

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY & ARCHAEOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES, MONA

SOCIAL HISTORY PROJECT
NEWSLETTER 50
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EDITORIAL

It is with great pleasure that we bring you the 50th Edition of the *Newsletter* of the Social History Project. This year we celebrate not only 50 issues of this publication, but also 30 years of the existence of the SHP itself. This is no small feat and is testament to the legacy of many individuals who initiated and have continued to keep the SHP and the *Newsletter* alive.

As usual, we have tried to produce an Edition which highlights the work of the Project and the Department of History and Archaeology over the past few months. We have taken the opportunity to announce the introduction of a new degree programme being offered by the Department of History and Archaeology and to show photos of the 25th Annual Elsa Goveia Memorial Lecture. The Lecture was held in March of this year and was delivered by Professor Brian Moore on the topic "The Struggle for the Cultural Soul of Jamaica after Morant Bay." The SHP would like to express gratitude to Julian Cresser for providing the photographs of the event.

Our feature article is a tribute to the late Dr Lucille Mathurin Mair who passed on in January 2009. We thank Nicole Plummer for her detailed and poignant tribute. We close as usual with announcement of new publications, and we are especially delighted to introduce books by a past and present director of the SHP, Professor Barry Higman and Dr Kathleen Monteith, respectively.

Please enjoy this issue of the *Newsletter*.

Dalea Bean
Newsletter Editor

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Heritage Symposium

The Social History Project held its 8th Symposium under the theme, *Heritage: Its Management and Preservation*, on October 24 & 25, 2008. Seventeen presentations were made, organised in six panels.

Presenters included practitioners and managers of institutions devoted to the preservation of various aspects of heritage, policy developers with state intuitions, researchers, and graduate students in the Heritage Studies programmes at Mona and Cave Hill. The Keynote guest speaker at the Opening Ceremony was the Most Honourable Edward Seaga, former Prime Minister of Jamaica, and UWI Distinguished Research Fellow. Seventy-two persons attended the two- day symposium.

Lectures in CAPE History

This book is now finally ready for publication. A total of 16 lectures, which cover Units 1 & 2 of the CAPE History syllabus, were prepared by current and former staff in the Department of History & Archaeology, UWI Mona. Drs. Jenny Jemmott and Aleric Josephs are to be thanked for their work on this project.

SHP Oral History Project

The SHP's oral history programme continues to benefit from the research project assignments of students who take H67D Oral History: Value & Techniques course in the MA Heritage Studies programme. This year students in the programme were asked to focus on any aspect of Jamaican/Caribbean heritage and history, and will be submitting a transcript and recording

SHP Executive:

Director: Kathleen Monteith

Newsletter Editor: Dalea Bean

Finance Officer: Matthew Smith

Assistant Editor: Nicole Plummer

Co-opted Members:

Ivor Connelly

Jeannette Corniffe

Julian Cresser

Keniel Grey

Jenny Jemmott

Aleric Josephs

Renee Nelson

of interviews conducted. In addition, a visiting Fulbright researcher who audited the course this past semester, will submit her research into recent migrants from China to Jamaica.

Cataloguing of MA History and Heritage Research papers & Caribbean Studies

The cataloguing of MA history and heritage research theses begun by Ritamae Hyde and Ayodele Rosemann, was completed last semester by Ms Renee Nelson, a graduate student in the Department. This allows for easy identification and retrieval of these research papers by a simple but effective filing system which is stored on the SHP computer database. I am happy to announce that a similar filing system has been applied to the 1975 to 1987 Caribbean Studies research papers and to the Oral History projects course work assignments in H67D, which was recently completed by Ms Nelson. There are plans also to catalogue other course work papers in the Heritage Studies programme which received A, A- and B+ grades. Lecturers are asked to encourage their students to visit the SHP office to peruse these papers and garner ideas for research.

SHP Office

There has been increased use of the SHP office by graduate students, but we would like to see more students taking advantage of the facilities. Two new computers were acquired in the last semester, one of which is for administrative office use only, the other being available to students.

Kathleen E. A. Monteith

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE NEW B.A.
DEGREE IN HISTORY AND
HERITAGE STUDIES**

The Department of History and Archaeology is pleased to announce the new Bachelor of Arts Degree: History and Heritage. This programme aims at producing graduates who are socially, and culturally responsive to the mores and values of their immediate national communities as well as those of the wider Caribbean region.

