

# Contents

<i>Illustrations</i> .....	xi
<i>Acknowledgements</i> .....	xv
<i>Preface</i> .....	xvii

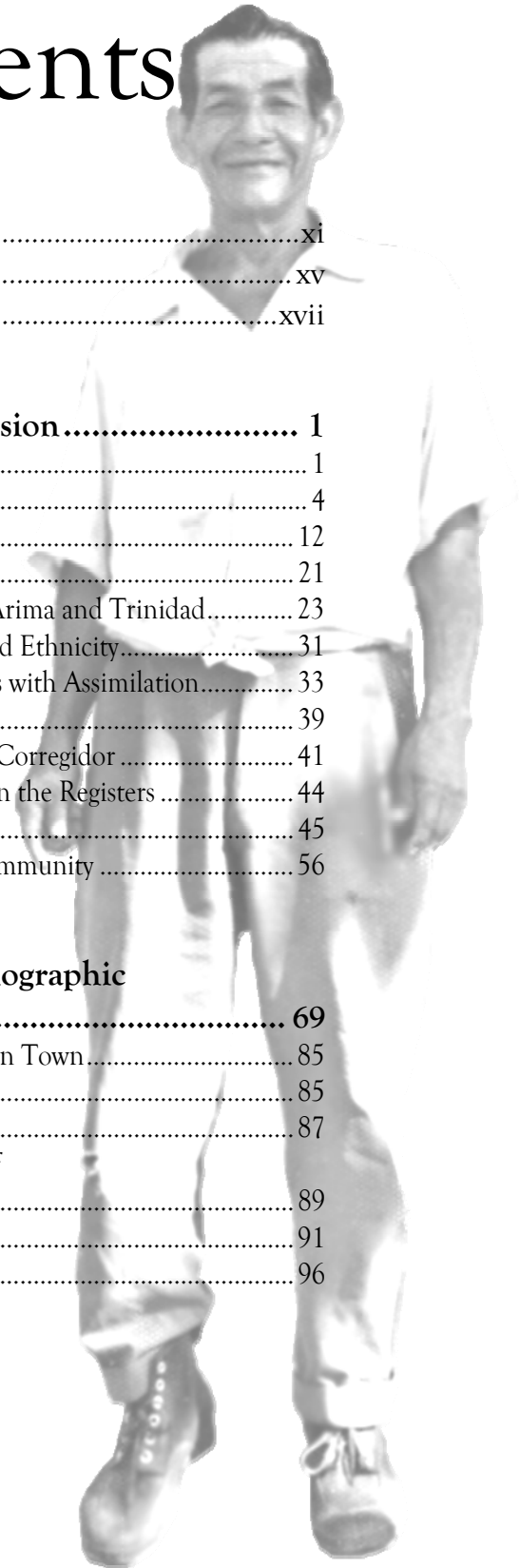
## CHAPTER 1

<b>The Historical Context of the Arima Mission</b> .....	1
Why Does Arima Matter?.....	1
Power, Value, and Interests.....	4
Land, Rights, and Identity.....	12
Registering Identities.....	21
In Dispute: Censuses and Tallies of Indians in Arima and Trinidad.....	23
Vanishing Acts: Switched Ethnicity and Dropped Ethnicity.....	31
Resistance and Breakdown: The Secret Struggles with Assimilation.....	33
A Critical Perspective on the Arima Mission.....	39
The Curious Case of Captain Sylvester and the Corregidor.....	41
Prominent Members of the Carib Community in the Registers.....	44
The Carib Queens.....	45
The Leading Families of the Santa Rosa Community.....	56

## CHAPTER 2

### **By the Numbers: Reflections of the Demographic**

<b>History of Arima</b> .....	69
What the Registers Tell Us about Arima, Mission Town.....	85
On the History of the Church in Arima.....	85
On the Social History of Arima.....	87
Indians, Caribs, Mestizos and the Notion of Indigenous Decline.....	89
Africans in Arima.....	91
Whites in Arima.....	96



## CHAPTER 3

<b>Reading the Registers: Challenges and Guidelines.....</b>	<b>99</b>
Baptismal Registers and the History of Trinidad.....	100
A Detailed Analysis of Errors, Omissions, and Other Problems with the Data.....	102
Family Names and Ethnic Membership.....	110
Guidelines for Understanding the Registers.....	111
Background: Translation of Latin Guidelines for Recording Baptisms .....	113
Background: List of Priests Serving in the Santa Rosa RC Church, 1749-1924.....	115
Work Remaining to be Done.....	117

