



**THE NATIONAL TRUST  
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

**FREE PRINTABLE  
WORKSHEETS**

**Statues and Monuments  
of Trinidad and Tobago**

**PART 2**

## **Information Sheets**

### **A look at Statues and Monuments**

Statues and monuments are all around us. We may walk past them and never really look at them. This set of Free Printable Worksheets is meant to get you thinking about the symbols around you. In Part 1 we gave definitions of statues and monuments. As a reminder: a monument is a structure or building that is made to honour a special person/s or event. Statues, obelisks and cenotaphs can therefore be monuments. All of these are symbols with meaning. The next time you walk past a statue or monument, take a minute to look at it.

Have you ever visited a statue or a monument? If you haven't you can read about them in this and Part 1 of these printables and you can join us on one of our tours. The National Trust visits some monuments and statues on its tours. We would love to take you with us! Together with your parents you can visit our Facebook page to find out more about our upcoming events:

[https://www.facebook.com/ttnationaltrust/events/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/ttnationaltrust/events/?ref=page_internal)

This set of Printable worksheets looks at the following:

1. The African Holocaust Monument
2. The Eternal Flame Monument
3. APT James Bust
4. Film Vault
5. Captain Cipriani's Statue
6. Sonny Ramadhin's Statue



**1. The African Holocaust Monument**

**Location: Compound of St. Clement's Anglican Church, Manahambre Road**

This monument was erected in memory of the millions of Africans who were enslaved. The memorial was completed and dedicated on July 20<sup>th</sup>, 1997 by Pastor Kwame Mohlabani (formerly Canon Clive Griffith).

Fr. Griffith gave up his slave name and adopted the African name: Kwami Mohlabani, Chief Echefu I of Okapala Nigeria. Each year he celebrated Kwanzaa in July, to honour his African heritage. Kwanzaa is a ritual to welcome the first harvest home and it is typically celebrated in December.

During Emancipation Day each year in Trinidad, the African Holocaust Monument Park is a part of the celebrations.



## 2. The Eternal Flame Monument

**Location:** Knox Street, Port of Spain (Northern side of the Red House)

The Eternal Flame Monument was built to commemorate the events of the attempted coup d'état on the Government of Trinidad and Tobago. This event took place from the 27<sup>th</sup> July to the 1<sup>st</sup> of August 1990 (6 days). It was a tumultuous time for Trinidad and Tobago as democracy and the rule of law were threatened by the Jamaat al Muslimeen's attempt to overthrow the government. The Red House, along with other state-owned buildings were stormed by insurgents who held the staff and Parliamentary officials hostage. The Jamaat also took over TTT, the television station, and Abu Bakr, the leader, was able to speak on live television, and broadcast his message. Over the 6 days shooting, looting, fires, and death plagued the capital city until they surrendered.

During this time, the Prime Minister was ANR Robinson. When instructed by his captors to order the Defence Force to stop firing on the Red House he said instead, "Attack with full force." He was then beaten and shot in the leg for his willpower to upholding the country's democracy.

The Acting President Emmanuel Carter announced a state of emergency. The Piarco International Airport was closed, a dusk till dawn curfew was imposed in most areas in Trinidad and 24-hour curfew instituted around the Red House. Over the 6 days twenty-four persons died and hundreds of millions of dollars were lost in damages, as looters (thieves) plagued the capital city. The Minister of Planning, Mr. Winston Dookeran, Canon Knolly Clark and others conducted negotiations with the Jamaat insurgents until they surrendered.

To commemorate the defence of democracy and the memory of those who lost their lives during the attempted coup the eternal flame was unveiled and lit on the 26<sup>th</sup> of July 1991. This is a particularly important monument to our country as it symbolizes "the need to be ever-vigilant in the protection of our democracy". It bears the words of the National Anthem, the Oath of Allegiance of the Members of Parliament, the Affirmation of the People, and names of persons who were killed during the 1990 attempted Coup.



# THE NATIONAL TRUST OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

The Eternal Flame was originally located on the eastern lawn of the Red House but it was relocated in 2019 to the northern side of the Red House on Knox Street where it stands near to a monument to the Indigenous Peoples.



