

# ISLAND RESOURCES FOUNDATION, INC.

LAGOON MARINA, RED HOOK, ST. THOMAS, U. S. VIRGIN ISLANDS 00801 . (809) 775-3225

MID-YEAR BULLETIN FOR MEMBERS  
July 1, 1977

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WHO ARE THE PEOPLE AT THE ISLAND RESOURCES FOUNDATION . . . ?

At the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation, held in February, Mr. John D. Archbold, conservationist of Washington, D.C. and Springfield Estate, Dominica (West Indies), was elected to a three year term on the Board. Mr. Archbold joins the following IRF Board members:

Dr. Edward L. Towle, who serves as President and Executive Director of the Foundation. He is also a past president of the Caribbean Conservation Association and former director of the Caribbean Research Institute.

Dr. Harold J. Coolidge, of Beverly, Massachusetts, honorary president of the IUCN (International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources) in Morges, Switzerland. Dr. Coolidge currently is the Vice Chairperson of the Foundation Board.

Mr. Henry U. Wheatley, Foundation Vice President for International Programs, a resident of St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands, and former director of Peace Corps programs in Venezuela and the Ivory Coast.

Mr. Clarence A. McLaughlin, a St. Thomas, V.I. attorney who serves as Secretary of the Foundation.

Ms. Judith A. Towle, Foundation Treasurer and Programs Administrator, a former director of special educational programs for disadvantaged children in California and former beautification officer of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Mr. Robert A. Bernhard, conservationist and businessman from Long Island, New York.

Mr. Paul Gibson, Jr., former Deputy Mayor of New York City and currently a Vice President of American Airlines.

Mr. Euan P. McFarlane, of St. Croix, Virgin Islands, former treasurer of the Caribbean Conservation Association and currently the Caribbean representative for the Nature Conservancy.

In our 1976 Annual Report we provided a complete listing of IRF staff, but for those of our members who may not have seen this document, we take this further opportunity to provide a brief introduction to *Who's Who* at the Foundation. Your dollars help to support their work -- and they, in turn, are a dedicated crew who are seeking to document

through research the uniqueness, fragility and value of the world's island communities and devise appropriate island resource management strategies and conservation programs.

As we move into mid-summer, 1977, the Foundation's current research associates, part-time project staff and consultants include:

<u>Dr. John Adams</u> Univ. of Minnesota	Geographer
<u>Mr. James Aldrich</u> Alliance for Environmental Ed.	Environmental Ed. Specialist
<u>Mr. Jonathan Blum</u> Bankers Trust	International Economist
<u>Mr. Willard Brownell</u> American Museum of Natural Hist.	Fisheries Biologist
<u>Dr. O. Marcus Buchanan</u> West Indian Museum Associates	Museum Specialist
<u>Dr. John C. Cordell</u> Stanford University	Anthropologist/Ethno-Ecologist
<u>Mr. James A. Dobbin</u> Toronto, Canada	Landscape Architect/Coastal Planner
<u>Mr. Murray Durst</u> IDEAS	Experiential Ed. Specialist
<u>Mr. Peter Freeman</u> Washington, D.C.	Geographer
<u>Mr. David I. Grigg</u> U.S. Virgin Islands	Marine Biologist
<u>Dr. Douglas H.K. Lee</u> U.S. Virgin Islands	Environmental Health Scientist
<u>Mr. John McEachern</u> Vancouver, Canada	Resource Geographer
<u>Mr. Ernest J.P. Muhly</u> Washington, D.C.	Engineering/Resource Economist
<u>Dr. Maynard Nichols</u> Va. Institute of Marine Science	Oceanographer/Geologist
<u>James and Mary Anne Olsen</u> U.S. Virgin Islands	Educational Materials Specialists
<u>Dr. Mary Lou Pressick</u> U.S. Virgin Islands	Marine Ecologist
<u>Mr. William E. Rainey</u> Univ. of California, Berkeley	Ecologist/Wildlife Biologist
<u>Mr. Nathaniel Schurer</u> Ace Scientific Corp.	Bio-Chemist and Marine Biologist
<u>Mr. Galen Thompson</u> Va. Institute of Marine Science	Oceanographer

Our full-time administrative and project staff currently comprises:

Edward L. Towle, who serves as President and Executive Director of the Foundation and a project participant for resource management studies and historical research.

