HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT

PART I

STEEPLE BUILDING ST. CROIX

CHRISTIANSTED NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE
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HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT

S T E E P L E B U I L D I N G
Christiansted, St. Croix
U. S. Virgin Islands

Part I

Historical Data

Addenda and Corrections

by

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November 1960

VIRGIN ISLANDS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

National Park Service
United States Department of the Interior

FOREWORD

When the "Historical Data" Section of Part I of the Historic Structures Report on the Steeple Building, Christiansted, St. Croix, was prepared and submitted in March 1959, the author had not had an opportunity to search the collection of Danish West Indies records on deposit in the United States National Archives. A search of these records was subsequently made in September 1959, however, and, as predicted, they were found to contain a significant amount of material about the Steeple Building and the other buildings included in the Virgin Islands National Historic Site, particularly for the period after 1850 and up to 1917.

This report, then, contains and presents new material about the Steeple Building for the period from 1850 to 1917. In addition, facts not known or available to the author in 1959 are included in the form of revisions or additions to the original text.

It should also be pointed out that a further search was made by the author in August 1960 in the Danish National Archives (Rigsarkiv) for a plan drawn of the Steeple Building in 1778 by Peter L. Oxholm. The search proved fruitless, however, and there is now little chance that Oxholm's or any other plan of the building can be found prior to the actual restoration of the building.

ADDENDA AND CORRECTIONS

Page 4, line 8. Change date from "1748" to "1749."[1]

Page 4, lines 10 & 11. Change word from "dedicated" to "consecrated."

Page 4, last paragraph, first sentence. Change wording to read:

"From about 1835 to 1841, the Steeple Building was used as a building materials warehouse, and the government maintained the steeple and clock."[2]

Page 5, line 5. Change wording from "a civic hall, from 1925 to 1933" to read "a town hall and private apartments from 1925 to 1932."[3]

Pages 7 & 8 and Footnote No. 3(page 78). Supplementary information as follows:

In the spring of 1735 Governor Noth found a keystone among the ruins of the former French church which bore the initials ER and the dates 1680 and 1688, which Noth assumed to be the dates of the construction of the church.[4]

Governor Noth suggested to the company directors that the former French church be rehabilitated and used as a Lutheran church. Noth also reported that the Dutch Reformed congregation would readily purchase the grounds and ruins in their existing condition for 1,000 rigadalers or more.[5]

Moth's proposal to convert the former French church into a Lutheran church was approved by the company directors, and by mid-August 1736 it was under rehabilitation by an English emigrant who had contracted to lay a shingled roof on the structure, erect a spire, and make other repairs to the building for the sum of 400 rigsdalers.[6] Governor Moth and the Privy Council of St. Thomas asked the company directors to send out 1200 tiles for the floor and a painting for the altar. Significantly, the church was reported to be 20 feet wide inside and to have a floor-to-ceiling height of 14 to 15 feet.[7]

The church was apparently completed at the beginning of 1737, but the building had a very short life as a Lutheran church because it was blown down and destroyed by the hurricane of August 20-30, 1738.[8] As a result, it became necessary for the Lutheran congregation to worship in the fort for about a decade and afterward in an old warehouse from about 1740 until the Steeple Building was completed in May 1753.

Page 8, line 17. Change date from "1748" to "1749."

Pages 8(last paragraph) and 9(first line) and Footnote No. 9(p.77).

Pastor Stoud may well have originated the idea of raising subscriptions from the townspeople for the construction of a church, but Governor Jens Hansen was apparently the one who broached the idea to the Privy Council of St. Croix in June 1747.[9] The council approved the

proposal and also voted to earmark a share of the many fines levied by the government for violations of laws for the construction of the church.

The sum raised by subscriptions alone amounted to 4,000 rigsdalers by September 1748.[10] The figure given in Footnote No. 9, p. 77, for the amount raised by December 31, 1751, is obviously based on an incomplete listing of contributions, therefore, and should be discounted. The total amount raised for the construction of the church by subscription and fines is not known, but perhaps it approximated the 9,000 rigsdaler evaluation placed on the church in 1755.

Page 9, paragraph 2, and Footnote No. 11 (p.77). The possibility that Schopen designed the church is strengthened by the promise made by the Governor and Privy Council of St. Croix to the company directors in September 1748 to submit a plan of the proposed church "if Mr. Schopen could be prevailed upon to prepare it."[11]

Page 10, lines 14 & 16. Change the word "dedicated" to "consecrated" and "dedication" to "consecration."

Pages 11 and 12. The discovery in the United States National Archives of the church account book for the period from 1769 to 1780 sheds new light on the physical history of the building during that era as follows:

The floor of the church was relaid in 1771; two years later minor shingling of the roof was done; the churchyard was enclosed by a wooden picket fence in 1774; and the roof of the church was completely reshingled in 1776 by Carpenter N. Jensen for 200 rigsdalers, exclusive of the cost of materials.[12]

The firm of Bogle & Henderson were paid 27 rigsdalers in November 1777 for "making a Sash for the Danish Church at the Window of the General Seat," and Bogle alone was paid 264 rigsdalers in December 1778 for "making 11 pr. Sashes" for the church.[13] Taken together, these two bills indicate that the church had 12 rather than 10 windows.

Page 12, lines 2 & 3. Change sentence to read as follows: "The fence erected in 1774 was a wooden picket fence."[14]

Page 13, paragraphs 2 & 3. Supplementary data as follows:

As a result of an annual inspection of the building, it was recommended in 1829 that two additional buttresses containing a total of 375 square feet of masonry should be erected against the east end wall of the church because it was again in poor condition.[15] However, the records do not show whether this proposal was approved and carried out or not.

Page 10, first paragraph. The Steeple Building was used as a warehouse for the storage of building materials belonging to the government from about 1835 through 1840.

Page 10, lines 9, 10, & 11. Delete sentence beginning "While the exact date . . ." and ending ". . . moved out there prior to 1870."

Page 10. With one exception, the facts presented on this page are correct. However, the records uncovered in the U. S. National Archives add greatly to our knowledge of the period from 1850 to 1900, and this page should therefore be expanded as follows:

The bakery and steeple were valued at $2,300 Danish West Indian currency in 1851.[16] In that year the opening on the east side in the second tier of the steeple was bricked up; the openings above the windows in the tower were closed up; the brick floors in the bakery were relaid; all windows, doors, and shutters were repaired and painted; the clock faces were painted; and the walls of the bakery and the steeple were painted and limewashed inside and out.[17] In the fall of 1851, the old wooden bridge across the gutter at the entrance gate to the bakery yard was replaced by a brick masonry bridge, and the two pillars of the gate were repaired.[18]

Although proposed as early as November 1851, it was not until the spring of 1853 that the oven was relocated in the yard.[19] Carpenter

J. G. Meyer erected a small wooden building measuring about 22½ feet by 12 feet on the northern end of the woodshed which had been built on the west side of the bakery yard in 1841-42. A brick oven was built at the north end of the new building, and the old oven was torn down and removed from the former bakery. Thereafter, the old bakery was used as a warehouse for the storage of flour and other supplies. This conversion involved certain minor repairs and alterations in the former bakery, including paving the area where the oven had stood with brick, extending the partition between the two rooms all the way across the building, and making three new windows. Carpenter Meyer also raised the height of and embedded glass atop the wall around the bakery and warehouse in 1853 at a cost of $43.56, exclusive of materials.[20]

The brick floor in the east end room of the warehouse was torn up and replaced with a wooden floor in 1857.[21]

The existence of ornamental vases atop the second tier of the steeple is confirmed in December 1859 by the request for and approval of the making of "a set of new pedestals for the vases standing on the masonry ledge of the steeple."[22]

Repairs for the next decade and a half were routine and minor. However, in May 1877 the spire atop the steeple fell down. As a result, a general rehabilitation of the cupola was undertaken, including repair of two of the arches supporting the cupola, reshingling of the cupola, and resetting of the spire.[23] Later in the same

year a section of the wall between the bakery yard and the yard of No. 28 Hospital Street fell down and had to be rebuilt.[24]

The bakery, warehouse, steeple, and yard were valued at $2,000 Danish West Indian currency on January 1, 1880, a decline of $200 in the value placed on the property some 30 years earlier.[25]

The era from 1880 to 1900 was characterized by little more than routine and minimum maintenance of the warehouse and steeple. However, the roof of the warehouse was apparently damaged severely by the hurricane of August 9, 1899, and it had to be recovered.

Page 20. Add the following under the first sub-heading:

Conversion of the building into a Sunday school and town hall apparently brought about the removal of the bakery building from the yard, as well as the small section of wooden fence from the north end of the bakery to the south wall of the Sunday school.[26]

Extensive repairs were made to the steeple in 1911, but the bills are not specific enough to determine the exact nature of the repairs.[27]

The Steeple Building was valued at Frcs. 12,000 or $3,600 U. S. currency on January 2, 1912, and was to retain this evaluation for the remainder of the Danish era.[28] The lot on which the building stood was valued at Frcs. 800 or about $152 U.S. currency.[29]

Page 21, line 3. Delete the words "bake oven and" and change word "were" to "was."

Page 21, line 12. Delete words "during this period" and substitute "in 1920."

Page 21, paragraph d. Delete first sentence and substitute:

"From 1925 to about 1929, the Steeple Building was apparently vacant or was used only occasionally for civic meetings. Funds were made available in 1926 to convert the building into a high school, but the conversion was not carried out because the Lutheran Church of Christiansted claimed that the building was not government but church property.[30]

"Four or five individuals or families were somehow permitted to live in the building from about 1929 to June 1, 1931.[31] The building apparently stood vacant and unused then until it was rehabilitated in 1932 for use as a grade school.[32] Other repairs were made to the steeple and the buildings in the yard in 1933 at a cost of $750.84, including painting and limewashing."[33]

Pages 25 to 30, inclusive.

The presentation on these six pages of facts and conclusions concerning the number and location of doors and windows set in the church walls is not materially altered by the discovery that the church apparently had 12 rather than 10 windows. Indeed, many of the facts and conclusions presented on these pages pointed directly to this possibility.

The new evidence concerning the number of windows in the church is as follows:

The firm of Bogle and Henderson were paid 27 rigsdalers in November 1777 for "making a sash for the Danish Church at the Window of the General Seat," and Bogle alone was paid 264 rigsdalers in December 1778 for "making 11 pr. Sashes."[34]

The sash made in 1777 was actually a pair of sash, as can be seen by comparing the price paid in 1777--27 rigsdalers--with the price paid for a pair of sash in 1778--24 rigsdalers.

There would have been no reason or need to replace the pair of sash made in 1777 just a year later, and therefore there must have been 12 not 10 windows in the church from the time of its construction.

These two additional windows must have been located in the south wall of the building. Documentary and existing physical evidence reveal that there were six windows in the north wall and two windows in the west end wall. On the basis of the latter evidence and the obvious attention paid to symmetry in the construction of the church, it is assumed that there were also two windows in the east end wall and that the remaining two windows were in the south wall.

Actual placement of the windows in the south wall must be conjectural, since documentary evidence is limited and no physical evidence

remains. However, it is known that there were no windows in the center section of this wall behind the altar and that there were two doors in this wall, one on either side of the altar. These two windows and two doors were probably located in the south wall in a symmetrical arrangement with each other and with the windows opposite in the north wall of the church.

Page 33, paragraph 2. Add following:

The existence of window shutters is definitely confirmed by the payment of 10 rigsdalers to Thomas Bagle in December 1778 for "17 Fenders for the Window Shutters and fastening the Hinges."[35]

Page 35, line 21. Change date from "1795" to "1778" and end sentence there. Begin new sentence as follows: "Accounts in 1795 would seem to indicate . . ."

Page 38, lines 17 & 18. Add a new sentence between these two lines as follows:

"The brick floor in the east end room ("bakery") was torn up and replaced by a wooden floor in 1857."[36]

Page 44. Add new paragraph at end of sub-section entitled "Roof" as follows:

"The wrought iron spire fell down in 1877 and had to be put back up, after which the cupola was reshingled.[37] The cupola was reshingled again after the hurricane of October 9, 1916, and in 1934."[38]

Page 46, lines 4 & 5. Expand sentence beginning "In 1851, the window . . ." by adding after the word "up" the clause "and the arched openings above the windows in the steeple were closed."[39]

Page 47, lines 2 to 5, inclusive. Delete these lines and substitute the following:

"No ornaments are visible on the steeple in any of the 19th century illustrations which show the building. However, as at present, vases stood atop the second tier of the steeple prior to 1859 because in December of that year "a new set of pedestals" was made for an unspecified number of vases on the steeple."[40]

Page 47, line 20. Alter sentence to read as follows:

"A new clock was purchased and installed in 1920."[41]

Page 60, lines 1 to 3, inclusive. Change sentence to read:

"A wooden fence was erected around the churchyard in 1774 on orders of Governor General Peter Clausen."[42]

Page 62, lines 16 to 20, inclusive. Delete and substitute:

"The wall around the yard was raised in 1853 and glass was embedded atop the wall to keep vandals out.[43] About twenty-five years later a section of the wall between the bakery yard and the yard of No. 38 Hospital Street fell down and had to be rebuilt."[44]

Page 66, lines 14 to 17, inclusive. Delete these two sentences and substitute:

"A small shingled building was added to the north end of the woodshed in 1853 to house a new oven and the old oven was removed from the former church building.[45] The oven and woodshed were torn down in 1909, and the stable against the east yard wall was removed in 1910."

Footnote 320 should be deleted as a result of the above change.

Page 67, sub-section "Walks". The reference to a walk in the yard in the military bakery era is incorrect due to a typographical error in the report referred to and should be omitted. The original reference was to "walls" not "walks."

Page 86, Figure 1. Delete first paragraph of text and substitute:

"This plan of the harbor and town of Christiansted was drawn by Lieutenant Peter Lorentzen Stibolt around February 1735."[46]

Delete first sentence of second paragraph and substitute:

"Stibolt's sketch shows an earthwork under construction by the Danes at "A", on the site of an earlier French earthwork, and the ruins of a former French church at "C"."

Delete word "remains" in next sentence and substitute the word "points."

Alter caption of illustration to read as follows:

"Fig. 1. — Sketch of St. Croix' Harbor by Lieutenant Peter L. Stibolt. 1735. From the original in the Rigsarkivet, Copenhagen, Denmark."

Page 87, Figure 2. Delete the first paragraph and substitute the following:

"This watercolor sketch of Christiansted was also drawn by Lieutenant Stibolt about February 1735 to show the Directors of the Danish and West India and Guinea Company the extent of the development of Christiansted from its beginnings in September 1734."[47]

Change the dates given in the caption from "c. 1736-37" to "1735," and attribute the sketch to Peter L. Stibolt.

Page 90, Figure 4. Change the date "1753" in the third line of the first paragraph and also in the caption to "1752."[49]

Page 104, Figure 9. Change the first sentence to read as follows:

"This plan of the wharf area of Christiansted was drawn by Peter L. Oxholm in connection with . . ."[49]

Add Oxholm's name to caption.

Page 111, Figure 16. Alter the phrase "around 1850" in line 2 to read "between 1845 and 1851," and change date in line 2 of the caption from "c. 1850" to "c. 1845-51."[50]

Page 112, Figure 17. Change second paragraph to read as follows:

"The "Royal Bakery" is the group of buildings marked "e", consisting of: (1) the storehouse located in the renovated section of the former church east of the steeple; (2) a stable against the east boundary wall of the yard; and (3) a woodshed and bakery on the west side of the yard opposite the stable."[51]

Change date in caption from "1855" to "1859."[52]

Page 113, Figure 18. Delete the words "the military bakery" in line 6 and substitute the words "a warehouse."

Change date in caption from "1866" to "c. 1860-67."[53]

Page 114, Figure 19. Correct date given in caption to read "c. 1866" instead of "c. 1860."[54]

The list of Illustrations at the beginning of the report should be corrected to reflect any alterations made above in captions.

FOOTNOTES

[1]Rigsarkivet (Danish National Archives), Vestindiskguineisk Kompagni: Sekretprotokol fra St. Croix (1748-49), Extract of January 23, 1749. Hereinafter the Rigsarkivet will be cited as RA, the West India-Guinea Company as VgK, and the protocol of the Privy Council of St. Croix as SP.

[2]RA, Vestindisk-guineiske Rente-og Generaltoldkammer - Bygnings inspektørens og Landmaalerens Arkiv fra St. Croix: Protokol for garnisonshaandværkerne in Christiansted (1835-40), passim. Hereinafter the West India-Guinea Exchequer and General Customs Office will be cited as VgRtK, the archives of the Building Inspector and Surveyor of St. Croix as BIA, and the protocol of the Christiansted garrison's craftsmen as PGH.

[3]United States National Archives, Records Group 55 (Records of the former Danish West Indies and the American Virgin Islands) - Office of the Despatching Secretary(1917-31): General Correspondence File N-d-G (Public Buildings), Despatching Secretary Ewald to Mr.Charles McGregor, February 3, 1931. Hereinafter the U. S. National Archives will be cited as NA and Records Group 55 as RG55.

[4]RA,VgK: Breve og dokumenter indkomne til direktionen fra St.Croix (1733-38), Moth to Directors, March 19, 1735. Hereinafter the incoming correspondence to the directors from St. Croix will be cited as BSD.

[5]Ibid.

[6]Ibid., Moth and Privy Council, St. Thomas, to Directors, August 17, 1736.

[7]Ibid.

[8]RA, VgK:BSD (1737-38), Moth and Privy Council, St. Thomas, to Directors, [October] 6, 1738.

[9]RA, VgK:SP(1747), Extract of June 21, 1747.

[10]RA, VgK:BSD(1748), Governor and Privy Council, St. Croix, to Directors, September 4, 1748.

[11] Ibid.

[12] NA, RGSS-Regnskabsbog for den danske Kirke i Christiansted (1760-80), manuscript. Hereinafter this church account book will be cited as DKRb.

The church account book for the period from May 22, 1753, to September 18, 1760, has still not been found in any of the archives.

[13] Ibid., pp. 74(a) f. and 83(b).

[14] Ibid., p. 49(b)

[15] RA, VgStK-HA: Skrivelser til Bygningsinspekteraterne i Christiansted og Frederiksted(1825-29), Inspection Report of February 27, 1829. Hereinafter the incoming correspondence to the Building Inspector will be cited as SBI.

[16] NA, RGSS-Office of the Building Inspector for St. Croix: Incoming Correspondence(1850-1917), Major v. Falbe to Government, May 16, 1851. Hereinafter the Office of the Building Inspector, St. Croix, will be cited as BI and the Incoming Correspondence to this official as IC.

[17] Ibid., Falbe's Estimate of repairs needed to the Military Bakery and Steeple, February 27, 1851; and ibid., Government to Building Inspector, March 22, 1851.

[18] Ibid., October 10, 1851.

[19] Details are from ibid., Estimate for the Construction of a new Oven and Alterations and Repairs at the Royal Bakery, November 20, 1851; governmental approval was given in ibid., Government to Building Inspector, February 21, 1853.

[20] Ibid., Carpenter J. G. Meyer to Government, March 16, 1853; and ibid., Government to Building Inspector, March 23, 1853.

In translating this document, Architect Frederik Gjessing apparently misread Meyer's estimate which was for raising (". . . over at forhøie Brandmuren . . .") the existing wall not for building a new one.

[21] Ibid., Building Inspector Ludvig Schollerup's Estimate of Repairs required to the Buildings of the Royal Bakery, April 23, 1857; and ibid., Government to Schollerup, April 29, 1857.

[23]Ibid., Acting Building Inspector to Government, November 30, 1839; and ibid., Government to Acting Building Inspector, December 3, 1839.

[24]Ibid., Schellerup to Presidency of St. Croix, April 25, 1877.

[25]Ibid., Johansen to Presidency of St. Croix, November 28, 1877.

[26]NA, RG55-Office of the Bookkeeper, St. Croix, Supplement to the St. Croix General Ledger, January 1, 1880.

[27]A sketch plan of the Steeple Building and yard prior to the hurricane of October 9, 1916, does not show the bakery building in the yard; see NA, RG55-SI: Kopibog af udgaaende skrivelser (1913-16), pagination illegible. The copybooks of the outgoing correspondence of the building inspector will be referred to as KUS hereafter.

The property also ceases to be listed as "the military bakery" after September 1909 and is listed instead as the "meeting hall."

[28]NA, RG55-SI: Vouchers, Timesheets, and Correspondence Relating to Public Buildings(1906-17), Various Bills and Vouchers for Repairs to the Steeple in 1911.

[29]NA,RG55-SI:KUS(1910-13), p. 280.

[30]NA,RG55-Office of the Governor and Government Secretary: Correspondence File 718/1916, Klitgaard Nielsen to Government, May 27, 1916.

[31]NA,RG55-Office of the Despatching Secretary(1917-31): Correspondence File N-4-G(Public Buildings), Despatching Secretary G.P. Shamer to the Reverend Daniel E. Rupley, November 5, 1925; ibid., H. H. Hines to Asst. Public Works Officer, March 13, 1926; Shamer to Asst. Public Works Officer, March 23, 1926; and ibid., Shamer to Government Secretary, August 23, 1926.

