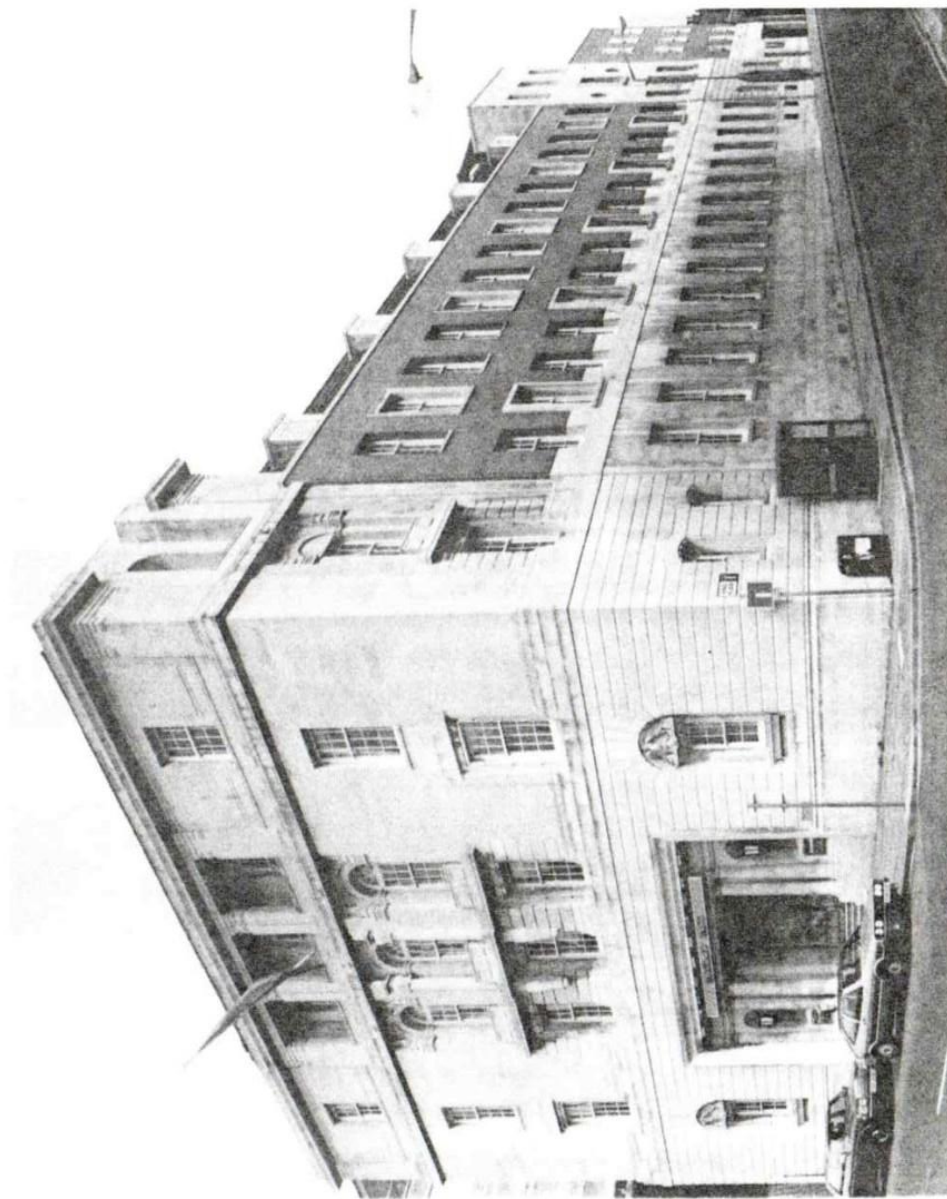
139 NORTH STREET (mid 1920's) SITE THEN OCCUPIED BY FIRM OF  
GENTLEMENS OUTFITTERS BURGHOPE & BURGHOPE