The programme also aims at demonstrating the relationship between history and heritage and the practical relevance to the tourism industry. Finally, the programme aims at producing graduates that can gain employment in the Hospitality and Tourism industries.

Students who register in this programme are required to read at least thirteen 3 credit course for a total of 39 credits. Courses include Introduction to History, Introduction to Heritage Studies, Heritage Management and Tourism in the Caribbean as well as Urban Heritage of Jamaica and Family History in Jamaica.

SNAPSHOTS OF THE ELSA
GOVEIA MEMORIAL LECTURE



Image of Elsa Goveia



*Guest Lecturer Prof Brian Moore
sharing a word with Prof Sir Roy
Augier*



*Prof Wariboko (Head of Department)
welcoming the audience*



*Prof Brian Moore delivering the
lecture*

ACCOUCHEMENT OF THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SHP

It was in October 1979 that the then Department of History (now the Department of History and Archaeology), University of the West Indies, Mona, established the Social History Project (SHP).

The Social History Projects encourages the study of Caribbean social history in the pre and post emancipation period, as well as heritage and archaeological studies of the region.

It is engaged in recovering and disseminating the history and heritage of the region through oral testimony, literary and other forms of documentation. It is also active in sharing the research findings of staff and graduate students in the Department with the wider public through publications, symposia, and more recently through exhibitions which have been hosted in collaboration with national institutions.

A soon to be published book is the much needed text covering Units One & Two in CAPE History

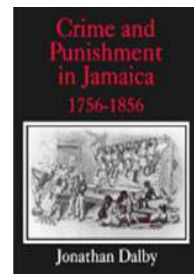
Through the work of executive members, and past directors including, Barry Higman, Carl Campbell, Brian Moore, Verene Shepherd, Veront Satchell, Patrick Bryan, Michele Johnson and the current Director, Kathleen Monteith, the Project has grown from strength to strength.

A FEW SHP PUBLICATIONS ALL AVAILABLE FOR SALE IN THE DEPARTMENT

A DESCRIPTION OF THE ISLAND OF
ANTIGUA

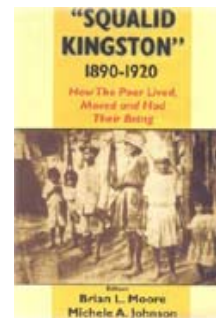


With Particular Reference to Description of the Island
South Barbados, 1684
Translated by
N.A.T. HALL



Crime and
Punishment
in Jamaica
1756-1856

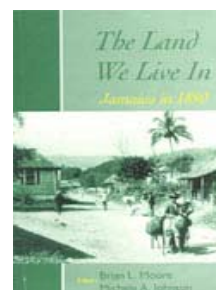
Jonathan Dalby



"SQUALID
KINGSTON"
1890-1920

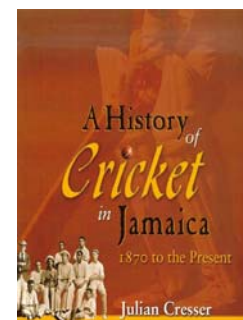
How The Poor Lived,
Moved and Had
Their Being

Brian L. Moore
Michele A. Johnson



The Land
We Live In
Jamaica in 1890

Brian L. Moore
Michele A. Johnson



A History
of
Cricket
in Jamaica

1870 to the Present

Julian Cresser

TRIBUTE TO DR. LUCILLE MATHURIN MAIR



Ambassador Dr. Lucille Mathurin Mair, a pioneer in the fields of history and women and gender studies, passed away on January 28, 2009. While we acknowledge her passing with sadness, it is with pride and joy that we remember a strong, indomitable and gentle woman of great intellectual stature.

