



Historic Building/Site Inventory

Belmont Heritage District
Piccadilly Heritage District
Upper Laventille Heritage District



St. Ann's Church of Scotland



Name: St. Ann's Church of Scotland
Address: Corner Charlotte and Oxford Street,
Port of Spain
Original use: Church, Manse, Presbytery
Existing use: Church, Manse, Presbytery

POTENTIAL FOR ADAPTIVE RE USE WITHOUT CHANGING HISTORIC CHARACTER OF BUILDING

Can contribute to community tourism effort Yes ☒ No ☐

Parking accessible on site- Yes ☒ No ☐

Coach tour drive by only ☐

Visitors can stop and tour facility ☒

Food outlet - No

Art and Craft outlet - No

Potentially adaptable to re-use in cottage industry

Yes ☒ No ☐

(The Manse or Presbytery could possibly be used)

ARCHITECTURE

Style: Gothic Revival Church/ Manse.

Presbytery is Victorian Colonial.

Approx. date of Construction: 1894

Construction materials

Exterior walls: Laventille Stone and Yellow Brick

Roof: Slate

Integrity: Unchanged ☒

Some Change but Character retained ☐

Character destroyed ☐

ENVIRONMENT

1. Contributes to the continuity and character of
Street or area Yes ☒ No ☐
2. Important Visual landmark Yes ☒ No ☐
3. Heritage property of Interest Yes ☒ No ☐

NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Three Buildings on Site- Church, Manse, Presbytery- All considered historic buildings. Designed by George Brown. Presbyterian Church with roots in Madeira Portugal. Hall Constructed in 1912.

Jama Masjid



POTENTIAL FOR ADAPTIVE RE USE WITHOUT CHANGING HISTORIC CHARACTER OF BUILDING

Can contribute to community tourism effort Yes ☒ No ☐

Parking accessible on site- Yes ☐ No ☒

Coach tour drive by only ☐

Visitors can stop and tour facility ☒

Food outlet - No

Art and Craft outlet - No

Potentially adaptable to re-use in cottage industry

Yes ☐ No ☒

ARCHITECTURE

Style: Influenced by Eastern Mosque Architecture

Approx. date of Construction: 1948

Construction materials

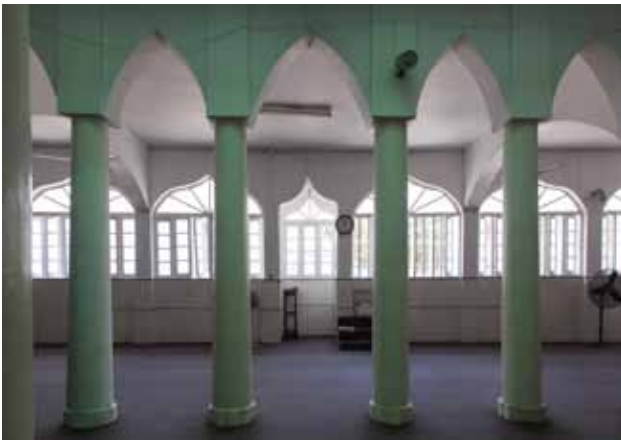
Exterior walls: Masonry

Roof: Concrete

Integrity: Unchanged ☐

Some Change but Character retained ☒

Character destroyed ☐



ENVIRONMENT

1. Contributes to the continuity and character of

Street or area Yes ☒ No ☐

2. Important Visual landmark Yes ☒ No ☐

3. Heritage property of Interest Yes ☒ No ☐

NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Painted white and green, this is the Largest Mosque in POS and is called the "Friday Mosque"

Masjid means "Place of Prostration".

The Foundation sits on large boulders from the Laventille Quarry vein

Opened in 1948 by British Governor AB Wright.

The Mosque has minarets two with onion shaped domes and four adapted from an Indian form. The main dome, with the Crescent, is over the Mihrab, a prayer niche in the Qibla wall that faces Mecca. The roof is hidden behind a classical masonry balustrade.

