

## Part 7

### Coming Full Circle

**Cecille DePass**

Predominantly, a series of visual images, Part 7, consists of the following: (i) Anne Hickling-Hudson's Photo Journal depicts snapshots of the activities associated with the UWI Geography's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference, in summer 2016. Furthermore, Anne summarizes some key aspects of the memorable, JGS, Geography, summer 2016 conference, in the text which follows her Photo Journal. (ii) Elizabeth Thomas-Hope's photographs of/with Barry Floyd when she visited him in England and gave him his UWI Geography Award which recognized his contributions to the region. (iii) An extract from Cecil Gray's poem, presents an aerial map of several Caribbean countries. (iv) Dabydeen's poem, a tribute to Derek Walcott (Nobel Prize recipient and an early UWI graduate), juxtaposes images of a Canadian winter with tropical scenes. To conclude our collective eBook, and to indelibly, print images of the UWI, on our minds, Lumsden and Clayton take us on a visual field trip, of the Mona Campus.

“Visual surprise is natural in the Caribbean; it comes with the landscape, and faced with its beauty, the sigh of History dissolves”. (Derek Walcott, Google: Derek Walcott Inspirational quotes).

In the concluding part of our Geography, UWI, memories and tributes, we include the following:

- A Photo Journal and text submitted by Anne Hickling-Hudson highlights the JGS' Conference and associated activities to celebrate 50 years of the Geography Department's teaching and research in the Caribbean.
- Photographs of Barry Floyd and Elizabeth Thomas-Hope, taken at his home in Rye, East Sussex, England (Summer 2016).
- An Extract from Cecil Gray's "Lighthouses", identified and submitted by Faye Lumsden.
- Cyril Dabydeen's poem, "A letter to Derek Walcott".

Finally, as a grand sweep through time, and to keep some memories indelibly etched in our minds and hearts, there is a series of photographs of: the UWI, Mona Campus; the De la Beche Building which housed the early Geology & Geography Departments; and snippets of information and photos from some of the early Geography Journals. Cecile Clayton and Faye Lumsden have produced the grand finale for our book (available on Google Drive. The hot link is identified).

Perhaps, for those of us whose early adulthood was molded and shaped by our experiences at UWI, further, for all of us who have very fond memories of the Geography professors who taught us, and for those of us who fell in love with the Mona Campus, this book, written in our own words, with our own photos is at best, a modest tribute, to the founders and leaders of Geography at UWI.

To conclude: Thank you to the Geography professors and instructors who have given tirelessly, of themselves. In doing so, you have shared Geography's rich legacy of its evolving knowledge, skills, attitudes and attributes. Thank you for sharing your love of the discipline, and furthermore, thank you for encouraging our determination to contribute, in different ways, to the betterment of the region, whether at home or abroad.

Photo Journal, Anne Hickling-Hudson

**27 June - 1 July, 2016:**

**Enjoying the Geography Conference at the  
University of the West Indies (Mona Campus), to  
celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the launching of  
UWI's Geography degree**

[Photos from Anne Hickling-Hudson's holiday snaps]

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July 2016 - University of the West Indies, Mona Campus.  
Brian & I were there for the Department of Geography's  
50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference: 27 June to 1st July.  
I took these campus photos from the top floor of UWI's bookshop.

