

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

3527

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUN 2 1976

DATE ENTERED JUL 23 1976

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Coakley Bay ESTATE

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

E of Christiansted

CITY, TOWN

Christiansted

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

U.S. Virgin Islands

CODE

78

COUNTY

St. Croix

CODE

0800

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

DISTRICT

BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

ACCESSIBLE

YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

COMMERCIAL

PARK

EDUCATIONAL

PRIVATE RESIDENCE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

MILITARY

OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mr. Christian Hendricks

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 361

CITY, TOWN

Christiansted

VICINITY OF

STATE

St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Recorder of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Government House

CITY, TOWN

Christiansted

STATE

St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Virgin Island Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

May, 1976

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR

SURVEY RECORDS V.I. Planning Office

CITY, TOWN

Charlotte Amalie, U.S.V.I.

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

___ EXCELLENT
___ GOOD
___ FAIR

___ DETERIORATED
☒ RUINS
___ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
___ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Coakley Bay, which lies 4.1 miles east of Christiansted, St. Croix, is an early 19th century site now in ruin comprising several buildings important to a sugar plantation--the great house, grinding mill, cookhouse, windmill for drawing water, and partial remains of structures that must have included the sugar factory.

The grinding mill, located at the northern-most point in the complex, is the typical tapering drum (or "cone") shape found on cane plantations. It is constructed of rubble masonry and ballast brick and is about 30' high with a diameter of 26'10", and three foot thick walls measured at the window openings. The mill has a series of arched openings with the main entrance to the raised grinding floor through a tall narrow arch to the south. A window is placed in the east wall. All the window openings and the entrance arch are faced on the interior and exterior, and on the inside curve of the arches with coursed, gauged brick. There is no applied ornamentation to the exterior. In the interior, recessed vertical reveals, which originally contained the top of the gears in the mill machinery, are located immediately under the top of the walls.

The great house lies about 150' to the southeast of the mill. It is a one-story building with the foundation and main floor constructed of red ballast and yellow brick. The dimensions of the rectangle are 70' by 36' with the long side of the house on the east-west axis. The house measures seven bays by four bays. The main entrance is through an enclosed porch on the south facade, with two secondary entrances located on the north and one on the west facade. The porch is enclosed by an arcaded screen wall measuring three bays with brick columns and arches. Access to the porch from the slightly lower southern grade is by a staircase with fanning walls -- the typical West Indian "welcoming arms" type. All windows and doors have flat heads, wood casings with recessed sills and no drip caps. The windows are fitted with shutters attached with hardware that includes wrought drive pintles and shutter hooks.

The interior of the house is entirely wood frame, and dates from a later stage of construction, probably the 1920's. It is not immediately evident how the original rooms were disposed in the interior, but presently there is a central hall plan with three rooms on either side, closed off on the east end by two small central rooms flanked by two larger rooms. The walls are simple wood panels serving as partitions with the tops of the panels ending short of the ceiling to provide for air circulation. The ceiling has been replaced due to hurricane damage and is currently the conventional West Indian "tray", of plank construction with sharply angled corners. The timber trusses are exposed.

THIS IS UNDOUBTEDLY THE BASE OF A WINDMILL USED FOR CRUSHING SUGAR CANE; THE CAP HAS BEEN REMOVED. 8/21/61

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PAGE one

The Virgin Islands Government Department of Conservation and Cultural Affairs is considering acquisition of the Coakley Bay site in order to establish an historic park in association with a recreation facility. The government intends to stabilize the ruins and provide an historic interpretation program.

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Ruins of a small cookhouse of rubble masonry lie to the southwest of the great house.

Other structures associated with the plantation are located along an unpaved road branching to the west from the unpaved entrance road leading to the mill and great house. The structure furthest out on the branch road, and the only one for which the original use is clearly evident, is the windmill for drawing water. It is about 20' high with an exterior staircase winding up the side to the top of the walls. There is a capstone marked "1810", and a masonry trough behind the mill that was used to water the animals of the plantation.

