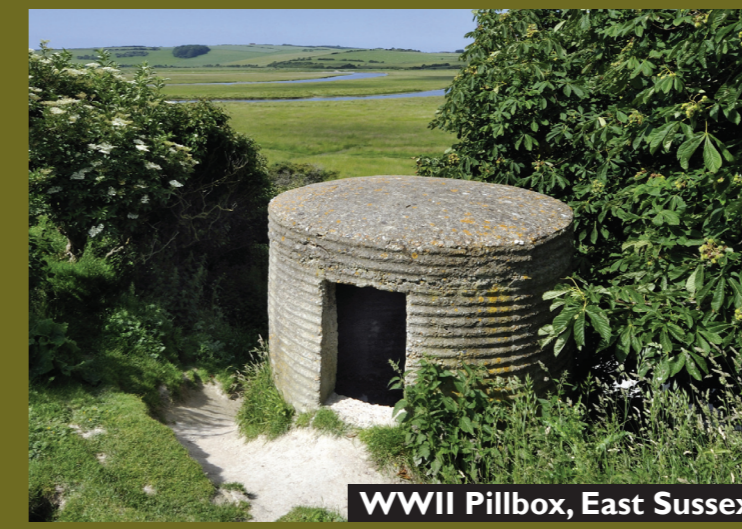


100–58 yrs ago

WORLD WARS

The South Downs was at the frontline of defending Britain. Many troops trained here before they went to fight in Europe and beyond.



Look out for...

- Pillboxes
- Training trenches
- Tank standings
- 'Dragon's teeth'

200–100 yrs ago

VICTORIAN

Most villages and towns had schools by the end of this period. Shepherds sheltered in moveable huts especially during the lambing season.



Look out for...

- Buildings
- Postboxes (VR)
- Old schools

420–200 yrs ago

POST MEDIEVAL

The great estates of the South Downs were formed during this period. Farming improvements included selective breeding to produce the Southdown sheep breed.



Look out for...

- Country houses and gardens
- Farm buildings
- Estate houses

950–420 yrs ago

MEDIEVAL

Villages and towns grew. Parish churches were built from stone yet houses were mostly built using timber.



Look out for...

- Timber-framed houses
- River bridges
- Churches

1,600–950 yrs ago

SAXON PERIOD

New settlers from The Netherlands, North Germany and Denmark brought new styles of art, culture and burial rituals.



Look out for...

- Burial grounds
- Objects in museums

1,960–1,600 yrs ago

ROMAN PERIOD

Romans arrived in 53AD bringing their way of life and culture. They founded the first towns and large farming estates, each with its own villa.



Look out for...

- Villas
- Roman roads

3,000–1,960 yrs ago

IRON AGE

Farmers started to live together in small communities creating early villages. They smelted iron ore to create iron tools.



Look out for...

- Hill forts
- Field systems

4,000–3,000 yrs ago

BRONZE AGE

Scattered farms started to develop as land was cleared to create fields. Burial rituals included the creation of mounds and barrows.



Look out for...

- Burial mounds (Barrows)
- Field systems

8,000–4,000 yrs ago

NEOLITHIC

The first farmers settled in the South Downs during this period. They used deer antlers to dig out large amounts of flint for their implements and tools.



Look out for...

- Flint mines
- Dyke systems
- Causwayed camps

500,000–8,000 yrs ago

PALAEOLITHIC

At this stage early people were hunter gatherers, they used flint from the South Downs to make stone tools and weapons.



Look out for...

- Flint tools