The original Eternal Flame Monument,  
erected in 1991



The current Eternal Flame Monument,  
Relocated in 2019



**3. Alphonso Philbert Theophilus James**  
**Location: James Park, Scarborough**

A.P.T. James was an outstanding Tobagonian politician. Born in Patience Hill, Tobago in 1901 his nickname was 'Fargo' after the huge heavy-duty trucks. He worked as a pupil-teacher before going to Trinidad in the 1920s to work in the oilfields. He also worked as a stevedore (person who loaded and unloaded ships) for Brighton Lake Asphalt. In Trinidad he was exposed to men who had gone abroad to fight in World War 1 and those who went to Central America to work on the Panama Canal. These men spread the ideas of anticolonialism, workers' rights and Black Pride that were growing across the world.

Initially James joined Captain Arthur Andrew Cipriani who formed Trinidad and Tobago's first trade union, the Trinidad Workingmen's Association. He eventually joined the Federated Workers Trade Union

under Albert Gomes and Quintin O'Connor. James represented stevedores as well as oilfield workers in negotiations with their employers for better pay, treatment and working conditions and became president of the Branch of the Union in La Brea, which he had established. He was a successful businessman and was known for his generosity.

In 1946 James won the only seat representing Tobago on the Legislative Council at that time. This was the first election where adults aged 18 and over could vote. He won the seat again in the elections of 1950 and 1956. In the Legislative Council he functioned as deputy leader of the opposition. He always argued that Tobago was



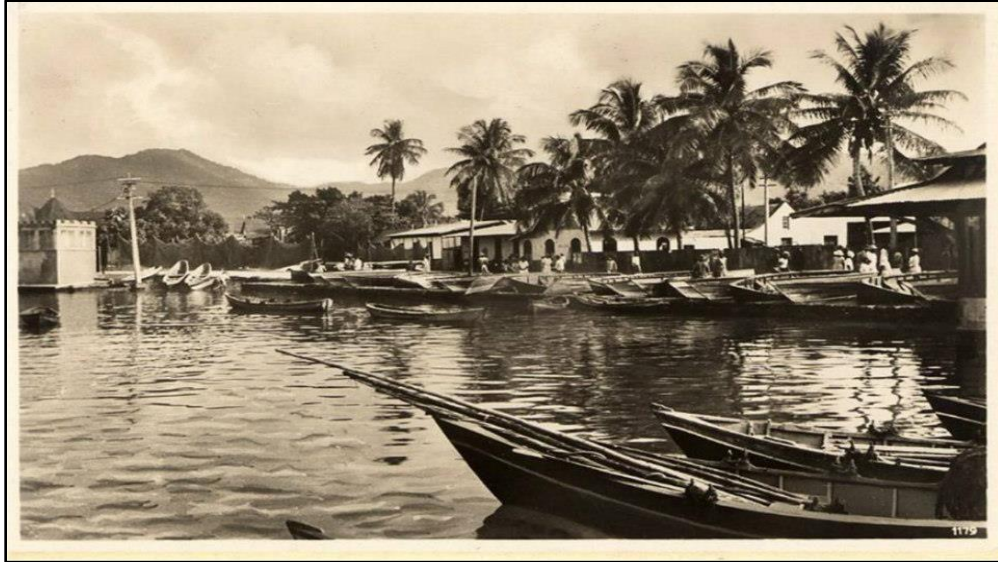
treated unfairly and worked constantly to improve conditions for Tobagonians. He passed away in 1962.

The bronze statue (bust) of A.P.T James was sculpted by a German artist, Luise Kimme, who migrated to Tobago. It is located in James Park in Scarborough in front of the Tobago House of Assembly Legislature Building which historically served as the seat of the Scarborough Courthouse.

#### **4. Film Vault**

##### **Location: Wrightson Road**

The Film Vault, also known as Humphrey's Film Vault, located at the edge of Wrightson Road opposite the Fire Station, is an old structure coexisting with modern buildings and bustling motor vehicular traffic. It was built in the 1920s by Guyanese-born cinema pioneer William Pettigrew Humphrey after whom the structure is named. In those days, going to the cinema was a popular pastime which many Trinidadians enjoyed. However, there was a problem: films were recorded on celluloid film stock which was a highly flammable material. Usually, countless film reels were stored in vaults, basements and dedicated storage rooms. Humphrey stored his films at his offices on Broadway. However, due to the high risk of accidental fires, the police at the time ordered him to store his films outside city limits. Thus, he built the medieval-looking concrete storage bin that we see today. At the time, the vault lay at the sea's edge in a fishing village known as Corbeaux Town.



Picture of Corbeaux Town with Humphrey's Film Vault on the far left.

