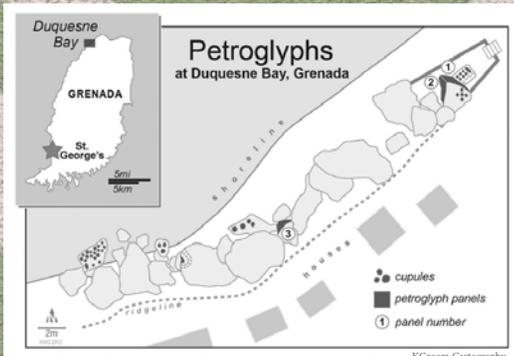


Duquesne Bay



Want to Know More
about Grenada's Past?

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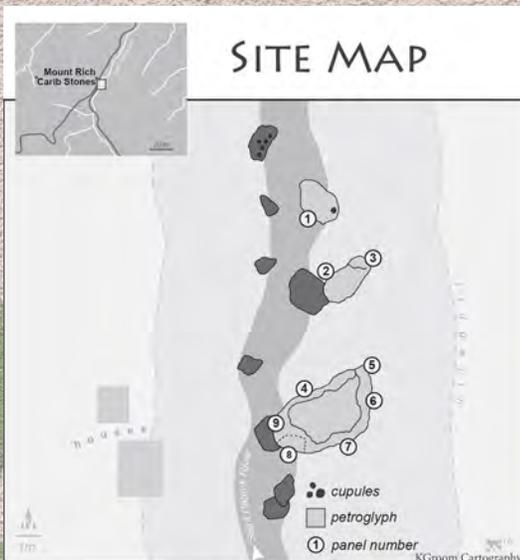
GrenadaArchaeology.com/PetroglyphPath

Or check out the Grenada National Museum
on Young Street in St. George's



<http://grenadamuseum.gd>

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Petroglyph Path



Grenada's Amerindian Rock Art

What is a “Workstone”?

Workstones are large boulders that formed from repeated use in the manufacturing of stone tools. The circular “cupules” are the result of continual grinding in those areas (like a mortar), and the linear slits are from repeated sharpening of stone blades.

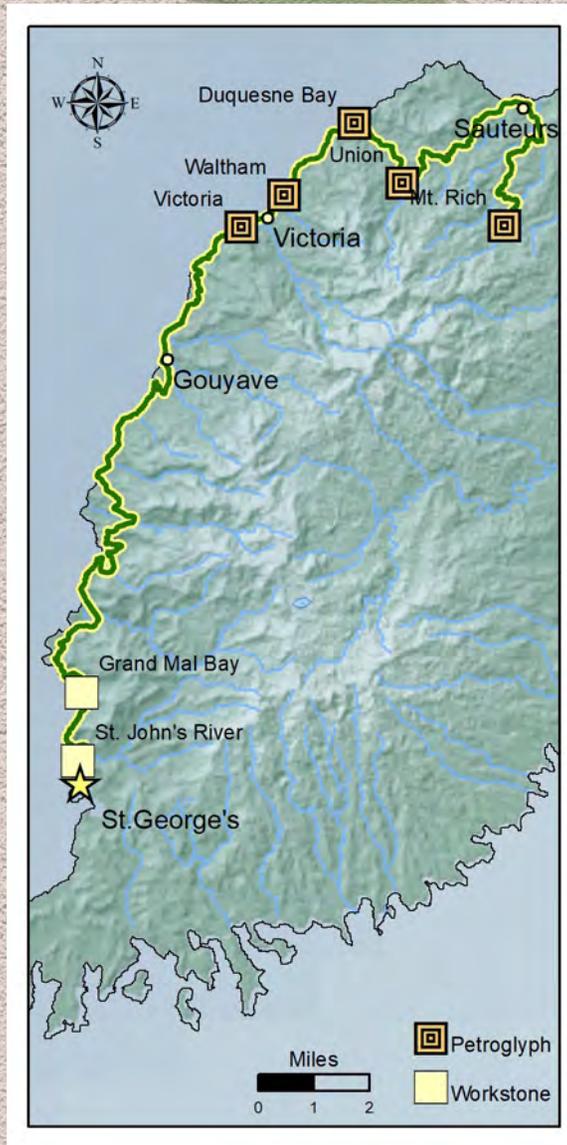


St. John’s River Workstone

This stone was originally located along the beach, close to the old Green Bridge, as part of the St. John’s River Site, which spanned from the beach back through the modern cemetery. It was relocated during construction of the new bridge and National Cricket Stadium in 1999. The St. John’s River Site dates between AD 700-1100.

Grand Mal Workstone

A cluster of workstones occur along the coast here, though some have been covered due to the need for stabilization of the shoreline.



Notice a Pattern?

Most of the petroglyphs are located in the north/northwest, while solitary workstones are mostly in the southwest.

Even more striking: the majority of pre-Columbian settlements in Grenada are on the eastern, Atlantic coast.

The Petroglyph Mystery

A petroglyph is any early carving, drawing, painting, or other marks made by humans on rock, usually boulders or in caves. Grenada’s petroglyphs exhibit three main categories at beautiful sites across the island:

1. *Abstract Geometric Designs* take the form of cruciforms, concentric circles and similar shapes.
2. *Simple Faces* include a variety of facial representations, some surrounded by an outline of a head while others by concentric rings forming a more complicated and interesting design.
3. *Elaborate Faces* are more intricate depictions of heads, sometimes with stylized hair, earrings, and/or teeth.

The meaning of petroglyphs have always been debated. Sometimes dismissed as witchcraft or simple “Carib Stones”, and more recently speculated to depict spiritual beliefs, the short answer is that we don’t know exactly what they meant. Several observations can guide our interpretation: they always occur near water, there are often workstones nearby, many are animals with anthropomorphic traits, and variations suggest that some were drawn at different times, perhaps by different groups.

Waltham Petroglyphs

