


ARTI-FACTS

Barbados
Museum
& Historical
Society

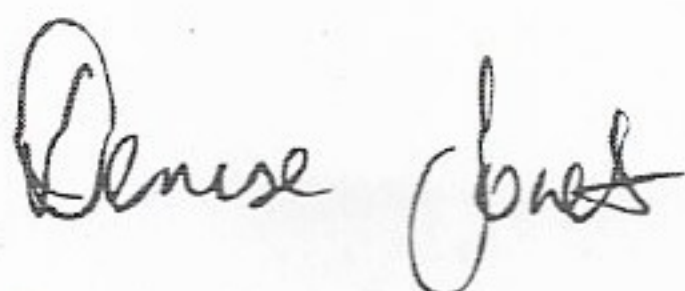
BARBADOS MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Dear Member,

 Wishes to you for the New Year, from all at the Museum.

The first three months of this year has been a busy time for us with the highlight of the year the official visit from His Excellency President Festus Mogae of Botswana and the Rt. Hon. Owen Arthur Prime Minister on 23rd February. This significant occasion will hopefully ensure that the gallery remains in the public eye and high on the local agenda. The 2005 lecture series has also got off to a tremendous start with over 200 patrons attending the first lecture delivered by Professor Sean Carrington on the Environment & Ecosystems of Barbados, followed by Professor Hans Machel and Dr. Leonard Nurse. If you have missed the lectures so far, we hope you will be able to attend the 3 remaining lectures before the end of the series in May.

Don't forget we also welcome your ideas and views about Arti-facts so please feel free to write to us or send us an email at musepr@barbmuse.org.bb



Denise Jones

Marketing Officer

OFFICIAL VISIT



Welcome to the President of Botswana from school children, at the Grantley Adams International Airport

The recent opening of the redesigned African Gallery has signified a high point for the Barbados Museum and Historical Society. This was renewed again on 23rd February when the gallery was selected as the venue to host the official visit from the President of Botswana, H.E. Mr Festus Mogae and the Prime Minister of Barbados, the Rt. Hon. Owen Arthur for the signing of a double taxation agreement and memorandum of understanding.

The Deputy Prime Minister, Senior Minister for Foreign Affairs and other Ministers were in attendance, as well as other specially invited guests from culture and arts organisations. President of the Society's Council, Dr. Trevor Carmichael gave a brief welcome address and later closed with the



Hand over of the double taxation agreement and memorandum of understanding

formal presentation of a gift of a reproduction of the Ford map which dates from 1674, to President Mogae from the Society.

This historic event was well reported in the local press with extensive coverage from CBC.



Presentation of the Ford map to President Mogae from Dr. Trevor Carmichael

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Tourism Seminar



Mr. John White of the British High Commission delivering the welcome address at the start of the seminar

A tourism seminar entitled Tomorrow's Tourism - Fresh Ideas & New Offers was attended on 24th February by the Marketing Officer and Assistant Curator - History. The seminar organised by the UK Trade & Investment Division of the British High Commission on behalf of the British Consultants & Construction Bureau (BCCB), focused on a range of skills and expertise available from the UK, relevant to the tourism sector in the Caribbean. The keynote address was delivered by Mr. Luther Miller of the Caribbean Tourism Organisation and participants included those from the NCC, NCF and University of the West Indies.

