

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED JUN 8 1981  
DATE ENTERED **JL 23 1981**

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**  
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME** *Virgin Islands National Park Multiple Resource Area*  
HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Historic Resources of Virgin Islands National Park (partial Inventory, Historic & Architecture)

**2 LOCATION**  
STREET & NUMBER  
*St. John Island* \_ NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CITY, TOWN CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

\_ VICINITY OF

STATE *Virgin Islands* CODE *078* COUNTY *St. John* CODE *0700*

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

| CATEGORY                             | OWNERSHIP                                  | STATUS  | PRESENT USE                            |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED          | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE   | <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S) | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED        | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PARK   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE   | <input type="checkbox"/> BOTH              | <input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS             | <input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL   | <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> SITE        | <b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>                  | <b>ACCESSIBLE</b>                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT      | <input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS        | <input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED              | <input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT    | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC        |
| <i>Multiple Resource</i>             | <input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED | <input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL    | <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION    |
|                                      |  | <input type="checkbox"/> NO                           | <input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY      | <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:            |

**4 AGENCY**

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (if applicable)

*Southeast Regional Office, National Park Service*  
STREET & NUMBER  
*1895 Phoenix Boulevard*  
CITY, TOWN STATE  
*Atlanta* VICINITY OF *Georgia 30349*

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. *Registry of Deeds--Office of Lieutenant Governor*  
STREET & NUMBER  
*King Street, Government Hill*  
CITY, TOWN STATE  
*Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas* Virgin Islands 00801

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
*St. John Island, "The Quiet Place" Historic Resource Study by Charles E. Hatch, Jr.*  
DATE  
*January 1972, Denver Service Center*  FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL  
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS *Virgin Islands National Park*  
CITY, TOWN STATE  
*St. Thomas* Virgin Islands

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"Archeological Reconnaissance of the Island of St. John"  
Frederik W. Sleight, 1962.

"Archeological Survey of St. John"  
Southeast Archeological Center, 1976.

Following individual properties within the Virgin Islands National Park and National Park Service ownership have been included in the Historic American Building Survey and Historic American Engineering Records.

Historic American Building Survey:

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Sugar Factory, Estate Annaberg, Maho Bay Qtr.                  | 1959 |
| Wattle House, Reef Bay Estate, Reef Bay Qtr.                   | 1961 |
| Sugar Factory, Estate Reef Bay, Reef Bay Qtr.                  | 1960 |
| Great House & Grounds, Estate Reef Bay, Reef Bay Qtr.          | 1968 |
| Service Buildings, Great House, Estate Reef Bay, Reef Bay Qtr. | 1969 |
| Windmill, Estate Annaberg, Maho Bay Qtr.                       | 1962 |
| Great House, Estate Mary Point, Maho Bay Qtr.                  | 1964 |
| Windmill, Estate Hammer Farm, Cruz Bay                         | 1964 |
| Cook House, Estate Annaberg, Maho Bay                          | 1967 |
| Bake Oven, Estate Annaberg, Maho Bay                           | 1967 |
| Windmill, Estate Dennis Bay, Cruz Bay                          | 1967 |
| Trunk Bay Sugar Factory, Cruz Bay Qtr.                         | 1977 |
| Cinnamon Bay Plantation, Maho Bay Qtr.                         | 1977 |

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Historic American Engineering Records:

Steam Engine & Cane Grinders, Sugar Factory, Estate Reef Bay, 1977.

Following individual properties within the Virgin Islands National Park but not in National Park Service ownership have been included in Historic American Building Survey, Historic American Engineering Records and submitted by the State Historic Preservation office for nomination to the National Register.

Historic American Building Survey:

- Caneel Bay Estate Plantation, Cruz Bay Qtr. 1960
- Windmill Estate, Susannaberg, Cruz Bay Qtr. 1965
- Fort Frederiksvaern, Fortberg, Coral Bay Qtr. 1960
- Customs Guardhouse, Whistling Cay, Maho Bay Qtr. 1971

Historic American Engineering Records:

- Steam Engine, Estate Adrian, Cruz Bay Qtr. 1977

Submittals to the National Register for nomination:

- Customs Guard House, Whistling Cay, Maho Bay Qtr.
- Fort Frederiksvaern, Fortberg, Coral Bay Qtr.

The additional Historic Properties listed below are determined eligible for inclusion in the National Register and are covered in this multiple resource nomination.