Title to the "Church of the Lord of Sabaoth" was transferred to the Danish State by the church wardens on December 28, 1838, and title to the building was never transferred back to the Lutheran Church even though the government permitted it to be used as a Lutheran Sunday School from September 1909 to October 1916(the building was also used during this era as a town hall). Thus the building

was Danish State property at the time the islands were transferred to the United States on March 31, 1917, and automatically became the property of the United States Government by the terms of the treaty of sale and purchase between Denmark and the United States.

The Lutheran Church of Christiansted submitted a petition to the Secretary of the Interior on April 6, 1931, in which it recognized that the church had no legal claim or right to the Steeple Building but requested the "use, or the exclusive use, or a special grant of possession and use of the building. . ." The petition was obviously denied.

[31] Ibid., Ewald to Government Secretary, January 24, 1931; and Ibid., Ewald to Charles McGregor, February 2, 1931.

[32] NA, RG55-Office of Lt. Governor and Administrator for St.Croix (1931-40): Office File, Commissioner of Public Works James C. Tilly to Governor Lawrence W. Cramer, July 11, 1933.

[33] Ibid., General Correspondence (1933), Weekly and Monthly Progress Reports of Federal Projects (FP 1-5, Steeple Building).

[34] NA, RG55-DKH b(1760-80), pp. 74(a) f. and 83(b).

[35] Ibid., pp. 74(a) f.

[36] NA, RG55-DI:IC(1850-1917), Government to Building Inspector, April 20, 1857. The floor consisted of white pine planks laid on pitch pine joists.

[37] Ibid., Schollerup to Presidency of St. Croix, April 25, 1877.

[38] NA, RG55-DI: Office File(1915-17), List of Repairs to State Buildings as a result of the Hurricane of October 9, 1916.

[39] NA, RG55-DI:IC(1850-1917), Falbe's Estimate of Repairs required to the Military Bakery and Steeple, February 27, 1851; and Ibid., Government to Building Inspector, March 22, 1851. The wording of Falbe's estimate would seem to indicate that the openings above the windows were boarded up rather than masoned up.

[40] Ibid., Acting Building Inspector to Government, November 30, 1850; and Government to Acting Building Inspector, December 3, 1850.

[41] NA, RG55-Office of the Governor and Government Secretary (1917-43): File 72-1, J. W. Oman to Governor, December 29, 1919.

[42] NA, RG55-OKRb, p. 49(b).

[43] NA, RG55-BI:BC(1850-1917), Carpenter J. G. Meyer to Government, March 16, 1853; and ibid., Government to Building Inspector, March 23, 1853.

[44] Ibid., Johansen to Presidency d'St. Croix, November 28, 1877.

[45] Ibid., Estimate for the Construction of a new Oven and Alterations and Repairs at the Royal Bakery, November 29, 1851; and ibid., Government to Building Inspector, February 21, 1853.

[46] RA, VgK-BD(1735-36), Both to Directors, March 19, 1735; RA, VgK-Amerikansk og Afrikansk Kopibog(1735-36), Directors to Both, July 30, 1735.

[47] Ibid.

[48] Beck submitted a plan of Christiansted and a project for Frederiksted to the Directors of the Danish West India-Guinea Company on April 25, 1752; see RA, VgK-BD(1752), Letter to Directors of April 25, 1752.

[49] RA, VgRtK: Sag Nr. 211 til Vestindisk Journal pro 1787.

[50] Preparation of the Historic Structures Report on Fort Christiansvaern has revealed that Melbye's painting could not have been painted before 1846.

[51] Textual changes were made necessary by the discovery that the oven had been moved out of the main building to a new building erected in the yard in 1853.

[52] The date of Schellerup's plan was not clear on the microfilm copy originally consulted but has since been determined to be 1836 rather than 1855.

[53] Internal evidence derived from the Historic Structures Report on Fort Christiansvaern indicates that Seidelin could not have drawn this view of Christiansted later than 1857, but it is also doubtful that it was drawn much earlier than that.

[54] It is probable that Visby painted this view of Christiansted as early as 1866, since he arrived in St. Croix in December 1863.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

(This is a supplementary bibliography only and does not list all those records already cited in the original report.)

Rigsarkivet(Danish National Archives), Copenhagen, Denmark

Vestindisk-guineisk Kommercii: 1734-54.

Amerikansk og Afrikansk Kopibog: 1735-36.

Sekretprotokol fra St. Croix: 1747, 1748-49.

United States National Archives, Washington, D.C.

Records Group 55 are the records of the former Danish West Indies from 1734 to 1917 and of the American Virgin Islands from 1917 to 1943.

The records of the former Danish West Indies have never been properly catalogued and are therefore extremely difficult to work with. In their present virtually unarranged state, it is difficult to evaluate their completeness and worth. However, those records listed below (found during a one month search conducted in September 1980) shed some light on the history of the Steeple Building during the period from 1709 to 1780 when it was still a church and more extensive light on the history of the Building from 1850 to 1917 and beyond when it was used for secular purposes.

Lutheran or Danish Church, Christiansted, St. Croix.

Regnskabsbog for den danske Kirke i Christiansted: 1769-80.

Office of the Bookkeeper, St. Croix, 1880-1917.

Supplement to St. Croix General Ledger, January 1, 1880.

Office of the Building Inspector, St. Croix: 1880-1917.

Copybooks of Letters Sent: 1855-60,1867-70, 1878-87(entries missing from June 1880 to May 1882), 1887-92, 1899-1906, 1906-08; Press Copybooks of Letters Sent, 1910-13, 1913-15, 1916-17.

Journal of Letters Received: 1878-1907.

Incoming Correspondence: 1880-1917(correspondence for 1880, 1881, 1886-89, 1900-03 is completely missing and is only partially complete for 1904-10, 1912, and 1914.)

Office File: 1915-17.

Vouchers, Timesheets, and Correspondence Relating to Expenditures on Public Buildings: 1906-17.

Office of the Governor and Government Secretary, St. Croix: 1880-1917.

Budget Correspondence: 1870/71(incomplete), 1872/73(incomplete), 1876/77(incomplete), 1877/78, 1879/80(incomplete), 1884/85, 1889/90, 1891/92, 1894/95, 1900/01(incomplete), 1901/02(incomplete), 1903/04, 1904/05(incomplete), 1905/06, 1906/07, 1907/08, 1908/09 (incomplete), 1909/10, 1910/11, 1911/12, 1912/13, 1913/14, 1914/15, 1915/16, 1916/17, 1917/18.

Correspondence File No. 718 for 1916.

American Virgin Islands: 1917-43

Office of the Dispatching Secretary: 1917-21.

General Correspondence File N-4-G(Public Buildings).

Office of the Governor and Government Secretary: 1917-43.

General Correspondence File 72-1(Public Works, General): 1917-27.

Office of the Lt. Governor and Administrator for St. Croix: 1931-43.

General Correspondence File: National Industrial Recovery Act, 1933.

C
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Virgin Islands National Park
Box 1589 - St. Thomas, V. I.

March 12, 1959

Memorandum

To: Regional Director, Region One

From: Superintendent, Virgin Islands National Historic Site

Subject: Historical Data, Section 6, Part I, Historical Structures Report, Steeple Building, Christiansted, St. Croix.

Attached in quintuplicate is the above subject report prepared by Mr. Herbert Olsen.

It should be pointed out that the report is not yet complete, since it lacks the illustrative materials listed on pages V to VII of the report. However, these materials are being processed and will be submitted for insertion in the report as soon as possible. In the meantime, and for the purpose of facilitating review of the report, it is suggested that reference be made to the HABS No. VI-1 drawings prepared by Mr. Gjessing in 1957, as necessary.

Mr. Olsen also wishes to call attention to the fact that accepted historical practice has not been followed with respect to the placement of footnotes because to do so would have delayed completion of the typing of the manuscript.

As expressed in our teletype of March 5, it is hoped that review of this report and Mr. Gjessing's working drawings, which will be submitted shortly, can be completed by April 25, thus permitting us to obligate the funds available for restoration by June 30.

Harold A. Hubler
Superintendent

In quintuplicate

Attachments

Corrections or Additions

Page 16:

Line 4: add word "later" after the word "and".

Page 65:

Line 18: add the word and numerals "in 1834" after the word disinterred
Line 19: change the date 1834 to 1835

Page 80:

Footnote 41: add the following: See also infra, p. 65.

Page 95:

Footnote 314: add the following: A description of the reinterment on July 4, 1835, is given in The St. Croix Avis, July 6, 1835, p.2.

corrections made 7-13-59

Historic Structures Report

STEEPLE BUILDING

Part I Section 6

Historical Data

By Herbert Olsen
Historian (Park Supervisory)

Virgin Islands National Historic Site
Christiansted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands

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FOREWORD

The Steeple Building, located in Christiansted, St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands, was originally built between 1750 and 1753 as the Danish Lutheran "Church of the Lord of Sabaoth." Although it ceased to be used as a church after 1831 and was subsequently altered or modified for other uses, a large part of the oldest former Lutheran church building in the Virgin Islands still stands intact.

This report, then, is an attempt to reconstruct a picture of the church as it appeared from 1750 to 1831 and to determine what alterations or modifications were made in the structure thereafter. It is based primarily on research in manuscript materials found in the Danish National Archives, Copenhagen, Denmark, and in the Lutheran Parsonage, Christiansted, St. Croix.

All documentary sources have not been exhausted, inasmuch as the writer was not able to consult the records of the former Danish West Indies on deposit in the United States National Archives. While the findings of this report cannot be considered wholly complete, therefore, it does provide a substantial amount of information about the building which should prove useful in itself and as a guide to further documentary research and physical investigation of the structure.

LOCATION AND BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The Steeple Building is located between Hospital and Church Streets, facing Company Street, in the town of Christiansted, which lies on the north-central shore of the American Virgin Island of St. Croix.

It is a one-story, masonry structure covered with a corrugated sheet-metal roof. A four-tiered tower or steeple is attached to the body of the building on its north or Company Street side.

The body of the building measures 88 feet 2 inches in length by 28 feet 3 inches in width and lies essentially in an east-west direction facing Company Street. The steeple measures 17 feet 8 inches by 14 feet 10 inches at its base and is 77 feet high, including an 8 foot wrought iron spire and weather vane.

Except for the wall facing the yard on the south, which is only 19 inches thick, the remaining walls of the body of the building are 27 inches in width; they vary in height from approximately 13 to 18 feet and are constructed of rubble limestone and are plastered and stuccoed.

The two lowest tiers of the steeple are constructed of brick. The third tier is an octagonal-shaped wooden drum covered with vertical siding and horizontal shingles and has a roof covered with copper sheets. The fourth tier is a pavilion having eight wooden columns supporting a cupola covered with wooden shingles and topped with a wrought iron spire and weather vane.

To the south of the building is located a yard measuring approximately 64 feet in depth by 95 feet in width across its southern extremity. It is enclosed by a brick and rubble masonry wall. Along the west and south walls of the yard are located a one-story, wooden building erected as a clinic in 1917 and a concrete latrine added in 1933. Two cisterns are attached to the south wall of the building at its eastern end.

CONSTRUCTIONAL FEATURES

Main Structure

Foundations and Walls

Accounts covering the construction of the Steeple Building give no information concerning foundations or footings and very little information concerning the walls of the structure. However, it is known that the walls were constructed of local limestone set in lime mortar and that door and window openings were probably lined with brick.[58] The exterior was plastered,[59] and it is assumed that the interior was also.[60]

As for dimensions, the building is described in 1751 as being 75 feet long by 26 feet wide, Danish measure, or 77 feet 3 inches by 26 feet 9 inches, American measure.[61]

Dimensions given in 1841-42, at the time of the building's conversion to a military bakery and storehouse, indicate that the building was 77 feet long and 30 feet wide.[62] However, it was at this time that the east end wall was torn down and rebuilt about 11 feet further east where the wall surrounding the church and yard stood. This new east end wall was to be constructed to a length of 30 feet, as was the new west wall of the bakery. The footings of the new south and west walls of the bakery were to be constructed of limestone and were to have an average depth of 5 feet and a width of 2 feet. The walls themselves were also to be constructed of limestone and were to be 1½ feet thick and 12 feet high. The old wall facing north toward

Company Street was to be evened up at a height of 12 feet.

As for the old walls west of the steeple which were to be used for the storehouse, both the wall facing north toward Company Street and that facing west toward Church Street were to be evened up at a height of 12 feet, too. However, the west wall was to be shortened to a length of only 16 feet.[63] The section of the south wall west of the steeple was not rebuilt until the restoration of 1909.

Roof

Early construction accounts indicate that the roof was framed and shingled between July and the end of October 1751. Although the accounts are not specific enough to identify the quantity and exact type of materials used, it is probable that the framing was constructed of pitch pine beams covered with white pine sheathing, while the shingles were so-called "Boston" or cedar shingles.[64]

No information is available as to the original height and pitch of the roof, or whether it came down behind the walls, as indicated in von Rohr's drawing of Christiansted.

In 1794, James Collett shingled 52 squares, nailed new boards in the roof, and also put up "new Five Boards all Round", for which he charged the church 335 pieces of eight.[65] He also made a "Dormant back of the Steeple" for 100 pieces of eight.

Gutters are mentioned in 1795, when 96 pounds of lead and at least 150 feet of boards were purchased for this purpose.[66] Coppersmith Gorts also made four copper pipes, which were probably downspouts.[67]

In 1809, the roof was completely reshingled by Bastian Francis and ten men in 16½ days at a cost of over 1,000 pieces of eight for labor and materials.[68] Materials included 15,000 "Boston" shingles, 1,000 feet of white pine boards, and 10 large joists.

The roof required some reshinglingg in the reparations of 1818-19, but the extent of the work is not known.

In the conversion of the building to a military bakery and storehouse in 1841-42, the entire roof was found to be rotten and all lumber was removed and discarded.[69] The building was then divided into two separate sections at the steeple, and both the bakery and storehouse were provided with new hip roofs of pitch pine framing covered with cypress shingles.[70] Apparently the roof of the storehouse blew off in a hurricane prior to 1901.[71]

Conversion of the building into a Lutheran Sunday School in 1909 resulted in the reunification of the entire building under one roof, from which period the framing of the section west of the steeple and the galvanized sheet-metal on the entire roof date.

Doors and Windows

Numbers and Location

Determination of the exact number and location of doors and windows has proved difficult in view of the complete absence of original plans, the scarcity of reliable illustrative material, and the ambiguity, in many instances, of documentary sources.

The only drawing showing the main body of the structure prior to the major changes of 1841-42 which can be considered to be fairly reliable is von Rohr's drawing of Christiansted of about 1765.[72] This drawing shows three window openings in the north wall toward Company Street and one in the east end wall toward Hospital Street. No storm shutters are indicated in the openings, despite the fact that they were in use at the time, as shown on some of the other buildings in the drawing.

As for documentary evidence, construction accounts indicate only that Peder Seebesen received several payments late in 1751 for work on doors and windows.[73]

An attempt to determine the number of doors and windows from the accounts for hardware purchased for the church in 1751-53 has proved difficult and not too enlightening.

Purchase of two pair of large door hinges and four pair of smaller ones in March and April 1752 would seem to indicate that there were only two doors to the building, if the island norm of three pair of hinges per door is accepted.[74] However, the purchase of four large door locks in August and September 1752,[75] would indicate that either there were four doors, unless two locks were mounted on each door, or that each opening had both an exterior storm shutter and an interior door.[76]

Even less information can be derived about windows from the accounts for hardware, since they specify only the purchase of "2 pair small window hinges" and "1000 nails for window hinges" in March 1752.[77]

Sixteen bar locks were purchased in June 1752;[78] and while they must have been used on door and window shutters, the number for each cannot be directly determined. The twenty-four hooks, each one foot long, purchased on May 29-30, 1753,[79] may have been used to hold windows or window shutters open, in which case there would have been twelve windows on the basis of two hooks per window.

It is not until 1706 that more detailed information is available concerning the number of doors to the church. On August 16 and October 6, Thomas Gray received payments of 91.6.0 and 75.0.0 Rdls., respectively, for masonry alterations to the "2 main doors."[80] The work must have been substantial because Gray kept two negro masons at work on the alterations for at least twelve days. Thomas Bogle supplied "3 new doors" for the church at a cost of 100.36.0 Rdls.[81] Hardware purchased at the same time confirms the fact that there were three doors.[82]

The accounts for the major rehabilitation of the church in the period 1793-96 show that the old frames of three doors and ten windows were removed and replaced.[83]

A bill for laying tile in the floor of the church in 1800 indicates that there was a door next to the alter.[84] Since the alter must have been located against the south wall of the church facing the main entrance through the steeple at this time,[85] this door was located either east or west of the alter in the south wall and provided access to the church from the yard.

While there may have been another door in this wall, it is probable that this is the same door in the south wall for which it was proposed that a jalousie door be provided in 1823.[86]

Earlier, in 1809, it was proposed that the "northern entrance be closed with lattice-work and a door."[87] The entrance referred to must have been the main entrance to the church from the steeple.

Several estimates for painting the exterior woodwork of the church in 1821 and 1823 specify that the church had five and six doors, respectively.[88] However, there is no indication in the accounts between 1821 to 1823 that another door was added to the church. The presence of five doors can be explained by adding the two exterior doors on the east and west sides of the first tier of the steeple to the three old doors cited in the accounts of 1794.

The same estimates for painting of exterior woodwork in 1821 and 1823 list sixteen windows in the building. If the one window in the first tier and the three in the second tier of the steeple are added to the ten known old windows of 1794, the total number of windows falls two short of the number given in the estimates for painting. There are only two possible explanations for this discrepancy: either there were actually twelve windows in the church in 1794, even though only ten window frames were replaced, or two more windows were cut in the church during the major rehabilitation of 1818-19. However, the accounts of 1818-19 are incomplete and throw no light on the question.

In summation, it would appear that at least as early as 1786

the church had three entrances. Of these, one was centered in the north wall on the Company Street side, had the lowest tier of the steeple as a foyer, and was the main entrance to the church. The second door was located in the south wall, either to the east or west of the alter, and provided entry from the yard. The location of the third door is problematical and cannot be determined from documentary evidence alone. However, it is probable that it was located in the south wall in a symmetrical arrangement with the door known to have been located in this wall to one side of the altar.

The location of windows is even more difficult to fix. If the pictorial evidence contained in von Rohr's drawing is accepted and it is assumed that there were only ten windows and their arrangement was symmetrical, then there would have been three windows on each side of the main entrance in the north wall facing Company Street, one window each in the east and west end walls, and two windows in the south wall toward the yard.

On the other hand, if von Rohr's drawing is not wholly correct, there are a number of other possible combinations for the location of windows. This would also be true if instead of ten there were twelve windows in the body of the church prior to 1821.

It is clear that the south wall had insufficient openings, however, for in 1827 it was suggested that two new windows be cut "in the south wall behind the altar in order to obtain greater coolness."[89]

This reference also makes it clear that there were no windows in the south wall directly behind the altar while the building was a church, since the proposal was never carried out prior to 1831.

Total destruction and rebuilding of the east end and south walls of the building in 1841-42 destroyed any physical evidence which they might have yielded concerning the number and location of doors and windows in these walls. This is also partially true for the west end wall, since it was reduced to a length of about 16 feet at the same time.[90]

Treatment of the windows and doors in the north wall after 1831 is somewhat obscure. It is quite possible that all openings in this wall except the main entrance were bricked up during the 1830's. There are several references to the cutting of openings in the north wall facing Company Street for windows for the military bakery in 1842 and 1845.[91] One of these windows could be the easternmost window in the north wall-- that is, in the extended section of the wall. The other window, however, had to be located somewhere in the original portion of the north wall to the east of the steeple. There is no further evidence available concerning the number of windows and doors from that period to the present.

Types

Doors.-- It is difficult to be specific about the type of door or doors the church had upon its completion in 1753. However, they must have been solid storm doors or shutters, in view of the size of the hinges which were purchased for them. No reference is made to interior doors.

The accounts for the alterations to the doors in 1786, at which time Thomas Bogle supplied three new doors, are not much more enlightening. However, some of the white pine planks and boards Bogle bought in July and September of that year must have been for the doors. But the heavy hardware repaired or purchased at this time, including hinges and hooks, can only mean that each door was equipped with a pair of solid storm shutters.

In 1795, we learn for the first time that the doors were definitely equipped with shutters, which were newly made at that time by James Collett.[92]

As previously pointed out, "the northern entrance" was closed with "2 doors with pannel & rails" and "a jalousie window" thereover in June 1809 by Bastian Francis.[93] The doors were supplied with three pair of hinges and three long hooks and were made from white pine boards; total cost, including materials, painting, and workmanship was 130 pieces of eight. While it is not quite clear what is meant by the "northern entrance," it is probable that the reference is to the main entrance to the church located inside the steeple.[94]

In 1823, it was proposed to provide the main entrance from the south with a jalousie door. The proposal specifies that the jalousie door is to be 8 feet high by 5½ feet wide and it to have an arch with a fixed jalousie thereover.[95] However, as far as is known, this proposal was never carried out.

Windows. -- Whether the church was originally equipped with storm

shutters, interior windows, or both is not definitely known.

