



By 1921 the old block had been demolished. George Scott rented the land and applied for planning permission, on 19th September, to build a garage of wood and corrugated iron. This drawing has been extracted from the block plan approved by Cockermouth Rural District Council. George Scott described himself as a Hackney Carriage owner and driver. No pumps were installed at this stage but petrol was sold in two gallon returnable cans.

Scott's Garage 2



The oldest surviving photograph of the first garage in the early 1920s, as in the plan and without pumps. An unidentified young person sits on the wall of Beech Cottage.

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Below: About 1930. Messers Walker Lennox of Causey Cottage, Jeffrey Wells of Beech Cottage and Gordon Norman of Smithy Fold outside Beech Cottage, with the garage behind. A sign advertises the Horse Shoe Inn, in Smithy Fold.



By the late 1920's the business had developed considerably. The garage had been extended with a corrugated outshut and named Scott's Garage. Hand operated Petrol pumps had been installed, with no electricity or water yet. National Benzole and Shell competed to supply at this time. The AA High Lorton sign had been installed. George Scott was responsible for bringing the telephone to Lorton, essential for his business. The new poles can be seen. The Post Office telegraph had been in Lorton since 1900/1.



Below: The Flying Cloud, designed by John Sargent, previously from Hudson and Olds, was introduced in 1927 as a replacement for the T-4. It was powered by a six-cylinder, four-litre 21hp engine.

The bus 'Happy Days', RM 6802, was registered in 1930. An American Reo was given a larger body in Cockermouth. Seen here soon after with Ethel Scott, Joyce Scott and Annie Stoddart, the joiner's wife from White Ash. Burn's joiner's, shop seen in the earlier photographs, has been replaced by a bungalow.

The pre-war 'Happy Days' excursions to Silloth are still talked about. Silloth, below, was created in the 1850s as Carlisle's new port, but the railway company soon found that holidays and excursions provided much needed business, and they developed Silloth into a major coastal resort.



Telephones Lorton 26 Telegrams Scott Lorton

GEORGE SCOTT
Motor Engineer TOURS AND EXCURSIONS

CARS AND COACHES LORTON COCKERMOUTH

George Scott's letterhead in 1935, just before the move to the new garage. By now he described himself as a motor engineer. The garage had allowed the business to develop from taxi and bus services to car hire, petrol and paraffin sales, bicycle sales and, later, motor repair. Running the most advanced and outward looking business in Lorton, George Scott easily became deeply involved with the development of the village and its services, with local politics, and with voluntary bodies. He became a County Councillor and JP.

