



## B'dos project inscribed on the Memory of the World Register

The Declaration of the Rights of Man and documents pertaining to slavery in the Caribbean, are among the 23 documentary collections from 20 countries, selected for inscription on the Memory of the World Register of library and archive material, during a three-day meeting for the International Advisory Committee (IAC) of UNESCO's **Memory of the World** Programme in Gdansk, Poland that ended on Saturday, August 30, 2003.

### *Barbados*

At this meeting of the twelve new countries that entered the register, Barbados is now registered. A total of 91 properties from 45 countries are inscribed on the Memory of the World Register, which was established in 1997 to preserve and promote documentary heritage of universal value.

Barbados' project spearheaded by the Barbados Museum, is entitled '*Documentary Heritage of Enslaved Peoples of the Caribbean*' and is a unique corpus of documentary evidence, including legal documents, plantation ledgers, estate and shipping inventories, rare books, original prints and paintings, relating to the lives of enslaved Caribbean people through the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, preserved at the Barbados Museum & Historical Society. The collection provides invaluable source materials for scholars studying the history of Barbados, which has been described

### *BMHS co-ordinates project on the Documentary Heritage of Enslaved Peoples of the Caribbean, which has been inscribed on the Memory of the World Register*

as the model for the development of the plantation economies of the Caribbean and North America. Such sources are particularly valuable in view of family history and the absence of 'ancestral memory' among the majority of the Caribbean, African and African American people, whose ancestors had little control over their destiny or direction.

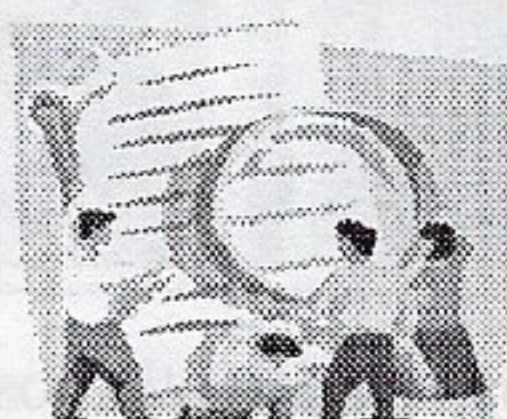
### *Records*

Access to these records can assist in the articulation of an integrated sense of the political and social evolution of New World plantation communities and their impact on modern and social pattern.

Its study could recover the lost heritage of millions of people.

The **Memory of the World** programme was set up by UNESCO ten years ago to preserve and promote documentary heritage, much of which is endangered. The programme helps networks of experts to exchange information and raise resources for preservation, digitisation and dissemination of documentary material. The inscriptions are determined by the IAC, a body of 14 leading specialists appointed by the Director-General. □

Taken from the UNESCO website.  
[www.unesco.org](http://www.unesco.org)



## What's inside

- ❖ Celebrating our volunteers' achievements
- ❖ Historical facts on Bridgetown
- ❖ Museum honours Warren Alleyne



### MISSION STATEMENT

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

### PATRON

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

### COUNCIL

#### President

Dr. Trevor Carmichael Q.C.

#### Senior Vice President

Prof. Woodville Marshall

#### Junior Vice President

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Mr. John Gibbs  
Ms. Susan Mahon  
Mr. Adrian Deane  
Mr. Geoffrey Ramsey  
Mr. Geoffrey Hart

#### Government Appointees

Mrs. Andrea Wells  
Professor Hilary Beckles  
Mr. Steven Devonish  
Ms. Faye Burke  
Ms. Gail Atkins

## Celebrating our volunteers' achievements

The Barbados Museum & Historical Society is recognising the achievements of our volunteers. In this issue we extend congratulations to Mrs. Joyce Thompson our volunteer tour guide, who was awarded the title of Order of the British Empire (OBE) in the Queens Honours, 2003.

This very dedicated volunteer has been with the Museum for the past ten (10) years, teaching and relaying the history and heritage of our island to thousands of children and adults.

### Teacher

Mrs. Thompson is a certified teacher who obtained her training at the Erdiston Teachers College. She taught Home Economics both in school and in adult evening classes. In 1969 she gained a Diploma in Community Nutrition from the University of the West Indies (Mona) in collaboration with the Caribbean Food and Nutrition Institute. In 1971 Mrs. Thompson was transferred to the Executive of the School Meals Department and later represented Barbados in India at the UNESCO workshop on 'School Feeding in Developing Countries.' In 1982, Mrs. Thompson became Manager of the Schools Meals department.



