National Park Service
Cultural Landscape Inventory
December 2021



Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve
Cultural Landscape

Table of Contents

Cultural Landscape Summary
Cultural Landscapes in the Cultural Resources Inventory System 1

Inventory Unit Summary and Site Plan
Inventory Unit Description 3
Site Plans 7
Property Level and CLI Numbers 13

Concurrence Status
Inventory Status 14
Concurrence Status 15

Geographic Information and Location Map
Inventory Unit Boundary Description 16
State and County 16
Size 16
Boundary UTMs 17
Location Maps 40
Regional Landscape Context 42

Management Information
General Management Information 44
Adjacent Lands Information 45

National Register Information
Existing National Register Status 47
National Register Eligibility 49
NRIS Information 50
Statement of Significance 50
National Historic Landmark Information 50
World Heritage Site Information 50

Chronology and Physical History
Cultural Landscape Type and Use 51
Current and Historic Names 51
Current and Historic Use/Function 51
Chronology 51
Physical History 51

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity
Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary 52
Integrity Assessment 52
Analysis 53

Condition
Condition Assessment and Impacts 117
Stabilization Measures 118
Impacts 119

Treatment
Approved Treatment 121

Bibliography and Supplemental Information
Bibliography 122
Supplemental Information 124
Historic Maps 125
Historic Photographs 133

Cover Image: Liz Sargent, April 2021

Cultural Landscape Summary

Cultural Landscapes in the Cultural Resources Inventory System:

The Cultural Resources Information System

The Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS) is the National Park Service (NPS) database of cultural resources that are owned or managed by the agency, consisting of archeological sites, historic structures, ethnographic resources, and cultural landscapes. The legislative, regulatory, and policy directions for conducting and maintaining the CRIS are Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act, NPS Management Policies (2006), Director's Order 28 (Cultural Resources), and Director's Order 28a (Archeology).

The Cultural Landscapes Inventory

The Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) is the data structure within CRIS used to document and evaluate all potentially significant cultural landscapes in which NPS has, or plans to acquire, any enforceable legal interest. Upon completion of the CLI, a landscape will be identified with one of the following management categories:

- Landscape individually meets the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation
- Landscape is a contributing element of a property that is eligible for the National Register
- Landscape does not meet the National Register criteria, but is managed as a cultural resource because of law, policy, or decisions reached through the park planning process
- Landscape does not meet the National Register criteria and is not managed as a cultural resource because of law, policy, or decisions reached through the park planning process.

Cultural landscapes vary from historic sites, historic designed landscapes, and historic vernacular landscapes to historic ethnographic landscapes, but may also fit within more than one type. Those landscapes eligible for the National Register have significance in the nation's history on a national, state, or local level, as well as integrity or authenticity.

The legislative, regulatory, and policy directions for conducting and maintaining the CLI within CRIS are as follows:

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 USC 470h-2(a)(1)). Each Federal agency shall establish . . . a preservation program for the identification, evaluation, and nomination to the National Register of Historic Places . . . of historic properties . . . .

Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3(a) . . . . Each agency with real property management responsibilities shall prepare an assessment of the current status of its inventory of historic properties required by section 110(a)(2) of the NHPA . . . . No later than September 30,

2004, each covered agency shall complete a report of the assessment and make it available to the Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the Secretary of the Interior . . . .

Executive Order 13287: Preserve America, 2003. Sec. 3(c). Each agency with real property management responsibilities shall, by September 30, 2005, and every third year thereafter, prepare a report on its progress in identifying . . . historic properties in its ownership and make the report available to the Council and the Secretary . . . .

The Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Federal Agency Historic Preservation, Programs Pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act, 1998. Standard 2: An agency provides for the timely identification and evaluation of historic properties under agency jurisdiction or control and/or subject to effect by agency actions (Sec. 110 (a)(2)(A) *Management Policies 2006*. 5.1.3.1 Inventories: The National Park Service (NPS) will (1) maintain and expand the following inventories . . . about cultural resources in units of the national park system . . .Cultural Landscapes Inventory of historic designed landscapes, historic vernacular landscapes . . . and historic sites . . . .

Cultural Resource Management Guideline, 1997, Release No. 5, page 22 issued pursuant to Director's Order #28. As cultural resources are identified and evaluated, they should also be listed in the appropriate Service-wide inventories of cultural resources.

Scope

A CLI record is prepared using data gathered from existing secondary sources found in park libraries, archives, and at NPS regional offices and centers, as well as through on-site reconnaissance and fieldwork. A completed, accurate, and reliable CLI record addresses all the required data fields. These include a chronology of the physical history of the landscape and a statement of significance, an analysis and evaluation of the landscape characteristics and features that contribute to significance, and an assessment of condition. It also includes a site plan indicating the cultural landscape boundary and the contributing features. A site plan and associated spatial data for the Cultural Resources Geographic Information System (CRGIS) enterprise geodatabase is required. In addition, a CLI identifies stabilization needs to prevent further deterioration of the landscapes and provides asset data for the Facility Management Software System (FMSS).

Inventory Unit Summary and Site Plan

Inventory Unit Description:

The Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve was established on the island of St. Croix in the United States Virgin Islands in 1992. The park preserves and protects internationally significant historical and cultural sites associated with more than 2,000 years of human use within an environmentally important concentration of diverse, tropical, marine, and terrestrial ecosystems centered around the Salt River watershed. Cultural resources include pre-European Contact-era, historic, and colonial-era archeological sites, built features associated with the colonial era, and a twentieth-century dwelling complex. Natural resources include one of the largest remaining mangrove forests in the Virgin Islands, coral reefs, and submarine caverns within its 1,015 acres. The mangrove forests that fringe Salt River Bay create habitat for many species of animals, both terrestrial and marine. The mangroves are still recovering from the devastation wrought by Hurricane Hugo in 1989. The portion of the park that is in water was designated as a National Natural Landmark in 1980. It is home to twenty-seven species listed as threatened or endangered (SARI EA, 2008). The park is jointly managed by the NPS and the Territorial Government of the US Virgin Islands.

Salt River Bay falls within the northern shore portion of the island of St. Croix. The island has had several different names over time, reflecting the various cultures that have left marks and contributed to the present-day cultural landscape. The Tainos indicated to Christopher Columbus when he landed on the island during his 1493 voyage that they knew the island as Ay, which translates to the river, while the Kalinago people referred to it as Cibuqueira, or the stony land. Columbus himself christened the island Sancta Crux, meaning Holy Cross, which translated to Santa Cruz on later Spanish maps. Seventeenth-century French inhabitants referred to the island as Sainte Croix, from which the present-day name St. Croix is derived (Highfield 1995: xii; Cissel 1993: 2; NHL, 4).

The pre-Contact and colonial-era archeological sites and ruins found within the dynamic tropical ecosystem of Salt River Bay represent every major period of human habitation in the US Virgin Islands, including several South American Indian cultures, the first visit by Europeans with the 1493 landing by Christopher Columbus, Spanish early colonization which resulted in the extirpation of the Kalinago people, and subsequent colonization by a succession of European nations that included enslaved West Africans and their descendants. There have been more than a dozen major archeological investigations undertaken since 1880 that, coupled with historical research, have helped to record this remarkable story (SARI EA, 2008).

This Cultural Landscape Inventory (CLI) emphasizes six discrete cultural concentrations and sites located within the larger park that together total approximately 40 acres of land. They include:

- Columbus Landing/Fort Salé (approximately 10 acres)
- Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station (set within the former Burr-Kumpitch House property; approximately 8.4 acres)
- Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site (approximately 11 acres)
- Danish Well Tower Site (approximately 3.6 acres)
- Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site (approximately 2 acres)
- Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site (approximately 2 acres)

The properties include both historic and contemporary built features as well as archeological sites associated with pre-Contact period native groups.

The Columbus Landing/Fort Salé site is located at the northwestern edge of the mouth of Salt River Bay. It is the only known location on US-owned land where Christopher Columbus landed. His association with the property occurred on November 14, 1493, during his second exploratory voyage to the New World. Columbus's Admiral Fleet anchored offshore at Salt River Bay and sent a boat with more than twenty armed men to visit a Kalinago village located on the bay's western shore. After capturing several enslaved Taino women and children they claimed to have liberated, the men set out to return to their ship. Before reaching the ship, the party encountered a canoe of armed villagers. The ensuing skirmish with Columbus' party resulted in a fatality on each side. Columbus later named the location Cabo de las Flechas (Cape of the Arrows) based on the encounter. The village where the Spaniards landed is included in the Columbus Landing Site. It is only pre-Contact village in the US Virgin Islands known to have had a stone-lined ball court with petroglyphs, a feature associated with social and religious significance. The same site was later developed by the English (1641, 1645–1650), Dutch (1642–1645), and French (1650–1696), who established a triangular earthen fortification overlooking the mouth of the bay that was known as Fort Flamand and Fort Salé. The fortification was designed to emplace artillery for the defense of the bay and surrounding terrain (SARI EA 2008, 3-33). The property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and has been designated a National Historic Landmark (NHL). It was determined to be nationally significant under NRHP Criteria A, C, and D, and NHL Criteria 1, 2, and 6 in the areas of Archeology (Prehistoric), Archeology (Historic), Exploration and Settlement.

The Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station is located due west of the Columbus Landing/Fort Salé site on a hillside overlooking the Caribbean Sea as well as Salt River Bay. The NPS-administered visitor contact facility occupies the former Burr-Kumpitch House and associated residential developments that include an apartment and garage, observation tower, gated

driveway, parking court, terraces, and gardens. The property was determined not eligible for listing in the NRHP due to its lack of significance. Originally constructed in 1970, the house was severely damaged during Hurricane Hugo in 1989, and later substantially rebuilt. The current building also exhibits damage from more recent hurricanes, particularly Hurricane Maria in September 2017. As of 2021, the NPS has prepared construction documents to rehabilitate the property to repair the:

> . . . existing (non-historic) residential structures, utilizing selective demolition down to the existing slab/foundation and construction of new walls, roofs, finishes and building systems to bring the structures to code, make them resilient in future storms and more functional for their intended use. The building footprint will not be increased. The existing tower will be removed. The driveway and parking area will be repaired/re-constructed to allow for safe visitor use. The project would also include a new developed parking area to accommodate 19 vehicles near the building.
>
> Project will include landscape work to create low maintenance vegetative landscape around the structure which may include salvage of some specimen trees (palm, sea grapes) and relocation of six Agave plants (*Agave eggerisani*) which are protected species in the Virgin Islands. NPS and FWS informal consultation and mitigation plan for the "planted" Agave will be complete prior to work start. Agave are to be kept on property but relocated out of way of construction zone to an area (TBD) where they can grow to maturity and not be a threat or disturbance to NPS operations.

The Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site occupies a portion of Hemer's Peninsula sited along the bay's northeastern edge. The site occurs within undulating landform overlooking both the bay and the ocean and lies proximate to the Caribbean Sea. The site contains evidence of a pre-Contact-era village and burial site. Although the site has been investigated by archeologists for many years, it has not yet been determined eligible for listing in the National Register.

The Danish Well Tower Site is located along the southwestern margin of the bay. It features a stone, Danish yellow brick, and coral block tower constructed circa 1780–1800 as a wind-operated water-drawing structure associated with Estate Morningstar. Also known as the Manchineel site, the Danish Well Tower appears linked to a stone-lined well located approximately 50 feet to the west of the structure that may have supplied the water drawn by the turbines activated by wind moving up through the central opening in the tower. Approximately 450 feet away is an early-twentieth-century stone and coral rubble check dam that may or may not be related to use of the well tower.

Located in close proximity to the check dam is the Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site. Archeologists have identified a pre-Columbian scatter of shell and artifacts on the site believed to have been associated with seasonal shellfish collection, processing, and consumption.

The Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site is also located along the western margin of Salt River Bay north of the Danish Well Tower Site. This historic period feature first appears on a US Geological Survey (USGS) quadrangle map in 1958. It includes fish tank or pen features

believed associated with aquaculture, along with water-supply infrastructure, and an office or pumphouse building.

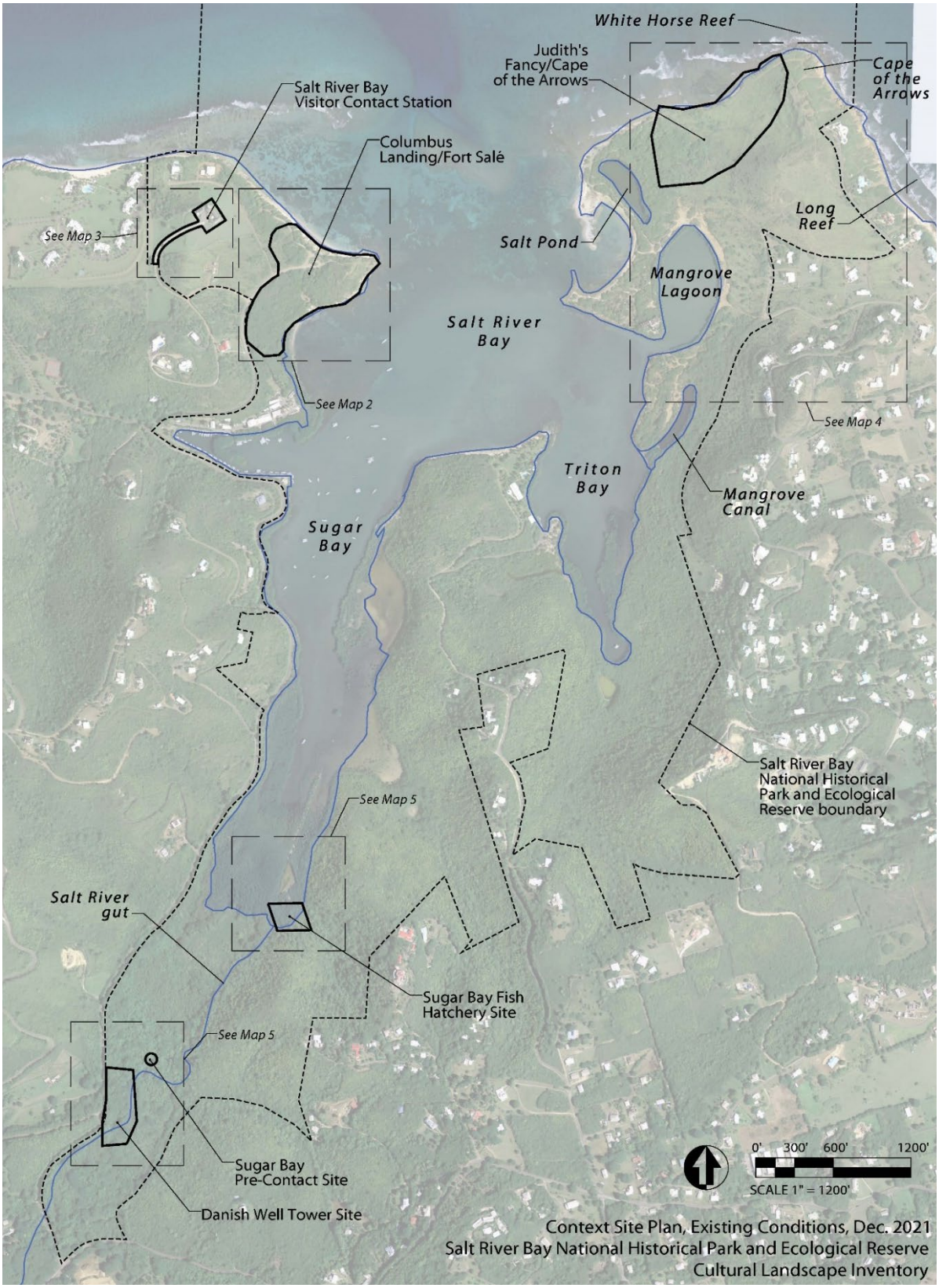
Each of these land bays is treated as a separate cluster in documenting tangible landscape characteristics as part of the CLI that follows.

The current iteration of the CLI contains only a portion of the information that is needed to complete the documentation due to the current project statement of work. It is anticipated that several sections, including the National Register Information, Chronology and Physical History, and portions of the Analysis will be completed at a later date should funding become available to complete this project.

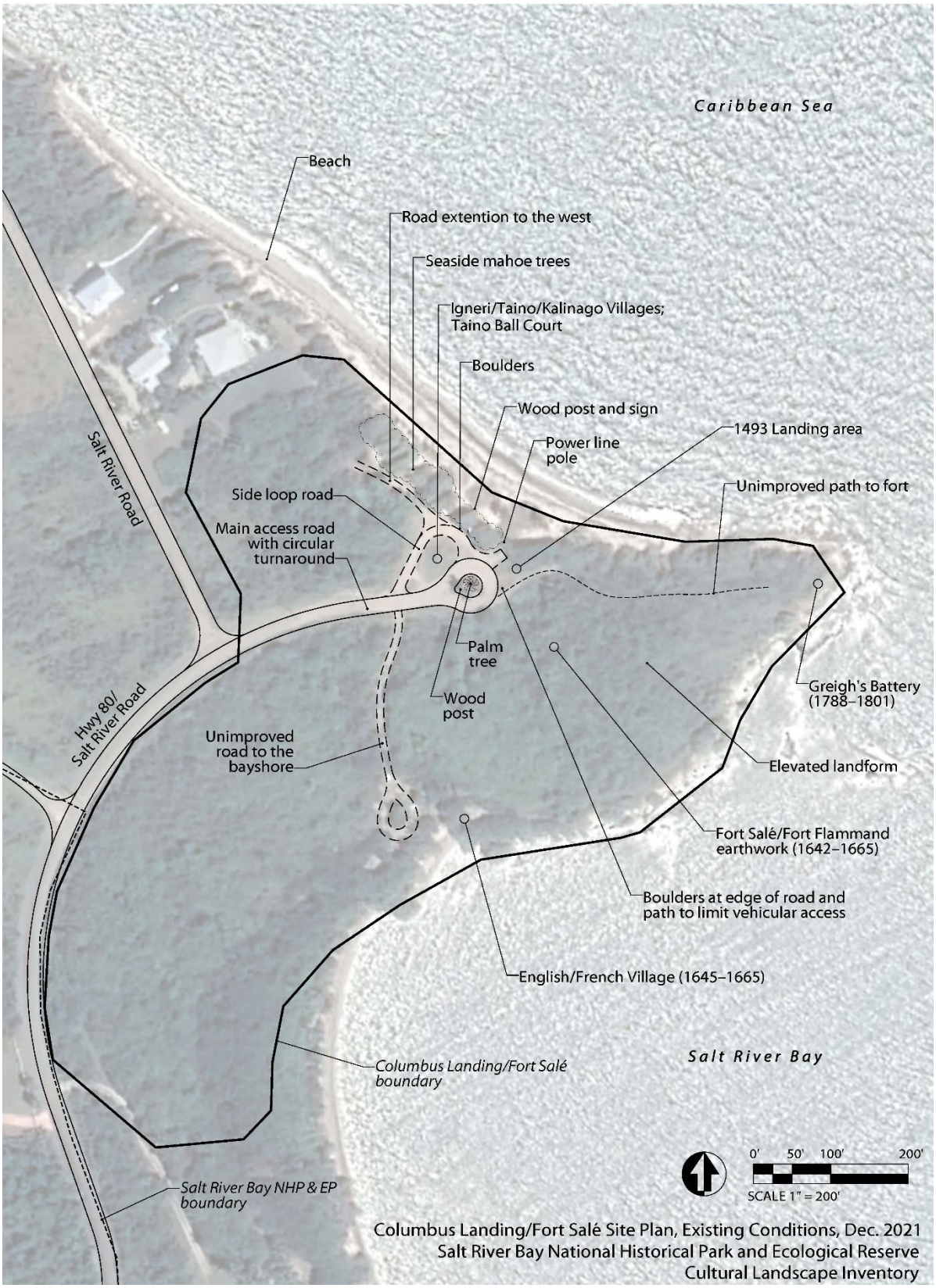
Site Plans

Sources used to prepare site plans include the following:

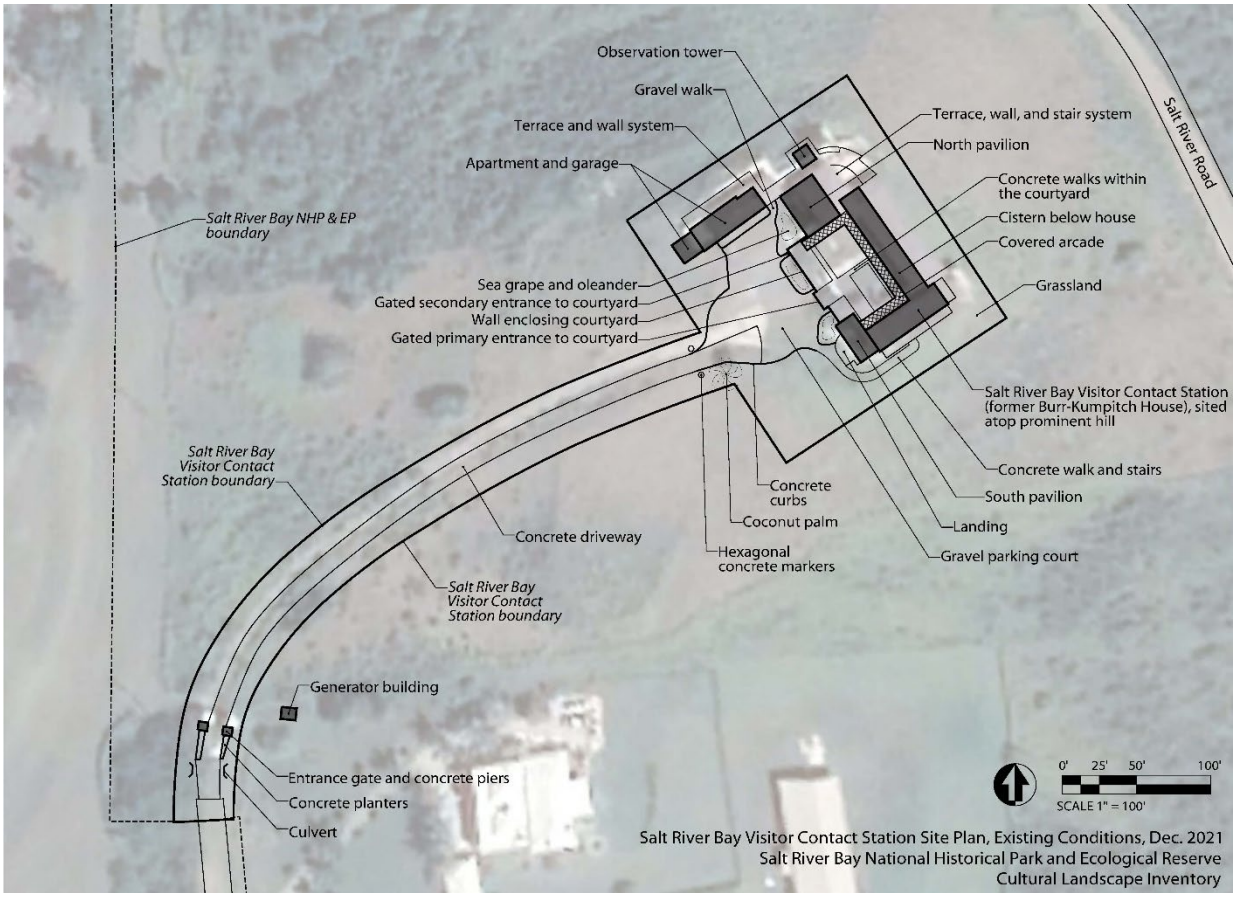
- Site boundaries were derived from GIS shapefiles CULT_ARCHEO_Survey_py and CULT_ARCHEO_Site_py
- The Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station map was derived from a 2003 survey (dwg 141-129363)
- Vegetation community information is from GIS shapefile SARI_VegPolys
- Background imagery for the park-wide map is from the NPS file SARI map.pdf and was derived from USGS High Resolution Orthoimagery for Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands, 2006
- Background imagery for the individual sites is derived from aerial images associated with NPS GIS data