- 1. Lind Point Battery, Cruz Bay Qtr., West Shore

H-1 (Individual)

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- 2. Trunk Bay Sugar Factory, Cruz Bay Qtr., North Shore H-2 (Individual)
- 3. L'Esperance Plantation, Cruz Bay Qtr., Centerline H-5 (District)
- 4. Dennis Bay, Cruz Bay Qtr., North Shore H-24 (District)
- 5. Reef Bay Sugar Factory, Reef Bay Qtr., South Shore H-13 (District)
- 6. Jossie Gut, Reef Bay Qtr., Upper Reef Bay Valley H-14 (District)
- 7. Reef Bay Great House, Reef Bay Qtr., Eastside Reef Bay Valley H-15 (District)
- 8. America Hill, Maho Bay Qtr., North Shore H-26 (District)
- 9. Rustenberg Plantation South, Maho Bay Qtr, Centerline St. John H-27 (District)
- 10. Annaberg School, Maho Bay Qtr., North Shore H-32 (Individual)
- 11. Annaberg Sugar Factory, & Mill, Maho Bay Qtr., North Shore H-33 (District)
- 12. Liever Marches Bay, Maho Bay Qtr., North Shore H-35 (District)
- 13. Brown Bay Plantation & Great House, Maho Bay Qtr., North Shore H-36 (District)
- 14. Hermitage Eastend Qtr., Coral Bay Side H-37 (District)
- 15. More Hill, Eastend Qtr., North Shore H-38 (District)

As of this date, following sites within the Multiple Resource Study area previously nominated have been listed in the National Register.

- 1. Historic Name Cathrineberg, Herman Farm  
Common Name Hammer Farm, Cruz Bay Quarter
- 2. Historic Name Lameshur Plantation  
Common Name Lameshur, Reef Bay Quarter
- 3. Historic Name Caneel Bay & Cinnamon Bay  
Common Name Cinnamon Bay, Maho Bay Quarter

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4. Historic Name  
Common Name

Mary Point Estate  
Mary Point Great House & Factory, Maho Bay Qtr

# 7 DESCRIPTION

**CONDITION**  
 EXCELLENT  **100% E.S. AL**  DETERIORATED  
 GOOD  RUINS  
 FAIR  UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**  
 UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**  
 ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

SEE ATTACHED CONTINUATION SHEETS

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DESCRIPTION

The Virgin Islands National Park includes 8,840 acres of the central sector of St. John or approximately 3/5 of the island and 5,650 acres of submerged land and offshore rocks and cays. St. John has a steep and rugged topography. The central east-west spine of the island rises to elevations of more than 1200 feet above sea level in less than a mile from the shoreline. This is deeply indented with sheltered bays backed by white sandy beaches between craggy cliffs and formidable rocky promotories. The hillsides are gouged out by deep V shaped valleys that terminate in small alluvial plains behind the more protected bays. The climate is oceanic and sub-tropical with an annual average temperature of 80° Fahrenheit and with a mean temperature fluctuation between season of 5° Fahrenheit. The park is covered by a heavy vegetation, except for a few small areas maintained open for visitors use or on inholdings for agricultural or gardening purposes.

The vegetation varies from a high sub-tropical forest along the high ridges and in the drainage areas of the hillsides through an almost impenetratable dry forest and bush to a cactus scrub on the drier slopes of the east, south and southwest of the island.

There are no permanent lakes or streams on St. John, although several of the intermittent streams that drain the hillsides during heavy rains retain fresh water pools year round and behind the shoreline of most of the valleys there are brakish ponds with mangrove growth.

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With the existing vegetative cover the most prominent man-made features of the Park landscape are the roads and trails that generally follow the cart roads established in the 18th century and the ruins of former plantations.

In 1728, 91 plantation lots were listed for St. John. About half of these were claims that had either not been developed or surveyed. Seventy-two (72) years later the P.L. Oxholm map records 68 plantations outside the villages of Cruz and Coral Bay. Of these, 41 are within the established Park boundary. At present, there are 46 known historic properties within the Park boundaries; 31 of these are on Park property with a total of 236 classified structures. 17 classified structures are still roofed or have retained vestiges of roofing and 9 are maintained in use. All others are in various stages of ruins, from masonry walls standing to full height, to barely discernible traces of footings. All these are defined as structures by the National Park Service Management Policies.

The most conspicuous in terms of volume and size are the remains of the Sugar Plantations. These are found in the areas of higher precipitation along the ridges <sup>of</sup> and the north coast and in the valleys of the south coast where drainage from the hillsides provided favorable growing conditions for sugar cane. Less prominent are the more modest facilities required for cultivation of cotton and raising of livestock located in the drier areas to the east and south. The remains of public buildings, schools, customhouses and the single fortification on park property, an earthwork battery, are due to their modest sizes equally inconspicuous.