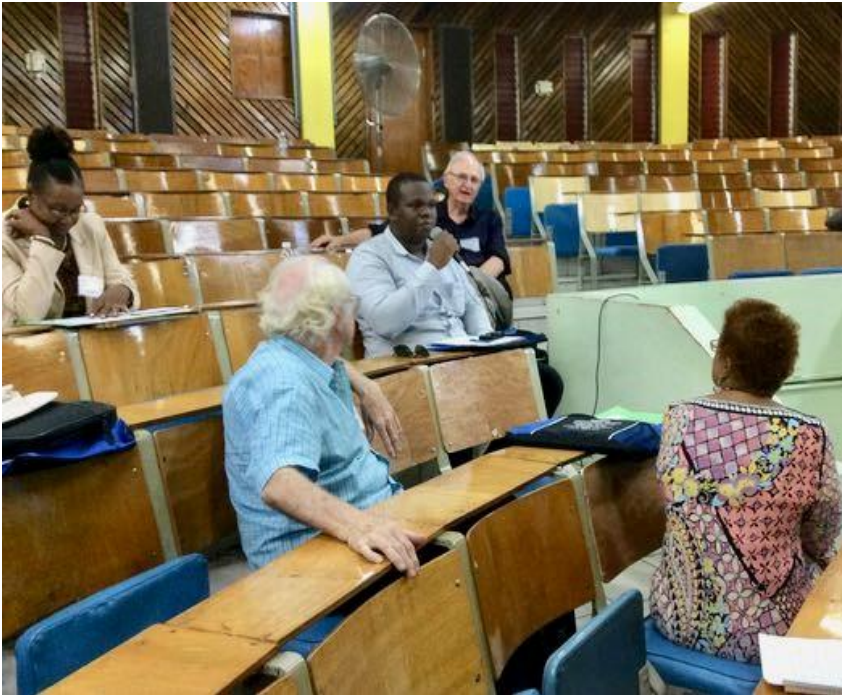




Participants - graduates, undergraduates and academic staff attending the Geography 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference at UWI.



## Geography colleagues socialize in the conference breaks.





The UWI Geography Conference entertained us with a fun session in which we were taught how to blend fine rum.



In the rum-blending competition, the lecturer was the judge and I won second prize for my unique blend of rum!



## Rum blending and more prizes!





The Geography Conference also organised a field trip by boat around Kingston Harbour. Geographers wave to those left on shore as we set sail.



Eleanor Jones and I, and other passengers enjoying the sea breezes.





At the Conference dinner, the Jamaican Geographical Society presented **"Trail Blazer"** Awards to some of the foundational educators in the UWI Geography degree, including Brian and his colleagues Eleanor Jones and Alan Eyre.





## Trail Blazer Awards for Elizabeth Thomas-Hope and Wilma Bailey.



## Friends and colleagues at the Geography Awards Ceremony.



Many thanks to the organisers  
in the Jamaican Geographical Society  
and UWI's Geography Department  
for an enjoyable conference!



**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UWI's Geography Department Conference, celebrating 50 years of Geography at the University of the West Indies (UWI), June 27<sup>th</sup> - July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016:**

**Anne Hickling-Hudson**

This conference in Jamaica, celebrating 50 years of the Geography Department at UWI, featured a very enjoyable series of presentations. The conference panels were organised around the following themes: “Geography – Retrospect and Prospect; Geography in Practice; Current Research in Geography; Education – Geography for the 21st Century; and War Stories and Other Geographical Tales”.

AACS member Brian Hudson travelled to Kingston in late June just in time for the Geography Conference, arriving after I had already been in Jamaica for a month. At the conference, Brian and I enjoyed catching up with old collegial friends again – people with whom we had taught and studied at UWI in the 1970s and 80s. It was particularly poignant for him to reminisce with some of his past students. Many of these had studied Brian’s introductory undergraduate course in Urban & Regional Planning, which he had designed and first offered in the mid-1970s, teaching the course until we left to work in Australia in the mid 1980s. Some of his past students had become urban/environmental planners, others teachers, lecturers and ecological managers of various sorts, and they were working as respected professionals all over the Caribbean. The Planning course is still offered as an undergraduate subject at UWI.