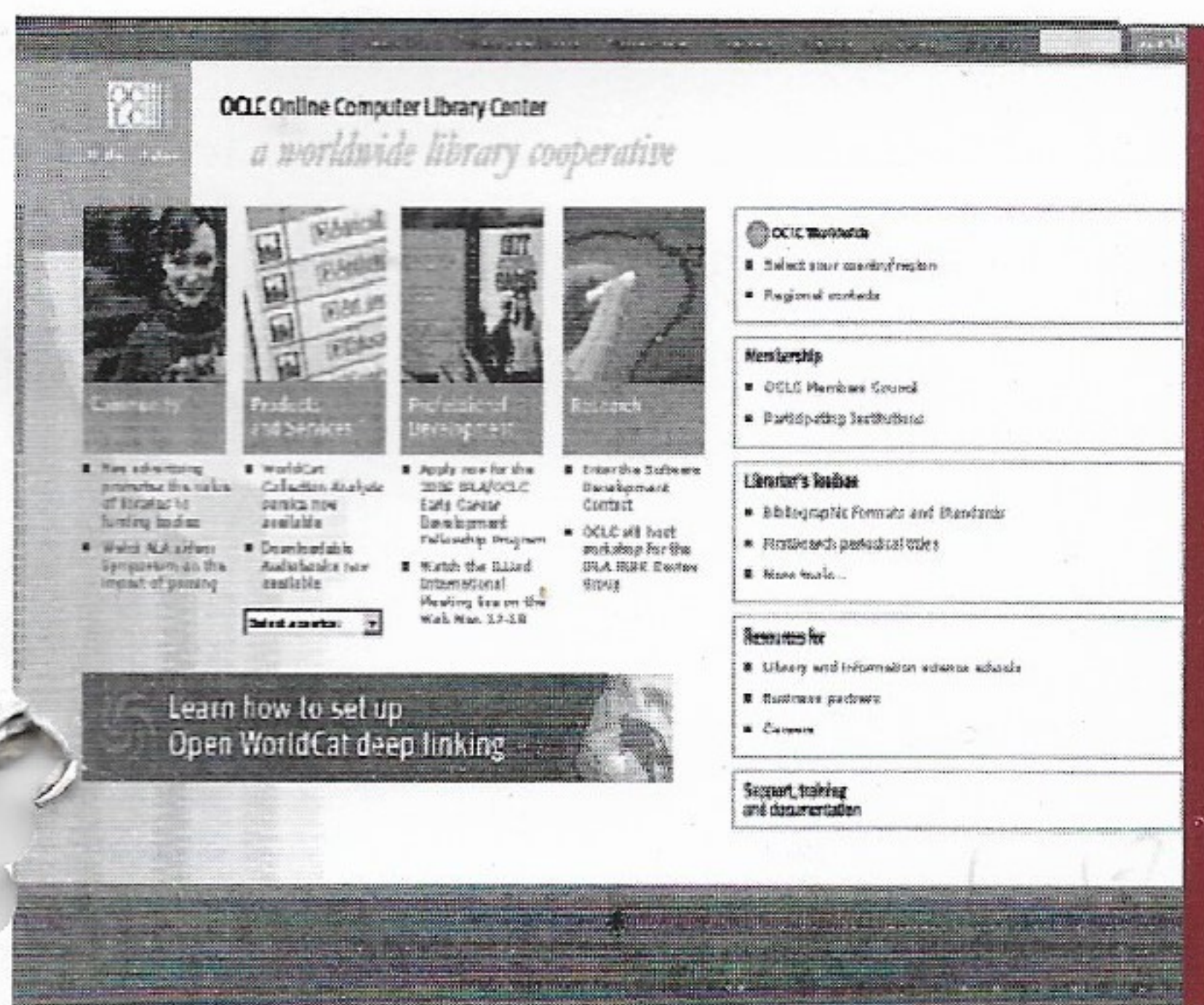
The seminar though mainly covering trade and services provided the opportunity for informal networking between seminar participants and the team assembled from the UK. Preliminary discussions were held between the Curator of the MCC Cricket Museum at Lords and the Assistant Curator - History as to a collaborative oral history project to create an audio archive of those involved in cricket, including players, administrators and spectators.

The outcomes of the networking, resulting from formal presentations and informal discussions proved very informative especially in relation to Regeneration

and World Heritage Status. Presentations on Sustainable Tourism and Regeneration planning emphasized the need for management plans in maintaining historic buildings and consultation with all stakeholders before regeneration begins.

At the seminar both the National Trust and the Assistant Curator - History also drew attention to the proposed nomination of Bridgetown and its Historic Garrison for World Heritage Status. They also highlighted the importance of the warehouse district in Cavan's Lane and the Pierhead as integral in this nomination process and as the best examples of 18th and 19th century warehouses (along with smaller warehouses in Reid Street) in Bridgetown.

They further highlighted the importance of enabling legislation to protect both the historic built environment and the need for restoration appropriate to such buildings. In all the seminar proved worthwhile and new areas were covered for staff in learning about heritage tourism and ideas for marketing heritage products.



