



Protektor: Hendes Majestæt Dronningen

DANISH WEST INDIAN SOCIETY

JULI 1980

15. ÅRGANG NR. 3



THE FRIENDS OF DENMARK and the St. Croix Chamber of Commerce are working in conjunction with the Department of Public Works to erect street signs (sample shown) in the historic district of Christiansted and Frederiksted. Obviously pleased with the Federal Highway Administration approved project are, from left, Otis Prince, St. Thomas Roads Director Orlando Canel, Friends of Denmark Secretary Nina York, Nini Cohen, Public Works Commissioner Arnold Golden, Assistant Commissioner O'Neal Abel, and St. Croix Roads Director Ghirton Hector.

(V.I. Government Photo -- David Cover)

Danish Street Signs Going Up

THE DAILY NEWS



Redaktion og layout:

Eja Brødland Kirk
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Tlf. 01- 87 22 63

Redaktionen opfordrer medlemmerne til - con amore - at indsende artikler og beretninger vedr. det tidligere Dansk Vestindien, både før og efter transfer.

NYE GADENAVNESKILTE PÅ ST. CROIX

Som det fremgår af avisartiklen, har den danske skiltefabrikant Poul J. Clausen fremstillet nye gadenavneskilte til Christiansted og Frederiksted som en gave til St. Croix, mens F.o.D. har påtaget sig opsætningen.

THE DAILY NEWS



A SET OF commemorative flags — U.S., Danish and Virgin Islands — is presented as a thank-you gift to Paul Clausen, second right, owner of Trastup Vejsskiltefabrik of Denmark by St. Croix administrative assistant to the governor, Teofilo Espinosa, right, as Jewel Carty, special assistant to the administrator and Morris Henderson of St. Croix Friends of Denmark look on. Clausen is the donor of the Danish-language street signs recently installed in St. Croix and his factory produced them.

(V.I. Government Photo -- David Leighton Cover)

By DIANA PEARSON

Daily News Staff
CHRISTIANSTED --

The streets of Christiansted and Frederiksted are being marked with Danish street signs this week, thanks to the generosity of Paul Clausen.

Clausen and a Public Works Department crew began to hang the reflecting white lettered, blue background signs in Christiansted Thursday. They hope to have the 70 signs in place by Saturday, when Clausen ends his short St. Croix vacation to do business in the states.

"I give you the street signs because I like this island so much," Clausen said between hanging

signs on Kongensgade, uncomfortable speaking in a language other than his native Danish.

Clausen said that his gift originated when Nini Cohen recognized him as a Dane in her store, Nini of Scandinavia, a year-and-a-half ago.

After discovering that his company makes the signs marking all of Copenhagen's streets, Clausen said that Mrs. Cohen said, "We must have road signs in Danish for Christiansted and Frederiksted."

Mrs. Cohen brought the idea to the Chamber of Commerce, and the chamber helped her approach Public Works and the Planning

Office for approval. When funding was not available, Clausen volunteered to make the signs without charge.

The Cohens are hosting Clausen and his wife Lonnie. Eric Lawaetz gave a cocktail party in their honor Thursday. Clausen celebrated his birthday at Spratt Hall Friday.

Clausen said that he has always had a special affection for the Virgin Islands because of teacher he had, Victor Cornelius, who is from St. Thomas. Cornelius used to sing West Indian songs to his

class, Clausen remembered. Clausen said Cornelius is now 80 years old, living in Nakskov outside Copenhagen.

NY FORMAND FOR ST. CROIX FRIENDS OF DENMARK SOCIETY

På det nyligt afholdte årsmøde ønskede Morris Henderson at trække sig tilbage som foreningens formand.

Som ny formand valgtes Miss Clarice Bourne for tidsrummet 1980-81. Hendes adresse er: P.O.Box 189, Christiansted, St. Croix, U.S.Virgin Islands 00820, U.S.A.

Vi ønsker hjertelig til lykke og glæder os til samarbejdet.

Til Morris Henderson sender vi en hjertelig tak for samarbejdet i de 2 år, han har været formand, samt for godt venskab. Vi håber på hans snarlige besøg i Danmark, så vi personlig kan vise ham, hvor glade vi har været for festivalen i 1979.

Vi vil gøre vores bedste for i 1981 at leve op til det strålende arrangement F.o.D.s bestyrelser og medlemmer på begge øer gav os.

P.b.v. Kirk

ST. CROIX FRIENDS OF DENMARK

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 1980-81

| | | |
|------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Honorary Trustee | Theodora Dunbavin | 773-1512 |
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Trustees Whose Term Expires April 1983

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| Corresponding Secretary..... | Betsy Ecuyer | 778-1506 |
| Assistant Treasurer..... | Carmelo Zielinski | 778-0612/773-2882 |

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Membership: Shirley Eckley

Publicity: Myrtle Dunbavin

Finance: Hans Lawaetz

Entertainment: No chairman appointed;
each function to be under
leadership of different
individuals.

Travel: Jacques Boulanger
Assistant: Eulalie Elcock

Project: Morris Henderson

Historian: Eva Lawaetz

OL' TIME CRUCIAN PICNIC

Friends of Denmark Celebrate Transfer Day

Martin Marietta's Spanish Town ruins made a serene backdrop for the nostalgic picnic March 31 celebrating Transfer Day by the St. Croix Friends of Denmark Society.

Morris Henderson, President of the Society, welcomed the 160 guests, among whom was a group of Danish tourists who received a festive introduction to the island. Tables and chairs were set up under the shady trees where everyone sampled the many local specialties, both food and drink.

Well-known educator, Miss Theodora Dunbavin, spoke on the history of education in St. Croix. The Frank Charles Scratch Band provided happy music. And the highlight of the event was the captivating performance by a group of diminutive Quadrille dancers, students at the Moravian Kindergarten. They were traditionally costumed and under the able direction of Milton Payne. Though many in the audience had been the dancers' age, or older, at the time of the Danish transfer of St. Croix to the United States in 1917, the Quadrille was equally familiar to them.

Later in the afternoon, Martin Marietta provided a bus tour of its interesting ruins at Estate Anguilla located at the other end of the company property. Isabelle Pence of the Friends of Denmark coordinated the day's activities where past and present blended to make a perfect day! □



Miss Theodora Dunbavin, well-known educator, talks about the way it was in St. Croix schools when she was a youngster.





SAINT CROIX FRIENDS OF DENMARK
A NON-PROFIT VIRGIN ISLANDS CORPORATION

APRIL 1980

APRIL 1980

NEWSLETTER

All who participated in the 1980 Transfer Day Picnic know what a success it was, thanks to the hospitality of Martin Marietta, plenty of good food, and the charming Quadrille dancers from the Moravian kindergarten led by Milton Payne. Many members who had to work that day expressed regret at not being able to attend. For them as well as the rest of us, our next event will be held on Sunday, April 20, at Queen's Court Restaurant, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. We will be celebrating the birthday of Queen Margrethe, as is our custom, hoping she will forgive us for toasting her four days late - her birthday is April 16! We will be serving real Danish Birthday Kringle - a big, pretzel-shaped treat of Danish Pastry baked by Bent and Hanne Rasmussen. It is sinfully good and deserves to be washed down with Champagne (or, if you prefer, a festive non-alcoholic equivalent). Donation for this event is a mere \$2.50 per person BUT the event is BY RESERVATION ONLY. Please call me before April 16 to let us know if you are coming, at 773-7017.

This newsletter has to be brief because I am off to Frederiksted to pick up a contingent of the Cadets off the DANMARK. I hope all of you who wanted to meet the Danish boys had an opportunity to see them and show them hospitality. Eva Lawaetz had the herculean job of coordinating this activity, for which she deserves thanks.

Nina York

Corresponding Secretary

THE DAILY NEWS, WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 1980

Dockmaster Roar Pedersen Dies

Roar Pedersen, 71, dockmaster at the West Indian Co. dock for 33 years, died May 3 after a lengthy illness.

Pedersen and his wife Grundy were married in Copenhagen, and had just finished their eight-week honeymoon in New York when they arrived in the Virgin Islands on Aug. 16, 1946. Pedersen assumed the position of assistant dockmaster and a year later was made dockmaster.

Born in 1909 in a small town outside Copenhagen, Pedersen

went to sea at age of 15. From 1925 until 1928 he sailed on the Kobenhavn, the biggest five-masted barque ever built. He left the Kobenhavn just a few months before the ship was lost at sea, with all hands on board, without leaving a trace or issuing a distress signal.

During his years aboard the Kobenhavn, Pedersen rounded Cape Horn several times and became one of the 1,800 remaining members of the Cape Horn Association.

During World War II, Pedersen

sailed with the merchant marine, first under the British flag for three years, and then for two and a half years under the Panamanian flag as captain of a tanker.

When the Pedersens arrived in St. Thomas, the West Indian Co. was thriving on the coal bunkering business.

Pedersen saw many changes in the islands. When they first moved into the West Indian Company-owned house on Bluebeard's Hill, there was nothing but fields between the hill and the dock.

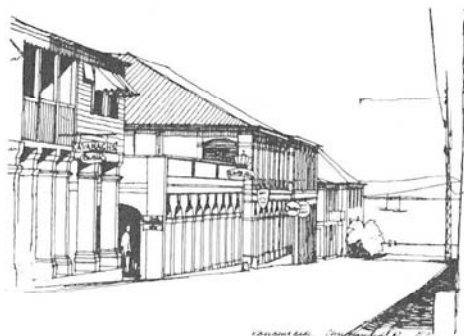
Anmeldelse

Tre byer i Vestindien

Three Towns. Forfattere: Peter Bredsdorff, Hans Henrik Engqvist, Viggo Møller-Jensen, Herbert Olsen, Eric Pettersson og Ole Svensson, sidstnævnte tillige redaktør. Første gang udgivet i 1965. Ny udgave, udgivet af Dansk Vestindisk Selskab. 122 sider, illustreret. Pris kr. 158. Fås gennem Canrepro, Tagensvej 72, 2200 København N. Telefon (01) 83 06 25.

I 1961 sendte Kunstakademiets arkitekt-skole en lille ekspedition til det tidligere Dansk Vestindien, U.S. Virgin Islands. En del af ekspeditionens medlemmer opholdt sig relativt længe på øerne og fik foretaget en grundig registrering af en række forhold af betydning for, hvad man i dag ville kalde en bevarende sanering af øernes tre byer, Charlotte Amalie på St. Thomas og Christiansted og Frederiksted på St. Croix. Opmålingerne af bygningerne er kun sporadisk blevet publiceret i tidens løb, medens registreringerne af byerne og de bymæssige forhold blev samlet i en publikation, som første gang blev udgivet i 1965. Teksten var på engelsk af hensyn til den brug rapporten, forfatterne forestillede sig skulle være et af resultaterne af ekspeditionens arbejde. Man håbede, at de lokale myndigheder, den interesserede del af befolkningen og embedsmændene ville bruge rapporten i de følgende års planlægning af de tre byers fremtid.

