



Newsletter

January - June 2023

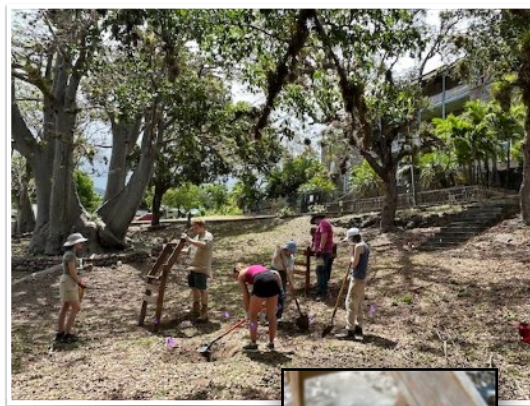
Beyond Colonial Legacies: the vibrant archaeology & heritage of the Nevis Bath Spring

Over May and June, the Society welcomed back visiting archaeologist Dr. Neal Ferris from Western University in Canada. Together with students and other researchers, he was in Nevis to study the archaeology and history of the Bath Spring and waterway from the Hot Springs down to Fort Charles on Gallows Bay.

For seven weeks this past Summer, Western University crew and volunteers from Nevis conducted limited excavations within the gardens of the Bath House Hotel, excavations along the Bath Pond near Gallows Bay, and interviewed persons from Bath Village and across Nevis about the traditions of bathing at the Hot Springs, growing up in lower Bath Village and the traditions of fishing, boat building and living near Gallows Bay.



The researchers have been helping us document and learn more about this distinct cultural heritage landscape and all those who – together and differently – contributed to the rich traditions tied to the healing volcanic waters of the Bath Stream and Spring, those who came to the Bath House-Hotel (the first purpose-built hotel in the eastern Caribbean), and those who resided along the stream by Gallows Bay. This is a heritage landscape that extends back 1,000 years, as reflected by the Indigenous archaeology found at Gallows Bay, and continues today in the many Nevisians and others who still visit the Hot Springs every day.





This year Dr Ferris and his crew focussed on the archaeology across the Bath House Hotel grounds, and confirming what the household archaeology from the 1800s-1900s at Gallows Bay looks like. They used 3D scanners and drones to map architectural ruins and the entire length of lower Bath Village from Fort Charles to the Bath House Hotel. The team enjoyed working at our new Archaeology Research Centre, working in the shade through the hot afternoons. They also visited other Nevis heritage sites, and learned

how to make traditional ceramics at Newcastle Pottery, and sampled traditional Nevisian goat water at the Heritage Village.

As part of Dr Ferris' project, the team also conducted oral history interviews. If you have any stories, recollections and/or experiences from the Bath Spring-Stream area, he would still love to hear from you! You can get in touch via Email <nferris@uwo.ca> or WhatsApp: [+1-519-933-6898](tel:+1-519-933-6898)



SHARE YOUR STORIES ABOUT THE BATHS & BATH VILLAGE

Is bathing at the Bath Spring important to you? Do you have memories of bathing and Bath Village that you would like to share?

Please consider working with us to preserve your stories and the oral history of the baths!

Interviews will be conducted in late May and June, at the baths, or where you would like to meet us. Interviews will be audio-recorded and take between 40-60 minutes.

Ask us to learn more or contact us at WhatsApp [+15199336898](tel:+15199336898); or nferris@uwo.ca



Editor's Note ...

Did you miss us? Our members and friends may have noticed the absence of our Quarterly Newsletter this year. We can assure you that it's not for lack of news, but rather because 2023 started with a flurry of both activities and staff changes. This obviously impacted our operations, and we hope that many of you were still able to keep up with our activities via Facebook.

Following the departure of Jahnel Nisbett, who was appointed Junior Minister for Health *et al* at the end of 2022, the Society embarked on an extensive recruitment exercise. From among numerous local and international applicants, **Dr Kamara Louisy** was successful and joined the team as our new Director in early March of this year. Dr Louisy has a diverse education and professional background, and we're excited to welcome her to the Society. **You can read more about her and her professional journey on page 4.**

Also in the first quarter of 2023, we bid farewell to two of our staff who worked with the Society for the past few years through the Federal Skills Training Empowerment Programme (STEP), namely: **Jonathan Ward** (Gallery attendant/Junior archivist), and **Jamilah Clarke** (Gift Shop attendant). Jonathan has joined Development Bank of St Kitts & Nevis, while Jamilah joined Four Seasons Resort. Hon. Nisbett, Jonathan and Jamilah were invaluable members of our team and while we miss them, we wish them all the best in their new endeavours!

Following another recruitment drive, we are delighted to welcome **Josian Auguste** and **Belina Francis** to our team as Gallery Attendants; Josian will also be understudying as a junior archivist, and Belina was also assisting with Gift Shop sales. You can read more about them on **page 18.**

Given these changes and our heavy project workload, we are revising our communications strategy with a view to providing our new staff the opportunity to develop their writing and design skills. You can expect a second semi-annual newsletter covering our activities from July-December 2023, but from January 2024 we look forward to producing a monthly newsletter.