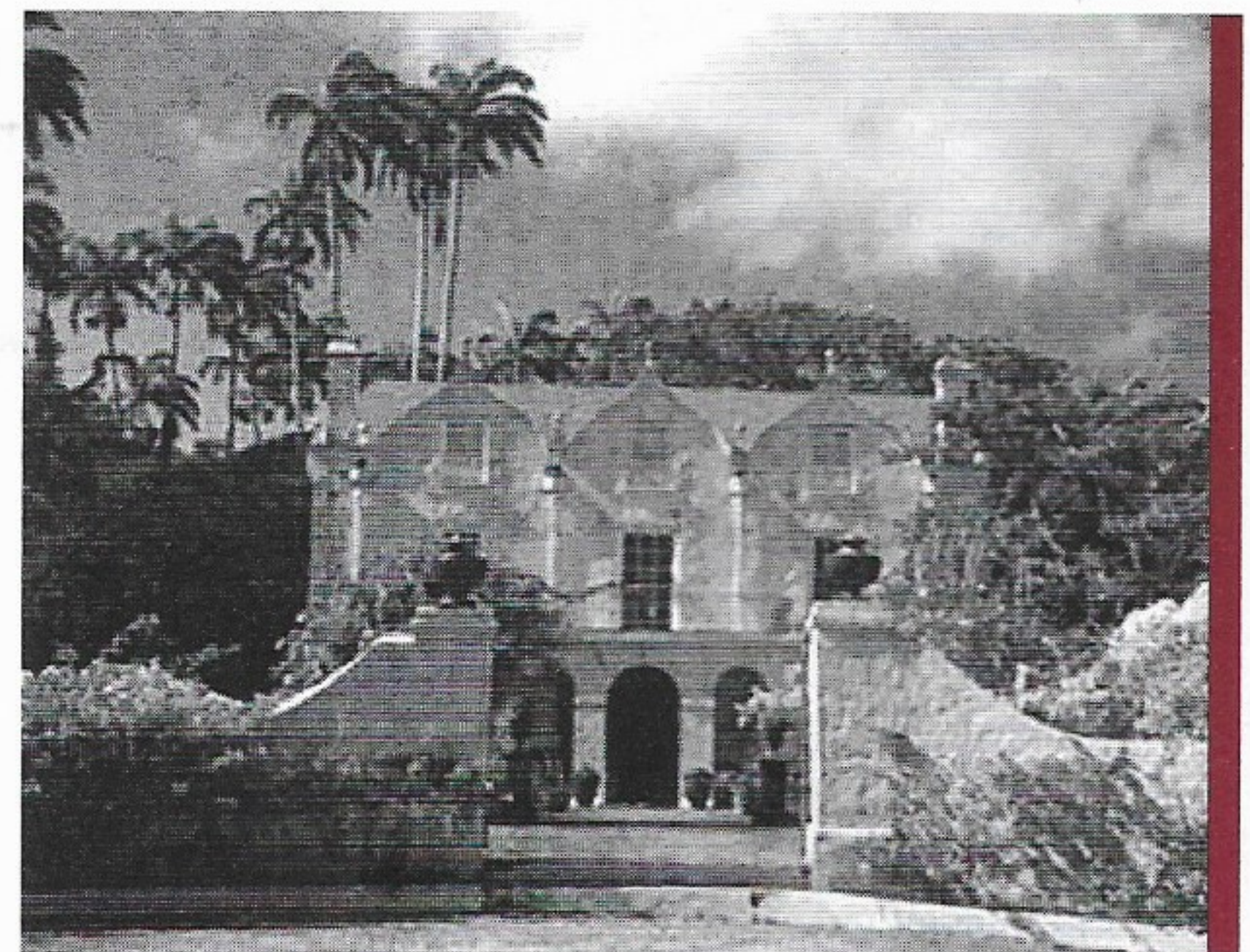
The OCLC homepage

Library Database

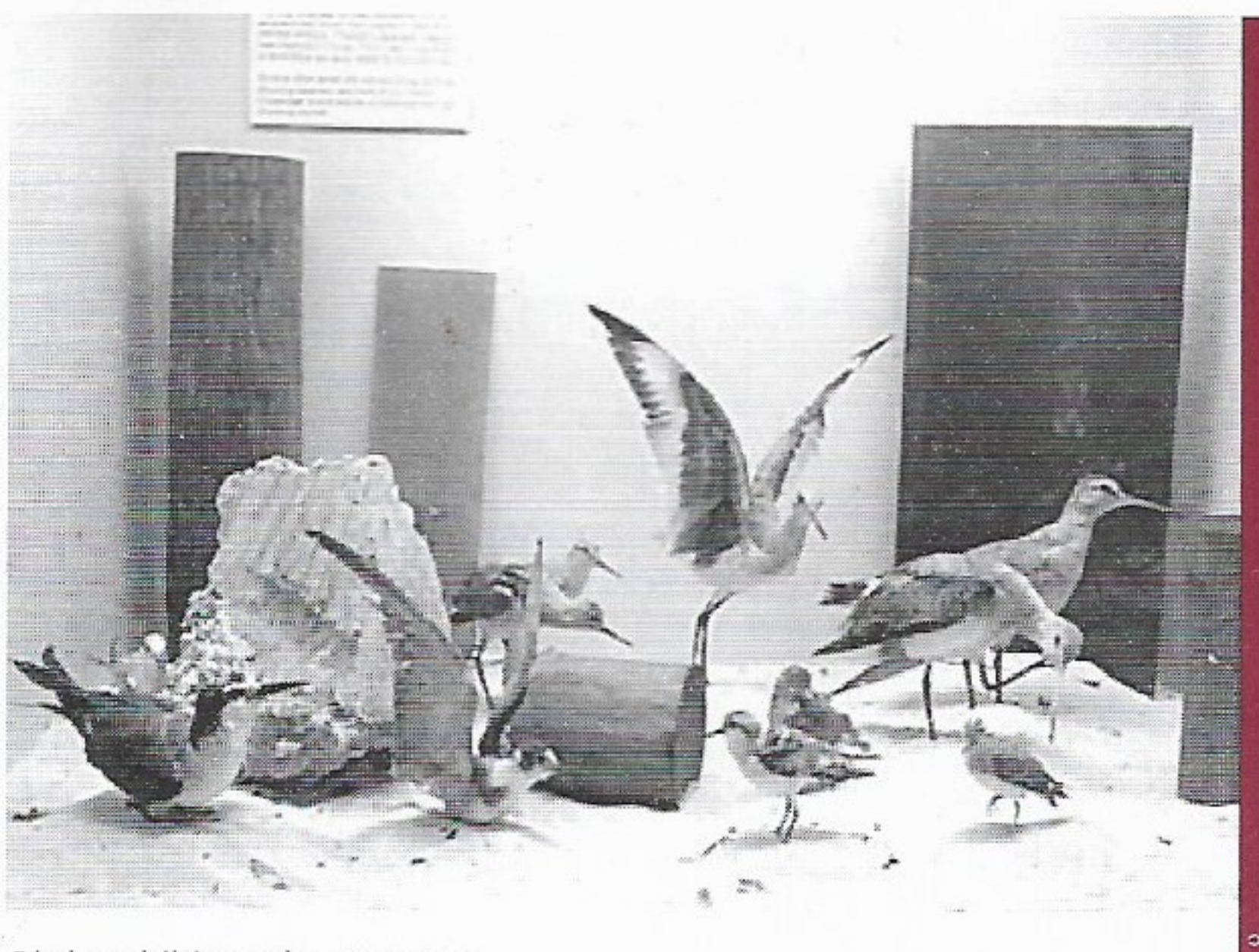
The Museum has recently been added to the OCLC (Online Computer Library Centre) database. The OCLC database is part of WorldCat which is a worldwide union catalog created and maintained collectively by more than 9,000 member institutions. This addition is a significant achievement for the Museum and the benefits of us being a member will mean someone searching the WWW using OCLC, GOOGLE or YAHOO will now be routed to materials in the Museum's Shilstone Memorial Library if there is a match in the search. Furthermore, the Shilstone Library will be revealed as one of the locations where information can be found. This is an exciting development for the Museum and in the longterm will lead to much greater exposure for library services. To visit the OCLC website log onto: www.oclc.org.

Technical Assistance

The Director welcomed twelve students from the UWI Masters Degree programme in Heritage Studies for their first session in the Museums studies course. Following their introduction to the history and development of museums and to Caribbean museums in general, students will be following an intensive five-week programme, which familiarizes them with various aspects of museum and heritage management and conservation. They will conduct site visits and evaluations of various museum and heritage sites, in preparation for practical application of their knowledge, resulting in comprehensive technical papers documenting the work undertaken.