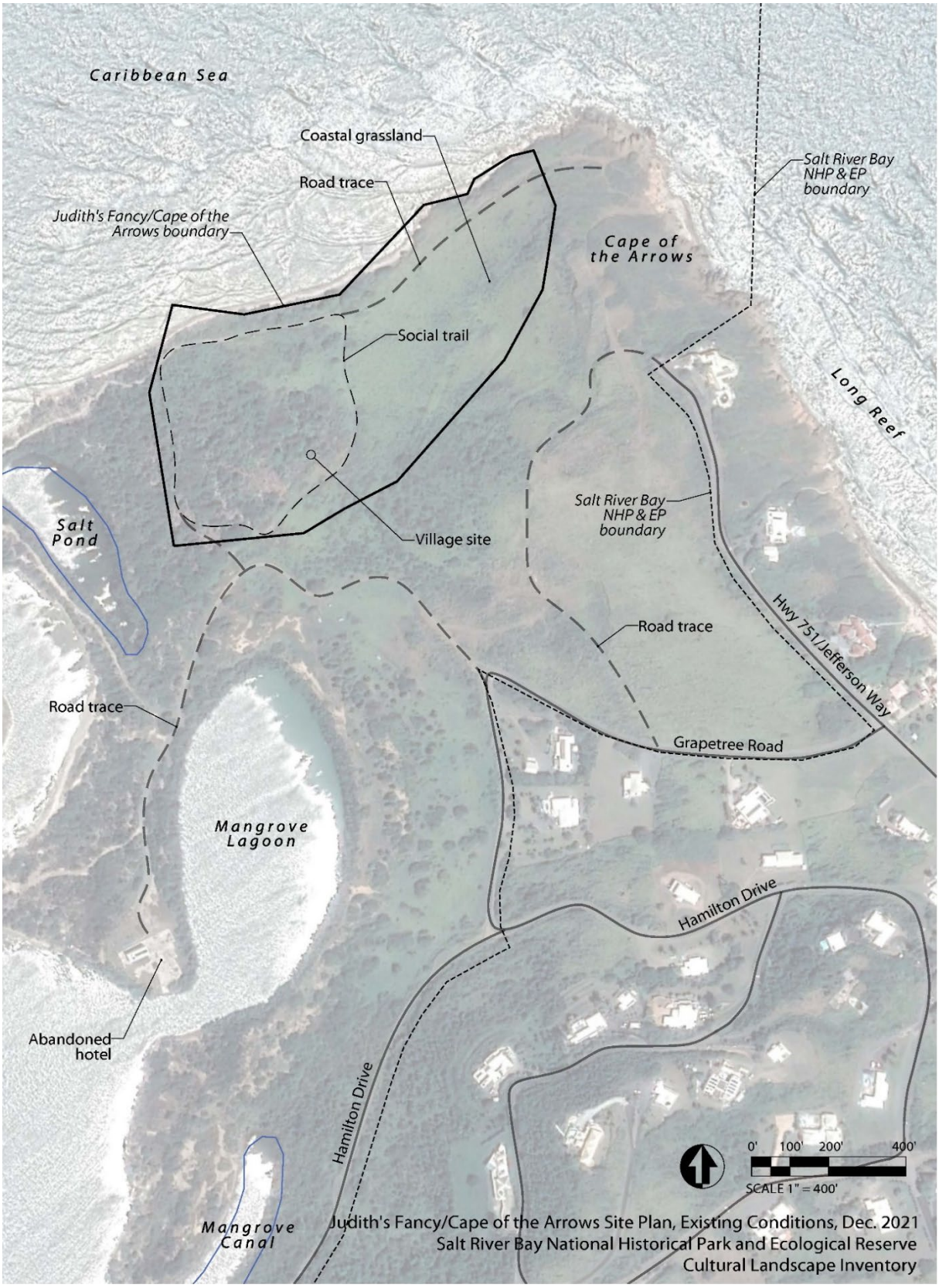
Map 1. Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Reserve.
(Drawn by Christina Osborn and Liz Sargent)



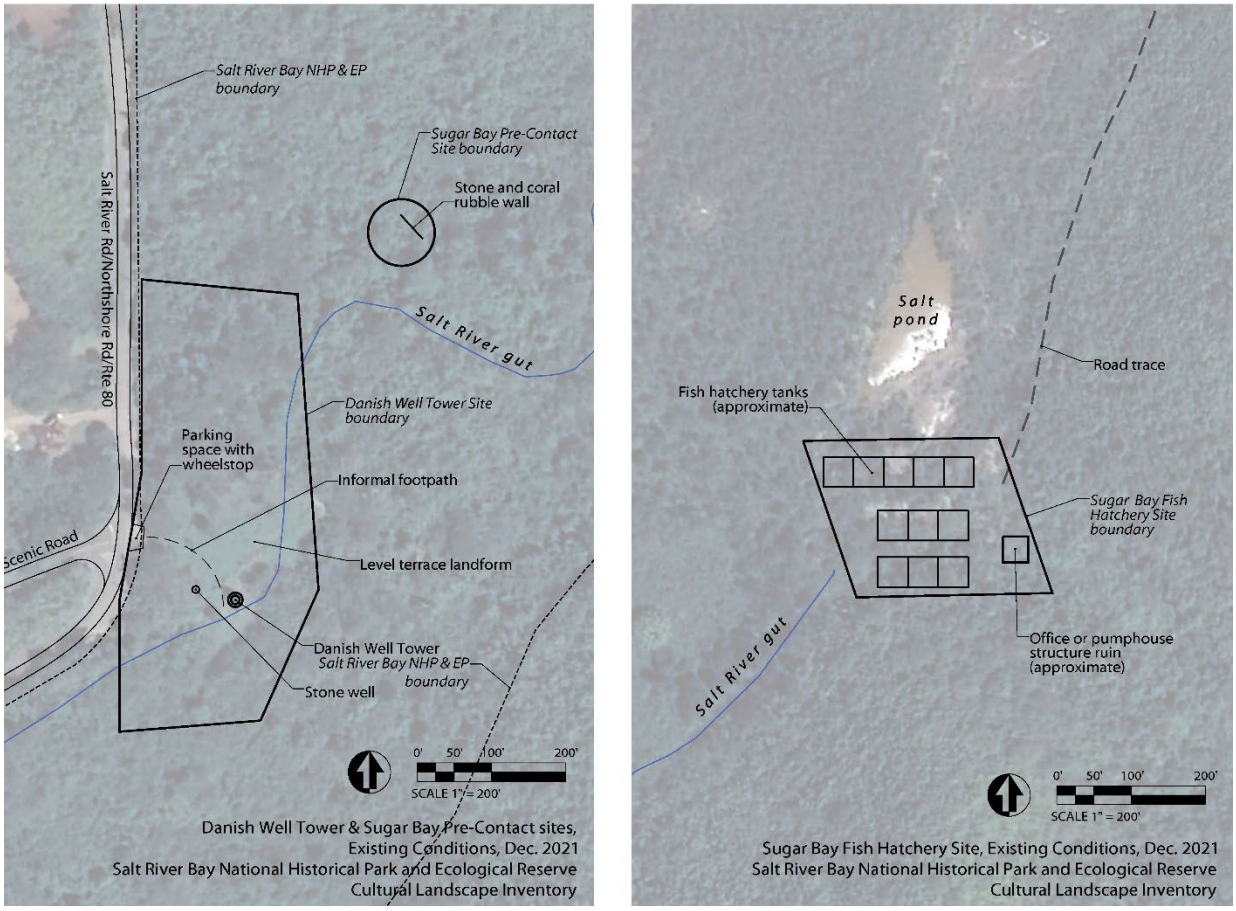
Map 2. Columbus Landing/Fort Salé. (Drawn by Christina Osborn and Liz Sargent)



Map 3. Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station. (Drawn by Christina Osborn and Liz Sargent)



Map 4. Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows. (Drawn by Christina Osborn and Liz Sargent)



Map 5. Danish Well Tower Site and Sugar Bay Pre-Contact sites (left) and Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery (right). (Drawn by Christina Osborn and Liz Sargent)

Property Level and CLI Numbers:

Inventory Unit Name:	Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve
Property Level:	Several properties
CLI Identification Number:	550179
Parent Cultural Landscape Inventory Name:	
Parent Cultural Landscape Inventory Number:	

Park Information

Park Name and Alpha Code:	Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve (SARI)
Park Organization Code:	5395

CLI Hierarchy Description

Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve is classified as a primary or parent landscape in the CLI database.

Concurrence Status

Inventory Status: Incomplete

Completion Status Explanatory Narrative

The CLI for Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve, prepared in 2021, was developed by a consultant team in collaboration with NPS personnel located at the park, in the NPS Interior Region 2 Office in Atlanta, and at the Southeast Archeological Center (SEAC) in Tallahassee, Florida.

The consultant team responsible for preparing the CLI was led by Panamerican Consultants, Inc., holder of an Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contract with Mark Steinback of Panamerican serving as contract manager. Several individuals from firms included on the IDIQ contract provided professional expertise in developing the CLI, including Deborah Slaton, Mike Ford, and Tim Penich of Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc., and historical landscape architects Liz Sargent and Jane Jacobs and cultural landscape specialist Christina Osborn of Liz Sargent HLA.

Members of the Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve were instrumental in ensuring the successful completion of the CLI. Reginald Tiller, Acting Superintendent, and Gina Belknap, Acting Facility Manager, as well as Steven Tidwell, Contracting Officer's Representative and member of the NPS Storm Recovery Team, participated in team calls, collected information on behalf of the team, and supported field investigations and research efforts at the park. Regional NPS personnel, including David Hasty, Senior Historical Landscape Architect, Simone Monteleone, Chief, Cultural Resources, Science and Partnerships, and Meredith Hardy, NPS SEAC Section 106 Coordinator for Archeology, were instrumental in supporting preparation of the document through provision of materials, and review and technical guidance. Ms. Hardy also facilitated site work by the project team and accompanied team members during field documentation efforts.

The 2021 CLI built on available documentation for the park that includes an NHL nomination for Salt River Bay (Columbus Landing Site), Determination of Eligibility (DOE) for the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station, an Environmental Assessment for a Proposed Marine Research and Education Center, and reports related to NPS archeological investigations conducted within the park.

The consultant team initiated work on the project by collecting background materials available from the NPS electronic Technical Information Center (eTIC); the Integrated Resource Management Applications (IRMA) portal; SEAC; and the park website. Additional documents were collected from park repositories during a site visit conducted in spring 2021. Meredith Hardy of SEAC provided GIS data used to develop base mapping used to guide field investigations, along with resource information related to the Cultural Resources Information

System. Gina Belknap provided the Facilities Management Software System (FMSS) list for the park.

Project team members Jane Jacobs, Liz Sargent, and Mike Ford visited the park in April 2021 to conduct research and field investigations. Research centered around the collection of NPS reports, historic ground and aerial photographs, historic maps, and survey and property records from the park archives. Field investigations entailed a walking survey of accessible areas of the park to photographically document resources and annotate draft base maps with information to be included in the CLI site plan. Where necessary, the team collected Global Positioning System (GPS) data to supplement available GIS information.

Concurrence Status:

Park Superintendent Concurrence:	*[to be added]*
Park Superintendent Date of Concurrence:	*[to be added]*
National Register Concurrence:	*[to be added]*
Date of Concurrence Determination:	*[to be added]*

Geographic Information and Location Map

Inventory Unit Boundary Description:

Each of the six sites addressed herein falls within the boundary of Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve. Individual site boundaries have been determined by the CLI team that encompass all features affiliated with the primary historic context or association of the property. Information about the boundary of each site is noted below:

- Columbus Landing/Fort Salé is located along the western shoreline of Salt River Bay near its mouth. The site follows the shoreline where it forms a small peninsula that extends into the bay. The site occupies portions of Tracts 101-04, 101-05, 101-06, 101-07, 101-08, 101-11, and 101-63.
- Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station is located west of Columbus Landing/Fort Salé on a knoll that overlooks the bay and ocean. It occupies the former Burr-Kumpitch House property comprised of Tract 101-03.
- Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site is located along the eastern side of Salt River Bay along the ocean front and the bay front. The site occupies portions of Tracts 101-49, 101-51, 101-52, 101-55, and 101-69.
- Danish Well Tower Site is located within the southwestern portion of the Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve property. It falls within Tract 101-20.
- Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site is located within the southwestern portion of the Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve property. It falls within Tract 101-20.
- Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site is located within the southwestern portion of the Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve property. It falls within Tract 101-20.

State and County:

State: US Virgin Islands

County: St. Croix

Size (Acres): Park: 1,015 acres; CLI study area: approximately 40 acres

Boundary UTMS:

Columbus Landing/Fort Salé

Source	Type	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Boundary Point
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313606	1966636	1
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313635	1966636	2
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313645	1966634	3
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313653	1966626	4
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313661	1966612	5
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313664	1966603	6
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313663	1966596	7
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313660	1966590	8
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313633	1966554	9
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313624	1966537	10
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313585	1966500	11
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313579	1966496	12
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313561	1966488	13
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313512	1966471	14
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313465	1966449	15
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313449	1966434	16
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313445	1966407	17
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313440	1966388	18
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313435	1966380	19

Source	Type	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Boundary Point
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313427	1966375	20
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313408	1966367	21
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313401	1966366	22
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313391	1966368	23
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313346	1966394	24
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313339	1966400	25
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313329	1966414	26
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313325	1966426	27
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313329	1966438	28
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313356	1966472	29
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313392	1966554	30
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313403	1966595	31
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313399	1966632	32
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313341	1966720	33
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313337	1966730	34
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313340	1966740	35
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313346	1966748	36
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313362	1966759	37
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313373	1966763	38
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313382	1966762	39
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313408	1966752	40

Source	Type	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Boundary Point
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313414	1966749	41
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313434	1966731	42
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313449	1966721	43
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313481	1966684	44
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313508	1966651	45
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313525	1966639	46

Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station

[GIS boundary data was not available at the time of completion of this partial CLI; to be added by NPS]

Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site

Parcel One

Source	Type	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Boundary Point
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314568	1966913	1
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314493	1966828	2
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314492	1966789	3
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314507	1966782	4
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314526	1966765	5
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314581	1966699	6
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314593	1966664	7
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314592	1966643	8
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314583	1966612	9

Source	Type	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Boundary Point
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314564	1966500	10
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314565	1966486	11
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314563	1966478	12
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314511	1966332	13
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314503	1966323	14
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314500	1966315	15
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314494	1966306	16
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314485	1966298	17
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314466	1966290	18
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314448	1966285	19
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314422	1966282	20
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314407	1966282	21
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314391	1966284	22
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314377	1966291	23
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314367	1966299	24
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314362	1966306	25
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314357	1966316	26
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314354	1966333	27
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314354	1966357	28
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314360	1966381	29
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314374	1966403	30

Source	Type	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Boundary Point
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314389	1966419	31
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314395	1966424	32
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314413	1966432	33
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314449	1966493	34
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314468	1966569	35
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314466	1966591	36
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314468	1966636	37
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314463	1966661	38
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314452	1966675	39
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314428	1966690	40
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314394	1966699	41
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314299	1966775	42
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314282	1966806	43
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314274	1966879	44
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314276	1966935	45
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314287	1966965	46
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314292	1966972	47
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314300	1966977	48
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314317	1966981	49
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314326	1966982	50
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314359	1966977	51

Source	Type	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Boundary Point
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314393	1966983	52
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314449	1967001	53
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314484	1967026	54
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314488	1967043	55
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314492	1967052	56
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314501	1967057	57
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314528	1967065	58
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314537	1967078	59
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314569	1967100	60
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314644	1967117	61
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314652	1967118	62
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314661	1967117	63
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314669	1967113	64
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314676	1967106	65
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314682	1967097	66
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314686	1967092	67
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314690	1967086	68
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314702	1967057	69
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314703	1967046	70
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314701	1967035	71
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314694	1967018	72

Source	Type	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Boundary Point
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314689	1967014	73
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314683	1967011	74

Parcel Two

Source	Type	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Boundary Point
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314731	1966605	1
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314724	1966605	2
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314716	1966609	3
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314710	1966613	4
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314705	1966618	5
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314701	1966627	6
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314701	1966638	7
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314703	1966646	8
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314709	1966657	9
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314714	1966663	10
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314722	1966669	11
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314727	1966673	12
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314740	1966678	13
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314746	1966678	14
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314752	1966678	15
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314761	1966674	16
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314769	1966667	17

Source	Type	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Boundary Point
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314773	1966659	18
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314775	1966654	19
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314776	1966648	20
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314774	1966641	21
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314772	1966636	22
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314768	1966630	23
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314756	1966617	24
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314751	1966613	25
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	314741	1966607	26

Danish Well Tower Site

Source	Type	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Boundary Point
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313023	1964545	1
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313017	1964544	2
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313008	1964546	3
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313003	1964549	4
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	312992	1964560	5
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	312988	1964565	6
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	312986	1964575	7
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	312987	1964581	8
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	312995	1964603	9

Source	Type	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Boundary Point
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	312998	1964609	10
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313005	1964614	11
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313065	1964645	12
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313072	1964648	13
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313131	1964663	14
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313141	1964662	15
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313150	1964657	16
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313155	1964649	17
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313157	1964641	18
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313158	1964635	19
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313154	1964625	20
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313150	1964620	21
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313076	1964563	22
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313070	1964559	23

Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site

[GIS boundary data was not available at the time of completion of this partial CLI; to be added by NPS]

Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site

Source	Type	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Boundary Point
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313388	1965026	1
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313376	1965028	2

Source	Type	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Boundary Point
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313367	1965037	3
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313365	1965050	4
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313382	1965133	5
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313383	1965137	6
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313489	1965415	7
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313495	1965423	8
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313504	1965427	9
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313513	1965427	10
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313520	1965425	11
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313529	1965421	12
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313535	1965409	13
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313534	1965399	14
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313477	1965246	15
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313472	1965217	16
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313501	1965138	17
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313502	1965132	18
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313504	1965055	19
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313502	1965046	20
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313493	1965037	21
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313484	1965035	22
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313432	1965034	23

Source	Type	Datum	Zone	Easting	Northing	Boundary Point
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313388	1965026	1
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313376	1965028	2
GIS	Area	Other; NAD83	20	313367	1965037	3

Boundary Points in Latitude and Longitude

Columbus Landing/Fort Salé

Decimal degrees (Datum: North American Datum of 1983)

1 17.7792 N
-64.7583 W

2 17.7793 N
-64.7580 W

3 17.7792 N
-64.7579 W

4 17.7792 N
-64.7579 W

5 17.7790 N
-64.7578 W

6 17.7789 N
-64.7578 W

7 17.7789 N
-64.7578 W

8 17.7788 N
-64.7578 W

9 17.7785 N
-64.7581 W

10 17.7783 N
-64.7581 W

11 17.7780 N
-64.7585 W

12 17.7780 N
-64.7586 W

13	17.7779 N -64.7587 W
14	17.7777 N -64.7592 W
15	17.7775 N -64.7596 W
16	17.7774 N -64.7598 W
17	17.7772 N -64.7598 W
18	17.7770 N -64.7599 W
19	17.7769 N -64.7599 W
20	17.7769 N -64.7600 W
21	17.7768 N -64.7602 W
22	17.7768 N -64.7602 W
23	17.7768 N -64.7603 W
24	17.7770 N -64.7607 W
25	17.7771 N -64.7608 W
26	17.7772 N -64.7609 W
27	17.7773 N -64.7609 W
28	17.7774 N -64.7609 W
29	17.7777 N -64.7607 W

30 17.7785 N
-64.7603 W

31 17.7789 N
-64.7602 W

32 17.7792 N
-64.7603 W

33 17.7800 N
-64.7608 W

34 17.7801 N
-64.7609 W

35 17.7802 N
-64.7608 W

36 17.7802 N
-64.7608 W

37 17.7803 N
-64.7606 W

38 17.7804 N
-64.7605 W

39 17.7804 N
-64.7604 W

40 17.7803 N
-64.7602 W

41 17.7802 N
-64.7601 W

42 17.7801 N
-64.7599 W

43 17.7800 N
-64.7598 W

44 17.7797 N
-64.7595 W

45 17.7794 N
-64.7592 W

46 17.7793 N
-64.7591 W

Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station

[GIS boundary data was not available at the time of completion of this partial CLI; to be added by NPS]

Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site

Decimal degrees (Datum: North American Datum of 1983)

Parcel One

1	17.7818 N -64.7493 W
2	17.7811 N -64.7500 W
3	17.7807 N -64.7500 W
4	17.7806 N -64.7498 W
5	17.7805 N -64.7497 W
6	17.7799 N -64.7491 W
7	17.7796 N -64.7490 W
8	17.7794 N -64.7490 W
9	17.7791 N -64.7491 W
10	17.7781 N -64.7493 W
11	17.7780 N -64.7493 W
12	17.7779 N -64.7493 W
13	17.7766 N -64.7498 W

14	17.7765 N -64.7498 W
15	17.7764 N -64.7499 W
16	17.7763 N -64.7499 W
17	17.7763 N -64.7500 W
18	17.7762 N -64.7502 W
19	17.7761 N -64.7503 W
20	17.7761 N -64.7506 W
21	17.7761 N -64.7507 W
22	17.7761 N -64.7509 W
23	17.7762 N -64.7510 W
24	17.7763 N -64.7511 W
25	17.7763 N -64.7512 W
26	17.7764 N -64.7512 W
27	17.7766 N -64.7512 W
28	17.7768 N -64.7512 W
29	17.7770 N -64.7512 W
30	17.7772 N -64.7511 W

