APPENDIX B L'ESPERANCE HISTORIC DISTRICT

DESCRIPTION

L'Esperance plantation is located on the high ridge land of St. John 1/4 mile south of Centerline Road on the east border of Cruz Bay Quarter. It was a choice site for agricultural purposes for its soil conditions, permanent spring and relatively high precipitation. As a plantation site, it is a small compact unit with fairly large buildings, that include two horsemills, a factory, a free standing cistern, a storage building, a great house, a cook house, a service building, a cemetery, a stone bridge as well as retaining walls, staircases and stone fencing.

It was developed early in the 18th century and has retained features of design and construction in its standing remains of interest for their age and for their variance from the generally accepted layout of plantation sites. The tight grouping of the different units that comprise L'Esperance centered around the Great House is exceptional and predates the pattern that characterizes the normal layout. Architecturally it is notable for, the high quality of workmanship observable in the Great House and Service buildings masonry as well as the use of volcanic sandstone as a building material. This exotic material to the Virgin Islands was probably imported from the Leeward Islands. The masonry remains of the Great House, the south Horsemill and the Service Building are in a fair state of preservation. All other structures are badly deteriorated.

L'Esperance produced sugar in the early 1830's but in the 1840ties discontinued cultivation of cane.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

L'Esperance Historic District is significant for its unusual layout as a sugar plantation and for its association with Governor Eric Bredal, who in the 1720ties owned the plantation and who in 1719 affected the Danish colonization of St. John in the face of British oposition.

Acreage 6¹/₄ acres

Latitude 18⁰ 20**'32"** Longitude 64º 45'32"

There is no UTM references on any published maps of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

L'Esperance Historic District is bounded to the West by the trail that from Centerline Road leads to Sieben plantation starting at a point on the trail 250 feet northwest of the storm bridge across Fish Bay Gut and ending 450 feet due south of the same bridge, then in an easterly direction for 300 feet across the gut to the bed of the intermittent stream on the east side of the site then following the stream bed in an north and easterly direction for about 700 feet to a point about 225 feet northeast of the oxpound and then westerly to the starting point on the Centerline-Sieben trail. The boundaries include all parts of the historic resource and enclose a natural topographical area between the two streambeds to the west and east of the district.

Appendi	x B, Historic I	District CLASSIFIED STRUCTU	RE FIELD INVE	NTORY REPO	ort	
			-		NPS ORGA	NIZATION
REGION_	Southeast	PARK/AREA NAME_	Virgin Islands	Nat'l Pa	rk code No.	5360
STRUCTU	RE NAME New I	Horsemill, L'Esper	ance Plantat	ion ST	RUCTURE NO.	H-5,1
ORDER O	F SIGNIFICANCE	: National	Stat	е	Local	x
				•		
TODANITO:	A OF CEDUCATION	On the L'Esperanc	re trail to Mo	llendal 1	mile south	of
		Dir tite in insperance			<u>Lenterline</u>	- ROSG
UTH REF	ERENCE:				LND ACREAGE (complex or di	•
Zone	Eastin	g North:			ompicit of a	_acres.
-		and the second s				
				•		
STRUCTU	RE: Type of, by rubbl	and composition: Ce masonry walls.	ircular raise	ed earthfil	l platform r	ctained
-	-	The circular horse				
		nhill side of the sit				
the so	the norsemill	platform is suppored heights of 20'.	ted and defin	ed by reta	inins walls	that on
		out are still in evid				
the gri	nding mechan	ism are still appar	ent,			
7.15		·	-1 14: 4:		. 1	-
		ion was brought und station by the 1780s				
		arge building remai				
	he early 19th o					
			Latitude 1802	013311 Lor	raitude 6404	513211-
	•			0 33 1301	igitade of 1.	
			(conti	nue on rev	erse if neco	(((277)
PRESENT	CONDITION:	Excellent	Good	Fair	Deteriora	
		·	<u> </u>		ite X Hove	