Source: Angelo Bissessarsingh's Virtual Museum of Trinidad and Tobago

Around the time the film vault was installed, the town underwent drastic alterations. In 1922, mayor Dr A.H. McShine, had begun to rid the community of its residents. Further, there were plans developed by city engineer Ranjit Kumar to extend Wrightson Road westward and to make it into a two-way road. For this to occur, the sea at Corbeaux Town had to be reclaimed. Thus, when the road was completed in 1940, the Humphrey Film Vault was left marooned inland.

In any event, the structure soon fell out of use as Humphrey died the very next year in 1941. Moreover, the risk of films burning was greatly removed after celluloid film was replaced by cellulose acetate film, or safety film in the 1950s which was not as combustible. Humphrey's film vault remains a relic of a transitioning Port of Spain as well as an era where cinema-going was popular entertainment.



Film Vault on Wrightson Road

Source: National Trust of Trinidad and Tobago



**5. Statue of Captain Arthur Andrew Cipriani**

**Location: Independence Square, Port of Spain**

Trinidad and Tobago has many important figures in our history, one of these figures being Captain Arthur Andrew Cipriani. If you have ever visited Independence Square, you might have seen the large roundabout across from KFC. Have you ever stopped and looked at the statue in the middle of the roundabout and wondered "Who is this person?" In Port of Spain, citizens usually refer to this roundabout as 'Cipriani Roundabout' as the statue of Captain Arthur Cipriani is located there. Built in 1959, the statue was a commemoration to the life and contributions by Captain Cipriani.

Arthur Cipriani was a soldier in the British West India Regiment in World War I and he eventually rose to the rank of Captain. Cipriani was greatly impressed by the service of black West Indian troops and appalled at their treatment during and after the war. Colonial society in Trinidad and Tobago was divided along race and class lines, only the few in the upper class, (businessmen, planters and government officials) held power. In Trinidad workers had no official means of expressing their grievances or negotiating for better conditions. After his return to the West Indies, he revived the Trinidad Workingmen's Association which was originally formed at the end of the nineteenth century but dissolved.



Given his Corsican (European) origin and the colour of his skin, it was confusing to some that he was fighting on behalf of the darker skinned, lower class majority. He gained popularity amongst the lower classes.

In 1919, labourers on the Port of Spain wharves went into an uproar leading Cipriani to call on the labourers to strike. This would be the first industrial strike for labourers in Trinidad. He was called the champion of 'the barefooted man', because he advocated for the rights of the lower classes. He was elected a seat on the Port of Spain City Council. From there his achievements multiplied as he was elected President of the Trinidad Workingmen's Association in 1923. This was a tremendous accomplishment as this association was the foremost worker's association in the country. In 1925 he became Mayor of Port of Spain and won a seat on the Legislative council in Trinidad's first

general elections. Captain Cipriani constantly emphasized the importance of policy to the masses and encouraged the people to be informed on domestic politics and labour issues.

The Association under the Captain's lead was responsible for the reduction in working hours to eight-hour days and Saturdays being considered an off day. Workers' Compensation Laws were introduced in order to provide worker's compensation in the event of injury or death. He raised other issues such as women's rights, education for all, and pension for senior citizens, ending child labour on the plantations across the country and to finally end the Crown Colony system. He negotiated conditions such as these whilst on the Legislative Council with the colonial officials transforming the labour sector to benefit the people.

The Trinidad Labour Party was formed in 1934, and in 1935 he enlisted Uriah "Buzz" Butler as his Chief Lieutenant as well as Adrian Cola Rienzi, other important men in the labour movement, providing them all a genuine start to their labour movement careers. He eventually left his political career in 1944 and was known to be one of the most important persons in the period after Independence for social justice and nationhood.

Captain Cipriani came from a well-known family which produced multiple successors of achievement. Mikey Cipriani was a talented sportsman and an innovative man who pioneered aviation in Trinidad. Emmanuel Cipriani was elected mayor of Port of Spain on many occasions and also introduced electricity to Port of Spain. Many people believe Cipriani Boulevard was named after Emmanuel Cipriani (Besson, 2011). Andre Cipriani, a cousin of Arthur and Mikey, brought relief to thousands of patients suffering from malignant cancer through his break-through research in cobalt radiation therapy at a time, when chemotherapy was as yet unheard of.

The Cipriani statue in the heart of Port of Spain serves as a memorial for one of our greatest leaders. Cipriani College of Labour and Cooperative Studies was also named after him to constantly remind us of his tremendous contributions.