31	17.7774 N -64.7509 W
32	17.7774 N -64.7509 W
33	17.7775 N -64.7507 W
34	17.7780 N -64.7503 W
35	17.7787 N -64.7502 W
36	17.7789 N -64.7502 W
37	17.7793 N -64.7502 W
38	17.7795 N -64.7502 W
39	17.7797 N -64.7503 W
40	17.7798 N -64.7506 W
41	17.7799 N -64.7509 W
42	17.7806 N -64.7518 W
43	17.7808 N -64.7520 W
44	17.7815 N -64.7520 W
45	17.7820 N -64.7520 W
46	17.7823 N -64.7519 W
47	17.7823 N -64.7519 W

48 17.7824 N
-64.7518 W

49 17.7824 N
-64.7516 W

50 17.7824 N
-64.7516 W

51 17.7824 N
-64.7512 W

52 17.7824 N
-64.7509 W

53 17.7826 N
-64.7504 W

54 17.7828 N
-64.7501 W

55 17.7830 N
-64.7500 W

56 17.7831 N
-64.7500 W

57 17.7831 N
-64.7499 W

58 17.7832 N
-64.7497 W

59 17.7833 N
-64.7496 W

60 17.7835 N
-64.7493 W

61 17.7837 N
-64.7486 W

62 17.7837 N
-64.7485 W

63 17.7837 N
-64.7484 W

64 17.7836 N
-64.7483 W

65 17.7836 N
-64.7483 W

66 17.7835 N
-64.7482 W

67 17.7835 N
-64.7482 W

68 17.7834 N
-64.7481 W

69 17.7831 N
-64.7480 W

70 17.7830 N
-64.7480 W

71 17.7829 N
-64.7480 W

72 17.7828 N
-64.7481 W

73 17.7828 N
-64.7481 W

74 17.7827 N
-64.7482 W

Parcel Two

1 17.7791 N
-64.7477 W

2 17.7791 N
-64.7478 W

3 17.7791 N
-64.7478 W

4 17.7791 N
-64.7479 W

5 17.7792 N
-64.7479 W

6 17.7793 N
-64.7480 W

7	17.7794 N -64.7480 W
8	17.7794 N -64.7480 W
9	17.7795 N -64.7479 W
10	17.7796 N -64.7479 W
11	17.7796 N -64.7478 W
12	17.7797 N -64.7478 W
13	17.7797 N -64.7476 W
14	17.7797 N -64.7476 W
15	17.7797 N -64.7475 W
16	17.7797 N -64.7474 W
17	17.7796 N -64.7473 W
18	17.7796 N -64.7473 W
19	17.7795 N -64.7473 W
20	17.7795 N -64.7473 W
21	17.7794 N -64.7473 W
22	17.7793 N -64.7473 W
23	17.7793 N -64.7474 W

24 17.7792 N
-64.7475 W

25 17.7791 N
-64.7475 W

26 17.7791 N
-64.7476 W

Danish Well Tower

Decimal degrees (Datum: North American Datum of 1983)

1 17.7603 N
-64.7636 W

2 17.7603 N
-64.7637 W

3 17.7603 N
-64.7638 W

4 17.7603 N
-64.7638 W

5 17.7604 N
-64.7639 W

6 17.7605 N
-64.7640 W

7 17.7606 N
-64.7640 W

8 17.7606 N
-64.7640 W

9 17.7608 N
-64.7639 W

10 17.7609 N
-64.7639 W

11 17.7609 N
-64.7638 W

12 17.7612 N
-64.7632 W

13 17.7612 N
-64.7632 W

14 17.7614 N
-64.7626 W

15 17.7614 N
-64.7625 W

16 17.7613 N
-64.7624 W

17 17.7613 N
-64.7624 W

18 17.7612 N
-64.7624 W

19 17.7611 N
-64.7624 W

20 17.7610 N
-64.7624 W

21 17.7610 N
-64.7624 W

22 17.7605 N
-64.7631 W

23 17.7604 N
-64.7632 W

Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site

[GIS boundary data was not available at the time of completion of this partial CLI; to be added by NPS]

Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site

Decimal degrees (Datum: North American Datum of 1983)

1 17.7647 N
-64.7602 W

2 17.7647 N
-64.7603 W

3 17.7648 N
-64.7604 W

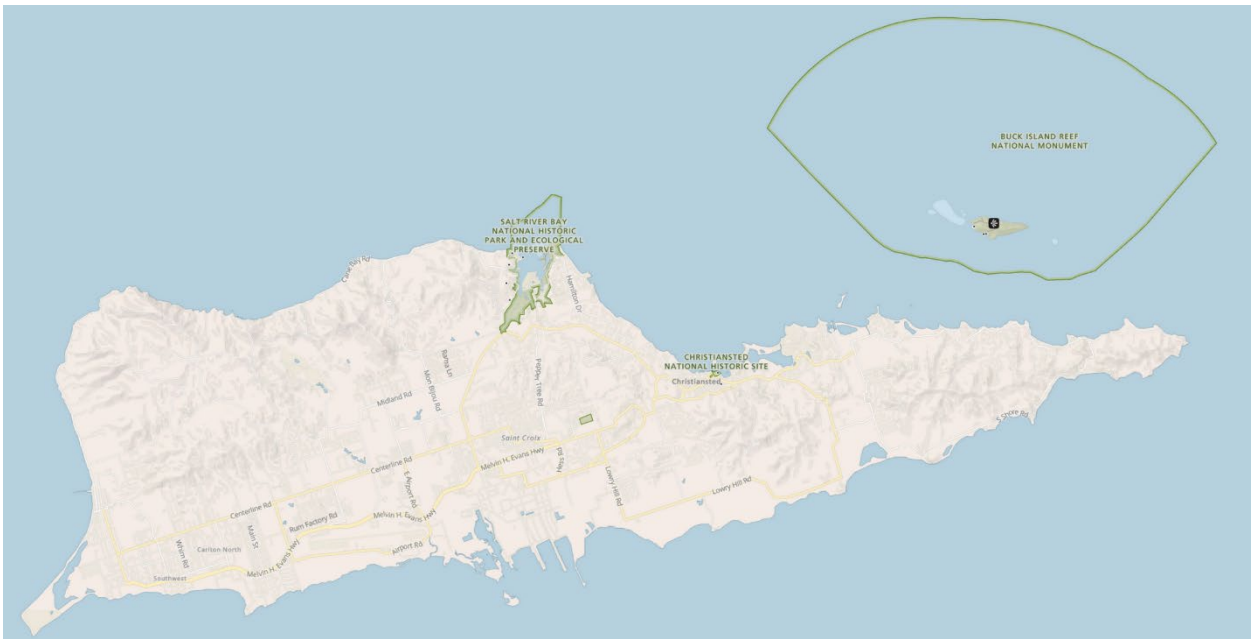
4	17.7649 N -64.7604 W
5	17.7656 N -64.7603 W
6	17.7657 N -64.7603 W
7	17.7682 N -64.7593 W
8	17.7683 N -64.7593 W
9	17.7683 N -64.7592 W
10	17.7683 N -64.7591 W
11	17.7683 N -64.7590 W
12	17.7683 N -64.7589 W
13	17.7682 N -64.7589 W
14	17.7681 N -64.7589 W
15	17.7667 N -64.7594 W
16	17.7664 N -64.7595 W
17	17.7657 N -64.7592 W
18	17.7656 N -64.7592 W
19	17.7650 N -64.7591 W
20	17.7649 N -64.7592 W

21 17.7648 N
-64.7592 W

22 17.7648 N
-64.7593 W

23 17.7648 N
-64.7598 W

Location Maps



Location map of Salt River Bay National Historic Park and Ecological Preserve within St. Croix. (Source: National Park Service)



Location map of Salt River Bay National Historic Park and Ecological Preserve showing its proximity to Christiansted National Historic Site. (Source: National Park Service)



Map of Salt River Bay National Historic Park and Ecological Preserve. (Source: National Park Service)

Regional Landscape Context:

Type of Context: Cultural

Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve is located on the north shore of the island of St. Croix. The area of the bay is known to have served as the center of cultural lifeways, including villages, prior to European Contact. Several European countries, beginning with Spain in the fifteenth century, claimed ownership of the island prior to acquisition by the United States in 1917. Christopher Columbus and a Spanish expedition party landed on the island in 1493, engaging in a battle with local Kalinago residents. Following the battle, Spain did little to formally colonize the island, although the Spanish did disperse or kill many of the local residents. Dutch, English, and French settlers later visited St. Croix beginning in the seventeenth century, with all three countries vying for control of the island, before the Spanish tried to retake control in 1650. The Spanish, in turn, were attacked by a contingent of the Knights of Malta, a vassal state of the Kingdom of Sicily in 1651. The group ruled the island under the French Crown until 1664 when ownership passed to the French West India Company. The company later evacuated the island during a period of armed conflict between England and the Dutch, leaving the island uninhabited between 1695 and 1725. In 1733, the Danish West Indies Company bought St. Croix and established sugar plantations, cotton plantations, and a thriving center of trade that included enslaved people transported from West Africa. In 1754, King Frederick of Denmark took control of the island from the Danish West Indies Company. Although territorial clashes continued with the British during the eighteenth century, St. Croix remained under Danish rule until it was sold to the United States in 1916 and formally transferred in 1917.

St. Croix is sometimes referred to as Twin City for the two main towns—Frederiksted on the western end and Christiansted in the northeastern part of the island.

Type of Context: Physiographic

Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve falls within St. Croix, an island in the Caribbean Sea. St. Croix is the largest of the three US Virgin Islands. The other two—St. John and St. Thomas—are separated from St. Croix by a deep ocean trench.

St. Croix contains the easternmost point in the United States at Point Udall. The island measures 21 miles in length, 6 miles in width, and 82.88 square miles. The terrain is rugged in parts, and hilly in the vicinity of the park. The high point of the island is Mount Eagle, which reaches a height of 1,165 feet above mean sea level (AMSL).

The island is subject to regular trade winds that blow along the length of the island from west to east. The hills on the west side of the island generally receive more rain than the eastern end of the island. The east end of the island is classified as a dry desert range, while the west end is far

lusher. The island contains multiple ecosystems due to the differences in rainfall and terrain. There are few freshwater streams or rivers, and little in the way of fresh ground water. The island has a desalination plant to address the freshwater needs of residents, while many homes and businesses collect rainwater in cisterns for personal use.

Type of Context: Political

Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve, administered as part of the US National Park System by the NPS, falls within St. Croix, one of the principal islands of the US Virgin Islands. The island had a resident population of about 50,600 people as of the 2010 census.

St. Croix is also a county and a constituent district of the US Virgin Islands, an unincorporated territory of the United States. The capital of the territory is Charlotte Amalie, located on the island of St. Thomas. Salt River Bay falls within the Queens Quarter, Christiansted jurisdiction, and District of St. Croix.

In addition to Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve, the NPS administers Christiansted National Historic Site on St. Croix as well as Buck Island Reef National Monument to the north of the island, Virgin Islands National Park on the island of St. John, and Virgin Islands Coral Reef National Monument south of St. John's shoreline.

Other publicly owned properties include Green Cay National Wildlife Refuge and Sandy Point National Wildlife Refuge, both administered by the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Management Information

General Management Information:

Management Category: Must be Preserved and Maintained

Management Category Date: October 9, 1960

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:

The cultural landscape of one of the six sites that are the focus of this CLI—Columbus Landing/Fort Salé—is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and designated an NHL. It is assigned to the Management Category: Must Be Preserved and Maintained.

The Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station property has been assessed and determined not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

Based on available information, the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station property falls under the Management Category: May be Preserved or Maintained due to its having been determined not eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

The Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site, Danish Well Tower Site, Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site, and Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site appear not to have been evaluated for National Register of Historic Places eligibility as of 2021.

The park enabling legislation recognizes the importance of the fact that the property "has been inhabited, possibly as far back 2000 B.C., and encompasses all major cultural periods in the United States Virgin Islands," while indicating that it "contains the only ceremonial ball court ever discovered in the Lesser Antilles, village middens, and burial grounds which can provide evidence for the interpretation of Caribbean life prior to Columbus." The enabling legislation also indicates that the property "is the only known site where members of the Columbus expedition set foot on what is now United States territory." It also notes that Salt River Bay National Historical Park "presents an outstanding opportunity to preserve and interpret Caribbean history and culture, including the impact of European history and culture (Public Law 102-247, 106 Stat. 33, February 24, 1992).

The Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site, Danish Well Tower Site, Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site, and Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site are assessed in the CLI under the Management Category: Should be Preserved and Maintained due to the fact that the sites are compatible with the park's enabling legislation.

Management Agreement: Cooperative Agreement

Management Agreement Explanatory Narrative:

The NPS and the Territorial Government of the US Virgin Islands co-manage the park. (SARI Foundation Document, 2015)

NPS Legal Interest

Type of Interest: All land located within the park is owned by the Territorial Government of the US Virgin Islands

Public Access

Type of Access: Portions of the CLI study area are publicly accessible

Public Access Explanatory Narrative:

The Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station was not open to the public at the time fieldwork was conducted on behalf of the CLI in April 2021 due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and the damaged condition of the facilities due to hurricane impacts. Portions of the park are accessible via roads that are currently gated and not open to the public.

Adjacent Lands Information:

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? Yes

Salt River Bay National Historical Park is edged by terrain that drains to the bay and contributes to its hydrology. There are also properties located along the perimeter of the park that contain cultural resources associated with historic-era plantations or with similar historic contexts as those present within the park that help to provide a broader understanding of lifeways over centuries within the region.

FMSS Asset

FMSS Asset Location Code

77298	Salt River Bay
104648	Salt River Outpost Road Rte. 0401
114025	Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station Road
242388	Salt River Park Access Road-East Rt. 0400
242796	Grapetree Road Rte. 0200
77344	Salt River Homeowners Assoc. Paved Road

242387	Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station Parking Lot Rt.
242794	Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station Overflow Parking RT0901
242795	Salt River Outpost Parking Rte. 0902
104649	Hemer's Peninsula Shoreline Trail Road RT 0701
114041	MREC-Waterfront System
240513	Mangrove Bay Trail (PLANNED)
242386	Peninsula Trail Rt. 0201
107937	Amerindian Villages & Ceremonial Ball Court
114038	MREC-Maintained Landscape (PLANNED)
79227	Salt River VCS Landscape
94840	Cape of the Arrows (Hemer's Peninsula)
94842	Bird Sanctuary (TNC)
94843	Salt River Well Tower and Drainage Grounds
114024	MREC-Marine Research Education Center (PLANNED)
240201	Coastal Studies Outpost (CSO)
77303	Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station
77438	Unfinished Commercial Structure (Hotel)
240204	Coastal Studies Outpost Dock (Planned)
107868	SARI 1.01 Columbus Landing
107869	SARI 1.02 Fort Sale
107871	SARI 2 Judith's Fancy
107872	SARI 2.01 Ironwood Site
107873	SARI 2.02 Spiceberry Site
107874	SARI 2.03 Button-wood Site
107875	SARI 2.04 Torchwood Site
107876	SARI 2.05 Oysterwood Site
107877	SARI 2.06 Soldierwood Site
107878	SARI 3 English Village
107879	SARI 5 Whitehorse Reef
77388	SARI 4 Manchineel Site (Danish Well Tower)
114039	MREC – Educational Exhibits
235699	Interp Media-Salt River Waysides
235700	Interp Media-Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station Exhibits
1425361	Plant or Vegetation
1585849	Exterior Furnishing, Flagpole, Aluminum, 50'

National Register Information

Existing National Register Status:

National Register Landscape Documentation: Entered - Inadequately Documented

National Register Explanatory Narrative:

The Columbus Landing site was designated a National Historic Landmark by the Secretary of the Interior on October 9, 1960, based on a National Historic Landmark Theme Study developed by the NPS National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings in 1959. The survey identified the location of the landing and encounter with native peoples based on publications by historian Samuel Eliot Morison and a 1951 research report by NPS historians David J. Jones and Clarence L. Johnson (Mark R. Barnes, National Historic Landmark documentation for Salt River Bay, December 3, 1996, 44).

The Columbus Landing site was administratively listed in the National Register of Historic Places on October 15, 1966, under the National Historic Preservation Act. Following administrative listing there have been several efforts conducted to prepare National Register documentation for portions of Salt River National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve, although not all areas of the park are addressed in the documentation prepared to date. Currently, National Register documentation includes the following:

1) National Register documentation prepared for the Upper Salt River Bay Archeological District (NRIS 76001851_R). The district was entered in the National Register on September 1, 1976, and consists of the following archeological sites: Glynn 1 (SC-13), Glynn 2 (SC-14), Windsor 1 (SC-44), and Windsor 2 (SC-47). The area of significance cited is Archeology: Prehistoric, and the periods of significance are 1,000–500 AD and 499–0 AD (National Register of Historic Places asset detail and National Archives catalogue record for Virgin Islands SP Upper Salt River Archeological District, NARA 131518919; National Register documentation fully restricted).

2) National Register nomination for the Columbus Landing Site, prepared by the Boundary Review Task Force, HCRS, with the nomination amended and the boundary determined by Cecil McKithan, National Park Service Southeast Regional Office, Atlanta, Georgia, signed, listed in the National Register on February 10, 1984 (NRIS 66000743).

The property is described as a triangular 5-acre promontory on west side of inlet to Salt River Bay. The nomination cites the area of significance Exploration/Settlement and a period of significance of 1400–1499, and it highlights the specific date 1493. The Statement of Significance notes:

> The Columbus Landing Site on Salt River Bay is the earliest spot now under the United States flag to be associated with Christopher Columbus. On November 14, 1493, Columbus, on his second voyage to the New World, discovered an island with the Indian name of Ay, which he named Santa Cruz. Landing in a small boat from the fleet anchored in the bay, a party of Columbus' men attacked a small group of Carib Indians, killing one and capturing the others. One Spaniard was mortally wounded. This battle is believed to be the first recorded armed conflict between Europeans and aboriginal American (National Register nomination for Columbus Landing Site, listed in the National Register on February 10, 1984, Section 8, 1).

3) National Historic Landmark documentation for Salt River Bay, prepared by Mark R. Barnes, Senior Archeologist, National Register Programs Division, National Park Service, Atlanta, Georgia, dated December 3, 1996 (NRIS 66000743).
This documentation lists other names and site numbers for the property as follows: Columbus Landing Site (Site SC-6); Fort Salé; Judith's Fancy Site (Site SC-5); Upper Salt River Bay Archeological Site (Glynn 1 (SC-13), Glynn 2 (SC-14), Windsor 1 (SC-44), and Windsor 2 (SC-47); Greigh's Battery; Customs Watch House Ruin; and Historic Shipwreck. The district included in the National Historic Landmark documentation consists of three separate parcels totaling 352 acres, and is described as follows:

> Salt River Bay, located about four miles northwest of Christiansted, St. Croix, on the north central coast of that island, represents the most outstanding assemblage of prehistoric and colonial archeological sites in the United States Virgin Islands. The four prehistoric sites of the Upper Salt River District and the two sites (Judith's Fancy (SC-5) and Columbus Landing Site (SC-6)) on Salt River Bay constitute a continuous 1500-year prehistoric occupation of the area. The Columbus Landing Site (SC-6) is understood to be the site of the village associated with the visit of the Admiral's fleet in November of 1493. The earthwork Fort Salé is the most prominent feature of an extensive seventeenth century occupation of the area by Danish, Dutch, and French settlers. During the Danish colonial period on St. Croix (1733–1917) there were at least six sugar plantations in the Salt River Bay area, however, Greigh's Battery (1788), an historic shipwreck, and the ruins of a customs watch house (1788) are the most extant remains of this period (Mark R. Barnes, National Historic Landmark documentation for Salt River Bay, December 3, 1996, 4).

The National Historic Landmark documentation notes that the property is significant under National Register Criteria A, B, and D, and under NHL Criteria 1, 2, and 6. It indicates areas of significance as Archeology - Prehistoric, Archeology - Historic,

and Exploration and Settlement. It cites the following themes from the NHL 1987 Thematic Framework: Theme I. Cultural Developments: Indigenous American Populations: B. Post-Archaic and Pre-Contact Developments, 17. Caribbean Adaptations; C. Prehistoric/Historic Archeology: Topical Facet 10. Prehistoric/Historic Religion, Ideology, and Ceremonialism; Topical Facet 21. Major Contributions to the Development of Cultural Histories; and Theme II. European Colonial Exploration and Settlement: A. Spanish Exploration and Settlement, 1. Caribbean; B. French Exploration and Settlement; C. English Exploration and Settlement; D. Other European Exploration and Settlement, 1. Scandinavian - Danish, 2. Dutch, 3. French Chapter of the Knights of Malta. The NHL documentation also cites the following themes from 1994 NHL Thematic Framework: Theme I. Peopling Places, 3. migrations from outside and within; 6. encounters, conflicts, and colonization; Theme II. Creating Social Institutions and Movements, 3. religious institutions; and Theme VI. Expanding Science and Technology, 3. scientific thought and theory (Mark R. Barnes, National Historic Landmark documentation for Salt River Bay, December 3, 1996, 22 and following).

The NHL notes "N/A" for the period of significance, but indicates a specific date November 14, 1493, and a significant person, Christopher Columbus. Several prehistoric and historic cultural affiliations and associated dates are also noted (Mark R. Barnes, PhD, National Historic Landmark documentation for Salt River Bay, December 3, 1996, 23).

Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve was established by Congress in 1992 (16 USC 410tt) to preserve, protect, and tell the story of its rich contributions to the nation's natural and cultural heritage. The 1,015-arce park is jointly managed by the NPS and the government of the US Virgin Islands. The national significance of Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve is recognized by its establishment as a unit of the National Park System.

National Register Eligibility:

National Register Concurrence: *[Not in scope]*

Contributing/Individual: *[Not in scope]*

National Register Classification: *[Not in scope]*

Significance Level: *[Not in scope]*

Criteria Considerations: *[Not in scope]*

Period of Significance:	*[Not in scope]*
Historic Context Theme:	*[Not in scope]*
Subtheme:	*[Not in scope]*
Facet:	*[Not in scope]*
Area of Significance:	*[Not in scope]*
Area of Significance Category:	*[Not in scope]*
NRIS Information:	
Alpha Code/NRIS Name (Number):	SARI/NRIS 66000743
Other National Register Name:	Columbus Landing Site
Primary Certification Date:	October 15, 1966
Alpha Code/NRIS Name (Number):	SARI/NRIS 76001851
Other National Register Name:	Upper Salt River Archeological District
Primary Certification Date:	September 1, 1976
Statement of Significance:	*[Not in scope]*
National Historic Landmark Information:	
National Historic Landmark Status:	*[Not in scope]*
World Heritage Site Information	
World Heritage Site Status:	*[Not in scope]*

Chronology and Physical History

Cultural Landscape Type and Use:

Cultural Landscape Type: *[Not in scope]*

Current and Historic Use/Function:

Primary Historic Function-Major Category: *[Not in scope]*

Primary Historic Function-Category: *[Not in scope]*

Primary Historic Function: *[Not in scope]*

Primary Current Function-Major Category: *[Not in scope]*

Primary Current Function-Category: *[Not in scope]*

Primary Current Function: *[Not in scope]*

Other Current and Historic Uses/Functions

Other Historic Function-Major Category: *[Not in scope]*

Other Historic Function-Category: *[Not in scope]*

Other Historic Function: *[Not in scope]*

Other Current Function-Major Category: *[Not in scope]*

Other Current Function-Category: *[Not in scope]*

Other Current Function: *[Not in scope]*

Current and Historic Names:

Current and Historic Name	Type of Name
[Not in scope]	*[Not in scope]*

Chronology:

[Not in scope]

Physical History:

[Not in scope]

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity

Analysis and Evaluation of Integrity Narrative Summary:

For the purposes of the CLI program, landscapes are analyzed according to criteria known as landscape characteristics. These characteristics include natural systems and features, topography, land use, cultural traditions, cluster arrangement, spatial organization, vegetation, circulation, buildings and structures, constructed water features, views and vistas, small-scale features, and archeological sites. With the exception of cultural traditions, spatial organization, and constructed water features, each of these landscape characteristics is addressed below for the Salt River National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve CLI study area.