Storm shutters would seem most likely, since the doors were apparently equipped with them and the severity of hurricanes was already known to the colonists from the hurricanes of 1742 and 1748. Some of the sixteen bar locks bought in June-July 1752 must have been for window shutters, as were perhaps the two dozen, one foot long hooks purchased in April 1753. Two pair of small window hinges and 1,000 nails for window hinges were purchased in March 1752, but this information is not too helpful in clarifying the situation. Glass windows would seem to be ruled out, if the absence of any bills for glass or glazing in the construction accounts of 1751-53 is to be believed.

The first conclusive evidence that the church had interior windows occurs in 1782 when Thomas Bogle puts a "Square Glass in the Kirk windows."[96]

Further bills for glazing of the church windows occur from time to time thereafter. And from a bill submitted by John Learmond on March 7, 1815, it is finally learned that there were two different window sizes, one requiring glass 12 by 10 inches and the other 11 1/8 by 10 inches.[97] The windows must have been casement windows because in May 1709 Andrew Monro supplied "4 large hooks for hanging windows to the wall of the church";[98] and it would appear that the 4-inch H hinges repaired in August-September 1795 were probably for the windows.[99]

As for shutters, James Collett made new ones for the windows

in 1795, and they are repaired at various times thereafter.[100]

Hardware and Its Period

Doors

Hinges and Thumbs.- The first doors of the church were equipped with ornamented hinges, as indicated by the purchase on March 27, 1752, of "2 pair large door hinges with figures" weighing 54 pounds;[101] and the purchase on April 18-14, 1752, of "4 pair door hinges with figures and 722 sets of nails" weighing 62 pounds.[102] As indicated by the difference in weight, the latter were smaller than the former. If it is assumed that a double door was hung on three pair of hinges, the norm in the islands, then the center hinges were probably larger than those at the top and bottom. Although unspecified, it is assumed that these hinges were of the same type still in common usage today and were hung on large "thumbs" (pintles) which were set in the wall or driven into the doorframe.

In 1786, when masonry alterations were made to the "two main doors" and three new doors were supplied, eleven of the old hinges were repaired and retained, while seven new ones, weighing about 6½ pounds each, were made.[103]

The accounts for the major reparations and construction of 1793-96 give the first indication of the actual size of the hinges. The church is billed in 1795 for "3 pair of large hinges and thumbs 2½ feet long" and "6 pair ditto 2 feet long."[104]

The doors made for the "northern entrance" in 1809 were equipped with three pair of hinges, but no details are given as to size or type.[105]

Hooks. — The doors were undoubtedly fitted with some kind of hooks from the beginning. However, it is not until 1785 that there is a specific entry in the church accounts for "1 large storm hook with fittings," which was purchased in connection with repairs to a large lock for one of the church doors.[106]

During the alterations to the church doors in 1786, the church received three pair of hooks, weighing about 12 pounds per pair, for each door.[107] This seems like an excessive number of hooks per door, but perhaps only two pair were fastened on the inside for hurricane protection and one pair was fastened outside to hold the doors back to the wall when open. The hooks were fastened to the wall with eyes and fitted into eyes set in the doors.

It is not clear from the accounts of 1793-96 whether new hooks and eyes were made at this time, or whether the old ones were simply repaired, if that was necessary.

The door supplied for the "northern entrance" in 1809 was equipped with a pair of "long hooks and staples", which were probably to fasten the door back against the wall.[108]

Locks. — Locks were purchased for the doors of the church in August and September 1752. There is no indication of type, but their weight is given as 10 pounds each.[109]

A large door lock was removed and repaired in 1783, but again there is no information as to type. However, in 1793, we learn that two 12 inch and one 11 inch stock locks were bought for the church.[110] While the account does not specifically state that they were for the church doors, they could hardly have been used for any other purpose.

In 1809, Daniel McFarlane, Sr., supplied and installed "3 clamps with Plates and Keys for Doors" at a cost of 12.4.0 pieces of eight.[111] A large stock lock costing 9.3.0 pieces of eight was supplied to the church by Samuel Abbott in 1810.[112] In 1820, Andreas Isaacson supplied and installed a large stock lock on one of the church doors to replace the old lock which had broken in two.[113]

Windows

Hinges and Thumbs.—

As has been previously pointed out, the question of the type of windows which the church had in 1753 cannot be fully resolved. However, if it is assumed that the windows had storm shutters, then hinges and thumbs of a smaller size but of the same type as those on the doors would have been used on the windows.

In any event, it is known that the windows were equipped with storm shutters by 1778. ~~and the~~ Accounts in 1795 would seem to indicate that the hinges were 18 inches long.[114]

As for the hardware of the interior windows, there is a bill for the repair of "4 inch H-hinges" in 1793, which are assumed to have

been for the glass windows.[115]

Hooks. - The twenty-four unspecified hooks, each one foot long, referred to in 1752 were perhaps to fasten storm shutters on windows back to the walls.

In the accounts for 1795, the church is billed for ten pair of hooks and staples which must have been to hold the newly made window shutters back against the walls when open.[116] These hooks were fastened to the exterior of the walls with staples.[117]

As for the interior windows, hooks for fastening them back to the walls were obtained as early as 1789.[118]

Locks. - Sixteen "iron bar locks," weighing about 4 pounds each, were purchased in June and July 1752, and it would seem that some of them must have been for use on storm shutters on windows.[119] There is no further reference to bar locks or any other means of fastening the window shutters from the inside after this date.

On September and October 1, 1795, there are several entries in the accounts for what appear to be "5 inch iron wind/ow/locks," which, if the entries have been correctly read, must have been for the interior windows when closed.[120]

Miscellaneous Hardware

There are a number of entries for hardware in the church accounts which are difficult to identify with particular repairs or construction. This is particularly true for the accounts of 1793-96, when, for example, such hardware as a pair each of cross garnet, 9 inch, and 1¼ inch hinges are purchased.[121]

Paints and Finishes

The inventory of December 29, 1751, specifies that the exterior of the walls of the church were to be plastered.[122] Although unspecified, this is also assumed to be true of the interior of the walls, and it is probable that the 212 barrels of lime purchased on September 3, 1752, were for interior plastering.[123]

Beginning on August 28, 1752, and continuing on until November 15, 1752, 300 pounds of white lead, 136 pounds of blue oil color, and 50 pounds of an unspecified oil color were purchased, together with quantities of linseed oil and lampblack.[124] Henrich Fibiger, who was paid 50 Rdls. on December 30, 1752, did the painting, which must have been of the interior and exterior woodwork.[125]

Accounts in the 1780's indicate that the interior of the church was whitewashed;[126] and this must also have been true of the exterior, even though it is not explicitly stated in the accounts. However, exterior trim of doors and windows was now painted in a brown-red oil color.[127]

The foregoing colors apparently prevailed until the major reparations of 1818-19, at which time the exterior color was changed to yellow ocher while the interior walls remained whitewashed.[128] Doors, windows, and shutters were painted a "stone" color in 1823.[129]

Information about subsequent painting of the building is scanty. However, the military bakery when completed in 1842 was whitewashed inside and out, and the exterior was trimmed with a red ocher limewash.[130]

Ceiling

There are few references to this subject in the construction accounts. The first occurs on April 11, 1752, when a partial payment of 50 Rdls. is made to Christopher Pannett for his work in "vaulting" the church.[131] A bill for 4,008 feet of "single Boston planks for the vaulting in the new Lutheran church" is entered in the general ledger on May 2, 1752.[132] Subsequently, on July 6 and 31, 1752, "1,312 feet of sawed lumber for the arches over the vaulting" was delivered to the church.[133]

In 1808, James Williams billed the church 80 pieces of eight for: "putting 10 new boards in the Roof of the Ceiling," "18 feet doubl Molding," "25 feet Solid Cornice," and "painting Cornice and Board, finding painters and paints."[134] Painting of the "part of the sealing" repaired by James Williams was done by Peter Wolf.[135]

Estimates for repairs in 1809 and 1822 make it clear that the church had a vaulted, wooden ceiling.[136]

The last known repairs to the church ceiling were made in January 1829 by Andrew Iparon who mended the "Cornish & Ceiling."[137] Daly and Forbes received 5 pieces of eight from Iparon for "marbling Cornish, painting a part in Cealing..."[138]

Floor

On April 5, 1752, the church was debited for the delivery of 10,000 bricks.[139] These were probably yellow bricks, the most common variety used in the construction of the fort and other old buildings

in Christiansted. While their use is unspecified, the bricks must have been for the floor of the church. In any event, an entry in the general ledger on August 14, 1753, indicates that 4,000 bricks delivered to the church in 1752 and laid in the chancel were taken up and returned to the Danish West India and Guinea Company.[140] To replace these bricks, the church obtained 690 pieces of marble tile through or from St. Eustatius on May 25, 1753.[141]

Upon the installation of the organ loft in the western end of the church in 1783, the floor under the loft was tiled because the pews which had stood there were removed and benches were substituted, thereby revealing the brick floor.[142]

The floor tiles were removed from the building between 1831 and 1834 and reused in the floor of the present Lutheran church on King Street, Christiansted.[143] Whether the brick floor which had existed under the pews was disturbed is not clear. However, the military bakery is known to have had a brick floor in 1851, when it was proposed that "the brick floor in the oven and bakery is to be relaid."[144]

See P. 10 of "Addenda and Corrections" for additional info →

The present wooden floor in the Steeple Building was apparently laid in 1909 when the building was converted into a Lutheran Sunday School.[145]

Organ Loft

The organ received by the church in July 1753 appears to have been mounted on a very simple platform on the floor of the church.[146] When the church received a new organ in 1783, however, it was decided

to mount it on a gallery as follows:

> I, the undersigned Ths Bogle agree to complete a gallery for the new organ in accordance with the attached drawing. The floor to be of Viborg pine planks, and the railing panelled, together with the required beams under the gallery, which are to be set in the wall, and the gallery to rest on 3 free standing, turned posts, with 2 half posts on each end. A stairway up to the gallery with door lock and key. the 3 pews which are to be moved and altered shall also be made by me under this contract.
>
> Furthermore to make 12 long benches under the gallery to sit on and thereafter paint all this work twice with oil paint.
>
> And finally to erect the organ, polish the pipes, put on all ornaments, and put it in complete condition to play.
>
> . . . . . .
> . . .All work is to be finished within 8 weeks of days date.
> St. Croix 25 July, 1785
>
> Thomas Bogle
> Augustus L. Ebbesen[117]

The accounts show that Bogle had laid the floor of the gallery by August 23 and that the gallery was completed by September 4, 1785. Paulus Francis prepared the foundations for the posts, cut the holes in the walls for the beams, and laid the floor tile under the gallery.[118]

In 1809, Bastian Francis billed the church 8 pieces of eight for "putting 2 Rail in the upstairs in the organ."[119]

There are no further references to the organ gallery in the church accounts, and it is only from existing physical evidence that it is known that the gallery was located at the western end of the church.

Steeple

Structural Details

The accounts for the construction of the steeple give only a limited description of its early appearance. It is described as a "tower"and was constructed of both masonry and wood.[150] As Architect Gjessing has already shown, the number of bricks purchased in 1794 corresponds almost exactly to the masonry contents of the two lowest tiers of the existing steeple.[151] Heinrich Schultz's bill for carpentry work on the steeple indicates that two wooden tiers were set on top of the masonry section, of which the uppermost consisted of a pavilion having eight "Dencanisch" pilasters supporting a cupola.[152] In turn, the cupola was crowned with a wrought iron spire.[153] Beneath the pavilion was another wooden tier for a clock, and this apparently had clapboard siding.[154] Schultz also made "the cornice . . . .around the brick flats."[155] James Collett built a connecting dormer between the steeple and the main roof.[156]

Little more is learned about structural details of the steeple until 1818-19. Repairs to the steeple at that time disclose that the tower measured 17 feet 8 inches by 14 feet 10 inches; that the four main hardwood beams,18 feet long by 1 foot square, in the tier in which the clock was mounted and which supported the pavilion above were rotten and required replacement; and that the cornice and part of the wall of the masonry tier immediately below the clock had to be removed to take out and replace the main beams.[157]

It is not until 1825 that the first reliable illustration confirming the general appearance of the steeple is found.[158] Subsequent drawings or illustrations indicate that the steeple has remained unchanged from that date, at least, to the present.

In 1827, one of the main beams in the base of the steeple required a support at one of its ends where it was set in the wall.[159]

Substantial repairs were again required to the upper wooden tiers of the steeple in 1857. Major Wagons' estimate of the work required specifically states that the steeple consists of four tiers, of which the lower two are masonry and the upper two wooden.[160] The repairs, made by T. Bagge, included: the installation of seven new hardwood beams, three of which were 9 feet long and 9 inches square and one of which was 16 feet long by 9 inches square; and the repair of cornice, molding, and arches, for which 200 feet of white pine boards and planks were necessary.[161]

During the major alterations of 1841-42, it was discovered that the beam in the cupola to which the wrought iron spire was fastened was of pitch pine and was almost completely rotten. The beam was replaced with a hardwood beam in May 1842.[162]

Just four years later further repairs had to be made to the steeple because the roof on the third tier leaked seriously.[163] The roof was removed and replaced by one having a steeper pitch and a new molding was placed around the roof. Removal of the roof disclosed that some of the main beams 11 by 6 inches were rotten and had

to be replaced with new pitch pine beams. The sheathing boards on the 8 pillars of the pavilion were removed and replaced to bring them over the newly laid copper on the roof; the 8 pillars were also fastened to the main beams below with iron clamps and bolts in place of the original wooden pins. Three new hardwood beams fastened with four large iron clamps and bolts were installed in the floor of the third tier. The exterior of the third tier was reshingled, and a window, with shutters, was made to provide better ventilation for the clock and interior of the steeple. A pitch pine beam with braces was installed in the first tier to support the masonry work.

In 1851, the building inspector proposed that "in regard to the tower, one opening on the 2nd tier is to be filled in."[164] A new hardwood beam and four corner braces were installed in the cupola in 1865.[165] The last known structural alterations occurred in the 1920's, when some of the heavy wooden beams supporting the third and fourth tiers of the steeple were replaced.[166]

Roof

The roof of the third tier was covered with lead sheets from 1796 to 1816, as was the cover of the hatchway in this roof.[167] This covering proved to be unsatisfactory because the soldered seams frequently split open from the heat of the sun and permitted rainwater to enter and damage the clock and steeple.[168] In 1816, therefore, the roof was removed and replaced by one having a greater slope and made of pitch pine scantling covered with caulked planks, tarpaper, and

copper sheets.[169] Minor repairs were made to this roof in 1865, but details are unknown.[170]

On December 10, 1794, "the negro Mainton" was paid "for tipping the tower with copper."[171] This must refer to the very tip of the cupola where the wrought iron spire emerged from the roof, but there are no further details about the roof at this time.

With one possible exception,[172] illustrations of 1825 and after all seem to show essentially the same cupola as exists today.[173]

The first documentary evidence about the cupola after this date occurs in connection with the installation of a new hardwood beam, to which the wrought iron spire was fastened, in the cupola in 1842. Thomas Bagge shingled the cupola and put "New Copper over the part of the new Work which is now Copper'd."[174] The latter work must have been to the tip of the cupola alone, as in 1794, for it cost only $10 for materials and labor.

See p 10f. of "Addenda and Corrections for additional information

Doors

Construction accounts indicate that the steeple had two doors in the first tier, one on the east and the other on the west side.[175] James Collett made "two Sweeps for the Arches and two small Sweeps for the Pediment and two moulds for the same."[176] Heinrich Schultz made two doors for the entrances, but no details are given as to type.[177]

The hurricane of August 17, 1827, blew out the door on the east side of the steeple, and it had to be repaired and put back in place.[178]

Nothing further is known about the doors in the steeple, except that the existing doors were made in 1909.

A jalousie door was made for the opening from the steeple through the dormer to the roof of the main building in August 1795.[179] Perhaps this was the door which Bastian Francis boarded up in 1809.[180]

Windows

Heinrich Schultz made "a big jalousie window on the wide side with panel work and a circular glass window above."[181] This must have been the window in the first tier facing Company Street. The glass window was apparently made by James Collett rather than by Heinrich Schultz.[182]

Schultz also made "4 new jalousie windows with bars on the inside." If these were for the openings in the second tier, as they must have been, Schultz should have billed the church for only three windows, since the fourth opening in the second tier was supplied with a jalousie door to the dormer by James Collett.[183]

In October 1820 vandals broke into the steeple through the windows of the second tier. As a result, Samuel Weston was paid for "cutting holes in the Walls to let in Bars for securing the Windows of the Church, finding the materials and making 7 Bars, and Stopping up with Board a vacancy in the Floor of the Belfry."[184] The general summary of church expenses for 1820 describes the same work as "setting wooden bars in front of the church tower's windows shutters."[185]

There is some indication that the jalousie windows were repaired

or replaced in 1823.[186] Repairs were definitely made to the windows in the second tier in 1837.[187] To improve ventilation and prevent rot of the timbers of the steeple, a window was cut in the third tier in 1846 and equipped with shutters.[188] In 1851, the window in the second tier facing east toward Hospital Street was bricked up.[189] All existing shutters and jalousie windows in the steeple date from the alterations of 1909 or after.[190]

See p. 11 of "Addenda and Corrections" →

Floors

The floor of the first tier was laid in tile in 1796,[191] which was subsequently covered at some unknown date by concrete.

As for the floors further up in the steeple, they were made of pitch pine planks laid on hardwood beams.[192] Repairs were made to these floors in 1817, 1846, 1865, and at various times thereafter.[193]

Ladders

Ladders were originally made and installed from top to bottom in the steeple by Heinrich Schultz, and they have been repaired or replaced at various times since 1795-96.[194] The ladder was equipped with a hasp and lock at the bottom to prevent its unauthorized use.[195]

Ornaments

Eight copper-clad wooden balls were made in the fall of 1794 for the steeple.[196] Their arrangement on the steeple is not known, but

they must have been mounted atop either the second or third tiers.[197] ~~They must have been removed at a comparatively early date, since they are not shown on any of the illustrations which include the Steeple Building. The date of the four vases which presently ornament the steeple is unknown.~~

See P. 11 of "Addenda and Corrections"

Lightning Rod

The accounts for the construction of the steeple make no mention of a lightning rod. However, in 1825, it is listed as being damaged by the hurricane of July 26;[198] and it seems reasonable to assume that it was original equipment, particularly since there is no entry in the church accounts between 1795 and 1825 for its installation.

Clock

The church received its first clock in 1796 from Copenhagen, which was subsequently mounted in the third tier of the steeple.[199] Repairs to the steeple in 1846 included painting of the "four faces" of the clock and putting on the numbers.[200] In 1883-84, the clock was sent to Denmark for major repairs which cost 2,230 Kroner.[201] The hurricane of October 10, 1916, damaged the clock, but it was repaired and ran intermittently until 1919, when it ceased to work.[202] A new clock was purchased and installed in ~~the~~ 1920[203]. The old clock was stored at Richmond Penitentiary, where it was destroyed in a fire in 1933 or 1934.[204]

Steps and Platform

J. R. Entzell was paid 450 pieces of eight in 1796 for laying tile steps for the entrances to the steeple and "a platform alongside the church."[205]

Paints

The steeple was given three coats of paint from late December 1794 to March 1795.[206] While the accounts do not specify colors, they were probably the same as those used on the main body of the church at the time -- that is, the steeple was painted white, while door and window frames were painted a brown-red.

After the major reparations of 1818-19, the steeple, like the body of the church, was painted with yellow ocher.[207] Door and window frames were painted gray in 1823.[208]

The steeple was again painted yellow in 1841-42,[209] but thereafter we have no information about the color of the Steeple Building.

Hardware

It is extremely difficult to identify the hardware for the windows and doors of the steeple in the accounts of 1793-96. However, there is an entry in the accounts on December 17, 1795, for four pair of hinges, each 2½ feet long, which may have been for the entrance doors on the east and west sides of the steeple.[210] Similarly, the windows were apparently equipped with hinges 18 inches long.[211]

James Rodgers made the wrought iron spire for the steeple "to go

Through the King post and top Ball" and also two large nuts and bolts and two large square plates for the same.[212] Christian Oertz made the "top Ball" of copper and also covered eight wooden balls with copper.[213] James Rodgers provided the "8 large longbolt to go through the balls."[214]

There are also numerous entries in the church accounts of 1796-98 for hardware for mounting the clock and the two separate bells hung under the cupola which struck the quarter hours and the hours.[215]

FURNISHINGS AND ACCESSORIES[216]

Alter and Furnishings

Alter. - The original altar of the "Church of the Lord of Sabaoth" is now located in the present Lutheran church on King Street, Christiansted, to which it was moved in 1854. This altar was constructed locally in 1752 in accordance with a drawing bearing the signature of Johan Wilhelm Schopen,[217] an employee of the Danish West India and Guinea Company who supervised the construction of many of the company's buildings on St. Croix. Schopen's design is not original, however, since it is almost a direct copy of the baroque altar designed by Christopher Marselis for the chapel of Frederiksberg Castle in Copenhagen around 1707.[218]

Alter Cloths. - Although the exact number of altar cloths varied slightly from time to time, there were usually three altar cloths of red velvet with gold embroidery and hem on hand.