Interessen for publikationen var stor, omend rapporten kun i et begrænset omfang,



Kongensgade, Christiansted. Tegning Eric Pettersson 1962.

har øvet indflydelse på planlægningsarbejdet. Det er iøvrigt ikke let at afgøre, hvor stor indflydelsen har været. Indirekte har bogen nok haft større betydning, end det direkte kan aflæses på byerne.

I hvert fald øgedes i slutningen af 60'erne og gennem 70'erne interessen og forståelsen for bevaringen af enkeltbygninger og bybilleder af kulturhistorisk interesse. Og i dag er ikke mindst Christiansted en arkitektonisk seværdighed.

Men rapporten har en interesse ud over den vejledning, byplanlæggerne har kunnet hente. Den indeholder en kort historisk oversigt, lettere tilgængelig end i anden litteratur om øerne. Registreringen af byerne, med en omtale af de enkelte byers historie og påpejning af de bygningsmæssige værdier er trods en del ændringer siden 60'erne en glimrende guide, når man på stedet vil lære byerne bedre at kende.

Derfor har bogen da også været stærkt efterspurgt og er forlængst udsolgt. Det er derfor et velkomment initiativ af Dansk Vestindisk Selskab at foranledige bogen genudgivet, selvfølgelig med tilladelse fra Kunstakademiet. Bogen er som nævnt engelsksproget, og det er da også tanken, at størstedelen af oplaget på 900 eksemplarer skal distribueres i U.S. Virgin Islands.

Der er gennem årene udgivet ikke så få beretninger om marinens Vestindietogter i ældre tid - erindringer, dagbøger, breve fra søofficerer, marinelæger og menige. Det seneste skud på stammen er "En Marinelæges Dagbog i Vestindien og ved Østersøeskadren" ved Jørgen H. Barfod (1979, i Lademanns serie "Mennesker og minder"), som indeholder læge William E. Wiinstedts dagbog fra et togt med skruekorvetten "Fylla" 1863-64 og efterfølgende blokadetjeneste i Østersøen, tildels med korvetten "Dagmar".

Chef for Fylla var den senere kontreadmiral Emil Francois Krieger (1819-92), der også var chef for Dagmar under dennes lange togt 1867-68, hvor min farfar H.G.F. Garde (1825-85) var næstkommanderende (se "På Orlogstogt til Vestindien for 100 år siden" ved H.F. Garde, Kbh. 1962).

Næstkommanderende på Fylla var min farfars nære ven Ludvig Frederik Schmidt, der døde på "Bülowsminde" 1869 som chef for korvetten "Thor". Yngste løjtnant var Carl Adolf Garde (1834-1911), yngre broder til den senere guvernør Janus August Garde (1823-93).

Bogen er smukt udstyret og har - som altid hos Lademann - gode farvereproduktioner, men kapitelinddelingen er gået i fisk, idet en tur til St. Domingo og Puerto Rico i indholdsfortegnelsen angives at vare fra 19/2 til 20/3 1864 og at optage siderne 55-96. Dette er ikke rigtigt, turen varede lykkeligvis kun en halv snes dage. Siderne 72-96 optages af et afsnit, der hedder "Afrejsen 2/3-20/3-64", og som skildrer fornyede ophold på St. Thomas og St. Croix. Det sidste er glædeligt, for - som det siges i indledningen - første halvdel af dagbogen, der må have omfattet et længere ophold på St. Croix, mangler; men af det fornyede, korte ophold inden hjemrejsen kan man se, hvem han tidligere havde gjort bekendtskab med.

Den 26-årige læge Wiinstedt er en frisk fyr og fortæller levende og morsomt om sit samvær med adskillige familier på øerne og sit sværmeri med flere unge fruer og frøkener. Der er tale om familierne Arboe, Boye, v. Brakle, Gad, Haagensen, Hjernøe, Riise, Rosenkrantz, Schousboe m.fl.

Desuden stifter vi bekendtskab med nogle læger. Det man særlig vil huske efter læsningen af Vestindieafsnittet er dog måske Wiinstedts venskab med Samuel van Brakles 9-årige datter Mathilde, som synes at have været et ganske særlig forfinet og tiltrækkende lille væsen. Efter hjemkomsten overvejer han endda, om han i stedet for at binde sig til sin senere kone Fanny Kehlet skulle vente, til Mathilde bliver voksen. Hun døde af tæring som 22-årig i 1877.

Notestoffet er noget ufuldkomment. I forbindelse med et svensk flådebesøg på St. Thomas nævnes i teksten en mand, der bor på St. Bartholemy. I en note hertil siges blot, at dette er en af de små antiller; men ikke et ord om, at øen var svensk! Mange personnavne er ikke identificeret i noterne, også flere, som uden større besvær kunne være blevet det.

Dette gælder f.eks. en dr. Bloch, som der gøres bekendtskab med under et besøg i Mayaguez på Puerto Rico. Der er tale om den 50-årige Claus Frederik Bloch, søn af den kendte landfysikus på St. Croix Johan Frederik Bloch, der var ven med generalguvernør Bentzon og døde kort efter ham i januar 1827. Det fortælles, at dr. Bloch lever adskilt fra sin kone, der er i Danmark; hun må imidlertid være kommet derud, da hun døde på Puerto Rico 1868.

Det gælder også familien Boye. Der er tale om kaptajn, senere toldforvalter i Christiansted Adolf Jonas Boye (1823-91), søn af digteren Caspar Johs. Boye) og hans kone Hulda, f. Rahr (1834-81).

Endv. kan nævnes Faber, nemlig Lorenz Jacob Benzon Faber (1828-1903), Apoteker i Frederiksted og medlem af kolonialrådet.

Det er uheldigt, at personnavne i noterne staves forkert: Dr. Erichsen og hans familie hed Erichson, dr. Borck hed Borch (søn af prokurator Gerhard Frederik Borch); den mange steder omtalte major Magens hed ikke Carl Rode Magens, men Carl Rohde Magens.

Meget følelig er manglen af et personregister, som ikke burde savnes i en overvejende personalhistorisk bog. Manglen hindrer f. eks. læseren i let at finde frem til de mange steder, hvor den lille Mathilde v. Brakle omtales så smukt.

Endnu må jeg nævne et par billeder: Et farvelitografi fra Christiansted 1837, gengivet s. 57, kan ikke være fra byen Christiansted, men må - med vindmølle, sukkerkøgeri m.m. - være fra en af plantagerne oppe bag byen. - "Bredgade med Frederiks hospital ca. 1830" (s. 147) må være fra en væsentlig senere tid, bl.a. fordi St. Ansgar kirke er færdigbygget, hvilket først skete 1842. Efter dragterne at dømme er billedet formentlig fra omkring 1860, altså nær ved den tid, da Wiinstedt efter Vestindietogtet og krigsbegivenhederne gjorde tjeneste på hospitalet.

H.F.Garde

FRA KULTURARKIVET

Mangler i oktober-nummeret 1979:

Ved Eva Ganneskov

D. Ad No 756 V.J. 1816 St. Croix 24th of April 1816

-
4. The catholic congregation was formerly the most numerous and important, while a great part of the estates were in Irish hands, but just as the estates now are in english or scottish hands, then also this congregation has diminished in numbers and means, so that even if still the most numerous, it can only with difficulty keep a Priest in Christiansted. In Frederiksted the number has even diminished more, causing the same Priest to attend both churches.

By the taking over of the Islands I found a Priest by name O'FLYNN, who gave in some papers showing he was ordained Priest and appointed here by the congregation, wishing to get them gracefully confirmed. Some time after arrived hereto the former Priest ABBEE HERARD, who as born french had left the Island during the english time and who now came back to drive away the new Priest. From the Bishop in Baltimore he acquired an Introduction against O'Flynn with the threat of EXCOMMUNICATION of him if he continued to administer the Sacraments, as he being a monk of the Trappist order could not be a priest, - and excommunication for the congregation in case it obeyed him. The congregation now divided itself in a french and an irish part, the one defending Herard, the other O'Flynn. I have not wished to mix myself in this on behalf of the authority, but recommended them to composedness and harmony, as I otherwise would have to drive them both off the Island. - On this

O'Flynn has resigned and goes to Europe to justify himself. As the church-directors will not accept Herard, there is no priest to authorize.

This is the result of the catholic Hierarchie in all countries. For not to compromise His Majesty's authority - which by the catholic head-clericals any moment can be broken, by forbidding the priest to do his functions and the congregation to obey him - it might be most correct to let the catholic priests be allowed from the Governor-General, to function as long as they agree, and if they break the peace between themselves, he will send them off the country, which hereby is submitted to the most high resolution.

The catholic Priest on St. Thomas DES BLANCHAMPS is a quiet, calm man. It will depend on the mentioned decision if his documents are to be sent to the most-high confirmation. This priest stands, according to the agreement between Spain and Denmark under the Bishop of Porto Rico, who again is said to stand under the Archbishop on St. Domingo. It then seems most natural that the priest of St.Croix also should stand under the one and same Discipline.

.....

St. Croix April 24th 1816

signed P.L.Oxholm

in fidem

Artzt, private Secretary

Gen-Toldkam. IV, Vest Journal Sag no 756

År 1816

DANSK VESTINDISK SELSKABS FORLAG

Da nogle af selskabets bøger er ved at være udsolgt, meddeles i følgende bogliste, hvilke bøger det drejer sig om.

1. Dansk Vestindien i Gamle Billeder, 1967, 102 s. hft.
Forlagspris kr. 32,95, bogladepris kr. 46,10.
2. Steffen Linvald: Sukker & Rom, 1967, 74 s. indb.,
tosproget (engelsk og dansk). Restlager: 35 eksemplarer.
Forlagspris kr. 79,90, bogladepris kr. 111,85.
3. Henning Henningsen: Hello - til det tidligere Dansk
Vestindien - U.S. Virgin Islands, 1968, 56 s. hft.
Engelsk resumé. Restlager: 15 eksemplarer. Forlagspris
kr. 29,30, bogladepris kr. 41,00.
4. Henry Morton - Skitsebog og dagbog fra Dansk Vestindien
1843-44, 1975. 184 s. indb. Forlagspris kr. 183,00,
bogladepris kr. 256,25.
5. THREE TOWNS (Charlotte Amalie, Christiansted og Frederiksted).
Engelsksproget. Redaktør: arkitekt m.a.a. Ole Svensson.
Genoptryk 1980. 122 s. hft. Forlagspris kr. 96,60, boglade-
pris kr. 140,00. Der er trykt 900 eksemplarer, hvoraf ca. 200
sælges i Danmark, resten i U.S. Virgin Islands.