## CHAPTER 4

<b>The Baptismal Registers .....</b>	<b>119</b>
Select Records from the First Register of the Mission .....	119
Book One, Baptismal Register of Santa Rosa de Arima, 1820-1835.....	127
Book Two, Baptismal Register of Santa Rosa de Arima, 1835-1852.....	185
Select Entries for 1840-1852, Extracted from Book Two .....	198
“Mestizo” Entries for 1835-1852, Extracted from Book Two.....	207
Book Three, Baptismal Register of Santa Rosa de Arima, 1866-1876 .....	208
Book Four, Baptismal Register of Santa Rosa de Arima, 1877-1887 .....	216
Book Five, Baptismal Register of Santa Rosa de Arima, 1887-1892 .....	227
Book Six, Baptismal Register of Santa Rosa de Arima, 1892-1899 .....	240
Book Seven, Baptismal Register of Santa Rosa de Arima, 1900-1906 .....	264
Book Eight, Baptismal Register of Santa Rosa de Arima, 1906-1910 .....	272
Books Nine & Ten, Baptismal Register of Santa Rosa de Arima, 1910-1916.....	278

## CHAPTER 5

<b>Conclusions: The Collapse of Colonial Myth-Making.....</b>	<b>305</b>
---	------------

<b>Appendices .....</b>	<b>311</b>
-------------------------	------------

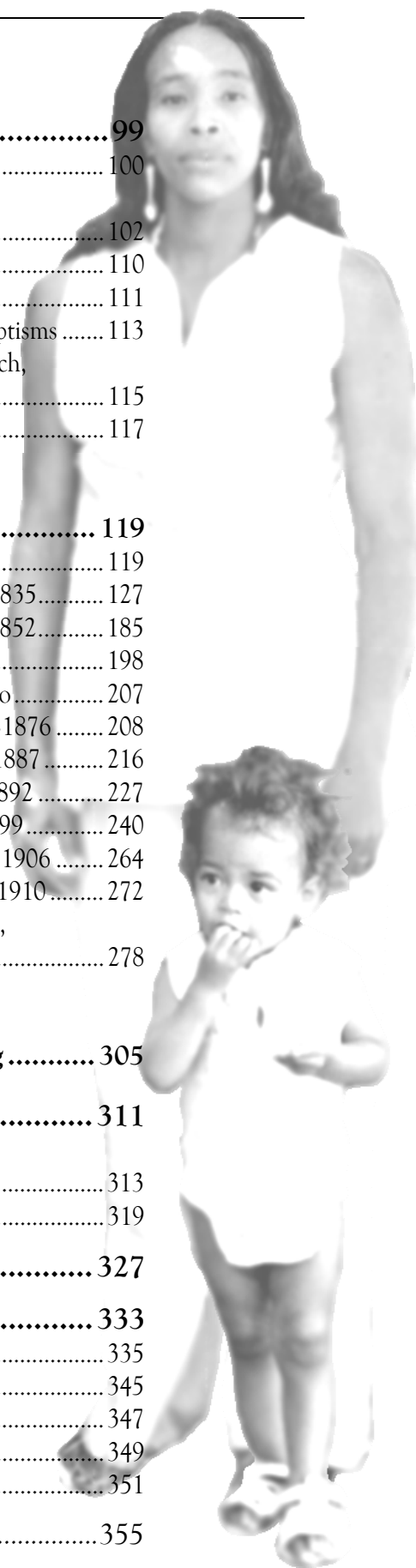
Appendix A: Grave Markers—Information from the Santa Rosa Roman Catholic Cemetery on King St., Arima .....	313
Appendix B: Stray Documents .....	319

<b>Select Bibliography.....</b>	<b>327</b>
---------------------------------	------------

<b>Indices .....</b>	<b>333</b>
----------------------	------------

1. Index of Named (Indigenous) Indians in the Registers.....	335
2. Index of “Indians of this Mission” .....	345
3. Index of Names with Tribal Designations.....	347
4. Index of Mestizos .....	349
5. General Index .....	351

<i>About the Author</i> .....	355
-------------------------------	-----



# Illustrations

## *Tables*

Table 1: Trinidad Amerindian Population Statistics, 1782–1838 .....	25
Table 2: Baptism Statistics for Amerindians in Arima, 1820–1852.....	29
Table 3: Marriage Statistics for Amerindian Parents Baptising Children in Arima, 1820–1852.....	34
Table 4: Baptisms, 1820–1835.....	73
Table 5: Baptisms, 1835–1840.....	76
Table 6: Baptisms, 1840–1916.....	77
Table 7: Priests Who Served in the Santa Rosa RC Church.....	116

