Rye Bay, East Sussex, England
Rye Bay Ordnance Survey in 2000

Slide 2
Rye Bay Sites of Special Scientific Interest
High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Rye Bay Sites of Nature Conservation Importance
Rye Bay coastline today
Shoreline 400 years before present

- Old shoreline
- Present shoreline
- 10 fathom line
- 10 metre contour
Shoreline 2,000 years before present

old shoreline

present shoreline

10 fathom line

10 metre contour

Slide 9
Shoreline 5,000 years before present

old shoreline

present shoreline

10 fathom line

10 metre contour

Slide 10
Shoreline 10,000 years before present
Former Shorelines after Lewis
Shorelines at Rye Harbour

Shingle on the west side of Rye Bay, with coastlines of 1594, 1693, 1763 and 1990. Based on Symondson 1594, Greenville Collins 1693, and Smeaton 1763.
Lewin's 55 BC map

ROMNEY BAY
AND MARSH
55 BC.
Lewin's 14th Century map

2. WALLAND DENGE AND ROMNEY MARSH
AT BEGINNING OF 14TH CENTURY
Lewin's 17th Century map

3. ROMNEY, DENGES AND WALLAND MARSH.

At the end of 17th century

The course of the river Rother has been changed to Rye after the great storm of 1677 when the island of Romney was destroyed & blocked with shingle. At the period of this map the Rother, Esles & Tillingham valleys had also been reclaimed, but these features are not shown.

ENGLISH CHANNEL

Scale: One inch equals one mile

from "The Invasion of Britain by Julius Caesar. T. Lewin. 1862."
Eddison's map of 1590, 1693 and 1990 coastline at Broomhill
Stages of reclamation

STAGES OF RECLAMATION (after ELLIOT, 1847)
Early innings of Romney Marshes
Floyd's map of 13th Century
Saxton’s map of 1579
Norden’s map of 1580’s
Symondson’s map of 1594
Symondson’s map of 1594
Symondson's map of 1594 and Prowze's 1572
Symondson’s map of 1599
Part of Symondson’s 1599 map
Speed’s map of 1610
Blaeu’s map of 1645
Dugdale’s map of 1662
Holloway’s version of Dugdale’s map of 1662

Holloway’s 1849 version of Dugdale’s Map of Romney Marsh and Surroundings
Collins map of 1682
Budgeon’s map of 1724
References

A. Denotes a Body or fall of Beach that seems to be driving down from the Weastward, which will probably form a fresh Point on the West of the old Harbour Mouth, as that now called the outermost Weast Point has been formed within these ten Years. That now called the innermost being then called the outermost and that marked B now called the innermost.

C. Denotes the present termination of the new Canal being at present separated from the Wimblecoa Channel by a Dam raised high Water mark to be removed

D. Denotes that part of the Wimblecoa Channel to be widened and deepened according to the Red

E. Is a new Channel to bring down the River Rother into the Wimblecoa Channel just below the point of Diversion

F. Is to be made a Dam to turn the River Rother down the new Channel.

G. H. E. G. Shows the position of a Sea Wall, running up on the aforeaid to prevent the Tide from the Old Harbour from flowing into the Rother and Saltc above the same.

F. Denotes a Bridge & Navigable Sluice for stopping the Tides of the New Harbour from flowing up the Rother any further than what may be necessary for the Navigation of Lighters &c. to Scotch first Sluice.

H. Is a Navigable Sluice to be placed upon the Illingham Channel to prevent the Tides from flowing further up that Branch.

I. K. Is a Dam to be placed upon the present Conyne Channel of the Wimblecoa & Illingham Water, to prevent the Tide from the New Harbour from flowing into the Old Harbour, or the Tide from the Old Harbour from flowing into the new one, in order that the River Rother, Illingham & Breade may jointly make their way to Sea through the New Harbour only.

2. The Red denotes the proposed alterations

The Black what is at present.
Bellin’s map of 1764
Yeakell’s map of 1778
Jackson’s map of 1797
Sutherland’s map of 1801
The development of the outer shingle spit and sheltered channel, 1807.
Allason’s map of 1819
Thomas Moule’s map of 1838
Ordnance Survey
1891
Rye Harbour and East Guldeford
Ordnance Survey
1891
Pett, Brede and Tillingham
Ordnance Survey 1959
Proposed Land Drainage of 1961

Map 15: Proposed Land Drainage Scheme (1961) (Sketch plan)
Arable land east of the Rother
Arable land east of the Rother
Arable land east of the Rother
Arable land east of the Rother
Arable land east of the Rother