Priserne er incl. moms men eksklusiv porto og forsendelsesomkostninger. Medlemmer kan købe bøgerne til forlagspris. Bestilling: Canrepro A/S, direktør B.E. Juhl, Tagensvej 72, 2200 København N. Tlf. 01 - 83 06 25.

THREE TOWNS

Bogen, som er omtalt i boglisten i selskabets blad for marts, er nu udkommet.

Emnet er fornyelse og bevaring af byerne Charlotte Amalie, Christiansted og Frederiksted i det tidl. Dansk Vestindien, U.S. Virgin Islands.

Bogen er oprindeligt udgivet af Kunstakademiet men i et meget lille oplag. Dansk Vestindisk Selskab har - efter utallige opfordringer - taget initiativet til en genudgivelse i 900 eksemplarer, hvoraf de 700 sælges i Vestindien.

Den er fremstillet i stort tværformat - med forsideillustration af Ib Andersen - og indeholder på de 122 sider et væld af spændende tekst, tegninger, kort samt opmålinger af byhuse.

Redaktør: Arkitekt m.a.a. Ole Svensson.

Forlag: Dansk Vestindisk Selskab ved arkitekt m.a.a. Einar Kirk, rigsbibliotekar Palle Birkelund, amtmand J. Elkjær-Larsen og underdirektør Valdemar Schmidt (Ø.K.)

Forlagspris incl. moms (medlemspris) kr. 96,60, bogladepris kr. 140,00

Der er kun 150 eksemplarer tilbage af den danske del af oplaget.

Bogsalg: Canrepro ved direktør B.E.Juhl, Tagensvej 72, 2200 København N, telf. 01-83 06 25.

7

PRICELESS HERITAGE Ved Ben Kesler

Bogen handler om Estate St. George's historie og overleveringer samt om "St. George Village Botanical Garden" på St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands.

Bogen er meget spændende skrevet og indeholder et væld af oplysninger om St. Croix og plantagen gennem tiderne, herunder om arkæologi, antropologi, botanik, historie og zoologi. Mange personer - nævnt under acknowledgement - har bidraget med informationer.

Bogen, der på forsiden bærer St. George Village Botanical Gardens logo, er en gave fra Mr. Ben Kesler til Dansk Vestindisk Selskab. Hjertelig tak til Ben Kesler.

VESTINDERNE

Fra dansk slaveri til amerikansk masseturisme. Af Karen Fog Olwig

Bogen er på 128 sider med ca. 100 fotos og tegninger. Udgivet af naturforlaget Skarv, Kongevejen 45, DK 2840 Holte.

Pris incl. moms 65,45 kr.

Omkring århundredskiftet kunne man overalt i danske skoler se klasseværelser med store, sorte tavler, fyldt med grammatiske bøjninger og uforståelige salmevers. Børnene sad og svedte ved lange rækker af pulter. Og fra det almægtige kateder dirigerede læreren det hele med sin pegepind.

Nogle af disse klasseværelser lå på De dansk-vestindiske Øer - langt fra de "brede bøger" og "bakkedale", som eleverne lærte om i fædrelandssangen. I disse skoler forsøgte man at gøre de sorte børn til gode, danske borgere, der var kongetro og loyale mod deres fjerne fædreland.

Det lykkedes ikke særlig godt ...

I denne bog beskrives, hvordan den afro-amerikanske kultur opstod under slaveriet, udviklede sig efter frigørelsen, frem til øernes salg til USA, og videre op til i dag, hvor masseturisme har skabt alvorlige konflikter i det lille samfund.



***SAS*-Vi er verdens
ældste luftfartsselskab.**

DANSK VESTINDISK FOND

I oktober og november 1977 ændrede "Dansk Vestindisk Selskabs" generalforsamling lovenes § 16, således at fonden blev en selvstændig virksomhed i foreningen med egen bestyrelse, der konstituerer sig selv. D.v.s. at fonden herefter selv udarbejder sine love og vedtægter.

Da § 16 fremover ikke skal godkendes af selskabets generalforsamling, meddeles herved de justeringer, som fondens bestyrelse har fundet naturlige, f.eks. er der indført en bestemmelse om formuens overtagelse i tilfælde af fondens opløsning. § 16 vil i den justerede form blive indført i selskabets love, når disse ved lejlighed skal genoptrykkes.

Den justerede § 16 lyder herefter:

Dansk Vestindisk Fond (Danish West Indian Foundation)

Selskabets bestyrelse har i henhold til tidligere love oprettet en særlig fond, hvis indtægter ikke må stamme fra de almindelige kontingentindtægter, med mindre generalforsamlingen beslutter at overføre beløb til fonden.

Fondens midler forvaltes selvstændigt af en fondsbestyrelse på 5 medlemmer.

Fondsbestyrelsen konstituerer sig selv og udpeger selv formand, 2 næstformænd, kasserer samt sekretær. Sidstnævnte fører protokol over bestyrelsesmøderne.

Et fondsbestyrelsesmedlem kan kun udskiftes med samtykke fra de øvrige fondsbestyrelsesmedlemmer.

Ved stemmelighed er formandens stemme afgørende.

Fondens formand er født medlem af selskabets bestyrelse og således ikke på valg på generalforsamlingen.

Fondens formue og indtægter anvendes til formål, som styrker de kulturelle og venskabelige bånd mellem Danmark og det tidligere Dansk-Vestindien, herunder forlagsvirksomhed med udgivelse af publikationer, der vedrører Dansk Vestindien og Caribien.

Fondsbestyrelsen kan nedsætte de til formålets opfyldelse nødvendige udvalg, f.eks. redaktionsudvalg, udpege medlemmer af bogforlaget, træffe konsulentaftaler m.v.

Fondens regnskab skal føres som det almindelige foreningsregnskab med samme regnskabsår og regler for formueanbringelse. Fondens bestyrelse udpeger 2 revisorer, der eventuelt kan være de samme, som reviderer det almindelige foreningsregnskab.

På fondens konti kan hæves ved underskrift af formanden for fonden (subs. en næstformand og kassereren i forening).

Formanden for fonden kan bemyndige kassereren til ved egen underskrift alene at hæve på sparekasse - eller bankkonti (evt. girokonto) til betaling af anviste regninger eller overførelse til sparekassekonti, idet bemærkes, at regninger over 1.000 kr. skal anvises af fondens formand, subs. en næstformand.

Da fonden forhandler bøgerne og derfor er moms-registreret, skal kassereren føre et momsregnskab, der skal kunne godkendes af toldvæsenet. I øvrigt skal kassereren føre en kassebog.

Alle indtægter fra bogsalg skal indgå i fondens kasse. D.v.s., at beholdningen af bøger er fondens ejendom.

I tilfælde af selskabets opløsning kan fondens bestyrelse vedtage at fortsætte virksomheden samt selv foretage de nødvendige økonomiske dispositioner. Omvendt, hvis fondsbestyrelsen énstemmigt vedtager at opløse fonden, skal fondens midler og bogbeholdning overgå til Dansk Vestindisk Selskab, subs. Handels- og Søfartsmuseet på Kronborg, idet medlemmer af Dansk Vestindisk Selskab - som hidtil - skal have mulighed for at købe af restoplaget til forlagspris.

Ovennævnte bestemmelser kan kun ændres af fondsbestyrelsen, der, hvis den finder det fornødent, kan udbygge bestemmelserne i en vedtægt.

København, den 1. juli 1980

| | | | |
|------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Einar Kirk | Valdemar Schmidt | J. Elkjær-Larsen | Kn. Lund Petersen |
| Formand | Næstformand | Næstformand | Kasserer |

THE DAILY NEWS.

Botanical Garden Sponsors Workshop

Activities at the St. George Village Botanical Garden of St. Croix have taken a new direction under the leadership of its new president, Aurora B. Barnett.

Mrs. Barnett who was elected at the recent annual meeting, said she wants the gardens used by all the people on St. Croix, and will work to develop interest of younger people.

In keeping with this policy, a first workshop on the history of the garden was held at the garden.

Jerry Weninger, a sixth grade teacher at the Evelyn Williams Elementary School, discovered the new book, "Priceless Heritage," by Ben Kesler. Feeling that other teachers could share in this literary history of the St. George Village Botanical Garden, Weninger invited to the school Kesler, a resident of St. Croix and a member and Historian of the garden. The other teachers, so happy to see such valuable information in writing, not only purchased books immediately but agreed also to attend the workshop

if Kesler and Weninger established it.

Kesler recruited Bruce Tilden, a St. Croix Archiologist at Fort Frederick, and Frances "B" Christensen, historian and former settler on the estate St. George, to head two of the groups. Kesler headed the third group. He also invited botanist Nancy Ogden, to answer questions concerning plants. By rotating to each of the groups, the teachers were able to gain the knowledge from each category.

Islands' Folklore Compiled, Taped

Sen. Michael Paiewonsky is spearheading a fund-raising drive to collect \$11,000 for the final stages of a project which will be the only one of its kind in the Caribbean.

Known as "Virgin Island Voices," it is a folklore project consisting of thousands of feet of audio-taped sounds of Virgin Islanders, explained Paiewonsky

-- "our folk songs, our rituals and other music, our folk tales, legends, belief memorates of supernatural legends and stories, our carnival sounds, oral histories, memorates of street masquerades, plays and a tea meeting; our children's songs, game rhymes and reminiscences gathered from older people."

Under the auspices of the

non-profit Family Institute and Training Center, which secured \$39,000 in grants from government and private sources, the project needs \$11,000 to complete the massive compilation of Virgin Islands oral history and cultural patterns. In the making for nearly a year, the remaining work requires collection of St. John material and children's folklore

from all three islands, as well as archiving materials for presentation of radio shows and production of records, Paiewowsky said.

According to Frederick Thomas, board president, "Hearing the evidence of the rich accumulation of art forms and traditions of Virgin Islanders evokes a pride in heritage, a pride in being a Virgin Islander; and in all that which makes culture of these islands unique. I know of nothing that has been remotely conceived on this or any other island which compares to this effort."