The conference included two field trips. One was a 3 hour boat ride around Kingston Harbour. The boat departed from Newport East, went past Port Royal, rounded the tip of the Palisadoes and approached Lime Cay before returning to Kingston via the eastern end of the harbour and the Newport West container terminal. The trip was delightful not only because Kingston Harbour is beautiful, with a backdrop of mountains sloping down to brilliantly blue-green seas, but also because a former Geography Department professor, Dr. Eleanor Jones, gave the conference participants an explanatory commentary as we sailed past these points of interest. Another field trip was a day’s journey to Ocho Rios through along the new Chinese-built North/South highway, and back to Kingston over the old Mount Diablo road. A highlight of this excursion was a visit to Seville Great House and Heritage Park, site of the early Spanish settlement (16th to 17th centuries) in Jamaica.

A very entertaining conference session was the one on how fine rum is blended, demonstrated for us by an expert rum blender from Jamaica’s historic Appleton sugar estate. Another highlight of the conference was the presentation dinner organised at a Kingston hotel by the Jamaican Geographical Society (JGS), still a flourishing society which links the work of UWI’s Geography Department with people in the wider society. Officers of the JGS had prepared plaques commemorating the inspiring contributions of former “Trail Blazing” academic geographers to the development of Geography as a discipline at UWI and as an enjoyable field of study through the geographical society. Brian received one of these plaques, which read: “*To Brian J. Hudson, In recognition of pioneering urban planning in the Department of Geography, U.W.I., scholarship on the cultural landscapes of Jamaica, and outstanding service to the JGS*”.

[Extract from the AACS Newsletter 2016]

**Photographs from Elizabeth Thomas-Hope, sent by Eleanor Jones**



Barry Floyd, Founder, Geography Dept., with his Trail Blazing Award (Summer 2016).



Elizabeth Thomas-Hope, former Head, Geography, and Barry Floyd.

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**Extract from Cecil Gray's, "LIGHTHOUSES" (2011)**

over the island, its ridges and valleys,  
rivers and small towns, roads twisting between them  
like veins, and memories ascended from sunfilled  
places below, days he'd gone to them with a light  
to offer his help, crisscrossing the island  
from classroom to classroom. He leaned his head back  
and felt how aflame he stayed, like a candle.

Above the drone of the plane he thought he heard  
voices calling him back, affirming a need  
his hand should ease. But he repeated his wish  
to return to his island of birth. Something  
made him believe he owed it that. The bleached fringe  
of the coast slid backwards and the dark ocean  
dyed in deep blue tossed white filigrees about.

Under him the Caribbean embosomed  
the island he loved. Their teardrop shapes wet by  
braided round by the currents' lacy garlands.  
His thoughts drifted again to why he was there  
and what they really mattered, changes he sought.

Each island was green with canefields and forests,  
and hotels he could not see claimed the beaches.  
He shook himself back when the descent started  
And looked down as familiar places rose up.  
The fields rushed like wind beneath as he landed.  
And then his bewildered suffering began.

(Permission received from Cecil Gray, Winter 2017).

**LETTER TO DEREK WALCOTT***(for Jack Healy)***Cyril Dabydeen**

This January night is bitterly cold,  
 yet I have made a special effort to be here  
 to hear you fashion a tale once more  
 of Mighty Spoiler returning from the dead  
 and watching over our islands--  
 in you the Tiresias-eye,  
 perhaps "still poisoned by the blood of both,"  
 and this language you love so much.

Here, distantly recalling the region's calypso  
 or carnival, or thinking of my own growing up  
 with the affectation of words--  
 my dreams made more solid from afar:  
 here where there are also falsifiers--  
 as we continue this travesty of selves,  
 reshaping myth with Cutteridge's cow  
 jumping over the moon at  
 odd moments in coldest winter,  
 as much as in warmer weather, and  
 in Time's slavery and indenture.

Now your first time in this capital city:  
 place of embassies and the bureaucracy; here  
 with its Third World Players and my *Shapely Fire*,  
 on a changing Canadian landscape--  
 our continuing to be proud of high art;  
 and Spoiler is palpably here also with  
 the semblance of royalty; your words  
 etched among professors and graduate  
 students of Commonwealth Literature,  
 evoking more than star-apple kingdoms  
 in a green night--  
     echoing monkey mountain  
 or jungle, take your pick.

