

Extract from Kellys Directory for Dorset, 1895 – see www.historicaldirectories.org.

PRESTON is a pretty village and parish, on the coast of Weymouth Bay, and on the road from Melcombe Regis to Wareham, 2 ½ miles west from Broadwey station on the Weymouth and Abbotsbury branch of the Great Western railway, 2 ½ miles north-east from Weymouth, in the Southern division of the county, Culliford Tree hundred, petty sessional division of Dorchester, Weymouth union and county court district, rural deanery of Dorchester (Weymouth portion), archdeaconry of Dorset, and diocese of Salisbury. The church of St. Andrew is an ancient fabric of stone, in the Perpendicular style, consisting of chancel, nave, south aisle, north porch and square embattled western tower, containing 4 bells; there is an antique font; the church has been restored and two handsome stained windows erected; there are 300 sittings. The register dates from the year 1693. The living is a vicarage, average tithe rent-charge £195, gross yearly value £263, net £208, including 3 acres of glebe, with residence, in the gift of the Bishop of Salisbury, and held since 1892 by the Rev. Edward John Lambert Barthelemon Henslowe LL.B. of Emmanuel College, Cambridge. The Wesleyans have a chapel here. In a meadow by the stream below the church are the remains of a Roman villa, consisting of the foundations of the walls of two small rooms, and of a well preserved tessellated pavement, which occupied originally an area 18 feet square; the materials used are small cubes of hard chalk, burnt earth or brick, and umber; the pattern consists of a central ornament, slightly resembling a Tudor Rose, in a square, on each side of which run two guilloches or cables, with a rectilinear figure between them; and on the south side there is besides a row of heart-shaped figures: it was discovered by Mr. Medhurst, in 1842, and permanently uncovered for the inspection, at the congress at Weymouth, of the British Archaeological Association, in 1871. Major John Gallop is lord of the manor and principal landowner. The soil is heavy clay; subsoil, various. The chief crops are grass, wheat and barley. The area is 2,609 acres of land and 70 of water; rateable value, £4,825; the population in 1891 was 678.

Sutton Poyntz, half a mile north, was a liberty or free manor of the Poyntzes, an ancient family in the western parts; Weymouth is supplied with water from a spring rising in this hamlet. Reginald Joseph Weld, esq. is lord of the manor and chief landowner of Sutton Poyntz.

Parish Clerk, Charles Miller.

POST OFFICE. – Miss Caroline Fooks, sub-postmistress. Letters arrive from Weymouth at 7.30 a.m. & 3.20 p.m.; & dispatched at 10.50 a.m. & 6.25 p.m.; Sundays, 10.25 a.m. The nearest money order & telegraph office is at Weymouth

National School (mixed), built in 1850, for 130 children; average attendance, 96; Miss Elinor Jennings, mistress; Miss Flora Thorne, infants' mistress

Coastguard, William Richard Mitchell, chief officer

PRIVATE RESIDENTS

Critchley-Salmonson Alfd.	Chalbury lo
Davis Col. John,	Southdown cottage
Davis William B.	Southdown cottage
Henslowe Rev. Edward John Lambert Barthelemon LL.B. (vicar),	Vicarage
Mullett Theophilus,	Myrtle cottage

COMMERCIAL

Arnold –,	dairyman
Bailey Albert,	baker, Sutton Poyntz
Bailey Chas.	prov. dealer, Sutton Poyntz
Brown Rebecca (Miss),	harness maker
Burt George,	beer retailer
Cleall Jn. Alfd.	dairyman, Wyke Oliver
Corben Jane (Mrs.),	beer retailer
Daw Albert,	market gardener
Fooks Caroline (Miss),	Post office
Fooks Thos.,	blacksmith, Sutton Poyntz
Galpin James,	carrier, Sutton Poyntz
Goldring Geo.	mrkt. grdnr. Sutton Poyntz
Guppy John,	Ship inn & collector of poor rates
Guppy Joseph,	butcher & grocer
Harrison Wm.	wheelwt. Sutton Poyntz
Holleyoak John Bird,	market gardener, Laurestine cottage
Luke John,	carrier
Macey William,	farmer, North Down farm, Sutton Poyntz
Meech Barnard Henry,	miller (water) & corn factor; the trade supplied in large or small quantities; markets attended, Weymouth, tues. & fri.; Dorchester, sat.; also general contractor, timber merchant & saw mills; Sutton Poyntz
Miller Elizabeth (Mrs.),	shopkeeper, Sutton Poyntz
Mitchell William Richard,	chief officer, Coast Guard station
Oliver Frederick,	farmer
Pooss Henry,	farmer
Pope Henry,	farmer, Sutton Poyntz
Puckett Jn.	dairyman, Sutton Poyntz
Puckett Jn. Jas.	beer ret. Sutton Poyntz
Randall Ellen (Mrs.)	shopkeeper
Scutt Charles J.P.	frmr, Wyke Oliver
Sergeant William,	poulterer
Summerfield Frank,	beer retailer