

PH0502421

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED AUG 15 1977

DATE ENTERED

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Estate Little Princess

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

CITY, TOWN

Christiansted

VICINITY OF

1

STATE

Virgin Islands

CODE

78

COUNTY

St. Croix

CODE

0200**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☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Nature Conservancy

STREET & NUMBER

1800 N. Kent Street

CITY, TOWN

Arlington

VICINITY OF

Virginia

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.Recorder of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Government House

CITY, TOWN

Christiansted, St. Croix

STATE

U. S. Virgin Islands**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Virgin Islands Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

May 6, 1977☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDSVirgin Islands Planning Office

CITY, TOWN

Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas

STATE

U. S. Virgin Islands

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
☒ EXCELLENT	☐ DETERIORATED	☐ UNALTERED	☐ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ GOOD	☐ RUINS	☒ ALTERED	☐ MOVED DATE _____
☐ FAIR	☐ UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Little Princess is located one and three-quarters miles west of Christiansted, St. Croix. The estate presently consists of two great houses, an overseer's house, steam operated sugar factory with distillery, a wind powered sugar mill, wind powered well tower and various outbuildings.

Photo #1

The original great house is two stories in height, hipped roof with a two story, six bay arcaded gallery along the south facade. The residence occupies the upper floor, with the lower part used for a carriage house and storage. The upper section is two by five bays, rectangular in plan (28' x 58') and is one room under a wood tray ceiling. The walls are stuccoed rubble and coral block with all window and door openings having brick lined splayed arches. The openings in the lower part and those in the arcade at the upper level are segmental arches, all lined with brick. This structure was greatly altered in 1956 when it was made into a guest house by the present owners.

Photo #2+3

The second great house, east of the first, is "L" shaped in plan, one story on a high basement with intersecting hipped roofs and a shed roofed gallery along two facades. The front, or south facade, was originally seven bays wide with a centered double door entrance, served by a coral block stair. A later shed roofed, one bay wide, room has been added to the west end of this facade. The gallery repeats the eight bay pattern of the front wall with the later bay, and has shallow segmental arches, supported by square columns. The coral and rubble walls are stuccoed with the rectangular window and door openings, lined with brick, having splayed jambs and flat heads with decorative keystones. The north wing is eight bays in depth, fronted by an eight bay arcaded gallery which is served by a welcoming arms staircase. The roofs are covered with corrugated tin.

Photo #4

The interior of the second great house consists of a single large room running east-west with a tray ceiling and three bedrooms in the east "L" which runs north-south. The interior has been altered during rehabilitation in 1954. An exceptional one story cook house is appended to the northwest corner of the east-west section of the great house. The cookhouse retains the original charcoal stove with three pot holes and a pyramidal range hood serving the west end wall chimney.

Photo #5

The overseer's house is a double residence located southeast of the second great house, 16' 8" x 21' 8" in plan. The rear wall has two windows; the front, two doors, and the end walls, a single window in each. The wall construction is predominantly

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Photo #7

coral block with some rubble. The hipped roof is covered with corrugated tin. East of the overseer's house is the wind mill that once powered the sugar factory. Typical of windmills in the West Indies, it is conical in shape with a flat platform at the top for the windshaft housing. Built of coral block and stuccoed, the entrance and the cleaning openings were blocked when the crushing mill was converted to a cistern sometime after the conversion of the factory to steam around 1850. The well tower with its own wind mill to power the winch, is located southeast of the cane mill and factory. Approximately 40 feet tall, the tapered circular structure is 11 feet in diameter at its base with 30" thick rubble walls. The round headed entrance and two window openings are lined with brick. There is a corbelled brick platform near the top of the tower for the guidepole used in turning the sails into the wind. The winch platform also remains.

Photo #6

The ruins of the sugar factory and rum distillery are southeast of the second great house. Part of the factory has been converted into a garden terrace and swimming pool, but much of the original fabric remains. The factory was constructed of coral block and rubble. The plan consists of two long parallel sections running north-south with a wagon loading platform appended to the south end of the east wall and a cooperage and large cistern added to the south end of the west wall. The eastern section of the factory, 29' 7" x 85" 9" has a ten bay segmental arched arcaded east wall with six similar openings in what remains of the west wall. The south end wall has two windows and the north wall has a centered wide entrance. The arches in the west wall are built of dressed coral block with all other openings having brick lined splayed jambs. The segmental arches are tapered to flat heads on the exterior facades. This part of the factory has the remains of a timber framed roof and retains a great deal of the early brick floor. It was the processing room of the sugar factory. The south end of this section was the shipping and packing room with remains of the molasses vats. It is now the location of the below grade swimming pool. Ruins of the retaining walls for the wagon loading platform are appended to the southeast corner.

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ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE TWO

The western section of the factory structure, 13' 7" wide, also gable roofed with rubble walls, was the distillery or still house, the boiling room and coal storage area. The still room is located at the south end, with its floor set a full level below grade. There are two windows in the south end wall and three in the west, all with slots for wrought iron security bars, now missing. Part of the still remains, built on an elevated platform with its furnace set below.

Photo # 8
The front part of the west wall, tapering to flat heads on the exterior, with a single, large arched opening to the square boiler room. The boiler room is set behind the massive chimney, at the north end of the west wall. The square tapered chimney is constructed of rubble and brick with brick linings at the corners and a brick cornice band and cap.

A two story wing, 45' x 23' is appended to the southwest corner of the distillery area. Gable roofed with rubble walls, this was the cooperage. An 18' x 22' vaulted roof cistern is located to the south of the cooperage and has evidences of the pipeline that connected it to the pot still in the distillery.