Reference Number: 13

Name: Jama Masjid

Address: Corner of Piccadilly St and Queen St

Original use: Mosque

Existing use: Mosque



Our Lady of Fatima



Name: Our Lady of Fatima
Address: Upper Picton Road, Laventille,
Port of Spain
Original use: R.C. Church
Existing use: R.C. Church

POTENTIAL FOR ADAPTIVE RE USE WITHOUT CHANGING HISTORIC CHARACTER OF BUILDING

Can contribute to community tourism effort Yes ☒ No ☐

Parking accessible on site- Yes ☒ No ☐

Coach tour drive by only ☐

Visitors can stop and tour facility ☒

Food outlet - *Accommodated in outbuildings*

Art and Craft outlet - *Accommodated in outbuildings*

Potentially adaptable to re-use in cottage industry

Accommodated in outbuildings

ARCHITECTURE

Style: Gothic Revival

Approx. date of Construction: 1886-1891

Construction materials

Exterior walls: Laventille Blue Limestone

Roof: Sheet Metal. Originally Slate

Integrity: Unchanged ☒

Some Change but Character retained ☐

Character destroyed ☐

ENVIRONMENT

1. Contributes to the continuity and character of

Street or area Yes ☒ No ☐

2. Important Visual landmark Yes ☒ No ☐

3. Heritage property of Interest Yes ☒ No ☐

NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Both Church and Statue are landmarks. Statue is 30'-0" tall. Statue dates to 1878 and came from France and was damaged by lightening in 1920. Tower was completed in 1882 to accommodate the statue.

Stone Church replaced a wooden one and took 5 years to complete.

In 1947, the Gonzalez family donated a new statue. This is a pilgrimage site for Roman Catholics. It is a national Shrine of "Our Lady".

Reference Number: 19

Fort Picton



POTENTIAL FOR ADAPTIVE RE USE WITHOUT CHANGING HISTORIC CHARACTER OF BUILDING

Can contribute to community tourism effort Yes ☒ No ☐

Parking accessible on site- Yes ☒ No ☐

Coach tour drive by only ☐

Visitors can stop and tour facility ☒

Food outlet- *Can be accommodated in surrounding area*

Art and Craft outlet- *Can be accommodated in surrounding area*

Potentially adaptable to re-use in cottage industry

Yes ☒ No ☐



ARCHITECTURE

Style: Martello Tower

Approx. date of Construction: 1798

Construction materials

Exterior walls: Laventille Blue Limestone and Yellow Bricks

Roof: None

Integrity: Unchanged ☐

Some Change but Character retained ☒

Character destroyed ☐



ENVIRONMENT

1. Contributes to the continuity and character of

Street or area Yes ☐ No ☒

2. Important Visual landmark Yes ☒ No ☐

3. Heritage property of Interest Yes ☒ No ☐

NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Built by Governor Thomas Picton as part of the military defense for Port of Spain.

Occupies strategic position on Laventille Hill overlooking Port of Spain.

40'-0" high. In need of restoration. There is no roof at present. Stand alone landmark.

Name: Fort Picton

Address: Picton Road, Laventille

Original use: Military Post

Existing use: Tourism Site

Reference Number: 21

Ken Morris Mas Camp



POTENTIAL FOR ADAPTIVE RE USE WITHOUT CHANGING HISTORIC CHARACTER OF BUILDING

Can contribute to community tourism effort Yes ☒ No ☐

Parking accessible on site- Yes ☒ (Limited) No ☐

Coach tour drive by only ☐

Visitors can stop and tour facility ☒

Food outlet ☐

Art and Craft outlet ☒

Potentially adaptable to re-use in cottage industry

Yes ☒ No ☐



ARCHITECTURE

Style: Two Family Barrack House

Approx. date of Construction: 1915

Construction materials

Exterior walls: Timber

Roof: Sheet Metal

Integrity: Unchanged- ☒

Some Change but Character retained ☐

Character destroyed ☐



ENVIRONMENT

1. Contributes to the continuity and character of
Street or area Yes ☒ No ☐

2. Important Visual landmark Yes ☐ No ☒
(Off the Main Street)

3. Heritage property of Interest Yes ☒ No ☐

NOTES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Residence of Ken Morris 1924 – 1992. “The Copper Man” was a master metal craftsman who transformed traditional carnival technique into high art. He used the yard as his “Mas Camp”, building a shed to one side for the manufacture of his costumes.

