



## Removing slavery from our mental landscape

**B**arbadians have been called upon to "conquer the fight" to remove the legacy of slavery from their mental landscape and language.

If this is not done, said Minister of Culture, Ms Mia Mottley, the final frontier which related to emancipation will "forever remain elusive" in spite of the abolition of various acts of slavery.

Her comments came as she delivered the inaugural lecture on the 1937 Riots and Emancipation Day on Friday July 25 at the Barbados Museum.

Ms Mottley said, "Our history is a special history bringing with it a grim inheritance of someone else's images of ourselves. We have to rise above that and, in the context of seeking to resist elements of mental slavery, it is the rejection of those images that is perhaps most important not only on the part of Black people but the White..."

However she pointed



Minister of Education Hon. Ms. Mia Mottley views the exhibition with Senator Phillip Goddard (left) and Senator Reginald Farley.

out that through various systems, including the provision of education in schools and the medium of cultural industries, people could seek to recreate the images which Barbadians believed to be worthy of them.

These images, she stressed, would show them "truly emancipated" from the language and imagery of colonialism.

The Minister said that

and their patriotism to country and nation."

"It is only with that determination that we can remove the yoke of slavery and start to say we have conquered in the quest to reach freedom," she told the gathering.

Ms Mottley said there were those who suggested that the efforts of men like the late Sir Grantley Adams and Mr. Errol Barrow, as well as Mr. Frank Walcott, to broaden the social and political rights were something to scoff at.

But she disagreed, stating that, "if we had to start from scratch in the provision of education or health care, we would never have been able to determine that free secondary education could be something from which all of us could benefit....or offer the kind of health care services that we have been able to start to offer." ♦



A section of the audience as they listened to Ms. Mottley's lecture.

### WHAT'S INSIDE

❖ *A look at the Museum Summer Camp*

❖ *Archaeology at Heywoods*

**MISSION  
STATEMENT**

The Barbados Museum is a non-profit institution. Its mandate is to collect, document and conserve evidence of Barbados' cultural, historical and environmental heritage; and to interpret and present this evidence for all sectors of society.

**PATRON**

His Excellency Sir Clifford  
Husbands, G.C.M., K.A.  
Governor-General of  
Barbados

**COUNCIL****President**

Dr. Trevor Carmichael,  
Q.C.

**Senior Vice President**

Mrs Jean Goddard

**Junior Vice President**

Mrs Kathleen Drayton

**Ordinary members**

Sir. Carlisle Burton  
Miss Janice Cumberbatch  
Mr. Patrick Roach  
Miss Jill Sheppard  
Mr. Patrick Hoyos  
Ms. Laura Picard-Leach

**Government Appointees**

Miss Camilita Archer  
Mr. Erskine Rose  
Mr. Antonio Rudder  
Mrs Celia Toppin  
Mr. Elsworth Young

**Ex-Officio**

Director of the Museum  
Ms. Alissandra Cummins

# Museum Archaeology receives a boost

The Barbados Museum & Historical Society has received generous funding from corporate Barbados for its ongoing archaeology programmes.

The latest funding has come in the form of donations from Port St. Charles Development Ltd and Peter Moores Barbados Trust in the amount of Bds\$10,000.00 each for archaeological excavations undertaken at the Heywoods St. Peter site.

Mr. Thomas Herbert Project Manager at Port St. Charles Development Ltd stated that Port St. Charles is very pleased to play its part in uncovering this evidence and detail of Barbados' history.

"We are grateful to the Barbados Museum staff, local volunteers and the team from the University of London who have given their time and knowledge. It is hoped that an effort will be made to incorporate the implications of the findings into school history at a very early date."

The Heywoods site had revealed itself as a major archaeology resource for the Island over the years. Heywoods has unveiled a rich heritage and intriguing evidence of prehistoric burials. It was for this that the Heywoods Recovery Project was recognised in 1996 with the American Express Historic Preservation Award.

According to Ms. Alissandra Cummins, Director of the Museum "We are much encouraged by the interest and support given by corporate Barbados in exploring the lives of early Barbadians. Through their continuing financial and logistical support the Directors of Port St. Charles Development Ltd have demonstrated a creative vision for the future development of the island. Their consistent sponsorship of this project offers an excellent example of the type of partnership which can be formed in the area of heritage tourism development."