Altar Hassock and Railing. - The earliest mention of a hassock around the altar occurs in 1807.[219] The hassock is again repaired in 1813[220] and recovered with red velvet in 1827.[221]

Although there is no mention of it in the accounts, it is assumed

that there was also a railing around the altar similar to the one in the present Lutheran church in Christiansted. This would have been characteristic and concomitant with a hassock.

Altar Location. — The "Church of the Lord of Sabaoth" was an example of an eighteenth century effort to design a distinct Protestant church type. In a church of this design, the pulpit and altar were centered on one of the long walls, opposite the entrance to the church, instead of at one end of the church.

In the "Church of the Lord of Sabaoth," then, the altar would have been centered against the south wall opposite the entrance from the steeple. This location of the altar is confirmed in 1827 by a proposal that "two windows should be opened in the southerly wall behind the altar . . . in order to obtain more coolness."[222] In view of the fact that access had to be gained to the storage cabinet in the back of the altar,[223] it must have stodd at least a few feet away from the wall.

Altar Painting.— A painting for the altar was executed in Copenhagen and received by the church in 1753.[224] The painting was mounted in the altar and was moved with the latter to the present Lutheran

church in 1834. However, in 1851, the original painting was replaced by the existing one.[225] While nothing is known of the original painting from contemporary accounts, it was described in 1884 as depicting the Crucifixion of Christ.[226]

Altar Table. - The only direct reference to the altar table occurs in 1813, when it is "raised."[227] The altar table of the present Lutheran church in Christiansted is not that of the "Church of the Lord of Sabaoth."

Baptismal Font

In 1760, Chamber Advisor (Kammerraad) Johannes Søbøtker donated a baptismal font with a marble base and silver dish to the church. This font is now located in the present Lutheran church in Christiansted and bears the following inscription:

> This font with marble pillar was donated to the
> Lord Sabaoths Church on St. Croix by Chamber Advisor
> Johannes Søbøtker in memory of his son Adam Levin,
> the first to be baptised in the same. 1760. S.D.G.

The basin bears the mark of silversmith Sivert Thorsteinsson (b.1714-d.1799) and the datemarks: "Copenhagen 1760 February 18 to March 21."[228]

Candlesticks

Governor General Peter Clausen donated a pair of brass candlesticks to the church prior to 1769. These candlesticks were no longer

in use by 1809 and were finally sold in 1811. The church acquired a pair of silver-plated candlesticks to replace them, and it is believed that these are the same candlesticks still in the possession of the present Lutheran church.

Cannister

In 1783, storekeeper Grutzmann donated a silver cannister for communion wafers to the church.

Chalice and Paten

Pastor Stoud received a silver chalice and paten in 1712, and this was probably the same chalice and paten listed in the church inventory of 1769. However, a chalice for private communion was listed as unusable and in need of repair in 1797. This chalice was sold in 1809 and subsequently replaced by a new silver chalice and gilded paten donated by the mission congregation. These items are apparently the ones still in the possession of the present Lutheran church.

Chandeliers

A brass chandelier was donated to the church in 1783 by a Mr. Ebbesen.[229] Three years later, two glass chandeliers were donated to the church, one of them by a Mr. N. A. Coppy.

From a bill for repairs on December 31, 1810, it is clear that the chandeliers were hung from the ceiling by iron-link chains.[230]

No mention is found of ceiling rosettes for the chandeliers in the church accounts.

Chasuble and Surplices

Red velvet cloth and gold embroidery and ham was received by the church from Denmark in 1753 and was used to make a chasuble.[231] A new chasuble was obtained in 1783, and the old one was finally sold in 1811.

The number of surplices listed on the church inventories fluctuated between two and three.

Church Books

In the spring of 1753, the church received two Danish Bibles, 20 Pontoppidan's Explanation, 30 Nostock's Explanation, 50 catechisms, 50 A B C books, 1 church ritual, and 10 psalm books.[232]

The foregoing were supplemented by the addition of 80 new psalm books in 1807 and 30 more psalm books in 1809. In 1829, 152 Creole Testaments were received; and in 1831, the church received 200 Creole Bibles and 50 regular Bibles.

Church records included a sessions protocol which was kept in the parsonage and was destroyed in the hurricane of 1785. A new sessions protocol was obtained in 1791. A mahogany-painted pine cabinet was made in 1808 for the storage of church records.[233]

Collection Plates

The church had two wooden collection plates as early as 1769.

Organ

The first organ was a carved and gilded wooden organ made in Copenhagen by a Mr. Ortmann and received by the church in 1753.[234] This organ was replaced in July 1783 by an organ made in Copenhagen by Hartvig Müller.[235] As pointed out earlier, the latter organ was mounted on a panelled gallery at the western end of the church. A bill of June 25, 1791, indicates that blue cotton curtains were hung in front of the organ,[236] but these were changed to green curtains in 1829.[237]

There are numerous bills for the tuning and repair of the 1783 organ; and in the reparations to the church of 1818-19, repairs of the organ, which included many new pipes, cost as much as 1,000 Rdls.[238] This organ no longer exists.

Number Boards

The church had four panels for the display of hymn and psalm numbers in 1780. These were replaced in 1783 with three mahogany panels and about 100 gilded numbers.

New number boards were made for the church in 1819 and 1820. They are described in 1823 as being two mahogany and two wooden panels and must also have been supplied with gilded numbers, although this is not specifically mentioned.

Pews

Congregation. — The church accounts of 1752-53 indicate that twenty wooden pews were constructed for the use of the congregation.[239] Details are limited, but it is known that some of them were fastened to the walls and that they all had hinged doors equipped with locks.[240] Later accounts indicate that these pews had wooden floors and were painted.[241]

When the organ gallery was erected at the western end of the building in 1783, the three pews standing thereunder were removed and altered for apparent use elsewhere in the church.[242] Twelve long benches were made and placed under the organ gallery in place of the pews. However, at some unknown and subsequent date, three new pews were apparently made and placed under the organ gallery.[243]

In 1827, the trellis work atop six "side pews" was removed because it reduced audibility in certain parts of the church.[244]

While there were only twenty pews in 1753, there were twenty-three pews in 1830.[245] These pews were rented to provide the church with additional income, but apparently there were also a number of benches for those who could not afford to pay pew rent. The records for pew rent in 1830 seem to indicate that pews 1 and 2 had seven seats each, pews 3 and 4 had six seats each, and pews 5 through 23 had four seats each.

Minister and Governor General. — Separate pews were constructed in 1752-53 for the minister and governor. Each was equipped with green silk curtains hung on rods, and the doors of these pews were equipped

with locks and keys.[246]

New green taffeta curtains were made for the governor general's pew in 1788.[247] The quantity of material purchased -- 12 yards -- must have been sufficient to line and garnish the pew.

The foregoing curtains were replaced in 1791 by gray silk curtains requiring 5 yards of material.[248] In 1796, the church purchased red "Callemanque," and the governor general's pew was lined and garnished with brass nails and lace.[249] Again in 1801, new gray taffeta curtains requiring 4½ yards of material were made for the "window in the general's pew."[250]

Choir. -- In 1809, Bastian Francis made two new pews which were placed close to the altar for the choir.[251] These pews were painted, curtained with green "baze," and apparently lined with green canvas.

Pulpit

Early details concerning the pulpit are meager. However, it is definitely known that red velvet was tacked on the pulpit from 1753,[252] and that the tacks used for this purpose in 1783 were of brass.[253] The pulpit had a natural finish like the altar,[254] and it was mounted on a post, as in the present Lutheran church, which was raised in 1813.[255] The lectern was altered in 1822[256] and raised in 1829.[257] The contract for the renovation and repair of the Dutch Reformed Church in Christiansted in 1832-34 would seem to indicate that this pulpit was not moved to the new church.[258] Instead, the pulpit already

in the church was moved from the east to the west side of the building.

The pulpit was probably mounted to the west and a few feet in front of the altar.

Miscellaneous

A foot stool 8 inches high for the minister to "stand on" is first mentioned in 1812.[259] The church also acquired: a "stand for lights" in 1817; two flag staffs, a music desk, and an ink well in 1829; and a strong box for the church and poor funds in 1830.

RELEVANT FEATURES AND APPURTENANCES

Bell

Originally the "Church of the Lord of Sabaoth" did not have a bell of its own but depended on a bell in Fort Christiansvaern to call the congregation to worship.[260] In 1794, however, the church received a bell from Copenhagen[261] which now hangs in the steeple of the present Lutheran church in Christiansted and bears the following inscription: "God alone the glory. Cast by G. Herbst, Court founder, Kobenhaun 1793."

The bell was not mounted in the newly constructed tower but was hung instead in a separate little structure erected in the yard.[262] In 1817, this structure was severely damaged by a fire; and subsequently, in the major reparations of 1818-19, it was proposed to alter the steeple and mount the bell therein.[263] However, this proposal was not approved,[264] and the bell remained in the yard until it was moved to the present Lutheran church in 1854.

Cisterns

The two cisterns which are now located alongside the south wall of the building are of relatively recent date. The easternmost cistern was built perhaps as early as 1886, and the westernmost one is known to have been constructed in 1916.[265]

Enclosures

A wooden fence was erected around the churchyard ~~as early as~~ in 1774 ~~but no later than September 11, 1776,~~ on orders of Governor General Peter Clausen.[266] Repairs made to the fence in 1780-81 indicate that it was a wooden picket fence and was painted brown-red.[267] Repairs were made to the fence in 1782 by Heinrich Schultz;[268] and in the following year, Nicolas Freese made extensive repairs to the fence "around the church and churchyard."[269]

Three years later the wooden picket fence was removed and replaced. Thomas Gray built 32 brick pillars around the churchyard and Thomas Bogle made the fence.[270] The accounts for 1786 are vague as to what kind of fencing Bogle made, for they merely state that he was paid 900 pieces of eight for "the fence around the Danish Lutheran Church, wages, ironwork, and to paint the same twice with oil color . . ."[271] While this statement might seem to indicate that Bogle made an iron rail fence, this seems unlikely for a number of reasons:

(1) The only known material charged to Bogle during the period that he was making the fence was 366 feet of white pine planks;[272]

(2) Bogle was a carpenter and would hardly have made iron rails himself. In fact, it was customary for the church to be billed directly for hardware and other materials used by any workmen in repairs to the church. However, there are no separate bills in

the church accounts of 1786 for iron rails, as one would expect;

(3) Materials purchased for the repair of the fence in 1790 included 8 pounds of 10 penny nails, whichwould only be usable to repair a wooden fence;[273]

(4) The fence erected around the front of the church in 1795-96 consisted of brick pillars and wooden fencing;[274]

(5) If the fence made by Bogle in 1786 had been an iron rail fence, it would hardly have been necessary to replace it twenty years later with a wall.[275]

In view of the above, it is concluded that the fence erected around the churchyard in 1786 consisted of 32 brick pillars with wooden rails.

With the erection of the steeple in 1794, it was apparently decided to treat the front of the building in a grander fashion than heretofore. J. H. Entzell erected two large and eight small pillars around the "churchyard" in 1795.[276] In the following year, and in connection with his construction of the tiled steps for the steeple and platform alongside the church, Entzell built "4 large pillars with arches to the east and west of the church."[277] Entzell probably also laid the "1000 bricks" purchased on October 17, 1795, "for the foundation of the fence."[278] James Collett made the fence, for which the church purchased "101 feet of planks" and "1 barrel of tar" on November 12 and 17, 1795,[279] respectively, and also the "2 Rail Gates" for the arched pillars.[280] These gates were probably

located on either side of the east and west entrance stairs to the steeple.

The fence around the churchyard was replaced in 1806 by a wall. Specific bills for the construction of the wall are missing from the church accounts, and it is therefore known only that the wall cost about 1,500 Rdls. to build.[281]

A wooden plank fence had to be erected on the Church Street side of the yard in 1838;[282] and the accounts of 1841-42 indicate that this was necessary because the wall was damaged.[283] The wall was rebuilt during the reparations of 1841-42 to a length of about 60 feet, a width of 14 inches, and a height of 7 feet.[284]

As for the wall facing Hospital Street and the fort, the northern part of it was incorporated into what is now the east end wall of the Steeple Building in the alterations of 1841-42.[285] A plank fence 8 feet high was also erected at this time between the yards of the military bakery and the storehouse.[286] ~~The suggestion in 1853 that a wall be erected "around the royal bakery and storehouse"[287] is somewhat confusing, inasmuch as such a wall already existed; perhaps what was actually meant was the replacement of the plank fence between the yards by a brick fence.~~

See p. 12 of "Addenda and Corrections"

Gates

The accounts of 1760 and 1761 indicate that there were two gates in the fence around the churchyard.[288] These gates were equipped

with locks, hooks, and hinges weighing 6 pounds each.[289]

Heinrich Schultz repaired the churchyard fence and made two new gates in 1782.[290] J. Friis repaired four hinges and "the other fittings for the fence."[291] There is no indication that these gates were replaced in 1786, when the new fence was made. However, the hinges and other hardware of the gates were apparently repaired in 1789, when the fence was repaired and painted brown-red.[292]

James Collett made "2 Rail Gates"[293] for the four new arched brick pillars which J.B. Entzell erected in 1795-96.[294] Collett also made the eight hardwood blocks which were set in the brick pillars for the pintles of the gate hinges.[295]

Repairs or alterations were made in 1800-01 to one pillar of each of the two gates to the yard.[296] In view of the fact that at least 2,000 bricks were purchased for this work, it is probable that the pillars were completely rebuilt. Perhaps this was done in order to widen the gates, but there is no other evidence to support this supposition.

It is not known whether the construction of the wall around the churchyard in 1806 affected the gates, since detailed bills for the work are missing from the church accounts.

Minor repairs were made to a gate in 1808.[297] A new lock was purchased for one of the gates in 1814.[298] The following year it would appear that two gates were repaired.[299] The gates, like the other exterior woodwork of the church, were painted a "stone" color after 1823.[300]

The hurricane of August 17, 1827, broke the western gate in two, and it was repaired at a cost of 6 Rdls.[301]

There are no further known repairs to the gates until after the building ceased to be used as a church. In 1833, a gate to the churchyard was boarded up and another one was repaired.[302] Five years later a plank fence with two gates was erected on the Church Street side of the yard because the old wall was in poor condition; two brick pillars were also repaired, a gate was made toward Hospital Street, and all wood was "tarred" with a mixture of brown-red.[303]

During the major alterations of 1841-42, when the wall toward Church Street was rebuilt, two new gates of pitch pine lumber were made for the entrances to the yards of the military bakery and the storehouse.[304]

A new gate was made for the entrance to the military bakery in 1847.[305] Repairs were required to the pillars of the bakery entrance in 1851.[306] And in an estimate for repairs to the "clock tower" in 1865, it is specified that a new gate should be made.[307] This would seem to be a reference to one of the front gates providing entry to the steeple, as distinct from one of the yard gates.

Graves

It is not known when the first burial took place in the church and/or yard or how extensive the practice was. However, Governor General Peter Clausen prohibited burials in the church after 1774 or thereabouts,[308] and burials were permitted only in the yard thereafter.

A fee of 100 Rdls. was set by the church council on September 11, 1776, for burial of all but high government and church officials and their immediate families therein.[309]

In 1778, Peter L. Oxholm, a military engineer, complained to the home government that burial in the church and yard was a menace to community health and should be prohibited.[310] Instead, he recommended that burials should be confined to the common cemetery on the western outskirts of Christiansted.

Oxholm's complaint apparently had no immediate effect, for the church refused to discontinue burials in the yard unless a similar ban was imposed on the other local churches.[311] The practice probably ceased as a result of a decree by the home government, but when is not known. In any event, there were only eleven gravestones in the churchyard in 1837;[312] ten of them were moved to the present Lutheran church in 1841, while the eleventh was in too poor condition to be moved.[313]

Governor General Clausen's remains --he had been buried in the church on June 26, 1784 --were disinterred in 1834 and moved to the present Lutheran church in ~~1834~~ 1835,[314] where they rest to the west of the alter to this day.

Landscaping

Information concerning landscaping of the churchyard is scanty. However, it is known that 32 young "coins" trees and 10 coconut trees were planted in the churchyard in March and August 1809, respectively.[315]

A later source indicates that 3 cocoa trees had also been planted between the original east end wall of the church and the wall around the churchyard.[316]

Miscellaneous

With the conversion of the building to a military bakery and storehouse in 1841-42, several new buildings were erected in that portion of the yard belonging to the military bakery. One, a stable measuring 28 feet by 14 feet, was erected along the east wall of the yard, south of the entrance gate to the yard.[317] A woodshed and carriage house measuring 20 feet by 12 feet was erected opposite the stable and against the plank fence which separated the yards of the bakery and the storehouse.[318] Subsequently, a small one-room shed was erected in the southwest corner of the bakery yard in 1844.[319]

~~How long these structures remained in the yard and at what time the oven was moved out into the yard is not entirely clear.[320] However, it seems certain that they were all removed prior to 1933 at the latest.~~

The existing wooden structure used as offices by the Sanitation Department and the Red Cross was erected by the United States Navy in 1917 as a clinic.[321] As for the existing concrete latrine in the southeast corner of the yard, it was erected around 1933 for use in connection with the grammar school.[322]

A "bridge over a gutter by the church" is first mentioned in 1812.[323] Repair of "a stone bridge to the entrance of the bakery" is

ee P. 12 of Addenda and orrections"

also estimated as necessary in 1851.[324] Both these entries in the accounts may refer to a bridge over the gutter on the Hospital Street side of the yard, or they may refer to separate bridges, the other of which was located on the Company Street side of the building.

Steps

Except for the tiled steps which J.R. Entsell laid for the steeple entrances in 1796,[325] there is virtually no other information on this subject in the church accounts. However, it seems probable that there were steps leading up to the door or doors in the south wall of the church because of variations in the grade of the yard. Weight is lent to this supposition by the knowledge that two steps led up to the bakery.[326]

Walks

Prior to the military bakery era there were no known walks in the yard, and yet there must have been some walks between the graves. ~~The military bakery had at least one walk, according to an estimate for repairs in 1855.[327] But the present walks in the yard date~~ OK. from about 1917, when they were laid for hospital ward use.[328]

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also estimated as necessary in 1851.[324] Both these entries in the accounts may refer to a bridge over the gutter on the Hospital Street side of the yard, or they may refer to separate bridges, the other of which was located on the Company Street side of the building.

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Manuscript Materials

Danish National Archives ("Rigsarkivet"), Copenhagen, Denmark

This is the principal repository for the official correspondence and records of the former Danish West Indies. The collection is voluminous and has never been properly or fully catalogued, thereby making the work of the researcher doubly difficult and time consuming.

The writer's research in these materials covered a three-month period in the summer of 1957. The object of this research was not only to gather materials pertaining to the construction of and subsequent alterations in the Steeple Building, but also to obtain similar materials for the other five buildings included in the Virgin Islands National Historic Site.

Except for two periods, the search proved to be rather disappointing insofar as the Steeple Building was concerned. The excepted periods are: (1) the construction of the Steeple Building from 1750-53, which is documented to a degree in the records of the Danish West India and Guinea Company; and, (2) alterations in the building from 1800-1850, which are documented in the records of the Building Inspector for St. Croix (these records were transferred in bulk from St. Croix to the Danish National Archives in 1889).

The writer has frequently been plagued since 1957 with doubts as to the adequacy of his research in the correspondence between the colonial and home governments. The "Journaler" were found to be wanting as a complete index to the correspondence ("Sager"). Moreover, even when correspondence was listed in the "Journaler," it happened not infrequently that the original report or letter was missing from its proper bundle. Time limitations also restricted the thoroughness of the search, particularly for the period after 1850.

Equally, if not more disappointing was the failure to find any original plans or drawings of the building in spite of the fact that there is mention of them in the correspondence at various times. To illustrate, a proposal to enlarge the church in the late 1770's was accompanied by a drawing prepared by Peter L. Ocholm, a military engineer. The writer was unable to find this proposal and drawing, and correspondence with the Danish National Archives over the past year has elicited the reply that the archives staff has also been unable to find the material and has given it up as lost.

Even the comprehensive group of records of the Building Inspector for St. Croix for the period from 1800 to 1850 does not contain a single drawing of the Steeple Building, and yet there should have been several drawings in this records group according to the correspondence. In fact, it is remarkable that drawings of almost all the other buildings of the Historic Site were found in this records group, while not a single drawing of the Steeple Building was located.

In the list of materials which follows, only those records are listed which are of major significance to this study. It is not a comprehensive list of the materials examined in the Danish National Archives.

Vestindisk - guineisk Kompagni: 1734-54.

Amerikansk og Afrikansk Kopibog, 1752-54.

Breve og Dokumenter (Bilag) indkomne til Direktionen: 1732-54

Den vestindiske Regering paa Sct. Croix. Diverse Pakkesager: Inventarier, Besigtigelser og Overleverings Forretninger, 1744-63.

Negotiejournaler fra Sct. Croix: 1741-53.

Vestindiske Inventarier, 1733-51.

Rentekammerets vestindiske - guineiske Renteskrivekontor: 1754-60.

Brevjournal, 1754-60.

Indkomne Breve fra Generalgouvernøren og Gouvernementet paa Sct. Croix, 1756-59.

Generaltoldkammerets vestindiske og guineiske Sager: 1760-71.

Amerikansk Journal, 1770-71.