Nothing remains of the small settlement at the harbor which was associated with Estate Little Princess.

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 1749, 1849

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Estate Little Princess is significant as it is an outstanding example of Danish colonial architecture and was founded in 1759 by Frederik Moth and Peter Heyliger, Jr., both prominent in the political history of the Virgin Islands.

During the 17th and 18th centuries the Danes joined other European nations in securing colonies in the West Indies. The Danes hoped that their colonies would provide them with a permanent site for their trading and commercial interest. Agriculture was to serve as a supplement to the income provided in commerce and trading.

The purchase of St. Thomas in 1671 for trade and agriculture proved unsuccessful. However, the purchase of St. John (1718) and St. Croix (1733) was influenced more by the potential which they possessed for cultivation than by the need to use them as trading bases.

Estate Little Princess comprised a house, mill (dating to 1749), steam factory (1849) and a settlement with landing at the western extremity of Christiansted Harbor. Its first owner was Frederik Moth, the first Danish governor of St. Croix and the man who planned the colonization of St. Croix and builder of Christiansted. Moth was born in 1694 in Copenhagen and was captain of a West India Company vessel engaged in the slave trade. In 1722 he was appointed the Company's merchant in St. Thomas where he married the youngest daughter of the influential planter, Lucas van Beverhout. Their youngest daughter, Alette Moth, married Peter Heyliger, Jr., who owned the Estate from 1758-1769.

Moth was named governor of St. Thomas in 1733 and governor of all three islands in 1736. He was discharged in 1744 for dereliction of duty. One reason for this action was his extension of Little Princess at the expense of the West India Company. The Company then kept the plantation as its own property and, when the Crown took St. Croix from the Company in 1754, it retained Little Princess as royal property.

The name, Little Princess appears for the first time in 1802, and the Estate was also known as Little Princessa. In 1834, Robert Innes

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dookhan, Isaac. A History of the Virgin Islands of the United States.
Epping, Essex: Bowker Publishing Co., 1974

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

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 5.03
UTM REFERENCES

✓ 17° 45' 54" North latitude
64° 43' 34" West longitude
33

A [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

B [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property is located at #52 Estate Little Princess.

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

STATE	N/A	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE		CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Russell Wright, Philip Lader

June 6, 1977

ORGANIZATION

Virgin Islands Planning Office

DATE

(809) 774-1730

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 2606

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas

STATE

U. S. Virgin Islands

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.

Thomas S. Dale
STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE Director of Planning

DATE 5 August 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE Three (two) OK JET 1/41

Grant sold 18½ acres of the Estate to Governor Peter von Scholten. From 1879 - 1915, the Estate was owned by Emil Switzer, who entertained many internationally prominent scientists there. By 1900, the Estate was still turning out brown "muscovado" and making profits in good years. The Estate was donated to the Nature Conservancy in 1970 by Clayton and Opal Shoemaker.

The Estate inspired a poem, "Legend of Little Princess, St. Croix," by the native historian, J. Antonio Jarvis. The greathouse's double masonry arcade is typical of 18th century Danish architecture and with Butler's Bay, it has one of the most notable arched galleries on the island. The Estate also includes a windmill, steam mill with elaborate chimney cornice, factory, well tower, slave quarters and overseers' house.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE Four

Zabriske, L. K. The Virgin Islands of the United States of America - Historical and Descriptive Commercial and Industrial Facts, Figures and Resources: New York, 1918

McGuire, James William. Geographic Dictionary of the Virgin Islands. Special Publication No. 103 (Serial No. 269), United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, Department of Commerce. Washington, D. C. 1925

Westergaard, Waldemar Christian. The Danish West Indies Under Company Rule (1671 0 1754), With a Supplementary Chapter, New York, 1917.

Interview with Mrs. Opal Shoemaker by Annie Hillary, November 22, 1976

Property Estate Little Princess

State V.I.

Working Number 8.15.77.1299

TECHNICAL

Photos 8

Maps 1

Documentation of slave quarters?

CONTROL

OK pl
8.17.77

HISTORIAN

CALL/Accept 1-4-78

Joe Lauer

Sketch map would be helpful in order to understand estate complex. MISSING
page 2 of #8-statement of significance.

TO HAER

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

John Gilmore 10.27.77

Return
12.7.78

ARCHEOLOGIST

with information noted by 1st reviewer.

OTHER

accept
Brabham
12.15.77

HAER

Inventory Accept

Review Accept

11/14

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Return
Lebowich

12/4/78

requested information was sent

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____

Send-back 12.8.78

Entered _____

Federal Register Entry _____

Re-submit 5.8.80

INT:2106-74

NAME OF PROPERTY Estate Little Princess STATE Virgin Islands

The attached National Register Inventory-Nomination form is being returned to your office for clarification of the information indicated below. PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM WHEN THE NOMINATION IS RESUBMITTED.

✓ **7** Description: PLEASE DESCRIBE MORE FULLY SUCH ELEMENTS OF THE TOTAL
Complex not documented by photographs such as slave quarters.
Photographs of such elements would be most helpful.

8 Statement of Significance: _____

9 Bibliography: _____

✓ **10** Geographical Data -- Acreage: _____

UTM Reference(s): PLEASE NOTE CORRECTIONS ON FORM.

