

= Salta , Cumbria =

Salta is a hamlet in the parish of Holme St Cuthbert in northwestern Cumbria , United Kingdom . It is located 1 @. @ 1 miles ( 1 @. @ 8 km ) southwest of the village of Mawbray , and 25 @. @ 1 miles ( 40 @. @ 4 km ) southwest of the city of Carlisle . It has a population of about 35 people .

Salta can only be accessed from the lane from Mawbray , which goes on to join the B5300 coast road , although two public bridleways provide access over the fields from Hailforth and Mawbray . The hamlet consists of mainly bungalows , and a farm is still in operation in the vicinity . A caravan park , Manor House Park , is situated across the Moss to the southeast , to the southwest of the hamlet of Edderside .

The settlement 's name is derived from " s?alt @-@ tir " , meaning " salt land " in Old English , as during Anglo @-@ Saxon times , salt making was a major industry on the Solway Plain . Fortified during the Roman period , in the 1550s , Salta participated in a system called " seawake " , a night watch to guard the coast against incursions across the Solway by the Scots . Salta Moss was designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest in 1954 and forms part of the Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty . It is home to a diversity of wildlife , including Adders , Britain 's only native venomous snake , and several varieties of heather , as well as the purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea* .

= = History = =

The name " Salta " comes from Old English " s?alt @-@ tir " , meaning " salt land " . In Anglo @-@ Saxon times , salt making was a major industry on the Solway coast , and there are remains of medieval salt pans near Milefortlet 21 , only a few miles down the coast from Salta . Salta appears in older documents with several variant spellings , including " Sathowe " .

On Salta Moss , an area of common land next to the hamlet , a Bronze Age rapier ( a kind of sword ) was discovered in the 1980s , proving that the area was settled by ancient Britons millennia ago . The rapier currently resides in the Tullie House Museum in Carlisle , and archaeologists date it as being crafted as early as 1100 BC . Two perforated axe @-@ hammers and a polished axe dated to the Neolithic period were unearthed at nearby Mawbray . After the arrival of Romans in Britain , the area around Salta was fortified as part of the coastal defences which extended beyond the western end of Hadrian 's Wall . By the 1550s , Salta participated in a system called " seawake " , which was a night watch to guard the coast against incursions across the Solway by the Scots . These incursions were frequent , and on one occasion in 1592 at Dubmill , near Salta , a Mr Barwise the local miller was taken prisoner by Scottish raiders .

One of the properties in Salta is known to date from the 16th century , and the hamlet has been continually inhabited ever since . During the Second World War , 43 evacuees from the Newcastle @-@ Upon @-@ Tyne area were billeted to the parish of Holme St. Cuthbert , and several ended up in Salta . Development in the 20th century saw new houses built , but mainline water and electricity arrived later than in other parts of Britain , perhaps due to the small population . Excavations of a cropmark enclosure at Edderside , beyond the Moss to the southeast of Salta , were conducted in 1989 ? 1990 by Robert H. Bewley . The Kelsick House wind turbine was approved for construction in 2013 in spite of local opposition , 6 miles ( 9 @. @ 7 km ) to the northeast , to the south of Abbeytown , and will join a number of other wind turbines in the area around Salta .

= = Geography and farming = =

Salta lies near the coast of northwestern Cumbria . By road it is situated 1 @. @ 1 miles ( 1 @. @ 8 km ) south of Mawbray , 1 @. @ 8 miles ( 2 @. @ 9 km ) north of Allonby , 2 @. @ 3 miles ( 3 @. @ 7 km ) southwest of Holme St Cuthbert and 7 @. @ 4 miles ( 11 @. @ 9 km ) southwest of Abbeytown . It shares very close community ties with nearby Mawbray , although the city of Carlisle provides wider amenities , some 25 @. @ 1 miles ( 40 @. @ 4 km ) to the northeast . The shore of Allonby

Bay , an inlet of the Solway Firth , is a mere half @-@ a @-@ mile to the west of the hamlet . A beck ( a local word meaning " stream " ) flows through Salta , fed in part by irrigation channels . This beck eventually joins the Black Dub and drains into the Solway Firth at Dubmill .

Salta Moss is a Site of Special Scientific Interest , both for its natural and historical significance , and is itself is located in a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty which covers much of the Solway Plain . The Moss is an area of peatland , containing " mainly oligotrophic semi- fibrous grass @-@ sedge peat " according to Soil Survey Record . It combines characteristics of both a raised bog and a valley mire , and lies atop deposits of glacial sand from the last ice age . It was designated an SSSI in 1954 . Having been cut with irrigation channels , and been the site of burning and peat working , Salta Moss has different flora than other bogs or mires on the Solway Plain . The Moss today is common ground , but a track runs through it to provide access for local farmers to outlying fields , which surround it . An irrigation ditch has also been dug to provide drainage to the surrounding farmland .

There is some concern that areas of the Moss have been damaged or partly destroyed as a result of agricultural activity , including the digging of drainage ditches . Natural England , the agency responsible for the management of SSSIs in England , has suggested that no further irrigation channels should be dug , existing ones should not be deepened , and that the area should not be exposed to fertilisers or surface water run @-@ off . Natural England further notes that the site 's continued status as an SSSI depends on maintaining a high water table .

= = = Climate = = =

Salta , like the rest of the Solway plain , has an oceanic climate ( Köppen climate classification Cfb ) , with warm summers and cool winters which generally avoid extremes of temperature . Salta has a cool climate , with average daytime highs of around 19 ° C during July and 7 ° C during December , although lows of ? 12 ° C have been recorded . It is wet all year round , with rain or drizzle expected on 16 to 19 days of most months . Snowfall is relatively uncommon .

= = Flora and fauna = =

Salta , and the Moss in particular , is home to a variety of plant and animal life , including some rare specimens . Adders , Britain 's only native venomous snake , are seen on the Moss , and prey upon small rodents , such as voles . Many wild bird species inhabit Salta and the surrounding area , including larger species such as pheasants , which are also bred locally for hunting .

The Moss contains several varieties of heather , as well as the purple moor grass *Molinia caerulea* . Ferns and gorse are common too , and in areas where peat has been cut in the past , there are bog mosses , the bog bean *Menyanthes trifoliata* , and marsh pennywort .

= = Landmarks and amenities = =

Salta today is still a very small settlement , home to approximately 35 people . Most of the houses are fairly modern bungalows , such as those named Barnfield , Heather Moor , Moss View and Tamberry , although there are older two @-@ floor cottages on either side of the hamlet . Another bungalow is named Anchorage , which features a ship anchor scheme on its gates .

There is still a functioning farm in Salta , which is passed on the lane accessing the hamlet . There are other farms in Mawbray and Allonby , and the hamlet is surrounded by farmland belonging to these local farmers . Though the road through the hamlet comes to a dead @-@ end , and is accessed by lane only from the coastal B5300 road or Mawbray , two public bridleways at the end provide access over the fields to Hailforth and Mawbray , with the latter emerging right next to the pub in the centre of the village . A caravan park , Manor House Park , is situated across the peat to the southeast , to the southwest of the hamlet of Edderside .

Allerdale Borough Council provides refuse collection , streetlighting , and other modern amenities . The nearest primary schools are Allonby Primary School in Allonby and Holme St Cuthbert School

near Mawbray , and the nearest secondary school is Beacon Hill Community School in Aspatria . Modern Salta is a predominantly Christian community , though the local Church is located at Holme St Cuthbert , several miles away . As at 2014 , a bus service runs between Silloth and Workington on the B5300 approximately every two hours , and can be requested to make a stop at Dubmill , near Salta .