"I think the students learned so much more than how to do archaeology and identify artifacts during their time on Nevis. They really fell in love with Nevis, Nevisians, and the heritage of this place. It was great sharing my enthusiasm for the history of this corner of Nevis with them and seeing their experiences be life changing.

Plus, we really learned a lot about the archaeology and history of this landscape. We'll be working through our findings over the next few months to figure out just what that means, but we know already we have found multiple households from the 1800s-1900s at Gallows Bay, and that is a story about the history of Bath Village that isn't well known. Plus, we now have found archaeological evidence of an older settlement by the Hot Springs pre-dating the Bath House Hotel.

I want to thank the Society for all of the support you provided us, as well as the NIA and Gallows Bay landowners for letting us explore this rich archaeology this year. I can't wait to get going again next Summer in July, when we'll be able to include Nevisian high school students to work alongside students from Western."

*Dr Neal Ferris,
Lawson Chair of Archaeology
The University of Western Ontario - Anthropology
Museum of Ontario Archaeology*



Q&A *with Kamara*



WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO JOIN THE NEVIS HISTORICAL & CONSERVATION SOCIETY?

I was encouraged by a close friend and a few Society members to apply for the position of Director when it opened up. It was a cyclical moment for me, having grown up around some of the founders of the Society as well as having volunteered in the Archives during Secondary School. It felt like a calling to which my energy and experience had guided me. I have always been involved in cultural, historical and conservation activities, mostly in the background and in the trenches, but felt it necessary to come to the forefront and be an example to encourage and empower our locals to be more active in the Society.

DO YOU HAVE ANY REGRETS LEAVING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE?

I was actually self-employed at the time I applied for the Director position. Previously, I was employed as a Livestock Extension officer with the Department of Agriculture, but I

retired (yes, retired!) from the civil service in April of 2022. Although my main focus was on my entrepreneurial journey, I was always a call away from my farmers and clients. I do not believe in regrets as there are lessons to be learnt in all experiences. The lessons and skills gained from my tenure at the Department of Agriculture have been instrumental for me hitting the ground running so to speak, at the Society.

WHAT'S YOUR BACKGROUND AND HOW HAS IT PREPARED YOU TO LEAD THE SOCIETY?

With a diverse education background along with work and life experiences, my background has prepared me immensely for the joys and challenges of the Society. I possess a Bachelors in History from the University of the West Indies and a Doctorate in Veterinary Medicine from St. Matthew's School of Veterinary Medicine. As a former Secondary School teacher, Veterinary Field officer and Extension officer, the combined training and experience has meant that I am very adaptable and poised to take on this position in its entirety. I am grateful that I can combine the training of both my degrees and apply them to different aspects of the Society as needed.

WHAT WOULD YOU DESCRIBE AS YOUR BIGGEST WEAKNESS WITH REGARDS TO THIS POSITION?

My brain goes faster than reality. It means that I have many ideas, but I have to practice patience as the reality of bringing them to fruition might not be in line with the time frame set for activities within the Society.

YOUR PREVIOUS CAREER WAS VERY ANIMAL-CENTRED, ARE THERE ANY PLANS TO ENGAGE IN ANIMAL RELATED ACTIVITIES FOR THE SOCIETY?

Of course. That is why the conservation aspect of the Society is very important. Conservation is about all aspects of our environment, including our fauna. From supporting our fishers, to our beekeepers and looking into welfare and humane treatment of our livestock and pets, it is very important to not only bring awareness but to train and educate locals. There is a balance that is needed between our community and economic development, and how we can conserve and preserve our natural environment. To this end, my goal is to pursue similar programmes to the beekeeping initiative so that our people receive hands-on training that leads to sustainable practices, which they can in turn benefit from financially.

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE CURRENT CHALLENGES AND HOW WILL YOU ADDRESS THEM?

Currently, one of my main challenges is breaking the stereotype about the Society. My aim is to garner more local support and membership so that the Society and its objectives can be met and thrive. We need a stronger presence in our communities, especially when it comes to valuing our heritage sites and conservation activities.

WHY DO YOU THINK YOUR WORK IS SO IMPORTANT?

Marcus Garvey famously said “A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin and culture is like a tree without roots.” This quote defines the importance of my work. While we should not dwell on the suffering our ancestors endured in the past, we should show gratitude, be able to reflect and appreciate where we have come from. There are many lessons to be learnt and to ignore the past is to set us up for failure when problems are repeated. The work is seldom easy, but it is worth it.

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES MOVING FORWARD?

Along with the completion of various grant projects, I would like to see the Society more involved with locals in a variety of aspects. Community involvement and outreach, more ‘Meet the Artists’ events, youth activities such as workshops, just to name a few.

OUTSIDE OF WORK, WHO IS KAMARA LOUISY?