PHOTOGRAPH REPRODUCED BY KIND PERMISSION OF BRIGHTON CORPORATION



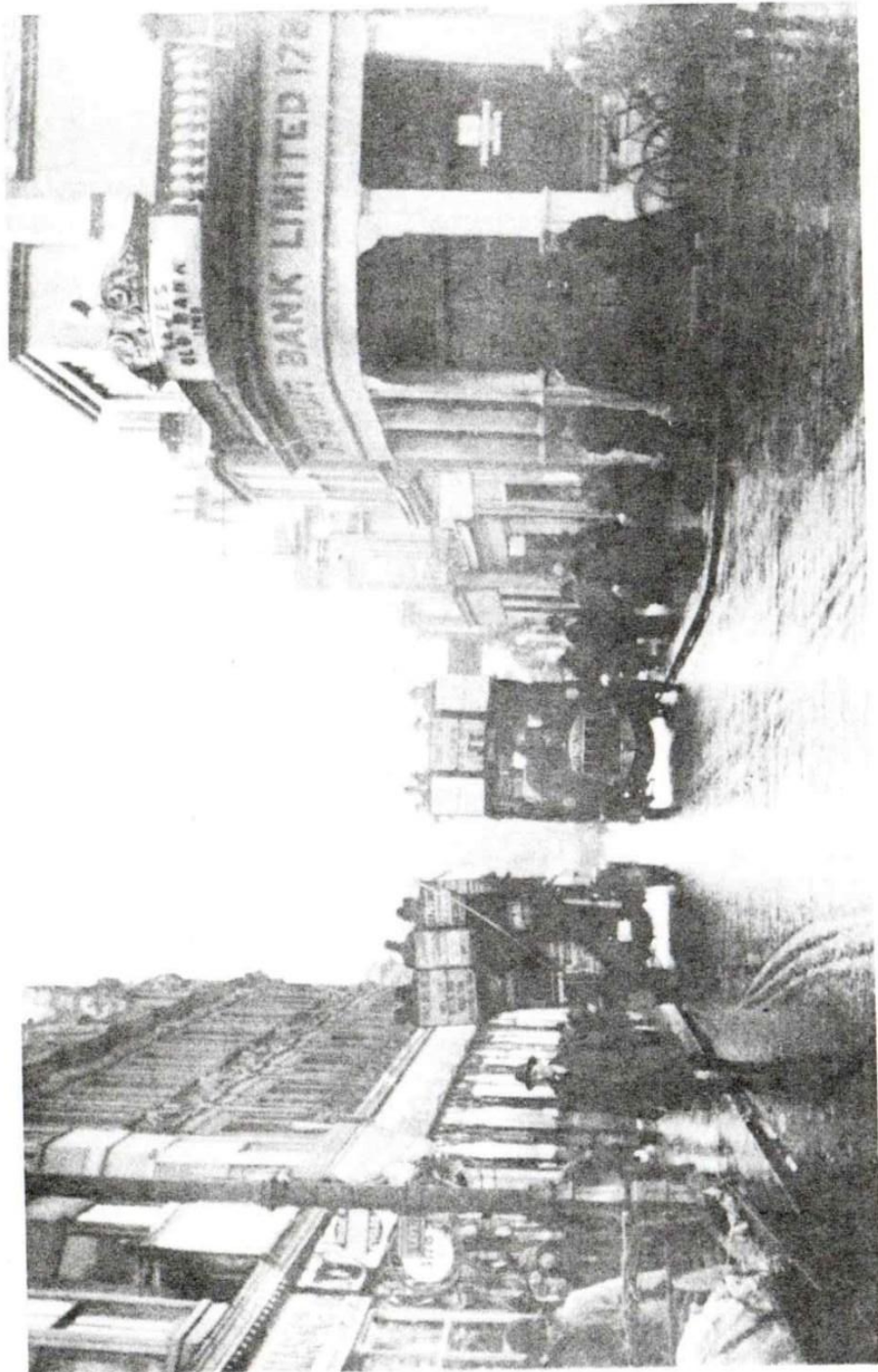


140 - 142 NORTH STREET 1937, PRIOR TO DEMOLITION FOR ROAD WIDENING  
PHOTOGRAPH REPRODUCED BY KIND PERMISSION OF BRIGHTON CORPORATION