## *Figures*

Figure I: Father David Oliveire .....	xvii
Figure II: Father Leo Donovan .....	xviii
Figure 1: Slave of Manuel Sorzano, Arima Mission.....	7
Figure 2: Manuel Sorzano, Godfather to a Slave.....	7
Figure 3: Pardo Slave.....	21
Figure 4: Trinidad Population Statistics, 1782–1838.....	27
Figure 5: Amerindian Population Statistics, 1782–1838 .....	28
Figure 6: Counting Out the Indians, 1833.....	31
Figure 7: Queen Maria Werges .....	47
Figure 8: Queen Edith Martinez .....	48
Figure 9: Velorio de la Cruz (Cross Wake) [3 Images].....	52
Figure 10: Scenes of the Santa Rosa Festival from the 1970s [3 Images] ....	54
Figure 11: Santa Rosa Carib Community.....	57
Figure 12: Calderon, Hernandez, Lopez Families.....	60
Figure 13: Clarisse/Clara Calderon.....	61
Figure 14: Maria Nicolasa Calderon.....	62
Figure 15: Evangelita Calderon .....	63
Figure 16: Hyacinto Hernandez.....	64
Figure 17: Manuelita Hernandez .....	64
Figure 18: First Cousins of Manuelita Hernandez .....	65
Figure 19: Clemencia Hill-Assing .....	66
Figure 20: “Pardos Libres” (Free Persons of African-Indian Background).....	70
Figure 21: Ethnic Distribution in Arima, 1820–1840.....	79
Figure 22: Ethnic Distribution in Arima, 1820–1835.....	80
Figure 23: Ethnic Distribution in Arima, 1835–1840.....	80
Figure 24: Spanish vs. East Indian Family Name Trends, 1840–1916.....	81

Figure 25: “Indigenous Decline,” 1820–1852.....	82
Figure 26: African Migrant.....	85
Figure 27: Slave of La Horqueta Estate .....	92
Figure 28: Black Slaves in the Arima Mission [2 Images].....	92
Figure 29: “Persons of Colour” in the Arima Mission.....	94
Figure 30: Cecilia, Native of Africa, Apprentice .....	95
Figure 31: Grenadian Migrant .....	96
Figure 32: Nevisian Migrant.....	96
Figure 33: Whites in the Arima Mission.....	98
Figure 34: Pages from the Earliest Registers of the Arima Mission [7 Images].....	120
Figure 35: Carib Indian in the Register .....	127
Figure 36: Maria De Jesus Rosa, Indian.....	130
Figure 37: Juan, Indian.....	131
Figure 38: Maria De La Cruz Reyes, Indian.....	131
Figure 39: Indian from the Mainland .....	145
Figure 40: Indian Godparents.....	145
Figure 41: Indian Godparents.....	146
Figure 42: Indian from the Mainland .....	165
Figure 43: Juana Maria Medera, Mestiza.....	172
Figure 44: Indian-Coloured from Oropuche .....	173
Figure 45: Indian of this Mission .....	174
Figure 46: Indian of this Mission .....	174
Figure 47: Warao Indian from Pedernales.....	175
Figure 48: “Coloured Carib” from Guanapo.....	177
Figure 49: Andrea, “Indian” .....	182
Figure 50: Micaela De Los Santos Benchocha, “Indian”.....	182
Figure 51: Maria Juliana Sala, Indian.....	193
Figure 52: Maria Josefa Reyes, Indian .....	202
Figure 53: Henry Jose Delisle .....	226
Figure 54: Augustina Lopez.....	232
Figure 55: Father Charles De Martini.....	241
Figure 56: Agatha Luces .....	255
Figure 57: Saba and Camilla Luces .....	256
Figure 58: Margarita De Gazon.....	269
Figure 59: Clemencia Calderon .....	274
Figure 60: Leontine Hernandez-Fermin.....	276
Figure 61: Alejandro (Alexander) Calderon, Copy of Baptismal Entry....	280
Figure 62: Enrique Campo.....	281
Figure 63: Claudina Hernandez.....	282
Figure 64: Paulina Calderon .....	283
Figure 65: Millicent Campo .....	285
Figure 66: Rita Julia (Julie) Calderon .....	286
Figure 67: Dionisio Peltación Calderon.....	287
Figure 68: Peter De Ramos.....	288

Figure 69: Enemencio Hernandez .....	292
Figure 70: Alejandra Lopez .....	294
Figure 71: Damasia Cardines.....	303
Figure 72: Luce Anne Sellier.....	315
Figure 73: Father Edmund J. Dillon.....	316
Figure 74: Celestina Lucas .....	317
Figure 75: Loose Sheet from the Baptismal Register, Side 1.....	320
Figure 76: Loose Sheet from the Baptismal Register, Side 2.....	321
Figure 77: Baptismal Certificate .....	322
Figure 78: Notes on a Scrap of Paper, Side 1 .....	323
Figure 79: Notes on a Scrap of Paper, Side 2 .....	324
Figure 80: Envelope Mailed to Arima RC Priest.....	325
Figure 81: Letter to Arima RC Priest.....	326