*Mrs. Joyce Thompson*

This very active lady is involved with a number of service organisations, including the Corona World Wide, where she holds the post of Treasurer, The Royal Commonwealth Society, The Barbados Womens' Club and the Association of Retired Officers Services and Education as President.

The Barbados Museum is honoured to have Mrs. Thompson as one of our members and once again we extend our best wishes and congratulations to her for her much deserved award. ♦



## Museum hosts students

*The Duke of Edinburgh participants who volunteered at the Museum with Assistant Curator for Art and Archaeology, Kevin Farmer*

The Barbados Museum recently hosted 10 students from the Duke of Edinburgh Caribbean Award Scheme Programme (CASC). The students were from the United Kingdom and volunteered at the Museum for one week before travelling to St. Vincent to participate in the Caribbean Award

**Scheme Programme.** The group volunteered in the areas of Archaeology and Art. The students also experienced and participated in the museum's 'Show & Tell' programme in the making of Breadfruit Waffles. This was facilitated by Mrs. Marion Hart. □



## Museum honours Mr. Warren Alleyne

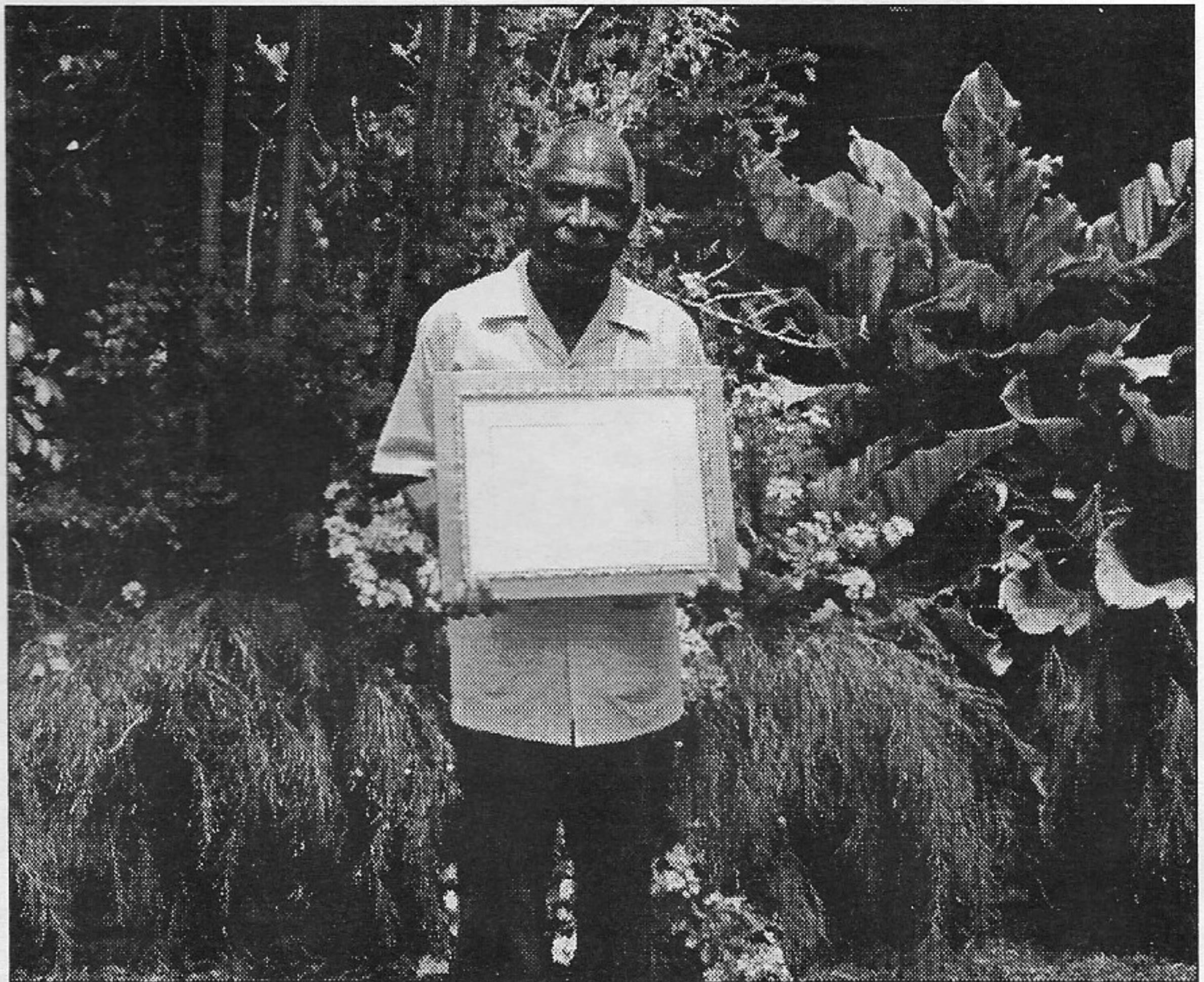
Mr. Warren Alleyne, who is noted for historical research, was honoured by the Barbados Museum & Historical Society for his significant contribution to research on Bridgetown and Barbados, on Tuesday July 22, 2003 at Solidarity House. The presentation was part of the programme of the 13th lecture in the 375th anniversary of Bridgetown Lecture Series. This lecture was delivered by Professor Woodville Marshall and was entitled '**Clement Payne in the City.**'

