

P 40671860

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED JUN 2 1976
DATE ENTERED JUL 1 1976

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 Diamond School

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

W of Christiansted on road

CITY, TOWN

Christiansted

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1

STATE

U.S. Virgin Islands

X VICINITY OF

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
- COMMERICAL
- EDUCATIONAL
- ENTERTAINMENT
- GOVERNMENT
- INDUSTRIAL
- MILITARY
- MUSEUM
- PARK
- PRIVATE RESIDENCE
- RELIGIOUS
- SCIENTIFIC
- TRANSPORTATION
- OTHER: Boy Scouts

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Government of the U.S. Virgin Islands

STREET & NUMBER

Government House

CITY, TOWN

Charlotte Amalie

VICINITY OF

STATE

U.S. Virgin Islands 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

X FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

National Park Service

CITY, TOWN

Washington,

STATE

D.C.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Diamond School lies south of Center Line Road, 3.5 miles east of Fort Frederick, Frederiksted, St. Croix. It is significant as one example of 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 1839, and was completed by 1842.

Albert Løvmand (1827-1847) from Denmark was the architect-builder of Diamond and the other so-called "von Scholten schools". 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 this classical training.

The building faces Center Line Road on the north, with the long axis running east-west. Constructed of rubble masonry, covered with stucco, the building is a one story rectangle, measuring 63' 11" by 37' 5", with seven bays on the long facades and three bays on the ends. As found in all the designs for the schools, 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 at a level $\frac{3}{8}$ down the elevation, on the piers dividing the bays give the illusion of engaged pilasters. The projecting foundation of the building (which serves as a watertable) and a one foot deep strip on the wall immediately below the cornice create a recessed panelled area of wall surface. Masonry quoins articulate the corners.

There are three entrances to the building, on the north, east, and west facades, approached by a flat, half pyramid of two steps. On the end facades, the doors have a large masonry surround tolled to imitate quoins and radiating blocks above the semi-circular arches.

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. All windows and doors have wood casings. The windows are without sills, have slightly projecting drip caps and are fitted with wooden shutters. Hardware on the window shutters includes wrought shutter hooks and iron strap hinges with heart-shaped cusps on drive pintles. There is a continuous molded cornice at the eaves. The roof is hipped and covered with corrugated metal.

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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input 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 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		

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1840

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

Albert Løvmand

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Diamond School is significant as one 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.

The school presently serves as an office for the Boy Scouts.

The Diamond 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

De Fine Licht, Kjeld. Albert Løvmand and his work in the Former Danish West Indies. Journal of the Society of Architectural Historic, vol. XXI, No. 3 October, 1962.

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

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 0.5 acres 17° 42' 45" North Latitude
 UTM REFERENCES 64° 49' 49" West Longitude

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

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 N. Stokes,
Russell Wright, Annie Hillary, Maragret Proskauer, V.I. Historical Survey

ORGANIZATION Virgin Islands Planning Office DATE May 22, 1976

STREET & NUMBER P.O. Box 2606 TELEPHONE (809) 774-1730

CITY OR TOWN Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands 00801 STATE

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 Leonard 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	
<u>Wm. Stuntz</u>	DATE <u>7/1/76</u>
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE <u>6-25-76</u>
ATTEST: <u>Charles Stuntz</u>	
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	JUN 28 1976
DATE ENTERED	JUL 1 1976

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Virgin Islands Inventory of Historic Places
May, 1976 State
Virgin Island Planning Office
Charlotte Amalie, U.S.V.I.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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The exterior walls are painted pink, with white quoins, surrounds, fanlights and molded bands on the central section of the facade. The shutters are green.

The interior plan of the building is a single main room (with temporary partitions). The ceiling is noteworthy, as it is the typical West Indian "tray type", with a complex of exposed trusses.

Behind the building on the southeast corner are two unidentified graves (probably of missionaries) and a cistern. A small square walled graveyard, 15' on a side, lies off the southwest corner. The wall is about five feet high, with a rounded top.

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
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Lewisohn, Florence. St. Croix under Seven Flags. Hollywood:
Dukane Press, 1970.