

PH0502511

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*
Perseverance
AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER
W of Charlotte Amalie
CITY, TOWN
Charlotte Amalie
STATE U. S. Virgin Islands
VICINITY OF
CODE 78
COUNTY St. Thomas
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 1
CODE 0100
NOT FOR PUBLICATION

3 CLASSIFICATION

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

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME
West Indies Investment Company
STREET & NUMBER
P. O. Box 1478
CITY, TOWN
St. Thomas
VICINITY OF
STATE
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
St. Thomas, U. S. Virgin Islands
STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE
Virgin Islands Inventory of Historic Places
DATE
May 6, 1976
DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS
Virgin Islands Planning Office
CITY, TOWN
Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas
STATE
U. S. Virgin Islands
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

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		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Perseverance is located $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of Charlotte Amalie on the southern shoreline, 800' inland from Perseverance Bay. The factory building is of the typical "T" plan, with the larger cross section running on a north-south axis. This part is three by seven bays, 29' wide by 73'6" in length, one story on a high cellar and once had a timber hipped roof. The walls are plastered stone rubble with brick linings at all window and door openings. The seven bay east wall has a door located at each of the third points, each flanked by single windows at the ground level, and a central door with three windows on either side at the main level. The openings in both levels of this wall have brick segmental arches, finished as flat arches on the exterior to take the heavy wood casings. The shutters are missing, but the drive pintles remain. The north and south end walls have central doors flanked by single windows at grade level. The west wall which connects with the boiling room, has two windows at each end and an open door in the center. The north end wall is richly detailed with 5:1 brick corner quoining, keystone round arches over the windows and door and a two course corbelled cornice. The cornice continues around the entire structure. A single flight of stairs, supported by a buttressed arch leads to the entrance door in the main level of the east facade. The stair landing rests on two square brick piers, with a round headed relieving arch separating them. The floor of the cellar is stone with a layer of lime plaster, badly burned in a fire, which may account for the missing floor structure above. A centered row of three brick piers at the quarter points once supported the sills and cross beams. Pockets for 8" joists remain in all walls. The ceiling height of the main level is 15'.

There is a 15' x 20' rubble masonry cistern attached to the south wall.

The boiling room is located in the leg of the "T", perpendicular to the factory section. Measuring 29 x 42' in plan, the structure has seven windows in the south wall, two of which have been blocked in, and four windows in the north wall with an opening for the sluiceway. The west end wall has a large centered doorway. The floor of this part, which has no cellar, is dressed stone and the roof was hipped. All window and door openings in this section have splayed jambs lined with brick, and flat arches with wood casings and sills. The outside corners of the boiling room have brick pilaster panels and the cornice continues at the eaves line. Ceiling height is 13'.

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 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

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The earliest deed for Estate Perseverance records Mrs. Mary Fogerty as owner of both Estate Perseverance and nearby Estate Hope in 1811. At that time the estate was called Milnershope. After the death of Mrs. Fogerty in 1841, the estate was auctioned to Robert Gardner Merliner. In 1879 the estate was sold to J. C. Salomon for \$643 which illustrates the decline of the sugar economy on St. Thomas.

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. Thomas which the Danes purchased in 1671 to serve as a commercial port, had less agricultural development than the other islands. However, there were some sugar plantations in operation. By 1725, St. Thomas had reached its peak in sugar production and by 1754, it was no longer important to the industry. Moreover, during the 19th century the island's commercial and trading interests were finally prospering.

The ruins of the factory at Perseverance are of architectural significance because of the classic revival details, the plan, the method of construction and use of local building materials, all typical of sugar factories in the Virgin Islands at this period.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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

McGuire, James William. Geographic Dictionary of the Virgin Islands. Special Publication No. 103 (Serial N. 269), United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, Dept. of Commerce. Washington, D. C. 1925

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2 acres
 UTM REFERENCES

18° 21' 19" North Latitude
 64° 59' 53" West Longitude

A

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING							

B

ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING							

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The nominated property is within Estate Perseverance and is roughly 250' x 100' in size.

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

Annie Hillary, Russell Wright

June, 1977

ORGANIZATION

Virgin Islands Planning Office

DATE

STREET & NUMBER

P. O. Box 2606

June 9, 1977

CITY OR TOWN

Charlotte Amalie

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 K. 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	
<i>Robert B. Retting</i>	DATE 2/17/78
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
ATTEST <i>Charles A. Murray</i>	DATE 2.8.78
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE one

The animal mill is approximately 30 feet north of the boiling room. The raised platform is 88' in diameter, with the horse-walk surrounded by a low parapet wall, 15" at the interior face. This rubble wall varies in height from grade at the north to 6' facing the factory. The mill is in a ruinous state, but archeological investigations may uncover details of its plan and construction.

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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. Thoms, W. I...and Incidental Notices of St. Croix and St. John. New York, 1852 (1966 reprint).