Judith A. Towle, Programs Administrator and staff participant for educational and historical projects.

George F. Tyson, Jr., staff historian/archivist/specialist in West Indian history and culture.

Kathleen M. Finnerty, Executive Secretary and Fiscal Officer.

Lucy Foster, student intern, who in the space of six short months has proven herself an indispensable member of the IRF team.

Although not formal members of our staff, kind mention must be given to our very generous St. Thomas landlords, Ruth and Johnny Harms of the Lagoon Marina, without whose endorsement and continual support none of the efforts of the above staff would have been possible.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS IN WASHINGTON: As most of you know, our Washington, D.C. office space has been provided very generously during the last year and a half by another non-profit organization, IDEAS (Institutional Development and Economic Affairs Services). Effective July 1st, IDEAS has moved its headquarters from downtown Washington to Reston, Virginia, near to the Dulles International Airport. Therefore, our Washington correspondents and visitors should note the following new address and telephone number:

11800 Sunrise Drive  
Suite No. 1227  
Reston, Virginia 22091  
TEL: (703) 860-2500

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MID-YEAR ACTIVITIES OF NOTE . . .

*ISLAND  
COASTAL  
RESOURCES* In February and March, interim reports were submitted to the U.S. Virgin Islands Government relative to field work completed and data compiled for scientific investigations of the Mangrove Lagoon and Perseverance Bay, St. Thomas. Both studies, which are designed to examine the water quality and environmental resources of two valuable but vulnerable marine environments, call for final field observations to be completed during the summer months. Dr. Maynard Nichols is project director.

*ISLAND  
CULTURAL  
RESOURCES* In March, the Foundation announced completion of a preliminary inventory of Caribbean historic sites. After a one year regional effort, initiated and coordinated by the Foundation, over 100 historic landmarks on ten West Indian islands have been surveyed, documented and photographed, utilizing a uniform survey format designed for the region. A summary of the sites inventoried can be found in a comprehensive document prepared by project director Judith Towle and entitled *STATUS REPORT: HISTORIC PRESERVATION IN THE CARIBBEAN*.

*ISLAND  
ECOSYSTEMS*

IRF President, Edward L. Towle, has been appointed to the directorate of the newly established U.S. MAB-7 (Man and the Biosphere) program on Ecology and the Rational Use of Island Ecosystems (Caribbean). The MAB program, authorized by UNESCO in 1970, is one of the youngest international scientific programs in existence today.

*ISLAND  
HISTORICAL  
RESOURCES*

Approval of a planning grant has been received from the National Endowment for the Humanities for a feasibility study to develop an historical records program for the U.S. Virgin Islands (the former Danish West Indies). As a part of the feasibility effort, IRF staff historian, George F. Tyson, is currently carrying out a survey of Danish West India archival materials at the U.S. National Archives in Washington, D.C. and at the Danish Royal Archives in Copenhagen. Making these records more generally available would have not only a scholarly value but would also help to meet a pressing social need, i.e., the desire of island peoples to have greater access to their historical roots.

*ISLAND  
EDUCATIONAL  
RESOURCES*

\* A small grant has been received from the Virgin Islands Council on the Arts to assist in the further development of the V.I. "Foxfire" program called All-Ah-Wee. The Foxfire learning process incorporates a focus on cultural heritage as a motivational force for learning, permitting high school students to examine their cultural roots while enhancing basic skills in the process. The Arts Council grant will enable the Foundation to concentrate on increasing student participation in the All-Ah-Wee program by providing in-service training for V.I. teachers. Workshops on the Foxfire learning concept will be held in the early fall, at which time IRF educators will be assisted by members of the IDEAS staff from Washington.