Thomas further praised Paiewowsky for originating the idea and for his persistence in securing acceptance.

Also applauding Paiewowsky was Dr. Michael Woodbury, an institute member who said the project had been undertaken "none to soon," noting that "this oral material won't survive another generation, as older people lose their memories or die.

At stake here is the survival of a vast pool of rich cultural material, the central vector of the Virgin Islands psyche."

Paiewowsky, in turn, singled out the brilliantly talented recording artist-technician, Mary Jane Soule, whose work he had noted last year in the multi-dimensional film, "Virgin Islands Adventure." It was this film, he said, which set into motion thoughts on how to utilize such material for Virgin Islanders.

Said Paiewowsky, "I saw that if Soule's tapes were expanded a hundredfold, they would be the means of preserving much of the past for the future Virgin Islanders -- I felt we must do this, that, in fact, there was no time to lose. For as the Virgin Islands rush headlong into unrestrained economic growth and social change, with strong influences from without, we must look for ways to preserve and nurture our traditions. And the preservation of these art forms and memories

and expressions are the very links that do this, and thus hold the past and future together."

The "Library of Virgin Voices," said Paiewowsky, will become part of the archives of the College of the Virgin Islands, to be loaned to schools and broadcasting media for various presentations.

Paiewowsky said he hopes the community will realize its value and through generous contributions, support the project, "so that our island culture will not pass away with us, but will carry on for the enlightenment and cultural enrichment of those who follow us."

Contributions, said Paiewowsky, may be mailed to the Family Institute, Box 9762, St. Thomas.

Five Natural Landmarks Approved

THE DAILY NEWS

Five Virgin Islands areas have been approved as national natural landmarks and will be included in the National Registry of Natural Landmarks. V.I. Delegate Melvin H. Evans announced.

Also, the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service has awarded to the V.I. Planning Office a matching grant-in-aid of \$8,000 for restoration of No. 2-3 North St., Christiansted, as part of the Christiansted Historic Site. Work on the project, to be matched with \$20,000 in local money, should commence sometime soon, Evans said.

Interior Secretary Cecil D. Andrus informed Dr. Evans that the following sites have been designated national Landmarks: Salt River Bay, St. Croix; Vagthus Point, St. Croix; Coki Point Cliffs, St. Thomas; West End Cays, off the west coast of St. Thomas; and Lagoon Point, St. John.

Evans was told that the areas were determined "to possess national significance in illustrating

the natural heritage of the United States," that the areas were nominated by the Interior Department's Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service and the secretary concurred with the River Bay, support the best remaining stands of mangrove in the Virgin Islands. These undisturbed stands illustrate the zonation of red, black and white mangrove and support, along the estuary itself, a multitude of bird caverns.

The sub-marine canyon at the mouth of Salt River Bay provides habitat for deep water corals, sponges and fishes. The Salt River estuary shows an excellent example of mixed carbonate and clastic sedimentation process.

Vagthus Point is a steep rock cliff on the north-central coast of St. Croix. It is the best site in the Virgin Islands in which Upper Cretaceous fossils are found.

Coki Point Cliffs is a 17-acre area located on the northwest shore of St. Thomas. The sea cliffs at Coki Point contain the only fossiliferous Lower Cretaceous rocks exposed in the Virgin Islands.

West End Cays consists of 1,750 acres and 10 cays off the west coast of St. Thomas. These cays provide

nesting areas for many sea birds, different nesters on each cay. Similar nesting sites free of interference from rodents and humans are found on very few Caribbean islands. Blue-faced boobies nest here and in only one other Caribbean area. Bahama ducks, now rare, have been seriously restricted to such isolated locations.

Lagoon Point is a 70-acre site located on the southeastern shore of St. John between Johnson Bay and Friis Bay. Lagoon Point is an excellent example of the classical Caribbean fringing reef and is unique because it represents a naturally protected reef. In addition, the site includes a small lagoon, mangrove and an adjacent upland area.

Secretary Andrus told Evans that while landmark designation officially recognized the national significance of a given area and encourages its protection, such formal recognition does not affect ownership of areas so designated. Andrus hoped, he said, "that such designation will encourage landmark owners to employ sound conservation practices in the use, management, and protection of the designated area to preserve its nationally significant values."

SIDEN SIDST

The Virgin Islands
Daily News
A Gannett Newspaper



RESTORATION OF HISTORIC Enighed Greathouse in St. John is progressing under the supervision of the Department of Conservation and Cultural Affairs with some federal funding from the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service of the Department of Interior.



PRINCE GEORG of Denmark has been vacationing on St. Thomas and visiting two friends from New Canaan, Conn. Here are, from left, Mrs. Claudia McGinley, John R. McGinley, Princess Anne and Prince Georg.

(Daily News Photo -- Hillary Hodge)



Klavs Rahbek Thomsen

25 års jubilæum

Direktør Klavs Rahbek Thomsen, A/S Det Vestindiske Kompagni i Charlotte Amalie på St. Thomas, kan i morgen fejre 25 års jubilæum i ØK. Klavs Rahbek Thomsen, der stammer fra Kalundborg, fik sin uddannelse i eksportafdelingen på hovedkontoret i København og udsendtes fem år senere til oversøisk filialtjeneste — nærmere betegnet til Bangkok, hvor han kom til at tilbringe de næste 17 år. Han var i begyndelsen knyttet til kemikalieafdelingen, der bl. a. har et omfattende ICI-agentur, og blev i 1969 leder af denne. Det følgende år udnævntes han til chef på

Dumex-fabrikken i Bangkok, og i juli 1973 overtog han ledelsen af hele Bangkok-filialen med udnævnelse til filialbestyrer fra januar 1974. I juli 1977 forflyttedes Klavs Rahbek Thomsen til den vestlige halvøgle, idet han blev direktør for Det Vestindiske Kompagni, som ØK er hovedaktionær i. D.V.K. er nu navnlig beskæftiget med ekspedition af de mange krydstogtskibe, som anløber de smukke, tidligere Dansk-Vestindiske Øer, samt med handel, udlejning af pakhuse og andre faciliteter, som er opført på selskabets arealer ved havnen.



KLAUS R. THOMSEN, left, receives a plaque in recognition of his 25 years of service with the East Asiatic Company. Making the presentation is Dr. John Moorehead of the West Indian Company, Ltd., the St. Thomas branch of Denmark's East Asiatic.

(Daily News Photo—Hillary Hodge)

Training Ship From Denmark To Visit Islands

Klavs R. Thomsen, consul general of Denmark, advises that the three-master training ship "Danmark," under the command of Capt. Wilhelm Hansen, will be visiting the three Virgin Islands later this month.



BEER MANAGER P. Theodore Danet, Jr. receives a plaque in honor of his 25th anniversary with The West Indian Company from WICO President Klavs R. Thomsen.



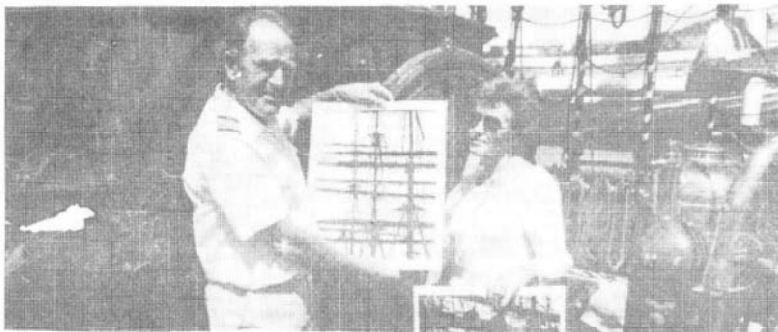
CADETS FROM THE DANISH training vessel Denmark were the guests of the Friends of Denmark for the past two days who took the cadets to their homes for lunch and later showed them around St. Croix. Pictured with some of the cadets is Friends of Denmark President Morris Henderson.

(Avis photo by Stockwell)



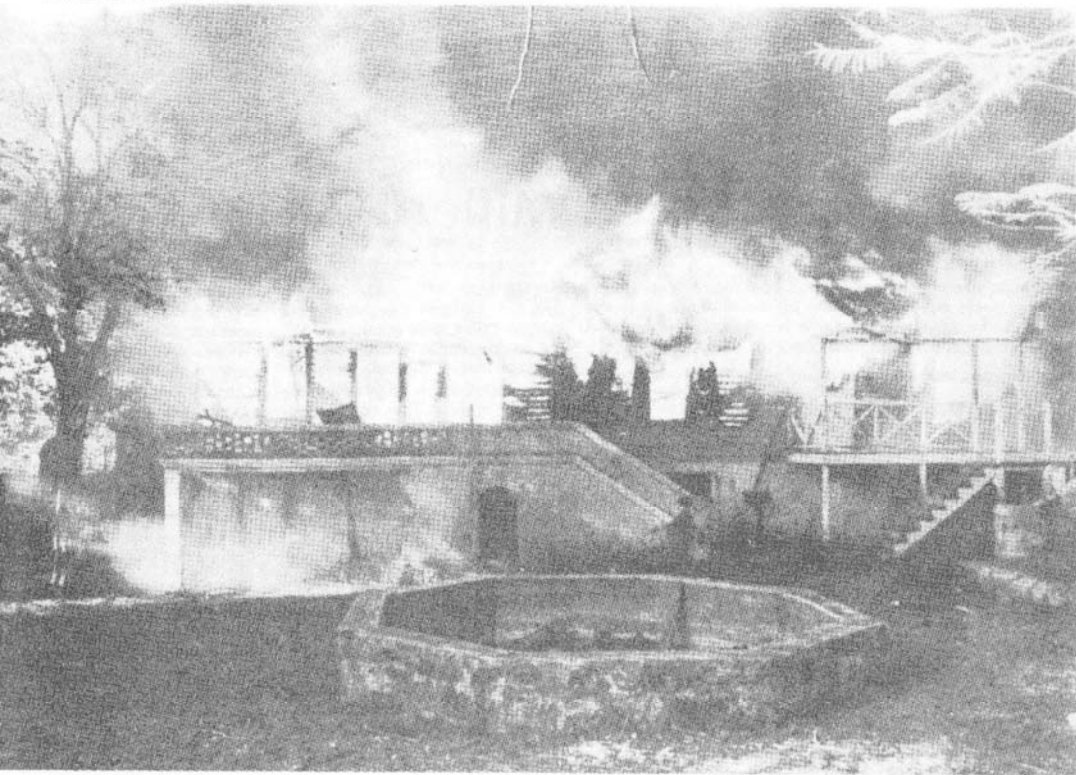
THE VIRGIN ISLANDS TOURISM Division presented a plaque to the Danmark during a cocktail party earlier this week. Tourism Director G. Robert Simmons handed the memorial to Capt. Wilhelm Hansen.

