



LAUNCH OF THE DIGITIZATION OF THE MERCURY GAZETTE

WORKSHOP

By invitation only

Tuesday, December 12, 2017

9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Archives Department

Black Rock

You are invited to a workshop that will take place at the Archives Department on Tuesday, December 12, for the launch of the digitization of *The Barbados Mercury Gazette*.

The workshop will consist of two parts. During the first part, there will be presentations about the project and scholars will have the opportunity to briefly present on their scholarship and the importance of the gazette. The second part of the workshop will be dedicated to discussing how to best describe *The Barbados Mercury* to promote access and scholarly use. We envision the workshop resulting in a collaborative finding aid and in better metadata for the digital files.

We appreciate your scholarship and knowledge, and would be honored if you would consider being part of this workshop.

Ingrid Thompson, Chief Archivist

Amalia S. Levi, Project Archivist - Coordinator

Lenora Williams, Project Assistant

Please RSVP by Saturday, December 9 to amaliasl@gmail.com.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

9:30 - 9:40 am Ingrid Thompson

Opening remarks, introduction and welcome

9:40 - 9:50 am Dr. Lissa Paul

Overview of British Library Endangered Archives Programme Grant

9:50 - 10:05 am Amalia S. Levi

The Barbados Mercury digitization and digital scholarship opportunities
Overview of workshop format and aims

10:05 - 10:45 am Introductions and lightning talks [5 minutes each]

Please introduce yourself.

Please describe in which ways is The Barbados Mercury important for your discipline and scholarship.

10:45 - 11:00 am Break for refreshments

11:00 – 12:30 am “Collaborative finding aid”

Brainstorming session.

Archives and libraries use various tools to describe material in their collections. With this exercise, you will have the chance to provide your thoughts on how to best represent and describe *The Barbados Mercury*.

Your scholarly contribution will be invaluable for producing a final product that will help access to and retrieval of the gazette.

While the Archives holds information about the provenance and physical characteristics of the gazette, we seek to go beyond the apparent and explore the following:

- Who is the “creator” of the gazette? Who is involved in its production and dissemination?
- Which audience and what goals did the gazette serve?
- What does the physicality of the gazette reveals? (paper, typeset, script, layout)
- Who writes and who reads? Who speaks, on behalf of whom?
- What genres of writing can be found in the gazette?
- What is the place of the gazette in the network of other colonial papers?
- How does the gazette reflect colonial attitudes?
- In which ways does it shed light to the history of the island leading to 1816?
- How can we mine it for further information on the enslaved and networks of resistance?