\* Word has just been received from the U.S. Office of Education that the Foundation's \$50,000 ethnic heritage studies proposal has been approved. Given the fact that the Virgin Islands represents one of the most heterogenous communities under the U.S. flag, this one year project, which commences on October 1st, will provide island educators with new and appropriate teaching tools and skills, enabling them to incorporate a multi-ethnic and insular-focussed curriculum into the daily classroom experience. IRF curriculum materials specialist, James Olsen, will direct this project, with the assistance of Mary Anne Olsen, Judith Towle and George Tyson.

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Foundation Associate Members are reminded that they may order IRF publications at a 25% discount. If you have not reviewed the recently revised *LIST OF PUBLICATIONS*, you may request a copy by writing Kathy Finnerty at Foundation headquarters in St. Thomas.

DEVELOPING PROGRAM AREAS . . .

*ETHNO-ECOLOGY OF FISHERY CONSERVATION:* This field study in maritime anthropology and ethno-ecology will explore the problems of traditional fishery conservation in the eastern Caribbean in an effort to assist island fishery planners. Developed for the Foundation by research associate Dr. John C. Cordell, post-doctoral fellow at Stanford University, the proposal has been submitted to several funding agencies, including the National Science Foundation, the U.S. MAB-7 Program, and the IUCN in Switzerland.

*THE IMPACT OF THE ENVIRONMENT ON CARIBBEAN MAN:* The impact of man on the natural environment of islands has received some attention in recent years; however, the impact of island environments -- both the material and social -- on man has been less studied. The present proposal, as developed by Dr. Douglas H.K. Lee (IRF research associate and former associate director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences) calls for a published survey, which would be both interpretive and interdisciplinary, to assess environmental impact on insular man in the Caribbean. Several funding sources have been approached by the Foundation.

*THE TAXONOMY OF ISLANDS:* Recognizing that, from a resource management perspective, we have a deficient data base for confronting insular areas, IRF President, Ed Towle, has proposed the establishment of a taxonomic classification system and data bank for islands. Substantive discussions have been held with various U.S. and international organizations, with a view to developing an approach for implementation of this comprehensive undertaking and for locating supporting funds. The American Committee for International Conservation has endorsed the proposed island taxonomy concept and has formed a sub-committee to assist in implementation, this planning group consisting of Michael McCloskey of the Sierra Club, Dr. F. Raymond Fosberg of the Smithsonian, R. Michael Wright of the Nature Conservancy, Ruby I. Compton of the Natural Resources Defense Council, and Edward Towle of IRF (who serves as chairperson of the sub-committee). The development of an inventory methodology, classification scheme, and data bank for islands provides a most exciting and challenging line of inquiry for Foundation staff and associates, representing an approach to island-generic rather than island-specific studies.

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Members interested in obtaining a solid bronze belt buckle featuring a green sea turtle (or, alternatively, a half dozen other endangered species) should drop us a line, and we would be pleased to forward an illustrated circular. The firm marketing these belt buckles (Educational Images) has agreed to provide 50 percent of the sale price of each buckle to support our research efforts with endangered species. We have seen a sample of these cast bronze buckles and are impressed with their quality and workmanship. They are truly unusual items.

ISLAND RESOURCES FOUNDATION  
CARIBBEAN HISTORICAL STUDIES SERIES

*The Island Resources Foundation is a non-profit, public service research and education organization based in St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands. Our five year institutional commitment to furthering West Indian historical research and understanding has resulted in Foundation sponsorship of a wide range of programs including archival surveys, interpretive studies, documentary and bibliographic publications, and technical assistance to regional preservation and museum programs. Publications in the Foundation's Caribbean Historical Studies Series include:*

Towle, Edward L.; Marx, Robert; and Tyson, George F., Jr., Shipwrecks of the Virgin Islands (1523-1825), revised edition (1976). Xeroxed copies available at \$3.00.

