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W St-Barth EKKLY



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FREE

SAINT BARTH:



THEN

and



NOW

Grand Cul de Sac
in 1960
and in 2013
Coll. S. Brin

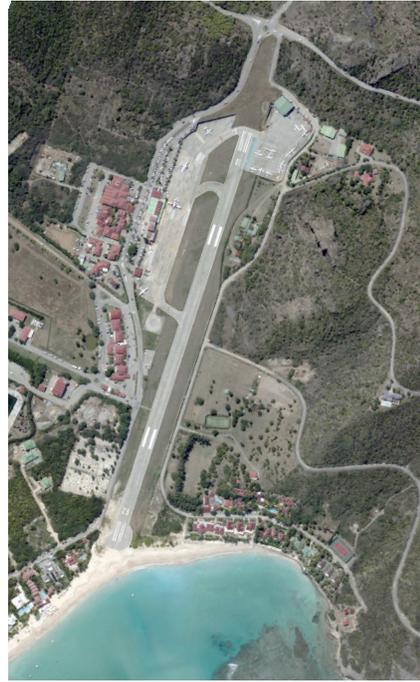
“On The Whole, Urban Development Has Been Controlled”

François Pécard, architect DPLG, vice president of St. Barth Architectes

During a recent Heritage Days event, vice president of the St Barth Architects association François Pécard participated in the awards ceremony of a photo competition organized by Saint Barth Heritage, on Saturday, November 30. The competition comprised the pairing of an old image with a shot of the same place today in order to show the evolution of construction on the island.

What do these juxtapositions of old and new photos show?

François Pécard: My first reaction is global. For the most part, these photos speak more about urbanism than architecture. They also show more about the evolution of urbanism than of the landscape. And the first overall impression is that development has been, on the whole, harmonious and controlled. Look at the photo of the airport, for example. This shows true organization. The road was intelligently moved to detour the new airport, and businesses were built along this new route. As a



Gustave III Airport in 1968 and in 2010. Source: IGN

result, the impact of urban development in this zone, which is one of the densest, is not that consequential. This is even more evident in Gustavia, when you look at the two photos* taken from the hillside at the end of the harbor near the prefecture. You almost have to ask which is the old one and which is the new one, as there has been very little new construction, yet there has

been an explosion of greenery. Look at another photo, taken under the large “fromager” tree near the Espace Météo. You can see Gustavia from the other direction, looking toward the interior of the harbor. While the tree trunk has increased in size, the density of the urban morphology has not increased by much. On the whole, development has been controlled.

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How is this possible when the population has increased by so much?

FP: The principal factor is that the network of roads has not been developed. The roads have primarily remained the same, other than moving the road around the airport and the junction of Saline and Lurin, via Morne Tourterelle, which until rather recently was nothing but a dirt path. This is very important, because roads help the spread of development. New roads would have brought more new construction. There are other factors as well. Even if the island's urban morphology has progressed, its impact has been controlled for two reasons. First is the scale of the buildings. We have maintained small volumes, which blend better into the landscape. And then there is the vegetation, which has increased enormously. Today, the

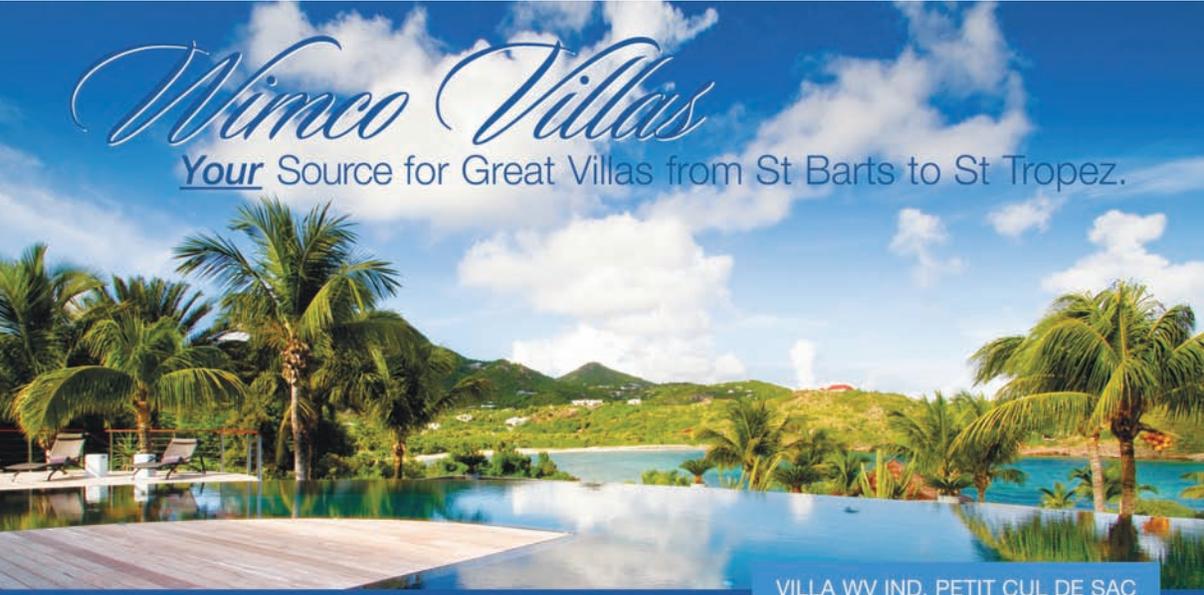
island is much greener that it was just a few years ago. In the past, plants were not watered and wild goats devoured everything. And being greener, the island gets more rain, as the vegetation helps attract clouds, as the low height of the mountains doesn't really accomplish. And the vegetation helps camouflage the architecture. That was clear after hurricane Luis, where there was not a single leaf left on the trees. All of a sudden, every building, down to the very smallest, could be seen.

