

PH0502375

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED AUG 15 1977  
DATE ENTERED NOV 15 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Bordeaux

AND/OR COMMON

Estate Bordeaux

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

W. of Charlotte Amalie

--- NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Charlotte Amalie

\* VICINITY OF

1

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

U. S. Virgin Islands

78

St. Thomas

0900

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 Multiple Owners

NAME

Claudia H. & John L. Maduro

STREET & NUMBER

Box 1239

CITY, TOWN

STATE

St. Thomas

--- VICINITY OF

U. S. Virgin Islands

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Recorder of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

No. 18 Kongens Gade

CITY, TOWN

STATE

St. Thomas

U. S. Virgin Islands

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Virgin Islands Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

May 6, 1976

---FEDERAL  STATE ---COUNTY ---LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Virgin Islands Planning Office

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Charlotte Amalie

U. S. Virgin Islands

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Estate Bordeaux is situated on a high bluff 680' above Bordeaux Bay on the north shore of St. Thomas in the West End Quarter. The original Great House is two rooms in plan, one story on a high cellar, with plastered rubble walls and pockets for the timber frame of a hipped roof, now gone. The main, or upper, floor part of the north end wall has two windows, the east wall two windows and a door, the south wall a central door with flanking windows, and the west wall three doors (two of which were originally windows) and a window. All openings at this level are lined with brick and have flat brick arches and splayed jambs. A one story high cellar projects from the east wall of the Great House, and has a low parapet wall that creates a roof top terrace. This area is entered through two brick segmental arched openings in the east facade. The space is inaccessible, but it appears that it was used for storage and a cistern. The ceiling height in the cellar is 6', in the main floor 9' 8". A 12' 6" wide porch spans the south facade of the Great House, with a stone staircase at the east end.

A one story gabled roof addition, 20'x31', set on a high cellar has been appended to the south half of the west wall of the Great House. This section is three by two bays, built with plastered rubble walls and has a later corrugated tin roof supported by early timber King Post trusses. All openings have plastered brick lined, splayed jambs, brick flat arches and wood casings. The porch spanning the south facade of the original section of the Great House continues across the south facade of the addition, terminating at a parapet walled terrace which surrounds the west and north facades of this section. A rubble cistern, 10 feet square, is located in the west terrace, possibly replacing the earlier cistern east of the Great House.

A two story rubble masonry outbuilding, possibly a kitchen but with no signs of an oven or chimney, is located 20' west of the west terrace. One story high, the 18'x22' structure has two windows in each of the long north-south walls. Being in ruins, it is impossible to tell the original roof form, but it is assumed that it was hip since the end walls show no signs of a gable. The outbuilding has a stone walk extending from the north facade and connecting to a rubble bell tower, much altered from its original form. Other unidentified ruins of probably slave quarters, stables and other outbuildings exist scattered to the west of the Great House. The mill and factory are in ruins and are located a considerable distance east of the Great House.

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

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SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The significance of Estate Bordeaux lies in the fact that it is typical of architectural styles of plantation great houses built during the 19th century. Ruins of a mill, great house and storage buildings remain of the estate buildings.

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 permanent sites for their trading and commercial interests. 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 centers.

St. Thomas, which the Danes purchased to serve as a commercial port had less agricultural development than the other islands. However, there were some sugar plantations in operation. By 1752 St. Thomas reached its peak in sugar production and by 1754 it was no longer important to the sugar industry. Moreover, during the 19th century the island's commercial and trading interests were finally prospering.

According to local legend, Plantage Bordeaux was held by the Brandenburg Africa Company which operated from 1685 to 1715 in St. Thomas. On November 24, 1685, Christian V entered into a treaty with the Duchy of Brandenburg which permitted a Brandenburg Company to establish itself in St. Thomas. Both the colony and the rival Danish West India Company were jealous of the prosperity the Brandenburg Company experienced. However, the privileges which had been granted to them led to increases for the colony in general and laid the foundation for commercial enterprise and success for St. Thomas.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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

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

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 14.6  
UTM REFERENCES

A. 18° 21' 52" N 65° 00' 56" W  
B. 18° 21' 46" N 65° 00' 54" W  
C. 18° 21' 43" N 65° 01' 04" W  
D. 18° 21' 49" N 65° 01' 06" W

A 


  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING  
C 


B 


  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING  
D 


## VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property is within #1 Estate Bordeaux, West End Quarter, St. Thomas.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
N/A			
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

ORGANIZATION

Virgin Islands Planning Office

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 2606

CITY OR TOWN

Charlotte Amalie

DATE

June 6, 1977

TELEPHONE

(809) 774-1730

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 R. Bleke*  
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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST *William Bleovich*  
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

11/15/78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE

Nov 9, 1978

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
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Virgin Islands Government  
Department of Conservation and Cultural Affairs  
P.O. Box 4340  
St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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The ruins of a small gable roofed one room structure remain at the shore of Bordeaux Bay. It is thought that this building was used as a warehouse to store processed sugar for trans-shipment to the port at Charlotte Amalie. The 22' thick walls are constructed of rubble and coral block, laid in a mortar very rich in sand, which has resulted in the collapse of much of the upper part of the walls. There are two windows in the 44' long north wall, a small window in the 30' wide gable ends and a single, wide door in the west facade.

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The first land transaction recorded for Estate Bordeaux was May, 1832. William Punnet who held the extensive plantations on the western portion of St. Thomas sold Bordeaux to Mr. James Kennedy. The purchase included all the lands, buildings, works and utensils, 26 mules and 124 slaves. In 1844 the estate of the deceased James Kennedy was auctioned to the highest bidder, Mr. A. Kerlllerup, St. Thomas Lawyer and colonial representative. The last record of Bordeaux appearing as a sugar plantation was 1845.

The ruins of the Great House and the warehouse at the water's edge are of architectural significance because of their design, construction techniques and, in the case of the Great House, the architectural detailing that remains.

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PAGE four

McGuire, James William. Geographic Dictionary of the Virgin Islands. Special Publication N. 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.

Taylor, Charles Edwin. Leaflets from the Danish West Indies Descriptive of the Social, Political and Commercial Conditions of These Islands. London, 1888

Knox, John Pary. A Historical Account of St. Thomas, W. I.... and Incidental Notices of St. Croix and St. John. New York, 1852 (1966 reprint).



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Verbal Boundary Description

Beginning at a point (A) on the shore 320' Northeast of the Northeast corner of the Great House and extending South 520' to point B; then West 900' to point C; then North 520' to point D, and then East to the point of origin, ~~all as shown in red on the attached sketch of Estate Bordeaux.~~ *to follow the shore*

