

CARIBBEAN VOLUNTEER EXPEDITIONS

FIELD SCHOOL ST. KITTS, WEST INDIES



February 10-23, 2013

THE SITES

Brimstone Hill Fortress National Park Feb 10-17

An 1810 map shows several small fortifications and buildings on the hillside below the main fortifications, but they are now covered by over a hundred years of vegetation. However, a recent exploration of the areas revealed some surface artifacts and masonry. Hopefully, spending our week on a further investigation of these areas, and some excavation, will reveal more evidence of the history of these 18th and early 19th century sites. Activities will include vegetation clearing, site mapping and recording, excavation and artifact recovery.

For more information on this UNESCO World Heritage Site see www.brimstonehillfortress.org

Wingfield Manor Estate Feb 17-23

The estate was the first land grant in the English Caribbean in 1625, and in its early days was owned by Sam Jefferson, an ancestor of President Thomas Jefferson. The estate grew and processed indigo, tobacco and sugar cane and was abandoned in the early 1920s. Water power was employed at the estate from its earliest days until the 1920's and many of the structures, and some of the machinery, remains on site. Work continues on the exploration and uncovering of this water system and its rehabilitation and restoration. Activities will include tracing and mapping the water courses, exploring the Wingfield River ravine for evidence of structures and the clearing and stabilization of historic masonry.

For more information on Wingfield Manor Estate see www.caribellebatikstkitts.com

LOGISTICS

We stay at the Sugar Bay Club (www.sugarbayclub.com) in Frigate Bay. The room cost per night is about US\$106, which includes taxes. If you would like to share a room, let us know. The rooms have a small kitchen, good for making breakfast and lunches. We can provide information on other hotels if you wish. Dinners are casual. Participants are responsible for their own travel arrangements to St Kitts, accommodation, meals and incidentals. On-island transport is provided. There is a small registration fee of US\$150.00 per week (\$250 for two weeks) to cover your insurance and CVE fees. We work from Monday to Friday, and maybe Saturday. Time to visit and experience the island is included! There is no minimum number required to run this program and no prior experience is necessary!

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CVE has been helping to record and conserve the built heritage of St Kitts for over a decade, and our work has helped preserve a number of significant sites on the island. There are a number of good web pages related to St Kitts and its attractions.

If you would like additional information about the project, the accommodation, St Kitts or travel advice contact the group leader, David Rollinson at droll@eastlink.ca or call him at 902.530.2478