Verbal Boundary Description: _____

✓ **12** Certification: _____

~~Photographic Coverage~~ - ~~ILLUSTRATIONS~~ PLEASE PROVIDE A SKETCH MAP
WHICH IDENTIFIES THE GREAT HOUSE, THE 2ND GREAT HOUSE, WINDMILL, STEAM

Map Coverage: MILL - WITH CHIMNEY, FACTORY, WELL TOWER, SLAVE QUARTERS
AND OVERSEEN'S HOUSE.

✓ Other: Retained for information requested 4-7-78
and Nov 9, 1978 See enclosed comments

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to Joe Twomey
on the National Register staff, telephone 3202-343-6401

Thank you for your attention to the above items.

Bill Lebowich Jr
Chief, Branch of Registration

Date: Dec 4, 1978

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For HCRS use only

received MAY 8 1980

date entered JUN 9 1980

1. Name

historic Estate Little Princess

and/or common Estate Little Princessa

2. Location

street & number Northwest of Christiansted _____ not for publication

city, town Christiansted ☒ vicinity of congressional district 1

state Virgin Islands code 78 county St. Croix code 0200

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
☐ district	☐ public	☒ occupied	☐ agriculture ☐ museum
☒ building(s)	☒ private	☐ unoccupied	☐ commercial ☐ park
☐ structure	☐ both	☐ work in progress	☐ educational ☒ private residence
☒ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	☐ entertainment ☐ religious
☐ object	☐ in process	☒ yes: restricted	☐ government ☐ scientific
	☐ being considered	☐ yes: unrestricted	☐ industrial ☐ transportation
		☐ no	☐ military ☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Nature Conservancy

street & number 1800 N. Kent Street

city, town Arlington _____ vicinity of state Virginia

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Recorder of Deeds

street & number Government House

city, town Christiansted, St. Croix state U. S. Virgin Islands

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Virgin Islands Inventory of
title Historic Places

has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

date _____ federal ☒ state _____ county _____ local _____

depository for survey records Virgin Islands Planning Office

city, town Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, state U. S. Virgin Islands

7. Description

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☒ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date April 1, 1980

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Estate Little Princess is located approximately one and three-quarter miles west of the town of Christiansted, St. Croix, just within the outer limits of Christiansted Harbor. The Estate presently consists of: two great houses, dating approximately one hundred years apart; an overseer's house; a former steam-powered sugar factory and rum distillery; the remains of a wind-powered sugar mill and well tower; and several outbuildings, including the remains of the original slave village immediately to the west of the original manor house.

The first and older of the two greathouses (photo 1) is two-stories in height and "T" shaped in plan, consisting of a rectangular central core (the top of the "T"), measuring 28 by 58 feet and projecting bay, now a kitchen, measuring about 15 by 10 feet. The single roof is hipped and covered with corrugated sheet metal. An impressive two-story arcaded gallery spans the south side of the building, providing access by means of a restored masonry staircase, contained within the eastern most of the six bays, to the second floor residence. The lower floor is presently--and was no doubt originally--used for storage. Bearing walls are of rubble masonry, with brick reinforcement at the splayed window and door openings. Brick also forms the voussoirs of the elliptical arches of the double arcade. The walls throughout are covered with lime plaster and cement except in some areas where the under-lying materials were exposed more recently for decorative effect.

The structure has in fact been altered considerably over the years, most recently during renovations carried out in 1956-57 when the then abandoned property was acquired by the present residents. The roof of the gallery, originally framed, was replaced with reinforced concrete as were the gallery's originally wood floors; however, since the building was open to the elements at the time, the owners felt they had little other choice. Other changes included the provision of a small guest house and one-story garage in the projection to the north of the original building (photo 2). A number of original sheds and out-buildings were apparently incorporated within this addition. Changes on the interior included: The provision of a new tray ceiling, based on examples elsewhere; the provision of a small kitchen and bathroom in the two-bay northern projection; and the installation of modern screens and adjustable жалюзи replacing what were no doubt the original casement louvers and storm shutters. None of these changes, however, seriously detract from the overall appearance and historic character of the building--and none are fully unalterable.

The second great-house (photo 3 and 4) is located approximately 25 feet to the east on the same axis as the first. Unlike the original house, which it resembles in basic outline and dimensions, this second slightly more elaborate and larger building is roughly "L" shaped in plan (with an additional Kitchen and smaller wing balancing the ell) and one and one half stories high. The arcade gallery is likewise "L" shaped, running in this case along the south and east facades. The front, or south facade, was originally seven bays wide with a centered entrance served by a limestone of "coral" staircase. A later, one bay wide room has since been added to the southwest corner adding in effect an eighth bay to the south facade and, therefore, to the original gallery. The gallery on the east facade is likewise eight bays wide, corresponding to the projecting arm of the ell.

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A second "welcoming arms" staircase, similar to that on the south, approaches from the east. The coral stone and rubber walls throughout are covered with lime plaster patched with cement. Square-headed window and door openings are again flat arched and splayed, the openings and arches being defined by bricks. The roof, sheathed in corrugated sheet metal, follows the conventional pattern: hipped for the main house; sheds for the gallery and southwest extension.

As with the first great house, the interior of the second has been substantially altered and now consists of a single large room running on the eastwest axis with a study projecting at the western corner. A single tray ceiling of later composition board spans the area. Bedrooms, three in number, are located in the ell, the kitchen, as explained, projects from the northwest corner. The latter, which retains its original charcoal stove and pyramidal range hood, has been conscientiously adapted for modern use (photo 5).

