

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JUN 2 1976

DATE ENTERED JUL 12 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

La Grande Princesse School

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

Christiansted

☒ VICINITY OF

STATE

U.S. Virgin Islands

CODE

78

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

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

Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands

STREET & NUMBER

Government House

CITY, TOWN

Charlotte Amalie

VICINITY OF

U.S. Virgin Islands

STATE

00801

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Recorder of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Government House

CITY, TOWN

Christiansted

STATE

U.S. Virgin Islands

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Historic American Buildings Survey

DATE

☒ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

National Park Service

CITY, TOWN

Washington, D.C.

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

___EXCELLENT
XGOOD
___FAIR

___DETERIORATED
___RUINS
___UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

XUNALTERED
___ALTERED

CHECK ONE

XORIGINAL SITE
___MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

La Grande Princesse School lies north of North Road, two miles north-west of Christiansted, St. Croix. It is significant as one example of the eight schools of identical design built on St. Croix as a result of Governor-General Peter von Scholten's efforts to improve the conditions of the slaves. Construction of the school began in or soon after 1837, and was completed and the school dedicated in 1841. A festive ceremony was held on May 16 of that year at La Grande Princess building to dedicate all the schools.

The architect-builder of La Grande Princess and the other so-called "von Scholten schools" was Albert Løvmand (1827-1847), from Denmark. Løvmand received a classical education in architecture at the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Copenhagen before coming to the West Indies in 1832, and the design of the schools is a clear projection of his classical training. ? *Løvmand*

The building is on a low hill, above the main road, and is approached by a semi-circular paved drive. It faces to the southwest, with the long axis running northwest-southeast. Constructed of rubble masonry, covered with stucco, the building is a one story rectangle, measuring 62' 2" by 37' 9" with seven bays on the long facades and three bays on the ends. As found in all the school designs, the main facade is divided into three parts: a slightly projecting central section of three bays, flanked by two sections of two bays each. Capital bands applied to the piers dividing the bays on the central section, level with the transom bars of the doors, create the illusion of engaged pilasters. The projecting foundation of the building, serves as a watertable, and varies in height from approximately one to three feet. A one foot deep band, immediately below the cornice, projecting about one inch from the wall, together with the foundation line, create a recessed panelled area of wall surface. Masonry quoins articulate the corners.

There are three entrances to the building, on the southwest, northwest and southeast facades. Means of access to the main entrance is by a stepped platform of four stairs, and on the side entrances, by two steps. On the end facades, the doors have a large masonry surround tolled to imitate quoins and radiating blocks above the semi-circular arch. All windows and doors have flat heads and are set into round arched niches. The fanlight areas above the windows are filled in with masonry, with two vertical bands of molding dividing them into three sections.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 6 PAGE two

U.S. Virgin Islands Inventory of Historic Places

May 1976 x State

Virgin Islands Planning Office

Charlotte Amalie U.S.V.I.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER #7 PAGE one

All windows have wood casings with drip caps and lug sills, and are fitted with double wooden shutters. Hardware on the shutters includes strap hinges with heart-shaped cusps on drive pintles, and L and bar brackets.

There is a continuous rounded cornice at the eaves and the roof is hipped, and covered with corrugated metal.

The interior plan of the school is a single main room, with two side rooms off the central section.

There is a 19th Century cookhouse, built of the same material as the school, about 50' to the northwest. It is in the form of a barrel-vaulted rectangle, with a rear chimney. There is a centrally-placed window on the southeast end, and a door on the northeast, rear facade. The interior is a single room.

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 1841

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Albert Løvmand

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

La Grande Princesse was the first of eight schools built on St. Croix specifically for slave children, as part of Governor-General Peter von Scholten's program to improve the condition of slaves. On June 4, 1839, von Scholten introduced an Edict of Free Compulsory Education for Slave Children. The schools were to be operated by Moravian Missionaries for slave children between the ages of six and 13. The construction was financed in part by the planters (who were taxed in proportion to their number of slaves) and in part by Burgher Council appropriations. La Grande Princess School was opened on May 16, 1841.

Friedrich Martin, a noted Moravian Missionary-teacher, supervised the schools for slave children on St. Croix and lived and was buried next to La Grande Princess School.

La GrandePrincesse is the only "von Scholten school" still in educational use, serving as a school for the retarded.

La Grande Princesse School, designed by Albert Løvmand, is a good West Indian example of traditional Danish classicism with three part front facades articulated by flat engaged pilasters, corner quoining and a molded cornice below a low parapet which encloses a typical hip roof.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Interview of Donald Swickard, Supervisor of Special Education. By Annie Hillary, and Margaret Proskauer. May 10, 1976

Define Licht, Kjeld. Albert Løvmand and his work in the Former Danish West Indies. Journal of the Society of Architectural Historical, vol. xxi, No.3, October, 1962.

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

Define Licht, Kjeld. Albert Løvmand and his work in the Former Danish West Indies. Journal of the Society of Architectural Historical, vol. xx1, No.3, October, 1962.