Mr. Alleyne is a tireless historical researcher, who has published many articles based on his findings, in such publications as the '**Bajan Magazine**' and the '**Nation Newspaper.**' He has also written a number of books on varying aspects of Barbados' history. These include **The Barbados-Carolina Connection** (which he coauthored with Professor Henry Fraser) and **Historic Bridgetown**, which was recently reprinted by the Government Information Service.

Director of the Barbados Museum, Ms. Alissandra Cummins, commented that '*as we celebrate Bridgetown's 375th anniversary, it is only fitting and appropriate to recognize the valuable contribution by Mr. Alleyne to researching and documenting this city's history. His work on Bridgetown has played a vital part in educating us on the rich history of this city.*'

Mr. Alleyne was also made an honorary member of the Museum's Council by the President of the Barbados Museum, Dr. Trevor Carmichael. In accepting this honour, Mr. Alleyne thanked the Barbados Museum for the certificate and expressed his appreciation for being recognised for his contribution to research on Bridgetown. ❖

*Please see page 6 for the full tribute from Prof. Henry Fraser.*



*Mr. Warren Alleyne with the Certificate of Appreciation, presented to him by the Barbados Museum & Historical Society.*

### NOW AVAILABLE

#### *In the Museum Shop*

**'Place Names of Barbados' Addinton Forde**

**'Caribbean Elegance' Michael Connors**

**'Barbadian Rum Shops' Peter Laurie**

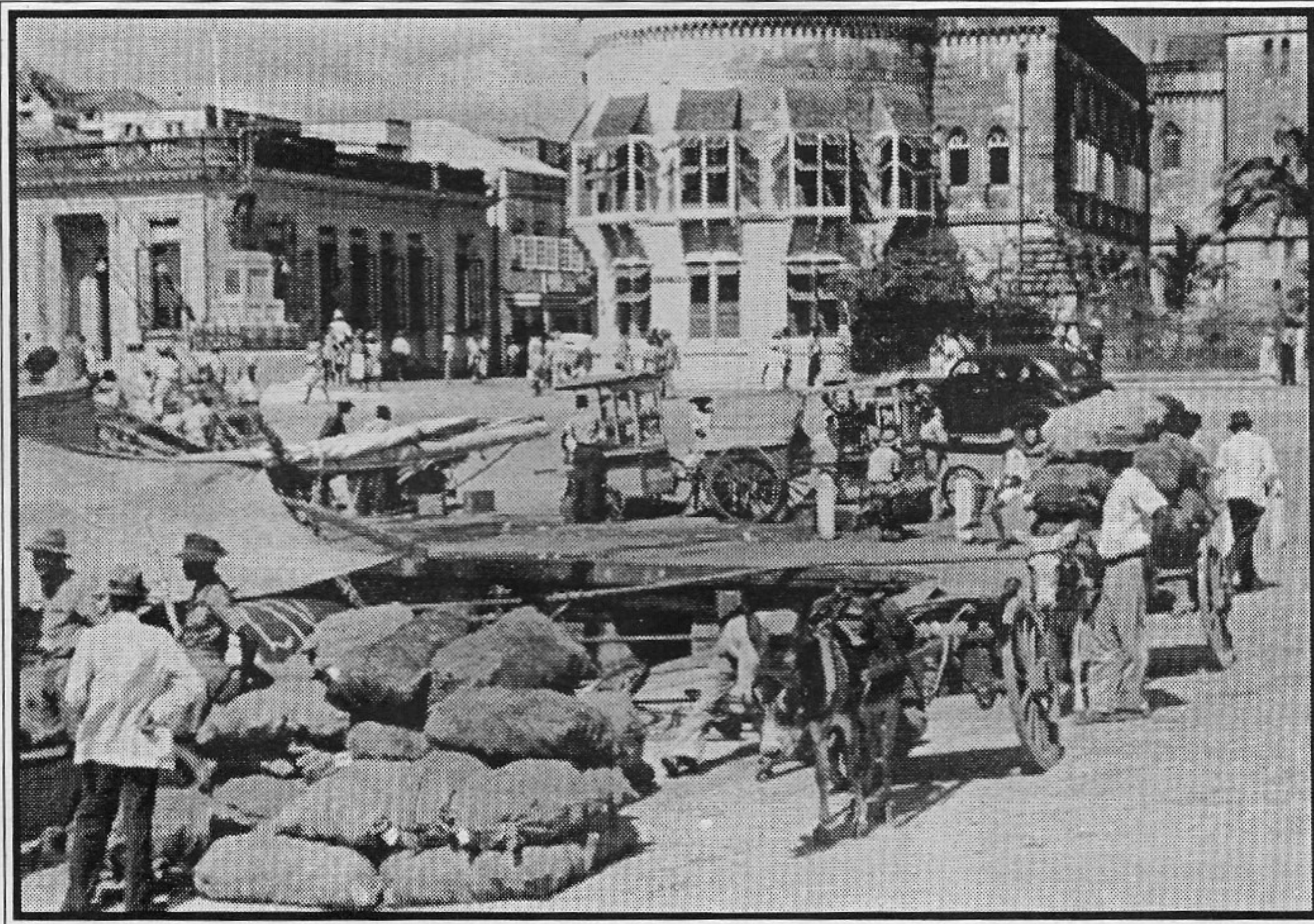
**'Historic Bridgetown' Second Edition Mr. Warren Alleyne**

**10% Discount  
for all museum  
members**





## *Some historical facts on Bridgetown*



*'Goods at the Wharfside' from the William Bertalan Collection*