Towle, Judith A., Historic Site Preservation in the Caribbean: A Status Report (1977). In press; xerox copies of pre-print available at \$4.00.

Tyson, George F., Jr. and Carolyn, Preliminary Report on Manuscript Materials in British Archives Relating to the American Revolution in the West Indian Islands (1974). Out of print; xerox copies available at \$5.00.

Tyson, George F., Jr., The Enighed Estate and Ruin of St. John, U.S. Virgin Islands: An Historical Survey (1976). Postage and handling charges only while printed supply lasts; thereafter, xerox copies available at \$4.00.

Tyson, George F., Jr., Powder, Profit and Privateers: A Documentary History of the Virgin Islands During the Era of the American Revolution. Postage and handling charges only.

Tyson, George F., Jr., "The Carolina Black Corps: Legacy of Revolution (1782-1798)." Reprinted from Revista Interamericana, Vol. V, No. 4 (1975-1976), pp. 648-664. Xerox copy at \$1.50.

Tyson, George F., Jr., A Guide to Manuscript Sources in United States and West Indian Depositories Relating to the British West Indies During the Era of the American Revolution. In press.

Tyson, George F., Jr., The Senhouse Manuscripts: Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean in the Era of the American Revolution. In press.

Tyson, George F., Jr. and Towle, Edward L., A Documentary History of the British West Indies During the Era of the American Revolution, 2 volumes. In press.

Publications should be ordered from ISLAND RESOURCES FOUNDATION, Post Office Box 4187, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands 00801. A handling charge of \$2.00 should be added to all orders in addition to a postage charge of 50¢ for orders under \$5.00 and \$1.00 if more than \$5.00.

# ISLAND RESOURCES FOUNDATION

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## END OF THE YEAR BULLETIN FOR MEMBERS DECEMBER 31, 1977

As we come to the close of calendar year 1977, we at the Island Resources Foundation are very encouraged by the accomplishments of the past twelve months. The Foundation has experienced its BEST year in terms of financial support for specific project activities, some of which are highlighted below. (Unfortunately, we continue to lag behind in terms of unrestricted donations, gifts, and grants which are required for institutional support and development.)

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At the year's end, we are pleased to have aboard our in-house staff three new members, all of whom happen to share the same last name!

### JIM AND MARY ANNE OLSEN

(our second husband/wife team!) bring to us an extensive background from the field of educational publishing. Their New York based firm, Educreative Systems, Inc., consistently was the recipient of major publishing awards and enjoyed an excellent reputation among educational publishers in the United States. More recently, one or both of the Olsens have served as educational consultants to the Department of Education in the U.S. Virgin Islands, the University of the West Indies-Barbados, the Ministry of Education in Jamaica, and the Instituto Dominicano de Estudios Aplicados in the Domin-

ican Republic. Jim and Mary Anne serve as co-principals for our newly funded Ethnic Heritage Studies project, and Jim serves as director of Educational Programs for the Foundation.

### DAVE OLSEN

(no relation to Jim and Mary Anne) comes to the Foundation from a fisheries biology and marine ecology background. After earning his doctorate at the University of Hawaii, David switched from the Pacific to the Atlantic Ocean and has worked in the American and British Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico and the Bahamas since 1971. His credentials include two Sea Grant projects, affiliation with the Puerto Rico International Undersea Laboratory, founding director of a marine research field station in Virgin Gorda, author of numerous scientific papers dealing with fisheries development in the Caribbean. Dave was also instrumental in the planning of a new St. Thomas-St. John Fishermen's Cooperative. His experience will serve him well in his present assignment with IRF as co-principal (with Ed Towle) of our recently funded contract with the National Marine Fisheries Service, NOAA, U.S. Department of Commerce. (At the moment, David is in the San Blas Islands in Panama studying artisanal fishing among the Cuna Indians.)