Near the well to the east lies a building, probably part of the factory, with only sections of wall remaining. The south wall is in the best condition and is about 10' high, of rubble masonry construction capped with brick. A continuous band runs about a foot from the top of the wall, and there is a single thick pinnacle with a pointed cap on the southeast corner. There are unidentifiable ruins across the branch road between the windmill for drawing water and the great house.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
☐ PREHISTORIC	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION	
☐ 1400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE	
☐ 1500-1599	☒ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☐ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE	
☐ 1600-1699	☒ ARCHITECTURE	☐ EDUCATION	☐ MILITARY	☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
☒ 1700-1799	☐ ART	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER	
☒ 1800-1899	☐ COMMERCE	☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION	
☐ 1900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☐ INDUSTRY	☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		☐ INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The early 19th century ruins at Coakley Bay are a comprehensive collection of the buildings necessary to sugar production together with a great house. The site includes some fine examples of the typical plantation buildings, among which the best preserved are the grinding mill, and a windmill for drawing water.

Coakley Bay was named for John Coakley, Sr., recorded as owner of the plantation in 1749. An earlier French name for the estate was "Grande Anse". The existing ruins probably were constructed in the early 19th century during the dominance of sugar in the Cruzan economy. A capstone dated 1810 is located on the windmill used to draw water.

The plantation probably ceased production in the late 19th century with the general decline of the sugar industry.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Larsen, Kai. "Personalialia og Data". Microfilm record of research notes, ca. 1928. Royal Library, Copenhagen.

Lewisohn, Florence. St. Croix Under Seven Flags. Hollywood, Florida: Dukane Press, 1970.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY

7 acres

UTM REFERENCES

See continuation sheet

17° 49' 39" north lat.

64° 38' 30" west long.

A	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

B	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
D	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Samuel Stokes,

Russell Wright, Annie Hillary, Margaret Proskauer, Virgin Islands Hist.
ORGANIZATION DATE Survey

Virgin Islands Planning Office, May 17, 1976
STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE

P.O. Box 2606 (809) 774-1730
CITY OR TOWN STATE

Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands 00801

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ☐

STATE ☒

LOCAL ☐

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Thomas R. Blake

TITLE

Director of Planning

DATE

May 25, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Attest: William Hunt
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

7/23/76

Attest:

DATE

7-16-76

Attest: Charles A. Sturgis
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CONTINUATION SHEET

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Geographic Coordinates

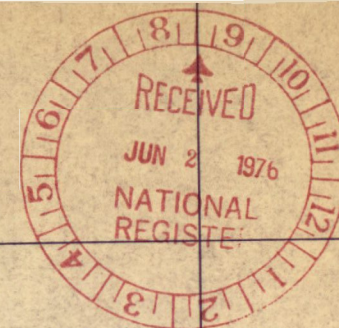
- A. 17° 45' 45" north - 64° 38' 14" west
- B. 17° 45' 34" north - 64° 38' 11" west
- C. 17° 45' 33" north - 64° 38' 42" west
- D. 17° 45' 48" north - 64° 38' 46" west

Verbal Boundary Description

The east boundary of the Coakley Bay site begins at a point 17° 45' 45" north - 64° 38' 14" west (A) and runs 1000' southeast to 17° 45' 34" north - 64° 38' 11" west (B). From here the line runs west to East End Road and continues on the north side of East End Road to a point 17° 45' 33" north - 64° 38' 42" (C), a distance of 2900'. From here the boundary runs northwest 1600' to a point 17° 45' 48" north - 64° 38' 46" west (D). From here it follows east to the beginning point of the boundary.

COAKLEY

BAY



COAKLEY BAY MILL

WINDMILL

GREAT HOUSE

RUINS OF COOKHOUSE

RUINS OF FACTORY

WATER MILL

CARDEN

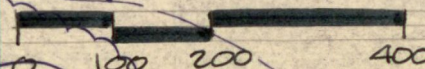
EAST END

28.5

23.0

RD

ESTATE COAKLEY BAY * SITE PLAN



~~State~~
Property

State

Working Number

TECHNICAL

Photos

Maps

CONTROL

HISTORIAN

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

WHAT THEY ARE CALLING A "GRINDING MILL" IS IN REALITY THE STUMP
OR BASE OF A WIND MILL; THE CAP WAS PROBABLY DETERIORATED
AND WAS REMOVED. THE MILL WOULD HAVE BEEN USED TO CRUSH
SUGAR CONE.