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Churches and important government buildings are in or immediately adjoining the villages of Cruz and Coral Bay outside the Park boundaries.

During the 18th and 19th century when St. John was intensely cultivated both the clustered buildings of the plantations and the individual structures were prominent features in a landscape of open fields that in many instances stretched up over the surrounding hillsides interspersed with patches of forest and bush on terrain unsuitable for cultivation due to its steepness, poor water retention or soil. These "farm centers" were scattered throughout what is now the park from 1/5 of a mile to 3/4 of a mile apart. (See attached copy of P.L.Oxholm Map).

With the collapse of the plantation economy and the resulting slackening of agricultural activity and decrease in population the fields gradually during the late 19th and early 20th centuries reverted to a natural growth of bush and forest which by now has engulfed most of the buildings of former plantations. The Virgin Islands National Park has now a semblance of the wooded island described by early European explorers of the West Indies.

A few historic buildings and districts due to their prominent siting, size, location on a throughfare or continued use still have a high visibility such as Annaberg, America Hill, Reef Bay Great House, Hammer Farm, Trunk & Cinnamon Bay and Lameshur. Others, such as Reef Bay Factory and Lind Point Fort, that have been ~~maintained cleared of the encroaching growth are surprising encounters when~~ reached in an area of developing forest.

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The economical and social changes that caused the slackening of agricultural activity and the abandonment of the plantations have also resulted in a general lack of man-made intrusions to the historical resources. Existing trails and roads in most cases follow original cartroads and consequently should be considered part of the resource.

At three sites late occupation and construction have adversely affected the integrity of the resource and for that reason they have been excluded from this nomination (see item 8, pg 8).

Modern road beds and at Cinnamon Bay campground development, visually intrudes on the Trunk Bay Sugar Factory and Cinnamon Bay Plantation Site but do not directedly affect the integrity of the building remains proper.

ARCHITECTURAL COMPONENTS

The 18th and 19th century architecture represented in the multiple resource area of the Virgin Islands National Park is rural in character and generally utilitarean in purpose. Its ruinous and fragmented remains makes an evaluation of style and design quality difficult since much has deteriorated and in almost all cases masonry finishes and the woodwork which were important architectural features have been lost. General conclusions on architectural character, workmanship and design quality must therefore, rely heavily on traces and comparison with the few relatively well preserved examples still extant.

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It is apparent from traces in standing remains alone, that design and architectural consideration extended to factories, mills, service buildings, and other utilitarian structures as well as Great Houses and residences.

There is considerable variation in the extent and complexity of the different plantation sites as well as in the scale of their buildings. Buildings that can positively be identified with the 18th century are in general smaller than those of the 19th century.

In early sugar factories the various functions of the sugar and rum production such as the boiling down of the cane juice, curing, distilling, etc., are often housed in separate one story buildings while in late 18th century and 19th century examples these different functions came under one roof and the factories expanded in size and in most cases became two stories and a few even three stories high with a comparable expansion in size of the ancillary buildings.

The same generalization can be made for the Great houses and the more important residences, although as a building type they remained static. Their main floor, on St. John most often of wood, stood on a raised platform or a full and exposed basement story and was reached by often elaborate and impressive exterior masonry staircases (Dennis Bay). Cabins and more modest dwellings on the other hand did not have a corresponding development and remained right into the 20th century essentially a 2 room, one story building raised only slightly above the surrounding grade.

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The most common masonry construction method is rubble masonry of locally available field stone set in a lime mortar with a liberal use of imported bricks for framing doors and window openings, arches, quoining of corners and in decorative features such as cornices, banding and staircases (Brown Bay).

Not as common, but very characteristic of St. John architecture, is the use of blocks of cut and fitted brain coral for framing of openings and quoining of corners (Annaberg). There are a few instances of ashlar masonry of imported lime and sandstone (L'Esperance).

Where ashlar and coral block masonry occur it was generally left exposed. Rubble and most brick masonry has traces of either a parged or plaster finish.

Brick, clay tile and Gotland limestone flagging is used widely in masonry floors in both the 18th and 19th century buildings.

The many fragments of clay wing tile, both glazed and unglazed, found on several plantation sites, indicates that it was not unusual as a roofing material. Other roofing materials were shingles, flat brick roof (Reef Bay Factory) and from the mid 19th century on sheet metal.