**Ichirouganiam-:** This was the Amerindian name for **Barbados-Red Land with White Teeth.**

**The Bridge** was constructed by the Amerindian inhabitants and it is from this that the town received its name. The town was settled by the British in 1628 as payment for a debt owed by The Earl of Carlisle to his debtors. They sailed into the Bay and came ashore noting a wooden bridge which was called **'The Bridge'**.

**St. Mary** is the oldest consecrated ground in the city. The site was abandoned and a new church built on the present location of **St. Michael's Cathedral.**

Present day **St. George Street & Hincks Street** are two of the oldest streets in the city. These streets were originally called Madeira and Canary Street respectively.

**The Lower Green** was once the Sunday market for the enslaved population.

The present minibus stand in **Constitution Road** was the terminus of the Barbados Railway.

Telephone was introduced into Barbados some three years after its invention. **Tropical American Telephone**

**Company** in 1882 was able to obtain customers from nearly all of the merchant houses.

By the 1880s the city had a tramway that connected the center of the town to **Fontabelle and Hastings.**

Broad Street was once known as **'The Exchange.'**

**Tourism in Bridgetown:** During the 17th and 18th centuries Barbados was one of the most metropolitan and commercially important colonies of the British empire, with Barbados being the major transshipment point of the British West Indian islands. A significant number of ships and visitors converged on the island on a daily basis. As a result of this, Bridgetown, by extension became one of the busiest and most important port towns in the Atlantic World.

**Constitution River** as we know it, was an inland tidal river which allowed shipping as far as the present day Globe roundabout.

