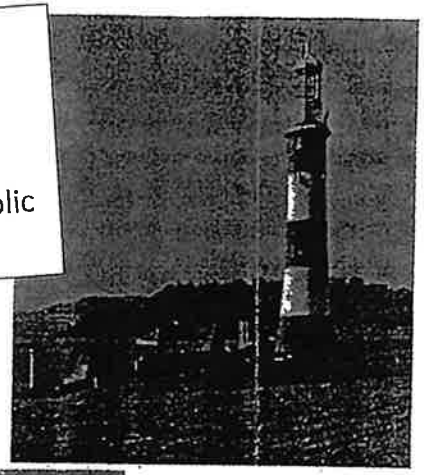
The History of The Hoe and Barbican.

North America had been previously discovered and in 1620 the Pilgrim Fathers left the Barbican ready to start their new life in America. They left from Southampton but a storm meant they had to return to port in Plymouth.

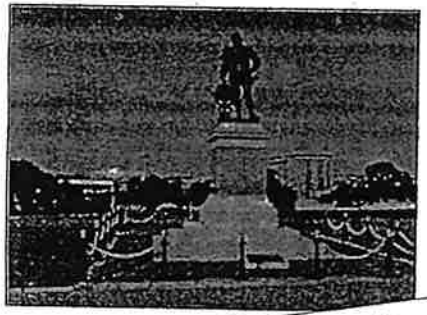
Smeatons Tower used to be an Eddystone lighthouse, it was taken down and rebuilt on the Hoe. Opening to the public in 1884.



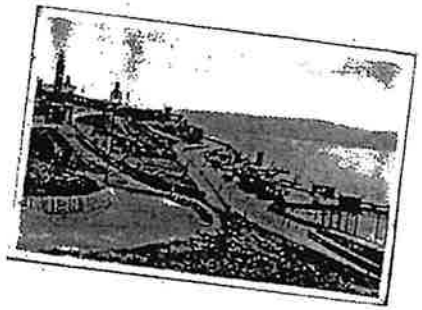
In 1820 a Customs House was built in The Barbican to manage the imports and exports traded through the harbour. It is still called the Customs House today

The last public execution in Plymouth took place on the Hoe in 1797.

Sir Francis Drakes statue was opened in Eighteen Eighty Four on the Hoe.



The Hoe was used as a site for Windmills in the 1640s due to its elevation above sea level.



Plymouth Gin was established in 1793. Today you can tour the distillery and eat in the restaurant above it.

The Hoe is the site of Drake's famous game of bowls, played as the Spanish Armada advanced up The Channel in 1588.

During the Second World war 1939-45 The Crescent on the Hoe took a direct hit in a bombing which destroyed the Westminster and Hackers hotels..

Plymouth Lido was opened in Nineteen Thirty Five as an open water swimming area. It reopened in 2005 to the general public.

Plymouth pier was opened in 1884 and was bombed during the second world war. It was taken due in the 1960s

The first street was built around The Barbican in 1584. The Elizabethan House in New Street can still be seen today.

In 2000 the street furniture in the Hoe and Barbican was updated to coincide with the Millennium.

Charles II ordered the Citadel to be built on the Hoe in Sixteen Sixty Five, as they feared an invasion from the Dutch at that time.

In 1337 Edward III gave Sutton Pool (Now known as the Barbican) to the Duchy of Cornwall.