

A quick look at Canaries early on Sunday morning

(With not much on marine resources)

Are first impressions correct?

Large new homes of returning nationals

Can you count the households?



Size matters? Is religion a prominent feature here?

Large police station. Law and order okay?






Educational resources:
The infant school and primary school. The nearest secondary school is in Soufriere. Some commute to Castries. There is also a library.



Postal service

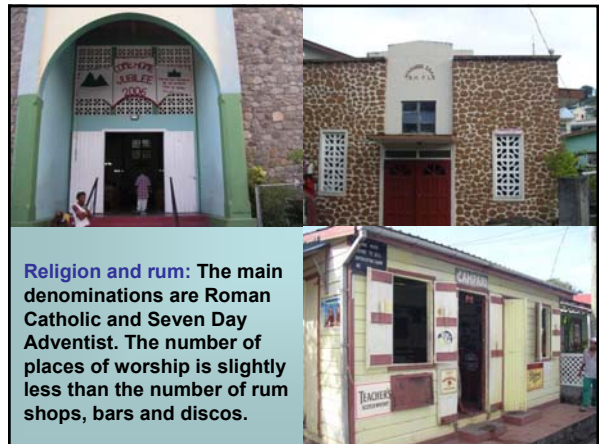
Health service



Public market

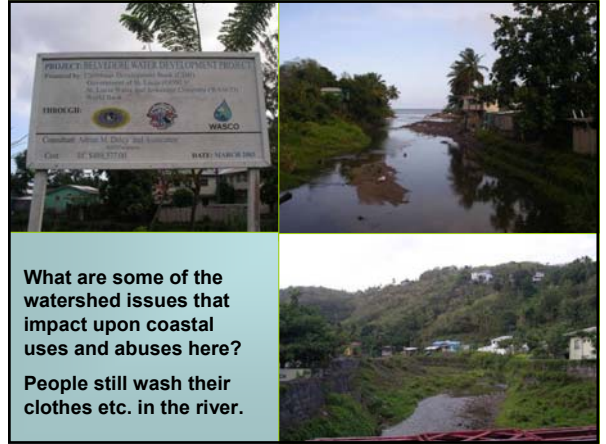
Town square

Religion and rum: The main denominations are Roman Catholic and Seven Day Adventist. The number of places of worship is slightly less than the number of rum shops, bars and discos.





There is no conspicuous, large economic activity. People work elsewhere. Young people who can leave do so. There is little interaction with the tourists who go to see the waterfall.

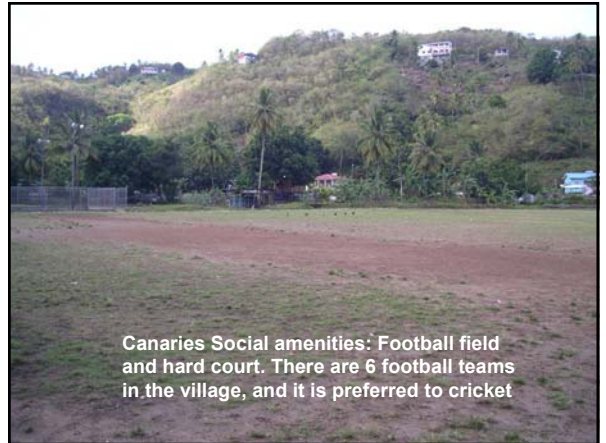


What are some of the watershed issues that impact upon coastal uses and abuses here?

People still wash their clothes etc. in the river.



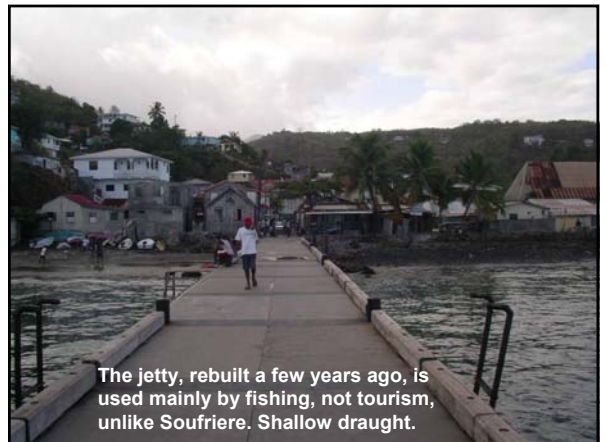
Construction: New homes are mainly replacement in-fill. But there is expansion onto the valley sides by residents and new-comers. Not much into the valley, and a river runs through it.



Canaries Social amenities: Football field and hard court. There are 6 football teams in the village, and it is preferred to cricket



Football starts with the youth on the beach



The jetty, rebuilt a few years ago, is used mainly by fishing, not tourism, unlike Soufriere. Shallow draught.

The river mouth has an accreting bar that public works agencies occasionally remove, but have not done so recently. Boats have to be walked or poled through the river mouth, and cannot be safely put to sea when the waves are breaking across the bar.



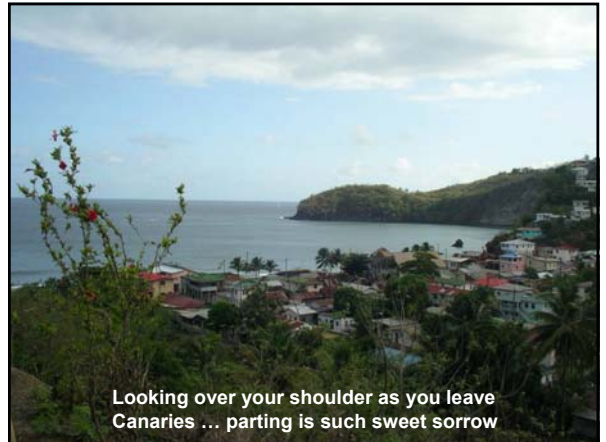
Garbage on the foreshore



With nets as the main fishing gear, and with so many nets around, net making and mending are useful skills. There are maybe 100 fishers, mostly full-time, and the number is increasing as young men want to make fast money to spend fast.



Wooden boats of various designs, but mainly canoes, are being replaced by GRP pirogues when possible. A boat-building tradition may be lost. Non-fishing boat owners can afford GRP. Good fish catches are said to drive the local flows of cash in the small town.



Looking over your shoulder as you leave
Canaries ... parting is such sweet sorrow