Statue of Captain Cipriani on Independence Square

Source : <https://izzso.com/captain-arthur-andrew-cipriani-defaced/>

## 6. Statue of Sonny Ramadhin

**Location: Palmiste Park, Palmiste**

Sonny Ramadhin is known for several things. He was born on May 1, 1929, in St Charles Village, Esperance. He was the first man of Indian descent to play for the West Indies Cricket team. Additionally, he is known for his skill as a very talented spin bowler. Ramadhin played a key role during a historic match in 1950, the first time that the West Indies Cricket Team beat the English Cricket team. He is the last living player from this match.

The cricket match took place at Lords Cricket grounds in England. This was a historic event because cricket at the time was seen as a gentlemen's sport, and the British, who introduced cricket to the West Indies when they colonized it, did not believe that they would one day be beaten by a team of colonial subjects. Even though cricket at the time was affected by racism, Ramadhin however remembered that there was unity in the 1950 team.



Ramadhin paved the way for others of Indian descent to play on the West Indies cricket team. His grandparents came from India to work as indentured labourers in Trinidad. His parents worked on Picton Estate but they died when he was only two years old. He was raised by his uncle, aunt and grandmother. He was introduced to cricket at the Canadian Mission School in Duncan Village. Ramadhin worked on Palmiste estate at age 13. He said that around 3 pm the overseer would send him to prepare the cricket pitch. He remembers playing cricket there and in order to win a penny, he had to bowl and hit the wicket. He believed that this is where he got the talent to bowl directly at the stumps.

Ramadhin got the chance to play during the 1950 West Indies tour of England. At the time of the match he was 21 years old and it was his second Test match. He could spin the ball both ways, this took the English batsmen by surprise. At the match, Ramadhin and the other spin bowler, Alf Valentine, brought down the English batsmen. Ramadhin alone took down eleven wickets in the two innings.



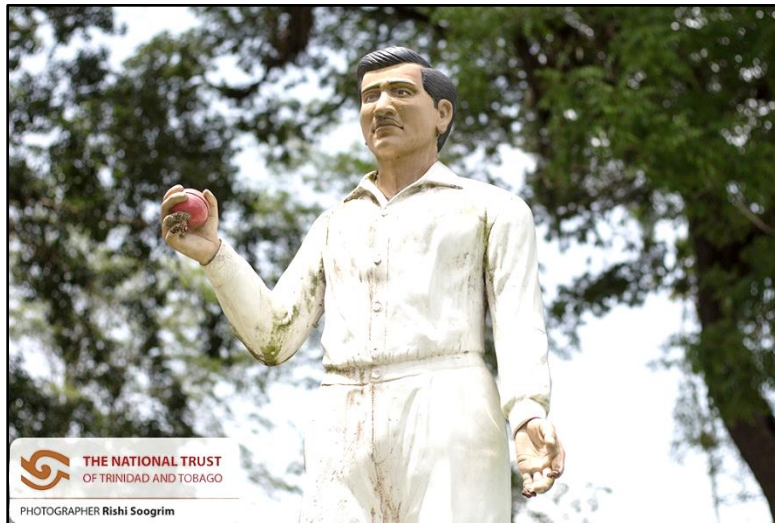
Sonny Ramadhin (left) and Alf Valentine (right), West Indies Cricket Team, spin bowlers

Source: Guardian News and Media Limited

This was a historic match for another reason also. The first generation of Caribbean people who had migrated to England to fill the labour shortage of World War 2 were able to attend the match. These people had arrived on a ship called the Empire Windrush in 1948 and they were known as the Windrush Generation after this. So the West Indies team was able to play in England with fans from their home

countries cheering them on. Among the fans were Lord Beginner and Lord Kitchener, calypsonians who both wrote songs about the match.

Ramadhin was awarded the Hummingbird Gold Medal in 1972 and the Chaconia Gold Medal in 1995. He retired from the West Indies team in 1961 and went on to play cricket for British teams and retired in England. He is still alive at 91 years old.