(Daily News Photo-Hillary Hodge)



CAPT. WILHELM HANSEN of the Danish training vessel Danmark were presented two lithographs of his ship's three masts. The artist was Don Van Dam and his mother Claire Chuljack made the presentation.

(Daily News Photo-Leonard Reed)



Fire consumes the historic Richmond Great House (Daily News Photo—Terry Galvin)

By **TERRY GALVIN**
Daily News Staff

CHRISTIANSTED -- Smoke still rose Saturday morning from

the gutted stone walls of the great house of Estate Richmond after fire destroyed the massive, three-story structure just before sunset Good Friday.

The death of the abandoned historic building, which could be 200 years old, apparently ended plans by the Virgin Islands government to buy the building.

Danish West Indian History Is Published

The Bureau of Libraries, Museums and Archaeological Services has published a monograph on Danish West Indian history, according to Director Dr. Henry C. Chang.

The publication, *Forslag Til Ordning Af Vestindiske Forfatnings—forhold Angaaende Negerne*, (A Proposal for Regulating the Situation of Negroes in the West Indies etc.) Anon. 1826, translated and with an introduction by Dr. Neville Hall, is No. 5 of the bureau's Occasional Paper series.

Dr. Hall, a Jamaican historian at the University of the West Indies,

has written several articles on the pre-emancipation period in the Danish West Indies. Specializing in the era of Gov. General Peter von Scholten, Hall has done extensive research in the Danish West Indian archives at the Rigsarkiv in Copenhagen.

He notes that this 1826 proposal "belongs to a numerous family of plans and proposals for the reorganization of colonial administration, the enfranchisement of free people of color and the amelioration of slavery." In his introduction, Hall suggests links between this proposal and Von Scholten's policies, and discusses

its implications in terms of the existing colonial situation.

This publication, which is available at no cost from the public libraries on all three islands, has been edited by the Bureau of Libraries and printed by its Photoduplication Lab. Illustrations were selected from the library's collection.

The Occasional Paper series encourages and supports the publication of research materials on Virgin Islands topics. For more information please call Jeannette Allis at the End M. Baa Library and Archives in St. Thomas.



THE GREAT HOUSE AT VILLA OLGA

...its reopening had been near

(Daily News Photo--Richard Gibson)

APRIL 12, 1980

Villa Olga Memories Blaze In History

By DENNIS E. BARKER
Daily News Staff

The flames that destroyed Villa Olga last week marked the fifth time the Great House has burned. But according to some antique rumors and a St. Thomas historian, the incineration might be pale compared to some of the social intrigue surrounding the residence.

Isidore Paiewonsky, describing Villa Olga as a "hotbox," said the house and its inhabitants have through the years created enough inspiration "to make several William Faulkner novels."

Unrequited love, adulterated love, murder and mystery enshroud the villa's history. Much of the building's past, however, is undocumented, records having been lost, destroyed, or untranslated from the original Danish.

And archives dated previous to 1883 were for the most part transferred to either Denmark or the National Archives in Washington, D.C. when the territory passed into U.S. possession.

Historical references are sparse, but an account of the villa's ownership can be traced through records in the Von Scholten collection at St. Thomas Enid M. Baa Library.

Since 1821, the parcel of land, registered as Altona No. 8, has been known by several names: Albinos Place, Careening-hole and Villa Olga. In a decree dated 1906, the name was changed officially to Manecke Villa by then-owner Mary Evangeline Manecke.

In the property's first recorded transfer, ownership passed by "Deed of Gift" from Sophia Fuentes to her adopted daughter, Maria Amalie Echenique. The deed specifies that, should Maria marry, her husband shall not be entitled, without her consent, to sell, mortgage, or otherwise dispose of the property, valued in 1883 at \$3,000.

If Maria ever married, it appears she deemed her husband worth less than the real estate. In a scant reference, documents indicate that the property passed next to William Bronsted, but how and why he received ownership remains unanswered.

Bronsted, described by Paiewonsky as a "merchant prince," was head of the English Coaling Company. There is some speculation that Bronsted took advantage of the villa's 1 million gallon cistern to store water which was in turn sold to ocean-going vessels.

For reasons unrecorded, Bronsted sold the property, for \$12,000 cash, to Theodor Carl Bronsted. Bronsted's investment in the estate is unspecified, but it seems he did take an interest in the ladies, particularly one Laurentina Moron Petersen.

Laurentina apparently started a few fires of the heart in the St. Thomas social scene of the early 1900s, according to Paiewonsky.

In 1906 she divorced, "with section of C.M.T. Cold, Governor of the Danish West Indies," her husband, Lt. Hans Christian Petersen. The reason for Laurentina's "action for separation from board and bed" is not specified, but according to Paiewonsky, she was the flame in several men's hearts.

Historical gossip has it that one fellow, his love for Laurentina unrequited, hung himself in despair.

The ex-Mrs. Petersen sold the 17-acre parcel and its buildings for "35,000 francs" to Mary Evangeline Manecke in 1906, and within a month, the name of Manecke Villa was decreed. When Mrs. Manecke died in 1925, she willed ownership to one of two living daughters, Florence Jorgensen Kreuger.

Mrs. Kreuger, who died last year, leased the property to Marty and Anthony Giovann in 1967. The Giovanns spent considerable time and money in a "major restoration" of the Great House.

According to Marty Giovann, the building once served as the Russian-Austrian consulate. While there is no documentation available to verify this, the residence is often referred to as "the old Russian consulate."

Giovann says that after the Russians left, the villa became a gambling house and bordello, catering to the 19th Century's version of the jetset which arrived with St. Thomas' growth as a flourishing commercial port.

Assuring the Russians were here, the reasons for their apparently hasty departure remain a matter of conjecture. Giovann said that according to Mrs. Kreuger, the demise of the consulate came when the ambassador's wife could no longer tolerate the island. Apparently the shift from Czarist Russia to the Caribbean overwhelmed the lady.

According to Giovann, however, the Russian wife and her children might still occupy the premises. At least in spirit.

Ghost tales, mysterious voices and cries in the night are but a part of the legends surrounding Villa Olga, Giovann said.

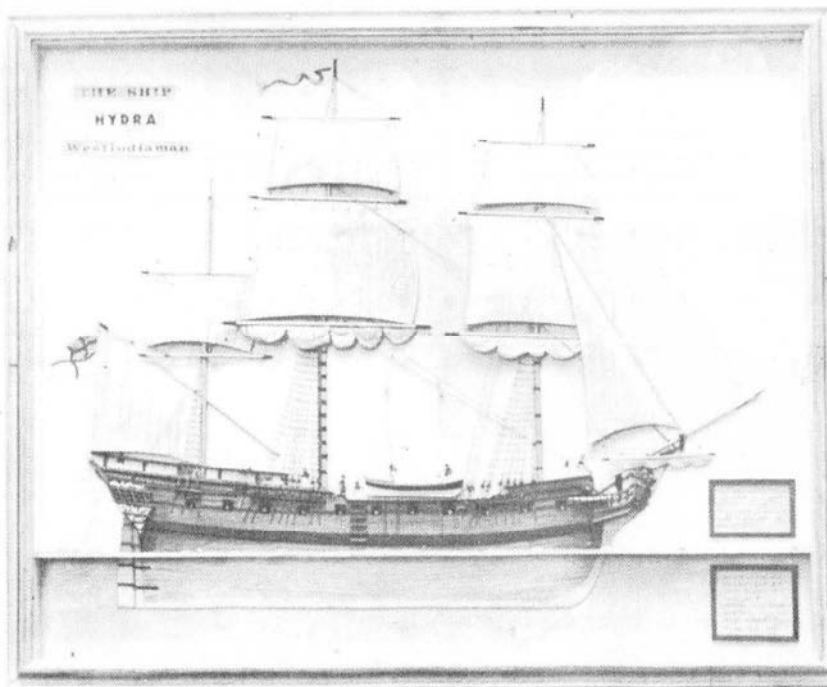
"Calmly stating "There are ghosts," Giovann speculates the spirits to be those of the consul's wife and her children. She said

that psychics who have visited the Great House have heard children scampering, a woman sobbing, seen doors opening, then quietly closing. One visitor, Giovann recalled, claimed to have experienced a "sensation of pain and sadness," emanating from within the house.

Perhaps the eeriest tale surrounds a tour of the house by several Daily News staffers in the late 1960s. According to Giovann, the News photographer snapped a series of pictures inside several rooms. Later in the darkroom, developing the prints, the photographer was to see the image of a white European woman, with long blonde hair beneath a black veil, reflected in a mirror. Whoever the mystery lady might be, Giovann insists she was not present in the room when the photograph was taken. At least not visibly.

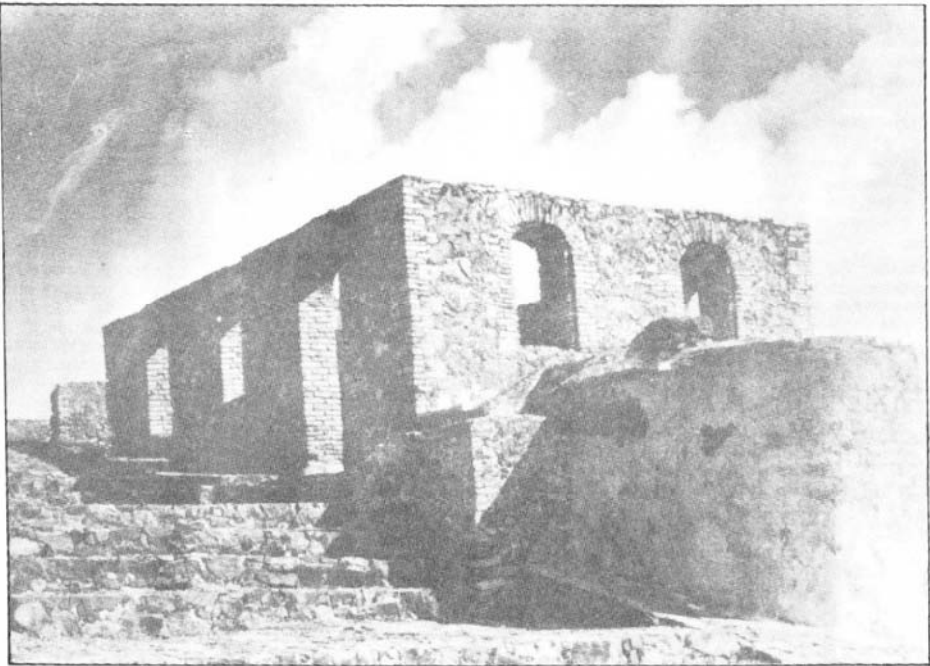
And now that photograph cannot be found.