Indkomne vestindiske Breve: 1760-71.

Vestindiske Brevjournaler: 1760-69.

Danske Kammer, 3 die Bureau: June 1771 - January 1773.

Sager til vestindiske Journaler: 1771-73.

Vestindiske Journaler. Litra A-C: 1771-73.

Generaltoldkammerets vestindiske og guineiske Sager: 1771-1848.

Henlagte Sager til vestindiske Journaler: 1814-1848.

Kongelige Bygningers Reparation m.m. - Sct. Croix: 1822-29.

Kongelige Resolutioner om Summen til Bygningsvaesent og andre ubestemte Udgifter: 1780-1816.

Vestindiske Journaler: 1773-1848.

Vestindiske Journalsager: 1773-1847.

Vestindiske Resolutioner: 1771-1839.

Bygningsinspektørens og Landmaalerens Arkiv: 1800-1850.

Journal for Overbygningsinspektoratet: 1800-04.

Protokol for Garnisonshaandvaerkerne i Christiansted: 1835-46.

Protokol for kongelige Bygningers Reparation: 1816-18.

Referat og Korrespondanceprotokol for Christiansteds Jurisdiktion: 1823-50.

Rekvisitionsbog for Overbygningsinspektoratet: 1800-06.

Skrivelser til Bygningsinspektoraterne i Christiansted og Frederiksted. Ind-og udgaaende Breve: 1815-19.

Skrivelser til Overbygningsinspektoratet: 1800-1803.

Finantsministeriets Kolonial Kontor: 1850-1917.

Vestindiske Journaler: 1850-1917.

Vestindiske Journalsager: 1850-1917.

Lutheran Parsonage, Christiansted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands

The account books and correspondence of the Lutheran church in Christiansted are a vital source of information for details of the physical history of the Steeple Building from 1790 to 1831.

Records for the period prior to 1790 are almost totally absent. Apparently they have either been deposited in other archives -- such as, the National Archives in Washington, D. C., and the Lutheran

Parsonage in St.Thomas -- or were destroyed in the hurricane of August 25, 1785, as indicated by the church inventories.

The accounts for church alterations are not always complete and are frequently so vague in terminology as to leave their interpretation open to some question.

Accounts

Regnskabsbog for den danske Kirke i Christiansted: 1790-1806, 1807-1818, 1818-1822, 1822-1830, 1830-36.

Correspondence, Notes, Decisions

Bilage ved Kirkens og Fattigkassens Regnskaber: 1776-1799.

Decisioner og Antegnelser henhørende til Christiansted lutherske Kirkes og Fattigkasses Regnskaber: 1776-1799, 1800-1829, 1830-36.

Breve fra Christiansteds danske Kirkevaergere fra 1816 til 1820.

Indkomne Breve til Kirkevaergerne og Fattigforstanderne for Christiansteds danske lutherske Kirke: 1816-1820, 1820-1826, 1827-1829, 1830-39.

Lutheran Parsonage, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands

Two of the account books of the Lutheran church in Christiansted have somehow managed to get into the archives of the Lutheran Curch of St.Thomas. The first of these is valuable because it is not duplicated elsewhere and adds ten years to our knowledge of the Steeple Building.

Regnskabsbog for den danske Kirke i Christiansted: 1780-1789, 1808-1812.

National Archives, Washington, D. C.

The writer has not been privileged to examine the records of the former Danish West Indies which are deposited in the United States

National Archives (Collection No. 35) in preparation for this report.

Architect Frederik Gjessing conducted limited research in this collection in 1956 in connection with the architectural section of the historic structures report on the Steeple Building. His research uncovered some records of the Lutheran Church of Christiansted, although only one item -- the church account book of 1740-54 -- is not duplicated elsewhere.

From conversation with Mr. Gjessing and from other sources, it is known that this collection of material remains virtually uncatalogued since its transfer from the islands to the National Archives in 1936. The contents of this collection remain virtually unknown, therefore, and an experienced researcher should be permitted to examine it as thoroughly as possible. In fact, there is ample reason to believe that this collection contains materials not to be found in the Danish National Archives, particularly for the period after 1850 when administrative changes took place between the colonial and home governments.

Miscellaneous Archives and Libraries

While in Denmark in 1957, the writer also conducted research in the Royal Library, Copenhagen, and the Trade and Shipping Museum, Elsinore. No manuscript materials of value to this study were found in these repositories. However, some illustrative materials included herein were obtained from these sources.

Except for newspapers, the entire collection of materials from the former Danish West Indies now deposited in the Bancroft Collection,

University of California Library, has been obtained on microfilm and found to be of no value to this report.

Newspapers

At the time this report was being prepared, there was no complete file in the Virgin Islands of the newspapers published in St. Croix from 1769 to 1917. However, the St. Thomas Library has recently received microfilm copies of the extensive collection of newspapers deposited in the University of Copenhagen Library.

Meanwhile, and for the purpose of this study, it has only been possible to consult scattered issues of newspapers before 1814 and the major bulk of the St. Croix Avis from 1850 to 1917 (with the exception of the period from 1860 to 1871, inclusive).

This research has proved singularly unrewarding, and it is rather doubtful whether additional research in these sources would be worth the time and effort involved.

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FOOTNOTES

1 Folmer Anderson, Notes on St. Croix (St. Croix: Croix Museum Commission, 1954), pp. 27 f.

2 As indicated on: Plan Geometrique du fort de l'Isle de Sainete Croix avec le bourg bassin Et _____ hauteurs voisinos. faict au fort Royal de la martinique ce dernier May 1682 . . . Photostatic copy in the files of the St. Croix Museum, Inc., Christiansted, St. Croix, from the original in the French National Archives. This map lends significant weight to the refutation of the local tradition that the Steeple Building was originally the French Catholic Church of the seventeenth century, since it places the latter more than 500 feet further southwest of the site of the Steeple Building.

3 From Frederik Month's report of his explorations of St. Croix in June 1734 and an accompanying map of Christiansted harbor by third rate Peter Lorentzen Stibolt (see page 96 of this report for a copy of his map), cited by Johannes Brøndsted (ed.) et al., Dansk Vestindien, Vol. II, Vore Gamle Tropekolonier (Copenhagen: Westermann, 1953), pp. 139 f. There seems little reason to rehash all the evidence against the identity of the Steeple Building and the French Catholic Church of the seventeenth century, which is amply presented and summarized in Frederik C. Gjessing's "Preliminary Survey Report (Architectural Data), Restoration of the Steeple Building" (Unpublished report, National Park Service, 1956), pp. 7-16. However, it may be of interest to point out that the legend was originated by Emil V. Lose, who was pastor of the Lutheran Church in Christiansted from 1881 to 1887, in an address which he presented on July 25, 1884, commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the consecration of the present Lutheran church on King Street. His address was unquestionably based on research in the church records in his custody, but the conclusions which he drew from his research are not supported by documentary or physical evidence.

4 Brøndsted, Dansk Vestindien, p. 110.

5 Statements concerning the early development of Christiansted are based on the records of the Danish West India and Guinea Company in the Danish National Archives. It is highly probable that the old foundation uncovered by Architect Frederik Gjessing during his explorations of the Steeple Building in 1956-57 is one of the company's early half-timbered warehouses shown in the sketch of Christiansted appearing on page 97 of this report.

6 Pastor H. J. C. Stund to Carl Adolph von Plessen, January 11, 1741, quoted in Holger F. Rørdam, "Kirkelige Forhold paa St. Croix 1741 og Danske Præster paa de vestindiske Øer i Midten af 18 Aarhundrede,"

See p. 1 of "Addenda and Corrections" for additional information

Kirkehistoriske Samlinger, Series III, V (1885), 56 f.

7 Kay Larsen, Dansk Vestindien, 1666-1917 (Copenhagen: G.A. Reitzel, 1928), p. 103.

8 Rigsarkivet, Vestindisk-guineisk Kompagnis Breve og Dokumenter (Bilag) Indkomne til Direktionen, Guvernor og Raadet til Direktionen, April 28, 1752. Hereinafter the "Rigsarkivet" or Danish National Archives will be cited as R A; the records of the Danish West India and Guinea Company will be cited as VgK, followed by an abbreviated form for the particular volume or packet of correspondence consulted; and, finally, the particular document will be cited in translated form. In the present instance, the complete entry would be cited as: RA, VgK-B & D, Governor and Council to the Directors, April 28, 1752.

The date given for the transfer of church services from the fort is an estimate only.

9 RA, VgK-Negotiejournal fra St. Croix: 1751, p. 562. Hereinafter the Negotiejournal fra St. Croix will be cited as NJ, followed by the year of the volume referred to.

The total sum raised by subscription for the church is unknown, but it amounted to 2,364 Rigsdalers by December 31, 1751. A rigsdaler was equal to a piece of eight, and the terms are used interchangeably in this report in conformity with their usage in the church accounts.

10 RA, VgK-B & D, Governor and Council to the Directors, July 30, 1750. The governor and council informed the company directors that "we are devoting every effort to having our Lutheran church constructed, in accordance with the proposal therefor, but considerable time has been required to get so much lime burnt and to gather so many stones."

11 Schopen was dismissed as the company's treasurer on St. Croix around 1748. However, he continued in the company's employ as inspector of plantations and apparently also as supervisor of building construction. See Kay Larsen, Dansk vestindiske og guineiske Personalia og Data, Ny kongelige Samling 3240, Det kongelige Bibliotek (Royal Library), Copenhagen, Denmark.

Schopen supplied or purchased lumber for the church in July 1752, RA, VgK-NJ:1752, p. 507; and he also supplied the drawing for the altar, which appears on page 98 of this report and which was sent to the company directors with RA, VgK-B & D, Governor and Council to the Directors, June 22, 1752.

12 Bronsted, Dansk Vestindien, p. 147

13 RA, VgK-NJ:1751, p. 100. Unless otherwise noted, the account which follows of the construction of the church is based solely on the entries for labor and materials in the company's ledgers (Negotiejournaler) from 1751 to 1753, inclusive.

See pp 2-3 of "Addenda and Corrections" for additional comment

See p.3 of "Addenda and Corrections" for additional Comments

14 RA, VgK-Vestindiske Inventarier: 1733-51, Inventory of Danish West India and Guinea Company's Property, December 29, 1751.

15 Larsen, Dansk Vestindien, p. 110.

16 RA, VgK-Den vestindiske Regering paa St. Croix, Diverse Pakkesager: Inventarier, Beoigtigelser og Overleverings Forretninger, 1744-63, Inventory of Danish West India and Guinea Company's Property, October 8, 1755.

17 See page 99 .

18 For a copy of von Rohr's drawing see page 101 . His estimate of the damage caused by the hurricane, which is dated October 13, 1772, will be found in RA, as Sager Nr. 164 til vestindisk Journal pro 1772. Hereinafter correspondence, reports, etc. entered in the journals will be cited by number and year -- i.e. 164 VJ 1772.

19 Emil V. Lose, "Address Delivered on July 25, 1884," The St. Croix Avis, August 2, 1884, p. 2.

20 RA, 328 VJ 1780: Governor General and Council to the Royal West India Chamber, April 10, 1780.

21 RA, 486 VJ 1782: Governor General to the West India-Guinea Exchequer and General Customs Chamber, December 8, 1781.

22 Lutheran Parsonage, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, Regnskabsbog for den danske Kirke i Christiansted: 1780-89, passim. Hereinafter the Lutheran Parsonage in St.Thomas will be cited as LP(ST), and that in Christiansted, St. Croix, as LP (SC). The account books will be cited as RB, followed by the years covered by the volume referred to.

23 Ibid., p. 57a.

24 Ibid., p. 56 b.

25 Ibid., p. 68b. Clausen's burial inside the church is ironical, since he was responsible for ending this practice after his return to the island as governor general in 1773. See RA, 486 V.J. 1782: Governor General Clausen to the West India-Guinea Exchequer and General Customs Chamber, December 8, 1781.

26 RA, 245 VJ 1786: A Concise Account of the Damage Suffered by the Planters and Burghers of St. Croix as a result of the Hurricane of August 25, 1785, dated September 30, 1785.

27 LP(ST), RB: 1780-89, pp. 88a, 91b, 95a.

28 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 91b.

29 LP(ST), RB: 1780-89, pp. 95b, 96a-b.

30 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, pp. 77b, 78a, 97b, 99a, 118a. Unless otherwise specified, details concerning the construction of the steeple are from this same volume of church accounts.

31 Beenfeldt's drawings of Christiansted are the first to show the Steeple Building after the construction of the steeple. See pages 106 f. for his drawings and an evaluation of their worth. Subsequent views of the steeple will be found on pages 108 ff., 112 ff.

32 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 178a. The bills for the construction of the wall are missing from the account book. However, the general summary of expenses for 1806 states that John Aylmer was paid 1678.6.0 Rdls. for enclosing the churchyard with a wall, for painting the same, and for other minor reparations in the church.

33 LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, pp. 26b, 30a, 37a.

34 Details of these repairs will be found principally in RA, Skrivelser til Bygningsinspektoraterne i Christiansted og Frederiksted, Ind- og udgaaende Breve: 1815-24, Bygningsinspektør P. Beck til Den kongelige vestindiske Regering, February 25, 1818. Hereinafter the incoming and outgoing correspondence of the building inspector will be cited as BBI, followed by the years covered by the packet in which the correspondence referred to is located.

The total cost of the repairs in 1818-19 is from LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, p. 160a.

35 LP(SC), Decisioner og Anteignelser henhørende til Christianstedz lutherske Kirkes og Fattigkasses Regnskaber: 1820-29, Kirkevaergerne til Generalgouvernør over de danske vestindiske Øer, March 2, 1822. Hereinafter the decisions and notes of the churchwardens will be cited as DbA, followed by the years covered by the packet in which the correspondence referred to is located.

36 RA, BBI: 1815-24, Remarks on the Approved Reparations for 1822.

37 LP(SC), RB: 1822-30, pp. 51a, 86b.

38 LP(ST), Samling af Resolutioner af Kirke og Skolevaesenet fra 1724 til 1862, Kongelige Resolution, November 22, 1833.

39 LP(SC), D&A, 1830-40, Notes to the Church and Poor Funds Accounts for 1832.

40 LP(SC), Indkomne Breve til Kirkevaergerne og Fattigforstanderne for Christiansteds danske lutherske Kirke, 1830-39, Contract for the Reparation of the former Dutch Reformed Church, Christiansted. Hereinafter the incoming correspondence to the churchwardens will be cited as IB, followed by the years covered by the packet in which the correspondence referred to is located.

41 LP(SC), Kopibog for Christiansteds danske lutherske Kirke, 1830-76, Commission for the Restoration of the New Church to Governor General von Scholten, March 1834. See also infra, p. 65.

42 RA, Bygningsinspectørens Referat-og Korrespondanceprotokol for Christiansteds Jurisdiction, 1832-41, pp. 168, 175a. Hereinafter the report and correspondence journal of the building inspector will be cited as RAK, followed by the appropriate dates for the volume consulted.

43 Ibid., pp. 75 ff.

44 Ibid., p. 105 a. The building, wall, and lot were valued at only 4,000 Rdls, as compared to 20,000 Rdls in 1830.

45 Details are to be found largely in ibid., pp. 156a-161b, 170a-171 b, 173a, 185a-186a.

46 Details will be found in RA, SBI: 1842-50, pp. 168, 191f., 194f., 197-201, 206f.

47 From a Building Inspector's Estimate for repairs to the Steeple Building, February 2, 1851, cited by Gjessing, "Report . . . Restoration of the Steeple Building," p. 49.

48 From an estimate by J. G. Meyer for constructing a wall around the royal bakery and storehouse, cited by Gjessing, ibid., p. 51.

49 RA, RAger Nr. 2083 til Referatprotokol B pro 1866-67.

50 The St. Croix Avis, December 2, 1876, p. 2.

51 RA, 390 VJ 1883, 270VJ 1884, 313 VJ 1884.

52 Gjessing, "Report . . . Restoration of the Steeple Building," p. 52.

53 The St. Croix Avis, September 22, 1909, p. 2. Details of the alterations are based on a statement of James Williams, Chief Carpenter

Public Works Department, St. Croix, personal interview, October 18, 1956. Mr. Williams did not work on the alterations personally, but he took an interest in the work because he knew many of the men employed on the job.

[54] Ibid., October 9, 1916, p. 1.

[55] Details concerning the conversion are from the Statement by James Williams.

[56] Statement by Mr. Peter Thurland, Cabinetmaker, Christiansted, St. Croix, personal interview, October 21, 1956.

[57] Use of the building during this period is based on a Statement by Dr. David C. Canegata, former Administrator for St. Croix, personal interview, November 15, 1955.

[58] RA, VgK-DAD: Governor and Council to the Directors, July 30, 1750; and RA, VgK-HJ: 1751, pp. 322, 411.

[59] RA, VgK-Vestindiske Inventarier: 1733-51, Inventory of Danish West India and Guinea Company's Property, December 29, 1751.

[60] Part or all of the 212 barrels of lime bought on September 3, 1752, are believed to have been used for plastering of the interior walls. See RA, VgK-HJ: 1752, p. 392.

[61] RA, VgK-Vestindiske Inventarier: 1733-51, Inventory of Danish West India and Guinea Company's Property, December 29, 1751. A Danish foot equals approximately 1.03 English feet. It is not always clear as to whether Danish or English measure is being used in the accounts. This is true particularly for accounts written in Danish in the 19th century. However, measurements given hereinafter will be in English unless otherwise specified.

[62] RA, RAK: 1832-41, p. 159a.

[63] Ibid., p. 160b.

[64] Correspondence with the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities about standard sizes for lumber and shingles shipped from the port of Boston in the 18th and 19th centuries has revealed only that "by enactment of the General Assembly of the Island of Barbadoes, all shingles imported from New England must be not less than 18½ in. long, 5 in. wide and half an inch thick," Boston News Letter, October 19/26, 1713.

[65] LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 77b

[66] Ibid., pp. 91 a-b. The weight of the lead is given in Danish pounds, with 1 Danish pound equal to 1.1 English pounds. Weights will be cited hereinafter in English pounds unless otherwise specified.

[67] Ibid., p. 91a.

[68] LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, p. 37a.

[69] RA, R&K: 1832-41, pp. 170 a- 171 b.

[70] Ibid.

[71] See supra, p. 19, and footnote no. 52.

[72] See page 101 .

[73] RA, VgK-NJ: 1751, pp. 384, 483.

[74] RA, VgK-NJ: 1752, pp. 119, 172.

[75] Ibid., pp. 357, 401.

[76] The possibility that the church actually had three doors at this time, as it did in 1786, cannot be entirely overlooked, since one door could have had two locks instead of only one and additional hinges might have been bought besides those found in the ledgers.

[77] Ibid., pp. 100, 107.

[78] Ibid., pp. 267, 312.

[79] RA, VgK-NJ: 1753, p. 195.

[80] LP(ST), RB: 1780-89, pp. 95b, 96a.

[81] Ibid., p. 96b.

[82] Ibid., p. 121b.

[83] LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 97b.

[84] Ibid., p. 133a.

[85] It is definitely known to have been located in this position in 1827: see RA, R&K: 1823-32, p. 96a. Moreover, this is consistent

with the design of the "Church of the Lord of Sabaoth" which is an example of a Protestant church-type common to northern Europe in the 18th century.

[86] Ibid., p. 17a.

[87] LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, pp. 30a, 37a.

[88] RA, SBI: 1815-24, Estimate of the Materials Required to Paint all Exterior Gates, Doors, and Windows, with Shutters and Frames, Twice with Oil Paint on all Public Buildings in Christiansted, September 10, 1821: and ibid., List of the Gates, Doors, and Windows painted in 1823.

[89] RA, R&K: 1823-32, p. 96b.

[90] RA, R&K: 1832-41, p. 160b.

[91] RA, Bygningsinspektørens Protokol for Garnisonshaandvaerkerne i Christiansted, 1840-46, entry dated April 22, 1842, n.p.: hereinafter this volume will be cited as PG. See also RA, SBI: 1842-50, pp. 41 f.

[92] LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 97b.

[93] LP(ST), RB: 1808-12, n. p. (entry is dated June 20, 1809): and LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, pp. 30a, 37a.

[94] If either one of the exterior doors to the steeple itself had been meant, the wording of the bill should have been different, since these doors face east and west. Perhaps it should be pointed out that the building is actually oriented in a northeast-southwest direction. However, the terminology used in the church accounts and records of the building inspector indicates that contemporaries thought of it as lying simply in an east-west direction, and the writer has retained this usage for the sake of convenience.

[95] RA, R&K: 1823-32, p. 17b.

[96] LP(ST), RB: 1780-89, p. 45a.

[97] LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, p. 115b.

[98] LP(ST), RB: 1780-89, p. 132b.

[99] LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 65a.

[100] Ibid., pp. 97b, 120a.

101 RA, VgK-NJ: 1752, p. 119. Weights given for hardware probably should not be taken too literally, for it is possible that the bills indicate the wright of iron used by the blacksmith and not the weight of the finished product.

102 Ibid., p. 172.

103 LP(ST), RB: 1780-89, p. 121b.

104 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 89a.

