

## Woodside Terrace – Salamanca Cottage

Before “The Cut” was opened in 1823, the road, or turnpike, into Gatehouse from the East came down Ann Street, past the toll-house (now called Cox’s Lodge) and continued along Old Ford Road, until it met a ford across the river. Prior to 1823 there was no road between the clock tower and the mill dam(s). Much, if not all, of this land was part of the Murray Arms grounds.

Salamanca was the first house after the Toll House to be built in Woodside Terrace.

*Photo of Salamanca Cottage to go here*

### ◀ Chronology of Ownership & Occupancy ▶

**1836** Feu charter to Thomas Plunkett, Royal Artillery barracks, Exeter. *See bottom of this file for his details.*

#### 1841 Census High Street 2

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Tait	John			m	65	joiner	Kirkcudbrightshire
Lockhart	Elizabeth			f	20		Kirkcudbrightshire

#### 1851 Census High Street (North) 36

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Denniston	John	head	m	m	60	grain dealer	Kbts, Anwoth
Denniston	Ha.	wife	m	f	57		Wigtown, Penninghame
Denniston	Helen	dau.	s	f	27	dressmaker	Kbts, Girthon
Denniston	Janet	dau.	s	f	21	dressmaker	Kbts, Girthon
Denniston	John	son	s	m	17	scholar	Kbts, Girthon

#### 1861 Census High Street North 4

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Waugh	Samuel	head	s	m	34	ironmonger & grocer	Kbts, Anwoth
Waugh	James	brother	s	m	32	ironmonger & grocer assistant	Kbts, Anwoth
Waugh	Margaret	sister	s	f	39	housekeeper	Kbts, Kirkmabreck

**1867** Thomas Plunkett had become a Chelsea Pensioner, still living in Exeter and the 1867 Valuation roll describes him as late Sergeant Major.

## 1871 Census Salamanca Cottage

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Coltart	John	head	s	m	23	teller in Bank of Scotland	Kbts, Gatehouse
Coltart	Margaret	mother	w	f	65		Wigtown, Whithorn
Coltart	Emma	sister	s	f	31		Kbts, Gatehouse

<b>1871</b>	Valuation roll refers to John Cairns as owner of the property.
<b>1872</b>	Feu of extra piece of land to Andrew McLean, shoemaker in Gatehouse and Mary Fergusson or Cairns widow of John Cairns, builder in Gatehouse, his trustees.

## 1881 Census Salamanca Cottage

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Cairns	Mary	head	w	f	45	interest of money	Kbts, Girthon
Cairns	John	son	s	m	19	banker's clerk	Kbts, Girthon
Cairns	James F	son		m	13	scholar	Kbts, Girthon

## 1891 Census Salamanca Cottage

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Cairns	Mary	head	w	f	55	living on private means	Kbts, Girthon

## 1901 Census Salamanca Cottage

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Cairns	Mary	head	w	f	64	living on own means	Kbts, Girthon

## 1911 Census Mail Road

<u>Surname</u>	<u>Forename(s)</u>	<u>Rel.</u>	<u>Mar.</u>	<u>Sex</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Birthplace</u>
Cairns	Mary	head	w	f	77	private means	Kbts, Gatehouse
Dalrymple	Janet	servant	s	f	60	housekeeper	Kbts, Gatehouse

<b>1951</b>	New charter to Janet Muirhead or Cairns.
<b>1952</b>	Sold to Robert Walker, baker.
<b>1972</b>	Passed to Louisa Walker or Miller.
<b>1973</b>	sold

## Thomas Plunkett and Salamanca Cottage

- In 1836 a Thomas Plunkett from the Royal Artillery Barracks in Exeter feued the land on which Salamanca Cottage was subsequently built.
- He was an Irishman, born at St.Mary's, Dublin about 1787 (info. ex Exeter 1871 census).
- He enlisted with the 5th Regiment of the Dragoon Guards in 1806. We don't have records of his whereabouts in the army but we believe he fought under the command of the Duke of Wellington in the Peninsula Wars (1808-1814), part of which was the Battle of Salamanca in 1812.
- We have details of Thomas living in Exeter with his wife Elizabeth from the 1841, 1861 & 1871 Exeter census.
- In the 1871 census Elizabeth was aged 70 and her birthplace was Gatehouse, Scotland.
- We could find no marriage of a Thomas Plunkett to an Elizabeth.
- If Elizabeth's age in 1871 was accurate then there was an Elizabeth Mackenzie born in Girthon 14-Apr-1800.
- Thomas died in 1872 and Elizabeth succeeded him for a further 5 years.

Clearly Thomas had an association with Gatehouse as a result of his marriage, and the fact that he named his newly-built house Salamanca Cottage seems to prove his involvement in the Battle of Salamanca, but we have no evidence that he ever lived in Gatehouse.