Mair, the Person and Mother

Lucille Mathurin Mair nee Walrond was born in Jamaica in 1924. Described by Professor Edward Baugh as being ‘made of finely tempered steel’, Ambassador Mair possessed unique qualities that contributed to her many successes, academically and diplomatically. Professor Rex Nettleford in his tribute described Mair as a woman with “dignified detachment and a well-cultivated appearance of invincibility and unflappable charm.” For Ambassador Patricia Durrant, “She combined grace,

charm, wit, steely determination, independence and open-mindedness...” No doubt these qualities benefited not just her colleagues and those who placed their trust in her, but also her children, having been left a widow for the second time in her 30s. With her determination and grace, Mair single-handedly raised her children, Ambassador Gail Mathurin and sons David and Adrian. In his tribute to his mother, her son Adrian referred to the many joyful and numerous memories that he and his siblings had of a mother who loved them unconditionally.



Mair, the Academic and Pioneer

Dr. Mair pursued a degree in History at the London University, where she graduated with Honours. She later embarked on a PhD in history at the University of the West Indies and made history by being the first person to do a dissertation based on women. Her thesis, “A Historical Study of Women in Jamaica 1655-1844” completed in 1974, forever influenced the research on women and gender and was the foundation for a plethora of other work on the topic. This pioneering study confronted the invisibility of women in historical

scholarship and was the first of its kind to analyse the issue of the various races and classes of women in Jamaica during the period of enslavement, while giving credence to gender as a tool of historical analysis. Mair's thesis was important in that it did not simply lump women together, but dissected the different racial and class groups, concluding that, in plantation society, black women laboured, brown women served and white women consumed. She was supervised by the first female professor in the University, Elsa Goveia, whose memory Mair was later able to honour by delivering the Elsa Goveia Lecture in 1986. Her thesis, edited by Professors Hilary Beckles and Verene Shepherd was published in 2006 by the University of the West Indies Press.

As a follow-up to her seminal study, Dr. Mair wrote the article 'The Rebel Woman in the British West Indies During Slavery' which put on the platform the resistance efforts of the enslaved black woman, forever dispelling the notion of the black woman as a victim. Instead, as in her thesis, Dr. Mair made these women active agents in their liberation and mitigation. This important article has influenced historians such as Verene Shepherd, Hilary Beckles and Patricia Mohammed.

Dr. Lucille Mathurin Mair served the university community as the first warden of Mary Seacole Hall on the Mona campus in the 1950s and 1960s. She also contributed to the development of Women and Development Studies groups, which were formed in 1982 at the University of the West Indies to promote the introduction of Women's Studies courses and programmes within the academy. She was the first regional coordinator for the Project of

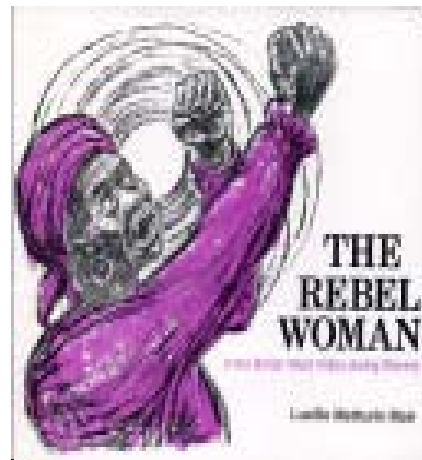
Cooperation in Teaching, Research and Outreach in Women and Development Studies from 1986-1989 and was a founding member of the Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN). Dr. Mair was instrumental in the establishment of the Centres for Gender and Development Studies across the three campuses of the University of the West Indies. Since 1998, the Centre for Gender and Development Studies on the Mona campus has honoured her with the annual Lucille Mathurin Mair Lecture.



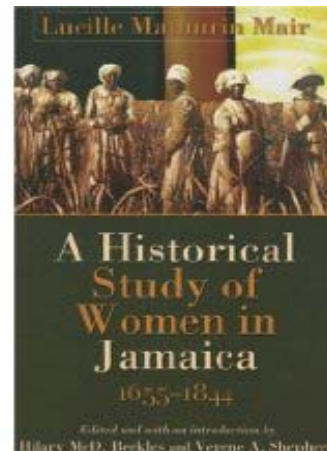
Mair, the Politician, Activist and Diplomat

Dr. Mair was renowned as an international diplomatic figure serving as Assistant Secretary-General in the office of the United Nations Secretariat in 1979. She performed the role of Secretary-General of the World Conference on the United Nations Decade for Women in 1980 in Copenhagen, Denmark. From 1981 to 1982, she served as the Secretary-General's Advisor to UNICEF on Women's Development and between 1982 and 1987, she was the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Palestine. In 1982, she was the first woman to hold the title of Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Dr. Mair served locally as an advisor on developing policies, measures and programmes intended to advance the status of its women and fully integrate them in the process of development. She was an advisor on Women's Affairs and head of the Jamaican Information Service in 1974 and Deputy Head of Jamaica's Permanent Mission to the United Nations in 1975. Dr. Mair was subsequently appointed as Jamaica's Ambassador to Cuba. She was later appointed Senator and Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and in 1992 was the Permanent Representative for Jamaica to the United Nations.



