

Barefoot Mary Mary was a flower child from 1960s upstate New York. In Staniard Creek she continued her 60s lifestyle into the late 1980s. Her exploits are still remembered by frequent guests and former dive master at Small Hope Bay Lodge, Jens Karlstad.

Love Hill

It is said that when the name of Dove Hill was being registered, the clerk mistakenly wrote Love Hill. When approaching this settlement from the north, the first group of buildings, until recently, was called Andros Hope. Then comes Hard



East end of the Lewis generation land in Love Hill. The John Fisher residence is in the house in the upper centre. The ruin of Prince Albert Lewis' house is whitish and behind the larger house uphill to the left of the Fisher residence. Eddy's tire shop is in the foreground on the right.

Bargain and finally to the actual old settlement of Love Hill. Much of the original settlement near Grape Creek is in a 200 acre parcel shown on the Love Hill map. This parcel is part of a much larger land holding held by William Vass. Conversations with local elders do not make it clear when Vass acquired this land. Families interviewed, including several whose names are on the 200 acre block, cannot accurately pinpoint the date their families arrived in the area, other than to state that the family came during the boom times of sponging or sisal or lumber or to get land to farm. Research at the Archives and Land and Surveys in Nassau failed to supply any clues about William Vass. Unless specific evidence becomes available the following is my own version of settlement.

Although the older maps do not have dates, the various settlements do show the same print style and name spellings (ie, Wemyss) which would indicate they were all made about the same time.

The Fresh Creek maps have a date of 1901 but there are names on these maps which were registered as far back as 1787. Again in 1867, the Land Board ordered the Plan of Coakley Town and probably other areas of Andros and other islands. Much of the original legal information for Andros was lost when the Fresh Creek administration building burned in 1952. Obviously, if someone could identify the origin and date of Vass' activity in the area, it would answer many questions. Was he a loyalist slave master? Was he an officer of a sisal or lumber company? Was he a government official? How long before these maps were made had these people claimed land and lived in the area?

Davis Creek

Davis Creek is a relatively new settlement on the beach between Love Hill and Small Hope. PM Pindling sorted out many land problems when he achieved power with Majority Rule in 1967. It was that same year, according to Sidney Cargill, that the Cargill family returned to Central Andros and started development in Davis Creek. Private infrastructure, including a causeway, was installed. However, the planned hotel was never completed. Completed housing was rented to civil servants and people from AUTEK.



Dancing Jon Newell demonstrating his skills at Meyer's in Staniard Creek.



Sammy Rahming harvesting conchs for his Tiki Hut evening in Calabash Bay.

Later the utilities were linked to the public system. Recent development by Adrian D'Aguiar in 2015 and others appear to be giving Davis Creek new life.

Small Hope

Whether Cyndi Hursh's version that Loyalists settled here after being forced out of the US with "small hope", or Jeff Birch's version of the pirates, the settlement continues to grow. Of course, Joseph Spence and Small Hope Bay Lodge raised the hope level in the settlement.

Many settlements including Small Hope are dominated by only a few family names, such as, in this case, the Rahmings.

Calabash Bay

Rumoured to have a coast line resembling a calabash, a type of drinking gourd (Cyndi Hursh), Calabash Bay is one of the oldest Central Andros settlements as the date on the Native Baptist Church (1820) would indicate. It was also a major