Other corporate funding for excavations and exhibitions has been received from Barbados Light & Power Co.

## Large audience for lecture

Dr. Peter Drewett and Ms. Maureen Bennell presented an archaeology update on this summer's excavations at Heywoods St. Peter to a very receptive audience on August 8, 1997. The Cunard Gallery was packed to capacity as Dr. Drewett provided background information on the Heywoods site from 1986 until the summer of 1997.

The implications of the recent findings were discussed as well as what is hoped to be achieved in the 1998 excavations.

An informal social followed the lecture in honour of Dr. Drewett and his team.

Peter Drewett is a Reader in Prehistory at the Institute of Archaeology, University College London. He has worked in Barbados since 1984 when he initiated the Archaeological Survey of

Barbados carried out on behalf of the Barbados Museum.

Dr. Drewett has carried out work on this site on three previous occasions, the last time in 1991, when test pits were dug systematically across the entire area.

He worked with a group of students from The Institute of Archaeology in two separate areas, one near to the beach, the other fronting the new road. The excavations near to the beach yielded large quantities of finds mainly from the period between AD1200 and AD1400. Some of these are unique artefacts in animal or human form and made from clay or shell. Fragments of pottery with decoration show some familiar designs and some not previously recorded in Barbados. The area near to the new road, which is on heavy clay, has

revealed a number of large pit-like features and ditches which were also excavated.

Pottery from this area suggests a date of about AD600 to AD1000 for its production.

Maureen Bennell is now an independent archaeologist who has worked with Peter Drewett and the Barbados Museum on several occasions since 1987. Last spring and summer she directed rescue excavations at Port St. Charles following the discovery of large inverted stacked pots at the southern end of the site. Two central areas, now part of the lagoon, were excavated and recorded and what appears to be part of an Amerindian settlement, probably dated to about AD600 with some slightly later elements, was uncovered.

♦

# Museum's role in emancipation celebrations

Below are the opening remarks given by the Director of the Museum Ms. Alissandra Cummins for the launching of the first ever Emancipation on July 25, 1997 at the Museum.

Every museum exhibition, whatever its overt subject, inevitably draws on the cultural assumptions and resources of the people who make it, who fund it, who donate objects to it, and who visit it. Decisions are made to emphasise one element and to downplay others, to assert some truths and to ignore others. The assumptions underpinning these decisions vary according to culture, and over time, place, and type of museum or exhibit. Exhibitions made today may seem obviously appropriate to some viewers precisely because those viewers share the same attitudes as the exhibit makers, and the exhibitions are cloaked in familiar presentational styles. We discover the artifice when we look at older installations or those made in other cultural contexts. The very nature of exhibiting, then, makes it contested terrain.

In Barbados at this historical moment, especially given the heightened interest in issues of identity and nationalism, the inherent contestability of museum exhibits is bound to open the choices made in those exhibits to enthusiastic debate. We at the Barbados Museum welcome it. We embrace it. Groups seeking to establish and maintain a sense of community and to assert their social, political and economic claims in the larger world must work with and, if necessary, challenge the right of established institutions to control the presentation of their heritage and culture. It is only then that the real power of institutions such as this can emerge, when it is challenged,

*The Curators are happy to have been given the opportunity to work with and interact with our colleagues at the Barbados Workers Union*



Director of the Museum as she delivered her opening remarks

when demands are made of it and when it is expected to respond. The staff of the Museum, and particularly its Curators, are happy to have been given the opportunity to work with and interact with our colleagues at the Barbados Workers Union, as well as other eminent cultural strategists who have worked so diligently within the community. For us this has been a special pleasure, and privilege, because any unconscious assumptions have been subject to intense scrutiny and debate. We look forward to extending this process of working within the community in developing other museum or exhibition projects in the future. The interaction with other partners and parties has been especially enriching in what is often a highly isolated process.

The organisers of the exhibition made special efforts to consult with those elders in the community who were part of the process which both Barbados and Barbadians underwent during the turbulence of July 1937.