What else did you notice?

FP: Overall, the coastline has been well preserved. As is true of the Port of Gustavia, which has remained the same. It has always been a port with a natural harbor. There are no floating pontoons, even though there have been requests to build them. In the pho-

tos, it is primarily the boats that have changed. Local sailing ships have given way to catamarans and other modern boats. This is also the case, for example, in Petit Cul-de-Sac or Grand Cul-de-Sac, where the salt ponds play an important role of the ecosystem. This is also true in Saline. Considering the great pressure to build in these zones, notably in Grand Cul-de-Sac, where we were even consulted by developers about a marina project with a lakeside village, one can say that these zones have been fairly well protected. These kinds of projects would have completely changed the look of the landscape.

On the other hand, what these photos do not show is the huge increase in the number of vehicles on the island. The number of cars on the roads has greatly changed. I remember photos taken during



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Grand Cul de Sac in 1960 and in 2013. Coll. S. Brin

the construction of my first building in Gustavia, in September 1979. That day there was not as single car on the street. Not one. Not parked or driving. Today, the number of vehicles causes serious problems.

You have mentioned urban development. At the same time, what has marked the evolution of the architecture on the island?

FP: The architecture has evolved in response to requests by the clientele, which itself has changed.

When I arrived in the 1970s, I fell completely under the charm of the traditional architecture of Saint Barth, especially the windward cottages and the small wooden houses. There were still quite a few on the island. Each one prettier than the next, all painted pretty colors, with a small garden around the house enclosed by a wall of dry stone, and a tree—often a mango tree—for shade. At that time, the Saint Barth population began to copy what they saw in Saint Thomas, that is to say larger, square houses built atop a cistern. I liked them a lot less. Personally, I preferred to emphasize the traditional architecture, and was inspired by the windward cottages. And in the case of larger projects, rather than build larger volumes, to build several smaller volumes, each with one room, joined by walls but not by roofs. This allows you to alternate roofs and terraces. And to modulate these volumes as if creating a small village, hugging

the slope of the land. With the arrival of a clientele of wealthier tourists who wanted larger houses, certain real estate agents criticized me, saying that I only knew how to build cottages. But I believe that the respect for this scale inherent to Saint Barth, with small volumes, is the key to integrating a project into a site. The biggest challenge here is to provide space while maintaining the scale. Of course, today in Saint Barth there is architecture on an international level. The current means destruction and construction has removed many of the former constraints. But fortunately, the style of numerous volumes with independent roofs has been adopted by many of my younger colleagues. And I would say it has also taken root elsewhere in the Caribbean. In Saint Kitts, or the British Virgin Islands, for example.