Daub and wattle was used extensively not only in cabins and other smaller buildings but also in larger structures of an early date. Within the park this construction has not survived except as imprints on the low masonry bases that supported them. Judging from old photographs palm thatch roofing was the rule on this type of buildings.

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Architectural ornamentation such as articulated and molded bases, projecting quoins, keystones, rosettes and banding of masonry occur frequently in principal buildings of the plantation of both the 18th & 19th centuries. The treatment of these features is generally restrained and more linear than sculptural in quality.

In the few relatively well-preserved examples the workmanship is excellent and the traces of ornamental stucco with inlays of integrally colored plaster still in evidence are executed with exceptional skill and are of a sophisticated and pleasing design (Hammer Farm). In the early & mid-19th century remains neo-classic detailing are common and well handled but with a West Indian flair of its own (Reef Bay & Mary Point Great House).

This stylistic tradition lingered on in the interior woodwork of America Hill the Great House of Cinnamon Bay Plantation. This large and elaborate residence that in its present shape dates from about 1900, a period of economical stagnation is historically an anachronism but is also the best example within the park of the continuity and persistence of local building and design traditions. The fine woodwork which is only partially preserved evidences a high grade of craftsmanship and a skillfull detailing.

The different buildings of a plantation are clustered within a fairly restricted area of reasonably level land. The location of this cluster within the land area of the plantation is dependent on road and boat access. In most cases

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the managers or the owners residences is included within the production area but in a few instances it is removed as much as  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from these activities and placed on higher ground overlooking the factory and its associated buildings. For cotton and livestock plantations there does not seem to be a fixed pattern to the placement of the different facilities. On sugar plantations, however, the horsemill and windmill; where the latter occurs, is placed on higher ground than the factory or raised by earthworks in flat terrain. The bagase sheds are placed in close proximity to both the mill and the factory and the still with its cistern is either built on the factory or placed close to it. The slave quarters, the so-called "village" was placed on the periphery of the production center but without any specific relation to the other buildings of the cluster.

On flat ground the cabins were laid out in a grid and on steeper terrain in a pattern dictated by the contours of the land. Most plantation sites also included an orchard and a plot for raising vegetables. Landscaped yards around the Great Houses seems to have been the rule and they were defined by walls and/or terraces (Dennis Bay, Reef Bay, Lameshur, L'Esperance).

Of the 31 historic structures and districts on park property one is a fortification, 14 are plantations exclusively devoted to sugar production (148 known structures), 4 are plantations with both sugar and cotton production (43 known structures), 5 are plantations that exclusively raised cotton (29 known structures), 2 are self-contained Greathouses (11 structures), 1 is a custom guard-house, 1 is a subsistence farm (3 known structures), 1 is an abbatoir (3 known



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structures) and 2 are schools.

ARCHEOLOGICAL COMPONENTS:

Most of the Historic Districts within the Virgin Islands National Park can be assumed to be potential historic archeology properties. In the process of stabilizing the ruins of Annaberg Sugar Factory and Reef Bay Factory in the late 50ties and early 60ties, a number of tools, implements and other artifacts were salvaged and recorded in the process of removing surface debris. Additionally, several sites have a quantity of surface fragment of pottery, glass and metal, etc, indication of prolonged occupation of the area.

There has been no attempt towards a systematic archeological testing of the historic properties sub-surface, of salvage archeology or for specimen collection. Archeological investigation is proposed as part of the programmed stabilization of Trunk & Cinnamon Bay.

SURVEY METHODOLOGY:

During 1972-76 surveys were conducted of the Cultural Resources of the Virgin Islands National Park. They were directed towards collecting information for nominations to the National Register and for listing of Classified Structures within the Park's boundaries or properties in the ownership of the National Park Service. The surveys were conducted by Park Historian Don Adams, Volunteer in the Park, William Aring and Frederik Gjessing, Architect Historic Structures.

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Prior to field surveys studies were made of known existing maps of St. John from P.L. Oxholm survey of 1780, thru the Coast and Geodetic Survey of 1929, and other information available in reports and documentary sources. All areas of the Park accessible to Park Service personnel were visited and such areas indicated on maps or referred to in other sources as building sites were scrutinized.

Sketch maps were made of all located sites not included in previously prepared surveys and remains of every identified structure recorded as to size, nature, material and condition and photographed. No sub-surface testing was conducted since the time frame of the historic properties and other data necessary for a comprehensive nomination could be established thru other means.



# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD

- PREHISTORIC
- 1400-1499
- 1500-1599
- 1600-1699
- 1700-1799
- 1800-1899
- 1900-

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE-- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

- ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC
- ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC
- AGRICULTURE
- ARCHITECTURE
- ART
- COMMERCE
- COMMUNICATIONS

- COMMUNITY PLANNING
- CONSERVATION
- ECONOMICS
- EDUCATION
- ENGINEERING
- EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT
- INDUSTRY
- INVENTION

- LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE
- LAW
- LITERATURE
- MILITARY
- MUSIC
- PHILOSOPHY
- POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

- RELIGION
- SCIENCE
- SCULPTURE
- SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
- THEATER
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER (SPECIFY)

## SPECIFIC DATES

## BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE ATTACHED CONTINUATION SHEETS

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of the historic and architectural resources within the Virgin Islands National Park lies in the completeness of their presentation of rural 18th and 19th century plantation society. They include plantation buildings of high architectural quality and impressive size as well as modest ones without pretensions of any kind, large and sophisticated residences and cabins that provided the bare minimum of comfort. They reflect the variety and inequalities of the society that was the economic mainstay of an affluent and accomplished West India sugar colony.

Following the discovery of the Virgin Islands by Christopher Columbus, St. John was claimed in turn by Spain, Holland, England and Denmark. It did not however, have a permanent European settlement until 1719 when it was colonized by the Danish Westindia & Guinea Co. that had taken possession of St. Thomas 3 miles to the West half a century earlier and in 1733 was to acquire St. Croix. The purpose of the settlement was to provide the Mother Country with tropical agricultural produce and St. John was developed as an agricultural community of comparatively large landholdings that for cultivation relied on slave labor and a sizable capital investment. The development was slowed temporarily by the nearly successful slave uprising of 1733-34 but in 1755 when all the Danish Westindies became a crown colony the development accelerated and by 1780 the greater part of the island was under cultivation.

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During the early decades of the colonization crops included tobacco, dye woods and other tropical produce but the emphasis shifted to sugar and in the dryer areas to cotton. In spite of the rugged terrain the relative fertility of the soil and easy availability of African slaves made the development financially viable as long as prices for sugar remained high. With Denmark's abolition of trade in slaves in 1792 and the decline of sugar prices during the early decades of the 19th century, the plantation economy of St. John became marginal. By the mid-century the Westindian growers of sugar and cotton had to compete for the market with other areas where the cultivation of both sugar and cotton could employ mechanical means and with the increasing production of the European Sugar Beet. In 1848 slavery was abolished in the Danish Westindies and the plantation system on St. John succumbed. Although a few plantations continued to raise sugar cane and cotton through the 19th century and bolstered their returns by introducing other crops such as bay and lime oil and livestock, they were not able to sustain a viable economy. From the 1860's on tracts of cultivated land were abandoned or allowed to shrink to smaller plots of subsistence farming. The population declined steadily and agricultural efforts gradually slackened. Farming continued into the 20th century but most of St. John and practically all of the area included in the Virgin Islands National Park reverted to a natural vegetation of bush and forest that buried the collapsing remains of a once flourishing agricultural community. In 1917 the Danish Westindies were ceded to the United States.

From the earliest days of St. John's settlement to the collapse of the sugar

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economy, leading figures in the government and the private sector of the Danish Westindies acquired properties on St. John. Governor Eric Bredal who accomplished the acquisition of St. John in the face of English opposition owned the plantation now known as L'Esperance (H-5). Frederik Suhm who served as governor of St. Thomas-St. John in 1724-27 and later became the first governor of St. Croix and then the Governor General of all the Danish Westindies (1736-44) owned 3 plantations on St. John, among them Annaberg (H-35), which in the early 19th century was acquired by Governor Hans Henrik Berg who also owned Mary Point (H-30), Jossie Gut (H-14), and Leinster Bay. More distinguished figures outside the V.I. acquired plantations on St. John, such as, Count Ernest Schimmelmann who for several decades during the late 18th century served as the Prime Minister of the United Kingdoms of Denmark-Norway and was responsible for Denmark's abolition of the slave-trade in 1792.

The most dramatic single event in the history of St. John is the slave revolt of 1733-34. This carefully planned and well executed action nearly drove out the European settlers of St. John. Fort Frederiksvaern on Fortberg Hill, Cinnamon Bay Plantation, Caneel Bay (then called Durloo Bay) and Leinster Bay Point within the Park boundaries are all associated with decisive phases of the revolt. Of these only Cinnamon Bay (H-25) is on Park property. Its owner, Daniel Jensen, Captain of the Civil Guard with his family and his loyal slaves, made a stand against the revolutionaries and delayed their advance sufficiently to allow fugitives to reach safety at Caneel Bay (historically Durloo Bay & Klein Caneel Bay).