139-142 NORTH STREET BRIGHTON C.1988





178 WESTERN ROAD BRIGHTON BRANCH PREVIOUSLY LEWES OLD BANK OFFICE  
DEMOLISHED FOR ROAD WIDENING 1926

PHOTOGRAPH REPRODUCED BY KIND PERMISSION OF MR J. S. GRAY

Before the site between Portland Street and King's Place was developed into our main Branch in Brighton in the 1950s it housed a well known firm of gentlemen's outfitters - Messrs. Burghope & Burghope a small shop and a public house, the Blacksmith's Arms. These properties were demolished in the late 1930's in a road widening scheme. The site was then used for a brick built E.W.S. (Emergency Water Supply) tank for the duration of the War. Upon the cessation of hostilities the area was backfilled and turned into a car park before our present building was erected. Work commenced in 1957 and was completed in March 1959.

Since the early 1980s we have seen the North Street premises developing a new role in Barclay's representation in the town. First as a key branch with an enlarged management team, but more recently a further development has taken place with refurbishment to accommodate the new technology and banking style with North Street becoming a Barclays Business Centre, geared to the specialist needs of the business customer, offering advice and expertise in areas of finance and lending, money transfer, risk management and international trade.

Other offices in the town are now satellites to North Street with the exception of Preston Circus Branch which still retains its independence.

A further development has been the closure of the Brighton Local Head Office and its amalgamation with Maidstone Local Head Office to form a new South Eastern Regional Office which is sited at Haywards Heath.

Again this is a radical change of representation and control within the area, as there has been a Local Head Office in the town since 1896 when Barclay & Co. Ltd. was founded. It is sad that North Street Brighton is reduced to branch bank status after 183 years of leading the local financial community with partners and subsequently local directors in residence.



## APPENDIX II

### Treasurers of Royal Sussex County Hospital

1825		
1840	John Hall of Brighton Union Bank	
1841		
1893	Partners of Brighton Union Bank	
1894		
1935	Barclays Bank Ltd.	
1936	Joint Treasurers B.Y. Bevan Esq.	
1946	and D.G. Pelly Esq.	Local Directors
1947	D.G. Pelly Esq.	Local Director

Taken into the National Health Service

The partnership made two donations worthy of note to the Royal Sussex County Hospital. £100 when the subscription list was opened in 1825 (Sussex Weekly Advertiser Jan. 1825) and £50 in August 1855 on the 50th Anniversary of the firm (Brighton and Hove Herald Jan. 1856). These sums might seem small by today's standards, but inflation has taken its toll of money values over the years.

## APPENDIX III

Partners and Local Directors who held the post of Treasurers to Brunswick Commissioners, who became Hove Commissioners in 1874 and finally Hove Corporation in 1898.

### Brunswick Commissioners

1842 - 1873	Eardley Nicholas Hall	(Partner)
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### Hove Commissioners

1874 - 1886	Eardley Nicholas Hall	(Partner)
1887 - 1897	John Eardley Hall	(Partner)

### Hove Corporation

1898 - 1903	John Eardley Hall	(Partner)
1904 - 1945	Bertrand Yorke Bevan	(Local Director)

Original Treasurership taken over upon the failure of Wigney & Co. in 1842.

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Compiled and written by A.F. Hill AIB who gratefully acknowledges the willing assistance offered him in his researches by :-

East Sussex Record Office, Lewes

Reference Library, Brighton

Sussex Archaeological Society, Lewes

A. McLeod Esq. Archivist - Royal Sussex County Hospital

L. Gunn Esq. of Brighton Corporation

Reference also made to the following publications :-

History of Barclays Bank Ltd.	P. Matthews & A.W. Tuke
An Economic & Social History of the Brighton Area 1500-1900.	Dr. C.E. Brent
Brighton Town Brighton People.	R.A. Dale
History of Brighthelmstone.	J.A. Erredge
Peep into the Past of Brighton.	J.G. Bishop
Georgian Brighton 1740-1820.	Dr. Sue Farrant

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