**Heroes Square:** This ground has changed its name three times over the last 200 years from Egginton's Green to Trafalgar Square. □



## Museum hosts the launch of 'Barbados First'

The Barbados Museum hosted the launch of the book **'Barbados First. The Years of Change'** written by Dr. Karl Watson, editor of the Journal of the Barbados Museum & Historical Society (JBMHS) and Honorary Member of the Barbados National Trust. The book launch was attended by friends, colleagues and associates of Dr. Watson. Speaking at the launch were Prof. Henry Fraser, Prof. Hilary Beckles, Dr. Trevor Carmichael and the chairperson, the Director of the Barbados Museum, Alistair Cummins.

Dr. Watson presented copies of the book to the Museum library, National Library Service and the University of the West Indies Library.

### *Pictorial history*

This book continues the pictorial history of Barbados which was started in **Bygone Barbados** and written by the late Ann Watson Yates, Dr. Watson's cousin. According to Dr. Watson, the intent of the book is *'through pictorial images to give the reader some understanding of the socio-economic and political changes which this island has undergone in the period 1920-1970.'* It is meant to complement rather than supersede the earlier work, so that the two can be read together or conversely, either one can stand alone on its own merits.'

Some of the images that have been captured in this book are The Jubilee Gardens, C. 1900, The Famous 3 W's C.1960, an aerial view of Bridgetown, C. 1940 and Holetown Fort, St. James, 1948.

The book is on sale at the Barbados Museum Bookshop. □

## BARBADOS FIRST

THE YEARS OF CHANGE



Karl Watson

The cover of the book Barbados First the Years of Change



*Happy Birthday  
to all members  
celebrating birthdays  
in  
September, October &  
November*

## Thank You

The Barbados Museum sincerely thanks the following companies for their support of the Farmers Market & Plantation Breakfast held on July 12, 2003.

- ❖ IICA
- ❖ World Wide Travel
- ❖ Barbados Dairy Industries
- ❖ Banks Barbados Breweries
- ❖ Nassco Ltd
- ❖ Dr. Bertie Graham

❖ The patrons who supported this event  
Look out for another Farmers Market next year!!!

**THANK  
YOU!**



## A tribute to Mr. Warren Alleyne

*Below is the oratorical tribute to Mr. Warren Alleyne delivered by Prof. Henry Fraser.*

**William Warren Alleyne** was born in Dunlow Lane, St. Michael, on the twenty-fifth of September, 1924. He was known as William for his first five years, but his mother then insisted he must be known as Warren- it definitely has a stronger ring- Warren Alleyne, Historian Extraordinaire.

He went to school at the Bay Street Boys School at the tender age of five going on six, and was exposed to some of the finest teachers in Barbados. Charles Thomas Phillips, father of the late Asquith Phillips, was Headmaster. His form master was Alleyne Durant, father of retired Commissioner of Police Orville Durant, who taught him to read quickly-they could read the Bible by Class 3. Mr. Durant aroused his interest in history, with stories of chivalry and famous heroes, and he modelled his copy-plate handwriting after Mr. Durant's.

### Education

Warren left school at 15 in 1939- two years after the riots, with Barbados just beginning to emerge from its 99 years sleep of 1838-1937, and when secondary education was for the small middle class and a handful of vestry scholars. But he made his way by volunteering for the Royal Airforce. He eventually arrived in England in 1944 where he was trained as a Wireless Operator and posted in London. After the war he completed 5 O Levels, including History, as a part time student at the Technical College of Gloucester (now a University).

He spent 22 years in the RAF, with postings including Germany, first as part of the Occupation Forces and then in the Cold War, and more than two years in Cyprus. He rose to the rank of Sergeant and was decorated many times, with the Defence Medal in 1945, the War Medal in 1946 and the RAF Long Service and Good Conduct Medal in 1962.

He retired in 1966 and returned home, with his wife and daughter Catherine, and joined BWIA. But his life long interest in history was further

piqued by reading in a magazine while in Germany of the Barbadian gentleman Pirate Stede Bonnet. And it wasn't long before he found himself almost living in the Barbados Department of Archives, and contributing articles on local history to the **Bajan Magazine**- on Bonnet and many other colourful Bajan characters and facts. Since 1981 he has written for the 'Nation' and the 'Sunday Sun', and in 1984 and 1985 he coauthor with yours truly 53 weekly articles for the 'Sunday Advocate.' These were called 'Preserving our Heritage-Historic Buildings Reborn'.