I am simple yet complex. I love the simple things in life but my mind has a mind of its own. I am a lover of nature and enjoy hiking, reading, going to the beach and taking care of my pets and my clients’ pets. I can be nerdy, goofy and laid back but when I’m working, I’m working with full focus. I am a mental health advocate as well as a youth mentor, specifically for girls and young women. As a creative, I often compose stories and poems as well as produce scripts, talent pieces and speeches for competition participants. An entrepreneur, I own and operate a pet care business with a variety of services. On the outside it seems to many that I’m always working, but I do find the time to enjoy everything our beautiful Nevis has to offer while ensuring that she is preserved for future generations.



2023 AGM

The Annual General Meeting is an important forum for the Society's members to learn about the year in review and upcoming activities, ask questions, vote on new Directors, and approve the accounts. We held the meeting via ZOOM on 29 April, and we were delighted that so many members joined in the discussions from all over the world. We have over 120 paid-up members, and we hope that next year even more members will join and participate in the AGM. Meet the Board of Directors for 2023!

Richard Lupinacci, President, is an American-Nevisian from Pennsylvania who has spent most of his adult life living and working in the Eastern Caribbean. He was one of the original founders of the Nevis Historical and Conservation Society, and currently serves as President. He served as the construction manager for the extensive restoration of the Trott House, which was officially re-opened in 2018, and most recently has overseen the restoration works at the Bath Hotel.

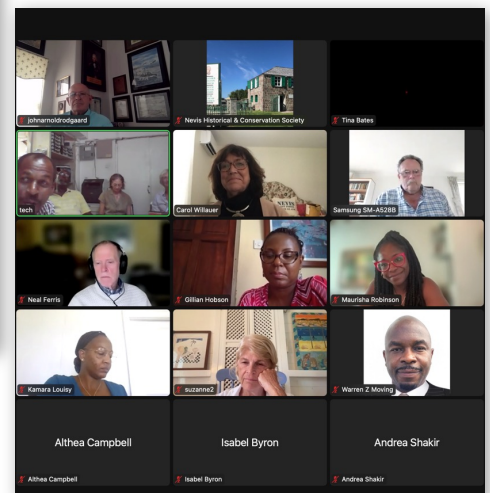
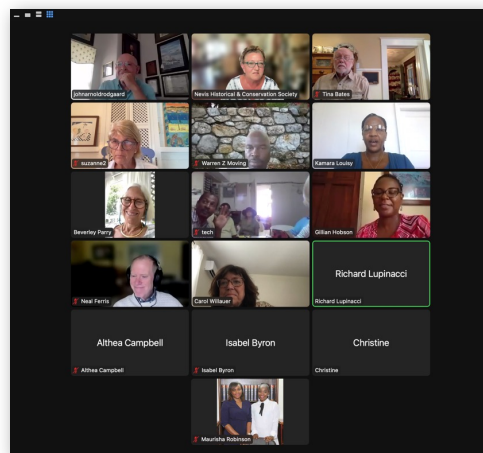
Todd Miller, Vice President, was raised outside of Philadelphia, USA, and graduated from Lafayette College and Temple U. Law School. He started his career as a District Justice (magistrate) and then became a public defender and an Assistant District Attorney before going into private practice. He and his wife recently initiated the Little Free Library programme on the island, part of a global movement to inspire a love of reading by fostering neighbourhood book exchanges around the world.

Warren Moving, Treasurer, is Nevisian by birth and has been intimately involved in local cultural activities for over 30 years. He has played several parts in local drama groups, and has participated and adjudicated in various Calypso events. He has worked as an Accountant for over 20 years and in 2010, he joined the Board of the Nevis Historical and Conservation Society and served as Treasurer for several years. He was again elected to serve on the Board in 2019 and currently serves as Treasurer.

Audra Barrett is from Craddock Road, and began his career with the Fisheries Department in Nevis. He holds a certificate of Fisheries Technology and did a post-graduate port management course before joining the Nevis Air and Sea Ports Authority (NASPA) and rose from Charlestown Port Manager to Chief Operations Officer of NASPA's Marine Unit. He additionally completed a Masters at Lloyd's Maritime Academy in Marine Surveying. He is currently a fisheries/marine consultant with vast knowledge of the marine ecosystems surrounding the Federation.

Althea Campbell, originally from Guyana, is a lawyer who until recently worked at the Legal Department of the Nevis Island Administration. She is currently working in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions. Her qualifications include a Bachelor of Laws Degree with Distinction, Legal Education Certificate, Master of Laws Degree in International Maritime Law with Distinction.

Gillian Hobson is a Nevisian with a long career in the private sector in account management and business administration, who holds a Master of Business Administration with a concentration in Finance. Having lived and travelled widely in the US, Europe and Africa, Gillian has a keen interest in, and passion for, cultural heritage and museums.



Terence “Tee” Liburd, was born in St. Albans, UK, of Nevisian parents from Morning Star. Tee is a qualified therapist and is the owner of Togetherness Therapy, which he established in 2012. He has extensive experience in getting local communities to engage in issues affecting them and has a long history of volunteerism.

