

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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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 Isolate Hafensight
AND/OR COMMON Havensight

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER #27 and #17E Estate Havensight
CITY, TOWN Charlotte Amalie
STATE Virgin Islands
VICINITY OF VICINITY OF
CODE 78
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 1
COUNTY St. Thomas
CODE 0100

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<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 Louis and Reba Hoffman
STREET & NUMBER P.O. Box 381
CITY, TOWN St. Thomas
VICINITY OF _____
STATE Virgin Islands

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Recorder of Deeds
STREET & NUMBER Government House
CITY, TOWN St. Thomas
STATE Virgin Islands

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE V.I. Inventory of Historic Places
DATE June, 1977
FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS V.I. Planning Office
CITY, TOWN Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas
STATE Virgin Islands

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" 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

Havensight Great House is located on a two and one-half acre hilltop site above Havensight Point, one mile across Long Bay from Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas. In addition, to the great house, the complex includes a large cistern, a tenant house built on the foundations of a slave quarters, a cookhouse and the ruins of a separate bake oven, and a later storage shed.

The original section of the great house is a one story rubble masonry square, forty feet to a side, on a high basement set on a semi-circular terrace overlooking the harbor. A second, rectangular terrace extends from the west wall of the house, enclosed by a low parapet wall. A small cemetery is located just west of this terrace. The exterior walls of the house are stuccoed, with a low panelled parapet wall capping the north and south walls, terminating in shallow gable end walls. At the present time the roof is a gable, with the ridge line running east-west, but it is probable that the original roof was almost flat, and that the incongruous gables were added in the early 20th century. The north-south walls are three bays wide, with floor length windows flanking the central double door. The east-west walls are four bays, all floor length windows. All jambs are splayed and are brick lined, with flat timber heads and casings. The interior has louvered blinds, the exterior facade panelled shutters. A ten foot deep shed roofed gallery surrounds the north, east and west walls of the house. A later shed roofed porch has been added to the north gallery.

The south gallery area has been extended to become a three bay wide bedroom and kitchen wing. These walls are frame, sheathed with German siding, and its hip roof is covered with corrugated tin. The west gallery was extended to surround this addition on the south and west facades, constructed on a full height cellar that opens on the west terrace. At an even later date that the kitchen-bedroom change, this gallery was filled in to accommodate a bath and to enlarge the bedroom. This addition is also frame with a corrugated tin hipped roof. The plan of the original part of the great house is the center hall type, with two large rooms facing the front facade and two bedrooms opening off a hall in the rear. All interior partitions are frame. The opening leading to the hall that serves the bedroom area, and a door in the rear wall of the left front room to the bedroom behind it, have round fan lights. The partition dividing the two front rooms has a large flat arched opening. Each of the two bedrooms has two doorways, with three panelled doors. The exposed structure of the flat roof system has timber rafters with purlins supporting an unusual brick ceiling and roof combined, in a very shallow gable form. The perimeter masonry walls are 30" thick and plastered. There is no ceiling cornice or chair rail, but there is a base with molded cap and excellent molded

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 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

Havensight Great House is notable for its unusual brick roof exposed as the ceiling in the original part of the house and the plan with its center hall serving the flanking bedrooms. The combination of louvered shutters and panelled blinds at all openings is typical of residential construction of the period, as is the use of rubble with brick linings. The terraced and well planted site, with the family graveyard, commands exception vistas of St. Thomas Harbor and the working docks at Havensight. While the house has undergone two phases of expansion, it still retains its integrity and is now being restored in the interior.

The Danish name "Havensight" signifies "Harborview". Two burial places belonging to John Neish and heirs and Richard Wynne and heirs are located on the estate. The earliest deed records a public auction requested by I.T.C. Eckart and Company over the plantation called Hafensight with buildings, plot and two negroes with the following conditions: the buyer pays to the Government \$1600, and pays for the deed, auction cost etc. In 1812 the estate was auctioned to John Frederick Uhlehorn Rd. for 6545 to settle the estate of the deceased owner M.S.H. Bek. Uhlehorn transferred the property to Mr. Anthon Gravenhorst.

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architrave trim with panelled corner blocks and flat plinths at each door opening.

A small storage room exists below the southwest part of the original house, with 30' rubble walls, a heavy board door hung on wrought iron straps, and what appears to be two rifle ports in the exterior walls facing Hassel Island and St. Thomas Harbor. There also exists a two room cellar under the first and second additions to the great house, constructed in two stages (following the filling in of the two galleries above). The west section of this cellar opens to the terrace, with single windows flanking the board double door.

The stone foundations (15 x 24') of the original slave quarters are situated southeast of the great house. The slave quarters, which were frame, were demolished in the 1950's and replaced by the present one story masonry tenant house. The hip roof design and the proportions of the earlier structure were maintained. A one story flat roofed cookhouse is attached to the west end wall of the tenant house, with a window and a door in the north wall and a window in the west. The pyramidal chimney for the charcoal range is in the east wall, next to the tenant house. The walls of the cookhouse are stuccoed rubble, with brick linings at the openings and corners. The flat roof is surrounded by a low parapet wall with stepped corners.

The ruins of an eight by ten foot rubble and brick bake oven with its chimney remain southeast of the tenant house. East of the oven and a later shed of no significance is a large cistern (20' x 35') with a capacity of 65,000 gallons. Constructed of local blue bitch stone and brick rubble, the cistern at present has a flat roof, the result of the vaulted brick roof collapsing in the 1960's. The bricks from the roof have been stored on site for the eventual restoration of the cistern.

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