## Consultation

The ultimate effect of the consultation was to increase awareness among the community of the importance of their memories and mementoes, and to convince them of the esteem in which they are held by this nation. Exhibitions like "Tonight is a Funny Day" represent identity, both directly and indirectly, by implication. When cultural "others" are implicated, exhibitions tell us who we are and, perhaps more significantly who we are not. Exhibitions are

privileged arenas for presenting images of self and "other" We hope and believe that new expectations will arise as a result of this process - that museums can be in the forefront of cultivating new kinds of identity and educating the public about them. Museums, and more particularly this museum, can be a force for change as well as reflection.

## Judgement

Decisions about how cultures are presented reflect deeper judgements of power and authority and, can indeed, resolve themselves into claims about what a nation is or ought to be, as well as how citizens relate to their history and to each other. No matter how the exhibit "Tonight is a Funny Day" has been organised we have aimed to open up the subject matter to multiple responses for only when as a society we have achieved sufficient opportunities like this one, for all our citizens to interact directly with this history, can we assert our right to define both our cultural and community identities within it. We regard this exhibit as a first step in this process of transformation, which the entire institution has been undergoing since the early eighties, rooting out the fundamental assumptions of western imperialism and colonial appropriation which has existed for the previous half century of the Museum's existence. By so doing the Museum can play a critical role in exploring this rich terrain, so consciously and deliberately reflecting and mediating the claims of various groups, to help construct a new vision of ourselves as a nation.

♦  
**Ms. Alissandra Cummins**  
**Director of the Museum**

The 1997 Annual General Meeting for the Barbados Museum & Historical Society was held on August 13, 1997 in the upper courtyard of the Barbados Museum.

The meeting was chaired by the President of the Museum Dr. Trevor Carmichael Q.C.. The meeting began after a moments silence in honor of the late Sir J.S. B. "Jack" Dear, welcoming remarks and a formal address from the President.

Commencing with queries from the floor on the status of the Museum Journal it was reported by Dr. Tony Phillips, Editor of the Journal that it would be ready by December 1997. In addition it was noted that the Museum was attempting to produce two journals during 1997 which would bring the editions up to date. The President further reported that the new Editor for the Museum Journal was now Dr. Karl Watson.

The President then presented his report updating members on curatorial, administrative, education, public relations and marketing matters. These activities highlight-



Museum members as they listened to the President's report

ed the teamwork and the developmental nature of the Museum as it seeks to meet all of the needs of its constituency.

The resignation of Philippa King, Curator for Natural History was reported and the President on behalf of the Council, staff and members of the Museum thanked her for her commitment and hard work over the past thirteen years.

After clarifying a few questions, the Director submitted her financial report for the

period 1995-1997. What was evident from the report was that 1996-1997 saw a dramatic improvement in the finances of the Museum. The Museum Shop made a modest profit and the overdraft was drastically reduced. There were no major questions on the finances but rather applause on the improvement in the financial status of the Museum from previous years.

The President thanked Sir Carlisle Burton for doing an excellent job of chairing the Finance Committee and for

his invaluable knowledge and expertise. The Executive Officer Ms. Melva Yarde was also commended for her tireless efforts to streamline the Museum accounts.

Two new council members were elected. There are Ms. Laura Picard-Leach and Mr. Patrick Hoyos. Permanent Secretary Elsworth Young was also a recent appointment to the Council.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned and refreshments were served. ♦

### ***Museum gets two new volunteers***

Larabeth Barnett is an American whose husband, Ranjit Sagrainsingh is working on contract in Barbados. She is currently at home with their two children Trent, 6 and Raine 2, and active with the American Womens Club of Barbados. Larabeth studied Anthropology and Art History as an undergraduate at Columbia University.

Pamela Gray, from Cheshire, England, is a trained graphic designer with managerial skills and has fifteen years experience working in the print industry in both private and public sectors.

Pamela has experience in marketing and public relations and during her time as a volunteer will be involved in a variety of activities which will include raising the awareness of the Museum as a tourist attraction. ♦

### ***Late invitations not Museum's fault***

The Barbados Museum apologises for the late arrival of invitations to the inaugural lecture and exhibition on July 25, 1997. However, the situation was entirely out of the control of the Museum and its staff.

