

DALKEITH

The “cottage” was situated on the 18 acre property owned by Charles Dallas who bought the land from Gabriel Jemmott in January 1810.

Henry Beckles Gall was resident at Dalkeith Cottage by May 1832 when his daughter Sarah Louisa was born there¹. *The Barbadian* records on 25 December 1833 “..at Dalkeith Cottage, the residence of her son, after a distressing illness of three months, Mrs Sarah C Gall relict of the late Dr Henry Beckles Gall of the colony of Demerara².



In March 1844 the cottage was described as “recently built at a cost of £5000 local currency” and was put up for sale³.

In June 1853 a notice in the *Barbadian Times* announced it was for rent – applications to Mrs Jane Sheriff⁴. In 1854 the property was sold by the Sheriff’s to Charles Henry Major for five shillings. The Indenture was for the full 18 acres called Dalkeith.

BARBADOS DEEDS

(Held at the Barbados National Archives)

No 649

31 March 1854

This Indenture made the twenty seventh day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty four Between Jane Sheriff of the parish of Christchurch and Island aforesaid widow of the first part, James Sheriff late of Virginia, the United States of America but at present of the parish and island aforesaid of the second part Thomas Augustus Sheriff and Charles John Sheriff.....

Witnesses that for and in consideration of the sum of five shillings the lawful money of this island.....do bargain and sell to Charles Henry Major....all those two certain messuages tenements or dwelling houses contiguous to and adjoining each other together with their lands whereon the same respectively stand and there to belong situate standing and being in the parish of Christ Church and Island of Barbados aforesaid at or near Saint Anne’s Garrison Butting and bounding on the lands of Peter Kins on the sea shore on lands belonging to Government and on the Public Road or however else these may butts and bound land also all that certain place piece or parcel of land called Dalkeith situate in the said parish of Saint Michael and Christ Church and Island of Barbados above said containing by estimation eighteen acres of land butting and bounding on land of George Drayton Esquire on lands of the Bay Estate and on lands belonging to the Government.

It is not certain on what basis Henry Beckles Gall resided in the house and no indenture was found in the Barbados archives for its purchase or the sale of the property by his widow; nor was there any mention of Dalkeith in his Will. It is therefore likely that it was as a tenant.

HB Gall died in 1862 and Hubert Campbell Da Costa died in the house in November 1863⁵. It therefore seems likely that David Campbell Da Costa bought the house sometime between these dates.

¹ Barbados Museum & Historical Society Journal [BMHSJ] vol IV page 26.

² Ibid, page 95.

³ BMHSJ vol IX page 206.

⁴ BMHSJ vol XXI page 127.

⁵ BMHSJ vol XXX page 162.