ST. CROIX LANDMARKS SOCIETY



A ship model in the flat of the "Westindiaman Hydra" has been added to the collection in the museum. The model was built from plans supplied by the British Admiralty. Plans of West Indian traders of this early date are rare and the reason these survived is that the "Hydra", believed to be a

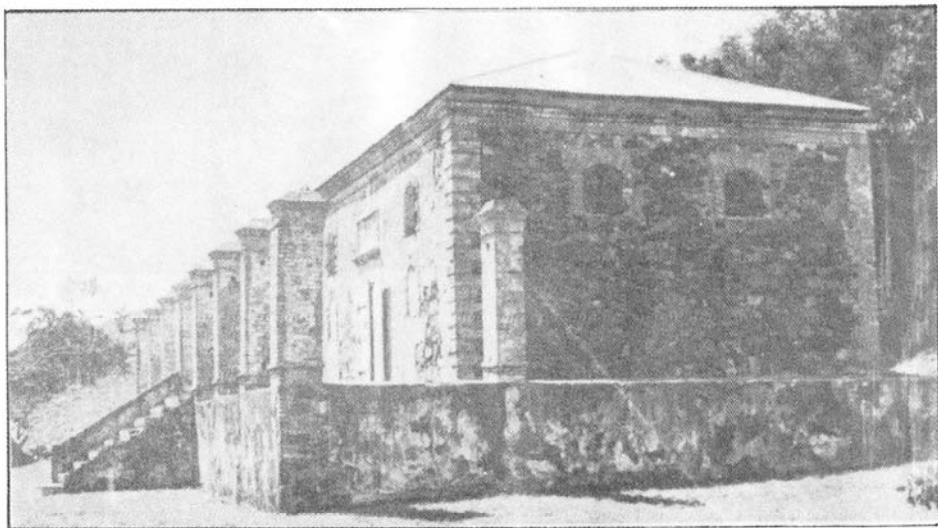
captured New England ship, was taken into the Royal Navy. In 1778 she was commissioned as a 6th rate 22 gun ship and used for escort duty with convoys during the Revolutionary War.



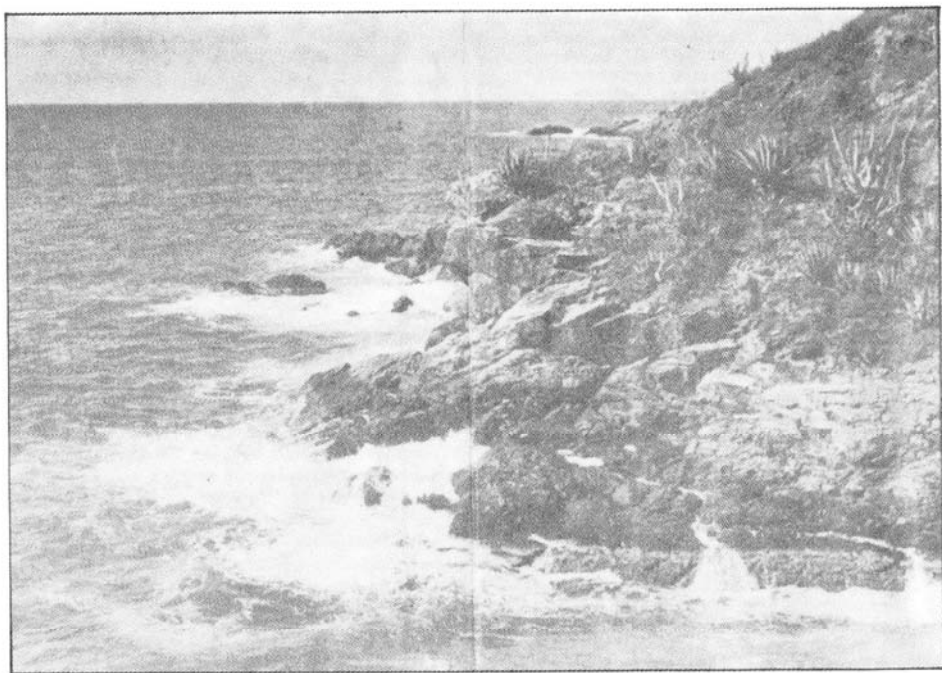
AT THE SOUTHEASTERN tip of Hassel Island, a small fort armed with two cannons protected the strategic harbor of St. Thomas. First built in the late 17th century, the fort is the fourth oldest Danish structure in St. Thomas. Above, it is partially restored. (Across the half-mile channel lies Frenchman's Reef.). (Daily News Photos-Hillary Hodge)



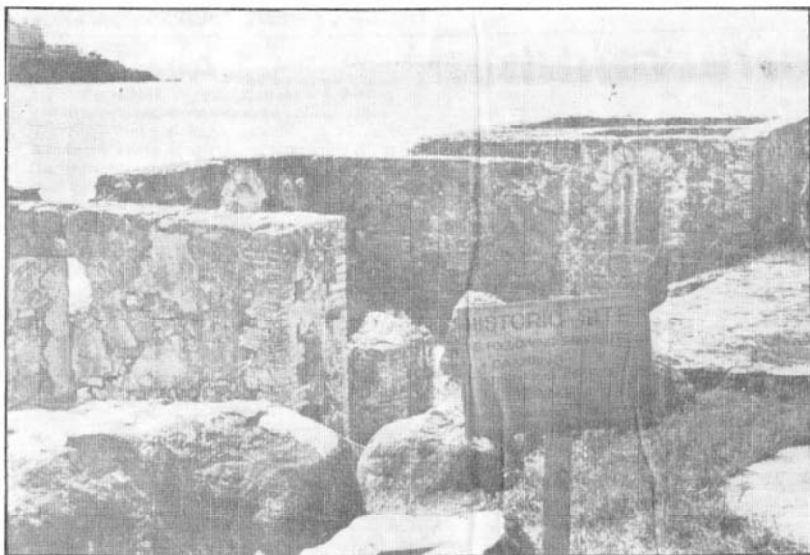
SEN. MICHAEL PAIEWONSKY (center), a Hassel Island resident, points to holes lined with shell fragments, reminders of past naval battles at the mouth of St. Thomas Harbor.



DURING THE BRITISH occupation of 1807-1815, the Redcoats built this naturally air-conditioned powder house. Like the fort, restoration work was done by the Paiewonsky family.



THE CARIBBEAN SURF foams below and to the west of the old Danish fort.



PART OF THE OLD Danish Fort awaits further restoration. The historic site is at Hassel Island's southeastern tip at the mouth of St. Thomas Harbor.

MUSEUM AT THE BATTERY, ST JOHN

A figure out of the past from the old Danish days appeared at the museum in St. Thomas. A Mr. Jorgen Winkel and his wife showed Mrs. Jowers some old photos. These photos of Mr. Winkels' father Police Assistant Christian Winkel who lived at the Battery in 1916 with his family started an interesting chain of events.

The photographs which proved very interesting included an interior shot of an old estate house in St. John and some scenes of St. Thomas as well as the exterior of the Battery. They were reproduced by Mr. Moron and his staff for the negative file and an exhibit at the Museum at the Battery.

Arrangements were made for the Winkels to tour St. John with Mrs. Low our capable museum volunteer. The car was provided by the Administrator who also had Mr. Winkel sleep in his old room at the Battery and graciously held a reception for them. Mrs. Low taped Mr. Winkels' recollections.

He was also very pleased to meet the Mooreheads his old playmates and recalled being scolded for playing on gravestones and told that "Jombies" would get him for that.

Arrangements were also made for the Winkels to tour St. Croix with Miss Eva Lawaetz. Mr. Winkel said that he never dreamed he would have such a wonderful sentimental journey back to his beloved islands. They now live in Canada and plan to bring their son down in the future.

INFORMATION MARCH - APRIL 1980



Police Assistant Christian Winkel on his horse Claus and Mrs. Agnes Winkel on Susan. She has written 1916 - He Looks Like A Mechanical Doll and I Look Like a Happy Pig.



History PAIEWONSKY Corner

Results of the elections held on the Island of St. Thomas and St. John regarding their cession from Denmark to the United States, Jan. 1868:

"According to official announcement, the Polls at St. Thomas and St. John opened on Thursday morning, the 9th. of January, (1868), precisely at 8 o'clock.

"Present at the St. Thomas Poll were: His Excellency, Chamberlain Carstensen, Knight of Dannenbroge, His Excellency, Governor Vilhelm L. Birch, K.D., and His Excellency, Chamberlain Rothe, K.D.

"A five man Board of Judges presided, headed by the Honorable Rosenstad, Chairman.

"Voters were given a choice of tickets to be cast; *blue* favoring cession to the United States; *white* favoring remaining under the sovereignty of Denmark.

"The first ticket, *blue*, was cast by James B. Gomez, native, proprietor and head of a family. From that time to the closing of the Poll, a tide of voters continued without abatement.

"At the closing of the Poll, the votes were counted. The results were as follows:

"For the cession, (*blue*) 742 votes
Supplemental votes (*blue*)

..... 297 votes
Total votes for cession

..... 1,039 votes

"Against the cession, (*white*)
..... 21 votes
Supplemental vote, (*white*)

..... 1 vote

Total votes against cession
..... 22 votes

"The voting that took place in St. John resulted in a unanimous vote of 205 for the *blue* ticket, (cession). Not a single *white* ticket was cast.

"From a population of 13,000 people, (St. Thomas), from which must be deducted, women, children, old, infirm and the fluctuating portion, (transient), that does not qualify for voting, a more clear cut vote for cession could not be expected.

"The majority of inhabitants of St. Thomas expressed themselves overwhelmingly for a change of sovereignty; so, too, did the voters of St. John.

"The voters of both islands confirmed to the wishes of His Majesty, Christian IX., and at the same time, met the wishes of the United States Government.

"The success of the *blue* ticket relieved both contracting governmental parties from an embarrassing position since the Treaty of Sale could not have been ratified in the absence of a successful plebiscite.

"It is gratifying to note that whilst the election produced a certain amount of excitement,

nevertheless order and good will prevailed. Not one disturbing or indecent act occurred, although apart from the voters, hundreds of people were drawn from their homes to witness what was going on.

