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Project: Lands neighbouring Port Esquivel

Proposed Usage: the future construction of an Ethanol Plant

Observations: the site was covered with tall scrub trees and the soil was sandy, with the remnants of numerous remains of sea life, namely bivalve shells and crab shells. However none seemed to have been on the site longer than a few years or less. The land was heavily rippled with small mounds each no more than one to two feet wide and spaced two to three feet from each other , this is indicative of previous high tides or flooding over the years. None of these features showed the presents of midden habitation. If however the site may have been used as a launching area for fishing expeditions , those signs would be found lower down in the stratum , possibly located approximately at six feet below the surface or more , since the soil present suggests that the area was once a swamp or bog.

Also my historical records show the presence of two large river outlets located across the bay in the vicinity of Great Goat and Little Goat Islands , these are however smaller gully systems today , one of which is the Salt island gully. In the immediate vicinity of the site there are two rivers , the Coleman Gully and on the actual site an unnamed tributary of the Rock river which flows past the Colbecks estate in St Catherine and along the border of Clarendon and St Catherine, these sources can suggest that the original coast line may have been located several acres in land to the northern side of the

current existing site. This area has rich soils which may be more likely the location of Taino habitation areas. Since the historical records record's an encounter which took place between Columbus and a Taino Cacique in the Old Harbour area. Columbus's doctor and chronicler reported that at nights one could see many camp fires and village lights from their ship. This suggests that this entire area was heavily inhabited by the Taino Indians, as discovered recently by the discovery of a large and important habitation site when constructing the Old Harbour Bypass.

Recommendations: I suggest that an archaeologist is assigned to the site during the excavation construction phase of the project , to recover any and all historically relevant material , from all historical era's of Jamaica's history i.e. Taino , Spanish , English Occupation and Plantocracy . This placement will reduce delays to the project's construction by saving both time and the nation's valued Heritage in the most efficient manner possible.