A third residential building, originally the overseer's house, is located approximately 100 feet to the south east (photo 6). This one-story double residence of roughed coursed coral follows a standard regional model, including the traditional hipped roof of corrugated sheet metal. The total dimensions are 16 by 21 and 2/3 feet. The walls rise 10 and 2/3 feet from the ground level. The paired doors of the south facade are matched by a double set of windows on the north. Windows and doors have in turn been altered through the addition of modern louvers. Otherwise, the building remains substantially unchanged.

North and west of the overseer's house is the windmill (photos 6 and 7), of the first sugar factory. Typical of windmills in the West Indies, it is conical in shape and is completed by a flat platform to receive the windshaft housing. Built of coral block and originally covered with lime plaster of which traces remain, the structure's cleaning openings and entrance were blocked when the crushing mill was converted to a cistern some time after the introduction of a steam-power--and a second factory--after 1850.

The well-tower with its own windmill to power the winch, is located southeast of the canemill and factory. Approximately 40 feet high, the tapered circular structure, now overgrown with vegetation and barely accessible, is 11 feet in diameter at its base. Rubble walls are as much as 30 inches thick. The round-headed entrance and two window openings are, as with other buildings in the complex, lined with brick. There is also a corbelled brick platform near the top of the tower for the guidepole used in turning the sails into the wind. The winch platform also remains.

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The ruins of the second sugar factory and rum distillery are located approximately 160 feet southeast of the second great house (photos 8, 9, and 10). Part of the factory has been converted into a garden terrace and swimming pool, but this has been done sympathetically and does not completely interrupt the original appearance of the structure. Also, most of the original fabric remains intact.

In plan, the factory consists of two long parallel sections running on the north-south axis with a third element, a wagon loading platform, appended to the southend of the east wall and a fourth conjoining element,--a cooperage and large cistern--added to the southend of the west wall. The eastern section of the factory, measuring 29 feet 7 inches by 85 feet 9 inches, features a ten-bay-long arcade on the west balanced by six segmentially arched windows on the east. The south wall is punctured by two windows; the corresponding north wall has only a single wide entrance. The ten arched openings of the west wall are built of dressed coral block; all other opening are defined by brick. This part of the factory also includes the remains of a timber-framed roof as well as the remains of a portion of the original brick floor.

This first section was originally used as the actual processing room of the sugar factory and would have included a number of iron pans or coppers no longer in evidence. The southend, now the swimming pool, was the shipping and packing area. Ruins of the original wagon loading platform, retained above, are appended to the southeast corner. The other wing of the factory was, as suggested, originally the site of the distillery and cooperage. Although slightly narrower--13 and 1/2 feet compared to about 20--this section conforms in basic outline to the other, again possessing a gable roof and internally arched window openings. Rather than an arcade, however, there are only three large windows on the west and two small square-headed windows on the south walls. All windows include slots for the original wood security bars, now deteriorated and lost.

This second section encompasses the original distillery or "still house", the boiling room and the coal-storage area. The still room is located at the southend with its floor set a full level below grade.

Part of the still remains, elevated on a low brick platform with the furnace below. The boiler room is set behind the massive chimney (photo 8) at the northend. The chimney itself is typical in design. As with the rest of the factory, it is constructed of rough, course rubble with certain elements--in this case the cornice band and cap--constructed of brick.

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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DATE ENTERED	JUN 9 1980

CONTINUATION SHEET

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A final two-story wing, measuring 45 by 23 feet, is appended, as explained, to the southwest corner of the distillery area. This was originally the cooperage and there is evidence of a pipe line connecting it to the pot still of the distillery. Immediately adjacent is an 18 by 22 feet vaulted cistern.

The ruins of an extensive slave village (photos 11 and 12) are located approximately 150 feet to the west of the original great house. Only one of what are estimated as originally thirty houses is standing, having been altered through an addition on the north and the provision of new windows and fixtures for use as a servant's residence during the 1950's. The rest consist of low rubble walls, some barely visible. The whole area is over-grown and now accessible only with difficulty.

As with so many other plantations of the period, Little Princess, possesses a certain amount of potential as an archaeological site. The owner has discovered a number of examples of 19C delft and other ceramic ware, as well as a number of American Indian artifacts, including flint tools, scattered about the surface. The area is included in the VI Inventory of archaeological sites, as well, although the boundaries of the potential archaeological site are as yet undefined by tests. These are contemplated in the future.

As an historical site, the boundaries of the property are relatively well-defined, based on the existing boundaries of the lot containing the whole complex. Totalling nearly 20 acres, this lot is considered sufficient to protect the integrity of all visible remains as well as any potential resources within the immediate area.

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/
☒ 1700-1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☒ 1800-1899	☐ commerce	☐ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☐ 1900-	☐ communications	☐ industry	☒ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☐ other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Estate Little Princess is an outstanding example of a sugar plantation and factory dating from the early period of Danish Colonization in the West Indies. Together with Butler Bay to the west--similar in terms of its architecture and other details--it is also one of the best preserved, its later alterations merely serving to extend the property's life and not to fully alter its original appearance.