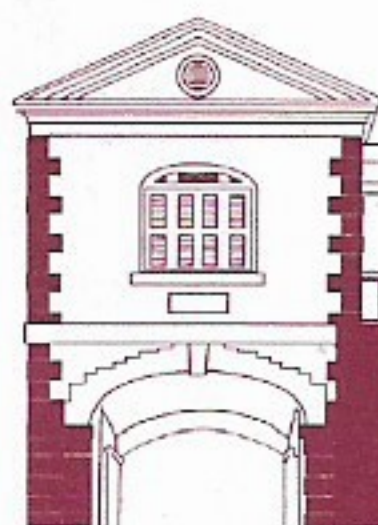
St. Nicholas Abbey, an important heritage site and one of only three Jacobean houses in the western hemisphere



Birds exhibit at the Museum

Birds Booklet project with the Graeme Hall Nature Sanctuary

A partnership arrangement with the Graeme Hall Nature Sanctuary has enabled the production of a workbook for school children on the topic of birds. Funds for the printing of the workbook were provided by the Sanctuary while the educational content was conceptualised through a joint effort between the Museum's Education Officer and the Assistant Curator for Natural History. The workbook will be used as an educational resource by teachers to allow school children to learn about the numerous species of birds, and the habitats in which they live. 3,000 copies of the workbook will be printed for distribution.

