ABSTRACT

TAINO SITES IN TRELAWNY: A RE-EXAMINATION AND APPRAISAL

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The objective of relocating Dr James Lee’s Sites in Trelawny and reporting on them was completed. The report includes a recommendation in their regard. There were 19 sites Dr. Lee found in Trelawny that I actively sought. There were four other sites that were recorded but which were noted on the “Dead List”. I made headway on the “Dead List” and found two new sites. This totalled 25 sites. However, four of these locations had secondary sites which I have treated separately. This means that the total number of locations reported on are 29. Of this 29, only one and possibly two, have been destroyed. Twenty-one are deemed to be in good enough condition to warrant mapping and excavation, on however limited a scale. Most of them are now farmlands and pastures.

Taino artefacts were collected from most of the sites. Photographs and/or maps are presented of the sites. Photos of a selection of artefacts are also included. A rather lengthy chapter has been included named The
Catalogue of Trelawny Taino Sites and Specific Site Analysis as it provides a detailed report in a set format for each of the sites to allow for quick and easy comparison between the 29 locations.

As observation of the site locations on hills and in the interior of the island, as well as at least one piece of information passed on to me from a farmer who heard it from his forebears regarding Taino camps, raised pressing questions regarding currently held beliefs about the Tainos, I have made comments on these. I have briefly raised the questions whether or not the Tainos dwelled primarily, or exclusively on the coast, as is commonly held, and whether or not they were eliminated by the Spaniards and if this happened by 1524 as is stated by Irving Rouse in *The Tainos: Rise and Decline of the People Who Greeted Columbus*. 