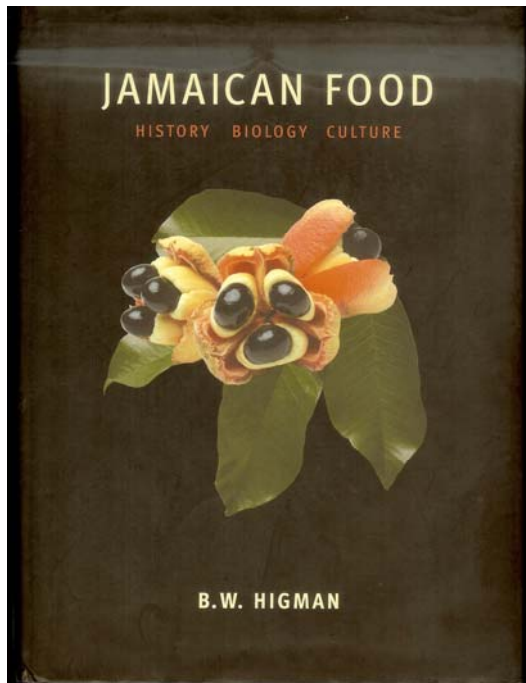
For her outstanding service as a humanitarian, diplomat, scholar and women's rights activist she was accorded many awards. These included the OAS Women of Distinction Award in 1987 and the national honours of Commander of the Order of Distinction and the Order of Jamaica. She was also conferred with Honorary Doctorates from three universities, the University of the West Indies, the University of Florida and the University of Ulster in Ireland. Also, in 1996, she was the fifth recipient of the CARICOM Triennial Award.



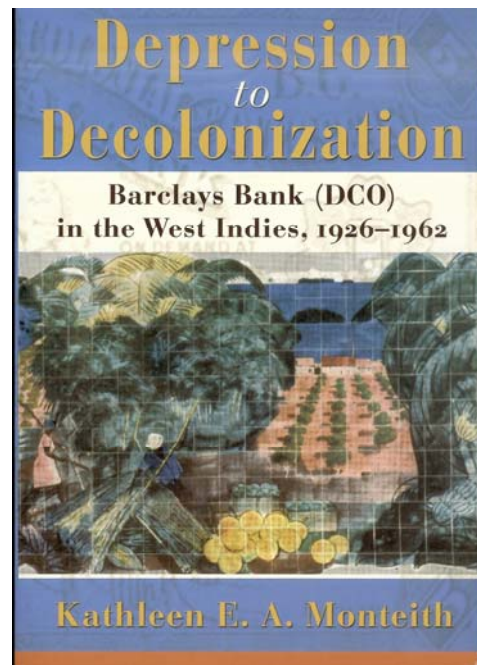
Dr. Mair has produced many publications including many of which have focused on the history of women in Jamaica. Her writings and activism have served to widen the scope of actions targeting women and their advancement in the region.

Nicole A. Plummer

ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLICATIONS



Publisher's Note: This beautifully illustrated book by B.W. Higman sheds new light on food and cultural practices in Jamaica from the time of the earliest Taino inhabitants through the introduction of different foodways by enslaved cultures, to creole adaptations to the fast-food phenomena of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries.



Publisher's Note: Depression to Decolonization: Barclays Bank (DCO), 1926-1962, is the first major academic business history of a commercial bank's operations in the West Indies. Kathleen Monteith's work provides for a better understanding of the history of the commercial banking activity in the region during this period, and in that regard helps to expand the scope of West Indian historiography into the field of business history, and by so doing, makes a significant contribution to the economic and social history of the West Indies during the first half of the twentieth century.

**THE SOCIAL
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NEWSLETTER**

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