Sylvester Meade currently serves as the Heritage Officer in the Ministry of Tourism and is a member of the Nevis World Heritage Committee. He is a Nevisian entrepreneur, born in Charlestown, with a lifelong passion for cultural heritage. He studied at London Capital College in the UK before pursuing business management at South Bank Polytechnic, London (UK) and West Virginia University (USA). Sylvester is also an avid photographer.

Devon Pemberton is Nevisian born and raised in the village of Fountain, and attended Combermere Primary School and Charlestown Secondary School. His love and passion for history and culture took root at an early age, and he was Junior Calypso Monarch for three years in a row. After two decades in the UK and USA furthering his studies and working in electrical engineering, Devon is now back on his beloved Nevis where he works as an Inspection Officer with the NIA’s Public Works Dept.

Maurisha Robinson, originally from Jamaica, has made Nevis her home since November 2009. She obtained a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of the West Indies in 2002, a Diploma in Human Resource Management from the University College of the Caribbean in 2004, a Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the West Indies in 2007, and a Legal Education Certificate from the Norman Manley Law School in 2009. Maurisha co-founded Morton Robinson L.P. in Nevis. She has served on the Board of the Society since 2017, and also serves as its legal advisor.

Charles Ward was born in St. Kitts to the Ward family of Mt Lily in Nevis. He has over three decades of international experience in advertising, marketing and event management, and is currently a freelance brand and sponsorship consultant. Having lived in the UK for most of his life, he recently returned to Nevis and is a committed member of the community through his involvement with events and marketing for a Community Based Rehabilitation (CBR) organisation here in Nevis.

Carol Nugent Willauer spent much of her career working in and consulting for non-profit organisations in fundraising, membership, board development, organisation management and marketing. Her work in historic preservation in the USA has included the oversight of capital campaigns for five historic museums throughout New England. Carol has also been a volunteer Board member of several conservation, preservation and museum organisations in the US. Carol has been an active volunteer for the Society and was the organiser of three successful Silent Auctions and the 2023 Jumble Sale.



PROJECTS

Conservation of Bath Hotel: US Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation through the US Embassy Bridgetown. The physical works commenced in January 2023, at the end of the Christmas/Carnival holiday season under the meticulous supervision of our President, Richard Lupinacci,



who serves as the project's Site Manager for conservation and restoration oversight *pro bono*. Parts of the massive stone structure were deteriorating due to roofs leaking from blocked drains and neglect of the plaster roof surface, as well as from well-intentioned introduction of modern elements such as air conditioning, wall-to-wall carpeting, and partitioning. This resulted in voids and dead spaces, which in turn created an ideal situation for mould, termite, and other pest infestations.

The first priority was to work with the Nevis Island Administration (NIA) to secure the worksite, and have the building cleared of all official documents, discarded equipment, furnishings, and debris that had been stored within the building since its abandonment.



Persons who had been using sections of the lower part of the building with permission from the NIA also vacated their spaces. Unlimited and casual access to the building is a threat for its future, and the burning of the nearby Bath House two years ago is an example of the risk of not controlling access. As a result, signage was erected, restricting entry to the building and the site as a whole.



HiTech Construction – led by local contractor Renaldo Hanley, assisted by Ashley Marshall – is the local construction firm hired for the physical works in the building, which have also included removal of modern tiling inside and out, stripping of carpeting, partitions, and false ceilings. Mr Hanley has a long history of working on historic preservation projects in Nevis since 1995, most notably the Hermitage main house (c. 1670-1740 and possibly the oldest surviving wooden house in the Caribbean), and the Trott House in Charlestown (built in 1845 and restored in 2018/2019). Ms Marshall

is new to historic preservation projects and was able to understudy Mr Hanley and learn an amazing amount in a very short time.

Clearing the interior and restoring natural air flow was a priority to improve the dangerous air quality. The project was able to recycle much of the wooden wall panelling to repair damaged floorboards and rebuild damaged storm shutters to secure the building from vandalism. Additional scrap panelling is



being used by the Ministry of Tourism to construct changing rooms, toilets and a Welcome Centre for visitors to the Bath Stream below.

It had been hoped that some of the T1-11 ceiling panels could be retained, however most of these were removed permanently as they were harbouring termites and wood rot. Plywood used in creating a flat ceiling for the balconies was removed, as this dead space was harbouring rats and bats.

About 25% of the heavy ceiling beams (joists) on the 2nd floor were found to be damaged, which means that about 75% were as sound as the day they were put in over 200 years ago. We had to order 70 pieces of treated 3 x 10 x 20 foot beams from Seaview Building Solutions in Florida, which were used to create compound beams to replace the original 10 x 10 beams. While we have adapted the existing wiring for temporary lighting and construction use, the project advisors have recommended to condemn all the electrical wiring and seek to re-wire the building.

The roof drains were cleared and debris and roots were removed from the roof in preparation for a new lime mortar surfacing which is compatible with the original materials. An additional coat of lime would have been ideal, but there was no more lime available on island; another coat will need to be applied in about five years.

