

Published by the **Carriacou Historical Society**, Carriacou, Grenada – 1(473)443-8288 – [carriacoumuseum@gmail.com](mailto:carriacoumuseum@gmail.com)

**W**elcome to "The Carriacou Museum!" Our desire is to bring you closer to the past, present and future of life in Carriacou. The Carriacou Museum provides a fascinating glimpse into Carriacou's past. Numerous exhibits highlight the diversity, talent and energy of the communities of yesteryear and provides inspiration for today and tomorrow. You are invited to invest a little interest in the past and come in for a friendly tour today!

### **Featured Exhibit:**

The completely restored red Amerindian bowl is one of the four bowls recovered in pieces by the teams of Archaeologists last summer. They were all part of a burial site excavated at Grand Bay.

### **A Bit of History: "A Short History of Carriacou" by the late Dr. Edward Kent (Pt6)**

We have an account of a slave rebellion at Craigston in 1790. A ship had arrived from Scotland loaded with various 'estate supplies' (lumber, iron works, tools etc.). Whilst they were helping unload the vessel, some of the slaves were told by the sailors that "The Master" in Scotland had sent ten hogsheads of salt beef and ten hogsheads of salt port to augment their diet of corn, yam & cassava. But the cotton crop had been very poor so the Manager had told the Captain to take the salt meat on to Grenada to sell it. The slaves were furious and expressed their anger. The Manager ordered that the leaders be locked up but no one would carry out his order. Twenty-nine slaves took to the woods but overnight they thought better of it so appealed to the Rev. Nash of the Anglican Church to intercede on their behalf. This he did but they were still severely beaten. This was a terrible period in our history. We know that towards the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century cotton was grown extensively on Carriacou. At one time there were eight cotton ginneries on the

island and as late as the 1930's Carriacou exported 1400 x 300 lb bales of lint cotton. The seed was exported to Barbados or Antigua for the extraction of cooking oil, but with the establishment of large cotton estates in India, Egypt and USA, the price paid for cotton fell until it was quite uneconomic for the West Indian producers to grow it any longer. The industry died in the mid-1970's when the Co-op could not raise the funds to advance cash to the producers for their seed cotton. Unharvested cotton could be seen

streaming from the bushes in the fields and the term "cotton making flag" was coined. Early in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century a number of estates turned to the production of sugar. There were 5 or 6 sugar factories [in Grenada] and a number of windmills [in Grenada and Carriacou] but with the abolition of slavery the planters could not produce sugar economically and many of them abandoned their estates and returned to Europe. Limes were introduced early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century but only four estates were planted with this crop. Their cultivation

and harvesting gave little employment and brought poor revenues. This industry failed in 1991.

**Old Words:** "Cotton making flag" was used to describe something dilapidated (left to itself to spoil) or someone who was dis-shoveled or sloppy in appearance. "Dey looking like 'cotton making flag.'"

**Become a Museum Volunteer:** Every Thursday, Volunteers continue to work at the Museum from 10AM to 12 noon to sort what the archeologists have found. Volunteers do not need to have any previous Museum experience, just an interest in Carriacou's History and a fascination with artifacts that are in the collection. We need as much help as possible. Come by the Museum on a Thursday morning or ring Eileen Measey on 443-6784 to volunteer.



**News:** Last month a small group was formed to test ways of recording our recent industrial and cultural past. Gradually, we hope to form more small groups, perhaps one for each village or area, to take responsibility for recording what is close by. We would also like to form groups interested in the domestic and vernacular architecture of their area and to record the memories of those who can recall the old way of life and work on the islands. This is a small group of people at the moment. Our thanks to John and Karen Knights, Wilfred Simon, Leo Dymkoski and Capt Paul Maskell for being willing to make a start on what will be a long journey. We desperately need more people to join in and help, the past belongs to all of us and we must grasp this opportunity now.

**Subscriptions:** "The Carriacou Museum" is published bi-annually. We hope that your curiosity has been peaked, your mind stimulated and your life enriched!

**Carriacou Historical Society Board of Directors:** Cosnel McIntosh (President), Stephen Alexander (1<sup>st</sup> V.P.), Patricia John (2<sup>nd</sup> V.P.), Carolyn Alexander (Treasurer), Maria Hamlet (Secretary), Eileen Measey (Assistant Secretary), Hilda Stiell, Rudolph Mitchell, Ronald Gittens, Randy & Sharlene Cornelius, Karl Benjamain and Daphnie Wilson

Is your membership current? Membership in the Carriacou Historical Society is only \$25ec or \$10us per year. In return, you will receive all the newsletters, have the right to vote at the Annual General Meeting (AGM), and be eligible to hold an office - not to mention the satisfaction of knowing that you are helping to preserve Carriacou's history.

**Note of Thanks:** To **LIME** for their contribution of free internet service for one year; to **Beacon Insurance** for their donation of some used computers.

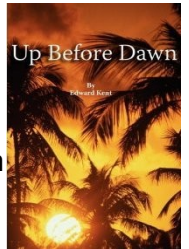
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<http://carriacoumuseum.org>



## 🌀 CHS Souvenir Shop 🌀



The CHS has published a Carriacou Cookery Book which is available for sale in our shop here in Carriacou. The book contains a good collection of historically important local recipes as these are and many have been passed from mother to daughter without previously being written down. If you would like to a copy of the book or would like to submit a recipe for our next cookbook, the only criteria are that the ingredients must be available in Carriacou and that the recipe is your own and not copied without permission from another recipe book. Also available in our shop is the memoirs of Edward Kent titled "Up Before Dawn" which provides a fantastic glimpse into life in Carriacou for more than half a century. Please email [carriacoumuseum@gmail.com](mailto:carriacoumuseum@gmail.com) to submit recipes or for more information about these publications.



## The Carriacou Museum

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