The invitations were printed and issued by the Ministry of Education, Youth Affairs and Culture. After repeated calls by our Marketing Officer on the status of the invitations, they were received at the Museum

on Monday July 21, 1997 five days before the event. The Museum staff and volunteers worked feverishly to address the invitations and mailed them out on the same day. However it is clear that some were not distributed by the General Post Office until several days later.

We obviously had no control after the invitations were posted on July 21, 1997. Nevertheless, we do apologise for any inconvenience caused. ♦

It was late in the month of May when the final decision was taken to have a one week Summer Camp for children. The details were quickly but thoroughly worked out and the advertisement was aired. Response was quick and so, at 9.00 a.m. on July 14, the Museum's Summer Camp was started with 27 children aged 9-11+.

### *Highlights of the camp included:*

**Tours** - through the Museum, to Graeme Hall Swamp, to the Heywoods archaeological dig and to the Barbados Gallery of Art.

**Art & Craft** - the campers made pottery items and used methods of decoration similar to those which the Amerindians used. They also used odds and ends of natural materials to create useful or decorative objects. Much of this was done with the assistance of Colleen Lewis, a museum volunteer.

**Drama & Dance** - These activities occurred every day. Camp Councillor Latoya Miller was exceptional in her management of this aspect of the camp.



Campers as they performed the finale of their multi media presentation

**Folk Singing** - Folk songs were taught, especially those like "Bromley" and "Lick and Lock Up Done Wid," which relate to aspects of history highlighted in the galleries.

**Games** - Old fashioned and modern ring games were played, but the highlight for many was Warri. Great enthusiasm was shown for this game when Lee Farnum-Badley visited to teach it.

Campers were questioned on some of the activities which they attended. The winner of the quiz series was Jennifer Mahon, followed very closely by Yejide Maynard and Alex Williams. Prizes were awarded for their achievements.

The most outstanding campers were Jomo Lashley and Jennifer Mahon and they received special prizes.

On the final day all campers and Councillors received Certificates of Participation from the Camp Director Peggy McGeary and Museum Director Alissandra Cummins. Parents were treated

to a special multi-media production depicting the arrival of the Europeans to the region and the disruption of the lives of the original Indian population. Folk songs and games were also performed. All of the campers' "fine art" was on display.

The Barbados Museum would like to thank **Farmers Choice** for donating a tent and souvenirs and for sponsoring one day's activity. We would also like to thank Dr. Karl Watson, and archaeologists Dr. Peter Drewett and Maureen Bennell for their support and participation. ♦



A cross section of the parents as they enjoyed the presentation Director of the Barbados Museum Ms. Alissandra Cummins was also in attendance



A captive audience at the Barbados Gallery of Art

# Museum bids farewell to Philippa

The Barbados Museum bids a sad farewell to its Curator of Natural History Ms. Philippa King. Ms. King has been with the Barbados Museum for thirteen years and has been a much valued employee.

Ms. King has brought to the Museum and to her responsibilities a dedication and commitment which is second to none.

## Preservation

Philippa has been responsible for and advocated for the preservation and conservation of the environment. Her role has extended outside the doors of the Museum. Her expertise has been utilised by the Barbados Environmental Association and the Barbados Government and has extended to other non-governmental agencies. This makes her contribution outstanding.

She was mandated to collect zoological and botanical specimens, she also managed the storage of the Natural History Collection which

included cataloguing and planning storage facilities.

This innovative lady also planned and designed the Natural History exhibits in Harewood Gallery and was responsible for transforming the collections into a comprehensive display. When the archaeological collections came under Philippa's portfolio she



Philippa on a field trip with Junior Curators



Philippa undergoing curatorial training

facilitated the International archaeological teams that came to the island and ensured that all the artifacts which were recovered were properly stored at the Barbados Museum.

Not only has Philippa been an invaluable resource in her specific area, she has also been a team player assisting in all areas of Museum business.

At one point she edited the Museum Newsletter and could be found assisting at all Museum events.

According to her long-time colleague and friend Lesley Barrow-Whatley, "Philippa's leaving is a great loss to the Barbados Museum and to the field of conservation."