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

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.5 acres

UTM REFERENCES

17° 45' 28" North Latitude
64° 43' 53" West Longitude

A   
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C   

B  

D  

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

Samuel N. Stokes
Russell Wright, Annie Hillary, Margaret Pros-
Historic Survey

NAME / TITLE

ORGANIZATION

Virgin Islands Planning Office

DATE _____

May 14, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 2606

TELEPHONE

809-774-1730

CITY OR TOWN

Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas. V.I. 00801

STATE

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL X

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

TITLE

Director of Planning

DATE _____

May 25, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Acting

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE _____

DATE _____

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

RBR for WJM 7/8/76

Property

La Grande Princesse School

State

V. I.

Working Number

6. 2. 76. 3536

76001847
St. Croix

TECHNICAL

Photos

2

Maps

1

UTM can't be checked on map

CONTROL

pl

6. 4. 76

HISTORIAN

Accept

Ruttenbaum

6/7/76

National significance?

*I assume coohouse mentioned
in # 7 is included - yes*

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

accept
Calverich

6. 4. 76

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory

Review

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept

Colz

6/28/76

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

Hump
6. 28. 76

National Register Write-up

Send-back

Entered

JUL 12 1976

Federal Register Entry

8-3-76

Re-submit

INT:2106-74





PHOTOGRAPHED BY J. A. YOUNG

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE VIRGIN ISLANDS

Date Entered JUL 12 1976

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Prosperity Archeological Site	Frederiksted vicinity St. Croix county
Great Pond Archeological Site	Christiansted vicinity St. Croix county
Tutu Plantation House	Charlotte Amalie vicinity St. Thomas county
La Grande Princesse School	Christiansted vicinity St. Croix county

Also Notified

Regional Director, Southeast Region

PR

Mott

7/14/76

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

Recently listed - please file -

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

TELEPHONE REPORT

DATE

4/28/80

TIME OF CALL

9:30

AM
PM

1. CALL ☐ TO: ☒ FROM (Name)

Sam Stokes

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

NTHP

673-4203

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

Estate

Little Princess

Vergil Jones

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

= Nature conservancy is turning this over

= was nom. previously

St Croix
CD

= Can we expedite?

- told him we would check, call back -

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

DUBIE

TITLE

HIST.

OFFICE

B6 NR Data Sheet

DATE: 6.4.76
Reviewer INITIALS: LEBOVICH

NR ✓ DOE JUL 12 1976

✓ NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: La GRANDE PRINCESSE SCHOOL

OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

COUNTY

code

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

Substantially intact-1
unknown - 4
not applicable - 7

EXTERIOR

Substantially intact-2
unknown - 5
not applicable - 8

ENVIRONS

Substantially intact-3
unknown - 6
Not applicable-9

Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION -

EXCELLENT
GOOD
FAIR

DETERIORATED
RUINS
UNEXPOSED
Unexcavated

UNALTERED
ALTERED
Reconstructed
Excavated

ORIGINAL SITE
MOVED
Unknown

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

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- school

now- school

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: Vernacular interpretation of Danish Classicism

architect/m.builder: Albert Lomand

landscape/garden designer: ~~1841-1847~~

interior decorator:

engineer:

artist/artisan:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP: German (Moravian); Danish

NAMES:

(label role
&
appropriate date)

personal

events

institutional

Governor General Peter von Scholten - issued edict of
Compulsory Education for Slave Children 1839; this
the 1st school built as result of that edict
Friedrich Martin - teacher @ school ~~1841~~

DATES:

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

1837-
1841 J

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)

.5

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

HABS

Stuccoed rubble masonry, 1 story, ^{rectangular} square, high hip roof, ^{banded} corner posts, cornice,
parapet, central 3 bay slight projection, rectangular windows set with
round arched openings.

(19TH C. cookhouse, rubble masonry, banded vaulted set rectangle,
with rear chimney.)

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

La Grande Princesse School is a good west Indian
example of traditional Danish classicism. In
addition to its architectural significance, it is important
as the first of such schools built on St. Croix specifically
for slave children. HABS

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: Vernacular interpretation of Danish Classicism

architect/m.builder: Albert Lohmann

landscape/garden designer: ~~1841-1847~~

interior decorator:

engineer:

artist/artisan:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP: German (Moravian); Danish

NAMES:

(label role
&
appropriate date)

personal

events

institutional

Governor General Peter von Scholten - issued Edict of Compulsory Education for Slave Children 1839; this the 1st school built as result of that edict Friedrich Martin - teacher @ school ~~1841~~.

✓ DATES:

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

1837-
1841 J

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)

.5

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

HABS

Rubble masonry, stuccoed; 1 story, rectangular, hipped roof with low parapet; slightly projecting center front bay with three vertical board double-door entrances ~~set in shallow round-arched recesses with blind sills~~, with scaphingues and round-arched tympanums; single center side entrances with radiating vousoir surrounds; ~~corner quoins~~; nearby single-room barrel-vaulted cookhouse. Vernacular interpretation of Danish classicism. First ~~slave~~ school built ~~after~~ after Governor-General Peter von Scholten's 1839 Edict of Free Compulsory Education for Slave Children; home and ~~grave~~ gravesite of Friedrich Martin, noted Moravian ~~teacher~~ missionary & teacher. ~~schools~~

~~Only school still in educational use of the eight built by the planters and operated by Moravian missionaries and government for the education of slave children; by Moravian missionaries,~~

~~good example of Danish classicism in the West Indies. HABS. see St. Croix,~~

~~Christianssted, Diamond School. I~~

~~slave children. HABS~~