As a whole, the Salt River Bay Landscape is listed by the NPS in the CRIS database as a cultural resource (CRIS HS #550179). There are currently no historic resources otherwise listed in the CRIS database, although several archeological sites are listed.

The Analysis section below includes description of the landscape features as they exist as of 2021. While the Analysis section typically traces change over time within the cultural landscape, the current CLI has been prepared with an emphasis on documenting existing conditions as per the project statement of work. Further information is anticipated to be added to complete the Analysis section as part of a future project or contract.

The information presented below includes an overview of the known features associated with each landscape characteristic, followed by a brief description of each tangible resource in terms of its location, relationship to other landscape features, size, and composition in terms of materials. A list of the inventoried features follows the narrative. Representative photographs of primary landscape features are also included for each landscape characteristic section. Issues related to feature conditions are documented in the Condition Assessment section that follows the Analysis.

The Analysis section is typically preceded by an integrity assessment that considers the degree to which the cultural landscape continues to convey its historic associations in accordance with the seven aspects of integrity defined by the NRHP. An integrity assessment is not included in the current project scope but is anticipated to be added as part of a future project or contract.

Integrity Assessment:

[Not in scope]

Analysis:

Natural Systems and Features

Natural systems and features are the environmental resources and qualities that have influenced the development and physical form of a landscape. They include underlying geology, soils, and water resources, and are influenced by climate. This section of the analysis addresses the presence and influence of these environmental conditions as well as evidence of cultural responses to natural resources, which are the physical connections between the built and natural environments. Examples include selection of building locations, the use of native materials in construction, the way in which soils have been used for agriculture, and methods for managing stormwater.

Salt River Bay is located on the northern shore of St. Croix just west of Long Reef and northwest of Christiansted. Both Columbus Landing/Fort Salé and the Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site are located along the shores of the bay where it meets the ocean.

The ocean floor falls away quickly to the north into the deep Virgin Islands Trough. Overland flow of the Salt River, a freshwater water course, empties into the brackish bay, which in turn empties into the Caribbean Sea. Again, both the Columbus Landing/Fort Salé and Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Sites edge the shoreline of the bay.

While the park protects important sites of cultural heritage, it is also a protected natural area that exhibits many of this region's important ecological relationships within a concentrated area. The portion of the park that is covered in water was designated a National Natural Landmark in 1980. It is home to twenty-seven species that have been federally listed as threatened or endangered.

The mouth of the bay is contained by an extensive coral reef system. Coral reefs have built up in the Caribbean over the past 13,000 years. More than 400 species of reef fish are known in near-shore waters. Coral reefs may support one-third of all fish species globally and possibly a total of one-half-million animal species. The mouth of the bay also contains an undersea canyon and coral-covered walls. The section of coral reef that edges the bay to the northeast is referred to as White Horse Reef, located northwest of Long Reef. The northwestern portion of the bay is characterized by a large stand of seagrass, while stands of mangroves hug the western and southeastern shores of the crenulated bay. Within the larger Salt River Bay, there are two smaller named inlets that include Sugar Bay in the southwestern corner and Triton Bay in the southeastern corner.

The bay is also characterized as an estuary where fresh- and saltwaters mix; estuaries are considered among the most productive habitat types for plant and animal life and are often referred to as nurseries for many aquatic species. The upland terrain that edges the bay is important to the health of the estuary. The survival of the local fishery, for example, depends to a

great degree on healthy soil and vegetation conditions both inside and outside Salt River Bay. The coral reefs and seagrass stands are also key to the health of wildlife populations. For example, endangered hawksbill turtles feed and rest on the coral canyon walls, while snapper and grunt turtles find protection from predators among coral reefs by day while feeding in the seagrass beds at night. The threatened green sea turtle and queen conch also depend on the seagrasses (SARI EA 2008).

Geology

The island of St. Croix is underlain by strongly folded Upper Cretaceous sedimentary rocks that have undergone a regional metamorphism, as well as gently folded unmetamorphosed Tertiary sedimentary rocks and igneous intrusions with elements dating to the Late Cretaceous or Early Tertiary age. The Upper Cretaceous rocks contain components of volcanic sedimentary rocks and tuffaceous sedimentary rocks that occurred below the wave base in a marine environment. An overlying component of volcanic sedimentary rocks called the Caledonia Formation consists of alternating thin beds of sandstone and mudstone with minor chert and conglomerate elements.

Soils

The park contains a total of thirteen soil types, some of which are associated with the varying grade or slopes present to either side of the bay. The majority of the topsoil or A-horizon layers range from 0 to 9 inches in thickness and are composed of gravelly, sandy, stony, or clay loams. Named soil series include Arawak, Cramer-Victory, Glynn, Solitude, and Victory-Southgate. Most of soils within SARI are not well suited for crops.

There are beaches on the northern-facing shores in the mouth of the bay. These include beach along the edge of the Columbus Landing/Fort Salé Site, adjacent to the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station, and north of the Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site. The beaches are composed of calcareous material, with a surface layer composed of large, weathered coral pieces, characteristic of the Redhook series (SARI EA 2008, 3-1, 3-4).

Tidal areas around Sugar Bay and Triton Bay are relatively level (0 to 2 percent grade) sandy clay loams and black muck containing fine, well decomposed organic soils from the Sandy Point/Sugar Beach series, along with sections of gravelly fine sandy loam from the Solitude series. These soils are frequently flooded, and typically contain some salt. The Salt River Bay floodplain south of the Sugar Bay tidal region consists of clay loams of the Carib series. These soils are also frequently flooded by freshwater from the upland watershed (SARI EA 2008, 3-1). Many of the tidal areas around the bay have soils that are classified as hydric, which are defined as having formed under conditions of saturation, flooding, or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part (USACE 1987).

Soils located on the northeast side of the bay, also referred to as the peninsula, include the eastern northern facing shore with fine sand formed from calcareous deposits classified as the Jaucas series. The Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site is located within this area. The eastern bay has been impacted by dredging associated with a marina and hotel development project dating to the 1960s that resulted in a reconfiguration of the shoreline into a salt pond, canal, and lagoon edged in part by spits of land. Spoils from dredging of the Mangrove Lagoon were deposited around the margins of the lagoon. As such, the associated soils contain elevated amounts of salt. Other areas of either dredge or fill can also be found in this northeastern bay margin between a spit forming the northern edge of the lagoon, the peninsula west of the Mangrove Canal, and east of the salt pond. The soils on the peninsula east of the bay are classified as Ustorthents, or soils altered by human activity. The peninsula also contains hydric soils—Redhook extremely stony sand, Salt flats, ponded, and Solitude gravelly fine sandy loams (USDA 1998; SARI EA 2008, 3-3 – 3-4).

Soils in the southern portion of the park along the bay occur at the northwestern mouth of Triton Bay and the eastern shore of Sugar Bay. These are composed of Jaucas series sand (SARI EA 2008, 3-4).

Soils on the west side of the bay include spoils from dredging the bay between the Salt River Marina and the Columbus Landing Site. The Danish Well Tower, Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site, and Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site are located within this area (SARI EA 2008, 3-4).

Water Resources

Salt River is one of the two largest watersheds on St. Croix. The other is the Bethlehem River watershed. The Salt River watershed drains an area of approximately 2,880 acres or 4 square miles, with the Salt River acting as the principal drainage gut, or intermittent stream corridor that appears following a heavy rainfall.

Salt River Bay encompasses both Sugar Bay and Triton Bay to the south. Salt River Bay is a partly closed embayment that is protected from the sea to the north by a barrier reef with a natural channel opening.

Although Salt River gut today acts as an intermittent stream, there is historical evidence that it formerly served as a more perennial source of freshwater discharge into Salt River Bay (SARI EA 2008, 3–7). This change may be attributable to impacts on the hydrology of the watershed resulting from a combination of clearing, filling, channelization, and road construction. These cultural activities have resulted in a reduction in the frequency of flushing activity within Salt River, along with an increase in stormwater-carried sediments that are carried into the bay during intense rainfall events. Because the land around the bay is composed of steeply sloped terrain and poorly drained soils, there is a relatively high runoff rate, and thus a large degree of flow and associated erosion that leads to the sediment deposition (SARI EA 2008, 3–7).

Climate

The climate of the US Virgin Islands is dominated by trade winds that vary seasonally in magnitude and direction. During the winter season, which extends from December through February, the trade winds, arising from the east-northeast, reach their maximum intensity of between 10 and 20 knots. The velocity of the trade winds decreased during the spring months of March through May as well as during the fall months of September through November. However, during the summer months of June through August, the winds arise from east or east-southeast and increase to a moderate intensity. These winds play a dominant role in controlling currents within Salt River Bay and along the mouth of the bay to the north. Due the prevailing easterly direction of winds throughout the year, there is an east to west longshore current that contributes to the movement of shelf sediments into Salt River Canyon down the east canyon wall (SARI EA 2008, 3-6).

Like the prevailing winds, rainfall varies seasonally on St. Croix and within the park. Annual rainfall averages between 25 and 45 inches. Most rainfall occurs during the late summer and fall, referred to as the wet season. Periods of heavy rain from thunderstorms and tropical storms are the cause of freshwater flow down Salt River gut into Sugar Bay. Tropical storms and hurricanes occur between the months of June through November, with higher concentrations of rain events occurring during August and September. The intense rain from tropical storms and hurricanes often leads to flash flooding in the Salt River watershed and a temporary reduction in salinity, coupled with high turbidity. There is also a dry season that occurs in late winter and early spring. The average daily temperature ranges from a low of approximately 80 degrees Fahrenheit in February to a maximum of approximately 84 degrees Fahrenheit in September (SARI EA 2008, 3-6).

Landscape Features

- Salt River Bay
- Salt River gut
- Sugar Bay
- Triton Bay
- White Horse Reef
- Long Reef
- Native soils
- Ustorthent soils resulting from disturbance related to the establishment of Mangrove Lagoon and Canal and the salt pond



View of the Caribbean Sea from Fort Salé.



View of the mouth of Salt River Bay and the peninsula to the west from Fort Salé.



View of Salt River Bay from the shoreline near the Columbus Landing Site.

Vegetation

Vegetation is the collection of trees, shrubs, grass, and perennials, and the plant communities that might include forest, savanna, meadow, and marsh within a landscape.

Today, the principal vegetation associated with Salt River Bay consists of native plant communities tied to hydrologic and soil conditions, although the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station property also features plantings of cultural derivation. All of the native plant communities are also the result of post-agricultural succession as the majority of the landscape has been disturbed at some point for crop cultivation.

Based on historic accounts and records, the landscape around Salt River Bay was covered with dense forest growth at the time of European Contact. Over time, colonial settlers worked to remove the forest to cultivate such crops as cotton, tobacco, and sugar (Jones and Johnson 1951:1; NHL, 4).

Today, the park contains a range of marine, estuarine, wetland, and terrestrial habitats that support plant communities such as seagrass beds, grass and low shrub meadows, successional woodland stands, and the largest remaining mangrove forest within the US Virgin Islands. Much of Salt River Bay is fringed by mangrove forests.

Mangrove

The southern part of Salt River Bay in particular is characterized by large stands of mangrove located along the margins of open water areas. These stands continue to recover from the damage caused by Hurricane Hugo in 1989. The NPS regularly engages in restoration efforts of stands of red mangrove. Both the mangroves and the seagrass beds clustered in the northeastern part of the bay provide important wildlife habitat (Cissel 1993: 1). The mangrove wetlands are considered a significant natural community that is protected by numerous Federal and Territorial organizations, including the US Army Corps of Engineers and the US Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources (SARI EA 2008, 3-12). The mangroves contribute many benefits to the Salt River Bay ecosystem, including the ability to stabilize coastal sediment, buffer the harmful effects of terrestrial runoff, regulate water temperatures on tidal flats, and provide habitat for a range of terrestrial and aquatic organisms. The mangroves are also of interest for their ability to trap organic materials and distribute important nutrients to nearby marine habitats. The mangroves as well as the seagrass serve as nursery grounds for many fish. Mangroves are present along the bay shoreline at the Columbus Landing/Fort Salé Site and within the Salt River gut located near the Danish Well Tower Site and at the Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site.

Concerns for the health of the mangrove wetlands relate to impacts caused by stressors of both natural and cultural origin. Natural stressors include sea-level rise and coastal erosion, hypersalinity, and hurricanes. Cultural impacts occur from the filling of wetlands and other soil disturbance related to road and housing development, as well as pollutants associated with sewage, oil, herbicides, pesticides, and sedimentation (SARI EA 2008, 3–12).

Other Plant Communities

Based on NPS inventory, approximately 262 acres of the park consist of forest other than mangrove stands. The bulk of forest cover, much of which is semi-deciduous, is located in the southern inland portions of the park. There are also small stands in the western portion of the park between Columbus Landing and the Salt River Marina and along the northwestern oceanfront shore. There are also vegetated fields that cover approximately 35 acres. These are concentrated in the northeastern and northwestern portions of the park, including the Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site (SARI EA 2008, 3-15).

One of the threats to the health of these native plant communities is colonization and displacement of naturally occurring plants by non-native invasive plant species. Invasive species have the ability to threaten the biodiversity of some fragile ecosystems. The NPS estimates that approximately 25 percent of the plant species in the Caribbean national parks, including Salt River Bay, are considered non-native and invasive (NPS 2006). The threat posed by these plants to the natural heritage of the park is considered so important that the NPS has made the decision

to integrate non-native invasive plant management into every aspect of planning by developing non-native invasive plant management partnership plans and programs that coordinate resources, funding, and scientific expertise (NPS 2006). Management strategies are articulated in a Draft South Florida and Caribbean Parks Exotic Plant Management Plan (EMP)/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) (NPS 2006). The document identifies seven high-priority species for management, two of which are found at Salt River Bay—African guinea grass (*Urochloa maxima*, former *Panicum maximum*) and tan (*Leucaena leucocephala*) (SARI EA 2008, 3-15 – 3-17).

Columbus Landing Site/Fort Salé

The landscape associated with the site includes beach along the shoreline with coconut palm (*Cocos nucifera*) trees, seaside mahoe (*Thespesia populnea*) and other trees between the beach and the access road, grassy fields around the access road and in the area of the former village, grass and woody shrubs and small trees on Fort Salé, and woody growth and mangrove stands along the bay shoreline. Vegetation associated with the property includes Semi-deciduous Forest along the eastern shoreline and Leucaena leucocephala Semi-deciduous Shrubland Alliance and Urochloa maxima Coastal Grassland Alliance on the fort. Parallel to the northern coastline is a band of Thespesia populnea Evergreen Woodland Alliance. Located to the south are stands of Cordia dentata Semi-deciduous Forest Alliance and Guapira fragrans Coastal Hardwood Shrubland Alliance.

Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station

The Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station occupies the former Burr-Kumpitch House. This site features mature non-native grasses as well as specimen plantings of sea grape, oleander, seaside maho, and other low growing vegetation. Several agave (*Agave eggersiana*) plants were placed on the property after it was acquired by the park by the NPS in consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (DOE). Five or six of the transplants have survived. To protect the plants from impacts resulting from the rehabilitation of the visitor center, the plants were moved away from the top of the hillside in 2021. This species, which is listed as federally endangered, are growing elsewhere within the park, but those located within the eastern part have been infested with agave snout weevil beetles (*Scyphophorus acupunctatus*). The park plans to build a small native plant nursery to grow more of the endangered species.

In addition to the cultivated plantings, portions of the property below the developed hilltop where the house is sited are classified as Urochloa maxima Coastal Grassland Alliance.

Judith's Fancy/Cape Arrows Site

The terrestrial vegetation associated with Judith's Fancy on the northeast side of the peninsula is composed of grassy fields and low growing shrubs. Vegetation in the immediate vicinity of the

abandoned hotel structure exhibits evidence of disturbance. The area where the hotel development was planned includes piles of rock, dirt, and debris. Otherwise, the rolling topography east of the Mangrove Lagoon is dominated by upland species, many of which are non-native, such as African guinea grass, tan, casha, purple allamanda, giant milkweed (*Calotripis procera*), and bread-and-cheese (*Pithecellobium unguis-cati*). Other species of upland vegetation species include casha, bread-and-cheese, and African guinea grass (SARI EA 2008, 3-17).

Vegetation classifications associated with the site include the predominant Urochloa maxima Coastal Grassland Alliance, along with small stands of Leucaena leucocephala Semi-deciduous Woodland Alliance and a stand of Coccoloba uvifera Coastal Hedge Alliance to the northeast. Along the rocky coastline is a stand of Coastal Evergreen Shrubland, while to the west is Leucaena leucocephala Semi-deciduous Forest Alliance. To the south the vegetation is primarily associated with the Urochloa maxima-Cryptostegia madagascariensis Mixed Dry Grassland Association. Also present are stands of Bourreria succulenta Semi-deciduous Forest Alliance and Cordia dentata Semi-deciduous Shrubland Alliance.

Danish Well Tower Site

This site is set within an open field of grasses and shrubs edged by semi-deciduous forest composed of native trees and shrubs. It falls within an area that contains three vegetation classifications: Cordia dentata Semi-deciduous Woodland Alliance; Avicennia germinans Mangrove Forest Alliance; and the Laguncularia racemose Mangrove Forest Alliance.

Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site

This site is set within semi-deciduous forest composed of native trees and shrubs. The vegetation on this site is classified as Samanea saman Semi-deciduous Forest Alliance.

Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site

This site is set within semi-deciduous forest composed of native trees and shrubs. Black and white mangroves are growing over the abandoned fish hatchery tanks (NHL, 159). Just south of the fish hatchery tanks are large salt-tolerant swamp ferns. The vegetation on this site is classified as Samanea saman Semi-deciduous Forest Alliance.

Landscape Features

- Mangrove stands at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé, Danish Well Tower Site, and Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery
- Semi-deciduous forest at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé, Danish Well Tower Site, and Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery
- Grassland and Shrubland at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé, Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site, and Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station
- Coconut palm trees and seaside mahoe trees near the beach at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé
- Plantings of cultural vegetation at the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station composed of palm trees, sea grape, oleander, grasses, and other low growing ornamental vegetation
- Invasive species (present throughout)



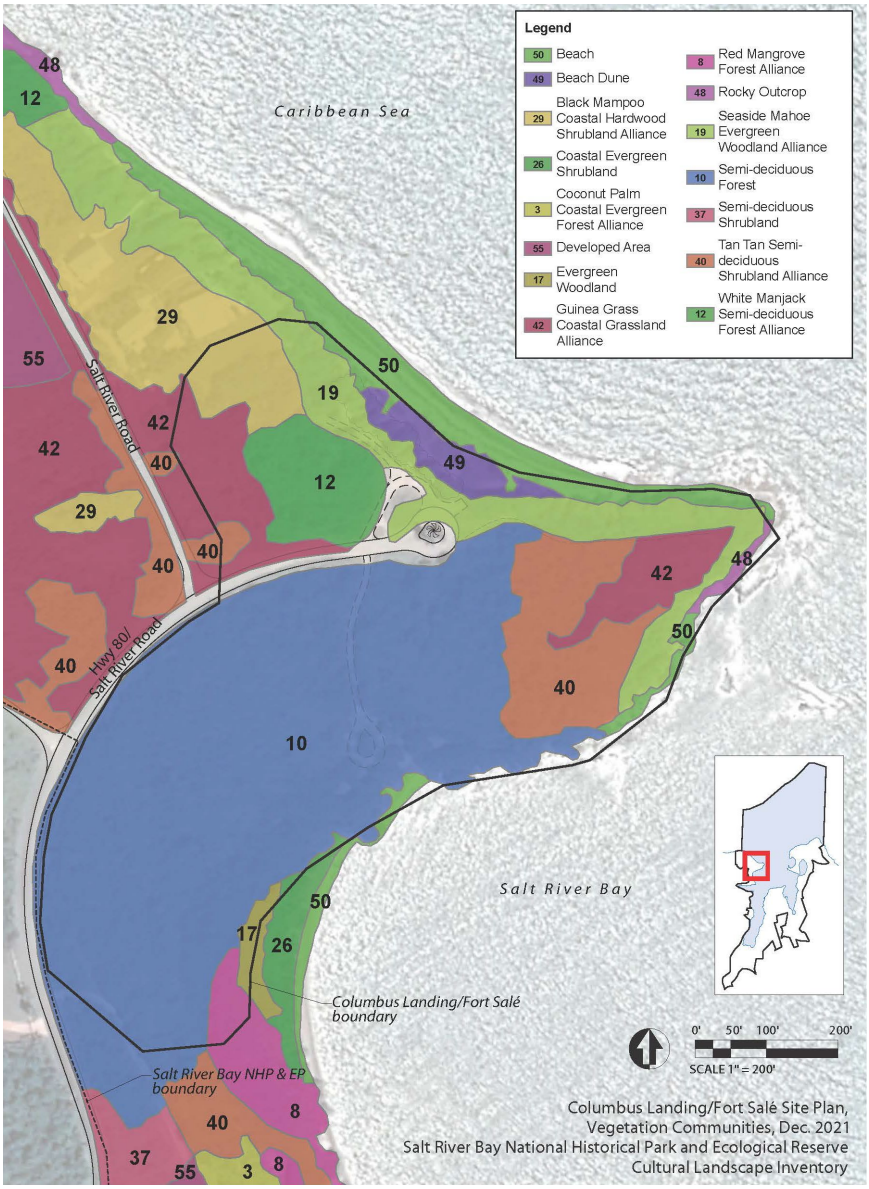
Palm trees and lower growing grasses and shrubs at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé.



Grasses, shrubs, and other woody growth at Fort Salé.



Grasses, shrubs, and other woody growth along the road leading to the bayshore at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé.



Columbus Landing//Fort Salé vegetation communities map.



Palm tree along the edge of the parking court at the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station.