Deed records suggest that Little Princess was first established in 1749, or 16 years after the purchase of St. Croix by the Danish Crown, by two young planters, Frederik Moth and Peter Heyliger, both later to become prominent in the political life of the island, Moth eventually serving as governor. Little Princess was perhaps typical of plantations of its kind, designed to help supplement other commercial ventures on the island or within the Danish Colonies. The original complex includes a great house, windmill (built as early as 1749) well and probably the slave village. Moth, born in Copenhagen in 1694 and moving to St. Thomas in 1722 as a merchant in Danish West India Company, apparently moved into the complex soon afterwards. Accompanying him were probably his wife, the daughter of Lucas van Beverhout, a prominent St. Thomas planter, and their children. His youngest daughter, Alette Moth, eventually inherited the estate following her marriage to Peter Heylinger Junior. For a short time before this, however, Moth's ownership came into question when the crown took over title of the property from the company in 1754. Improved by Moth with company funds for many years, it is obvious that there was considerable resentment over this-- although in the end Moth appears to have gained control once again.

The name, Little Princess, appeared for the first time in 1802; it was also known as Little Princessa. In 1834, Robert Innes Grant, who had purchased it several years before, sold 18 1/2 acres of the estate to Governor Peter von Scholten, who undertook the second phase of improvements. From 1879 to 1915, the Estate was owned by Emil Switzer who entertained a number of internationally known scientists there.

As a plantation and factory Little Princess followed the standard pattern of success and decline. By 1900, while the Estate was still turning out "muscovado" and making an occasional profit, there was little hope of its survival as a major producer. During the 1950's, the buildings long in ruins--the roof of the original great house was destroyed in the famous 1928 hurricane which devastated the island--and all its land turned over to grazing, the property was acquired by Clayton and Opal Shoemaker for a vacation home. In 1970 the property, including an additional 5 acre lot to the north was donated to the Nature Conservancy to insure the continued preservation of the site.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Dookhan, Isaac. A History of the Virgin Islands of the United States.
Epping, Essex: Bowker Publishing Company, 1974.

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

10. Geographical Data **UTM NOT VERIFIED**

Acreage of nominated property 19.598

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle name _____ 17° 45' 34" North Latitude

UMT References 64° 43' 33" West Longitude

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The nominated property is located at #52 Estate Little Princess.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	N/A	county	N/A	code	N/A
-------	-----	------	-----	--------	-----	------	-----

state	N/a	code	N/a	county	N/a	code	N/A
-------	-----	------	-----	--------	-----	------	-----

11. Form Prepared By

(Architectural Historian)

name/title Mr. Russell Wright, Mr. Philip Lader, Mr. William Chapman

organization Virgin Islands Planning Office date June 6, 1977 / April 12, 1980

street & number P. O. Box 2606 telephone (809) 774-1730

city or town Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas state U. S. Virgin Islands

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 Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Thomas C. Blate

title Director of Planning

date 4/22/80

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Keeper of the National Register

date 6/9/80

Attest: *W. Rany Lince*
Chief of Registration

date 6/6/80

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAY 8 1980

DATE ENTERED

JUN 9 1980

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2 of 2

Architecturally, the Estate is more important for its typically than for its exceptional features. The double arcade of the older great house is a typical element and in fact occurs a number of other plantation great houses of the area, most notably Butler Bay to the west.

The second greathouse of 1850 is likewise typical; nor was it entirely unusual for a second house to have been constructed once tastes and needs changed during the mid-Nineteenth Century. The essentially "T" shaped sugar factory, also built around 1850, while more elaborate than most, conformed as well as to the general pattern, as did the earlier conical windmill. Overall Little Princess is an exceptionally well preserved site, its donation to the Nature Conservancy helping to further insure this. The full potential of the site in terms of both prehistoric and historic remains has yet to be fully established.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAY 8 1980
DATE ENTERED JUN 9 1980

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2 of 2

Zabriske, L. K. The Virgin Islands of the United States of America-
Historical and Descriptive Commercial and Industrial Facts, Figures
and Resources: New York, 1918.

McGuire, James William. Geographic Dictionary of the Virgin Islands.
Special Publication No. 103 (Serial No. 269), United States Coast and
Geodetic Survey, Department of Commerce. Washington, D. C. 1925

Westergaard, Waldemar Christian. The Danish West Indies Under
Company Rule (1671) 1754), With a Supplementary Chapter, New York,
1917.

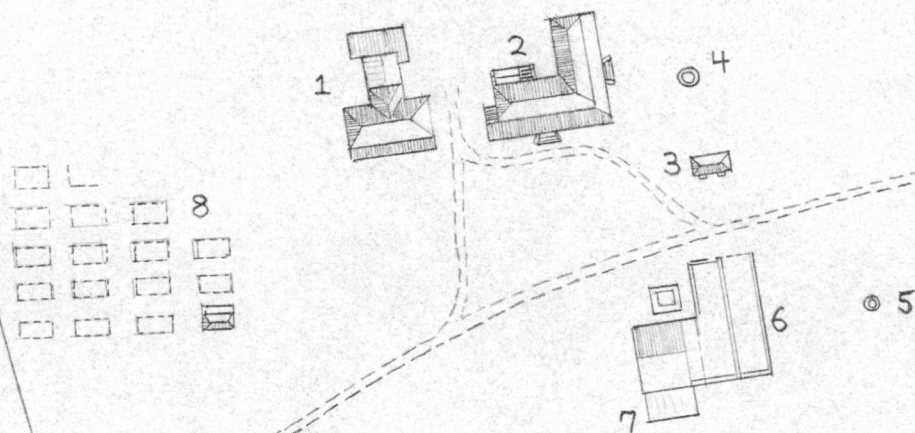
Interview with Mr. Clayton Shoemaker by Mr. William Chapman,
February 15, 1980.

Interview with Mrs. Opal Shoemaker by Annie Hillary, November 22, 1976.

