

Once the immediate tasks are completed, palm thatch, or more recently tarpaulins, are stretched over small boats or the loaded nets of seine-fishing craft. During the monsoon when fishing all but ceases and people live on the fish they have salted, outriggers are detached so that their pirogues can be closely stored in dry airy net-houses where the large vessels are lashed upright to the central piers and where new ones were built in the past (Figs 8b; 20).



Figure 20. et-houses are key to the longevity of sewn fishing craft: a) laterite piers and tiled roof at Benaulim; b) mixed construction in the dunes at Fish Road; c) small pirogues under palm-thatch and timber at Nuem. Author.