Appendix B, Historic Dist	rict SSIFIED STRUCTURE	FIELD INVENTO	ORY REPORT	:	
		e .		NTS ORGANIZAT	
REGION Southeast	PARK/AREA NAME Vi	rgin Islands N	at'l Park	CODE NO. 5360	
STRUCTURE NAME Old Horse	Mill, L'Esperar	ice Plantation	STRU	CTURE NO. H-5,	, 2
ORDER OF SIGNIFICANCE:	National	State		Local XX	
LOCATION OF STRUCTURE: Or	n L'Esperance tra	il to Mollenda	il i mile	south Centerlin	iei
UTM REFERENCE:		i i		plex or distric	
Zone Easting	Northi	The state of the s		acre	
				Reput the control of	
		;			
	•				
	composition: Ro			ea derived by	==
	hillside and filling			ocated to the	
Physical Description: The north of the site and is	a platform with a	diameter of 5	0', dug in	to the uphill	
north side and towards t					
the access road to the n					11
can be assumed to date cans cultivation of L'Es	from the 18th cen perance Plantatio	tury and the e	arlier pe	riod of sugar	
					_
	La	titude 18 ⁰ 20'2	311 Longi	tude 6404513211	
					_
			•		_
					_
DDECEMT COMPTTION.	031000			se if necessary	
F	cellent C	}	Fair	Deteriorated P	计

(continue on reverse if necessary)

Fair Deteriorated Original Site X Noved

			JUL 23 1981
Appendix B, Historic I	District CLASSIFIED STRUCTURE :	GYGY D TAWKATORY REP	חיים
	CIMSSIFIED STRUCTURE	TEGO INVINIONI NOI	
REGION Southeast	DADY/ADEA NAME Wim	gin Islands Nat'l Pa	NPS ORGANIZATION
REGION Southeast	- PARK/AREA NAME_VII	giii istanus ivat i i a	TR CODE NO. 3500
STRUCTURE NAME Factor	ry, L'Esperance Plant	, ation S'	TRUCTURE NO. H-5,3
•			
ORDER OF SIGNIFICANCE	: National	State	Local X
-		•	•
	•		
ז מכּגייז מין מין פיים ווריינוט פ			
	On L'Esperance trail		
UTM REFERENCE:	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		AND ACREAGE (if not complex or district:
A Lillaria Zone Eastin	g Northin		acres.
		0	
		•	
STRUCTURE: Type of,	and composition: Rubb	le Msonry rectangu	lar in plan
	•		
Physical Description:			
oriented east-west.]	Except for the west en	d of the structure,	the walls have topol
entirely and provide o	nly meager illustratio	n of the former fun	ction of the building
It does not have the ch	naracteristic "T" shap	ed plan of the conve	entional sugar facto
of the late 18th centur	y and early 19th centu	rv and can be presi	imed to be the re-
mains of 18th century	construction.		
<u> </u>	Lat	itude 18 ⁰ 20'23'' Lo	ngitude 64°44'32'
•			
		•	•

Good Altered

Excellent Unaltered X

PRESENT CONDITION: Ruins X

Appendix B, Historic District	. •
CLASSIFIED STRUCTURE FIELD INVENTORY REPORT	
REGION Southeast PARK/AREA NAME Virgin Islands Nat'l Park	NPS ORGANIZATION CODE NO. 5360
STRUCTURE NAME Free-standing Cistern, L'Esperance Planta - STRUC	TURE NO. <u>H-5,4</u>
ORDER OF SIGNIFICANCE: National State	Local X
	•
LOCATION OF STRUCTURE: On L'Esperance trail to Mollendal imile so	uth of Centerline
UTH REFERENCE: CLASS VI LAND	ACREAGE (if not lex or district:
Zone Easting Northing	acres.
•	
· .	
STRUCTURE: Type of, and composition: Plastered rubble masonry plan and one story high.	rectangular in
Physical Description: The free-standing cistern is a small maso	onry structure
mmediately west of the factory measuring 16'x8'. It is divided int	
ections - a small storage area and a cistern. The walls stand to t	heir full height.
'Esperance Plantation was brought under cultivation early in the	
vas well developed sugar plantation by 1780. Inadequate research ating of existing remains of its buildings. They probably range this	<u>prevents accura</u> te cough the late
8th century and the early 19th century.	
	•
Latitude 18 ^o 20'23'' Longitu	ide 64°44'32''
/===#:=====	o if names
Continue on revers PRESENT CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair	Deteriorated Deteriorated
Ruins X Unaltered X Altered Original Site	

