

NEWS RELEASE

"Welcome to Twin Bridge Avenue"

With those words, Mt. Gay resident and businessman Mr. Leonard George joined fellow residents in welcoming Prime Minister Dr. the Rt. Hon. Keith Mitchell, Minister of Tourism Senator the Hon. Brenda Hood, Member of Parliament for St. George North East Hon. Nazim Burke, Mr. Han Tao Chargé de Affaires of the Peoples Republic of China (PRC) and other dignitaries to the official opening of the new bridge at Mt. Gay.

"This new bridge has brought a fresh dimension to our community; one that we intend to embrace and make full use of," Mr. George said during his remarks at the opening ceremony, which took place on Thursday, March 29.

The bridge is part of the larger Mt. Gay Human Settlement Project, which is jointly funded by the Government of Grenada and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB). The bridge is part of the Government's financial contribution and was constructed at a cost of \$430,000 (EC).

Mr. George's reference to "twin bridge avenue" reflects that fact that the original bridge has been retained as a pedestrian walkway. During his remarks Mr. George shared some local history. The old bridge was previously located at Balthazar, St. Andrew until Hurricane Janet hit Grenada in 1955. The bridge collapsed and Mr. George had the job of cutting it from the abutment walls.

He recalled how the late Ralph Ogilvie, who owned lands in the area, arranged to have the bridge relocated to Mt. Gay. Mr. George made mention of Mr. Wilfred Hobson, who was also in attendance at the opening, and how, as young men, the pair helped with the measurements for the steel structure upon which the 'Ogilvie bridge' would rest for the next 50 plus years.

The new bridge, which is supported by six pre-stressed concrete beams, was designed by Glean's Construction and Engineering Co. Ltd. and constructed over a 75-day period by China Jiangsu Construction Group Corporation. The bridge is an important link to the Mt. Gay Human Settlement, where approximately 150 new homes will be constructed as part of the donation of 2,000 houses to Grenada by the PRC.

Noting that the bridge at Mt. Gay is yet another example of the ongoing reconstruction efforts underway throughout the State, Prime Minister Mitchell said Grenada is a model for any country facing a serious post disaster situation.

The bridge at Mt. Gay is part of the CDB Sites and Services Project, which is being managed by the ARD on behalf of the Government of Grenada.

Info for photos:

Cutting the Ribbon (l to r) Prime Minister Dr. the Rt. Hon. Keith Mitchell, Senator the Hon. Brenda Hood, Hon. Nazim Burke, Mr. Leonard George, Fr. William O' Carroll, Mr. Richardson Andrews

DS01962: ARD Deputy Chairman Richardson Andrews at the podium; view of the bridge prior to ribbon cutting



March 30, 2007

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