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The uprising shook the Caribbean and in the final stages involved the participation of both French and English forces. In its aftermath it also influenced the legislation within and beyond the Virgin Islands.

The agricultural practices of the 18th and 19th century cotton and sugar plantations are evidenced by the plan organization of their buildings, the remains of terracing the stone wall field boundaries, the water collection systems and aqueducts, etc. The differences between an early sugar factory complex like Cinnamon Bay with its separate buildings for each phase in the processing of the agricultural product compared to the more compact and streamlined facilities of the mid-19th century factory complex of Reef Bay illustrates a trend of the agricultural development. The traces of terraces at Rustenberg and elsewhere, the dammed up stream beds with collection cisterns and aqueducts at Jossie Gut and Annaberg among others illustrate local agricultural practices dictated by the terrain and climatic conditions of an area where surface water was not available and where the collection and storage of water was critical to the entire agricultural process.

The great number of buildings and structures included among the cultural resources of the Virgin Islands National Park provide valuable statistical information on 18th and 19th century construction methods, material use, plan types and building skills not only for St. John but also for the entire Virgin Islands. As stated previously, many of the existing remains are modest both in scale and architectural quality but amongst the resources are examples of architecture such as Reef Bay Great House, Mary Point Plantation, Annaberg School, Brown Bay Plantation, etc.

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that even in their deteriorated or ruined condition, exhibit excellence of design and architectural styling of very high quality. America Hill the latest example of an ambitious architectural expression within the Park retained these qualities and show that it was a building tradition carried into the 20th century.

These examples make a comparative evaluation of V.I. architecture with that of other areas possible, a comparison often favorable to the Virgin Islands in terms of architectural standards and time frame.

Annaberg School is also a monument to the regulations instituted by Governor General Peter von Scholten in 1839 for compulsory education of ALL children in the Virgin Islands, for its time a nearly revolutionary measure. It was intended with other legislation for social reforms to give future generations of blacks an upward mobility and prepare them for the emancipation that the liberal administration of Peter von Scholten (1836-48) envisioned and worked towards assiduously. These reforms were financed thru a head tax on slaves imposed upon their owners.

Education was initially entrusted to the Moravian missionaries with the provision that all religious education should be interdenominational.

Although the plantation owners of St. John were not in the forefront of adopting new techniques and mechanical inventions for the improvement of production, St. John at Reef Bay has the best preserved mid 19th century steam powered cane-crusher in the Virgin Islands and possibly in the Antilles. Parts of earlier, larger and more impressive examples are found in other islands of both the Greater and Lesser

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Antilles but the Reef Bay Factory installation is the only one that has retained all its parts still in place and thereby is recognized as a key reference for the explanation and better understanding of other incomplete installations elsewhere.

Historic properties on St. John that have been out of use for many years have several feet of accumulated debris covering floor pavements, steps, boiling benches, drains and other features important to the understanding of the buildings functions, others have areas with great surface quantities of glass, pottery and porcelain fragments indicative of extensive periods of occupation.

L'Esperance plantation is an example of the former and Rustenberg South of the latter. They and similar properties, are considered potential historic archeological sites as is Cinnamon Bay Plantation where beach erosion has uncovered a post columbian cemetery. Some salvaged archeology has been carried out in past years but the limits of the cemetery has never been established and it is assumed to extend beyond the area affected by the erosion.

The major ruins of Annaberg, Hammer Farm and Cinnamon Bay Plantation and the fort at Lind Point have been cleared of vegetation and stabilized to provide a degree of protection against further deterioration. The work has been limited to masonry repair of standing walls. At Reef Bay Factory preservation efforts have also included a light-weight modern roof as essential to the protection of the machinery and other features of the interior and at Reef Bay Great House fish plates and tie rods have been installed in some of the walls to increase structural



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stability of the standing remains. Similar measures are currently being planned for Trunk Bay Factory and Mary Point Great House and preservation work is scheduled for America Hill, Lameshure and Brown Bay Plantations sites. There has been no restoration of buildings within the Virgin Islands National Park and none are envisioned.

Without exception all plantation sites have several interrelated buildings and structures forming districts of varying acreage dependent on the size and degree of the plantations historic development. Certain properties are limited to single structures, such as Annaberg School and has been included as individual sites in the nomination.

The criteria for the selection of the 19 properties included in this and previous nominations out of the 31 known properties within the park in the National Park Service ownership, has been made on the relative integrity of the sites, the condition of the remains and how well they represent the different aspects of St. John's historic development.