Appendix b, historic b		RE FIELD INVENTORY RE	PORT
REGION Southeast	PARK/AREA NAME_	Virgin Islands Nat'l P	NIS ORGANIZATIO
STRUCTURE NAME Storage	e Building, L'Espe	erance Plantation	STRUCTURE NO. H-5,5
ORDER OF SIGNIFICANCE:	National	State	Local X
•			700
LOCATION OF STRUCTURE:	On L'Esperance ti	ail to Mollendal ¹ / ₄ mil	e south of Centerline
UTM REFERENCE: A Zone Eastin		CLASS VI I part of a	AND ACREAGE (if not complex or district:
			-
STRUCTURE: Type of, a	-	lastered rubble mason	nry one story
rectangular Physical Description:		ery structure 12'x25'	immediately west of
the cistern with doors in wall.	in both gable ends	and two window openi	ngs in each long
wall.			
Assumed to be a storage cistern and the factory	ge building because	e of its proximity to the	ne free-standing
several purposes.			ind may have served
•			
	<u>I</u>	Latitude 18°20'23" Lor	ngitude 64°45'32"
•		•	
		(continue on re	verse if necessary)
PRESENT CONDITION:	Excellent	Good Fair	Deteriorated
Ruins $oxtime{f X}$ Una	ltered X Alt		Site X Noved 7

Appendix B, Historic District CLASSIFIED STRUCTURE FIELD INVENTORY REPORT

REGION Southeast	PARK/AREA NAME_	Virgin Islands	Nat'l Park	NTS ORGANIZATIO
STRUCTURE NAME Great Ho		•	•	CTURE NO. H-5,6
ORDER OF SIGNIFICANCE:	National	State	X	Local
		•		
	•			
LOCATION OF STRUCTURE:On	n L'Esperance tr	ail to Mollenda	il ‡mile soi	THE OF CHIPETITIE
UTM REFERENCE:				ACREAGE (if not
^			t of a comp	lex or district:
Zone. Easting	Northi	. n g		acres.
•				
		•		
		,		
STRUCTURE: Type of, and	composition: Ru	ubble and cut s	tone one-st	ory masonry has
	building rectang			ory masom v mas
Physical Description: Th			preserved	of all structures
of the L'Esperance Plant	ation site. It is	located 30' wes	st of the ne	w horsemille and
45' north and uphill of the				
site of the latter and the				
Great House, supported				
had a masonry ground flo	or measuring 46	'x34' that supp	orted a woo	od superstructur
The ground floor walls st wall act as retaining wall				
House. The walls are ru				
and at corners and with a				
plan it is divided into an	enclosed room ?	01 wide that ru	ns the full	length of the
plan it is divided into an building and a 12' wide,	partially open ga	llery on the so	uth and fact	tory side of the
building. The east wall o				
race to the north and mas	sonry steps along	g the west wall	of the build	ding lead up to
this terrace level. The s	stonework is hand	dsomely finishe	ed and the o	execution very
workmanlike. Except for	r traces of beam	s and plates no	thing rema	ins of the wood
superstructure. Probabl				
Latitude 18°20'23" Longi				e if necessary)
	cellent	Good	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Deteriorated
Ruins X Unalt	ered X Alt	ered Or:	iginal Site	IN I Moved I I

Appendix b, historic bi	LASSIFIED STRUCTURE	FIELD INVENTORY	REPORT
REGION Southeast	PARK/AREA NAME Vi	rgin Islands Nat'l	NPS ORGANIZATIO Park CODE NO. 5360
STRUCTURE NAME COOK HO	use, L'Esperance P	lantation	STRUCTURE NO. H-5.7
ORDER OF SIGNIFICANCE:	National	State X	Local
	•		
-		,	
TOCATION OF STRUCTURE.			
LOCATION OF STRUCTURE: UTM REFERENCE: A	1111	CLASS VI	LAND ACREAGE (if not a complex or district:
		•	
			»
STRUCTURE: Type of, an rectangular	· -	ole and brick mas	sonry one story building
Physical Description:	**************************************		
Great House at a distance of the masonry and bridge in the control of the control	k walls stand from	4' to 6' out of the	ground. The building
neasures 22'x16' and hagainst the interior shor	ts the unusual feature t walls of the struc	ce of two masonry ture, with a brick	cooking ranges Dutch oven in the
couthwest interior cornerate 18th century date.	-		
	Lati	itude 18 ⁰ 20 ¹ 23''	Longitude 64°44'32"
,			
PRESENT CONDITION: E	xcellent Go	(continue on pod) Fair	reverse if necessary) Deteriorated
P	tered X Alter	}	1 Site X Moved