### Architecture

That was a wonderful year, in which I spent every Sunday afternoon photographing important buildings and blending Warren's wealth of historic facts with architectural or touristic commentary. I only had to mention a building to Warren and he would regale me with pages of interesting facts from his database. He never failed. Now these were the days before personal computers, but what wasn't immediately available from his lap top would soon follow from his hard drive, which consisted of about 5000 exercise books filled with long hand notes.

### Publications

But Warren's most important contribution to the historiography of Barbados came from his several books. He has written **'Historic Bridgetown, The Story of St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Caribbean Pirates, The Barbados -Carolina Connection** (with yours truly), **The Houses of the Barbados Assembly, the Barbados Garrison and its buildings (with Jill Shepherd) and Barbados at War, 1939-1945.** And the most important of these, I submit, is **Historic Bridgetown**, first published by the **Barbados National Trust** in 1978 and republished by the Barbados Government Information Service just a few weeks ago, in a splendid upmarket second edition, illustrated with old photographs. This book should be in every home in Barbados.

Of the Barbados Carolina Connection I must say a bit more.

Warren has had a passionate interest in the exploits of Barbadians in other parts of the world and did a great deal of research at the Barbados Museum on the role of Bajans in the exploration, settlement and governance of the Carolinas. The late Sir Jack Dear, as chairman of the Board of Tourism, thought this history should be exploited and commissioned Warren and me to visit Charleston to collect material for promotional use, and possibly for a book. We did a typically American thing- a four day visit and then write a book! But to be truthful, Warren had done years of research before the visit, I did weeks of research after the visit, and I brought back hundreds of photos, and we burnt the midnight oil for months to fulfill our commission.

### Knowledge

But what stands out in my mind about that visit, accompanied by staff of the BTA, was the treasure trove of Warrenabilia to which we were treated. When Warren began with **'Did you know?'** We knew at once we did **NOT** know, but were about to be treated with encyclopedic details of the most fascinating facts of early American or Barbadian history.

### Community service

Warren has devoted an enormous amount of time in community service, on the Council of the Barbados National Trust, the Barbados Museum, The Barbados Legion of British Commonwealth Ex-services League, on the Public Relations Committee to the Defence Board and the General Post Office Stamp Committee, and on the RAF Association (Barbados Branch). His reward is not in awards like his military decorations or the Barbados Service Star awarded in 1989, but in the joy of serving and the joy of sharing. For Warren sharing the history of our beloved country is its own reward, for to share is to serve and to serve is to love. And so the name of Warren Alleyne has become a household name in Barbados, and almost synonymous with the history of Bridgetown. ▣  
**Prof. Henry Fraser**



## *Museum participating in Green Expo 2003*

Members and visitors are welcome to view the Barbados Museum and Historical Society's (BMHS/Museum) exhibition and sample our free educational materials, this year at **Green Expo 2003**. The Museum is mounting a small exhibition describing our programmes, services and displays in the Harewood gallery in order to highlight their educational value.

Each year the museum plays a vital role in the education of Barbadians and visitors to the island. Our activities are focused on collecting, documenting and conserving evidence of our heritage including our natural environment. Many of the services at the museum are geared towards using our Natural History collection, to educate the public about the importance of the environment and the need for preservation.

### *Exhibition*

The exhibition will highlight the services of the Barbados Museum's Natural History Department, such as guided tours to groups, schools camps etc, identification of animal specimens based on the samples we presently have. The museum offers a number of services to the public relating to its Natural History collection. This includes the dissemination of information on natural history themes (e.g. butterflies, sea shells, etc.); access to the Natural History collections (animal, plant and