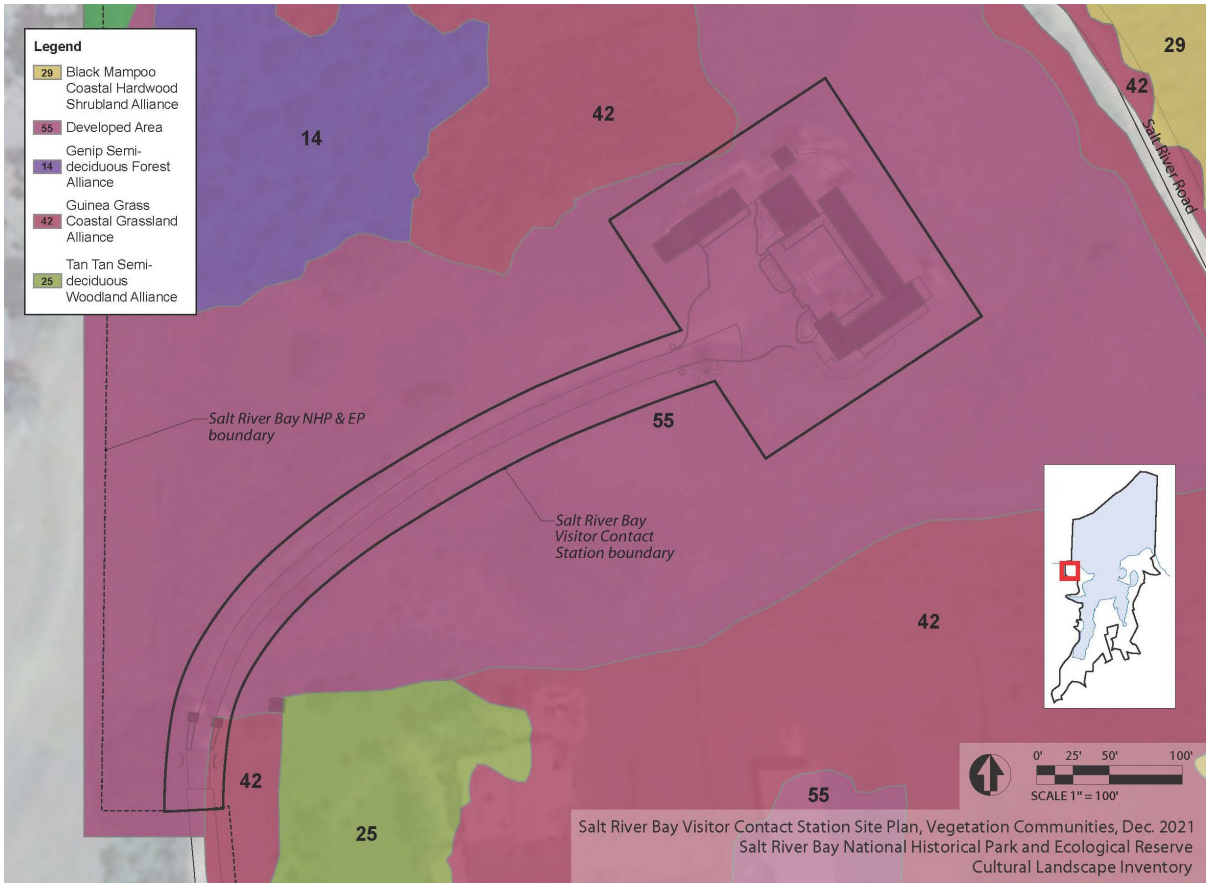
Ornamental shrub plantings of oleander and seaside maho at the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station.



Sea grape plantings in front of the wall at the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station entrance.



Planting beds at the base of the wall supporting the viewing terraces along the north side of the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station.



Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station vegetation communities map.



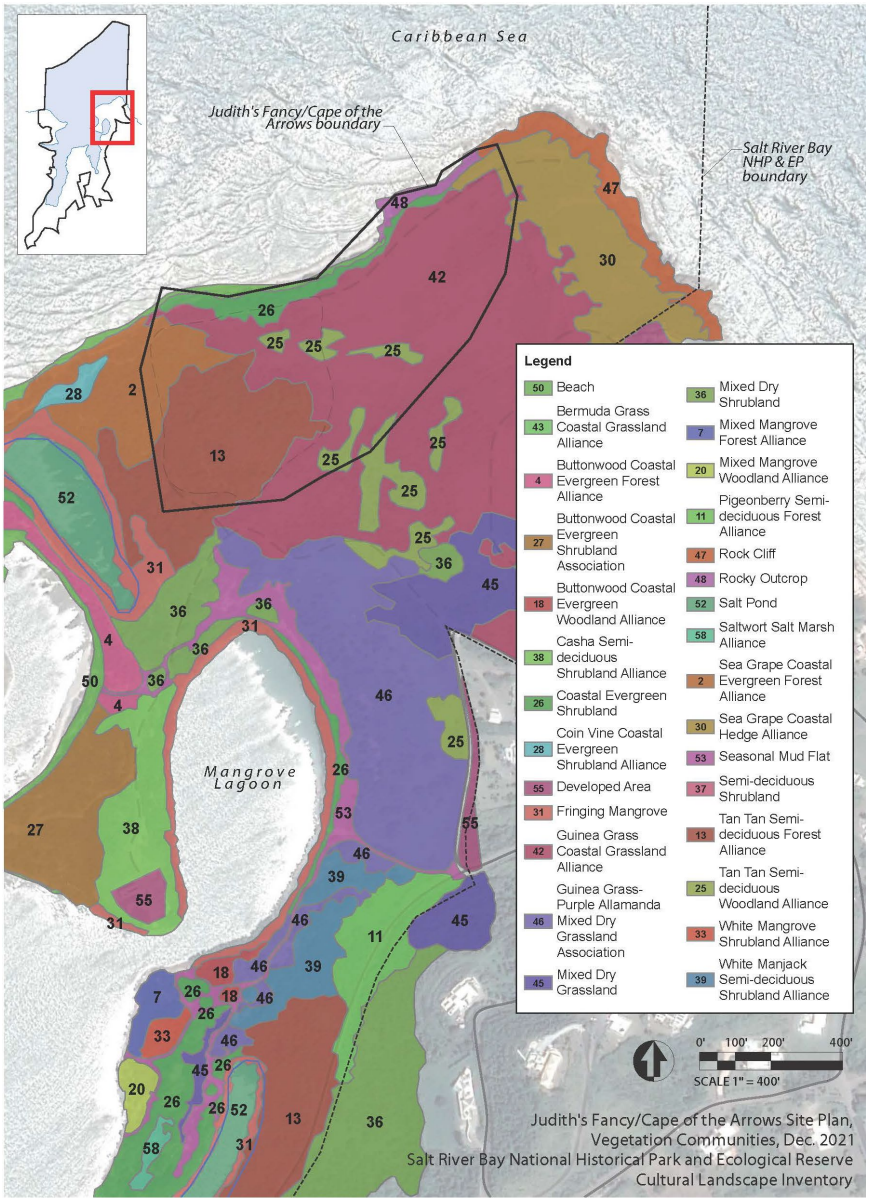
View towards Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows and low-growing grassland and shrub vegetation.



Low growing shrubs and grasses at the site of Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows.



Low growing shrubs and grasses at the site of Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows with shrubs along the rocky coastline.



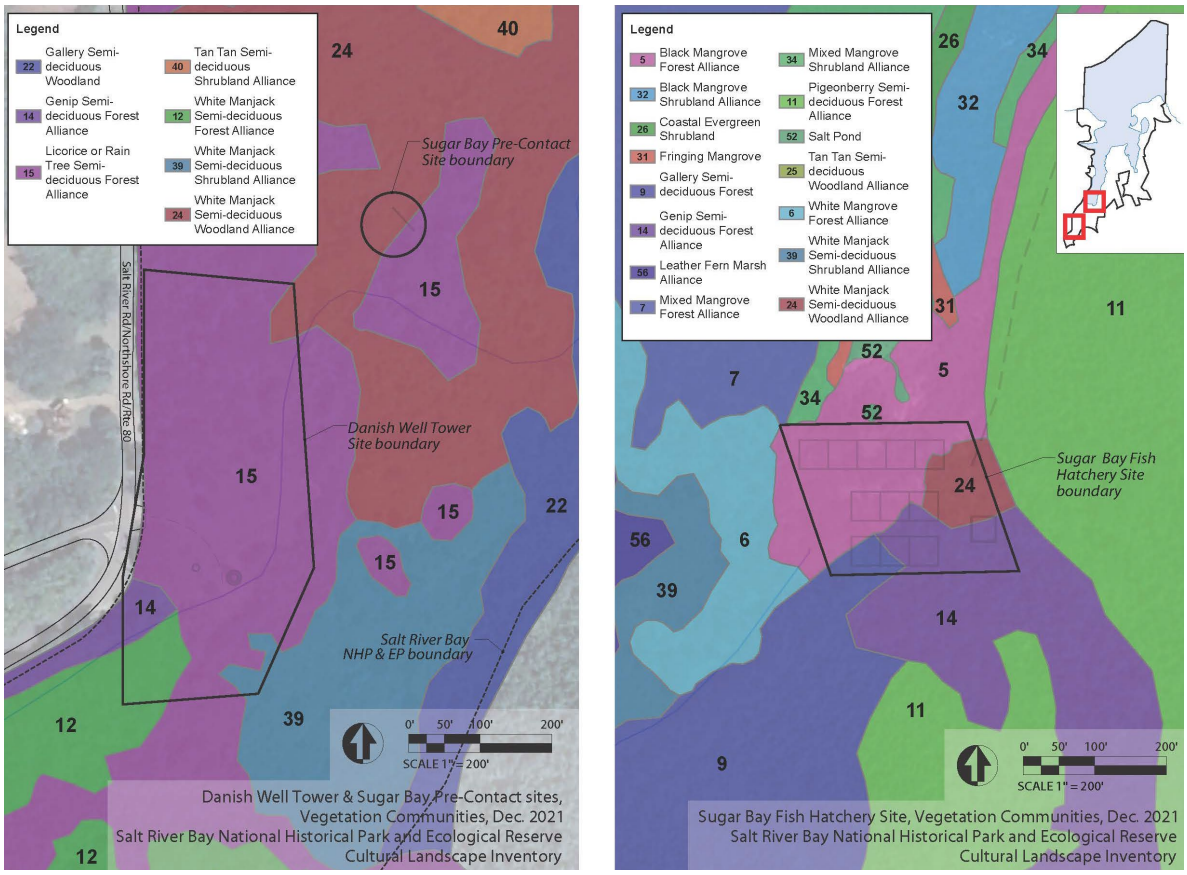
Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows vegetation communities map.



Grass and sparse woody vegetation characteristic of the Danish Well Tower Site.



Mangrove and woodland at the Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site. (Source: National Park Service)



Danish Well Tower, Sugar Bay Pre-Contact, and Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Sites vegetation communities maps.

Topography

The landform edging the bay varies in terms of slope and terracing. The northeastern point, which edges the bay to the east, is referred to as Cape of the Arrows. It rises to a conical high point. The land slopes toward the bay to the west in the form of steeply sloped hillsides broken periodically by more level terraces. Hilly terrain also edges the bay to the west. Among the taller landforms along the bay to the northwest are Greig Hill and Kirkegaard Hill to its south. The land also slopes toward the bay to the east from these elevated landforms, with variations in slope and terracing.

Dredge and fill activities on a large scale have taken place within the present-day park landscape to create marinas and improve boat access. During the 1960s, dredging and fill activities related to construction of a hotel and marina complex on the eastern shore of the bay west and southwest of Judith's Fancy resulted in significant alterations to the natural shape of the shoreline and bathymetry of the bays. The Mangrove Lagoon and Mangrove Canal were formed on the east side with dredged material deposited to create new land. Other areas that were either dredged or filled with dredged material include the Salt River Marina along the west side of the bay, a channel dug through the sand bar at the mouth of Triton Bay and other changes to the southern

tip of Triton Bay, construction of a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency (NOAA) dock on the south side of the bay (SARI EA 2008, 3-3).

Topography within the park and associated with the six sites that comprise the study area for this CLI is varied, and it ranges from nearly level terrain along the ocean front at Columbus Landing and along the margins of Salt River Bay associated with the Danish Well Tower site, to level terraces such as that at the Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site that are edged by steep slopes and rocky coastline, to the elevated hill on which the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station is sited within the former Burr-Kumpitch House.

The terrain at the Columbus Landing/Fort Salé Site is just a few feet AMSL. The elevated military defensive position at Fort Salé rises to a height of approximately 20 feet AMSL, affording the position expansive views toward Caribbean Sea approaches, across the mouth of the bay, and along the interior of the bay itself. The terrain associated with the earthen fortification was manipulated by European colonial powers for military defense through establishment of an enclosed polygonal form with three angled platforms used to site artillery. Parapets, or raised berms protected the artillery positions, while the land at the base of the earthwork was manipulated to establish a ditch below the raised walls of the structure, creating a greater challenge to an attacker attempting to reach the interior.

The hill on which is sited the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station rises to a height of approximately 109 feet AMSL. The hill is a prominent visual feature from the Columbus Landing Site, with the house perched at the apex. It remains lower than the named form of Greig Hill to the south, which lies outside the park boundary.

The Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site falls within a landform referred to as Hemer's Peninsula, which forms the northwestern edge of Salt River Bay. The peninsula encompasses a pre-Contact period village/agricultural area occupies a terrace of land set below 20 feet AMSL that is edged to the north by more steeply sloped land at the ocean front, some of which is rocky, and rising land to the south and southeast. The land associated with the terrace and its environs exhibit evidence of large-scale grading in the form of piled earth that occurred as part of a planned development that was abandoned prior to completion. Overlooking the terrace to the southeast is a hillside that rises to a height of approximately 100 feet AMSL.

Both the Danish Well Tower and the Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site sit within an area of relatively level low-lying land that edges the Salt River gut but are located at a slightly higher elevation than the Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery at approximately 10 feet AMSL. The Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery sits at the confluence of three drainages just a few feet above AMSL.

Landscape Features

- Columbus Landing/Fort Salé associated with oceanfront beach near sea level and elevated landform with military defensive earthwork overlooking the mouth of Salt River Bay
- Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station sited atop a prominent hill overlooking the ocean and Salt River Bay
- Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site with evidence of grading for planned development abandoned)
- Danish Well Tower Site set on a level terrace near the Salt River gut
- Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site set on level terrain near the Salt River gut
- Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site set on a rise overlooking the Salt River gut



View of the level beach front associated with Columbus Landing/Fort Salé.



View west from Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site towards Columbus Landing/Fort Salé (center), the hill associated with the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station (right), and Greig Hill (behind and left of Fort Salé).



View of the hill associated with the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station.



View of the disturbed earth and piled soil at Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows associated with a planned hotel development, since abandoned.



View of the level terrain associated with the Danish Well Tower Site.

Land Use

Land uses are the principal activities in a landscape that form, shape, and organize it as a result of human interaction. Today, the principal land use associated with Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve include interpretation and recreation based on public access to the national park unit. Visitor services related to the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station were not available at the time field investigations were conducted on behalf of this CLI in April 2021 due COVID-19 access restrictions and the condition of the facility.

Historically, the landscape associated with the six properties that comprise the CLI study area has supported residential use during the historic period at the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station, and pre-Contact residential use associated with the village at the Columbus Landing Site/Fort Salé and Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Sites. A ball court known to have been associated with the pre-Contact village site suggests a former ceremonial and recreational use no longer present. The Columbus Landing/Fort Salé Site also formerly supported military use in the form of the earthen Fort Salé fortification sited to overlook the mouth of Salt River Bay for defensive purposes. The Danish Well Tower, no longer in use as such, represents a former agricultural/industrial use in the form of drawing water to irrigate crop lands and support the activities of the associated sugar plantation. The Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery site, also now defunct, also suggests a former industrial/agricultural land use.

Landscape Features

- Interpretation land use
- Recreation land use
- Visitor services land use

Cluster Arrangement

Cluster arrangement relates to the way in which built features relate to one another and their overall setting. Within the CLI study area, as noted above, there are six discrete land areas that are the focus of documentation, assessment, and analysis. These include the following:

Columbus Landing/Fort Salé

This cluster occupies a triangular-shaped land bay approximately 10 acres in size at the northwestern corner of Salt River Bay at the mouth where it meets the Caribbean Sea. The property is edged to the north by sandy beach along the ocean shore, and mangrove vegetation along the northeastern and eastern margins where it abuts the bay. An access road leads into the site as an unpaved narrow corridor that ends in a circular turnaround with its margins used by visitors for parking. Boulders are used at the northern end of the road to prevent visitors from driving on the beach. An unimproved footpath leads to the east and the elevated landform of Fort

Salé. Another unimproved road extends west from the circular turnaround that may have once led to an adjacent privately held parcel but now ends in woody vegetation. A second unimproved road leads to the bay from the access road. A wood post that once supported interpretive signage is located in the center of the circular turnaround. The rest of the sign was destroyed during Hurricanes Irma and Maria in 2017. The park plans to replace the signboard. A second wood post with a sign directed at visitors is north of the circular turnaround.

Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station Cluster

The Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station is set within the former Burr-Kumpitch House property, approximately 8.4 acres in size, located west of the Columbus Landing Site. The house is set atop the high point of a hill that rises to approximately 100 feet AMSL. It is approached via a paved driveway entered through a pair of gate structures. The driveway and a parking area in front of the house are edged by concrete curbing and plantings. The house is entered through a gate set within a perimeter wall. Inside the gate is a courtyard that contains turf and paved walks and an arcade that connects the rooms of the building located on three sides. A second building—an apartment and garage—is located along the western margin of the gravel parking court. Both the house and the apartment and garage are edged by paved terraces. Located to the north of the house and east of the apartment and garage is an observation tower that allows for expansive views of the Caribbean Sea to the north, the hilly terrain to the west and south, and the bay to the east and southeast. Additional stairs and terraces edge the house to the north and east.

Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site

The Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site is located along the northeastern side of the bay and extends to the Caribbean Sea shoreline. Approximately 11 acres in size, the site undulates in terrain, with a relatively level terrace located in the western section overlooking the mouth of the bay. This area contains belowground evidence of a pre-Contact village site. Piles of earth and sculpted terrain suggest a planned twentieth-century development never completed. Footpaths and road traces extend through the area, which is otherwise characterized by relatively low growing native vegetation.

Danish Well Tower Site

The Danish Well Tower Site is located along an access road that follows the upland west of the bay. It is accessed from a small parking pull-off edged by a concrete wheelstop. An unimproved footpath leads through overgrown vegetation to the well tower structure. Piled gravel and mulch near the trailhead indicate what the NPS plans to use to establish a more formal trail within the approximately 3.6-acre site. The tower is a dramatic built feature that rises above the surrounding woody vegetation and can be accessed from two sides. Nearby is a stone-lined well that is difficult to locate due to overgrown vegetation. An early-twentieth-century stone and coral rubble check dam, in ruinous condition, that measures approximately 60 feet in length is located

450 feet northeast of the tower. It is not known whether or how the check dam might have been related to the tower.

Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site

The Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site is located in a wooded area west of Sugar Bay and north and west of the Danish Well Tower Site. There are no aboveground features related to this site that form a cluster arrangement. Evidence of the site is associated with an artifact scatter of shell, pottery, and stone. However, archeologists consider the site to have included a western section associated with food preparation and an eastern section associated with water collection and cooking based on the prevalence of certain artifacts in the two areas. It is believed to have supported seasonal settlement related to shellfish consumption (Hardy SARI 110 Survey 2021, 19). The site is located in close proximity to the check dam described above.

Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site

The Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site is located in a wooded area near where Salt River once split into three channels near where the Salt River gut empties into Salt River Bay today. A road trace edges the site, composed of a block of concrete tanks, 15 feet square, connected by water-control infrastructure and edged to the southeast by a small concrete structure (Hardy SARI 110 Survey 2021, 11).

Landscape Features

- Cluster arrangement at the Columbus Landing Site/Fort Salé Site
- Cluster arrangement at the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station
- Cluster arrangement at the Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site
- Cluster arrangement at the Danish Well Tower Site
- Cluster arrangement at the Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site

Circulation

Circulation is the patterns, features, and applied material finishes that constitute the systems of movement in a landscape.

Circulation features provide access to Salt River Bay National Historical Park and Ecological Reserve, both the western margins of the bay as well as the eastern margins. These include Route 80, also known as North Shore Drive, Northshore Road, and Salt River Road, which leads along the western margin of the bay and provides access to Columbus Landing/Fort Salé, the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station, and the Danish Well Tower Site. The Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site and Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery are reached by walking through a wooded area north of the Danish

Well Tower Site. Visitors continue north from Route 80 along Route 801 to reach Columbus Landing/Fort Salé and an access road leading to the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station. Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows is reached via Highway 751 as it arises from Route 75 (also Northside Road). Visitors follow Highway 751 (also Jefferson Way) as it turns to the east to follow the shoreline of Hemer's Peninsula and ends near Cape of the Arrows at an intersection with Grapetree Road. A road trace continues along the northern shoreline of the peninsula to the proposed hotel site, while a social trail crisscrosses the Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site. There is also internal circulation associated with Columbus Landing/Fort Salé and the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station. Both include vehicular as well as pedestrian circulation features. Each of the circulation features associated with the CLI study area is described below.

Columbus Landing/Fort Salé

Main access road with circular turnaround. A gravel access road leads to Columbus Landing/Fort Salé from Route 801, a spur road that arises from Route 80 below Greig Hill. The gravel access road measures approximately 22 feet in width. It ends in a circular turnaround near the beach, the pre-Contact village site, and a path leading to Fort Salé. The island within the center of the turnaround contains woody vegetation and grasses and a single wooden post. The turnaround is also framed along portions of its margin by white-painted concrete and stone edging.

Side loop road. Arising from the main access road and the circular turnaround is a second loop road. This unimproved hard-packed earth and sand road is west of the main access road. The island within the center of the turnaround contains primarily grass and shrubby vegetation.

Road extension to the west. A hard-packed earth and sand road leads west from the tops of the two circular turnarounds. The road ends at a line of trees, but likely continued to a cluster of houses located beyond the woodline at one time. The road is rutted and eroded.

Unimproved road to the bayshore. Extending to the bayshore from the main access road is an unimproved narrow hard-packed earth road that ends at a turnaround near the water's edge. The road exhibits ponding and is rutted in some places.

Unimproved path to Fort Salé. A mown grass and hard-packed earth footpath leads to the summit of the earthen fortification known as Fort Salé and the area known as Greigh's Battery. The footpath arises from the northeastern corner of the circular turnaround that terminates the end of the main access road. Boulders have been placed at the trailhead for the path to limit vehicular access to the fort. The path is difficult to follow in several locations due to overgrown vegetation.

Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station

Concrete driveway. A concrete driveway that leads to the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station arises from an asphalt-paved residential road leading west from Route 801 southwest of the

Columbus Landing/Fort Salé main access road. The driveway entrance is marked by a pair of concrete entrance piers and a metal gate. The concrete driveway measures 12 feet in width. As the driveway nears the top of the hill it is edged to either side by concrete curbing 6-1/2 inches in width and is 9-1/2 inches tall that is painted white. There is grass growing within the driveway prism.

Gravel parking court. The concrete driveway ends in front of the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station at a polygonally-shaped gravel parking court. The parking area occupies a relatively level part of the hilltop. It is paved with coarse light-colored gravel. The parking court is edged by an apartment and garage to the northwest and the house to the east. The curbing continues along the margins of the parking court. A palm tree and shrub plantings edge the wall to the south.

Concrete walk and stairs to the south of the main building. The Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station is edged to the south by a concrete walk that arises from the south side of the gravel parking area and continues to a paved landing at a building entrance at the southeastern corner and a walk and stair system that leads to the lower level of the building along its south side. The broom finish concrete walk varies in width from 5 feet 9 inches to 9 feet. As the walk extends through the stair section it measures 6 feet 2 inches in width. The stairs include 5-1/2-inch-high risers and 1-foot-deep treads. The stairs follow a pattern that includes two stairs followed by a landing, then three stairs followed by a landing, and then two stairs and a landing, etc., until reaching the walk reaches the building. Long views toward the bay are afforded from the stairs. Handrails fashioned from tubular metal stand 3 feet 7 inches in height along the outer edge of the stairs. Supporting the railings are posts. Set between the posts are pickets and an additional interior steel railing.

Landing at southeast building entrance. The landing outside the southeastern corner of the building is reached via two stairs. The landing is paved with a red glazed tile. A railing that once edged the landing is no longer extant.

Gated primary entrance into the building courtyard. The driveway and parking court center on a gated entrance into a courtyard that fronts the building. The two-armed gate is set within a free-standing stuccoed concrete wall framing the courtyard to the southwest and a 12-foot-wide arched opening. The metal gate is composed of tubular steel painted black with 1-inch pickets topped by finials set within a frame. The pickets sit 2-1/2 inches off the ground and rise to 7 feet in height. The gate has two closure systems, one of which allows the gate to be anchored into the pavement. The gate is set atop a glazed tile landing 19 feet 2-1/2 inches wide as it edges the arched opening in the front and 11 feet 7-1/2 inches inside the gate. The landing is 20 feet 8 inches deep. The pickets in the southern gate section are missing.

Gated secondary entrance into the building courtyard. A second, narrower gate marks entry into the courtyard at the northwestern end of the parking court. The wooden gate is edged by a tiled

landing that measures 5 feet in width and extends 8 feet 6 inches to the gate and is edged by concrete curbing.

Concrete walks within the courtyard. Both gates provide access to concrete walks that lead through the courtyard to an arcade that edges the building. The primary walk leading northeast from the primary gate measures 8 feet in width and is 27 feet 3 inches long. It intersects a secondary concrete walk that leads northwest/southeast. This walk measures 3 feet 2 inches in width and is 27 feet 3 inches long.

Gravel walk from the parking court to the apartment and garage. A narrow gravel path edged by concrete curbing extends north from the parking court to a wall and stair. The stair provides access to a glazed tile terrace system that edges the apartment and garage building as well as the main building to the north.

Terrace system. A connected system of glazed tile terraces extends north of the apartment and garage and the main building. The terrace also wraps an observation tower located north of the main building. The terraces range in width from 9 feet to 10 feet 10 inches and are edged by low concrete walls approximately 2 feet in height and 8-1/2 inches thick. The landing around the observation tower is 3 feet 6 inches wide. The walls are inset with metal railings, some of which are 3 feet 6 inches in height, and others which are shorter. Sections of the railing and walls are cracked and/or broken.

Terrace and stair system northeast of main building. On the northeast side of the building is a second terrace and stair system that leads to the grassy hillside north and east of the building. The terrace system is edged by a row of black-soldier coursed tile at the edge of the main terrace system. Concrete pavers and black tile surface a series of terraces edged by concrete walls that step down the slope. Natural rock is used in places in conjunction with the concrete walls along the edges of the terraces. The walls also contain planting beds. Handrails appear to have once been present along the margins of some sections of stair but are now missing.

Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site

Jefferson Way. Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site is accessed via Highway 751 (Jefferson Way) as it follows the eastern shoreline of Hemer's Peninsula to Grapetree Road. The asphalt-paved road serves a residential community located outside park boundaries.

Grapetree Road. Highway 751 (Jefferson Way) leads to Grapetree Road, which forms a looping terminus west of Jefferson Way that provides access to a residential community. Grapetree Road is an asphalt-paved residential scale road located outside park boundaries.

Road trace. A road trace extends north from Highway 751 towards the shoreline of Hemer's Peninsula and then continues west along the coast to Salt River Bay. The road trace dead-ends at the site where a hotel was once proposed to be built west of Judith Hill.

Social trails. The principal circulation located within the Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site in the vicinity of the Pre-Contact period village site are social trails, comprised of narrow hard-packed earth footpaths.

Danish Well Tower Site

North Shore Drive parking. Located along the eastern side of North Shore Drive is a small parking pull-off that provides access to the Danish Well Tower Site. The parking space is edged by a concrete wheelstop.

Informal footpath. A worn footpath leads from the parking space along North Shore Drive to the Danish Well Tower Site. Piled gravel and mulch material is located along the informal route. NPS intends to use the material to establish a more formal path for visitors.

Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site

There are no circulation features known to be associated with this site.

Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site

Road trace. A trace of an abandoned road is located near the Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site in close proximity to a small structure that may have served as an office or pumphouse. The road extends to the south on the east side of the Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site and continues parallel to Salt River and west of Morningstar along the base of the hill. It may have once connected to North Shore Drive (Hardy, SARI 110 2021, 11).

Landscape Features

- Main access road and circular turnaround at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé
- Side loop road at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé
- Road extension to the west at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé
- Unimproved road leading to bayshore at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé
- Unimproved path to Fort Salé at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé
- Concrete driveway leading to Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station
- Gravel parking court at Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station

- Concrete walk and stairs to the south of the main building at Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station
- Landing at southeast building entrance at Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station
- Gated primary entrance into the building courtyard at Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station
- Gated secondary entrance into the building courtyard at Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station
- Concrete walks within the courtyard at Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station
- Gravel walk from the parking court to the apartment and garage at Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station
- Terrace system at Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station
- Terrace and stair system northeast of the main building at Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station
- Jefferson Way at Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site
- Grapetree Road at Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site
- Road trace at Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site
- Social trails at Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site
- North Shore Drive parking near Danish Well Tower Site
- Informal footpath to Danish Well Tower Site
- Road trace at Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site



View northeast along the gravel main access road to the Columbus Landing Site that terminates in a circular turnaround.



View southeast along the unimproved road leading to the bayshore.



View east along the footpath leading to the top of Fort Salé.



View northeast along the concrete driveway leading to the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station.



View east at the junction of the concrete driveway and gravel parking court in front of the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station, edged by concrete curbing.



View along the concrete walk and stairs south of the house, with the view across the bay beyond.



View of the landing outside the southern entrance into the main building.



View of the primary gated entrance into the courtyard with arched opening and tile landing.



View of the secondary gated entrance into the courtyard with a wood gate and tile landing.



View of the two concrete walks extending through the courtyard.



View of the gravel walk edged by concrete curbing leading to the apartment and garage and terrace system.



View toward the tile terrace north of the buildings.



View of the terrace as it edges the observation tower.



View of the terrace and stairs leading to the hillside north of the building.



View west along the road trace that follows the shoreline of Hemer's Peninsula near the Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site.



View of the social trail leading toward the village site at Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows.



View of the parking space and concrete wheelstop at the Danish Well Tower site.

Buildings and Structures

The only buildings located within the CLI study area occur at the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station. The site also contains several structures, including walls and support structures. The only structures present at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé are in the form of coastal defense earthworks. The Danish Well Tower Site contains both the masonry well tower as well as a stone and coral rubble check dam. The Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site contains structures associated with mid-twentieth-century aquaculture. There are no structures present at Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site or the Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site.

Columbus Landing/Fort Salé

Fort Salé Earthwork (CRIS HS SARI-2). Fort Salé is a triangular-shaped earthen fortification structure that overlooks the entrance into Salt River Bay from the Caribbean Sea. The fort dates to 1641 with initial construction by the English. The fortification was completed in 1642 by the Dutch. The fort is composed of an outer wall system that encloses a ditch and raised parapet that surrounds the inner fort and artillery positions. Fort Salé is the most prominent feature of an extensive seventeenth-century occupation of the area by British, Dutch, and French settlers at Columbus Landing (NHL, 4). The eroded ramparts of the structure overlie the Columbus Landing Site (SARI EA 2008, 3-34).

Greigh's Battery. Located near the fort seaward and to the east are the remains of a small coastal artillery battery built by the Danish in circa 1788. The remains of a foundation for a flagpole were documented in 1919 at the site. The battery was used to control smuggling (NHL, 17).



View of the level area atop Fort Salé in 2021, showing overgrown conditions that obscure the ability to understand the form of the earthen fortification.



Undated view of the fort before it became obscured with vegetation. (Source: CHRI archives).

Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station

Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station (1968-1970; UTM: Zone 20Q, mE 0313262, mN 1966710; Lat/Long 17.779886/-64.761556). The Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station is a complex of residential structures that consists of a U-shaped house that surrounds a central courtyard, an apartment with garage, and an observation tower. The complex was built at the top of a hill and overlooks the mouth of the Salt River Bay and the Caribbean Sea to the north and east. All three structures are constructed of concrete and painted white.

The house is constructed of four individual buildings, each with their own clay-tile hip roof, that form the U-shaped plan. The buildings share a covered exterior walk and central courtyard. A concrete masonry unit (CMU) wall clad with stucco encloses the fourth side of the courtyard. Rooms are accessed directly from the exterior walk. Balconies are located along the south elevation and at the south end of the east elevation and consist of a concrete slab with tile flooring. The balcony railing has been removed, and the windows and doors are covered with aluminum accordion-type storm screens. A brick-paved patio is located to the north of the house. Typical windows are wood-framed multi-light casement and double-hung and have wood shutters, painted black, with metal strap hinges. Doors to the balconies are wood-framed multi-light double doors with fanlights. Doors at the covered exterior walk are typically wood framed and have a lower louvered panel and an upper multi-light window. The roofs are wood framed and have wood rafters, tongue and groove wood decking, copper gutters, and clay tile roofing with a dark surface coating applied over the tiles.

The apartment and garage building is constructed of concrete and painted white. The building has aluminum-framed sliding glass doors and fixed and jalousie windows. All doors and windows also have aluminum accordion-type storm screens. Similar to the construction of the house, the building has a wood-framed hip roof constructed of wood rafters, tongue and groove wood decking, and clay tile roofing with an applied dark-colored surface coating. An attached one-car garage with low-lope roof extends to the west of the house. There is a patio along the north elevation of the building that overlooks the Caribbean Sea.

The observation tower is a three-story structure constructed of concrete framing and painted white. It has a plan measuring approximately 11 feet 3 inches square and is located to the north of the house and adjacent patio. The lower level of the tower contains a generator room and is situated below the height of the patio. There is a cantilevered walk, measuring 3 feet 6 inches wide and clad with brick, that wraps around the tower and aligns with the height of the adjacent patio. The tower also features a concrete stair with ceramic tile that extends to the top of the tower. The tower has rectangular window openings and arched door opening. Presently, there is no roof structure.

The building is no longer habitable. Water infiltration was observed at the interiors of many spaces, likely due to damaged windows and doors and holes in the roof system. At the apartment

and garage building, a large portion of the roof has collapsed. Handrails at the balconies have been removed and are no longer safe for use. These conditions resulted from damage suffered during Hurricane Maria in 2017.

Generator building. The generator building is located in the mown-turf area to the east of the entrance gates. The building measures 8 feet by 10 feet and has a concrete foundation and CMU walls clad with stucco, painted white. A rectangular door opening is located at the south elevation and has a wrought-iron gate. The roof consists of a precast concrete slab with a center ridge line that overhangs the side of the structure by approximately 5 inches. The building is in fair condition. The CMU substrate at the entrance door was exposed to view and the wrought iron gate was damaged.

Cisterns. Cisterns under the house also collected rainwater for household use. The cisterns are located within the lower level of the house, which is built into the side of the hill. Also located within the lower level of the house are rooms with mechanical equipment and a guest room/office space.

Walls enclosing building courtyard. The walls that enclose the courtyard to the south are constructed of concrete that is parge-coated. The walls are capped with brick. The walls rise to 7 feet 6 inches in height with taller piers at the arched opening and are between 8 and 9 inches thick. An arched opening is located at the center of the courtyard wall with a metal spear picket two-arm gate.

Wall below apartment. The wall below the apartment measures approximately 12 feet tall by 8 inches deep and supports the terrace that wraps the north and east side of the apartment building. It is constructed of concrete and is painted white. The upper portion of the wall extends approximately 30 inches above the terrace floor slab and is capped by an aluminum guardrail, painted black.

Wall below terrace and observation tower north of the main building. A concrete wall, measuring approximately 5 feet tall, 8 inches deep, and 30 feet in length, extends between the base of the observation tower and the apartment terrace wall. The wall is painted white and defines a planting bed that can be viewed from the terraces above.

Concrete and rock walls north of the main building. Along the northern and northeastern side of the main building is a concrete and rock wall system associated with a terrace and stair leading to the hillside below. The concrete wall is inset with natural unworked rock. The concrete is parge-coated and white. The wall extends from the terrace system north of the house to the hillside and steps down in association with terraces linked by stairs.



Partial view of the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station looking towards the observation tower (right), terrace and stair system (center), apartment and garage (behind center), and main building (left).



The wall and arched primary gate leading to the courtyard.



The arcaded walk inside the U-shaped building from the courtyard.



Generator building.

Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site

There are no buildings or structures located within this site.

Danish Well Tower Site

Danish Well Tower. The Danish Well Tower is located in a cleared area east of Route 80 and west of the Salt River gut. The structure is circular in plan and constructed of a random coursed rubble limestone structure. The tower measures approximately 40 feet tall and has an outer diameter of 15 to 16 feet at the base and an interior diameter of 8 feet. It contains two distinct wall layers, an outer wall that is 20 feet in height and an inner wall that continues to the top. When viewed from the exterior, the tower consists of a lower drum, measuring approximately 19 feet tall, and an upper stack. The drum has arched door openings on the north and south elevations. At each opening the stone has been shaped to form the voussoirs for the arch; 4-inch by 4-inch wood framing has been installed to support the interior of the arched openings. Stone units have been set at the top of the drum to give the appearance of a crenelated parapet. The stack sits on the drum. At the base, it has an outer diameter measuring approximately 12 feet and tapered to toward the top. There is a large arched window opening on the west elevation. There are two horizontal bands consisting of seven pockets, each measuring approximately 6 inches square, inset into the exterior of the stack. The horizontal bands are located approximately 5 feet and 20 feet above the drum.

At the interior of the tower, the walls appear to have a continuous tapered appearance, and the distinction of the drum from the stack is not visually apparent. At the base of the tower interior is a wood beam, inset in the stone, that bisects the space. The well tower was recently restored and appears to be in good condition.

Stone well. A round stone-lined well is located along the woodline southwest of the Danish Well Tower that is believed associated with the drawing of water for which the well tower was constructed. (The well was not located for observation as part of this CLI.)

Stone and coral rubble check dam. At SARI-6.002, an early-twentieth century stone and coral rubble check dam is located near the Danish Well Tower (SARI-4). The check dam measures approximately 3 feet in height and is approximately 60 feet long and 2 feet thick (Trip Report, July 2019).



Danish Well Tower.



The stone and coral rubble check dam being investigated by an NPS archeologist. (Source: National Park Service)

Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site

There are no buildings or structures located within this cluster.

Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery

Fish hatchery tanks. The fish hatchery site features a contiguous block of more than ten holding pens or tanks and water-control infrastructure built to support aquaculture. The pens are approximately 15 feet square in size. They are located near the mouth of Salt River where it empties into Salt River Bay (NHL nomination, 159; Hardy SARI 110 Survey 2021, 11).

Office or pumphouse. Located to the southeast of the fish hatchery tanks is a small structure that may have served as an office or pumphouse (Hardy SARI 110 Survey 2021, 11).



The fish tanks at the Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site. (Source: National Park Service)

Landscape Features

- Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station
- Generator building at Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station
- Cisterns at Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station
- Walls enclosing building courtyard at Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station
- Walls below apartment and garage at Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station
- Walls below terrace system and observation tower north of the main building at Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station

- Concrete and rock walls north of the main building at Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station
- Danish Well Tower
- Stone well at the Danish Well Tower Site
- Stone and coral rubble check dam potentially associated with the Danish Well Tower Site
- Fish hatchery tanks at the Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site
- Office or pumphouse ruins at the Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site

Small-scale Features

Small-scale features are the elements providing detail and diversity for both functional needs and aesthetic concerns in a landscape. Within the CLI study area, there are few small-scale features present. Those that do exist are located at the Columbus Landing/Fort Salé and the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station. These include utility poles, wood posts, signs, and gate features at the entrance drive to the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station.

Columbus Landing/Fort Salé

Boulder edging. Placed along the margins of the circular turnaround to prevent vehicles from driving on the beach and from accessing Fort Salé are boulders.

Utility pole, power line, lights, and solar panel. Located along the access road and extending past the circular turnaround is a wooden utility pole that carries a power line. Attached to the top of the pole are two overhead lights and a solar panel.

Wood post with sign. Located in the sandy beach area is a tall wooden 6x6 post with a wood ledge nailed at approximately 3 feet above the ground. Also nailed to the post is a sign that notes “Kindly take your trash with you.”

Wood post. Located within the center of the circular turnaround that terminates the access road is a wood post, approximately 4 feet along the access road and extending past the circular turnaround is a wooden 4x4 post painted white. The post formerly supported an interpretive sign that was lost during Hurricanes Irma and Maria.



Boulders placed at the margin of the circular turnaround at the Columbus Landing/Fort Salé parking area to limit vehicular access to the beach.



The power line pole, power line, overhead lights, and solar panel located at the Columbus Landing/Fort Salé parking area.



The wood post and sign located at the beach at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé.


The white painted wood post in the center of the circular turnaround at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé is missing its original sign.

Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station

Entrance gate. The entrance to the former Burr-Kumpitch House property is marked by a pair of concrete columnar structures and a metal gate system that flanks the driveway at the bottom of the hill. The columns are set 12 feet 6 inches apart. They are solid concrete block paneled piers covered with stucco that is painted white. Each concrete column is 4 feet 10 inches in height. They are surmounted with narrow open columns placed at the four corners and connected at the top at approximately 14 feet in height with shallow arches. Each column is capped with a pyramidal concrete roof approximately 2 feet in height. Set inside the open-air structures are metal lanterns. Associated with the columns is a tubular steel painted black with pickets topped with spears. A diagonal cross brace bar provides stability across the pickets. The gate slides open to the right along a metal track in the pavement. The gate measures 5 feet 6-1/2 inches in width. To the right of the gate track are vertical 4x4 wood posts cut at the top to form a pyramidal form and painted white. These were used to limit access around the side of the gate. Located in front of the columns to either side of the road are low concrete curbs that form long linear spaces between likely design to hold plantings. These walls measure 1 foot 7 inches in height and are 8 inches wide, with a white stucco coating. The planters measure 1 foot 7-1/2 inches in width at one end, and 4 feet 10 inches in width near the columns (DOE).

Culvert. A culvert with a concrete headwall conveys stormwater beneath the driveway in front of the entrance gate. A small pipe also extends through the lower portion of the right-hand planter that drains the enclosure.

Hexagonal concrete markers at junction of driveway and parking court. As the driveway ascends to the top of the hill, it leads to a gravel parking court. To the outside of the concrete curbing that edges the driveway near the intersection with the parking court is a pair of concrete hexagonal markers of unknown purpose. The markers are painted white, similar to the curbing.



The entrance gate that includes a pair of concrete columns, metal gate, concrete planters, and wood posts.



A culvert with concrete headwall and drainpipe associated with the driveway at the entrance gate.



One of the two hexagonal concrete markers at the junction between the driveway and parking court.

Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows

There are no small-scale features associated with this cluster.

Danish Well Tower Site

There are no small-scale features associated with this site.

Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site

There are no small-scale features associated with this site.

Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery

There are no small-scale features associated with this site.

Landscape Features

- Boulders placed to limit vehicular access to the beach and Fort Salé at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé
- Power line pole, power line, overhead lights, and solar panel at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé
- Wood post and sign at the beach at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé
- White wood post in the circular turnaround at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé
- Entrance gate at driveway to Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station
- Drainage features at gate at entrance to Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station

- Hexagonal concrete markers at junction of driveway and parking court at Salt River Visitor Contact Station

Views and Vistas

Views are generally defined as being expansive and panoramic prospects, whether naturally occurring or designed. There are limited examples of designed vistas and specific views associated with the six clusters that are the focus of this CLI. These include the following.

Fort Salé was sited on a landform that juts into the bay to take advantage of views afforded at the mouth to establish a defensive military position.

The Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station located at the former Burr-Kumpitch House was sited to take advantage of the views afforded from the high ground of a hill near the mouth of the bay. The property features an observation tower designed to provide opportunities to take advantage of these views.

The village site at Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site affords expansive views of the Caribbean Sea as well as the bay.

The Danish Well Tower Site, Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site, and Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site are all located within forested areas with limited views.

Landscape Features

- Fort Salé sited on a landform that affords views of the bay and mouth for defensive military purposes at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé
- Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station sited atop a prominent hill for expansive views of the bay and ocean and features observation tower to take advantage of views
- Village site at Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site affords expansive views of the ocean and bay



View toward the Caribbean Sea from Fort Salé.



View from Judith's Fancy of the ocean and mouth of the bay.



View from the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station toward the bay, ocean, and Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows.



The observation tower at the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station designed to afford access to the dramatic views of the ocean to the north and bay to the east.

Archeological Sites

The archeological resources associated with Salt River National Historical Park and Ecological Preserve have been the subject of several investigations, excavations, and collection since the 1880s. Several of the surveys and site investigations pre-date establishment of the park in 1992. The NPS has since conducted a range of additional investigations. Further investigations are needed to survey all of the land and waters within the park boundaries. As such, there is the potential for the identification of additional sites and resources in areas yet to be inventoried (SARI EA 2008, 3–33). In addition to evidence of Danish colonial period settlement where there were at least six sugar plantations in the Salt River Bay area, in addition to Greigh's Battery (1788), an historic shipwreck, and the ruins of a customs watch house (1788), the sites include evidence of pre-Contact lifeways of non-European cultural groups.