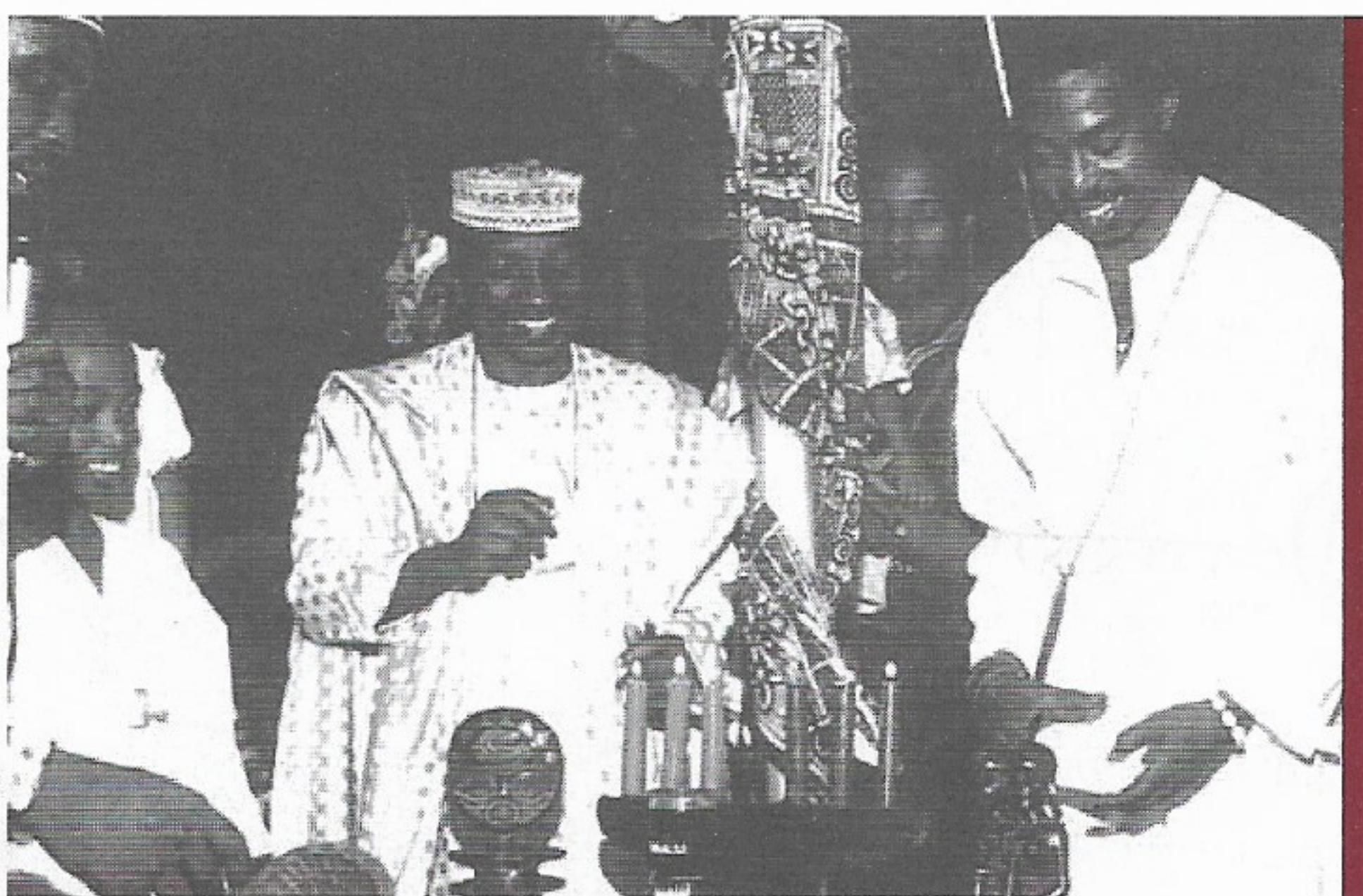


ACTIVITIES AT THE MUSEUM

MUSEUM HIGHLIGHTS

January 2005

Celebration of the final night of the Kwanzaa Festival by the Pan African Commission and Sankofa Productions. Kwanzaa is a Pan-African holiday based on traditional values and practices which promote self-awareness in celebration of family, community and culture. The night involved the ceremonial lighting of the Kwanzaa candle plus music and performance.



Lighting of the ceremonial Kwanzaa candle Imani (faith)

February 2005

On Sunday 20th February, the Museum co-sponsored the fundraising event for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme. The event was a jazz show highlighting a young, accomplished Barbadian vocalist, Rosemary Phillips backed by an experienced international band comprised of veteran Barbadian musicians and Francophone world's best jazz pianist, Mr. Charles Luce.

The 400 strong audience was entertained by both standard jazz classics and jazz interpretations of Barbadian folk and calypso. Messrs. Irving Burgie and Vern Best were also in attendance, as well as Her Excellency Mrs. Mary Kramer, U.S. Ambassador to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean.



Rosemary Phillips performing at the Duke of Edinburgh, jazz night fund raising concert

Preserving Paradise Lecture Series

The start of the Preserving Paradise lecture series (organised by the Museum and the Biological and Chemical Sciences Department of the University of the West Indies to commemorate the life and work of the late Dr. Colin Hudson) got off to a great start with Professor Sean Carrington delivering the first lecture with over 200 patrons in attendance. The second lecture in the series entitled "The Geology of Barbados" was delivered by Professor Hans Machel, an eminent geologist from the University of Alberta, Edmonton, generated equal interest amongst the community. Lively discussions on various environmental issues, followed the comprehensive 2 1/2 hour lecture. The third lecture was given by Dr. Leonard Nurse. There are three remaining lectures in the series, which concludes in May.

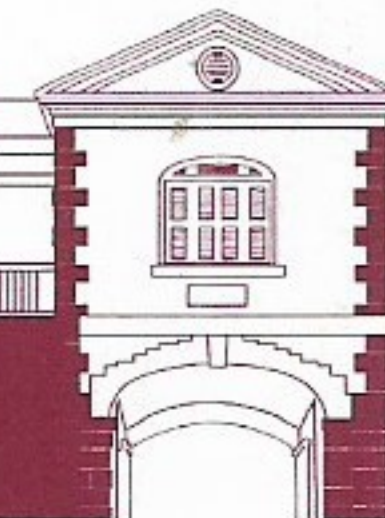


Prof. Hans Machel delivering his lecture on the "Geology of Barbados"

As part of the Museum's schedule of public programming activities a "geology" bus tour of the island, was also organised with Professor Hans Machel for the 27th February where participants were taken around the island to see and experience the geological formations and landscape of Barbados.



Prof. Hans Machel with participants from the geology bus tour.



The Museum: An Educational Resource



Education Officer, Peggy McGeary with school children in the African Gallery

If museums are to be effective as educational institutions, they must provide opportunities for all who might use them to learn at every stage of their educational development from early childhood to old age" (Anderson, D. 'A Common Wealth: Museums in the Learning Age')

Anderson further suggests that museums should cater to the communities in which they exist, and that while the gallery experience should be emphasized, "community programmes may take museums beyond their natural physical and philosophical boundaries." This is seen as necessary if museums are to break down barriers to access for many non-visitors, including those from ethnic minorities."