Appendix B, Historic	District <u>CLASSIFIED STRUCTURE</u>	FIELD INVENTORY REP	<u>orr</u>
REGION Southeast	PARK/AREA NAME Vi	rgin Islands Nat'l Pa	NFS ORGANIZATION rk CODE NO. 5360
STRUCTURE NAME	ce Building, L'Espera	ince Plantation ST	RUCTURE NO. H-5,8
ORDER OF SIGNIFICANCE	National	State	Local X
TOOLTION OF CONTINUES			-
LOCATION OF STRUCTURE	On L'Esperance trai	to Mollendal amile	south of Conterline l
UTM REFERENCE: A Li Zone E a s t i n	gNorthin	part of a co	ND ACREAGE (if not omplex or district; acres.
		•	
STRUCTURE: Type of, a	and composition: Rubb	le and brick masonry	y one story building
Physical Description:	The service building	is an "L" shaped rub	oble masonry
structure, measuring contained two rooms a			
the structure seems to			
not entirely understood			
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	•
	Lat	itude 18 ⁰ 20'23'' Lon	gitude 64°44'32''
		المنظمة المنظم - المنظمة المنظمة 	
•			
-			
		(continue on reve	erse if necessary)
PRESENT CONDITION:		ood Fair	Deteriorated

Appendix B, Historic District CLASSIFIED STRUCTURE FIELD INVENTORY REPORT

REGION Southeast	PARK/AREA NAME_	Virgin Islands Nat'l	NPS ORGANIZATION Park CODE NO. 5360
STRUCTURE NAME Bridge.	L'Esperance Pl	antation	STRUCTURE NO. H-5,9
ORDER OF SIGNIFICANCE:	National	State	Local X
- ·			
·			
LOCATION OF STRUCTURE: O UTM REFERENCE: A Zone E a s t i n g	North	CLASS VI part of	LAND ACREAGE (if not a complex or district:
	te from old cart The entrance road leads to Sieber e arch with a sp oridge abutments	road: ad to L'Esperance for and Mollendal cross an of eight feet and stowards the north	a width of 6'6". Al- show signs of failure
	I	Satitude 18 ⁰ 20'23'' 1	Longitude 64°44'32"
	cellent Alt	Good Fair	reverse if recessary) Deteriorated X Site X Noved

Appendix B, Historic District CLASSIFI

CLASSIFIED	STRUCTURE	FIELD	INVENTORY	REPORT

REGION Southeast	PARK/AREA NAME	Virgin Isla	inds Nat'l		ORGANIZATION NO. 5360
STRUCTURE NAME Certetery		•	•	STRUCTURE 1	/
ORDER OF SIGNIFICANCE:	National National	. St.	ate .	Loc	al
					·
				. ·	
LOCATION OF STRUCTURE:On	L'Esperance ti	ail to Moll	endal $\frac{1}{4}$ mi	le south of	Centerline
UTM REFERENCE: A Zone Easting	North:		CLASS VI	LAND ACREAG	E (if not
		-			
•					
					:
masonry wall Physical Description: A co House it is defined by ren raised masonry covers or	nains of walls a ne of which is n	graves manated approximated contains	rked by ra imately 6(s seven gr l and carr	ised masor O' north of (aves marke ies the inso	the Great ed by cription
<u>''Hendrik Tonis Geboren (</u> 23 September 1765.''	op S. thomas de	en 15 Janua	ry 1733 O	verleben op	S. Janden
				•	
	Lat	itude 18 [°] 20	'23'' Lon _{	zitude 64°4	4'32''
		(cont	tinue on r	everse-if n	ecessary)
	ellent red X Alt	Good	Fair		orated X

Appendix B, Historic	District			JUL 23 1981
*		TRUCTURE FIELI	INY TORY REI	`
RECIONSou!!ht/ast	PARK/AREA	NAME_Virgin	Islands Nat'l F	NPS ORGANIZATION Park CODE NO. 5360
STRUCTURE NAME O	xpound, L'Esper	ance Plantatio	on .	TRUCTURE NO. H-5.11
ORDER OF SIGNIFIC	CANCE: National		State	Local X
	·			
LOCATION OF STRUC	CTURE:On L!Esper:	ance trail to N	Mollendal ≑mile	e south of Centerline
UTM REFERENCE:			CLASS VI I	AND ACREAGE (if not complex or district:
Zone East	ing Nor	thing	,	acres.
		•		
		•		
		,		
	of, and compositi			osed by rubble
Physical Descript	nry walls and the ion: A retangular metery. It is de	coxpound is le	ocated north of	the Great House masonry walls but
				und in most expounds
•				
		Latitude	18° 20' 23" L	ong.: 64 44' 32"
			continue on are	verse if necessary)
PRESENT CONDITION	: Excellent	Good	Fair	Deteriorated
Ruins X	Unaltered X	Altered	Original	Site X Noved