(new stanza)

Yes, tired as you seem now  
upon reading three nights in a row,  
after Toronto: and your talking to  
the Indian girls from Guyana (or Trinidad),  
despite your quarrel with “V.S.Nighfall”;  
telling me next of Sangster, and then  
expressing greetings to Hosein, your  
being away from Brodsky’s Boston.

Maybe you are  
too anxious to reveal much else--  
relaxed as you are with Gordon, Stanford,  
and Walters, all Players--their saying how  
glad they are to meet you (again), and  
their not surprised by your measured tones,  
and your former shyness, or the dialect that’s  
always best--though not the accustomed  
tones of “after the hot-gospeller....”  
still pulsating with language, as your own  
fire’s brighter here on the Carleton University  
campus--your tropics in our winter,  
applause is never too much!

(January 20, 1989)

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--in *Discussing Columbus* (Peepal Tree Press, UK)



## Cecile Clayton and Faye Lumsden, UWI Founders Tribute Photos

### Photo Journals from Cecile Clayton and Faye Lumsden

(Readers interested in viewing the online photos/videos, can access the following link via Google Drive: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B8rmoqlWGS63Rmt2NXpMUnVvS1k> Please, click on each slide to enlarge the specific shot). Enjoy:

1. Looking towards the iconic UWI Chapel. Ruins of an aqueduct in the foreground.
2. Facing the De la Beche Building in which we had most of our Geography classes and exams (late 1960s-1970s).
3. Looking towards the UWI Main Library, constructed after the devastation of hurricane Gilbert (Fall 1988).
4. Looking towards the Senate & Administrative buildings. To the north, the Undercroft. Our annual final exam results were posted on the notice board, not shown in the photo. To the east, the Administrative Building which includes the Assembly Hall in which our Convocation Ceremony was held in Fall 1970.
5. Looking towards the Undercroft, with the old Senate, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor; old Bursar's and Registrar's offices on the west side.
6. Young women students having a tea break in Taylor Hall (1965). Compare fashions with Gillian Glean Walker's photos.
7. Geology Dept. obelisk (See S. Francis Brown, 2004, p. 56 for discussion).
8. UWI Savacou, bird statue. In front of the Medical Research Council and facing the Ring Road (See S. Francis Brown, 2004, p. 55 for discussion).
9. UWI Crest.
10. Overhead view of the UWI Campus' setting (Google Earth).
11. Flags of the UWI, member countries (West side of Queens Way, approaching the old Senate Building and undercroft to the north. And on the east, the Assembly Building).
12. Students writing closed book examinations, in the Assembly Building. (Final examinations were once held in one of Gibraltar Camp's, Nissan buildings, south of the UWI Bookstore).
13. Floyd's farewell article, published in the students' Geography Society's Journal, The Fledgling, 1972.
14. Section of the Aqueduct, broken by the Ring Road (See S. Francis Brown, 2004, p. 40 for map of the campus and discussion).

15.     UWI Bookstore facing part of the Ring Road (site at which Anne Hickling-Hudson's took photos of the campus. See earlier photos in Part 7).
- 16-18. Includes series of contemporary videos. Begins with driving towards the campus, along Mona Road, entering through the main gates, Queens Way turning west, left on the ring Road, passing the De la Beche Building. Moving south towards the playing fields. Showing the new Halls of Residence, near the playing fields.
19.     Kingston Harbour Field Trip, 1970s.
- 20 & 21. Building at Gibraltar Camp (See S. Francis Brown, 2004, pp. 26-37 for discussion, maps and photos of Gibraltar Camp and the early UCWI).
- 22-28. Includes additional photos of the campus, and a few videos.

**Readers:** See whether you can identify any individuals and places. If so, please let us know.

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## **Reference**

Francis Brown, S. (2004). *Mona Past and Present: The History and Heritage of the Mona Campus*, UWI. Kingston: University of the West Indies Press.