"Music and processions went through the streets in the day time; serenades were made in the night. Some of our townsmen mounted the stump and made speeches; whilst a few indulged in a little good Santa Cruz Rum or old Bourbon....."

Extract from the Copenhagen newspaper, *DagBladet*, Saturday, February 1, 1868:

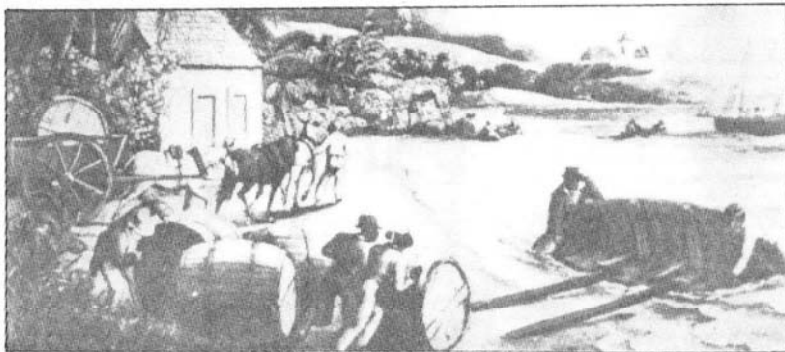
"The inhabitants of St. Thomas and St. John have, on their part, ratified the cession, thereby giving the Government a clear right to proceed in its sale negotiations with the United States. A majority of 1,244 votes against 22 is as decisive as could be expected....."

From a Philadelphia newspaper, January 3, 1868:

"In Boston, a petition is in circulation, and is receiving signatures among the merchants, against the purchasing of the Danish islands....."

From the *Shipping Gazette*, January 17, 1868:

"The Washington correspondent of the *Morning Herald*, states that notwithstanding the formal movement of Boston against the acquisition of St. Thomas, Mr. Seward, (Secretary of State), after consultation with Congressmen, is confident that the House, though grumblingly, will



BEACH SCENE. St. Croix, 19th century.

consent to the necessary appropriation of money for the purchase...."

From the New York Herald. By Atlantic Cable. Despatch from Copenhagen, January 29, 1868:

"In the Landsting, or upper House of the Rigsdag, the Treaty concluded with the United States for the sale of the Danish Islands of St. Thomas and St. John in the West Indies, was ratified today by a unanimous vote.

"What is awaited now is the action of the American Congress...."

Letter to the Editor of the St. Croix Avis, dated January 14, 1868, from a disturbed citizen, signed: Dis-Affected. Edited, condensed and arranged:

"Mr. Editor, I have been informed that the United States Government will not buy the island of St. Croix. They have no use for it; only as a hospital for their sick whenever St. Thomas is unhealthy.

"Poor St. Croix! Standing alone, we must certainly be ruined. It is unnatural to expect that the labouring population, here, will remain under arbitrary regulations when they can emigrate 40 miles and enjoy freedom.

"Another fearful calamity is the burden we now groan under; that of supporting a number of unnecessary Government officials. This number will certainly be augmented to an insupportable degree when those now in St. Thomas will be added here.

"Oh my poor Country! We must not, and will not, remain a Danish nursery....!"

From the St. Croix Avis, January 14, 1868:

"Look at the result of the voting in St. Thomas: 1,039 votes for the Americans; 22 votes for the Danes.

"Citizens of St. Croix, what will become of you? Separated from St. Thomas and St. John, you will become of far less value than Tortola. You will become a place for those Danes who cannot do better in their own country.

"Look at what happens now. A Danish gentleman comes here from Copenhagen to take over a position and receives \$150.00, or even \$200.00 per month.

"A native, with ever so great

ability, honour and integrity, after having served some 20 or 30 years, reaches a salary of \$50.00, \$60.00, or even \$70.00.

"If Denmark keeps St. Croix alone, we are in trouble. Ruin will result.

"A Danish minister once said that it would be the best thing for Denmark to get rid of her West India colonies. If so, then why should St. Croix not be part of the present pending sale to America.

"The American nation is a good one. Its people have shown their greatness and their valour.

"Bully for the Americans and for America!"

Letter to the St. Thomas Tidende from the dialect-writing-satirist in Bass End, St. Croix, who used the pen name, Christiana. Edited, condensed and arranged:

"My dear St. Tomain Buddy, I hear dat de King, in ah letter wat he write frum Denmark, say dat he gon sell all ah you to de Yankees, but not we.

"How we gon make out? We is like ah woman, de weaker vessel. You know dat we always wantin money from you, an if de King now separate ah we frum you, we aint gon be able to hanscrabble from you no more. How ting gon be den?

"I gon write de King an tell he dat if he sell ahl you, he gat to sell we too. Ah love me St. Tomain Buddy, an ah no want to part frum he, eben though me Buddy sumtimes ungrateful an forget dat I send he, turkey, duck an ting.

"If you wan to leave me Buddy, den gon. Ah done wit you, and like de King say, I say: 'Befallende Eder Gud!'

"Since you dont understan Danish, you must tink dat mean: 'You fall in de gut!' Not so. It mean: 'Out of de fryin pan, into de fire!'

"Your loving Sissy, Christiana..."

Documents in the Naval Archives, Washington, D.C., show clear evidence that Commodore S.B. Bissell, U.S.N., was in full charge of the U.S.S. *Monongahela* at the time of her stranding on Frederiksted's reef; not Com-

modore Baird, as listed by A.T. Stewart in his account.

In a letter to Rear-Admiral J.S. Palmer, Commander, North Atlantic Squadron, dated St. Croix, Nov. 20, 1867, Commodore S.B. Bissell gave a detailed, eye-witness account of the remarkable incident. (History Corner, Dec. 3, 1979).

Commodore Bissell added the following comments: "During this terrible episode, (the hurling of the ship ashore), the officers and crew behaved with coolness and discipline.

"It affords me great satisfaction to state that, after a careful examination of the position and condition of the ship, I am enabled to report that her hull has sustained no injury.

"The sternport is bent, and some 20 feet of her keel is partially gone. The propeller and shaft are uninjured. The lower pintle of the rudder is gone. No other damage is done to it.

"As for the hull, 2 sheets of copper were torn from the starboard bilge and from her keel.

"From where she is lying, the ship can be launched in water 10 feet deep, 100 feet from the shore; provided a gang of good carpenters and engineers be sent out with a Naval Constructor.

"A noble and valuable ship may thus be saved for the Navy, with all her stores and equipment...."

Report of the launching of the U.S.S. *Monongahela* to the Honorable Gideon Welles, Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D.C., from Thomas Davidson, Jr., Naval Constructor. From the Naval Archives, Washington, D.C. Edited condensed and arranged:

"In obedience to your order of Dec. 23, 1867, and of subsequent instructions from the chief of the Bureau of Construction, I respectfully report as follows:

"On the 17th. Jan. 1868, with 26 mechanics under my charge, we sailed from the Navy Yard, New York, on the bark *Purveyor*, for the island of St. Croix, West Indies.

"We headed for the town of Frederiksted on that island, for the purpose of putting afloat the U.S.S. *Monongahela*, thrown ashore at that place by the earthquake wave of Nov. 18, 1867.

"We arrived and anchored in the roadstead of Frederiksted, Jan. 31, 1868. I showed my orders to Commodore S.B. Bissell, U.S.N.,



ST. CROIX SCENE --Center Line Road in 19th century.

who obtained permission from the Danish authorities for us to land workmen and materials.

"We got tools and materials ashore, and on the morning of Feb. 1, 1868, we began work repairing the bottom and keel of the *Monongahela*. The work progressed satisfactorily until March 4th.

"On the morning of March 5th., we commenced to clear away the debris and placed launching ways under the ship's bottom.

"The launching ways were all placed under the ship by March 19th, when we commenced to remove the packing. This proved to be slow and tedious work. We used powder for this purpose, exploding it with blasting fuses placed in long tin tubes.

"We finally removed all packing by the 16th. April. On the 17th., we commenced to move the ship towards deep water.

"On the 11th. May, we floated the ship in 14½ feet of water and then commenced general repairs.

"On May 20th. (1868), repairs completed, we put anchors, chains, and all materials left, aboard the *Purveyor*, William Budd, Acting Master.

"We sailed from Frederiksted, St. Croix, at 8 a.m. next morning and arrived in New York harbour the morning of June 1, (1868)."

"It gives me pleasure to bear testimony to the valuable assistance rendered by Acting Master, William Budd, of the

Purveyor; to the cheerfulness and energy with which the large amount of work, volunteered, was performed by and under his direction.

Also, I wish to comment on the assistance rendered by Chief Engineer, J.Q.A. Zeigler of the *Monongahela*, who was indefatigable in his exertions...."

"I am pleased, also, to report that all of the workmen taken from New York were brought back, except one, (discharged at St. Croix). These workers were returned in good health despite the yellow fever epidemic on the island; reputed to be worst in 20 years.

"These workmen, with few exceptions, worked and behaved in a manner that was highly creditable, and deserve to have the preference of work in the Government Navy Yards...."

Letter to the Editor, St. Croix Avis, from F.A. Lund, Bassin. Edited, condensed and arranged:

"The U.S.S. *Monongahela*, will, in a few days, proceed to St. Thomas and from thence, it is said, will proceed to New York.

"Her departure from Frederiksted will be much regretted by those who have benefitted by her being here. However, there are those who have been injured by the ship's prolonged stay. There will be left unpaid, several hundred dollars in debts contracted by a portion of her crew.

"In my opinion, and in the

opinion of other injured parties, these crew members have dishonoured themselves by denying that they owe claims against them. By these denials, they have added insult to injury and have, in effect, prevented an honourable and satisfactory settlement.

"I am one of those who, from the arrival of the *Monongahela*, has been favoured with a share of the ship's business. With the vessel about to leave, and with money owed to me, I sought an appointment and appeared aboard the said vessel for the purpose of presenting my claims.

"I expected to be treated as I would treat any Gentleman who called on me on a business matter. My expectations were not realized.

"On my presenting 20 accounts, under dispute, Mr. F. McGlenzie, a ship's officer, subjected me to most ungentlemanly and insulting treatment.

"Inflated with the plentitude of his power, and the importance of his position, he told me if he were to serve me right, he would throw me aboard.

"I told him if you are Man enough to do so, try it. He then tore up my bills and threw the fragments into a Spittoon.

"My losses, through misplaced confidence, amount to several hundred dollars. On top of it, I have had to submit to insulting treatment from officer, Mr. McGlenzie.

