

= Flat Bastion Road =

Flat Bastion Road is a road in Gibraltar , the British Overseas Territory at the southern end of the Iberian Peninsula . The road runs north @-@ south , providing views of the city and Bay of Gibraltar . Previously known in Spanish as Senda del Moro (English : Path of the Moor) , the traditional Llanito name for the road is Cuesta de Mr. Bourne .

The road angles along the west side of the Rock of Gibraltar to the Flat Bastion , a fortification . Married quarters were built along the road . In the nineteenth century there were outbreaks of yellow fever in the 1820s and of diphtheria in the 1880s among the residents , apparently due to faulty sewers . Developments included , in the 1830s a school for poor children which remained in use as a school into the early twentieth century and a club where masked balls were held . In modern times the bastion 's magazine has been refurbished for civilian use , the barracks have been converted into affordable housing , and parking has become an issue .

= = Background = =

Flat Bastion Road begins to the southeast of the Garrison Library , at the intersection of Prince Edward 's Road and Castle Road , north of its junction with Devil 's Gap Road . Proceeding in a southerly direction , it becomes Gardiner 's Road as it passes through Charles V Wall , just before it reaches Europa Road .

The road runs along the west side of the Rock of Gibraltar , leading to the Flat Bastion fortification . The original Flat Bastion , then called Baluarte de Santiago (Santiago 's Bastion) , was built by the Spanish some time between 1565 and 1627 . It may have been designed by Daniel Specklin . It was one of the fortifications along the Charles V Wall that protected the new Africa Gate . The Flat Bastion Magazine within the Bastion was once a point where immense quantities of gunpowder were stored . It was threatened by a fire in 1874 that swept through the long grass and other vegetation of the south districts of the colony and reached Charles V 's wall before burning out .

= = History = =

Conditions were unsanitary in the 19th century . The road is mentioned in 1828 when there was an outbreak of yellow fever in Gibraltar . A French medical commission visited the colony and documented their findings on the spread of the epidemic . Many of the reported cases were in houses on Flat Bastion Road . By September most of the houses on the road were infected . A sanitary sewer that ran parallel to the road was suspected . One source said it did not emit any excessive odours that seemed out of the normal . However , the French commission said that the sewer outside at least one of the houses in the road emitted a very bad smell (" une très mauvaise odeur ") . A report of 1 September 1828 described Wilson 's Buildings , two wooden sheds on the road to Flat Bastion , as " decidedly inimical to the health of any persons who may inhabit them . "

Families living on the road in 1828 included those of Josepha Bernado , Jose Nuñez , the financier Grellet , the family of Thomas Gum , and the family of Michaela Medina . In 1832 the Gibraltar Public School , a free English @-@ language establishment for poor children , was set up in a government @-@ owned building on Flat Bastion Road . Funded by the contributions of wealthy people in the colony , it was open to children of all faiths . By 1833 , there were 181 boys and 99 girls at the school . After boys were excluded in 1897 , it continued as a school for girls into the early 20th century .

An 1883 Sanitary Order in Council aimed at reducing health risks defined Flat Bastion Road as one of the boundaries of the " streets , ramps , roads , lanes , passages , alleys , stairs and public places " within which the new regulations would apply . The Army Medical Department reported in 1889 that several cases of diphtheria had occurred in the married quarters on Flat Bastion Road . It turned out that the rainwater pipes from the roof were cracked . The pipes were connected directly to the sewer , and sewer gas was escaping into the rooms .

The road was depicted in an article on the colony that appeared in 1885 in Frank Leslie 's Popular

Monthly , a New York @-@ based magazine , in a pastiche of ink drawings that also depict " Catland Bay " (Catalan Bay) , Waterport Gate , the signal station and the rock from the Spanish lines . A donkey is depicted in the foreground . Jeanie Conan depicted the picturesque road in a watercolour titled " Flat Bastion Rd . Gibraltar " in 1888 . A visitor noted that the " Ladysmith club " on the Flat Bastion Road was holding masquerades in its salons , while elsewhere the Salvation Army was preaching and parading signs with advice from the gospels .

= = Modern times = =

During the 1970 census , residents on the road were counted as part of the Gowlands Ramp enumeration area .

The magazine is now a geological research facility and exhibition centre involved with the lithology of Gibraltar . The barracks , north of the bastion on Flat Bastion Road , have been renovated and converted into affordable residential housing . The Flat Bastion barracks redevelopment project started by 2007 , and was completed about 2010 . The development has been renamed Flat Bastion Mews . Communal gardens for the new housing were established at that time . The two bedroom apartments also included allocated parking .

The government 's Traffic , Parking and Transport Plan issued in 2009 , mentions a parking project for Flat Bastion Road under which 104 parking spots were to be added . In 2010 there was public criticism about the lack of parking on the road as the government had removed existing parking before constructing the new parking spaces .

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