The twelve (12) properties within the Virgin Islands National Park in U.S. Government ownership not nominated are the districts of Sieben Plantation (H-10), Mollendal Plantation (H-11), Genti Bay (H-12), Paquerau Plantation (H-16), Par Force Factory (H-18), Hope Plantation (H-19), Bordeaux Plantation West (H-20), Bordeaux Plantation East (H-21), and Johnny Hern (Base Hill) (H-34), and the individual properties of Lameshur School (H-23), Mary Point Custom Guard House (H-31), and Cabritte Horn (H-39).



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All of these properties are relatively modest in size and unexceptional in layout, workmanship and in architectural quality. None of them have known associations with events or persons formative to Virgin Islands history with the exception of Lameshur School and Mary Point Custom Guard House and the remains of these two buildings consists of hardly discernible footings that provide no clue to their original character.

Three properties have lost their integrity thru modern intrusion. The buildings of Bordeaux Plantation East were partially leveled when the public road was shifted from its original alignment north of the factory to its present location over the factory building proper.

The Mollendal and Johnny Hern sites have been occupied until fairly recently and the remains of modern buildings that in their construction used materials from the earlier structures obscure the original ones.

The seven (7) remaining sites are in an advanced condition of decay. Cabritte Horn, Paquerau and Bordeaux Plantation West are as Lameshur School, hardly discernible above ground and Sieben, Genti Bay, Par Force and Hope Plantations sites have through inroads of vegetation, decades of quarrying building materials and other vandalism lost their integrity. The building remains of all of these sites however, have been recorded and included in the Parks inventory of classified structures.

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There are 14 known Historic Districts on inholdings within the Virgin Islands National Park and one individual building. These are not open to the public or accessible to the National Park Service except for Caneel Bay (historically Durlow Bay) and have therefore not been included in this multiple resource nomination. Seven (7) of these, Caneel Bay Plantation (H-6), Susannaberg Plantation (H-7), Adrian Plantation (H-8), Oyens Point Custom Guard House (H-9), Leinster Bay Plantation (H-29), Frederiksdal & Mount Pleasant (H-41), Fort Frederiksvaern & Battery of Fortberg (H-44), and the Customs Guard House-Whistling Cay (H-47) appear to be sites qualifying for nomination to the National Register for their historical associations and their integrity. As previously stated (6-pg.2) 2 of these Fort ~~Frederiksvaern~~, Fortberg, Coral Bay Qtr., and Whistling Cay Customs Guard House, Maho Bay Qtr. have been nominated to the National Register by the State Preservation Officer Mr. Thomas Blake. The remaining five (5) sites will be nominated as they are acquired by the National Park Service or on the initiative of the State Preservation Officer for the Virgin Islands.

No properties generally exempted from listing in the National Register have been included in the nomination except for cemeteries that are an integral part of a nominated district.

The information gathered in the survey and inventory process has been integrated into both the General Management Plan and the Historic Resource Management Plan of the Virgin Islands National Park. It has also been included in the Environmental Impact Statement on the various sites prepared for Solid Waste Disposal.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

SEE ATTACHED CONTINUATION SHEET

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

**ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED**  
**UTM NOT VERIFIED**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

UTM REFERENCES No UTM references on any published maps of the U.S. Virgin Islands

|   |       |         |          |
|---|-------|---------|----------|
| A | _____ | _____   | _____    |
|   | ZONE  | EASTING | NORTHING |
| C | _____ | _____   | _____    |

|   |       |         |          |
|---|-------|---------|----------|
| B | _____ | _____   | _____    |
|   | ZONE  | EASTING | NORTHING |
| D | _____ | _____   | _____    |

**VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION**

The multiple resource study area boundaries coincide with the boundaries of the Virgin Islands National Park. Historical and architectural resources on privately held land within the Park, however have not been included in this nomination as these inholdings are not generally accessible to the National Park Service. The boundaries of the Virgin Islands National Park includes all of the North Shore of St. John between Little Cruz Bay to the west and Precket Bay to the (SEE SECTION 10)

**LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES**

| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |
|-------|------|--------|------|
| STATE | CODE | COUNTY | CODE |

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Frederik C. Gjessing

August 2, 1978

ORGANIZATION

Virgin Islands National Park

809-775-2050

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 806

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

U.S. Virgin Islands 00801

St. Thomas

STATE

**12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION**

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Historic Preservation Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The evaluated level of significance is  National  State  Local.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE

Assistant Director, Cultural Resources

DATE

6-2-81

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

*See individual control sheets for listing*

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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Copies of Plantation listings, tax assessments and court records in the library of the Virgin Islands National Park and the Office of the Recorder of Deeds, Lt. Governor's Office, V.I. Government, Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas Virgin Islands.