Inventory

Review

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up

Federal Register Entry

Send-back

Re-submit

Entered

JUL 23 1976

INT:2106-74







A. $17^{\circ} 45' 45''$ north - $64^{\circ} 38' 14''$ west
B. $17^{\circ} 45' 34''$ north - $64^{\circ} 38' 11''$ west
C. $17^{\circ} 45' 33''$ north - $64^{\circ} 38' 42''$ west
D. $17^{\circ} 45' 48''$ north - $64^{\circ} 38' 46''$ west

FREDERIKSTED 17 MI.

● INTERIOR-GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C., 1972

Light-duty..... Unimproved dirt

EAST POINT, V.I.
N1740.5—W6433/7.5

1958

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Date Entered JUL 23 1976

Name

Location

Estate Coakley Bay

Christiansted vicinity
St. Croix County

Also Notified

Hon. Ron de Lugo
Regional Director, Southeast
Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Thomas Blake
Planning Director
Virgin Islands Planning Board
Charlotte Amalie
St. Thomas, Virgin Islands 00801

PR MMott/row 7/28/76

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 6/8/76
 Reviewer: SRR
 INITIALS: SRR
 DOE JUL 23 1976

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER:

Coakley Bay Estate ✓
 OTHER NAMES: Grande Anse ✓ (see) ← check name (French)

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER

E of Christiansted ✓

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 1st

STATE

V.I.

78

Christiansted

COUNTY

St. Croix

code

0800

OWNER OF PROPERTY:

(Circle)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline)

FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST

SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

INTERIOR

EXTERIOR

ENVIRONS

Substantially intact-1

Substantially intact-2

Substantially intact-3

unknown - 4

unknown - 5

unknown - 6

not applicable - 7

not applicable - 8

Not applicable - 9

not intact

not intact

Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION -

EXCELLENT

DETERIORATED

UNALTERED

ORIGINAL SITE

GOOD

RUINS

ALTERED

MOVED

FAIR

UNEXPOSED

Reconstructed

Unknown

Unexcavated

Excavated

ACCESS -

Yes-restricted

Yes-unrestricted

No access

Unknown

historic district?

YES

NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT?

YES

NO

IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK?

YES

NO

IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE:

YES

NO

Saved?

YES

NO

Being considered

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- Plantation

now- Vacant

SIGNIFICANCE:

ARCHAEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC

ARCHAEOLOGY-HISTORIC

AGRICULTURE

ARCHITECTURE

ART

COMMERCE

COMMUNICATIONS

CONSERVATION

ECONOMICS

EDUCATION

ENGINEERING

EXPLORATION

INDUSTRY

INVENTION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

LAW/Gov't/politics

LITERATURE

MILITARY

MUSIC

PHILOSOPHY

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

RELIGION

SCIENCE

SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER (SPECIFY)

entertainment

health

recreation

settlement

socio/cultural

urban & commun

planning

Claims

"first" YES

NO

"oldest" YES

NO

"only" YES

NO

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:

architect/m.builder:

landscape/garden designer:

interior decorator:

engineer:

artist/artisan:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

(label role

&

appropriate date)

personal

events

institutional

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): early 19th century

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre) 7

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

HOUSE: 1 STORY, RUBBLE MASONRY AND BRICK, RECTANGULAR, 1 1/2 ROOMS

~~GROUNDING WALL: CONCRETE, RUBBLE MASONRY + BRICK~~

RUINS OF FACTORY, COOK HOUSE, MILLS - BRICK + RUBBLE

BASE of WINDMILL for CRUSHING SUGAR CANE; THE CAN HAS BEEN REMOVED.

July 7/16/76

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

A grouping of 7 bldgs, structures and ruins necessary for sugar production. The site includes some fine examples of typical plantation bldgs.

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:

architect/m.builder:
landscape/garden designer:
interior decorator:

Bill
←
engineer:
artist/artisan:
builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

(label role
&
appropriate date)

personal

events

institutional

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): early 19th century

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre) 7

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

House: iron pipe masonry two brick rectangular

Sugar plantation complex includes great house, crushing mill with cap removed, ~~and~~ windmill for drawing water, and ruins of a cookhouse ~~and~~ an unidentified building, all of rubble masonry construction. Site

A comprehensive complex of the buildings necessary to sugar production, typical of the island's era of sugar-dominated economics.

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

A grouping of 1 masonry, ~~structure~~ structures and ruins necessary for sugar production. The site includes some fine examples of typical plantation bldgs.