# HIGHLIGHTS OF 1977

## PROJECTS COMPLETED . . .

### BICENTENNIAL PROGRAMS END

With the close of 1976 came the end of the American Bicentennial, and the subsequent year brought to termination many Foundation projects which had taken the Bicentennial as their incentive. Such activities included:

\* Completion of a preliminary inventory and register of Caribbean historic sites. Over 100 historic landmarks (including many American Revolutionary era sites) on ten West Indian islands were surveyed, documented, and photographed.

\* Preparation of a Caribbean Bicentennial Museum Exhibit, a joint venture between IRF and the V.I. Department of Conservation and Cultural Affairs. The exhibit, located at the newly restored Fort Frederik Museum on St. Croix (the site of a famous "first" salute to the embryonic American nation in 1776) was opened to the public in December 1976 and remained on display for several months thereafter.

\* Research for several Bicentennial publications was completed this year, and the following have been prepared for publication under grants from the V.I. Bicentennial Commission, the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration, and the National Historical Publications and Records Commission:

- 1) George F. Tyson, *A GUIDE TO MANUSCRIPT SOURCES IN UNITED STATES AND WEST INDIAN DEPOSITORIES RELATING TO THE BRITISH WEST INDIES DURING THE ERA OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION* (in press by Scholarly Resources, Wilmington, Delaware).

- 2) George F. Tyson, ed., *THE SENHOUSE MANUSCRIPTS: BARBADOS AND THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN IN THE ERA OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION* (in press).

- 3) G.F. Tyson and E.L. Towle, eds., *A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF THE BRITISH WEST INDIES DURING THE ERA OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION*, 2 vols. (in press).

### V.I. MARINE STUDIES COMPLETED

All field work was completed and data compiled for scientific studies of the water quality and environmental resources of two St. Thomas marine environments. The final report on the Mangrove Lagoon study has been prepared and released to the V.I. Government; at the year's end, the Perseverance Bay study was about to go to press. Dr. Maynard Nichols is project director.

### PLAN PREPARED FOR V.I. RECORDS PROGRAM

As recipient of a planning grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Foundation has developed and submitted to the local government a plan for a comprehensive historical records program for the U.S. Virgin Islands. The purpose of such a records program would be to make the pre-1917 (prior to U.S. purchase of the islands) historical documents relating to the V.I., currently located in overseas archives, more accessible to Virgin Islanders and scholars generally.

As part of the planning effort, IRF historian and Director of History/Culture Programs, George Tyson, spent seven weeks carrying out preliminary surveys of the large collections of records at the U.S. National Archives and at the Rigssarkivet in Copenhagen.

## MORE FOUNDATION ACTIVITIES . . .

\* An environmental assessment of a proposed public boat launching ramp at Hull Bay, St. Thomas was completed for the V.I. Government.

\* The Foundation continued to serve as administrative headquarters for the V.I. Conservation Society (the principal local citizens environmental organization) and to provide counsel and support to that group.

\* IRF President, Ed Towle, participated as an international island resource planning expert in an Eastern Caribbean Workshop on National Park Planning, sponsored by the Rockefeller Brothers Fund, in cooperation with the Caribbean Conservation Association and held on the island of Dominica in November.

\* Dr. Jay Wylie, IRF Research Associate, has spent the last several months at Scotts Head, Dominica carrying out a pilot study of the ethno-ecology of artisanal fishing communities in the West Indies.

\* As part of a continuing effort to support a local Foxfire program and with funds provided by the V.I. Council on the Arts, IRF conducted an in-service workshop for V.I. private school teachers, to introduce them to the Foxfire program philosophy and to train them in the full range of skills required to implement a Foxfire program.

\* In August the Government of Anguilla invited Judith and Ed Towle to meet with officials there concerning several areas of development including marine parks, environmental education, fisheries and tourism.