105 LP(SC), RB:1807-18, p. 37a.

106 LP(ST), RB: 1780-89, p. 55b.

107 Ibid., p. 121b.

108 LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, p. 37a.

109 RA, VgK-NJ: 1752, pp. 357, 401. Weight is in Danish pounds.

110 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 65a.

111 LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, p. 39b.

112 Ibid., p. 55b.

113 LP(SC), RB: 1818-22, pp. 50a, 71b.

114 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 134b.

115 Ibid., p. 65a.

116 Ibid., p. 134b.

117 Ibid., p. 120a.

118 LP(ST), RB: 1780-89, p. 132b.

119 RA, VgK-NJ: 1752, pp. 267, 312. The weight of the bars cited is given in Danish pounds. Bars are still commonly used in the islands for securing hurricane shutters from the inside.

120 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 65a. Although this entry is in English, it is virtually illegible.

121 Ibid.

122 RA, VgK-Vestindiske Inventarier: 1733-51, Inventory of Danish West India and Guinea Company's Property, December 29, 1751.

123 RA, VgK-NJ: 1752, p. 392.

124 Ibid., pp. 346, 367, 369, 376, 407, 418, 432, 444. Weights given are in Danish pounds.

125 Ibid., p. 461.

126 LP(ST), RB: 1780-89, pp. 45a, 68a.

127 Ibid., pp. 52b, 58a.

128 RA, SBI: 1815-24, Estimate of Repairs Required to the Danish Lutheran Church, February 25, 1818.

129 Ibid., List of the Gates, Doors, and Windows Painted in 1823.

130 RA, R&K: 1832-41, p. 160a; and RA, SB I: 1842-50, p. 168.

131 RA, VgK-NJ: 1752, p. 162.

132 Ibid., p. 185.

133 Ibid., p. 507.

134 LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, p. 21a.

135 Ibid., p. 38b.

136 Ibid., p. 26b; and LP(SC), D&A: 1820-29, Churchwardens to the Royal West Indian Government, February 19, 1822.

137 LP(SC), RB: 1822-30, p. 116b.

138 Ibid., p. 117a.

139 RA-VgK-NJ: 1752, p. 140.

140 RA-VgK-NJ: 1753, p. 279.

141 Ibid., pp. 177, 263 f.

142 LP(ST), RB: 1780-89, pp. 57a, 58a, Mason Paulus Francis laid the floor and apparently supplied 50 tiles for the purpose.

143 LP(SC), RB: 1830-39, Contract for the Reparation of the Former Dutch Reformed Church, Christiansted, September 15, 1833.

144 Building Inspector's Estimate for Repairs to the Military Bakery and Bell Tower, February 2, 1851, cited by Gjessing, "Report . . . Restoration of Steeple Building," p. 49.

145 Statement by Mr. James Williams, personal interview.

146 RA, VgK-MJ: 1755, pp. 245, 250, 258.

147 LP(ST), RB: 1780-89, pp. 56b-57a.

148 Ibid., p. 57a.

149 LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, p. 39a.

150 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, pp. 98a, 99a, 118a.

151 Gjessing, "Report . . . Restoration of Steeple Building," p. 37.

152 LP(SC), RB:1790-1806, p. 118a.

153 Ibid., p. 79a. Weight of spire is given as 51½ pounds.

154 Ibid., p. 118a. It seems possible that Schultz' use of the word clapboard should not be taken too literally.

155 Ibid.

156 Ibid., p. 77b.

157 RA, SBI: 1815-24, Estimate of Repairs Required to the Danish Lutheran Church, February 25, 1818; and ibid., Building Inspector Book to the Royal West Indian Government, August 20, 1818.

158 Infra, p. 108.

159 RA, RAK: 1823-32, p. 96b.

160 RA, RAK: 1832-41, p. 75b.

161 Ibid., pp. 75a, 76.

162 Ibid., pp. 185 a-b, 186a; and RA, RAK:1842-50, pp. 2, 6, 18.

163 Details of the repairs are from RA, SBI: 1842-50, pp. 191 f., 194 f., 197 ff., 200 f., 206 f.

164 Building Inspector's Estimate for Repairs to the Military Bakery and bell Tower, February 2, 1851, cited by Gjessing, "Report . . . Restoration of Steeple Building," p. 49.

165 RA, Sager Nr. 2083 til Referatprotokol B pro 1866-67, Building Inspector Schellerup to the Governor of the Danish West Indian Islands, July 7, 1865.

166 Statement by Peter Thurland, personal interview.

167 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 166a; and RA, SBI-1842-50, pp. 191 f. Twenty-two pieces of sheet lead were used for the cover of the hatch and 604 sheets for the roof.

168 Ibid., The hurricanes of August 26-27, 1825, and August 17, 1827, both damaged the lead coverings; see RA, RAK: 1823-32, pp. 94, 107a.

169 RA, SBI: 1842-50, p. 206.

170 RA, Sager Nr. 2083 til Referatprotokol B pro 1866-67, Building Inspector Schellerup to the Governor of the Danish West Indian Islands, July 7, 1865.

171 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 79b. The church received 84 new copper deck plates weighing 939½ Danish pounds in April 1794. Whether some of these plates were used to cover the eight wooden balls made to ornament the steeple and the copper ball for the spire cannot be determined. However, it is certain that 84 plates were not required to "tip" the tower alone. The possibility that the entire cupola was clad with copper has been considered, inasmuch as Mainton's work is described in Danish as "betalt Negoren Mainton for at beslaa Taarnet med Kobber." However, there is no evidence in subsequent church accounts or in illustrative materials to indicate that the cupola was ever clad with copper.

172 Infra, p. 109.

173 Infra, pp. 108, 110, 112 ff.

174 RA, SBI: 1830-49, Estimate of the Repairs Required to the Steeple, July 28, 1841.

175 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 118a.

176 Ibid., p. 97b.

177 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 118a.

178 RA, RAK: 1823-32, p. 107a.

179 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 97b.

180 LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, p. 39a.

181 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 11a.

182 Ibid., p. 97b.

183 Ibid.

184 LP(SC), RB: 1818-22, p. 72.

185 Ibid., p. 90a.

186 RA, SBI: 1815-24, Remarks on the Approved Repairs, 1822.

187 RA, R&K: 1832-41, p. 75a.

188 RA, SBI: 1842-50, p. 206.

189 Building Inspector's Estimate for Repairs to the Military Bakery and Bell Tower, February 2, 1851, cited by Gjessing, "Report . . . Restoration of Steeple Building," p. 49.

190 Statement by James Williams, personal interview.

191 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 135b.

192 LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, p. 155b; and RA, SBI: 1842-50, p. 206.

193 Ibid., and RA, R&K: 1832-41, p. 75a, and RA, Sager Nr. 2083 til Referatprotokol B pro 1866-67.

194 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 118a; LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, p. 155b; RA, Sager Nr. 2083 til Referatprotokol B pro 1866-67.

195 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 133b.

196 Ibid., pp. 77a, 77b.

197 James Rodgers supplied "8 large longbolt to go through the balls" which weighed 89 3/4 pounds.

198 RA, R&K: 1823-32, p. 60a.

199 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, pp. 99a, 100b, 135a. Repairs or alterations had to be made to the clock in the following years; see ibid., p. 133b.

200 RA, SBI: 1842-50, p. 206.

201 RA, 436 VJ 1804. Four new white-painted glass faces, with black numbers, in cast iron frames were also supplied by clockmaker Bertram Larsen of Copenhagen.

202 The St. Croix Avis, March 24, 1919.

203 Statements by Messrs. Peter Thurland and James Williams, personal interviews.

204 Ibid.

205 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 135b. Entzell supplied 113 tiles for the platform and steps. However, the church purchased an additional 453 tiles for this purpose in August, September, and October 1796; ibid., pp. 100a-b.

206 Ibid., p. 98a.

207 RA, SBI: 1815-24, Estimate of Repairs Required to the Danish Lutheran Church, February 25, 1818.

208 Ibid., List of the Gates, Doors, and Windows Painted in 1823.

209 RA, SBI: 1830-49, Estimate of Repairs to and Yellow Painting of the Masonry of the Old Danish Church and Tower, July 27, 1841.

210 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 134b.

211 Ibid., p. 134b.

212 Ibid., p. 79a. The weight of the spire was 51½ pounds.

213 Ibid., p. 77b.

214 Ibid., p. 79a. These bolts weighed slightly more than 11 pounds each.

215 Ibid., pp. 99a, 133b, 135a. The bell for striking the quarter hours was probably removed after the installation of the new clock in the 1920's.

216 Unless otherwise specified, all information concerning furnishings and accessories are derived from the annual inventories of church property found in LP(ST), RB: 1780-89, passim; and LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, 1807-18, 1818-22, 1822-30, 1830-36, passim. Only one inventory was found prior to 1780 - - that is, the one for 1769,

LP(SC), Bilag ved Kirkens og Fattigkassens Regnskab, List of the Ornaments, etc., of the Danish Lutheran Church.

217 Infra, p. 98.

218 Frederik Weilbach, Dansk Bygningskunst i Det 18 Aarhundrede (Kjobenhavn: Nyt Nordisk Forlag, 1930), p. 34.

219 LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, p. 3a.

220 Ibid., p. 9½a.

221 RA, RAK: 1823-32, p. 96b.

222 Ibid.

223 The cabinet was made by Heinrich Schultz in 1789, LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 3a. A new lock was bought for the cabinet in 1813, LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, p. 93a.

224 RA, VgK-B&D: Governor and Council to the Directors, June 22, 1752; and RA, VgK-Amerikansk og Afrikansk Kopibog: 1752-54, p. 141.

225 The St. Croix Avis, August 28, 1851.

226 H.V. Lose, "Address Delivered on July 25, 1884," The St. Croix Avis, August 2, 1884, p. 2.

227 LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, p. 93b.

228 Illustration No. 16 Gjessing, "Report . . . Restoration of the Steeple Building." Identification of silversmith's mark by G. Louise Avery, Curator, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, at Mr. Gjessing's request.

229 This was probably August L. Ebbesen, who was a churchwarden at the time.

230 LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, p. 5½a.

231 RA, VgK-MJ: 1753, p. 200.

232 Ibid., p. 122.

233 LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, p. 23a.

234 RA, VgK- Amerikansk og Afrikansk Kopibog: 1752-54, p. 160; and RA, VgK-NJ: 1753, p. 244.

235 LP(ST), RB: 1780-89, p. 56b.

236 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 33a.

237 LP(SC), RB: 1822-30, p. 116b. The curtains were tacked up in front of the organ.

238 LP(SC), IB: 1816-20, Royal West Indian Government to the Churchwardens of the Danish Lutheran Church in Christiansted, February 11, 1820.

239 RA, VgK-NJ: 1752, pp. 426, 443.

240 Ibid., pp. 357, 426, 443.

241 LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, pp. 26b, 38b.

242 LP(ST), RB: 1780-89, p. 56b.

243 LP(SC), D&A: 1820-29, List of the Income from Pews in 1830.

244 RA, R&K: 1823-32, p. 96b.

245 LP(SC), D&A: 1820-29, List of the Income from Pews in 1830. The doors of the pews were numbered, at least from 1819 onward; see LP(SC), RB: 1818-22, p. 44b

246 RA, VgK-NJ: 1752, p. 443; and RA, VgK-NJ:1753, p. 191.

247 LP(ST), RB:1780-89, p. 121a. Silk ribbon and rings were purchased at the same time.

248 LP(SC), RB:1790-1806, p. 33a. Rings were again purchased for the curtains.

249 Ibid., pp. 100a-b.

250 Ibid., p. 145a.

251 LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, pp. 26b, 38a-b.

252 RA, VgK-NJ:1753, p. 200.

253 LP(ST), RB: 1780-89, p. 68a.

254 Ibid.

255 LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, p. 91a.

256 LP(SC), RB: 1822-30, p. 5a.

257 Ibid., p. 117a.

258 RA, RAK: 1823-32, p. 165b; and LP(SC), IB: 1830-59, Contract for the Reparation of the Former Dutch Reformed Church, Christiansted.

259 LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, p. 78a.

260 The church paid 7.4 Rdls. "to repair the bell in the Fort" in 1785. See Gjessing's "Report . . . Restoration of the Steeple Building," p. 31.

261 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 76b.

262 Ibid., pp. 79a, 118a.

263 LP(SC), Breve Fra Christiansteds danske Kirkes Vaergere fra 1816 til 1820, Churchwardens to the Royal West Indian Government, November 24, 1817; and RA, SBI: 1815-24, Building Inspector P. Beck to the Royal West Indian Government, February 25, 1818.

264 Ibid., P. Beck to the Royal West Indian Government, August 20, 1818.

265 Statement of James Williams, personal interview.

266 RA, 186 VJ 1782.

267 LP(ST), RB: 1780-89, pp. 31b., 32b.

268 Ibid., p. 51b.

269 Ibid., p. 57a.

270 Ibid., pp. 88a, 91b, 95b.

271 Ibid., p. 88a.

272 Ibid., p. 110b.

273 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 8a.

274 Ibid., pp. 91b, 97b.

275 Ibid., p. 178a.

276 Ibid., p. 99a.

277 Ibid., p. 135b.

278 Ibid., p. 91b.

279 Ibid.

280 Ibid., p. 97b.

281 John Aylmer was paid 1678.6.0 Rdls. for "enclosing the churchyard with a wall, painting of the same and the church, and other small reparations therewith"; ibid., p. 178a.

282 RA, R&K: 1832-41, p. 86b; and RA, PG: 1835-40, Bill of Materials and Labor for Work at the Old Danish Church from March 1-31, 1838

283 RA, R&K: 1832-41, P. 160b.

284 Ibid.

285 Ibid., p. 171a.

286 Ibid., p. 160b.

287 Estimate for Constructing a Wall Around the Royal Bakery and Storehouse, March 16, 1853, cited by Gjessing, "Report . . . Restoration of the Steeple Building," p. 51.

288 LP(ST), RB: 1780-89, pp. 9, 32b, 33a.

289 Ibid.

290 Ibid., p. 54b.

291 Ibid., pp. 54b, 55a.

292 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, pp. 3a, 8a, 9a.

293 Ibid., p. 97b.

294 Ibid., p. 135b.

295 Ibid., p. 97b.

296 Ibid., p. 130a, 131a, 143b.

297 LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, p. 15a.

298 Ibid., p. 124a.

299 Ibid., p. 115b.

300 RA, SBI: 1815-24, List of Gates, Doors, and Windows Painted in 1823.

301 RA, RAK: 1823-32, p. 107a.

302 LP(SC), RB: 1830-36, p. 59b.

303 RA, FG: 1835-40, Bill of Materials and Labor for Work at the Old Danish Church from March 1-31, March 31, 1838.

304 RA, RAK: 1832-41, pp. 150b, 160b.

305 RA, SBI: 1842-50, pp. 236, 241.

306 Estimate of Reparations to the Military Bakery, October 1851, cited by G.Jessing, "Report . . . Restoration of the Steeple Building," p. 51.

307 RA, Sager Nr. 2083 til Referatprotokol B pro 1866-67.

308 RA, 486 VJ 1782.

309 LP(SC), DAA: 1776-1799, p. 1; and RA, 328 VJ 1780.

310 Ibid.

311 RA, 486 VJ 1782.

312 RA, RAK: 1832-41, p. 80b.

313 Ibid., pp. 167a, 168, 175a.

314 LP(SC), Kopibog: 1830-76, pp. 15 f. When the crypt was opened, there proved to be nothing left of the coffin except a silver plate on which Clausen's name and an inscription had been engraved. A pair of shoe buckles, a pair of ornamental gold knee buckles, and the medal of the Order of Dannebrog were also found in his grave. Clausen's re-

mains, together with the medal of the Order of Dannebrog, were placed in a new coffin, and the engraved silver plate was repaired and fastened on its cover. A description of the reinterment on July 4, 1835, is given in The St. Croix Avis, July 6, 1835, p.

315 LP(SC), RB: 1807-15, pp. 39a-b.

316 RA, RsK: 1852-41, p. 170b.

317 Ibid., pp. 160b, 163b.

318 Ibid.

319 RA, SBI: 1842-50, pp. 74, 80, 107.

see p.12 of "Addenda and Corrections"

320 ~~The oven was probably moved out into the yard prior to 1876.~~

321 Statement by James Williams, personal interview.

322 Statement by Dr. David C. Canegata, personal interview.

323 LP(SC), RB: 1807-18, p. 78a.

324 Estimate for Reparations to the Military Bakery, October 1851, cited by Ojessing, "Report . . . Restoration of the Steeple Building, p. 51.

325 LP(SC), RB: 1790-1806, p. 135b.

326 RA, SBI: 1842-50, p. 247.

327 Estimate for Repairs to the Walk of the Bakery, March 8, 1853, cited by Ojessing, "Report . . . Restoration of the Steeple Building," p. 50.

328 Statement by James Williams, personal interview.

See p. 12 of "Addenda and Corrections"

This plan of the harbor and town of Christiansted was drawn by Lieutenant Peter Lorentzen Stibolt around February 1735.

~~Third Mate~~ Peter Lorentzen Stibolt ~~accompanied~~ Governor Frederik Moth on ~~the latter's first~~ reconnaissance of St. Croix in June 173~~4~~, one year after ~~the~~ purchase of the island from France by the ~~Danish~~ West India and Guinea ~~Company~~ and several months before Danish colonization of St. Croix was actually begun.

See p. 13 of above for correction

Stibolt's sketch shows the remains of a French fort at "A", upon which site the Danes subsequently built Fort Christiansvaern, and a church at "C". The distance between these remains is slightly more than 1,100 feet, or almost 800 feet greater than the present distance between Fort Christiansvaern and the Steeple Building. The French church is also shown situated in an east-west or slightly southeast-northwest direction, as compared to the northeast-southwest orientation of the Steeple Building.

Topography, while crudely indicated, is quite accurate, as are hydrographic details.

Fig. 1. -- Sketch of St. Croix Harbor by ~~Third Mate~~ Lieutenant Peter Lorentzen Stibolt. 1735 ~~June 173~~4. From the original in the Rigsarkivet, Copenhagen, Denmark.

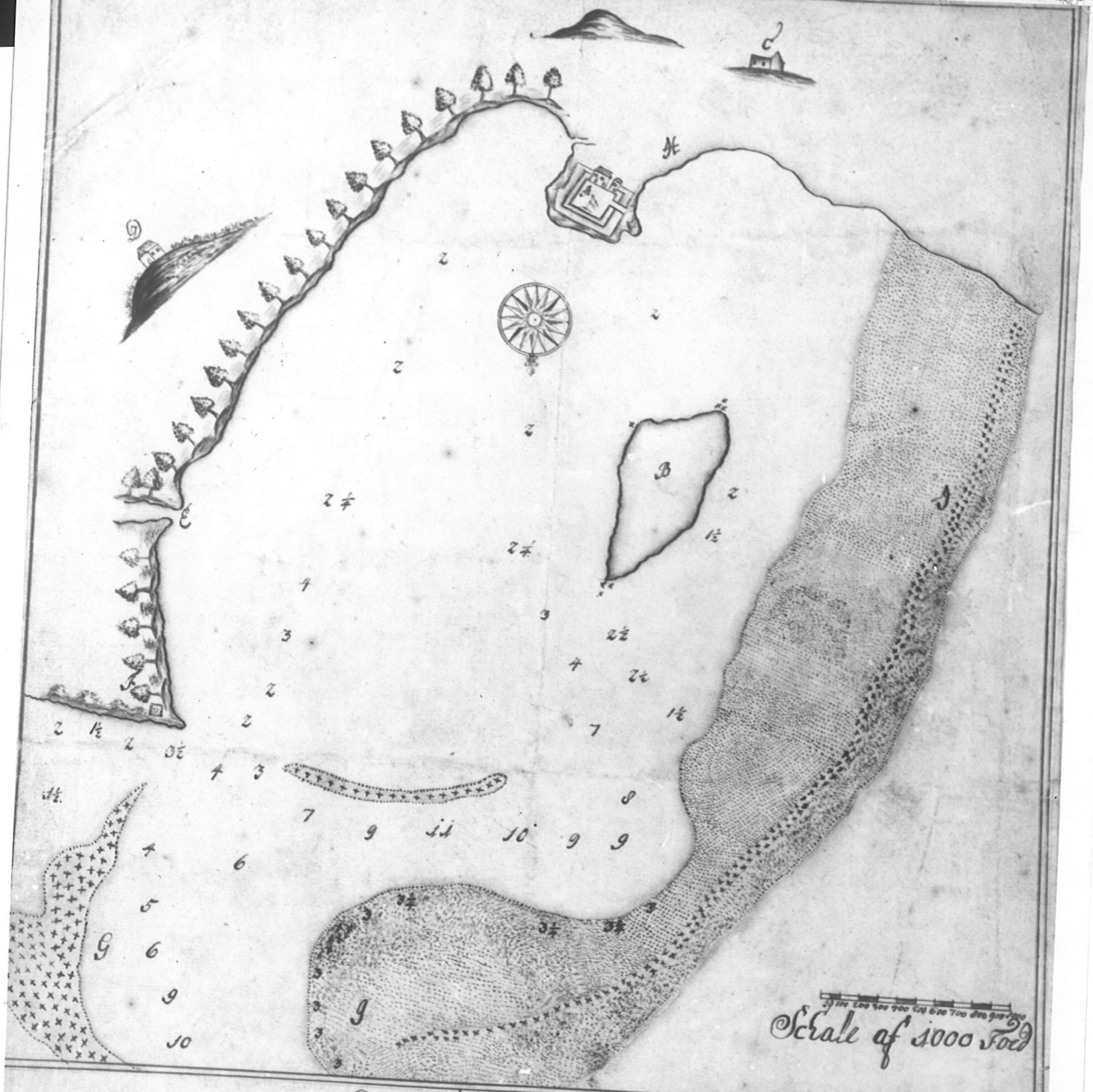
See p. 13 of "Addenda and Corrections"

This watercolor sketch of Christiansted is dated 1740(?) by Westergaard, The Danish West Indies Under Company Rule ..., facing p.216, and 1736 or 1737 in Brondsted (ed.) et al., Dansk Vestindien, p.145. The earlier dates are accepted as being more nearly correct.

