

Don Saltero's Coffee House *Chelsea*. James Salter, a barber and former servant of Sir Hans Sloane, opened this house on the corner of LAWRENCE STREET in 1695. A few years later he moved to DANVERS STREET where he remained until 1715. He then moved to premises on the site of what is now CHEYNE WALK. Salter was nicknamed Don Saltero by Vice-Admiral Munden who had long been on the coast of Spain where he acquired a fondness for Spanish titles. At first the coffee shop was combined with a barber's. Besides shaving his customers Salter also bled them, pulled out their teeth, played the violin and wrote them verses. Sir Hans Sloane gave him various duplicates from his collection of curiosities and by 1723 Salter, who also received gifts from other benefactors, including Smollett, was advertising 'My Museum Coffee House'. When he died in 1728, his daughter continued to run the business. In 1799 the collection of curiosities was sold. They included 'a starved cat found between the walls of Westminster Abbey when repairing, and a Staffordshire almanac in use when the Danes were in England'. Don Saltero's is mentioned in Fanny Burney's novel, *Evelina*.