

Memories of the Carenage/Library

From Burns Point towards the tunnel...

Post office

Fish depot next door: great buys for fresh frozen fish (after the great fire across the water)

Walk past the Ports Authority HQ, then onto the waterfront...vendor selling saltfish/smoked herring and bakes

Across the road, the bright or weathered (depending on year) red fire station that houses central and traffic police departments... and a siren that acted for many years as the 6 am and 6 pm bell... none of the churches' bells were as reliable..

Next to them, Huggins that sold the most marvelous souvenir items, including a series (50 or so) of my unique handmade clay jar dolls...

The car parts shop next, then miscellaneous buildings until the bungalows that should have been heritage listed

Then Empire Cinema... where I first saw Jaws and refused to go past my waist in the clear blue Grand Anse water, and walked on the other side of the road away from the murky Carenage water

Then the red Phoenix building – I never did get inside

The ghetto, and another building, then across Hughes? Street another older building, where on one side a lady owned Frangipani, and sold some small paintings of mine

Then Ross' buildings... the union building, an open lot with a great old derelict at the rear

Next door to that the funeral home...saw all inside there when my grandmother died in 1999...the annex to the front in my toddler days was an ice cream parlour with a red and white striped awning... Francos

Then Renwick Thompson, then Hubbards' collection of warehouses, with Huggins and Juliens in between

Food Fair, with the (world famous) Nutmeg upstairs, and Mrs Patterson's shop downstairs

More Hubbards... to Rudolph's across Young Street...still within yet another Hubbard's building to the corner of Mathew Street

At that corner, the library... The Shiela Buckmire Memorial Library

Where I had a library card

Where I took out lots of books

Where I taught a couple of art classes downstairs in the kids section.

Where I visited 2 years ago to do a project, and wept at the waste of space and resources

And wondered if Shiela is turning over in her grave.

Then the financial complex (accounts and post office) that I saw going up in flames on the evening/night of 27 April 1990? And the fire trucks were completely paralysed with inefficiency

Then the building that until recently hosted Nawasa

Then the Portofino building complex at the rear - restaurants and offices... the one best remembered is Delicious Landing... most meals on tables strategically placed on boards that had spaces in between so we had a closeup view of the sea running beneath our feet, and sometimes over them, due to wave action by a passing boat.

At the back of that restaurant, the Blind had their workshop and retail space. Bought a few baskets. For a short space in time, a Chinese restaurant at the back was a favourite haunt of mine.

From Suelin