A heavy cast iron roof tank and an ornamental cannon were

removed, as there was evidence that their weight was an unnecessary strain on the roofs. The cannon, originally from Fort Charles, will be returned to the site.

New 8-inch drain down pipes were installed and drainage was diverted away from the building as it would have been originally. We had requested that a dangerous high tension cable in the building be removed by Nevlec, as it is not to proper code; it was not removed but disconnected from the pole, and poses no further risk. The Nevis Disaster Management Department (NDMD) oversaw the removal of their seismic detection system from inside the building by a team of scientists from Trinidad.

Master mason "Nambo" and a junior mason oversaw the re-pointing of stonework in certain areas of the exterior and interior of the building, as necessary. Re-pointing is extremely expensive, and in future it will suffice for the interior walls to be whitewashed.

Additional work on the site beyond the scope of the grant included the urgent removal of one large Strangler fig and three large Neem trees by a professional experienced crew to prevent any damage to the structure or adjoining 18th century ruins. We also undertook to make urgent repairs to the Bath House, part of which collapsed due to neglect after a fire some years ago, as well as the aggressive roots of a Neem tree, and a recent earth tremor.





Beekeeping – Establishment of central breeding facilities: UNDP GEF Small Grants Programme.

The project is aimed at increasing bee colonies on both islands to increase bee populations, leading to biodiversity conservation and improved food and livelihood security for farmers and beekeepers. From 11-16 May, master beekeeper Richard Matthias was in the Federation to work with beekeepers on both islands to prepare a starter colony, select potential grafting colonies, and prepare finishing colonies. The segment of the project also saw hive management training, grafting training, marking queens, apiary site preparation,



preparation of Nucs (nucleus colonies) and introduction of queen cells. A graduation ceremony was held at The Hermitage on 16 May, graced by Minister for Culture, Hon. Eric Evelyn, and which also served as a commemoration ceremony in honour of Quentin “Beeman” Henderson.

Nevis Archaeology Research Centre, personal bequest of Dr Elaine Morris. The centre was a hive of activity with Dr Ferris’ Summer Field School, and also saw the installation a set of two rows of back-to-back shelving racks in the Finds Room.



Nevis Island Archives. We were able to make an important upgrade through the fireproofing of the ceiling, and efforts are underway to create a reference book section in the former curator’s office, which will enable us to better organise the important archival information with the additional space.

Museum Collections: Society members and Canadian curators, Tina Bates and Phil Dunning, continued their important volunteer work with our collections, cleaning, recording and organising materials that have been stored in the Bath Hotel.



Fort Ashby and Nelsons Spring Wetlands: SMILO - Small Islands Organisation, the US Department of Agriculture U.S. Forest Service's Natural Infrastructure for Caribbean Resilience (NICaR) programme, and GEF IWEco. We have been engaged with wetland restoration projects since 2020, and we are very grateful for the various financial partners for our current projects at Nelson’s Spring and Fort Ashby. We are also very grateful for the continued technical support of the NIA’s Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries *et al*, the great work of our coordinators Jenny Lowery and Keithley Amory, and the continued volunteer efforts by all our partners, especially the St Thomas Improvement Group under the leadership of Tammy Farrell and Donford Wilkinson. On 25 March, many volunteers came out to support our efforts at a Community Planting Day, and we would like to thank them all, including Hon. Premier Mark Brantley and the Brown Hill Management Team.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

ANNUAL JUMBLE SALE



Our annual Jumble Sale fundraiser, held on 11th February, was a huge success, in large part due to the generosity of MANY members and friends who donated items, and the tireless efforts of our team: Jonathan, Eli, Gail, Coram, Lorna and Gillian. But the biggest THANK YOU goes to organiser par excellence, Carol Willauer, who rounded up the largest ever group of volunteers: Allerson, Anna, Annette, Bev, Cathy, Esme, Gary, Gervaise,

Gordon, Hope, Jane, Kerri, Kit, Kym, Lisa, Mary, Megan, Miriam, Nadine, Nancy, Pam, Pat, Penny, Peter, Priscilla, Rhonda, Rosa, Shane, Sheila, Skip, Susan, Val, and Wendy. We would also like to thank the following for their donations: Deborah Lellouche, Anne Edmead, Gary & Jane Hansom, Patty Ligare, Muffin Huffman, Ann, Margaret Freeman, Janet & Bill Guy, Todd Miller & Suzanne Gordon, Sheena Thompson, John McKenzie, Val McKenzie, Denys Hoyt. We are also grateful for the support of the Ministry of Social Development & Gender Affairs for the tents. To everyone, we extend a hearty THANK YOU for your support of our work to safeguard Nevis' natural and cultural heritage – in all, we raised about EC\$15,000!



EARTH DAY

Our stalwart member Mrs Miriam Knorr has spearheaded the NHCS' Earth Day 'Clean Island Sweep' every year since 2003. This year, with a grant from Ocean Conservancy's #TeamSeas programme, we expanding the annual white goods sweep to vehicle wrecks as well. We're particularly grateful to Andrew Hendrickson of the Nevis Solid Waste Management Authority and his team for facilitating the exercise at the island dump and for their record-keeping.