** The owners of these photos did not wish to have them published.*



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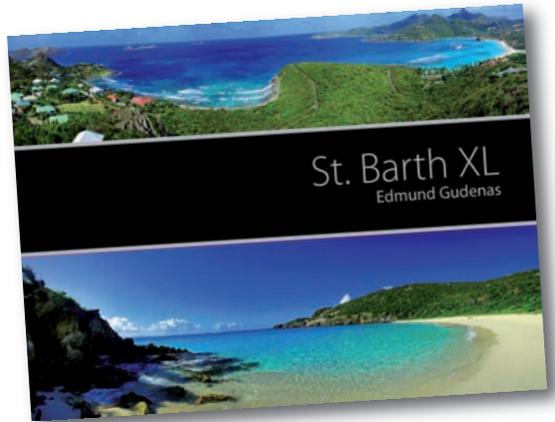
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CHIKUNGUNYA EPIDEMIC IN SAINT MARTIN

Saint Martin is the first place where the chikungunya virus has been reported in the Caribbean. Among the cases observed, primarily in Oyster Pond, two were confirmed by the French National Center in Marseille. More than 30 other possible cases are awaiting the results of blood tests that take up to 10 days. "We feel that we are in an epidemic phase," Sylvie Cassadou, an epidemic specialist in the regional office of the French Institute For Public Health Surveillance (INVS). The mosquito that carries chikungunya is the same as the *Aedes aegypti*, which also carries dengue fever, and the same kind of precautions should be taken. "We must act rapidly to destroy the places where mosquitoes can lay eggs," points out Aline Hanson, president

of the Collectivity of Saint Martin. That means eliminating all standing water, making sure that water does not accumulate in vases, pots, barrels, etc. The committee for the fight against epidemics met on Friday, December 6 with Hanson and the minister of health from Sint Maarten, to make a joint decision on the reinforcement of epidemic surveillance, the pulverization of insecticides, sanitary controls at the frontiers via spraying of airplanes and information given to passengers. The symptoms of the exotic chikungunya virus are close to those of dengue, with a sudden high fever, and joint pain especially in the wrists, ankles, toes, and fingers. The disease appears between four and seven days after being bitten by the infected mosquito.

ST BARTH XL BY EDMUND GUDENAS



Spectacular panoramic photographs of St. Barth in an extra large full color book titles St. Barth XL has just arrived. Three years visiting during all seasons were required to create these special images. Some are views even long time residents have not seen. Very special night views in Gustavia are included. Some could only be created during a full moon or after a

heavy rain. Almost all images are spread over 2 pages, so most are 30 inches x 11 inches. All regions of St. Barth are included.

Very limited quantities available at: Les Artisans, La Casa Aux Livres, Chez Barnes, Le Select Gift Shop and Cargo Art Gallery.

Contact the creator Edmund Gudenas at eg@wizardair.com

MASTHEAD

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Live Music

► Through December 14

- AABARAKI, from 9pm to midnight, Bete A Z'Ailes,

► December 16 - January 5

- Nadine Lafond, from 9pm to midnight, Bete A Z'Ailes, Gustavia

► Every Friday

Ladies Night @ Bagatelle, Gustavia

► Thursday, December 12

- DJ Yo One Sutterat Bonito, Gustavia

- Lady's First @ First

- Diner Cabaret with show girls at Ti St Barth

- Soley in live @ Les

Couilluses, Gustavia

- Blues and Rock, with

Manu Lanvin in live, from 11pm at First, Gustavia.

► Friday, December 13

- Soley in live @ Le Grain de Sel, Saline

- I Love Friday @ La Plage Restaurant, Dinner music

with DJ NVM Resident DJ

at Provocateur NY,

Cristina's Pole Dancing

Show, Wild Side Fashion Show @ La Plage Restaurant, Saint-Jean

- DJ Maxx-C at Bonito

- Live music with Pierre Nesta from 5 at Zen Bar,

Do Brazil, Gustavia

- Madness Week End @Ti St Barth, Pointe Milou

► Saturday December 14

- Bikini Brunch, from 12pm, Music by DJ Yo-One

@La Plage Restaurant

- Lunch with Live Music with Robb, from noon at

Mango, Christopher Hotel

- DJ Yo One Sutter at Bonito, Gustavia

- Live Music with Soley & Co from 8pm at Taiwana

- Madness Week End @Ti St Barth, Pointe Milou

► Sunday, December 15

- Black Sunday @ First

- Live music with Pierre Nesta from 5 at Zen Bar,

Do Brazil

- Live music for the Brunch with Robb from 11am

@ Toiny Hotel.