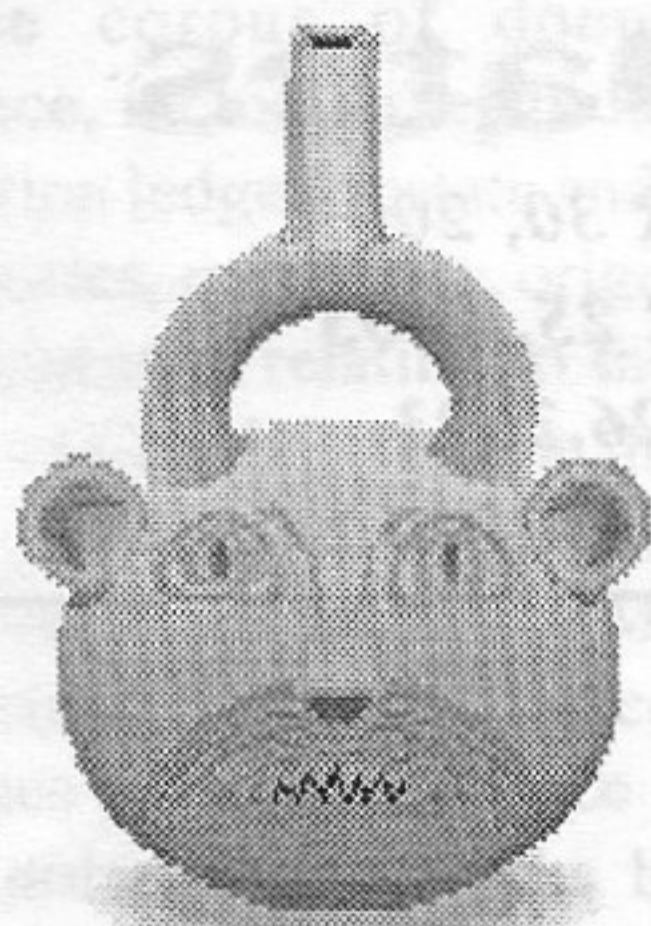
geological) for educational and research purposes; the collection of animal, plant and geological specimens for preservation; circulation of educational information such as workbooks and booklets and the hosting of lectures on environmental issues such as sustainable agricultural practices, recycling etc.

Complimentary information is provided through the Workbook '**Plants Our Friend in Survival**'. This activity based booklet is geared towards helping children understand plants and the importance of survival. Bookmarks containing pertinent environment information will also be distributed.

### *Specimens*

Visitors to this exhibition will also see a display of natural history specimens including: butterflies, corals, sea shells and birds. Green Expo 2003 is to inform consumers' of their choices. It is an exposition of environmental products, services, ideas and processes that improve business competitiveness and enhance personal quality of life. The Museum coordinator for this exhibition is Mrs. Monique Ifill, Assistant Curator for Natural History. The exhibition runs from October 17-19, 2003 at the Sherbourne Conference Centre from 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. □

