

APPENDIX 5: A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SHELTERS

- 1904** Following a landslide, curving mass concrete buttressed arches were built against rough land at the back of Marine Parade. They are still in place, forming the rear wall of the existing Shelters, and still contributing to the stability of the gardens.
- 1924** The Central Shelter was built, with War Memorial Clock and faïence façade, and a flanking open bay on each side. (Conservation officers wish to see the central façade preserved.)
- Late 1920s** The 'book-end' toilet blocks were added, designed to complement the central section. Beach huts were placed in each curved bay. The land behind was still rough.
- 1959** The three structures were joined with a flat concrete roof. A design exists for a curved top to each bay, echoing the flanking bays to the central section, but this was not pursued. The flanking bays were removed to incorporate a flat roof. Timber benching was put in each curve. (Older residents remember courting) The land behind was laid out to lawn with paths.
- 1961** Four bays were glazed: two flanking the central section, and one at each end.
- 1962** Major landslip immediately to the west.
- 1980s (?)** Deteriorating glazing was removed. (One set of timber framing is still *in situ* behind the hoarding.)
- 1986** Plans were drawn to convert the central pavilion into a Tourist Information on one side, and a Reading Room on the other. Not pursued.
- 1990s** The western part withstood a landslip on to the roof but required boarding-up and internal propping for safety.
- 2006** The western section was reopened following stabilisation.