Columbus Landing/Fort Salé Site

Site at Columbus Landing (CRIS AS SARI-1). Located within the Columbus Landing/Fort Salé Site is SC-6, one of the two pre-Contact archeological sites along with the site at Judith's Fancy (SC-5) on Salt River Bay. Along with the four pre-Contact sites of the Upper Salt River District, these sites constitute a continuous 1,500-year pre-Contact occupation of the area (NHL, 4). The site at Columbus Landing has been determined to be the location of a pre-Contact Taino village present at the time of the arrival of Christopher Columbus and his fleet in November 1493. The site also includes an earthwork referred to as Fort Salé, part of an extensive seventeenth-century occupation of the area by British, Dutch, and French settlers (NHL, 4). The fortification is believed to have been built in 1641–1642 (SARI EA 2008, 3–34).

Features of the village site include a pre-Contact ball court that has been the subject of archeological investigations since the 1880s. One of the key excavations was conducted by Gudmond Hatt in the early 1920s (SARI EA 2008, 3–34).

Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station

Limited archeological investigations have been undertaken at the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station property (former Burr-Kumpitch House). The property lies within close proximity to the Columbus Landing/Fort Salé Site east of the property along the margin of the bay near its mouth. This site includes a Taino village visited by Christopher Columbus in 1493 during his second voyage to the Caribbean. In 2005, the NPS SEAC conducted archaeological testing as part of a study to determine the feasibility and best placement for a marine research and education center (MREC) within the park (Hardy 2008), The Burr-Kumpitch House property was proposed as one possible location for the MREC. The team conducted systematic shovel testing of the property in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. Five shovel tests were excavated in areas deemed most likely to contain intact cultural deposits. Within the testing

areas, the team encountered brick fragments that were attributed to relatively recent construction and dumping activities. No other pre-Contact or historic artifacts were encountered.

Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site

Site at Judith's Fancy (CRIS AS SARI-2). Located within the Judith's Fancy Site is SC-5, one of two pre-European Contact-era archeological sites located along Salt River Bay. The second is the Site of Columbus Landing (SC-6) west of the bay. Along with the four pre-Contact sites identified within the Upper Salt River District, these sites constitute a continuous 1500-year pre-Contact occupation of the area (NHL, 4). The site complex consists of satellite pre-Contact occupations associated with the Site of Columbus Landing as well as possible historic occupations (SARI EA 2008, 3–34).

The pre-Contact site located at Estate Judith's Fancy falls within Hemer's Peninsula on the northeast side of Salt River Bay. The site was first identified in 1923 by Gudmond Hatt, who conducted limited excavations while plotting the location on a map. In 1951, the site was again visited by Gary Vescelius as part of the St. Croix Archeological Survey conducted jointly by the Yale Peabody Museum of Natural History and the St. Croix Museum. Vescelius plotted the site, which he believed to be Hatt's Site 5, in a slightly different location, while labeling it as Site 5 in the Virgin Islands site files. Vescelius also categorized Judith's Fancy as a single component site associated with the early Ostinonoid period (Period IIIa, circa AD 650–950) (Trip Report, July 2019).

In 1986, Alfred Figueredo conducted additional archeological survey and test excavations at Judith's Fancy. Figueredo hypothesized that its position on a terrace open and exposed to the sea, and not well protected from northeasterly winds, suggested that the site was not likely that of a farming village, but "the location of undisclosed special activities" that may have involved rituals (Figueredo and Winter 1986, 11). He also believed the site to be associated with the inhabitants of the Columbus Landing Site area across the bay (Trip Report, July 2019).

In 1989, Joe Joseph of New South Associates, Inc., found evidence for extensive middens just north of Figueredo's test excavation area. Joseph concluded that the distribution of ceramics was not, however, indicative of concentric-ring pattern representative of Saladoid and early Ostionoid village sites found throughout the Caribbean. He suggested that the site might instead consist of several individual habitations, each with their own midden (Trip Report, July 2019).

An additional survey conducted in 1988 by the Interagency Archeological Services Division (IASD) of the NPS resulted in the radiometric dating of human skeletal material recovered during Figueredo's investigations in 1986. Testing of the remains suggested a period of association of between AD 665 and 1015, placing the age of the skeleton within the Magens Bay-Salt River I or II periods.

In 2005, Meredith Hardy of the NPS SEAC conducted excavations at the main village site, reestablished the site boundaries, and obtained several ASL radiocarbon dates (Trip Report, July 2019).

In 2008, Hardy and Chief of Resource Management Zandy Hillis-Starr walked the eastern shoreline at Judith's Fancy to locate evidence of bank erosion following Hurricane Omar. No artifacts were observed within areas impacted by the storm. However, at the pre-Contact site itself they observed damage caused by off-road vehicles driving across the landscape (Trip Report, July 2019).

Additional investigations were completed in 2011 by Goldstein and Hardy who held an archeological field school with the University of South Carolina. Two features observed as part of the investigations included a potential red clay object and a carved greenstone frog (Trip Report, July 2019).

Finally, in 2017 SEAC conducted geophysical survey with ground-penetrating radar (GPR) and a magnetometer. The investigations yielded five potential buried features, two of which were thought to be buried round buildings (Trip Report, July 2019).

Based on review of all evidence gathered from these investigations, it is believed that the Judith's Fancy Pre-Contact site was likely not just an activity area, or solely a burial ground, but rather a kind of "satellite community" of the Salt River Point/Columbus Landing Site across the bay.

Archeologists now believe that as the population of the Salt River Point community increased, the location of the village grew in importance due to its location along the shoreline that was easily accessible for voyagers, and it afforded access to reliable food resources due to soils amenable for root crop agriculture. Artifact distribution patterns from the previous investigations are consistent with others from contemporaneous sites across the Caribbean, such as at Golden Rock (St. Eustatius), Maisabel (Puerto Rico), Sorce (Vieques, Puerto Rico), Tutu (St. Thomas), and Indian Creek (Antigua). These sites also contain semi-circular or U-shaped middens surrounding a central area devoid of cultural materials that has been referred to as a plaza. Human remains have often been encountered within both the middens and the plazas. The NPS indicates that future archeological testing and radiometric dating will be necessary to establish the Judith's Fancy site chronology and place within the prehistory of St. Croix (Trip Report, July 2019).

Danish Well Tower Site

Danish Well Tower (CRIS AS SARI-4). The Danish Well Tower Site, also known as the Manchineel site, is located east of Salt River. The circular structure, approximately 15 feet in diameter and roughly 40 feet tall, is believed to have been built circa 1780–1800 as part of Estate

Morningstar based on historical documentation. The tower is constructed of a combination of Danish yellow brick, coral block, and random coursed limestone rubble masonry built with two distinct wall layers (see also Buildings and Structures section above). The tower was engineered to pump water from a nearby well using the power of wind, directed via updraft through the structure, to a holding basin or container. Similar structures were located on most estates on St. Croix. The site includes a stone-lined well located 50 feet to the west, which is the likely water source for the pump. There is also a contemporary concrete cistern and two concrete foundations that formerly supported heavy iron diesel or gasoline-powered pumps during the first half of the twentieth century. These pumps are believed to have moved water upstream to nearby estates to replace the wind-driven fan at the top of the tower (Trip Report, July 2019).

Evidence discerned in 2008 suggests that Salt River was excavated as part of the operation of the well tower to act as a funnel or channel for water to drive a pump. A wall associated with the funnel featured outer and inner walls. During the 2008 site visit, the top of the outer wall was noted as degraded with stones likely having been removed for reuse elsewhere, while the inner wall was intact. In 2017–2018, the NPS addressed some drainage issues to protect the site from erosion.

Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site

Sugar Bay (CRIS AS SARI-6). The Sugar Bay Pre-European Contact-era site is multi-component site discovered during a reconnaissance survey and exploration of the landscape along the west side of Sugar Bay. This site is located north and west of the Danish Well Tower (CRIS AS SARI-4). It consists of a large pre-Columbian artifact scatter, low density historic trash scatter, and historic structural remains. The artifact scatter suggests the likely presence of substantive subsurface deposits, The aboveground structural remains include a low-lying stone and coral wall (Trip Report, April 2020).

The pre-Contact component site was identified by the presence of marine bivalve shell deposits typically found in inland middens in Puerto Rico. The scatter was revealed to be approximately 150 feet in diameter upon closer inspection of the ground surface. In addition to the shell deposits, there were also sherds of pre-Columbian pottery (Ostionoid circa AD 600 – 900), and pieces of stone. The large pieces of pottery found on the surface suggest the presence of reasonably intact subsurface deposits. This site was also recorded by A. Figueredo in a 1989 archeological survey (Trip Report, April 2020).

The aboveground structural remains are located approximately 420 feet northeast of the Danish Well Tower. They include a 3-to-4-foot-tall stone and coral rubble check dam covered in plaster. The construction style appears representative of the early twentieth century based on archeological investigations conducted by the NPS during summer 2021 (Hardy 2021, 22). The

check dam is covered in vegetation. The potential association of the check dam with the Danish Well Tower has not been determined.

Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery

Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery (CRIS AS SARI-7). Currently, there is little documentation available regarding the history of this site. The property first appears on a 1958 USGS quadrangle map in the same location where earlier maps indicate a division of the Salt River gut into three channels. The fish hatchery site is located along the trace of an abandoned road at the base of a hill. NPS archeologists are conducting investigations at the site in summer 2021. The site is likely historic and may have information potential related to the history of industry on the island. Initial evaluation suggests that it is not likely eligible for listing in the NRHP, but the work conducted in 2021 is needed for that determination (Trip Report, April 2020).

Landscape Features

- Columbus Landing/Fort Salé Site
- Pre-Contact Village Site at Columbus Landing/Fort Salé
- Village and Burial Site at Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows
- Danish Well Tower Site
- Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site
- Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site



View of the Columbus Landing Site.



View of the village site near Columbus Landing.



View of the village site at Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows.



View of the Danish Well Tower site.

Condition

Condition Assessment and Impacts:

Condition Assessment: Fair

Assessment Date: April 28, 2021

Condition Assessment Explanatory Narrative

The condition of the six clusters varies by site. Each cluster is discussed individually below.

The Columbus Landing/Fort Salé Site is in fair condition due to vehicular access, deferred road maintenance, and overgrown vegetation. Vehicles have previously accessed open portions of the site, leaving behind ruts and depressions. Boulders have been used along the margins of the circular turnaround to prevent cars from accessing the beach and the trail to the top of Fort Salé. The road leading to the bayshore is also rutted, with depressions that hold water and exhibit ponding. The fort itself is covered with shrubby plants, many of which are thorny and thus dangerous. The plants obscure a visual understanding of the landform and some of the important views, while also making it difficult to access the fort.

The Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site is in relatively good condition with stable soil and vegetation. Social trails extending through the site may lead to soil erosion. There are piles of dirt that reflect an abandoned attempt to develop the site. These appear stable as well.

The Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station is in fair to poor condition, exhibiting evidence of hurricane damage from Irma and Maria in several ways. Roofing and gutters on the building are damaged, the roof is partially collapsed, and there are cracks in some of the walls that support the terraces along the north side of the buildings. Vegetation is growing in the driveway and the gravel parking court and is overrunning several terrace areas. The lanterns in the gate pier features are not in working order and have been removed from their mounts and are lying on the piers. The lanterns at the main courtyard gate are also broken. One side of the main courtyard entrance gate is missing its pickets.

The Danish Well Tower Site was repaired by NHPTC in 2017–2018 to correct drainage issues. During Hurricanes Irma and Maria, the ground, normally moist, was fully saturated, and the Salt River overflowed its banks. Inside the tower, water rose to a height of approximately 2 feet. Additionally, water flowed from higher elevations west and south of the tower toward the Salt River basin at a high velocity, depositing a large amount of debris. The saturated soil and wind affected the surrounding vegetation, resulting in downed trees.

Later, fallen trees were removed around the structure, while strangler fig vines that had become attached to the tower and surrounding trees were removed. Due to the loss of trees around the

structure, the tower is now exposed and subject to tropical wind and rain. NPS is concerned that this will speed its deterioration (Trip Report, July 2019). The well tower structure has been stabilized using wood bracing in the arched openings.

Stabilization Measures:

Overall, the CLI study area is in fair condition, with evidence of historic resource deterioration resulting from factors such as hurricane rains, flooding, wind, soil erosion, infestation of native plant communities with invasive plant species, woody plant communities in need of management, and visitor access.

At Columbus Landing/Fort Salé, corrective actions to stabilize concerns surrounding rutting, depressions, ponding, and erosion of the earthen surfaced roads might include grading to smooth and crown the road surface and fill depressions. Fort Salé is currently very difficult to access. Woody vegetation growth should be cleared from the linear corridor associated with the informal footpath to the top of the earthwork to allow for safe passage by visitors. A limited area at the top of the earthwork should similarly be cleared and maintained as open at the top of the earthwork so that visitors can enjoy key views towards the bay and Caribbean Sea.

At the Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station, stabilization measures should include removal of vegetation growing in roads, walks, and on walls and buildings where it threatens their stability. Resources currently in need of immediate corrective actions are the buildings atop the hill which were damaged by Hurricanes Irma and Maria. These building exhibit several issues of concern as noted above: damaged roofing and gutters, partial collapse of the roof, and cracks in some of the walls that support the exterior terraces. As of 2021, the NPS is undertaking plans to rehabilitate the complex to correct these issues and ensure corrective actions are made.

At Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows, access to the site along social trails should be discouraged. This may occur through the use of signage or low barriers along the road margin where visitors park and access the property and revegetation of denuded areas. Evaluation of the native vegetation communities should occur regularly, with measures taken to remove invasives and encourage the growth of native plant species on a periodic basis. Monitoring of the site may be required to ensure that erosion and colonization by invasives is not occurring. Seeding areas found to be subject to erosion may be warranted. Trampled vegetation and soil compaction resulting from visitor access should be monitored as well.

At the Danish Well Tower, visitors currently do not have a proscribed route to follow to the site. As of 2021, the NPS is planning to install an informal path paved with gravel and mulch. This measure should help to ensure that visitors do not trample native vegetation. Vegetative growth should be kept from the well tower structure to prevent woody growth from dislodging masonry components. The immediate environs of the well tower should be maintained free of trees to

avoid limbs or trunks falling and damaging the structure, but generally the surrounding woodland is considered to protect it from storms and should be maintained.

The Sugar Bay Pre-Contact Site should be maintained under woodland cover to screen it from view of visitors. Artifact collections visible on the ground may have to be lightly covered to prevent their disturbance by visitors.

The Sugar Bay Fish Hatchery Site similarly should be maintained under woodland cover, although plants growing on the structure should be removed to prevent them from causing structural damage.

Impacts:

Type of Impact:	Deferred Maintenance
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	The roads and paths at the Columbus Landing Site require additional repair of ruts and depressions and overgrown vegetation. The Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station is in a state of disrepair, with partial roof collapse.
Type of Impact:	Exposure to Elements
External or Internal:	External
Impact Description:	The Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station has been damaged by hurricane winds and rain.
Type of Impact:	Flooding
External or Internal:	External
Impact Description:	The Danish Well Tower Site has been impacted by flooding during recent hurricanes that have affected the stability of the structure and the surrounding vegetation.
Type of Impact:	Impending Development
External or Internal:	External

Impact Description:	The Judith's Fancy/Cape of the Arrows Site was impacted by impending development, now abandoned, that resulted in moved and piled earth.
Type of Impact:	Structural Deterioration
External or Internal:	External
Impact Description:	The Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station exhibits problems with structural deterioration resulting from recent hurricanes.
Type of Impact:	Vegetation/Invasive Plants
External or Internal:	Internal
Impact Description:	The Fort Salé Site is overgrown with thorny and woody vegetation that likely includes invasive species. The Salt River Bay Visitor Contact Station has vegetative growth within the driveway, parking area, and covering portions of the terraces.

Treatment

Approved Treatment: *[Not in scope]*

Approved Treatment Document: *[Not in scope]*

Approved Landscape Treatment Document Date: *[Not in scope]*

Approved Landscape Treatment Explanatory Narrative:

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Supplemental Information:

Cronenberg and Jægersberg topographic-cadastral map of St. Croix 1750.

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P. L. Oxholm's topographic-cadastral map of St. Croix, 1794.

Samuel Morison. Map interpreting the 1493 New World exploratory journey of Christopher Columbus. CHRI archives.

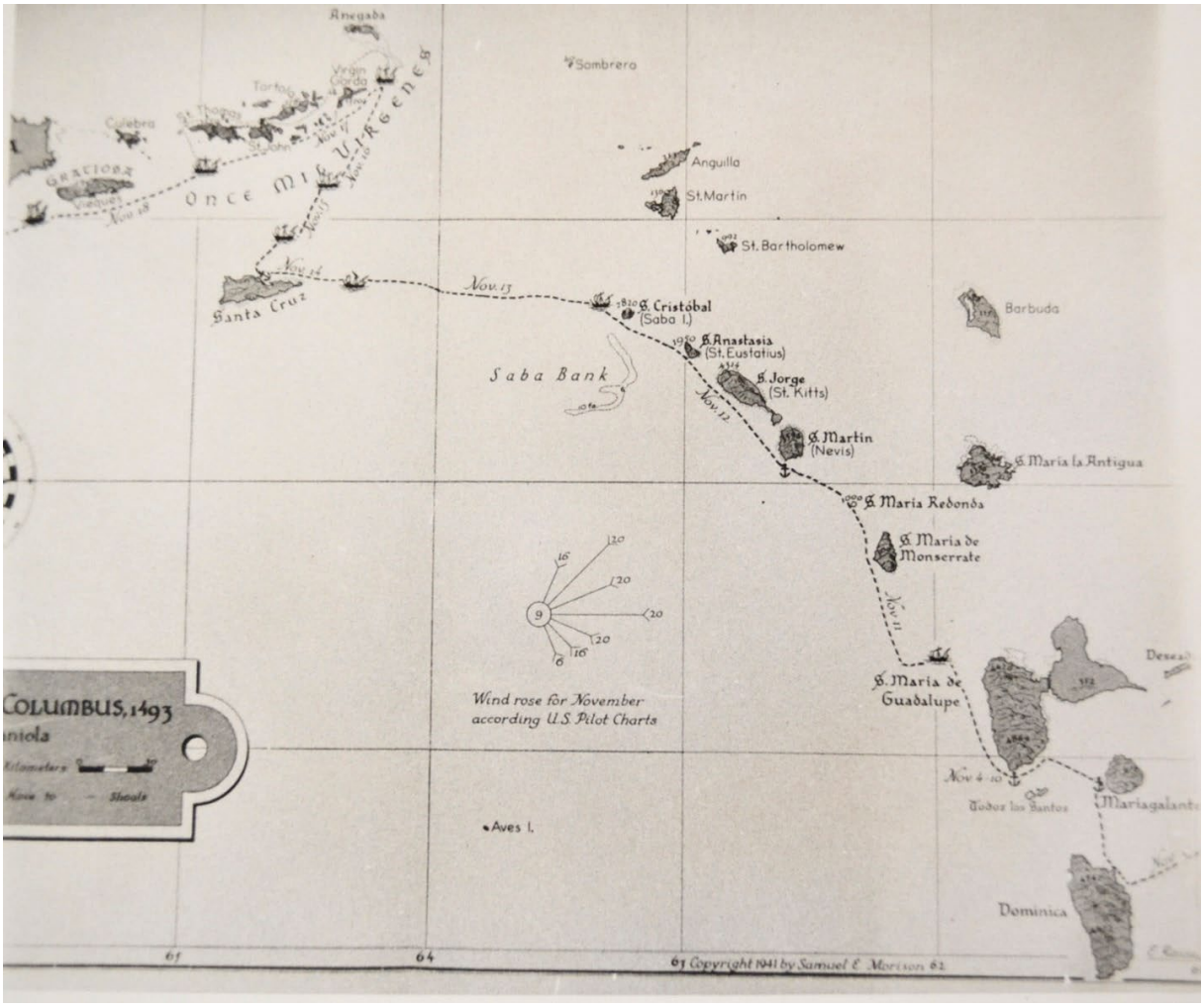
Unattributed. "Carte des Konigl. Danischen Westindische Eilandes St. Thomas Carte de L'Isle de Sainte Croix Danoise." Ca. 1734. Danish Royal Library dk000973. Licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-NoDerivs.

