



Saint Lucia National Trust

FACT SHEET

Origin

The Saint Lucia National Trust (SLNT) was born in 1975 out of a struggle to save Pigeon Island from the proposed development of high-rise condominiums. The Trust is governed by the *Saint Lucia National Trust Act, Chapter 6.02 of the Revised laws of Saint Lucia (20001)*, which was a culmination of many years of hard work, by its founding fathers. The SLNT is a membership organization headed by an eleven-member Council of which seven are elected annually by the Membership at the Annual General Meeting. The four remaining members represent the Archaeological and Historical Society and the Government.

The SLNT was set up to help conserve the natural and cultural heritage sites of Saint Lucia, and to promote values which lead to national pride and love of country.

Mission Statement

The SLNT champions Fair Helen's Patrimony.

Logo

The logo is made up of three petroglyphs - prehistoric stoned carvings. With its motto: Conservation through Education, Appreciation and Protection.

Mandate

To conserve the natural and cultural heritage of Saint Lucia through research and publication, education, ownership and management of sites and properties and development of museums.

This statement means that the Trust has a national mandate to preserve both the *natural and cultural* heritage, which means:

1. *areas of outstanding natural beauty, e.g. Pigeon Island National Landmark*
2. *the biodiversity (plant and animal life) of St. Lucia, e.g. Pointe Sable Environmental Protected Area*
3. *historic and cultural sites (buildings of architectural merit), e.g. Morne Fortuné Historic Area, Pigeon Island National Landmark*

In order to fulfill its Mission Statement, the SLNT has divided its work into the following areas:

- Education

To promote the awareness of the island's rich patrimony and to foster an appreciation of that heritage.

- Site and Property Development and Management

This area focuses on the effective management of heritage sites and properties - including all of St. Lucia's islets, (**two of which are Lapins Island and Fous island**), Maria Island Nature Reserve and Morne Fortuné Historic area, as some of the areas vested to the Trust. The goal of this work area of the Trust is to create a system of effectively managed natural and cultural heritage sites and properties.

- Information and Communication

This is an important ingredient in the shaping of a new culture of environmental awareness and consciousness among the St. Lucian public. This area includes activities aimed at disseminating effective information on conservation and development issues to the public.

- Institutional Development

The success of this work area depends on the strength of the Trust as an institution. If the Trust is to carry out its mandate successfully it has to be an organization with skilled and highly motivated staff and members working together in strong partnership.