- 1 OLD GREAT HOUSE
- 2 NEW GREAT HOUSE
- 3 OVERSEERS HOUSE
- 4 WINDMILL
- 5 WELL
- 6 FACTORY
- 7 CISTERN
- 8 SLAVE VILLAGE

LOT NO. 52

CARIBBEAN SEA



ESTATE LITTLE PRINCESS , C'STED , ST. CROIX



1"=150'

MAY 8 1980

ESTATE LITTLE PRINCESS, C'STED, ST. CROIX

JUN 6 1980

1"=120'

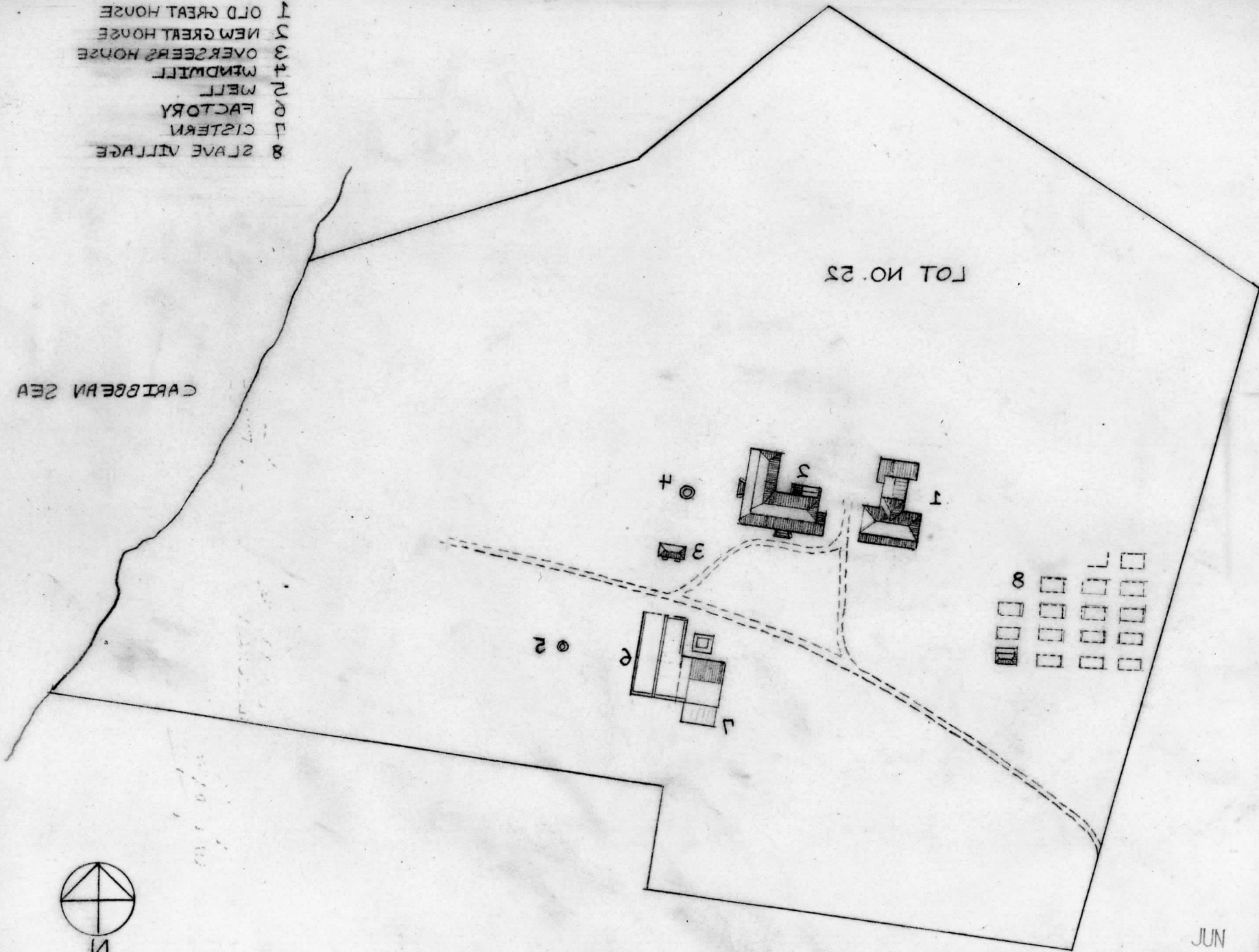
MAY 8 1980



CARIBBEAN SEA

LOT NO. 25

- 1 OLD GREAT HOUSE
- 2 NEW GREAT HOUSE
- 3 OVERSEER'S HOUSE
- 4 WINDMILL
- 5 WELL
- 6 FACTORY
- 7 CISTERN
- 8 SLAVE VILLAGE



Property

Estate Little Princess

2nd Central

State

VI

Working Number

8.15.77.1299

8000 3995

TECHNICAL

Photos 13Maps 2

Need Full U.S. N.S. map.