The fort--"Forted"-- is located at the extreme left, while the remains of the old French church--"Kircken"--is located at the extreme right. Although the sketch is crude and lacks a scale, there is little question but that the distance between the fort and the ruins of the French church is far greater than the present distance between the fort and the Steeple Building. Indeed, it is highly probable that one of the warehouses or slave quarters shown in the immediate vicinity of the fort is located on what is now the site of the Steeple Building.

Fig. 2. -- Sketch of St. Croix' Town (Christiansted), 1735, ~~c.1736-37~~. From the original watercolor in the Rigsarkivet, Copenhagen, Denmark.

sketch by Peter L. Stibolt



Aff Teigning offr. S:t Croüs Sis
Hauen Samt Indløbet

A. Cittadellet
B. Frotestans Cay
C. Kircken
D. Schak Wills Croüs
E. Indløbet til Lagonen
F. Hvor et Batterie Har Staaet
G. Er god ancker plads hvor mand
Trygt maa gaa til anckers
H. Hvor Bjen Skal Werre
I. Er et Red Som Strecker sig til Sövi
Rivier

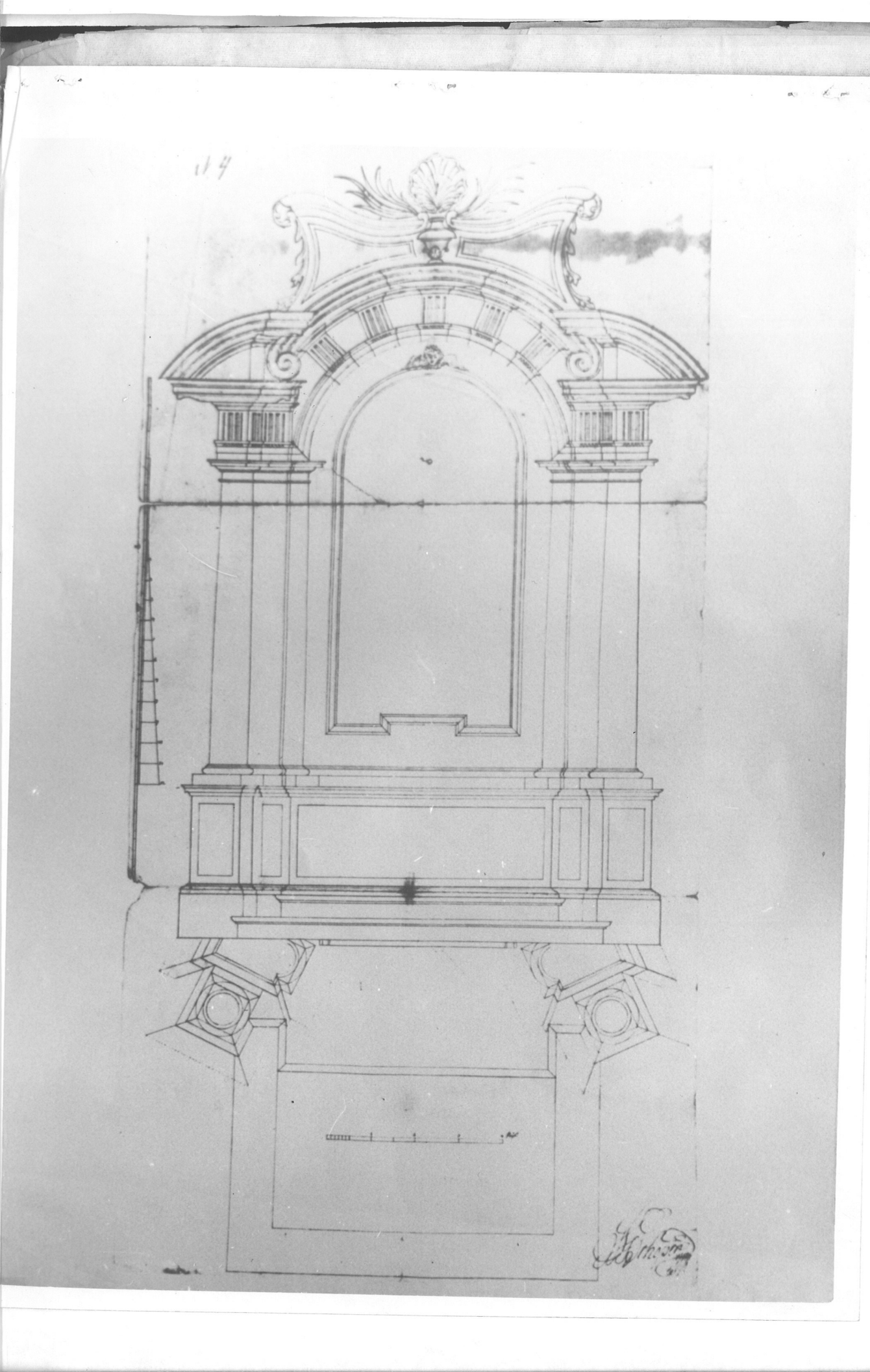
Dette er af mig under Teignet Vel mueligst observeret
som Her Kand.

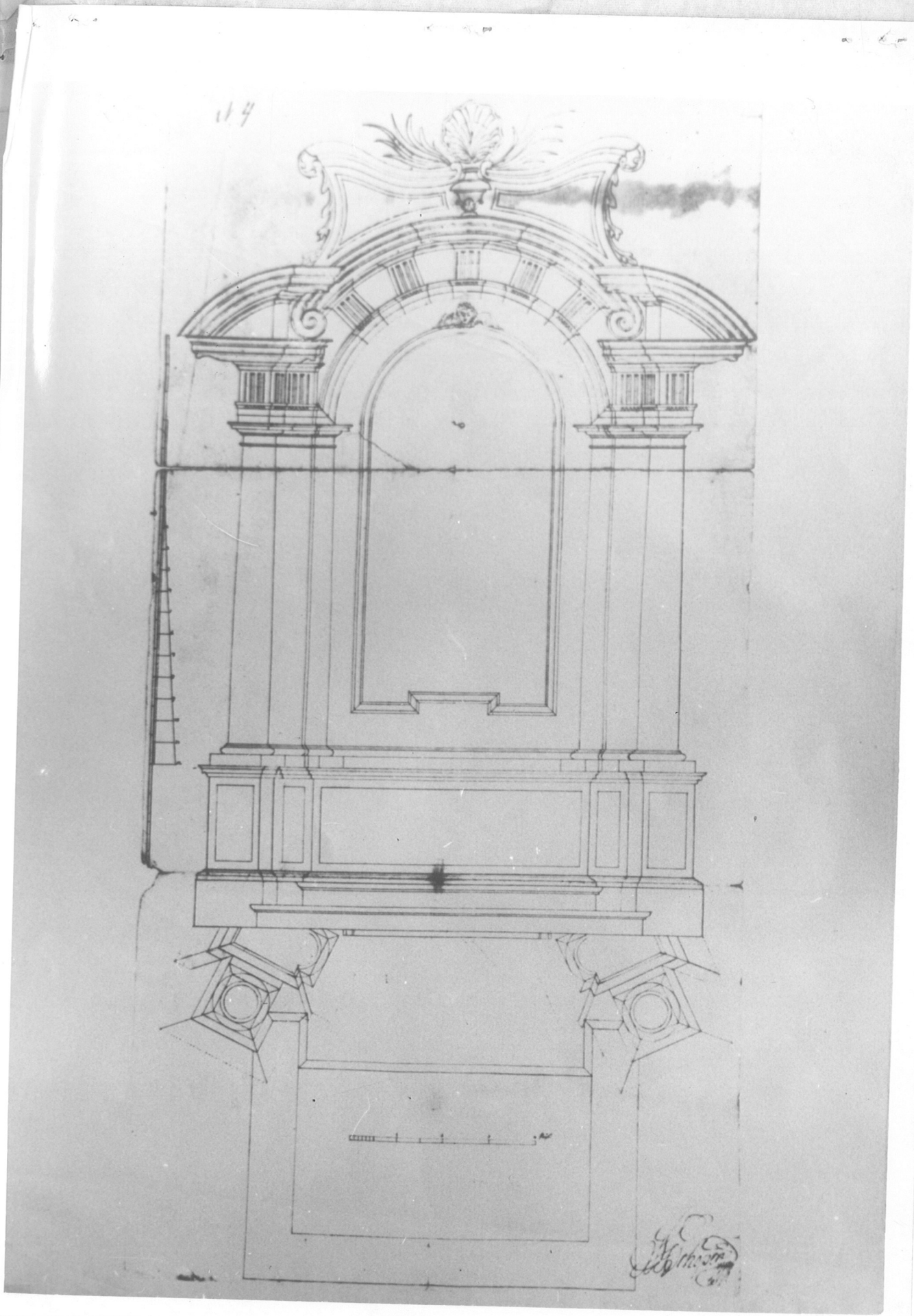
N. 23

This drawing of the altar for the "Church of the Lord of Sabaoth" bears the signature of Johan Vilhelm Schopen and was sent to the Directors of the Danish West India and Guinea Company on June 22, 1752, with the request that the directors have a painting made for it in Copenhagen. The church received the requested painting in 1753; according to later accounts it depicted the Crucifixion of Christ. The painting no longer exists, but the altar is still in use in the present Lutheran church in Christiansted.

Schopen's drawing is virtually a direct copy of the baroque altar designed by Christopher Marselis for the chapel of Frederiksberg Castle, Copenhagen, Denmark, during the major renovations of 1706-09.

Fig. 3. — Drawing of the altar for the "Church of the Lord of Sabaoth" by Johan Vilhelm Schopen. 1752. From the original in the Rigsarkivet, Copenhagen, Denmark.

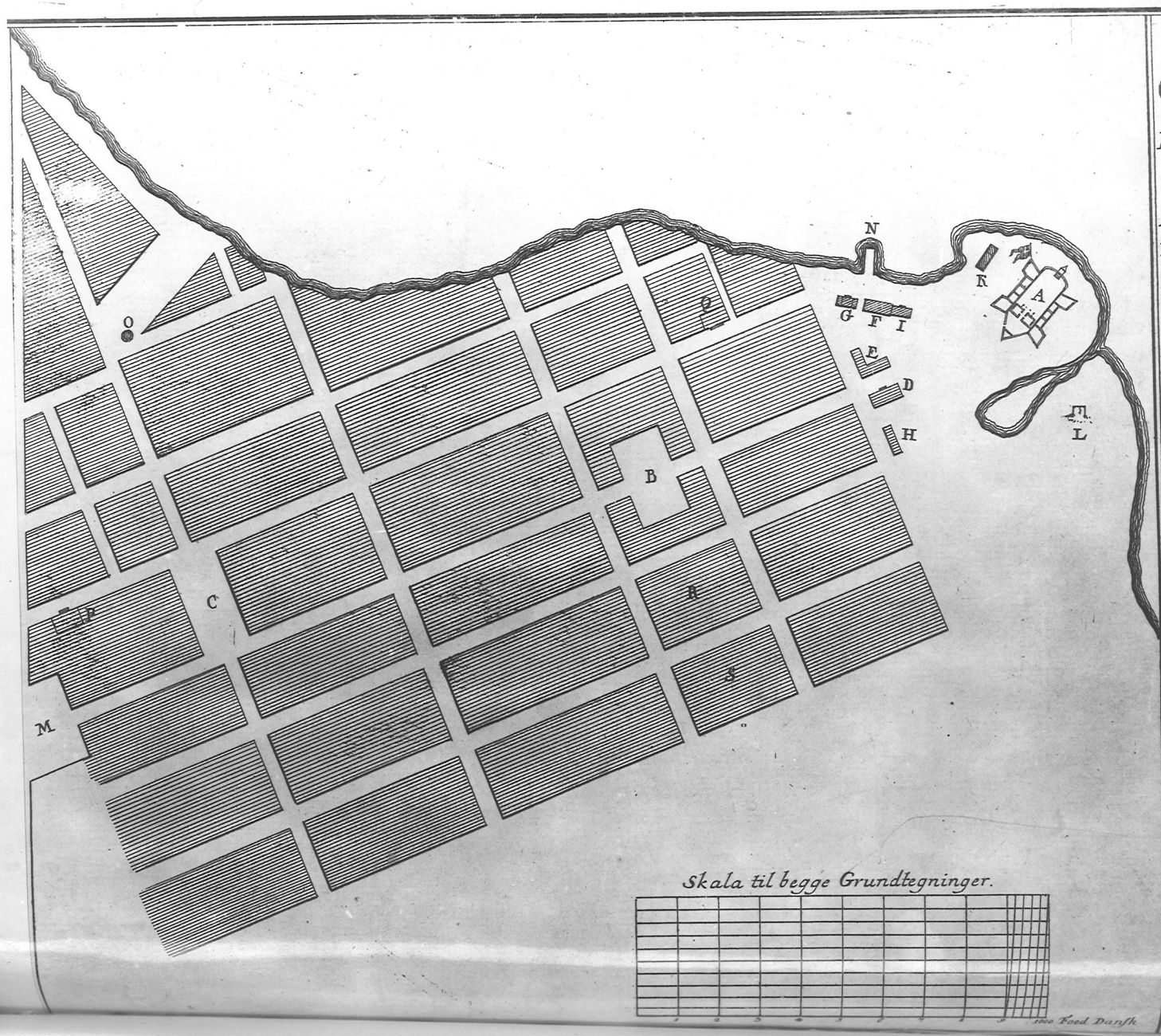




This is the earliest known plan of the town of Christiansted, which appears as an inset on a map of St. Croix drawn by I. M. Beck around 1752 and printed in 1754.

The Steeple Building is located at "D" and is described in the legend as "The Lutheran Church." It measures approximately 82 feet by 31 feet, English measure, and a simple entrance is shown on the Company Street side of the building. Note that the church lines up with the "Company Warehouse"--E--on the opposite side of Company Street.

Fig. 4. -- Plan of the Town of Christiansted, Inset on a Map of St. Croix by I. M. Beck. c. 1752. From a copy in the Map Collection, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.



TEGNING
over Byen
CHRISTIANSTÆD
paa
Eylandet St. CROIX,
saavit den allerede er bebygt.

A Fortresset.
B Torvet.
C Ditto.
D Den Lutterske Kirke.
E Compagniets Pakhuus.
F Det Gamle Ditto.
G Weyerboen.
H Compag: Huus af Bindings Wk
I Ditto af Grundmuur.
K Compag: Smide Huus.
L Retterstædet.
M Kirkegaarden.
N Broen.
O En Muret Brynd.
P Den Engelske Kirke.
Q Den Reformerte Kirke.
R Neger Quarteer.
S Ditto.

Wind Mölle.
Hæste Mölle.
Lande Veje.

Julius von Rohr was a surveyor and chief building inspector for St. Croix and probably drew this plan of Christiansted in the 1760's.

It shows the "Lutheran Church" at "b" with a hip saddle roof. The building measures approximately 80 feet by 30 feet. Note that the church lines up with the warehouse "c" on the opposite side of Company Street and also that there is still no indication of an enclosure around the building or grounds.

Fig. 5. — Plan of Christiansted, St. Croix, by Julius von Rohr. c.1760's. From the original in the Rigsarkivet, Copenhagen, Denmark.


V. 16
Plan über die Stadt Christianstad.
a. Thorfarese Christianswaern.
b. Lutherische Kirche.
c. Proviants-Haus.
d. Zollhaus.
e. Sack-Haus.
f. Wager-Haus.
g. Sack-Haus.
h. Schule.
i. Koenigliche Schmiede.
k. Hospital und darzu gehörige Gebäuer.
l. Der lutherischen Kirche zugehörig.
m. Des Buchhalters Wohnung.
n. Des Castners Wohnung gehört der lutherischen Kirche.
o. Visitirers Wohnung.
p. Hollaendische Kirche.
q. Roemische Kirche.
r. Des Roemischen Priesters Wohnung.
s. Englische Kirche.
J. von Rehr.
Plaz.
Mardt.

This is a section of an undated drawing of Christiansted by Chief Building Inspector Julius von Rohr. The drawing was made between 1757 and 1771 and most probably around 1765.

The "Danish Church" is shown at "9". From its relationship to Fort Christiansvaern, which appears to the left of the church in the full drawing, there is little doubt that this is the Steeple Building.

The church is shown with a hip saddle roof which appears to come down behind the walls of the building. Three openings are visible on the Company Street side of the building and one opening appears on the east end toward Hospital Street. There also appears to be a door to the right of the third opening facing Company Street.

This drawing is probably fairly reliable in view of von Rohr's occupation. However, in the light of physical evidence concerning the west end wall of the church, it is questionable whether the building only had one window in the end wall toward Hospital Street.

Fig. 6. — Sketch of Christiansted, St. Croix, by Julius von Rohr. c.1765. Partial view from an engraving in the Royal Library, Copenhagen, Denmark.



This view of Christiansted, dated April 15, 1768, was drawn by Christian G. A. Oldendorp and appears in his History of the Moravian Church in the Danish West Indies (Geschichte der Mission der evangelischen Brüder auf den caraibischen Inseln St. Thomas, St. Croix und St. Jan).

The "Lutheran Church" is located at "i" and is shown with five roundheaded openings on the Company Street side and two on the Church Street end (not visible in this reproduction) of the building.

While the location of the Steeple Building with respect to the fort "g" seems relatively correct, the appearance of the fort leads one to question seriously the validity of structural details. Moreover, emphasis in the drawing is on the Moravian Mission in the foreground.

Fig. 7. — View from Fredensdal from the West by Christian G. A. Oldendorp. April 15, 1768. From a copy of the engraving in the Royal Library, Copenhagen, Denmark.



Aussicht von Friedensthal von der Westseite

a. Gottesacker der Waisen. b. die Negerkirche. c. Wohnhaus. d. Negerhäuser. e. Christiansruh. f. die Lootscay. g. das Fort. h. die reformirte Kirche. i. die lutherische Kirche. k. die englische
m. Salomons Plantey. n. Wohnung des holl. Domine. o. Gottesacker der getauften Neger. p. dazu gehöriges Leichenhaus. q. Wohnung des Freynegers Capt. Donkerlo. r. Pet. Wood Plant
C.

This unsigned plan of Christiansted was drawn in 1779 by Peter Lotharius Oxholm, a military engineer who was sent to the Danish West Indies in 1777 to inspect the fortifications and other defenses of the islands.

The plan shows the "Danish church" on the site of the Steeple Building, and it measures approximately 75 feet by 25 feet according to the scale. The grounds seem to be enclosed by a fence and measure about 100 feet by 100 feet.

Fig. 8. — Plan of Christiansted, St. Croix, by Peter Lotharius Oxholm. 1779. From the original in the Rigsarkivet, Copenhagen, Denmark.

This plan of the wharf area of Christiansted ~~is believed~~ was drawn by ~~to have been prepared by Julius von Rohr~~ Peter L. Oxholm in connection with a proposal to open Hospital Street through the "Kongelige Proviant Gaard" to the wharf. Note the similarity between this plan and Figure 8.

The Steeple Building--"Kirken"--measures approximately 52 feet by 21 feet, while the enclosed grounds measure about 88 feet by 72 feet. The scale of the plan is inaccurate in the light of other reliable evidence which indicates that both the building and grounds were considerably larger.