\* Through the combined initiatives of IRF and the V.I. Government, in cooperation with the U.S. Geological Survey, a major effort was launched in September to carry out a seismic reconnaissance of offshore sand resources in the V.I. Vessel support, M/V Alianora, was provided by IRF with the assistance of the Dave Hokin Foundation. This was phase one of a long range V.I. sand resource harvesting and management planning effort that will also involve NOAA and other federal agencies in subsequent phases.

### IRF PUBLICATIONS & TECHNICAL REPORTS, 1977

Nichols, Maynard, et al, WATER, SEDIMENTS AND ECOLOGY OF THE MANGROVE LAGOON AND BENNER BAY, ST. THOMAS (prepared under contract for the Department of Conservation and Cultural Affairs, Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands).

Nichols, Maynard, et al, CIRCULATION, WATER QUALITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES OF PERSEVERANCE BAY, ST. THOMAS (prepared under contract for the Department of Conservation and Cultural Affairs, Government of the U.S.V.I.).

Tyson, George F., Jr., POWDER, PROFITS AND PRIVATEERS: A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DURING THE ERA OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION (published by the Bureau of Libraries, Museums & Archaeological Services, Government of the U.S.V.I.).

Towle, Judith, HISTORIC SITE PRESERVATION IN THE CARIBBEAN: A STATUS REPORT (published with the support of the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration and the National Trust for Historic Preservation).

# LOOKING AHEAD TO 1978

## NEW PROJECTS . . .

### ETHNIC HERITAGE STUDIES

Commencing in October of 1977 and terminating in September of 1978, IRF's new educational project, focusing on ethnic heritage studies in the Virgin Islands, will provide island educators (grades K-6) with new teaching materials and strategies in the area of multi-cultural education. Project funding has been provided by the U.S. Office of Education, and the project target area is the territory of the U.S. Virgin Islands. However, many of the student activity materials, as well as the teacher's resource manual to be produced under the project show promise of adaptability elsewhere in the Caribbean.

As indicated above, Jim and Mary Anne Olsen are directing this project, assisted by staff members Judith Towle and George Tyson. A local citizens advisory council provides further input for program development and has been meeting with project staff on a regular monthly basis.

### SOCIO-ECONOMIC SURVEY OF V.I. FISHING

Under a contract awarded in September by the National Marine Fisheries Survey, the Island Resources Foundation will develop a socio-economic profile of recreational and commercial fishing in the U.S. Virgin Islands. Such information and characteristic data on the V.I. fishing industry is being compiled preparatory to the development of a regional fisheries management plan by the Caribbean Fishery Management Council.

### WATER QUALITY MODELING

Aware of the need for a tool which provides for long-term water quality monitoring and management in V.I. waters, the local government has contracted with the Foundation to analyze water pollution susceptibility of selected bays and to develop a working model structured for use in different types of bays in the Virgin Islands. Dr. Maynard Nichols will again serve as project director.

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## JANUARY IS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

WITH THE START OF A NEW YEAR WE HOPE THAT WE MAY CONTINUE TO COUNT ON YOUR SUPPORT IN 1978, YOUR ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP -- WHETHER AS AN INDIVIDUAL, FAMILY, SPONSORING OR LIFE MEMBER -- REPRESENTS A VERY IMPORTANT SOURCE OF FUNDING TO THE FOUNDATION. AS MENTIONED ELSEWHERE IN THIS BULLETIN, OUR NON-PROJECT, UNRESTRICTED FUNDS ARE VERY LIMITED, AND YOUR TAX DEDUCTIBLE GIFT IN THE FORM OF AN ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO US AS WE SEEK TO BUILD A STRONGER INSTITUTIONAL BASE.

WON'T YOU PLEASE USE THE ENCLOSED MEMBERSHIP ENVELOPE AND MAIL YOUR RENEWAL CHECK TODAY? WE VERY MUCH APPRECIATE YOUR CONTINUED CONCERN AND SUPPORT.