CONTROL

All information requested in 1978 received - roomer HISTORIAN
adequately documented - sugar plantation + factory with well
preserved collection of typical features - 2 great houses, overseer's house
windmill, T plan factory. Also assoc. w/ island development Accept
+ early resource exploitation by Europeans. DATE 5/14/80
check notebook - ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

waiver letter rec'd, filed 6/6/80 of Flint

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
5/14/80

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up

2.3.81

Send-back _____

Federal Register Entry

Re-submit _____

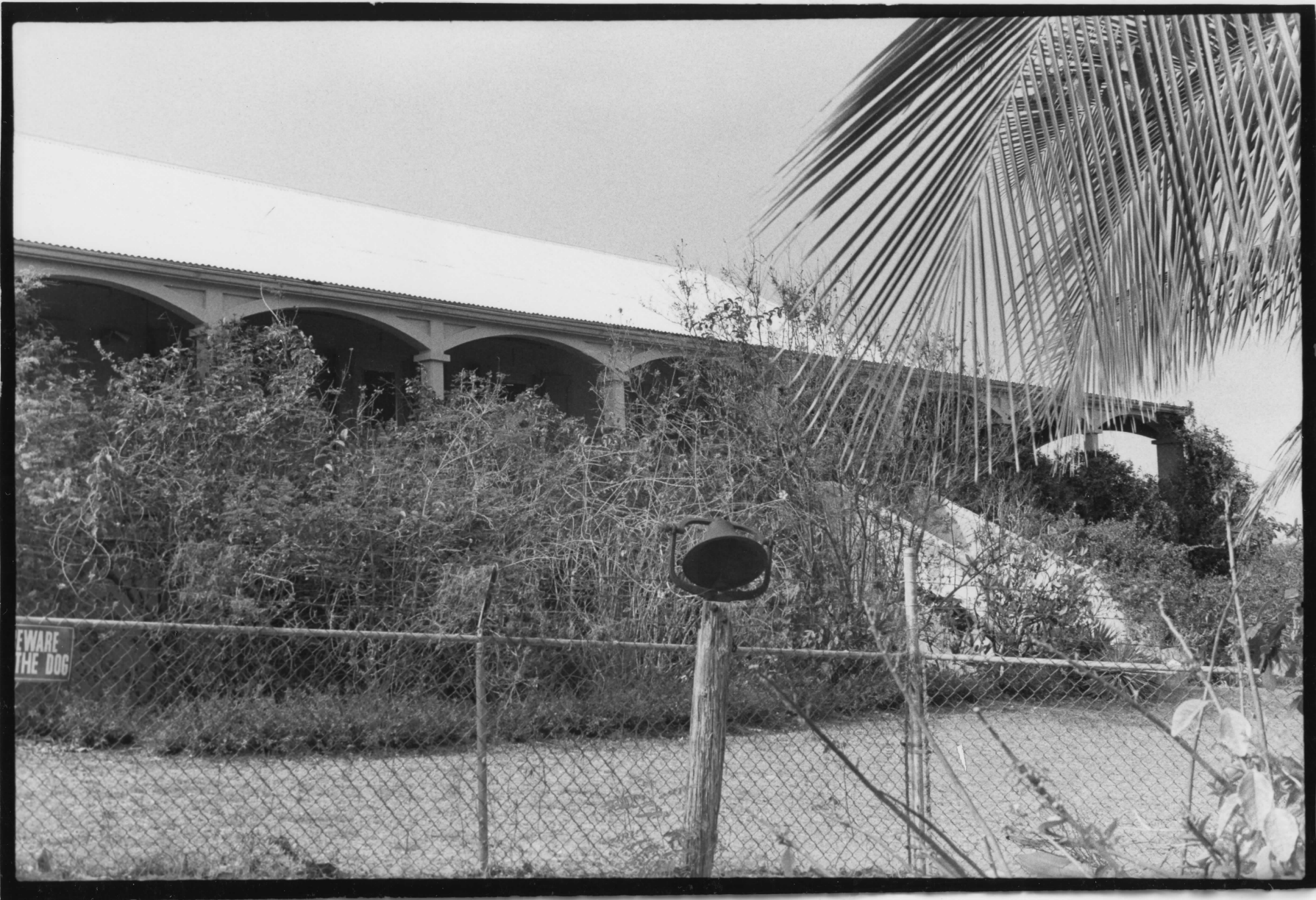
Entered

JUN 9 1980



























258

570

593

64° 43' 34" W. LONG.



0821 8 YAM

JUN 9 1980

1-4-78

TELEPHONE REPORT

TIME OF CALL

AM
PM

1. CALL ☒ TO: ☐ FROM (Name)

Annie Hillary

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

809-774-1730

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

Estate Little Princess VI

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

Q- Documentation of slave quarters (photo)? NO

Q- Is page 2 of Section # 8 missing, or is p #3 mis-numbered?

OK ✓

Q- Please provide sketchmap of estate.

2/7/78 Tom Richards will check on slave quarters
will send map.

Map will be done in May 78 when property
owner will provide access to SHPO.

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

Joe Turner

TITLE

Ha

OFFICE

NR



GOVERNMENT OF
THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

— 0 —
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

VIRGIN ISLANDS PLANNING OFFICE

P. O. Box 2606
Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, V.I. 00801

April 17, 1980

Ms. Carol Shull, Acting Keeper
National Register
Heritage Conservation and Recreation
Service
440 G Street
Washington, DC 20243

ATTENTION: Carol Duby

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed is a revised version of our 1977 nomination for Estate Little Princess, St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands. As the nomination has been delayed for some time, I would very much appreciate it if you could process it as quickly as possible.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas R. Blake
Director of Planning, SHPO

WRC/TRB/sgfg

Enclosure



Expedite

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

TELEPHONE REPORT

DATE

5/14/80

TIME OF CALL

2:48

PM

1. CALL ☒ TO: ☐ FROM (Name)

Ray Culter

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

Little Princess

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

Explained our situation to him —
documentation looked ok,
but since over a year had passed,
we would need to notify or get a
waiver letter —

he will send letter —

1 explained contents:

1. state ownership
2. aware of effects of listing,
merits + demerits of TRA
3. waive right to comment

he will send —

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

DUBIE

TITLE

HIST

OFFICE

waiver letter - Collette

The Nature Conservancy

1800 North Kent Street, Arlington, Virginia 22209
(703) 841-5300

May 15, 1980

Ms. Carol Shull
Acting Keeper
National Register of Historic Places
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service
440 G St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20243

Re: National Historic Landmark Designation
Little Princess, U.S. Virgin Islands

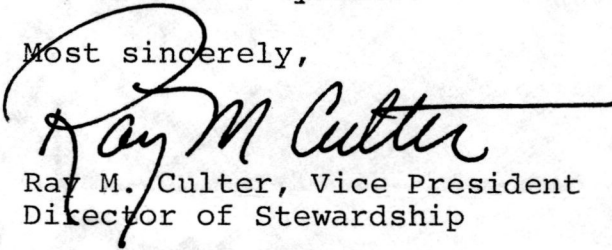
Dear Ms. Shull:

On behalf of The Nature Conservancy, owner of a 20 acre tract of land on St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands, known as Little Princess, I am hereby asking that you waive the 30 day land owner comment, and designate said area as a National Historic Landmark.

We are aware of the impact in listing this area on the National Register of Historic Places as well as the incentives and disincentives of the Tax Reform Act.

Designation of this area as an historic landmark is an action that we have been pursuing for a number of years.

Most sincerely,


Ray M. Culter, Vice President
Director of Stewardship

RMC/jf



THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

DATE REC'D MAY 16 1980

INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE (ATTACHED)

BY MATERIAL SENT

TELEPHONE CALL (ATTACHED)

DATE ACTION TAKEN

INITIALS

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

TELEPHONE REPORT

DATE

6/6/80

TIME OF CALL

10³⁰

AM
PM

1. CALL ☒ TO: ☐ FROM (Name)

RAY Custer

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

Nature Conservancy

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

Status of Estate Little Princess

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

Waiver letter rec'd and just filed. Now. being reviewed and processed.

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

L. FLINT

TITLE

Arch. Hist

OFFICE

NR

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Date Entered JUN 9 1980

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Estate Little Princess	Christiansted St. Croix County

Also Notified

Honorable Melvin H. Evans

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

NR

Byers/mjd 6/23/80

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

1 NAME as it appears on federal register: Estate Little Princess				2 OTHER NAMES:		3 date of entry:		4 county code: 0200	
5 LOCATION street & number 1.75 mi. NW of Christiansted at Long Reef		city / town Christiansted		vicinity of Christiansted		state V.I.		county St. Croix	
6 NPS REGION: Southeast									
7 OWNER ☒ PRIVATE ☐ STATE ☐ MUNICIPAL ☐ COUNTY ☐ MULTIPLE ☐ FEDERAL (agency name)								8 ADMINISTRATOR:	
9 EXISTING SURVEYS ☐ HABS ☐ HAER ☐ NHL		10 FUNDED? ☐ YES ☐ NO		11 CONGRESS. DISTRICT 1st		12 SOURCE of NOMINATION ☒ STATE ☐ FEDERAL		if state who prepared form?	
13 WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? ☐ YES, NAME ☒ NO		14 WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? ☐ YES, NAME ☒ NO		15 ACREAGE 5.03		16 LOCAL ☐ PRIVATE ORGANIZATION ☐			
18 CONDITION ☐ excellent ☐ good ☐ fair		☐ deteriorated ☐ ruins ☐ unexposed ☐ unexcavated		☐ altered ☐ unaltered ☐ reconstructed ☐ excavated		17 features: INTERIOR ☐ SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 ☐ NOT INTACT-0 ☐ UNKNOWN-4 ☐ NOT APPLICABLE-7		EXTERIOR ☐ SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 ☐ NOT INTACT-0 ☐ UNKNOWN-5 ☐ NOT APPLICABLE-8	
19 ACCESS ☐ YES -Restricted ☐ YES -Unrestricted ☐ No Access ☐ Unknown		20 ADAPTIVE USE ☐ YES ☐ NO		21 SAVED? ☐ YES ☐ NO		22 IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? ☐ yes ☐ no			
23 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: ☐ ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2 ☐ ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 ☐ AGRICULTURE-3 ☐ ARCHITECTURE-4 ☐ ART-5		☐ ENGINEERING-11 ☐ ENTERTAINMENT-26 ☐ EXPLORATION-12 ☐ HEALTH-27 ☐ INDUSTRY-13 ☐ INVENTION-14		☐ LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 ☐ LAW-16 ☐ LITERATURE-17 ☐ MILITARY-18 ☐ MUSIC-19 ☐ PHILOSOPHY-20		☐ POLITICS/GOVT.-21 ☐ RELIGION-22 ☐ SCIENCE-23 ☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24 ☐ SOCIAL/CULTURAL-30 ☐ TRANSPORTATION-25		24 CLAIMS: explain 'first' ☐ 'oldest' ☐ 'only' ☐	
25 functions WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: CURRENTLY:		26 dates of initial construction: major alterations: historic events:		27 ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION					
28 architectural style(s):		29 architect:		30 master builder:		31 engineer:			
32 landscape architect / garden designer:		33 interior decorator:		34 artist:		35 artisan:		36 builder/contractor:	
37 NAMES give role & date PERSONAL: EVENTS: INSTITUTIONAL:									

38 NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP