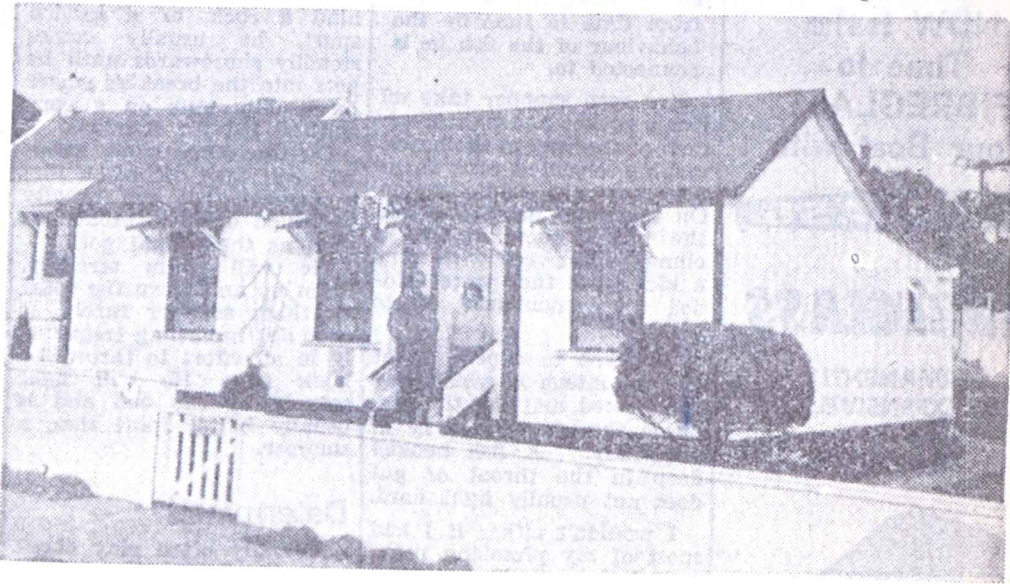


# Historic Home Now Nears Its Century



This historic, neatly painted cottage in Brown Street, Fitzroy, this year celebrates 100 years of existence.

The cottage, named Albuhera, was established as a post for some of the famous 57th Regiment's officers and staff.

It is now occupied by Mr and Mrs W. J. Baldock.

The name Albuhera was first emblazoned on the badges of the 57th Regiment for their epic defence of a hill overlooking the village of Albuhera in Spain during the Napoleonic War.

The regiment later became allied to the 11th Taranaki Rifles.

When Mr Baldock moved into the house over 32 years ago he had no interest in early history of New Plymouth. But a series of discoveries he made around his home

quickly revised his thanking.

First, Mr Baldock uncovered a vast number of horseshoes in his garden. He took little notice at the time. Some he gave to his children to play with and others he threw away.

A few years later came more finds — brass buttons inscribed with the number 57, an 1863 penny, a bayonet, a steel watch chain and an old boot.

With the help of Taranaki historians, Mr Baldock was able to piece together the history of his house.

Making renovations to the house, he discovered an old door formed part of the kitchen flooring.

Inquiries proved that the door was brought to the house by the late Mr Tui Bennett, an apprentice carpenter, by bullock dray from Marsland Hill barracks when the latter were demolished in 1891.

Mr Baldock's house is now a popular attraction for tourists.

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