

Ministry of Education  
Secondary Engagement Programme  
September 2020

Social Studies

Grade 8

**WEEK 8**

**LESSON 2**

**Topic:** Forts and Monuments (Cont.)

**Sub-Topic:** Monuments in Guyana

**Objectives:** Students will:

- Define the term monument
- Identify five monuments and their location in Guyana
- Explain the significance of monuments
- Describe how monuments can be preserved.

**Concept:** A monument is a structure that was explicitly created to commemorate a person or event, or which has become important to a social group as a part of their remembrance of historic times or cultural heritage, or as an example of historic architecture. Monuments are important and their presence can have lasting impact within the societies they are constructed.

**Content:**

**MONUMENTS IN GUYANA**

**SOME MONUMENTS THAT REMIND US OF THE CONTRIBUTIONS MADE BY INDIVIDUALS.**

**The Hubert Nathaniel Critchlow Monument**

This monument is erected in the compound of the Parliament Buildings, at the corner of High Street and Brickdam, Georgetown. Hubert Nathaniel Critchlow is regarded as the father of trade unionism in Guyana. He founded the British Guyana Labour Union and championed the cause of the working class in Guyana. This statue is about two metres high and was made by Edward Burrowes.

### **Queen Victoria Statue**

This statue is now standing in the compound of the High Court in High Street, Georgetown. It is a reminder of the contribution made by this monarch to bring about the abolition of the slave trade as well as the contribution made by Britain towards the development of the colony.

### **The 1834 Monument (The Statue of Damon)**

The 1834 Monument or the Statue of Damon is erected at Anna Regina on the Essequibo Coast. This statue is dedicated to the memory of the slave Damon who was a preacher. He was sentenced by the governor Sir. James Carmichael Smyth, to be hanged for holding a demonstration against the master. The statue, which is about three metres high was designed by Mr. Ivor Thom.

### **The Damon Cross**

The Damon Cross is erected in the Holy Trinity Church yard at La Belle Alliance on the Essequibo Coast. Damon led a demonstration against his master. He took possession of the Holy Trinity Church, planted a flag and refused to move when he was ordered to do so.

### **The Enmore Martyrs' Monument**

The Enmore Martyrs' Monument is located at Enmore on the East Coast of Demerara. It was erected to honour the memory of the five sugar workers who were killed by colonial police while they were demonstrating against unjust working conditions. The monument is about 7.6 metres high. The base has five brass machetes, each with the names of the workers inscribed. – Rambaran, Harry, Lallabagee, Lall and Suruj-bally, who were killed on 16th June 1948.

### **SOME MONUMENTS THAT REMIND US OF HISTORICAL EVENTS**

#### **The Cenotaph (War Memorial)**

This monument is located at the junction of Church and Main Streets, north of the Bank of Guyana. It commemorates the sacrifice made by Guyanese soldiers who died in combat during World Wars 1 and II. It is about 4.6 metres high with a low metal fence. The monument is designed with marble.

#### **The Liberation Monument**

The Liberation Monument is located in the compound of the Umana Yana in High Street, Kingston. It commemorates solidarity with the African Liberation Movement. The structure is made of five greenheart pillars of irregular heights.

#### **The Non Aligned**

The Non-Aligned Monument is located in Company Path and the Avenue of the Republic, Georgetown. It comprises four busts of the founders of the movement with their names boldly inscribed. –Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt, Kwame Nkrumah of Ghana, Jawaharlal Nehru of India and Josip Broz Tito of Yugoslavia. The monument rests above a pool strewn with rocks taken from the Ireng River.

#### **The Indian Immigration Monument**

The Indian Immigration Monument located in the garden at the Camp Street end of the Merriman's Mall commemorates the arrival of East Indians to Guyana. It is erected on a solid concrete pedestal faced with black granite and takes the form of the Whitby, the ship in which the East Indians originally travelled in on 5th May 1838. The Monument is a gift from India and was erected by a sculptor, B.K. Guru. The Monument stands about 3.5 metres high.

#### **The National Independence Monument.**

The National Independence Monument commemorates Guyana's independence from Great Britain on 26th May 1966. The construction is in the form of an arch, made of aluminium on a base of quartz stone from the Mazaruni. The three tubes tapering skywards represent the three counties. The monument was presented by the Demerara Bauxite Company and was designed by a Canadian engineer, Edric Flax.

Ministry of Education  
Secondary Engagement Programme  
September 2020

Social Studies

Grade 8

### ACTIVITY

#### **Read and answer the following questions:**

- Define the term Monument
- List five of Guyana's important monuments and state where they are located.
- Explain why you think these monuments are important.
- Write a letter to your village Chairman describing the importance of these monuments and how you think they may be persevered.
- Make a replica of any of the monuments noted in today's lesson.

### HOME WORK

- a) Research and paste pictures in your books to represent each of the monuments discussed in this lesson.
- b) Name a monument in your community.
- c) State its location and give a short description including its significance.

### REFERENCE

1. Ministry of education Teacher's guide grade 8 pages 49 to 50
2. Ministry of Education Curriculum Guide grade 8 page
3. <http://nationaltrust.gov.gy/national-monuments/>