The Education Department of the Barbados Museum caters mainly to the 'school' community from nursery level to university. The galleries are used to reinforce the topics in the History/Social Studies syllabus as well as some sections of the Science syllabus. The Harewood Gallery for example covers many environmental issues which affect the use of our natural resources (coral reefs, fishing, pollution, water) and these are important concepts which are reinforced at all levels of learning. Some museum staff members also visit schools in the various communities to give talks on a variety of topics which are requested.

Partnerships have been developed with educational institutions like Erdiston Teacher's Training College with a view to helping teachers understand how they can use the museum as an educational resource.

There are also educational opportunities provided for the wider community/public who may visit and learn at their own pace in our galleries, those who may attend lectures which are offered on a variety of themes as well as those who prefer to both visit

the gallery and then go on the Ole Time Excursion bus tour. This tour caters to what is referred to in the museum world as 'edutainment'- where people learn and have fun.

The Shilstone Memorial Library (now temporarily closed) offers immense opportunities to those involved in serious

research which may lead to publications from which the wider public may learn more.

The museum's journal is another educational tool which offers information on a wide range of topics. Published since 1933, the journal has been consistent in its effort to publish well researched material on the history, environment and culture of Barbados and the Caribbean.

"COMMUNITY PROGRAMMES MAY TAKE MUSEUMS BEYOND THEIR NATURAL PHYSICAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL BOUNDARIES."



ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MUSEUM MEMBERS

January 1st 2005, marks 55 years since the beginning of the decade of the 1950's. To this end we are asking members to kindly donate artefacts which represent that decade up to the present day. Artefacts such as photographs, posters, clothing, domestic items and the like would be gratefully received.

September 22nd, 2005 marks the 50th anniversary of Hurricane Janet, the last hurricane to directly hit Barbados and we are inviting members to donate photographs, memorabilia, and written accounts of their experiences with Hurricane Janet. Please send Artefacts to the registrar Mrs. Angela Boyce or email: registrar@barbmuse.org.bb

Preserving Paradise Lecture Series, lectures remaining in the series:

April 5 Ecology vs Economy - Mr Winston Cox

April 19 Invasion and Extinction: Indications of Environmental Change - Dr Angela Fields

May 3 When Tomorrow Comes, What Then? - Dr Robin Mahon

"Ole Time Excursion" Island Bus Tours

The Museum has places available on its scenic island bus tours. Tour dates to be filled are: Saturday 21st May, Saturday 28th May, Saturday 4th June, Saturday 25th June

To book or for further information please call 427 0201 or 436 1956.

New Members for 2005

The Museum welcomes the following new members for 2005:

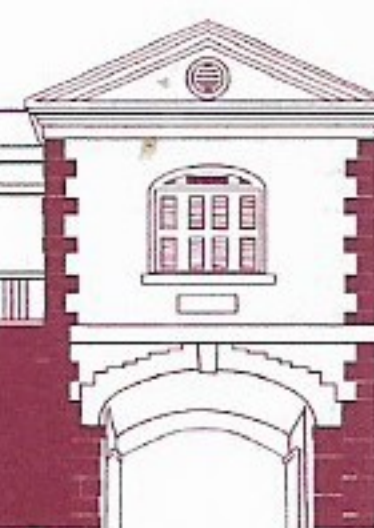
- Miss Marisa J. Fuentes
- Mrs. Doreen Binks
- Mr. & Mrs. Christopher & Rosemary Bunch
- Mr. Francois Ayodele Jackman
- Mr. & Mrs. Richard & Dorothy Thomas
- Mr. Michael Armstrong

Heritage Bus Tours

A new series of heritage tours have just been launched and we're asking member to come on board or to encourage those that you know! Call 427 0201 or 436 1956 for further information or email musepr@barbmuse.org.bb

Museum Shop Sale

We are inviting members to a special book sale at the Museum shop where a number of popular titles have been reduced by as much as 50%. Come and see the bargains on offer!



