

PH0502367

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED AUG 15 1977

DATE ENTERED FEB 17 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

Estate Mount Victory

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

2-5

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Frederiksted

X VICINITY OF

1

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Virgin Islands 78

CODE

COUNTY

St. Croix

CODE

0400

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Estate Fountain River

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 1366

CITY, TOWN

Frederiksted

X VICINITY OF

St. Croix, V.I.

STATE

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Recorder of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Government House

CITY, TOWN

Christiansted

STATE

St. Croix, V.I.

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

V.I. Inventory of Historic Places

DATE

June, 1977

FEDERAL X STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

V.I. Planning Office

CITY, TOWN

Charlotte Amalie

STATE

St. Thomas, V.I.

# 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

Mt. Victory is located 2.6 miles northeast of Frederiksted on a high hill in Northside A Quarter, St. Croix. The ruins include a factory, animal mill, steam mill chimney, wind mill, outbuildings and Mt. Victory School.

The factory is of the typical "T" plan, two stories high, eleven bays long with three bays in the end walls. The leg of the "T" is three by three bays. The fenestration pattern of the lower floor is repeated above. The outer walls are constructed of coral block, four feet thick at the lower level, with an exceptional molded cornice and low parapet wall with a built-in gutter at the eaves. The gable roof was originally stone slabs set on a timber frame, but it is now in ruins. There is a three course brick belt and a molded coral block watertable. Built on a hillside, the north wall of the factory, including the leg of the "T", is exposed on the upper floor only. The south wall has a three bay wide projecting pedimented entrance facade, with coral corner quoins running to the middle of the upper story, then continuing in brick to the cornice. All openings are segmental arched at the interior face, tapering to flat brick jack arches with keystones at the exterior. The splayed jambs are lined with brick and there are remains of the typical louvered blinds and panelled shutters. An interesting feature is that the west part of the north wall is blank but has been provided with three jack arches with keys and closed panelled shutters on iron straps to simulate window openings.

The interior of the factory has a 14' cross hall connecting the centered entrances of the north and south facades and the leg of the "T". Each of these rubble partitions have three doors permitting access to the flanking rooms, each of which is four bays wide. The west room, which has doors in the third bay at both levels, has a one story 27' x 47' barrelled vaulted addition appended to it, which extends to include the first bay of the entrance pavillion.

The ground floor of the factory is coral block, with a brick pier on a stepped coral block plith centered in each of the flanking work rooms. These piers once supported the floor beam, and pockets for the wood joists and plates remain in the perimeter walls. The ruins of part of a steam engine are located in the west part of the north wall, marked "Mc. Onielmirkleas, No. 86, Glascow, 1849."

*(Mc Onie & Mirkleas)*  
A tapered square coral and rubble chimney, 12' to a side at its base and with brick linings at its corners and a molded cap remains north-east of the factory. Twenty feet due north of the "T" of the factory are the ruins of a round animal mill, with coral block walls reaching 7' in height at the southern quadrant. This section of the wall includes two wagon stalls set into the raised platform. The ceilings of the stalls have diagonal shutes from the platform, probably to permit the removal

# 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 checked="" 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 type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Formerly named Mount Pleasant, Estate Mount Victory is significant for its 19th century remains of typical buildings of a sugar plantation. The ruins of the factory are of architectural significance because of the classic revival details, the plan, the method of construction and the use of local building materials, all typical of sugar factories in the Virgin Islands at this period. The ruins of Mount Victory school are of significance as one of a series of 17 schools established in the Danish West Indies by Governor Peter von Scholten as part of his social reform. Albert Lomand has been credited with preparing the drawings of the von Scholten School. The schools vary in details and differ from the original drawings by their smaller size.

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 interests. Agriculture was to serve as a supplement to the income provided by commerce and trading.

St. Croix surpassed the other islands in the Danish colonies in its agricultural development and proved to be more beneficial to the Danes. By the 1780's sugar plantations on St. Croix were prospering. By 1812-1814 sugar production on the island was at its height. There were 175 plantations in operation with 75% of their acreage in cane.

After the Napoleonic wars, plantation agriculture began to decline in the Danish West Indies. Sugar production had expanded to other areas such as Cuba and Puerto Rico whose more fertile soil gave them an advantage over the Danish West Indies. Burdened by heavy debt, the planters found it impossible to take appropriate measures to maintain the soil. Agricultural methods were generally inefficient and milling operations were wasteful and uneconomic. Europeans added more competition for the Danes with the development of the sugar beet industry. Absentee landlordism made it difficult to maintain sufficient control over the plantations' production. Slavery, which provided the planters with cheap labor, was abolished in 1848 and, with the increase in operating expenses, many plantations discontinued production.

# 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

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

7 acres

17° 45' 14" North Latitude  
64° 52' 07" West Longitude

UTM REFERENCES

A 

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B 

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ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C 

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D 

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property is located within #15 AA Estate Mount Victory in the North Side A Quarter of St. Croix.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Russell Wright, Annie Hillary

June 9, 1977

ORGANIZATION

V.I. Planning Office

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

P.O. Box 2606

TELEPHONE

809-774-1730

CITY OR TOWN

St. Thomas, Virgin Islands

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.

*Thomas R. Blake*

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

*Robert B. Rettig*

DATE

2/17/78

DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

*Charles Adams*

DATE

7-2-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

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of the crushed cane directly to the waiting wagons below. The ruins of a typical conical wind powered sugar mill are located northwest of the factory, on a higher hill. Other, as yet unidentifiable, ruins exist east and west of the factory's north facade.

South of the factory, along Scenic Road at the drive into the factory complex, is the ruins of Mt. Victory School, one of a series of 17 schools established by Governor Peter von Scholten as a part of this social reforms. The school is similar to all of this series in design rectangular in plan (36' x 55'), one story on a high cellar, 3 by 6 bays with a 10' wide double loaded stair across the front facade. The walls are stuccoed coral and rubble with a molded water table and projecting cornice. The roof was hipped, but is in ruins. All openings have round arches lined with dressed coral block. There is a double barrel vaulted space under the stairs, with two doors opening off the stair platform.

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Statistics concerning sugar production at Mt. Victory from 1862-1889 reveal that the plantation was in independent cultivation from 1862-1872 and from 1872-1887 it was under Golden Grove and from 1887-1888 it was under Lower Love, affirming the decline of the industry on ST. Croix and attesting to the need for plantation surviving by incorporating other plantation.