Perfect for small Craft fairs/ Theatre/ Craft Outlet

Name: Ken Morris Mas Camp

Address: 107B Belmont Circular Road,
Belmont

Original use: Residence

Existing use: Mas Camp/ Storage for Camp
and Art Studio

Reference Number: 29



The Role Of Built And Cultural Heritage In Promoting The Development Of A Heritage Economy In Selected Areas Of East Port Of Spain

INTRODUCTION

The CFC and the CNULM agreed that while the final objective was to determine the influence that the built and cultural heritage could have on economic development in the entire East Port of Spain growth pole, it was only feasible to concentrate on three areas of the region for this consultancy. The three areas chosen were Belmont, Piccadilly and the northern part of Laventille. In addition, a review was done of the Nelson, Duncan and George Street areas as a means of strengthening the Piccadilly projects.

The members of the CFC implementing team for this initiative were Mrs. Rudylynn De Four Roberts, restoration architect, Ms. Margaret McDowall-Thompson, urban and regional planner, Ms. Kayra Roopsingh, heritage specialist/geographer and Ms. Ariann Thompson, heritage photographer. To date we have collated and reviewed all literature that we could locate relating to East Port of Spain. We have created an inventory and photo documented all built heritage sites we found in three identified districts.

The possible projects that have been identified for the area include

- The Creation of a series of innovative tours of the Historical, Religious and Cultural sites in all three areas - operated by residents in a manner designed to bring maximum benefit to the districts
- The establishment of sites of interest such as –
 - o Ken Morris Copper Centre and Mas Camp
 - o The Rada Compound
 - o Some of the Orisha sites
 - o The Forts of Laventille
- Creation of community museums in each area – commencing with the Freetown museum
- The creation of a band stand and park at the Piccadilly Greens and East Dry River area.
- Expansion of the concerts and other cultural events at the Renegades, All Stars and Desperados Pan Yards.
- The redevelopment of the Nelson, Duncan and George Street areas utilising public and private partnership mechanisms to provide housing, community facilities, commercial opportunities and training.

Belmont

1. Tours

Belmont has the largest collection of vernacular architecture in one easily accessible location along several of the main streets in the district and can easily support bus and walking tours to view these houses. Most of the larger ones were either designed or inspired by architect George Brown and represent a unique local style that was suitable to our climate and lifestyle. In fact these could be seen as the first green houses of the Caribbean. In addition, the attractive fretwork and wooden louvered windows can influence more modern interpretations that are easier to maintain and build. Belmont also has several original chattel houses and corner shops along the winding side streets that add so much character to the area. Many of these houses are still used as homes. However, there is the potential for adaptive reuse as has been the case with the Meyler House and the Theatre Workshop, which would enable longer stays for entertainment and conferences as well as for restaurants. Belmont also has two beautiful churches one of which – St Francis is under restoration and repair and St. Margaret's, which is well maintained and could be part of a bus tour upon appointment.



It is envisaged that in addition to foreign visitors, tours can attract local families and professionals as the CFC experienced when in conjunction with the Freetown Foundation, a very successful tour was organised. Belmont also has a very rich cultural tradition – especially in the form of Carnival arts – it is reputed to be the home of the ‘Sailor Mas’ and performances by residents could augment the visits and bring more revenue to the local population. In addition, additional visitors would provide opportunities for the sale of local food and there are many popular



‘watering holes’ that could accommodate a ‘lime’ in Belmont as part of or after a tour.

There is an annual Belfest organised by the Freetown Foundation, which has the potential to attract many visitors and former ‘Belmontians’ if promoted and funded adequately. This would present an opportunity for Belmont residents to sell their food and craft items within the area.

2. Sites of Interest.

The two churches, mentioned previously could become the basis of scheduled tours, possibly as part of a religious tour with the churches in the Piccadilly area. However, on their own, the Belmont churches have attracted some of the ‘historians’ and elders of the community who can be encouraged to discuss their memories of old Belmont especially with young people of Port of Spain. In our visits to these churches we were particularly impressed by the recall and vivid stories that some of these elders had to offer. We believe that this interaction could be a feature of these visits and taped for posterity.

Belmont has the only Rada Compound outside of Dahomey in West Africa. While the actual buildings are in poor condition and some have been cheaply rebuilt,