Philippa will be resuming residence in Canada with her husband Andre.

The Barbados Museum wishes Philippa the best of luck in all her future endeavours. She will be truly missed. ♦



Philippa at the beach collecting samples of specimens

## Annual Fine Craft Festival

Members are reminded of the Annual Fine Craft Festival on December 6, 1997. As has become the norm with the Fine Craft Festival beautiful art & craft will be on sale reasonably priced.

This year the Museum is seeking to take the festival to the next level by improving all aspects. There will be a greater marketing thrust this year and activities for children. We look forward to the patronage of the members.

## VOLUNTEERS

The Barbados Museum is seeking volunteers who have an interest in flower arranging to work on a project to beautify the reception area and the Museum galleries with fresh flowers on a weekly or bi-weekly basis.

If you love flowers and have an eye for decorating, please contact the Director, Ms. Alissandra Cummins or Ms. Maria Boyce-Taylor at 427-0201 or 436-1956.

## Museum welcomes new members

The Barbados Museum & Historical Society welcomes the following new members to the Museum family:

Mr. Jomo Michael Lashley

Mr. Daniel Mouer

Ms. Robin L. Ryder

Mr Justice Eric Bishop & Mrs Jocelyn Bishop

Mr & Mrs Peter Prestwich

Mr. Reinaldo Morales Jr

Mr. Gerad R. Cuke

Ms E. Anne Dyke

Ms. Iris Agard Hawkins

Ms. Nadia Edwards

Mr & Mrs Glyne Murray

Ms. Ayodele Murray

Mr. David Phillips

Mr. Mark Norville

Ms. Natasha Barnes

Mr & Mrs Geoffrey Ramsey

Mr. Jason Ramsey

Ms. Ahkelia Briggs

Ms. Helen Dawson

Ms. Antoine Giacometti

Ms. Jill Walker

Dr & Mrs Carol Boyd-Scobie

Ms. Zenas Phillips

## Library news

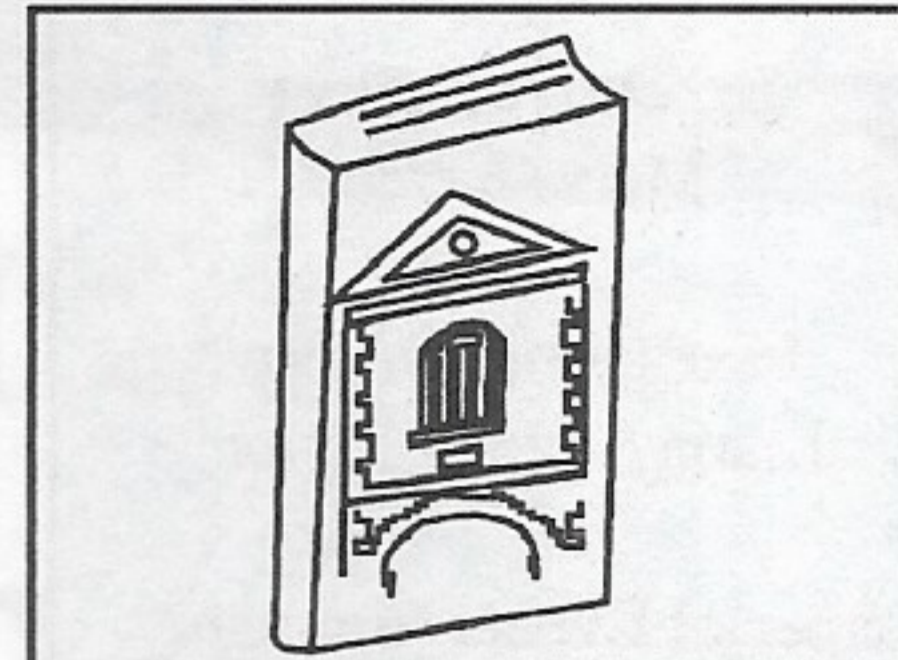
**Researchers:** The following persons sought information for material for their books.

Anne Yates - photographs;  
David Lambert - researching Lord Nelson for his thesis;  
Mr Ramsey - perusing West Indian travel books on material for the book he plans to write soon.

