

21. FHA. THE OPENING OF THE GYLLYNGDUNE ESTATE GARDENS 10 JULY 2024

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Over time, many things changed on the Gyllyngdune Estate.

One of the Reverend Coope's five daughters created shell grottoes above her father's 'fernery' in the quarry, which had, in earlier times, provided stone for local buildings.

In 1863 the estate was bought by local businessman Mr Sampson Waters, then just under forty years later it was sold again, this time to the MP Mr F J Horniman.

On the estate, Summerlands - built as a private manor house by the Reverend Coope - was sold, and later became the Gyllyngdune Manor Hotel. After many years of operation, the hotel closed and some of the buildings were converted into the apartments next to the Princess Pavilion that we see today.

In 1907 the Winter Gardens were laid out, and the Gyllyngdune Gardens were officially opened to the public. From this photo, it appears the event was very well attended!

The Princess Pavilion was built a few years later in 1910. It became an attractive addition to the gardens, and since that time has been used for many events, including, of course, our annual Falmouth Spring Flower Show!

Although it's almost 190 years since the creation of the original Gyllyngdune Estate, every year hundreds of local people and visitors continue to enjoy the legacy of this beautiful site.