Sonny Ramadhin's Statue

Source: National Trust of Trinidad and Tobago



## Activity # 2 Word Search



African Holocaust

Eternal Flame

APT James

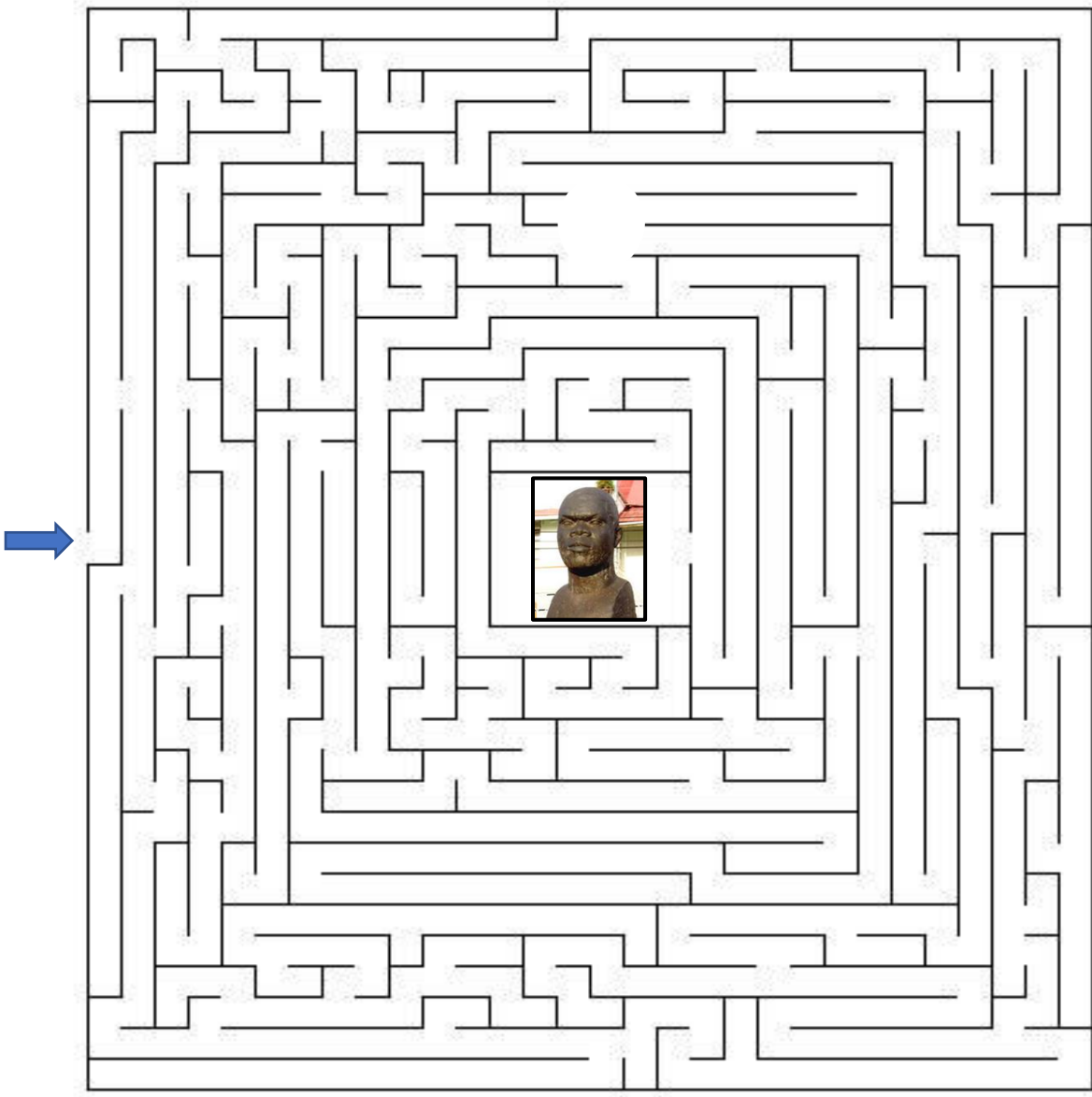
Film Vault

Captain Cipriani

Sonny Ramadhin



**Activity # 3 MAZE: Make your way to APT James**





**Activity # 4 Word Scramble. Based on the information you have read, unscramble the following words:**

1. OMUETMNN \_\_\_\_\_
2. IANACRF HOACLUSTO \_\_\_\_\_
3. YASERLV \_\_\_\_\_
4. LNERAET FMEAL \_\_\_\_\_
5. MRHEYUHP \_\_\_\_\_
6. OYSNN DRIAHNMA \_\_\_\_\_
7. LIFM VATLU \_\_\_\_\_
8. TRURAH IPRINACI \_\_\_\_\_
9. TUAETS \_\_\_\_\_
10. TKECRIERC \_\_\_\_\_



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Image of William Pettigrew Humphrey

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#### Answers to Activity # 4 Word Scramble

- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Monument          | 6. Sonny Ramadhin  |
| 2. African Holocaust | 7. Film Vault      |
| 3. Slavery           | 8. Arthur Cipriani |
| 4. Eternal Flame     | 9. Statue          |
| 5. Humphrey          | 10. Cricketer      |