**Genealogical Researchers:**

Mr Peter Lovell, from as far away as Australia, was researching the Haynes and Lovell family who inherited the Haynes family silver. He spent two days in the library. Mr Paton, from the U.S.A., a descendant of General Paton and related to Chris Patten, the recent Governor of Hong Kong was researching William and Daniel Wills.

All researchers lauded the library for the information they received. We are grateful to our volunteer typist, Laurabeth Barnett



The new library logo

who is now starting to type up the information for the Name Index. Miss Sheila Belgrave has been diligently correcting material already done by students for the vols. 30-41 of the Name Index. The subject index for these will eventually be brought up to date. We are still looking for "Bajan Magazines" April - June 1956.

The Library is collecting books, paperbacks and magazines to sell at our Craft Festival in December. Please bring any you have to the library. Revenue obtained helps with our finances. ♦

The Museum extends warmest birthday wishes to members who are celebrating their birthdays in the Months of July, August & September.

## New Offer to members

The Barbados Museum is aware of the contribution that members make to museum visitorship by bringing their family and friends to visit the Museum. In recognition of this the Museum is offering reduced admission for visitors of members of the Museum on the production of a current membership card. This offer of \$7.00 admission will take effect from October 1, 1997.

To those members who have been consistently bringing friends, family or business associates we offer our sincere thanks and we look forward to your continued patronage. ♦

## MUSEUM STAFF

### ADMINISTRATION

#### DIRECTOR

Alissandra Cummins

#### Executive Officer

Melva Yarde

#### Marketing Officer

Maria Boyce - Taylor

#### Special Events Manager

Christopher Chandler

#### Shop Manager

Anita King

#### Administrative Assistant

Marcia Griffith

#### Executive Secretary

Angela Boyce

### CURATORIAL

#### Art & History

Lesley Barrow- Whatley

#### Education Officer

Peggy McGearry

### LIBRARY

#### Librarian

Betty Shannon

### TECHNICAL & MAINTENANCE

Merna Bryan

Joycelyn Burke

Stephen Layne

Reginald Riley

Shawn Rowe

Pauline Stuart

### RECEPTION

Shalana Benons

Wendy Husbands

Hester St. Rose

Stephenson Callender

### SECURITY

Rudolph Beckles

Beresford Nurse

Royston Sargeant

Grantley Yarde

Clarence Welch

# ON VIEW , October's temporary Exhibition

This exhibition of ink drawings and metal sculptures opens at the Museum on Saturday October 4th and runs until October 31st.

While attending high school in New York City during the 1980's, Ian Moore exhibited in several shows, and earned merit for his work including an award - the Haney Medal from the Metropolitan Museum of Art in that city. Recognition of his talent continued after his return here. In 1995 Moore, a graduate of the Division of Fine Art, Barbados Community College, won a gold and silver medal along with the Incentive award as the most promising painter in the NIFCA BET Visual and Plastic Arts Exhibition. During that same year, along with Alison Chapman - Andrews and another upcoming talent, Devin Griffith, he was selected to represent the island at the 4th Santo Domingo Biennale Drawing Competition.

The ink drawings and sculptures (constructed of steel, iron and ball-bearings) are striking expressions of the artist's internal personal world ; signs and symbols devoid of the superficiality

## 'POWER BEYOND WHAT IS NORMAL' : The Drawings and Sculpture of Ian Moore

which seems to be turning up in so much art today. Mr. Moore is a man to watch and we invite you to judge for yourself!

Members and the public are invited to see the show during normal Museum hours.

The Barbados Museum continues through its exhibition progr-

amme, to introduce and present quality exhibitions for public consumption. In a country this size, considering that there are other gallery spaces, we average about five to six exhibitions a year. The other slots are taken up with in-house or travelling exhibitions of a more educational and or informative nature. ♦

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### OCTOBER:

October 3: Opening of Ian Moore exhibition

October 4 - November 4: Ian Moore Exhibition

October 6: Public Holiday. Museum closed

October 13: Docent function

### NOVEMBER:

November 30: Public Holiday. Museum Closed

### DECEMBER:

December 6: Fine Craft Festival

December 19: Volunteer Cocktail reception