## *Fine Craft Festival 2003*

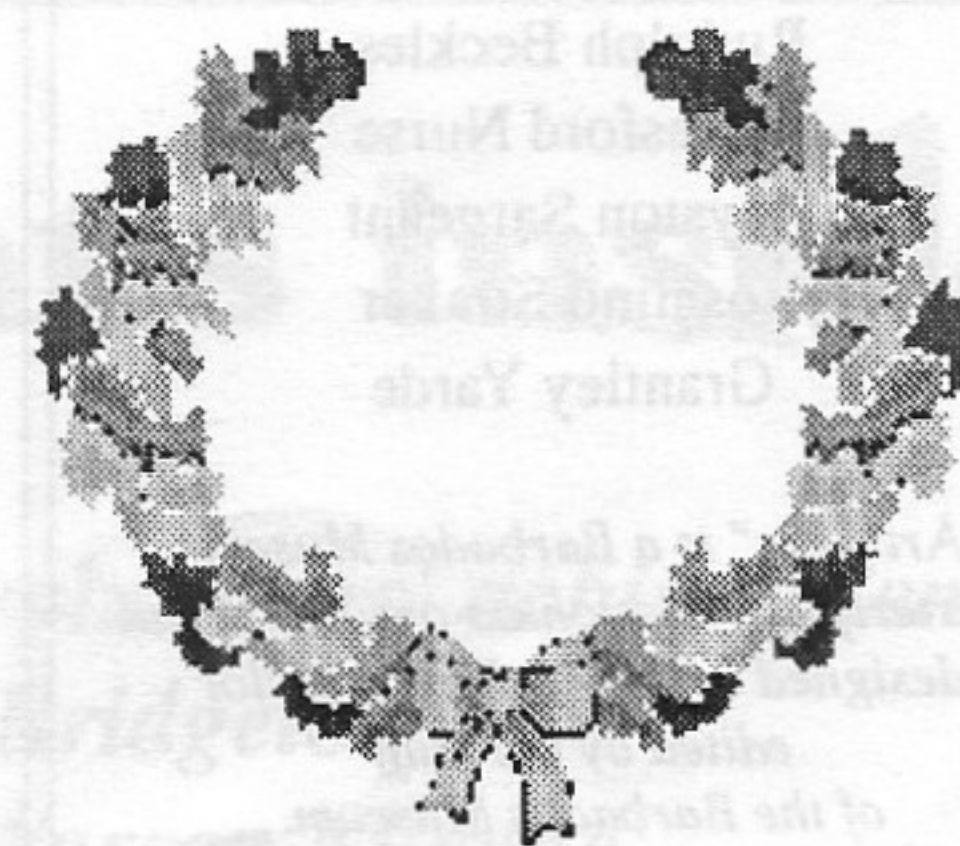


*Saturday December 6, 2003*

*10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.*

*Barbados Museum*

*Children: \$3.00, Adults: \$6.00*





## Museum Staff

### ADMINISTRATION

#### DIRECTOR

Alissandra Cummins

#### Executive Officer

Melva Yarde

#### Marketing Officer

Maria Boyce Taylor

#### Administrative Assistant

Marcia Griffith

#### Administrative Assistant, Accounts

Wendy Husbands

#### Assistant Administrative Officer

Susan Boyce

### CURATORIAL

#### Archaeology and History

Kevin Farmer

#### Art & Art History

Allison Headley

#### Natural History

Monique Ifill

#### Education Officer

Peggy McGearry

#### Registrar

Angela Boyce

### LIBRARY

Betty Shannon

### TECHNICAL & MAINTENANCE

Merna Bryan

Stephen Layne

Reginald Riley

Pauline Stuart

Avni Rouse

Jason Alfred

### RECEPTION & SHOP

Cindy Corbin

Gail Harper

### SECURITY

Rudolph Beckles

Beresford Nurse

Royston Sargeant

Rosalind Straker

Grantley Yarde

"Artifacts" is a Barbados Museum  
quarterly publication co-ordinated and  
designed by Maria Boyce Taylor  
edited by the Staff  
of the Barbados Museum.

# Calendar of events



## Bridgetown Lecture Series

October 21, 2003

*Bridgetown Today and Tomorrow*

*Deputy Prime Minister The Hon. Billie Miller.*

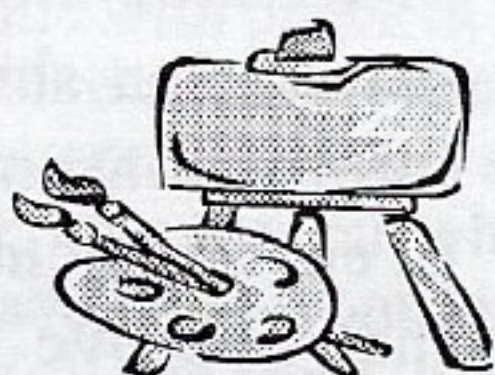
*Frank Collymore Hall.*

*Coming in 2004: Barbadian Diaspora:  
100 years Migration Lecture Series*

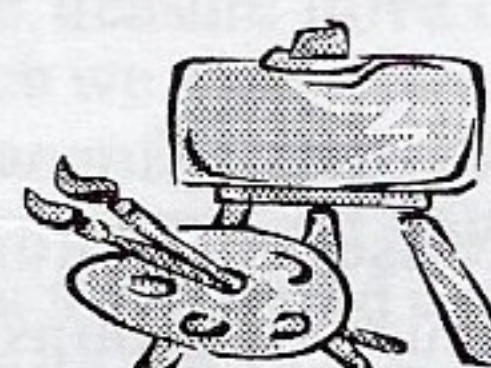
## POPULAR ART EXHIBITION

Part of the  
AICA Southern Caribbean Congress 2003

November 11 – December 11, 2003



Temporary Exhibition Gallery  
Barbados Museum St. Ann's Garrison  
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m Monday - Friday  
2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m Sunday



## Other Events

December 6, 2003:

*Fine Craft Festival*

10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

*Barbados Museum.*

## Closure Dates

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2003

THURSDAY DECEMBER 25, 2003

FRIDAY DECEMBER 26, 2003

THURSDAY JANUARY 1, 2004