92.63 tonnes (just over 204,214 pounds!) were hauled to the island dump on Saturday 22nd April as part of our efforts to keep Nevis Nice.

"Team Miriam" – assisted by Susan Jared & family/friends, Josiah, Marcus and Jubal – set out to cover the area from Jones Bay to town, including Chicken Stone, Pond Hill, Rawlins, Zetlands, Barnes Ghaut, and Powell's Garage/Bath Hotel.

“Team Lorna” – assisted by Ajuma, Mbithe, Kevon, Ace, John and Jamie – set about clearing sites along Combermere/Mt Lily/Fountain/Westbury road, Clifton, Cotton Ground, Jessups and onwards to town.

Together, the two teams hauled a total of 10 pickup loads full of white goods and scrap metal to the dump. Meanwhile, a team of truckers, excavators/backhoe operators and a crusher cleared and hauled a total of OVER 40 VEHICLE WRECKS and scrap metal to the dump. At the Bath Hotel site, operations were supervised by Dale Claxton of DC Equipment & Services.

We hope that everyone will continue to stay vigilant and keep their immediate surroundings clean, and report any illegal dumping to the NHCS. Together we can continue to keep #NevisNice #NevisNaturally!



BEFORE



AFTER



STEM WEEK

We are thrilled to have been invited by the Department of Education to take part in the inaugural STEM EXPO 2023 in May at the Malcolm Guishard Recreational Park. This was an important event to inspire Nevisian students to realise that **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics** are important tools that teach problem-solving and promote exploratory learning – which in turn fuel success across a variety of tasks and disciplines. Not only were we able to share the NHCS's projects and activities with the students, but visiting Archaeologist Dr Neal Ferris of the University of Western Ontario/Museum of Ontario Archaeology was on hand to talk to the students about archaeology as a field of study, and also show them archaeological artefacts from excavations in Nevis, and how a 3D scanner works to make 3D models of the artefacts. We hope that we've inspired a new generation of Nevisian scientists and critical thinkers! A HUGE thank you to our team members Dr Kamara Louisy (Director), Eliesel Ramirez Dorsett (Gallery supervisor) and Dr Ferris, who all contributed greatly towards the success of the event!



MEET THE ARTIST & PUBLIC TALKS

What an active season we had for our public events! THANK YOU to all the artists and professionals who participated to make this year's 'High Season' full of fascinating people and information! **Please contact us if you would like to be a featured artist or guest speaker!**

MEET THE ARTIST
IS IT CRAFT OR ART?

With Almena Cornelius, Marveolyn Evelyn & Val McKenzie from Newcastle Pottery. Showcasing traditional crafts, modern paintings and early archival footage of pottery making. With the participation of Dyrngi Parris & his drummers

January 31st, 4:50pm - 6:50pm
Museum Gift Shop, Hamilton Museum,
Charlestown



Meet the Artist February 2023



Book signing by Alice Early
author of *THE MOON ALWAYS RISING*, set predominantly in Nevis with a cast of local and expat characters




Don't forget:
10% off Gift Shop purchases for Members *excluding antiques

POSTCARD ANTIQUE BASKET FROM BAHAMA AND OUR BEES, PLATEEN ANTIQUE BOOKS, DOTTE BUSTON, BATHING, HAITIAN METAL SCULPTURES AND MORE!

Museum Gift Shop, Hamilton Museum, Charlestown


Tuesday 21 February, 4.30-6.30pm

Eva Wilkin *Meet the Artist March 2023*
Posthumous show and SALE with music by the Sugar Hill String Band!

Museum Gift Shop, Charlestown

Tuesday 7 March, 4.30-6.50pm



JOIN US!

HORATIO NELSON, LIFE & LOVES: THE EXHIBITION



PUBLIC TALK BY TINA BATES
Curator Emeritus, Canadian Museum of History, Ottawa

Join us as Tina Bates speak on plans for an exhibition on Horatio Nelson, which will feature selections from the remarkable collection of souvenirs and pictures collected in the 1960s and 70s by Florence and Robert Abrahams. In her presentation you will hear about the naval hero and his complicated personal life. When Nelson was killed in the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805, he was already an international celebrity. He was worshipped for his many victories at sea, his leadership and bravery. Nelson had strong connection to Nevis. Here in 1787, he married Nevis-born Frances Nisbet. A few years later, Nelson abandoned his wife for the celebrated and alluring (and married) Emma Hamilton.

Wednesday 15 March, 5.30-6.30pm

Alexander Hamilton Museum
Samuel Hunkins Drive, Charlestown, Nevis

PLEASE RSVP: info@nevisheritage.org



JOIN US!

No Dollar Too Dark:
Piracy, privateering, and illegal slave trading in the northeast Caribbean during the Age of Revolutions, 1810-1850



PUBLIC TALK BY RYAN ESPERSEN, PHD
Historical archaeologist, cultural heritage consultant, and public educator – with an emphasis on maritime archaeology and historical archaeology of the Caribbean.

