

CRESCENT ROAD

The first terrace of houses to be built in Crescent Road was **Dartford Villas**, with 9 properties in the block. They are included in the 1897-8 Kelly's Directory, so must have been built at least by 1896, in order to be included in the following year's edition.

By 1898-9, the North side of the Crescent (from Station Rd to Albion Rd) now had **Telford Terrace** (9 properties) and **Dartford Villas**, while the South side had four separately named houses (Sweet William, Sweet Briar, Nacolt and Moneytree), followed by **Manchester Terrace** (5 properties).

The next changes appear in 1906-7, when **Manston Villas** (2 properties) were added to the left of **Telford Terrace** on the North side and on the South side **Monkton Villas** (3 properties) were built on the right side of Sweet William etc. At the far end of **Manchester Villas**, we now find 'Marazion' – a single property.

By 1911-12 two more properties had been built at the end of Dartford Villas ('Elmhurst' and 'Lavinia') on the North side and by 1928 'Marazion' was followed by 'Little Croft', 'Chudleigh', 'Verona' and 'Kotigiri'.

In 1938 it was decided by Margate Borough Council to ignore the separate terraces and villas in Crescent Road and number the whole crescent from 1 to 47 consecutively, so this is what we find in the 1939 directory. The rest of Birchington had to wait until 1947 before the order went out for the whole village to adopt numbers instead of names and terraces.

The North side of the crescent were given the odd numbers -

Manston Villas = 1, 3, 5

Telford Terrace = 7 – 25 (13 was omitted)

Dartford Villas = 27 – 43

Elmhurst = 45

Lavinia = 47

South side - Birchington Baptist Church

Manston Villas = 4, 6, 8

Home Cottage = 10

Pem-y-craig = 12

Nacolt = 14

Moneytree = 16

Manchester Villas = 18 - 26

Marazion = 28

Little Croft = 30

Chudleigh = 32

Verona = 34

Kotigiri = 36

Bollowal = 38

Combe Down = 40

Margareta = 42

It would appear that Monkton Villas had been changed into separately named houses by 1938. Many of the houses kept their names after the numbers were introduced, but these were not included in the directories. This policy was also adopted when the telephone directories were introduced.



Crescent in c. 1900