St Philip Pasture painting by artist Nesta Bowen-Horne

NEW ACQUISITIONS

Amongst the items purchased at auction in October 2004, were three items to add to the Museum's History and Art collections. A shop scale with weights, an original (undated) oil painting entitled "St. Philip Pasture" by Nesta Bowen-Horne, and over 300 slides depicting both local and international scenes, with half of the slides depicting Carnival, Remembrance Day and Christmas in Barbados during 1958. The slides were accompanied by a documented inventory written by Ms. Mabel Haskell, who incidentally was the photographer and a former member of the council of the Museum.

St. Philip Pasture

The Museum preserves our history by collecting works particularly by local and regional artists. Nesta Bowen-Horne, was another Barbadian artist who recreated the Barbadian landscape, portraying unexpected viewpoints in familiar scenes using watercolors, oils and pastels. Other works currently in the collection include "Fat Pork Hill" and an "Untitled Seascape" both showcasing the theme of the environment.

Mabel Haskell Collection

The Museum is fortunate to have acquired such a large and varied collection of colored slides depicting local events during the late 1950's. Many of the museum's photographic collection of local events have been documented in the form of photographs and postcards.

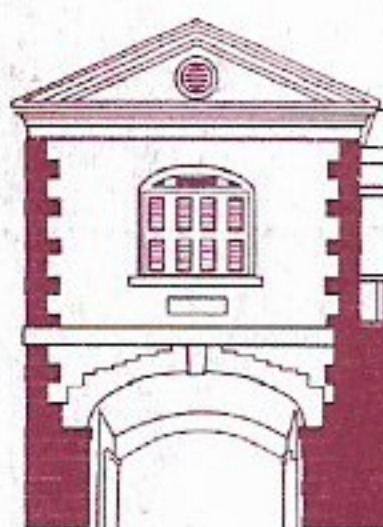


Susanne Pöeverlein who completed her internship with the Museum in March

PEOPLE CHANGES

FAREWELL TO ..SUSANNE PÖVERLEIN.

Susanne Pöeverlein, a Museum Studies student from Fachhochschule für Technik und Wirtschaft, Berlin, Germany has completed her five month internship, and practical training semester with us and we wish her all the best for the future. She is the third candidate received from that institution over the last 5 years. Susanne worked closely with the Education and Marketing Departments on a number of projects with the aim of gaining practical experience in the day-to-day activities of a Museum, together with the overall objective of drawing comparisons between the functioning of European and Caribbean institutions.



MUSEUM MATTERS



MUSEUM STAFF

Director
Alistandra Cummins

Executive Officer
Melva Yarde

Marketing Officer
Denise Jones

Education Officer
Peggy McGeary

Administrative Assistant
Accounts
Wendy Husbands

Assistant Administrative
Officer
Susan Boyce

Administration Assistant
Merchandising
Marcia Griffith

Receptionist & Shop Assistant
Cindy Corbin

Curatorial
Archeology and History
Kevin Farmer

Art & Art History
Allison Callender

Natural History
Monique Ifill

Registrar
Angela Boyce

Curatorial Assistant
James Marshall

Library Consultant
Paulette Gooding

Technical & Maintenance
Stephen Layne
Reginald Riley
Pauline Stewart
Merna Bryan
Avni Rouse

Reception & Shop
Gail Bynoe

Security
Beresford Nurse
Royston Sargeant
Grantley Yarde
Rudolph Beckles
Rosalind Straker

MUSEUM COUNCIL

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

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Dr. Trevor Carmichael, Q.C.

Senior Vice President
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Mr. Geoffrey Ramsey
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Mrs. Andrea Wells
Professor Hilary Beckles
Mr. Steven Devonish
Ms. Faye Burke
Mrs. Celia Toppin

ENCOURAGE YOUR FRIENDS OR COLLEAGUES TO JOIN THE BARBADOS MUSEUM – WE VALUE YOUR SUPPORT!

Member privileges when they join:

- * A year's subscription to the Artifacts Newsletter
- * Free admission to the Museum
- * Free use of Museum Library services
- * Complimentary copy of the Museum annual journal
- * Members discount in the Museum shop and more!

Title & Name

Occupation

Address

Tel _____ Fax _____

Email _____

- * Life \$690.00 * Firm / Company \$230.00 * Annual \$51.75
- * Joint Annual (husband & wife) \$69.00 * Student \$5.75
- * Junior (18 years & under) \$5.75

To join friends or colleagues need to complete details above, along with cheque or money order made payable to Barbados Museum & Historical Society, and send this to: St. Ann's Garrison, St. Michael, Barbados