- Live Music by Robb for dinner @ La Plage Restaurant

- Amazing Sunday

"Eyes Wide Shut" @ Nikki Beach, Saint-Jean

- Live Music with Soley & Co from 8pm at Bonito

► Monday, December 16

- Deejay Session from 3:00pm to 7pm @ Do Brazil

► Tuesday December 17

- Live music with Pierre Nesta from 5 at Zen Bar,

Do Brazil, Gustavia

- Brazilian Evening :

Live Music with Soley & Caravan Style, bossa-nova,

samba... from 7:30pm @ Christopher, Pointe Milou

- DJ Yo One Sutterat

Bonito, - Pierre Nesta for the Sunset from 5:00pm

@ Do Brazil, Gustavia

- Diner Cabaret with show girls at Ti St Barth

► Wednesday, December 18

- Live Music with Soley & Co from 8pm at Taiwana

- Diner Cabaret with show girls at Ti St Barth

Pointe Milou

► Thursday, December 19

- Dinner with Live music with Pierre Nesta

@ Do Brazil, Gustavia

Night Club

► Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday

Dj K-RISM @ Yacht Club

► Friday & Saturday

Dj Patris Geraud from St Tropez @ Yacht Club

Fashion Show

► Daily Fashion Shows

- Fashion Show: every lunch & dinner, La Plage

► Every Tuesday

6:30pm: Fashion show at Case de l'Isle, Hotel Isle de France, Flamands

► Friday, December 13

Fashion Show Pati St Barth from 2pm @ Nikki Beach, St Barth

► Saturday December 14

Fashion Show Marina from 2pm @ Nikki Beach, St Barth

► Sunday, December 15

Fashion Show Pain de Sucre from 2pm @ Nikki Beach,

St Barth

Exhibitions

► Through December 13

Art Exhibition of KAY Quattrocchi for her collection

Neutrinos & Higgs Boson at Christopher Hotel

► Through, December 15,

- Jean-Yves Lefort at Les Artisans, Gustavia

- «Art, Text and Fire Poems,» Robert Montgomery, Jean-Charles de

Castelbajac, and Blair Chivers at Eden Rock

- Raimundo Figueroa, La Vida Baila, a beautiful

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Space SBH - Carré D'Or

- Dave Stevenson, Alain le Chatelier, Jean Yves Lefort

at Les Artisans,

- Modernisme art & Antiques, Camaruche Gallery

- Wolfgang Ludes, Jean-Philippe Piter, Antoine Ver-

glas at Clic Gallery, Gustavia

- Group show at Pipiri Palace, Gustavia

- Works by Cyrille Margarit, Nikki Beach

- Olivia Lerolle & Johanna Astrie at Do Brazil

- Art Galleries

- Modernisme art & Antiques, Camaruche Gallery

- TomBeachArtStudio,

- Clic Gallery, Gustavia

- Pipiri Palace, Gustavia

- Les Artisans, Gustavia

- SpaceSBH Gallery,

► Artist's Collection

- Pompei, Petit Cul de Sac

- Hannah Moser, Cul de Sac

- Mitchell Summer, Toiny

- Kay Quattrocchi, Salines

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Real Estate

For sale, this luxurious two bedroom apartment situated in a complex set above Gustavia with amazing views over the harbor and beyond to St Martin and the sunset. The complex offers a community pool and is within walking distance to restaurants, boutiques and Shell Beach. Offered at € 1,990,000. St. Barth Properties Sotheby's International Realty: 0590 29 75 05

For sale, property situated on the hillside in Vitet is set in a lush tropical garden. It features three bedrooms, three baths with pool and gazebo. Two additional bedrooms and one bath are located on the lower level and have a private entrance. It has excellent potential for annual rental. Offered at € 1,810,000. St. Barth Properties Sotheby's International Realty: 0590 29 75 05

For sale, this charming three bedroom, three bathroom villa in Petite Saline is perched on one of the highest points in St Barth. It boasts amazing views in multiple directions (including the sunset) and offers 100% privacy. The villa enjoys an excellent rental history. Offered at \$ 3,550,000. St. Barth Properties Sotheby's International Realty: 0590 29 75 05

Modern 2 bedroom villa - Contemporary styling & classic villa layout with sweeping views over Petit Cul de Sac. Additional undeveloped room for office/gym. € 2,350,000. For more info : Wimco Sbh Real Estate 0590 51 07 51 or villasales@wimco.com

Unique 3 bedroom villa - Stepped into the sloping St.Jean hillside, bedrooms in separate private bungalows. Exquisite building materials & accents. € 2,275,000. For more info : Wimco Sbh Real Estate 0590 51 07 51 or villasales@wimco.com

Enjoyable 2 bedroom Villa - Peaceful & private location at top of a St.Jean hillside cule-de-sac, views of St.Jean Baie. Strong rental history! € 2,100,000. Wimco Sbh Real Estate 0590 51 07 51 or villasales@wimco.com



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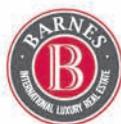
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