

## SEAFIELD COTTAGES previously called PINNIERS Collington Lane

This was a small holding of about 7 ½ acres, split into two. The buildings and house field containing 3a 1r 12p lie to the north east corner of Pops Farm on a bend in Collington lane West and South Field containing 4 acres lie to the south west of Pops Farm. This is shown on the farm plan of Birchington Farm dated 1831 (1). Birchington was the earlier name for Pops Farm. The buildings were called 'Homestead' on the Tithe Map of 1839 (2), although Pinniers is shown on the 1851 census. Today's address is Seafield Cottages after the school which was built adjacent to the east (now gone).

### PROPERTY DETAILS (NGR TQ 7158 0751)

These (at the time of my visit 1988) were two cottages but the O.S. Map of 1873 seems to suggest three. The 1899 map shows only two. I visited the owner, Mr Hodder, in October 1988 and he said that they were about 270 to 300 years old. Mr Hodder owned the two cottages and the outbuildings.

The outside finish of the property is pebble in cement being mixed with shingle. The repair work is easy to see as the quality is second rate. The front of the building has been altered, perhaps when the cottages were altered from three to two. It was re-roofed in 1976 and the original tiles were used. The roof timbers are original. On the southern end is a small building butting on to the house. The end wall of the sitting room has a door size opening knocked through to allow access to the building from the inside. This building has two rooms on the ground floor only. Although this outbuilding has had modern window frames put in, it retains very old beams over the windows. The downstairs front room has beamed ceiling but these are not original. All of the windows have been replaced by modern wooden window frames and modern brickwork surrounds.





The shape of the rear of the cottages does suggest that these were always only two cottages. Presumably the front doors were both on the front. Only one is on the front now, the other being on the end opposite the outbuilding. An addition has been made on the end to facilitate this. This addition is very obvious from the rear as it throws the whole shape out of balance and is finished in pebbledash.

The outbuildings opposite the front of the cottages are small buildings. These are a terrace of three. The middle one is a lower building than the other two. These contain very old beams.



(Additional note) The main cottage and outbuildings have had major restoration and the outbuildings have been made into accommodation late 20<sup>th</sup> or early 21<sup>st</sup> century.



The Canadians were billeted here during World Wars I and II and after WWII they had left it in such a state that it was due for demolition but some kind person thankfully rescued it.

#### OWNER/TENANT DETAILS

<1726-1732	William Catt tenant (3)
1732-1736>	Joseph Shoemith tenant (3)
<1831-1851>	Thomas Divall owner/occupier

#### SOURCES

1	Birchington Farm Plan 1831	Bexhill Museum
2	Bexhill Tithe Award 1843	ESRO TD/E 141
3	Rev Ott Tithe Book	ESRO AMS 5641/2