"Mr. Editor, I hope that this communication will be favoured

with a space in your paper. I hope, also, that in a short time, it will occupy space in the New York Herald, where I am sending a copy

"Perhaps through the stateside media, my just complaint may be more likely to come under the observation of the Secretary of the United States Navy and the United States Government: both of whom

are known for their liberality and deep sense of justice.

"In conclusion, I beg to state that I have made my grievances known to the U.S. Consul at St. Thomas, Major William Moore, who, in my behalf, and on behalf of other Merchants and Shopkeepers, has written to the Commodore of the U.S.S. *Monongahela*, and has vouched for our reliability.

"The Commodore has not yet replied to the Consul's letter. He is probably occupied with other matters related to his impending departure from the island.

"We are sure that the Commodore will do what he can to help us. During his stay here, he has gained many friends who regret that he is about to leave our Islands...."



ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS inspect an old Danish tunnel at Barren Spot, St. Croix, that has been used as a hideout by thieves for the stripping of stolen vehicles. The area, overgrown by vegetation and camouflaged from view, was located following a tip to Administrative Assistant Teofilo Espinosa by a private citizen. Inspecting the area, from left, are Roy Anduze, Detective Gus Doward, Espinosa, Jose Encarnacion and Demas Lopez representing the Departments of Public Safety, Public Works and Conservation.

(V.I. Government Photo-David Cover)

History

ISIDOR
PAIEWONSKY

Corner

In the year 1834, a West India Sketch Book, (2 volumes), was published in London. Volume I. is of particular interest to us because it contains not only an informative description of a visit to St. Thomas and St. Croix, but also a "chatty account of a visit to Tortola with special interest in its history and people...."

The traveller and writer, Trelawney Wentworth, with "*journalistic tongue-in-cheek*," gives us a first hand account of a Court scene that he was privileged to witness in that far away, tiny, British colonial possession.

Described the participants; fully-winged Judge and barristers,

aggressive plaintiff and anxious defendants carrying out as best they could, what seemed to Wentworth to be a mock imitation of British Court procedures. To quote:

"The Court room was about 20 feet square. The sides and doors were formed of plain pitch-pine planking without paint or ornament. Cobwebs were the only hangings; and nests of the '*Jack Spaniard*', an insect which resembles a long-bodied wasp, were the only decorations on the ceiling.

"On one side of the room, a platform was erected about 3 feet from the floor. Upon this platform stood a desk similar in construc-



COURT SCENE. Tortola, B.W.I.

tion to music stands used on the stage at theatres. This was the Judge's pedestal.

"Directly below, a long plain table was arranged with wooden benches for the convenience of Counsel. On a side of the room, paralleled with the table, was a range of wooden seats, placed one above the other. These seats were for the Jury.

"A crowd of spectators, predominantly black, occupied the standing room. The case at issue was one of more than ordinary interest. There lived, in a rather distant part of the island, a widowed lady who had been left by a deceased husband with an only daughter.

"The ladies had been dependent for their subsistence upon the precarious and meagre products of a small sugar plantation on which they resided. The prospects of brighter days to come, which had led many a West India proprietor into the path of ruin by large investment and unrealized profits, had placed the small plantation under heavy mortgage during the proprietor's life time. Continued depreciation and bad management, after the husband's death, had reduced all income to a portion scarcely sufficient to support the widow and her daughter.

"It was while under this load of accumulated distress, that the

young and attractive girl had been subjected to repeated proposals by a much older man, (now the plaintiff in the case), to become his wife.

"From motives of an ever increasing repugnance to the person and character of her suitor, the young lady had repeatedly and steadfastly declined the proposal.

"In the meantime, and at different intervals, the impoverished ladies had received monetary assistance from an anonymous friend; and although suspicion had frequently pointed out the present plaintiff as the anonymous party conveying the monetary assistance, still there were circumstances which counteracted this impression.

"In any event, the dire need of mother and daughter reconciled them to accepting these gifts of money and to make good use of such gifts, regardless of the circumstances attending them.

"A recent hurricane, that had done severe damage to Tortola, had given another blow to the already desperate financial condition of the ladies.

"The plaintiff, who had for some time been absent from the island and had only recently returned, recognizing the dire plight of the ladies, again pressed his suit with renewed ardour.

"Upon meeting with a curt and outright repulse, the gentleman angrily declared himself as the party who had been making the monetary remittance to the ladies. He demanded immediate repayment of all monies advanced by him to the parties in question.

"A civil action was brought by him in the Tortola Provincial Court for recovery of all funds given by him to the parties in need; now the defendants in the case.

"The rejected suitor and plaintiff obtained a verdict completely in his favor....!"

Trelawney Wentworth was incensed at the manner in which the case was handled. From the beginning he saw that all legal cards were stacked against the helpless ladies. The Judge was not only stricken in years and bordering on senility, but it was obvious from the beginning that he was a close friend of the plaintiff.

Since only white inhabitants of the island could serve on the Jury, and the number of white people being very limited, the hand-picked Jury consisted of a majority of persons, not only beholden in one way or the other to the Judge and his commercial partner, one Mr. Roger Isaacs, but to the plaintiff as well.

According to Wentworth, these few influential individuals, the only

persons of real wealth on the island, not only controlled the commerce of the island but the Court as well. To quote:

"Tortola had in Messrs. Crabb and Isaacs, and their few close friends, the same persons, attorneys, merchants, planters, judges. They were the *respectable* persons of the island! They were the persons of *substance* in whom the bankers in London, who had monies lent upon all the estates in the island, could confide...!

"Justice, long since reputed blind, had all her other faculties seriously impaired on this small island...!"

Trelawney Wentworth continued:

"The foregoing sketch is unpleasant. Let us turn to another, equally unpleasant.

"We have heard of a man, who having been cast upon a shore that was unknown to him, became satisfied that he was in a civilized country upon beholding a *gibbet*. (*A gallows from which bodies of criminals already executed were hung and exposed to public scorn*).

"The *gibbet*, (*or gallows*), was unknown to the aboriginal savages of the New World, until *civilized* Europe bestowed her customs upon them.

"Next to the fixing of the Cross as the emblem of the Catholic faith, which it was the first object of the Spaniards to spread abroad, the erection of a *gallows* was performed with no less ceremony and solemnity by the British.

"If, therefore, other proof was wanting that civilization had retrograded at Tortola, conviction readily came to our mind upon beholding near the entrance to Road Town, that *symbol* of British legal refinement; a standing *gallows*....!"

Trelawney Wentworth gives us a brief history:

"Tortola, land of the Turtle Dove, is the principal island of the British Virgin Island group. It is situated almost center of the group of smaller islets and cays, 40 to 50 in number.

"Sir Francis Drake sailed through these islands as early as 1580. He is supposed to have named

them the Virgin Islands in honor of Queen Elizabeth. But the majority of historians attest that the Virgin Islands were so named by Columbus in honor of St. Ursula and the eleven thousand Virgins in the Romish ritual.

"The fact is that Tortola, and the lesser islands of the group, were found uninhabited when the Earl of Cumberland visited them in 1596, on his way to attack Porto Rico. Legend tells us that on this occasion, when urged by his advisers to pass through the channel taken by Sir Francis Drake, the Earl expressed his desire: *'to be the first that took Porto Rico, rather than the second to pass through the Virgins....!'*

"A party of Dutchmen established the first known settlement at Tortola in the year 1648. They built a Fort for their protection. These Dutchmen were expelled from the area in 1666, by a motley collection of buccaneers and brigands, who called themselves



AMALIA PICKWOOD, 93, enjoys the view from her balcony at 1B Commandant Tver Gade. May is Senior Citizens Month in the Virgin Islands. For Thursday, however, her plans center on tea with friends and then a nap.

(Daily News Photo—Steven Rockstein)

NYE MEDLEMMER

Rigsarkivar, dr.phil. Vagn Dybdahl
og frue, Annegrete Dybdahl

Civilingeniør Ole Blau og frue,
Lene Blau

Fru Lizzie Lykke Marquart

Forfatter Heino Døygård og
frue, Bodil Døygård

Prokurist Lise Kruse

Planteskoleejer Thorkil Sonnich-
sen og frue, Kirsten Sonnichsen

Forvalter Peder Langberg Jensen
og frue, sekretær Birthe Langberg
Jensen

Receptionist Inge Møller

Salatmester Poul Dall og frue,
kontorassistent Solveig Dali

Overlærer Vibeke Bøgh

Stud.mag. Klaus Arøe Schmidt
og Jutta Fogh Rasmussen

Apoteker Elisa M.Muus

Laborant Randi Schøyen

Sekretær Grethe Tarp

Slotsforvalter Palle Bolten Jagd
og frue, Elin Jagd

Køkkenchef Ib Chr. Christensen

Fru Birgit Lundby Zola

Studerende Bettina Zola

Cand. merc. Michel Zola

Lic. pharm. Karl J. Ross-Petersen

Stud. odont. Bodil Ross-Petersen

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Henrikshave 53, 2950 Vedbæk

Øresundsvej 17, 2300 Kbh. S.

Nørrebakken 26, 2820 Gentofte

Langagervej 64, 2500 Valby

Frederiksborgvej 45,
3600 Frederikssund

Tuborgvej 14, 2900 Hellerup

Ulsøparken 1, 2660 Brøndby
Strand

Horsbred 75, 2620 Albertslund

Teglårdavej 419,
3050 Humlebæk

Enigheds Alle 16, 2700 Brh.

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2960 Rungsted Kyst

Rungstedvej 67,
2960 Rungsted Kyst

Vinkelvej 12 E, 2800 Lyngby

Frederiksborg Slot,
3400 Hillerød

Egebæksvej 59, 8270 Højbjerg

Dyrehavevej 37,
2930 Klampenborg

Dyrehavevej 37,
2930 Klampenborg

Vennemindevej 14, st.th.,
2100 Kbh. Ø

Kielshøj 54, 3520 Farum

Kielshøj 54, 3520 Farum



Skolemand afløser sømand ved roret i skibsadoptionen

Sofarten har meget at give den danske skole - og det omvendte er mildt talt også tilfældet. Og en nødvendighed. Derfor er det spændende, at Dansk Skibsadoption har fået en skolemand i formandsstolen, og en spændende mand er det også, leder af en usædvanlig skole i det københavnske, rektor Poul Nielsen, Sct. Anne Gymnasium.

- Jeg glæder mig til at tage fat, siger rektor Poul Nielsen med en hilsen til adoptionsskibene og -skolerne.

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