

I N T R O D U C T I O N

The object of this Survey was to study the agricultural practices and general living conditions of various types of peasants. Two areas were included in the Survey. The first was a steep hillside in the Northern Range, where shifting cultivation was practised and the second on the Northern Plain, where a system of permanent agriculture was followed. These two areas gave a fairly wide range of peasant types, and farming practices.

Maps were first made of each Section, and then information was collected from the peasants. The method used was to select a number of the cultivators and then talk with them, so gaining sufficient knowledge to fill in questionnaires (See Appendix IX). These, when compared and averaged, gave sufficient information to complete this report. Past history of the land was traced with the assistance of the Lands Office, the Forestry Department, the Agricultural Department, and the Tunapuna Warden's Office, as were details of tenure and rentals.

The report is divided into two sections, one for the Mountain, and one for the Lowland Area. This was necessary due to the extreme variation between the systems of agriculture practiced. Photographs were taken to illustrate some of the points raised in the report (See Appendix VII).

It may be gathered from this report that it would be desirable for the whole of the Mountain Area to be reafforested, and the present cultivators transferred to areas less subject to erosion. The Lowland Area could, to its advantage, be fully irrigated, and laid out as a Government Land Settlement.