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...east with adjoining cays and offshore submerged lands. At Precket Bay the boundary cuts across the narrow point of land called Haulover and then follows the shoreline of Coral Bay in a westerly direction to a point on the shoreline 500 yards west of Fortberg Hill, where the boundary cuts inland in a northerly direction for approximately 1000 yards and then turns westerly to the base of Kinghill. From this point the boundary turns south for 600 yards and then east and southeast following a line roughly parallel to the eastshore of St. John approximately 500 yards inland. South-west of Nanny Point the boundary cuts due east to the north end of Drunk Bay. From here the eastshore to Rams Head and the southshore west to Fish Bay with the adjoining submerged lands are included in the multiple resource area. At Fish Bay the boundary cuts inland in a easterly direction for 300 yards then northerly to the south boundary of Adrian Estate and then westerly to the north end of Little Cruz Bay and the starting point.

The principal inholdings are on the west coast Caneel Bay Plantation; on the north coast, the Gibney property on Hawknest Bay and the Hartman property on Peter Bay & Maho Bay and Leinster Bay Estates; on the east coast the Zootenvaal, Palestina and Fortberg Hill properties; on the south coast parts of Mandal and Fish Bay Estates; and inland Estates Susannaberg & Adrian in Cruz Bay Quarter and the uphill sections of Carolina Estate in Coral Bay Qtr.

The total area of all inholdings is 2,189 acres.

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Virgin Islands National Park Multiple Resource Area  
State VI

| Nomination  | Type of Review | Decision   |
|---|----------------|--|
| ✓ 1. Brown Bay Plantation Historic District -                       | -              | <u>accept - Beth Grovema 7/23/81</u>                   |
| ✓ 2. Rustenberg Plantation South Hist. Dist. -                      | -              | <u>accept - Beth Grovema 7/23/81</u>                   |
| ✓ 3. Dennis Bay Hist. Dist. -                                       | -              | <u>accept - Beth Grovema 7/23/81</u>                   |
| ✓ 4. More Hill Hist. Dist. ✓  | -              | <u>accept - Beth Grovema 7/23/81</u>                   |
| ✓ 5. Hermitage Plantation Hist. Dist. ✓                             | -              | <u>accept - Beth Grovema 7/23/81</u>                   |
| ✓ 6. Annaberg Hist. Dist. ✓   | -              | <u>accept - Beth Grovema 7/23/81</u>                   |
| 7 America Hill Hist. Dist. -  | -              | <u>Return</u>  |
| ✓ 8. Reef Bay Great House Hist. Dist. -                             | -              | <u>accept <del>Reef Bay</del> Beth Grovema 7/23/81</u> |
| ✓ 9. Reef Bay Sugar Factory Hist. Dist. -                           | -              | <u>accept - Beth Grovema 7/23/81</u>                   |
| ✓ 10. Jossie Gut Hist. Dist. ✓                                      | -              | <u>accept - Beth Grovema - 7/23/81</u>                 |
| ✓ 11. L'Esperance Hist. Dist. ✓                                     | -              | <u>accept - Beth Grovema 7/23/81</u>                   |
| ✓ 12. Lind Point Fort ✓   | -              | <u>accept - Beth Grovema 7/23/81</u>                   |
| > ✓ 13. <sup>Rendering Plant</sup> Liever Marches Bay Hist. Dist. ✓ | -              | <u>accept - Beth Grovema 7/23/81</u>                   |
| ✓ 14. Cathrineberg-Jockumsdahl-Herman Farm -                        | -              | <u>previously listed 3-30-78</u>                       |
| ✓ 15. Cinnamon Bay Plantation ✓                                     | -              | <u>Previously listed 7-11-78</u>                       |
| ✓ 16. Lameshur Plantation -   | -              | <u>Previously listed 6-23-78</u>                       |
| ✓ 17. Mary Point Estate -   | -              | <u>Previously listed 5-22-78</u>                       |
| ✓ 18. Annaberg School -   | -              | <u>Return</u>  |
| ✓ 19. Trunk Bay Sugar Factory ✓                                     | -              | <u>accept - Beth Grovema 7/23/81</u>                   |
| 20. -   | -              | _____  |
| 21. -   | -              | _____  |
| 22. -   | -              | _____  |
| 23. -   | -              | _____  |
| 24. -   | -              | _____  |