Tuesday 28 March, 5.00-6.00 pm

Alexander Hamilton Museum
Samuel Hunkins Drive, Charlestown, Nevis

RSVP: info@nevisheritage.org



THE BIODIVERSITY COMMITTEE INVITES YOU!
TO A PUBLIC TALK BY JOYCE CHANG
SKN SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT & RECYCLING PROJECT



Our Biodiversity Committee welcomes you to learn more about this initiative managed jointly by the Taiwan Technical Mission in St Kitts & Nevis and the Nevis Solid Waste Management Authority. The talk will be followed by a Question & Answer session. All are invited to attend and learn how to be part of this vital effort to reduce and recycle our waste on Nevis!

Tuesday 21 March, 6.00-7.00pm

Alexander Hamilton Museum
Samuel Hunkins Drive, Charlestown

RSVP: info@nevisheritage.org



Plastic
Any size of plastic materials with the recycle logo



Metal
Any size of aluminium or tin cans







Did You Know?



That according to the
**ST CHRISTOPHER & NEVIS
 NATIONAL CONSERVATION
 AND ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT (NCEPA)**



"Historic site" means a place or site which is historic by reason of an association with the past and is part of the cultural or historical heritage, and such a classification may include archaeological sites, historic landmarks, and areas of special historic or cultural interest.

Any person who defaces, damages or destroys any historic building, site or monument is guilty of an offence.







Did You Know?

That according to the
**ST CHRISTOPHER & NEVIS
 NATIONAL CONSERVATION
 AND ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT**

An owner of any historic building who **repairs or restores** such building may receive any or all of the following **incentives**:

- (a) exemption from payment of property tax;
- (b) exemption from custom duties and consumption tax for any materials imported for repairs and restoration;
- (c) professional advice from public officers without charge or a fee;
- (d) use of plant and equipment of the Public Works Department.





AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

Have you seen any of these signs around? This year we launched a series of awareness campaigns, focusing on our historic sites & structures, as well as our environment. We will continue to work hand-in-hand with the NIA's Heritage Manager, Sylvester Meade, and the relevant authorities, to raise awareness and push for strengthened legislation.

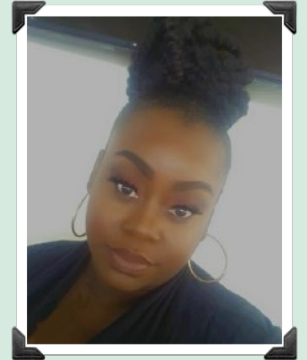


STAFF NEWS

In March we welcomed our new Director, **Dr Kamara Louisy**, and in April, we welcomed two additional staff to our team: **Josian Auguiste** and **Belina Francis!**

Josian was seeking employment upon her return to Nevis from her homeland of Dominica, and saw our job opening for a Gallery Attendant as a opportunity to combine her passion for teaching and preserving history, culture and the environment. Her work experience has been in customer service, sales and marketing, but a variety situations have equipped her for any environment. She loves being surrounded by all the history and learning something new everyday, and with the knowledge and skills that she's learning, wants to be able to teach and train, whether it be new employees, visitors or even colleagues. In addition to her gallery duties, Josian will be understudying our

head Archivist, Ms Gail Dore, to better prepare us to open the Archives to the public again soon. Josian is also passionate about music and singing, and has a new-found interest in beekeeping!



Belina attended secondary schools in Dominica and Antigua before moving to Nevis to complete her studies at Charlestown Secondary School with a Certificate in Business. She recently graduated from Nevis Sixth Form College with an Associate degree in Accounting, and is eager to hone her business skills. Belina was interested to be learn more about Nevis history and take part in its preservation, and saw the Society as the perfect place; she particularly

enjoys interacting with visitors to our museum and hearing about their experiences. Belina will be combining her Gallery Attendant duties with accounting and Gift Shop sales, and she also looks forward to assisting with upcoming events to boost the Society's public profile.

Following in the footsteps of past awardees among our staff, notably Hon. Jahnel Nisbett (patriotism) and Arcquela Bendeito (cultural and historical preservation), our very own **Eliesel Ramirez Dorsett** was this year's **Youth Impact 12 awardee in the area of Performing Arts!** Born in 1999, he migrated to Nevis from the Dominican Republic at the age of 2 and has since had to overcome many obstacles, including language and cultural barriers to become the young man he is today. His life experiences have become a core motivator for thrusting Eliesel into the world of music. He is a multi-faceted individual, and sees himself as a product of two cultures, a sweet two-part harmony of Latin American and Nevisian heritage. He hopes his music and accomplishments inspire hope, pride, and joy in all he calls family. At the Society, Eliesel in our Gallery Supervisor and Administrative Assistant, as well as our stellar Membership Officer. CONGRATULATIONS, Eliesel, we're all so proud of you!