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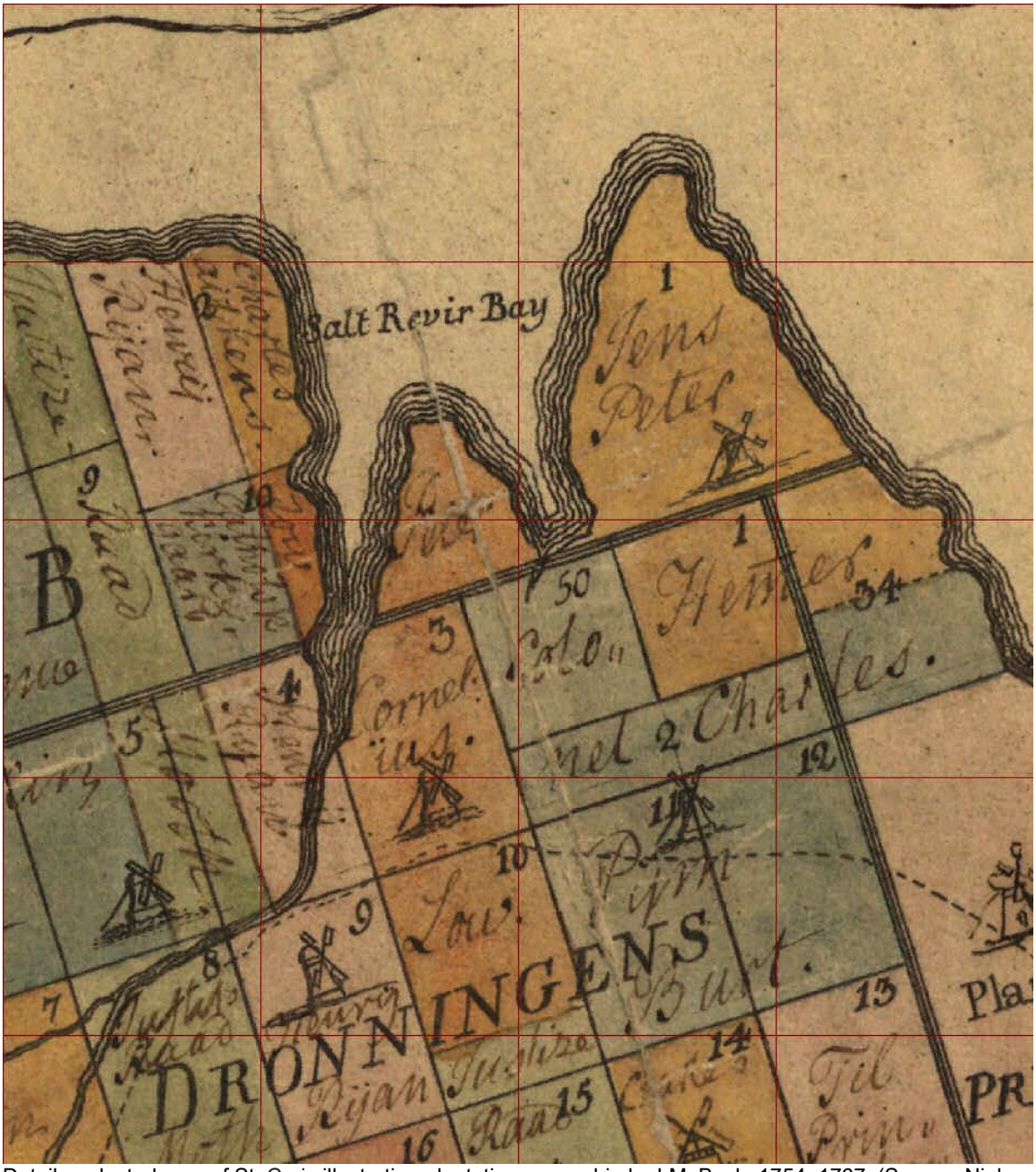
Historic Maps:



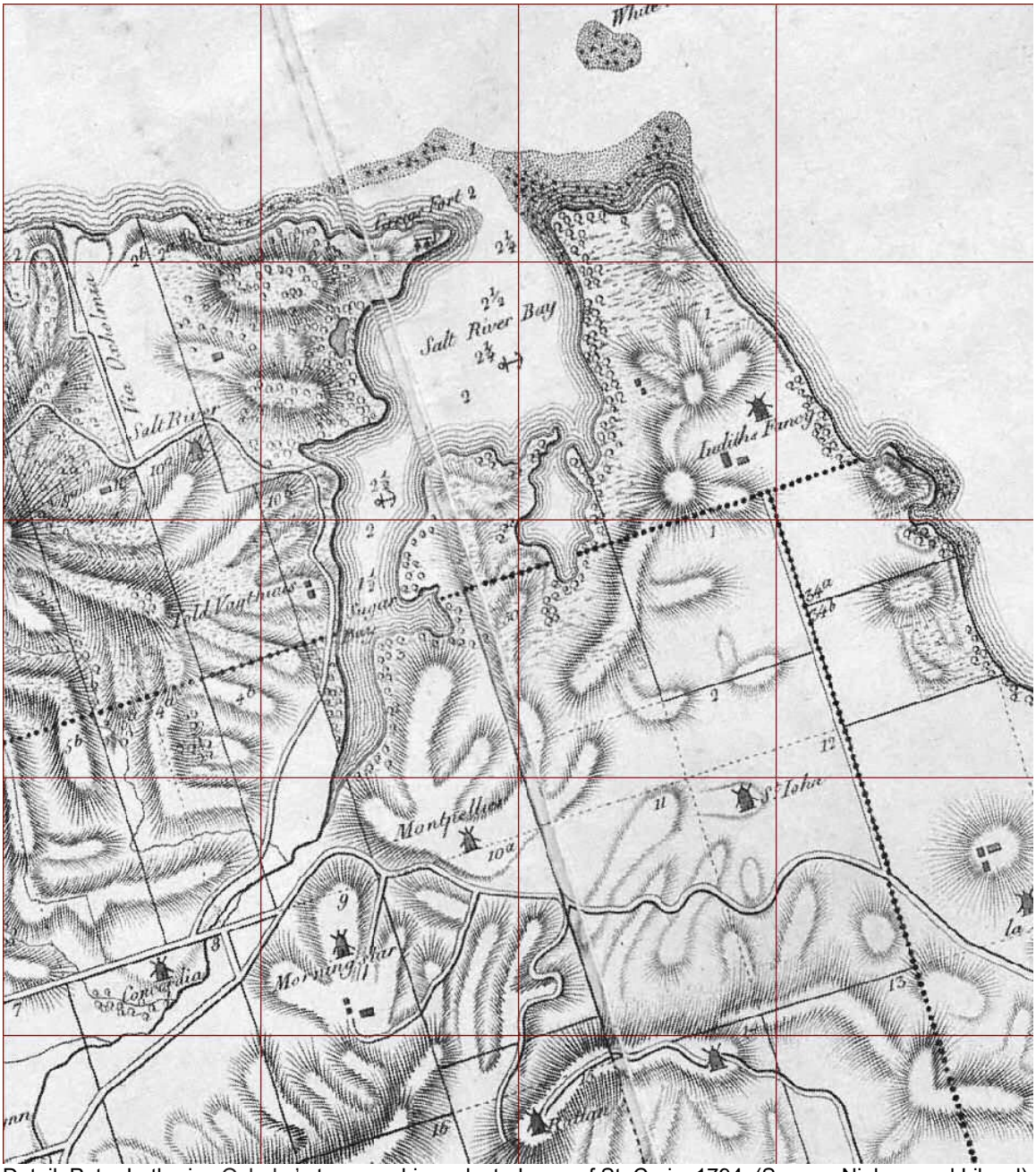
1941 map by Samuel Morison interpreting the New World exploration journey of 1493. (Source: CHRI archives)



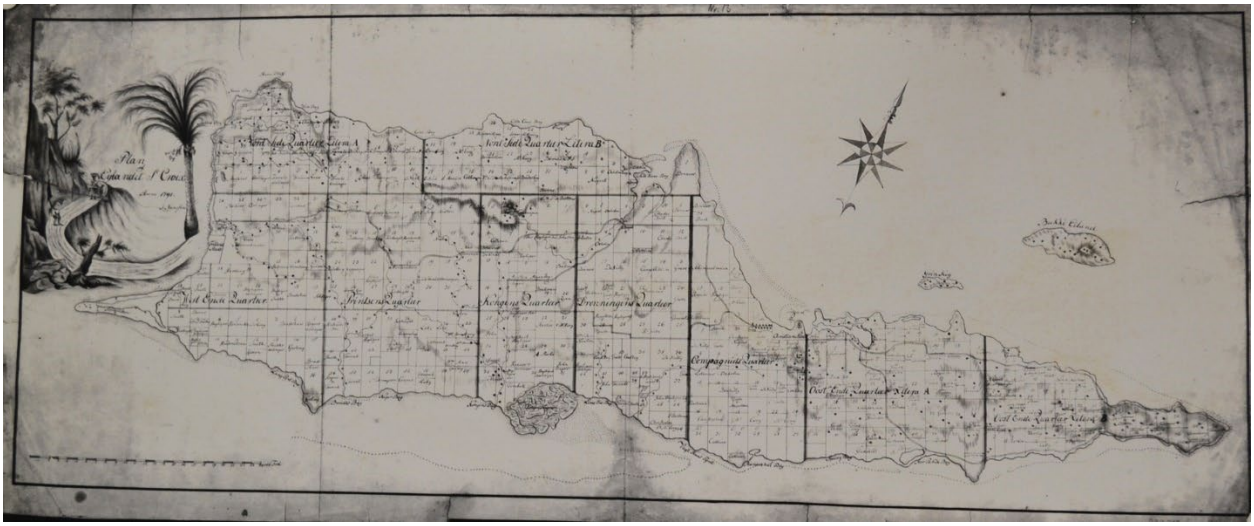
Detail, Cronenberg and Jægersberg topographic-cadastral map of St. Croix, 1750. (Source: Nielsen and Liburd)



Detail, cadastral map of St. Croix illustrating plantation ownership by I.M. Beck, 1754–1767. (Source: Nielsen and Liburd)



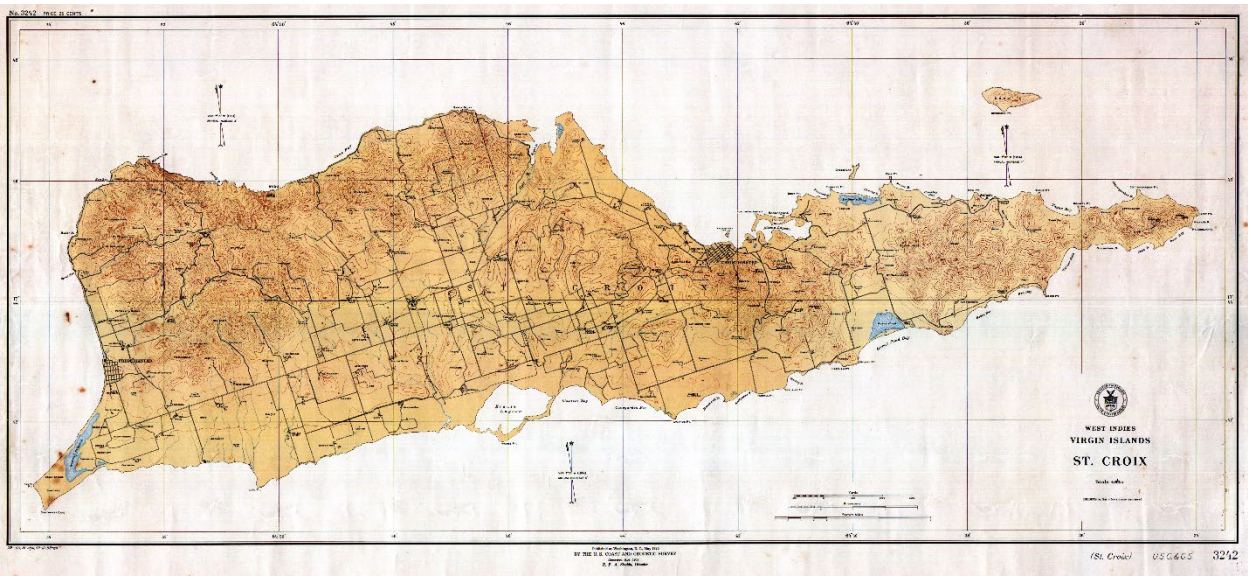
Detail, Peter Lotharius Oxholm's topographic-cadastral map of St. Croix, 1794. (Source: Nielsen and Liburd)



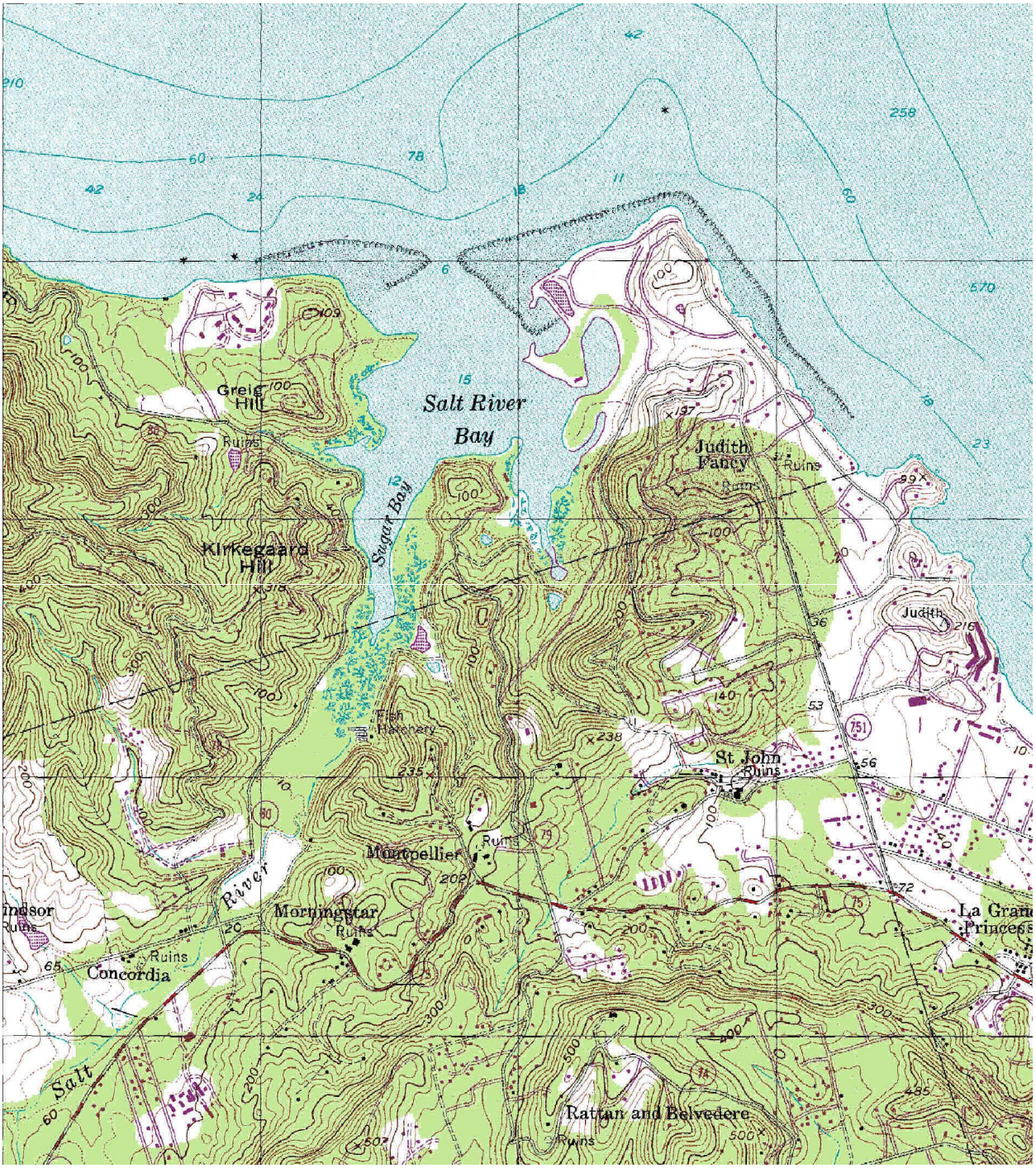
1791 “Plan Eytandet de St. Croix. (Source: CHRI archives)



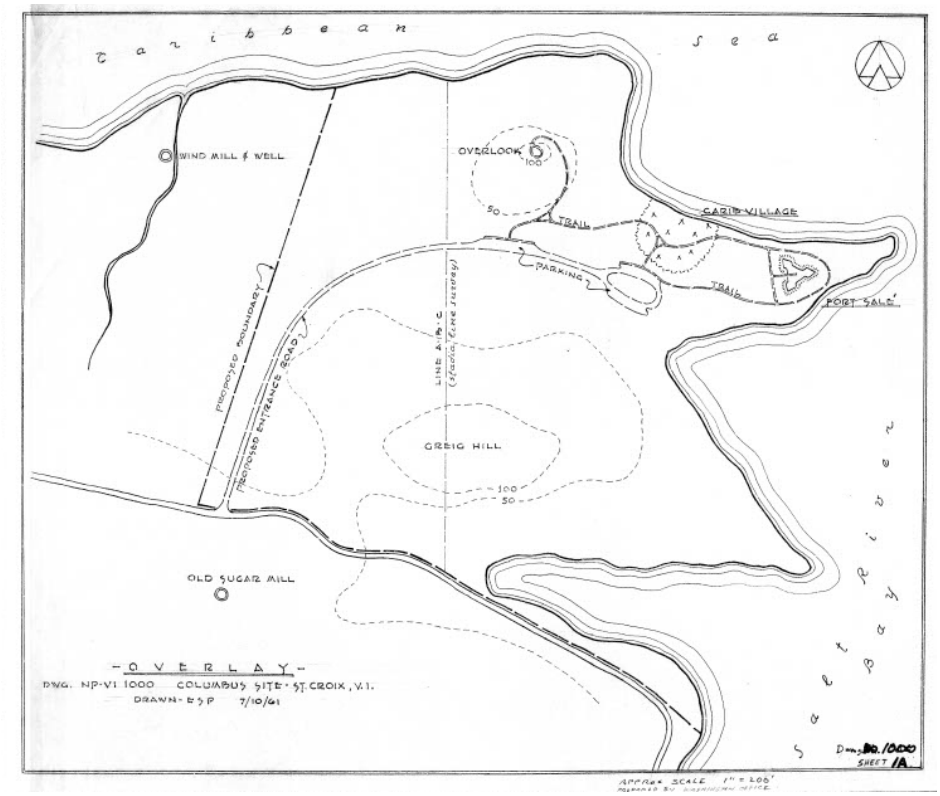
Parson’s 1856 map showing the location of the Danish Well Tower (mark between the letters “S” and “a” in the word “Salt” associated with “Salt River: (Source: CHRI archives)



1939 US Geodetic Survey Map of St. Croix. (Source: USGS)



Circa 1958–1959 USGS quadrangle map showing Salt River Bay. (Source: USGS)



1961 Site Development Plan for Columbus Landing. (Source: NPS, Drawing 399/1000)


Circa 2008 sketch overlay of the site plan of Gudmund Hatt's 1922-1923 excavations and the locations of his excavation trenches at the Columbus Landing site over top of an aerial photograph. (Source: NPS, drawn by Meredith Hardy)

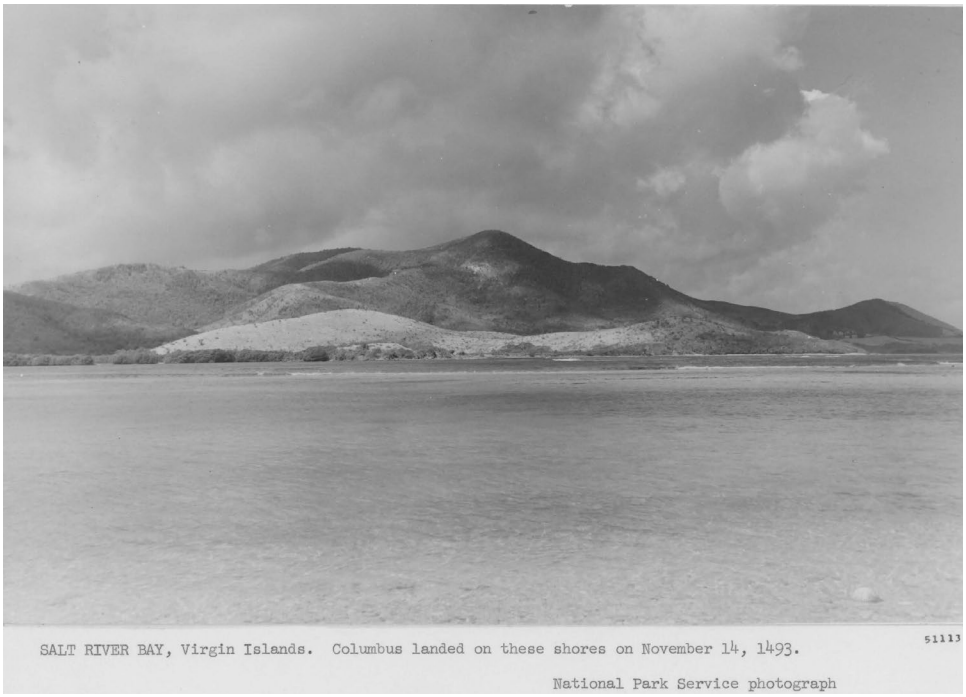
Historic Photographs



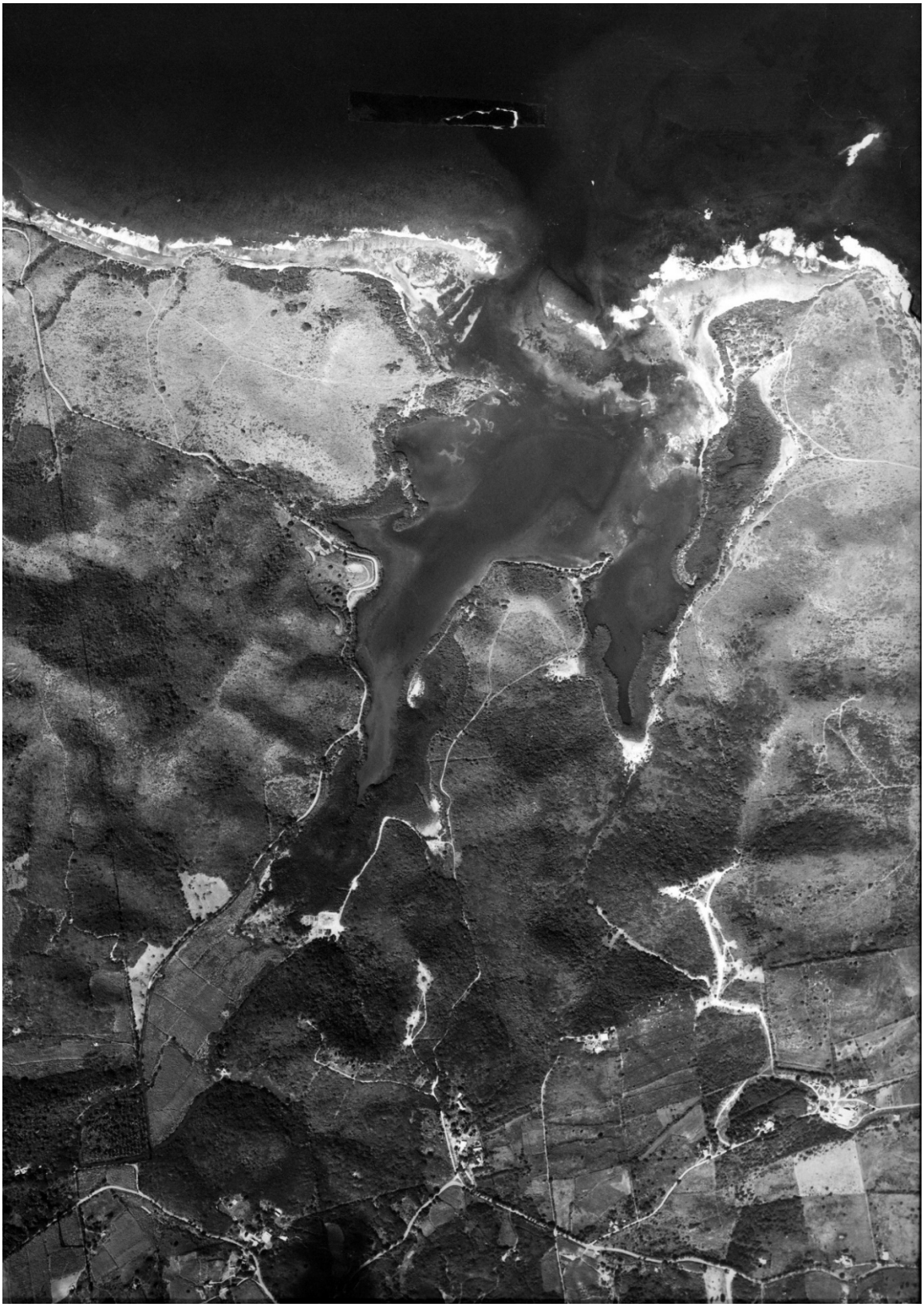
Mrs. Richter at Salt River, undated. (Source: NPS)



1950s view of work at Fort Salé. (Source: NPS)



View towards Columbus Landing/Fort Salé. (Source: NHL)



1954 aerial photograph of Salt River Bay. (Source: NPS)



Circa 1970 aerial photograph of the east side of Salt River Bay following lagoon establishment. (Source: NPS)