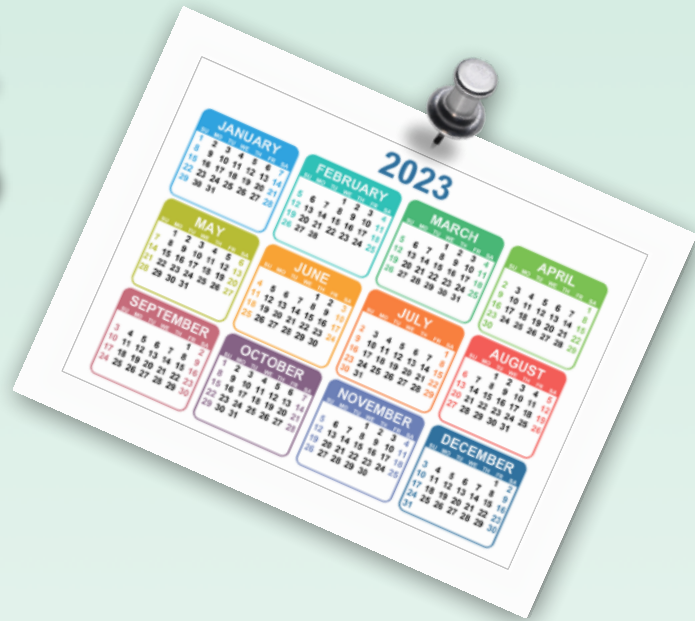
Society Awarded!



The Society is among the latest recipients of the **Cultures of Resistance Award!** The award recognises groundbreaking creative work connected to human rights, the environment, economic and global justice. The award grant of US\$1,000 to the Society will go towards the development of new exhibitions about "Nevis Notables", highlighting not only the achievements of notable Nevisians and those of Nevisian heritage (eg. Constance Baker-Motley, civil rights activist, judge, and politician; Cicely Tyson, award-winning actress; Professor Ernest Melville DuPorte, insect morphologist; Bertram L. Baker, former member of the New York State Assembly) – but also the men and women who were notable at one point in the island's history and who are representatives of the many others who survived and made a life for themselves and their families, despite the appalling treatment and conditions during enslavement, ie. individual resisters (leaders of slave resistance, escapees), collective resisters, survivors and matriarchs, and skilled persons during slavery (nurses, teachers, stonemasons).

The Cultures of Resistance Network aims to promote and support organisations, activists, and artists who seek a more peaceful, just, and democratic world. The CoR Network was created by iara lee, director of Cultures of Resistance Films, as a way of supporting people wishing to take action around peace and justice issues.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Please get in touch if you'd like to donate towards, or get involved with, any of our activities!

Our success depends on YOU!

- ▶ **September: Coastal Cleanup (date to be announced)**
- ▶ **Starting October, the last Tuesday of every month: “Meet the Artist” at the Museum Gift Shop**
- ▶ **November: Arbour month**
- ▶ **December: Member’s Mixer, Holiday Fair**
- ▶ **3rd Thursday of every month: meeting of the Board of Directors**

MUSEUM STATISTICS (JAN-JUN)

Eighteen (18) cruise ships called at the Charlestown pier between January and June 2023. These statistics reflect the Museum of Nevis History and Hamilton Museum only.

Total admissions: EC\$58,134.52

3,846

MUSEUM VISITORS

January: 867
February: 825
March: 883
April: 464
May: 512
June: 295

1,752

VISITORS FROM 88 TOURS

2,094

WALK-IN VISITORS

2,016 non-resident
78 resident/citizen

SHOP TALK



All things Hamilton!
T-shirts from \$15 US
(\$40 EC)
as well as other
Hamilton gifts:
books, socks,
collectible coins, shot
glasses & special
edition Hamilton rum!



We also have a wide assortment of books, unique and handcrafted gift items like ornaments, frames, paracord key chains, carved whistles, Newcastle pottery, one-of-a-kind jewellery, water-marbled items and original paintings and photographs. Come in and see our beautifully framed historic maps!



DON'T FORGET:
FLASH YOUR
MEMBERSHIP CARD
AND GET 10% OFF* !

** except
antiques*



**Free WiFi in our
Museums & Gift Shop**



NEVIS HISTORICAL & CONSERVATION SOCIETY

Our Team

Dr Kamara Louisy – Director
Gail Dore – Senior Archivist / Ag. Finance officer
Eiesel Ramirez Dorsett – Gallery supervisor/Membership officer
Josian Auguste – Gallery attendant/junior archivist
Belina Francis – Gallery attendant/Gift shop attendant
Miriam Knorr – Museum Gift Shop supervisor
Lorna Abungu – Museum / Communications advisor
Patrick Howell – Audio-Visual support
Keithley Amory – IWeco & NICaR project coordinator
Jenny Lowery – Consultant, Nelson Spring Restoration Project

Board of Directors 2023

Richard Lupinacci – President
Todd Miller – Vice President
Warren Moving – Treasurer
Audra Barrett
Devon Pemberton
Gillian Hobson
Terence “Tee” Liburd
Sylvester Meade - Heritage Manager, NIA
Maurisha Robinson
Charles Ward
Carol Willauer

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Follow us, Tag us!



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