Fig. 9. -- Plan of Wharf Area, Christiansted, St. Croix. By Peter L. Oxholm c.1786. From the original in the Rigsarkivet, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Pont
de
Neuilly

Museum

Temple de Vesta, Maison, Mayon dans le Jardin de Salluste

Seine Shore

Petit Pont Pont Neuf

N. Paris

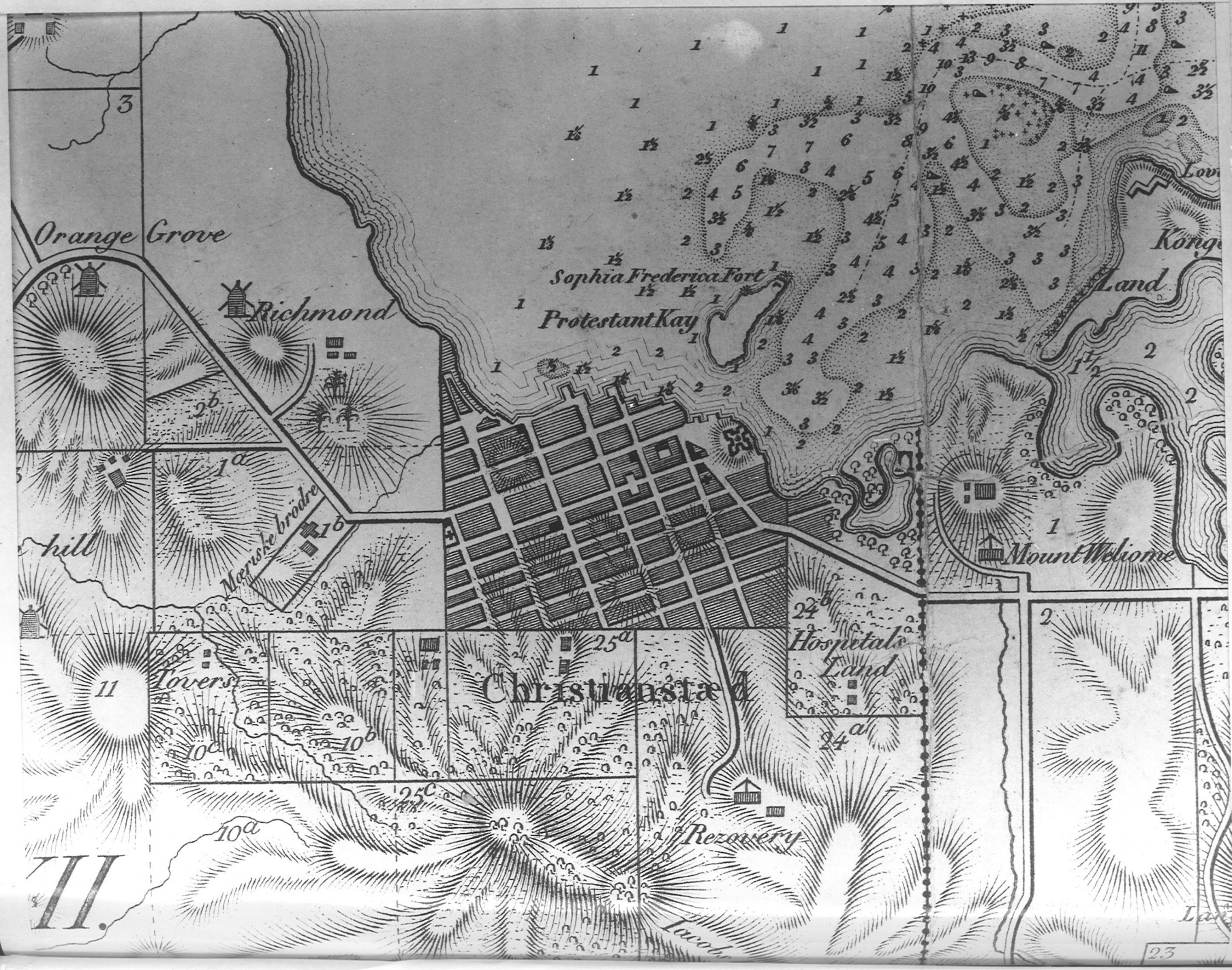
Seine

Ile
de
Cygne

This enlarged plan of Christiansted is from a map of St. Croix made by Peter Lotharius Oxholm in 1794 and printed in 1799.

The plan only serves to confirm the location of the Steeple Building on the corner of Company and Hospital Streets (the blocked in area indicated by a cross).

Fig. 10. — Plan of Christiansted, St. Croix, from a map of St. Croix by Peter L. Oxholm. c.1794. From a copy in the Map Collection, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.


Orange Grove
Richmond
Sophia Frederica Fort
Protestant Kay
Land
Mount Welcome
Hospitals Land
Christiansted
Towers
Rezowery
Marshe brödre
hill
11
II.
23

Henrik Gottfred Beenfeldt is known to have been a lieutenant in the Danish West Indian Army on St. Croix from 1790 to 1797. Whether his departure for Copenhagen in February of the latter year was merely on home leave or a permanent departure from the island is not known. However, it is known that he was a drawing instructor and language teacher in Copenhagen prior to his death in that city on July 10, 1828.

This colored drawing of Christiansted is undated but is a companion piece to Figure 12, which is dated 1815 and was also drawn by Beenfeldt. Both drawings are so crude and inaccurate that it is to be wondered whether Beenfeldt drew them from memory.

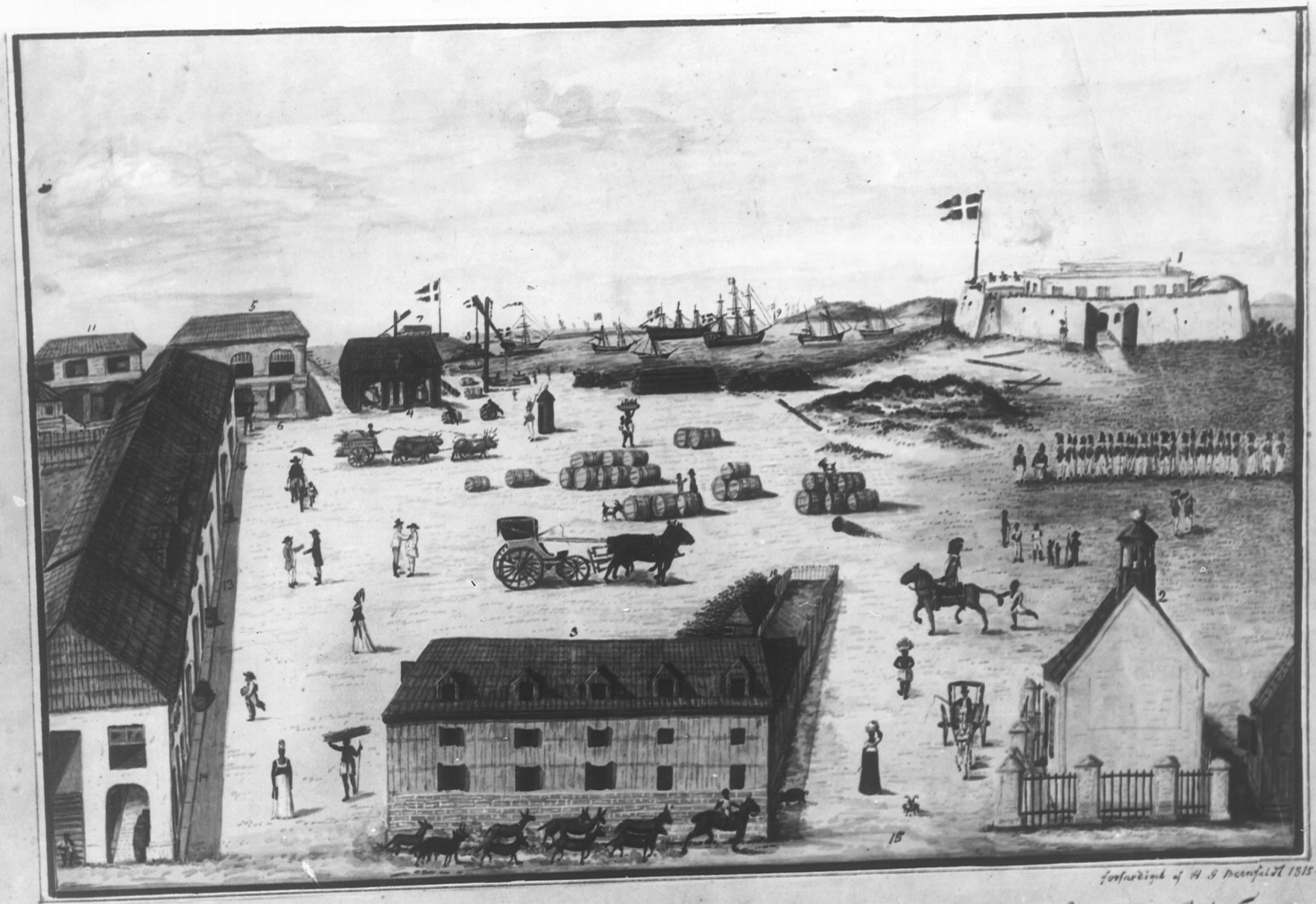
The Steeple Building is the yellow building behind the fort and the parading soldiers. It is shown with a simple cupola atop the roof, despite the fact that documentary evidence indicates that the building had a separate and genuine steeple on the Company Street side at this time. Moreover, Beenfeldt is inconsistent in showing a hip saddle roof on the building in this drawing while showing a simple saddle roof in Figure 12. Note also that the grounds are enclosed with a masonry pillar and picket fence, but that this enclosure is much larger and does not extend completely around the building as in Figure 12.

Fig. 11. — Sketch of Christiansted, St. Croix, by Henrik Gottfred Beenfeldt. c.1815. From the original colored drawing in the Rigsarkivet, Copenhagen, Denmark.

The "Danish Church" is located in the lower right foreground at "2".

In addition to the comments questioning the reliability of this drawing already made in connection with Figure 11, it should be pointed out that the buildings designated "1", "2", and "3" in this drawing have been completely twisted around from their true positions to suit the convenience and purposes of the artist.

Fig. 12. -- Sketch of Wharf Area, Christiansted, St. Croix, by Henrik Gottfred Beenfeldt. 1815. From the original colored drawing in the Rigsarkivet, Copenhagen, Denmark.



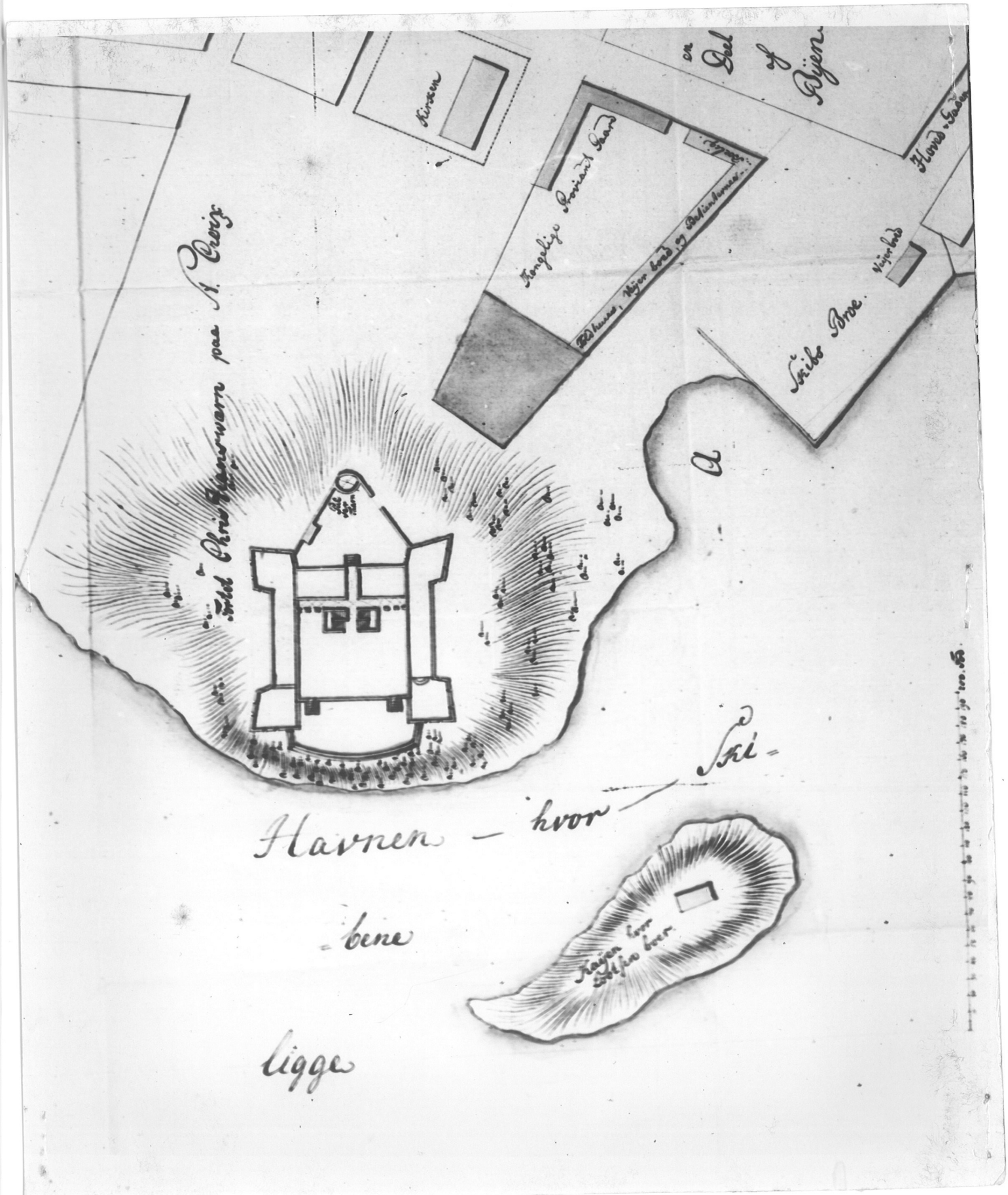
Forfærdiget af H. G. Preisler 1815

Forestilling af Værftet paa Øen St Croix i Vestindien med 1 Fortet Christianswærn. 2 dansk Kirke 3 Proviant-gaarden 4 Vejerboden 5 Engelsk Tavern
6 store Kongensgade 7 Kajen 8 Sophia Frede: Batt: 9 Louisa Aug: Batt: 10 Told Comt: 11 Huus med Bolig: 12 Harmonien 13 Baron Brüns Huus 14 Wadwels Huus
15 Kirkegaden

Thorsøe's original painting of Christiansted shows only the upper part of the tower of the Steeple Building and perhaps a small section of the roof of the main body of the building immediately behind the tower.

This is the first reliable view of the Steeple after its construction in 1794-96. Except for the slight difference in the shape of the cupola atop the Steeple, it seems to be virtually the same as the existing Steeple. Note that there is no indication of the presence on the Steeple of the eight ornamental copper-clad balls mentioned in the church construction amounts.

Fig. 13 -- Painting of Christiansted, St. Croix, by H. P. Thorsøe. 1825. From the original in the Trade and Shipping Museum at Kronborg Castle, Elsinore, Denmark.


Kirken
Del af Byen
Kongelige Proviant Gaard
Beboes, Hjem hørende til Bolsinhuusene
Hjemlands
Lille Brue
Hjemlands
Havnen — hvor
Skj-
bene
ligge

Otte's drawing of Christiansted, of which this is only a section, was engraved and printed in 1831 and was therefore probably drawn no later than 1830.

It shows only the uppermost part of the tower of the Steeple Building. The cupola atop the tower appears to have a very curious ornamentation or spire at its peak when compared with the cupola shown in Figure 13.

Figure 14 -- Sketch of Christiansted, St. Croix, by H. P. Otte. c. 1830. Partial view from a copy of the engraving in the Royal Library, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Th. Christian Sabroe is known to have made a voyage to the Danish West Indies in 1835 as captain of the Flensborg ship "Vesta". This date fits the internal evidence of the drawing, even though it was not engraved until 1839.

The Steeple Building is situated at the extreme left in this section of the engraving, with just a corner of the northwest bastion of Fort Christiansvaern showing at the left.

Three tiers of the steeple of the building are shown; and, except for the exaggerated shape of the cupola, it resembles the existing steeple in virtually all details. A portion of the roof of the main body of the building is apparently visible to the left of the steeple.

Fig. 15. -- Sketch of Christiansted, St. Croix, by Th. Christian Sabroe. c.1835. Partial view from a copy of the engraving in the Royal Library, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Melbye probably painted this view of the water front area of Christiansted ~~around 1850~~ between 1845 and 1851, since the window in the second tier of the Steeple is open and not bricked in as it was in 1851.

The roof of the main body of the building, which had been entirely replaced in 1841-42, for the military bakery, is similar to the existing roof in shape but is covered with wooden shingles rather than the present corrugated sheet metal.

There are two windows in the east end wall toward Hospital Street, but this is the new wall erected in the major renovations of 1841-42.

Figure 16 -- Christiansted, St. Croix. Lithograph by A. May from a painting by W. Melbye. ~~c. 1850.~~ c. 1845-51 From a copy in the Trade and Shipping Museum at Kronborg Castle, Elsinore, Denmark.

Schellerup's plan of Christiansted outlines the alterations which were made in the Steeple Building when it was converted into a military bakery and storehouse in 1841-42.

The "Royal Bakery" is the group of buildings marked "e", consisting of: (1) the bakery, located in the renovated section of the former church to the east of the steeple; (2) a stable against the wall on the east side of the yard; and, (3) a woodshed opposite the stable on the west side of the bakery yard.

The storage shed erected to the west of the steeple is not shown in this plan, but the western section of the former churchyard--"f" is labeled as a storeyard.

Fig. 17. -- Plan of Christiansted, St. Croix, by Ludvig Schellerup. 1856. From the original in the Rigsarkivet, Copenhagen, Denmark.

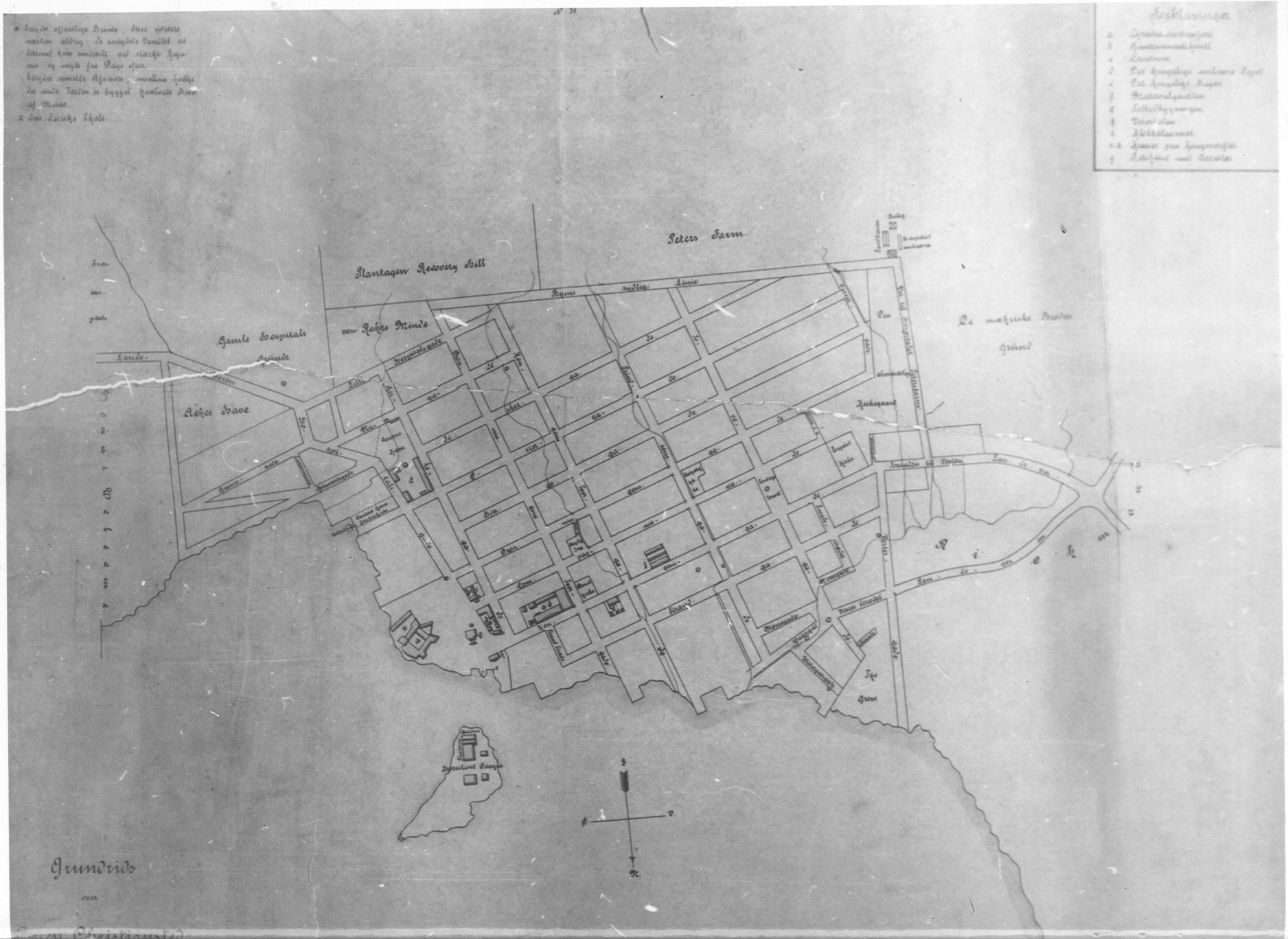
See p. 14 of Addenda and Corrections"

Schellerup's plan of Christiansted outlines the alterations which were made in the Steeple Building when it was converted into a military bakery and storehouse in 1841-42.

The "Royal Bakery" is the group of buildings marked "e", consisting of: (1) the bakery, located in the renovated section of the former church to the east of the steeple; (2) a stable against the wall on the east side of the yard; and, (3) a woodshed opposite the stable on the west side of the bakery yard.

The storage shed erected to the west of the steeple is not shown in this plan, but the western section of the former churchyard--"f" is labeled as a storeyard.

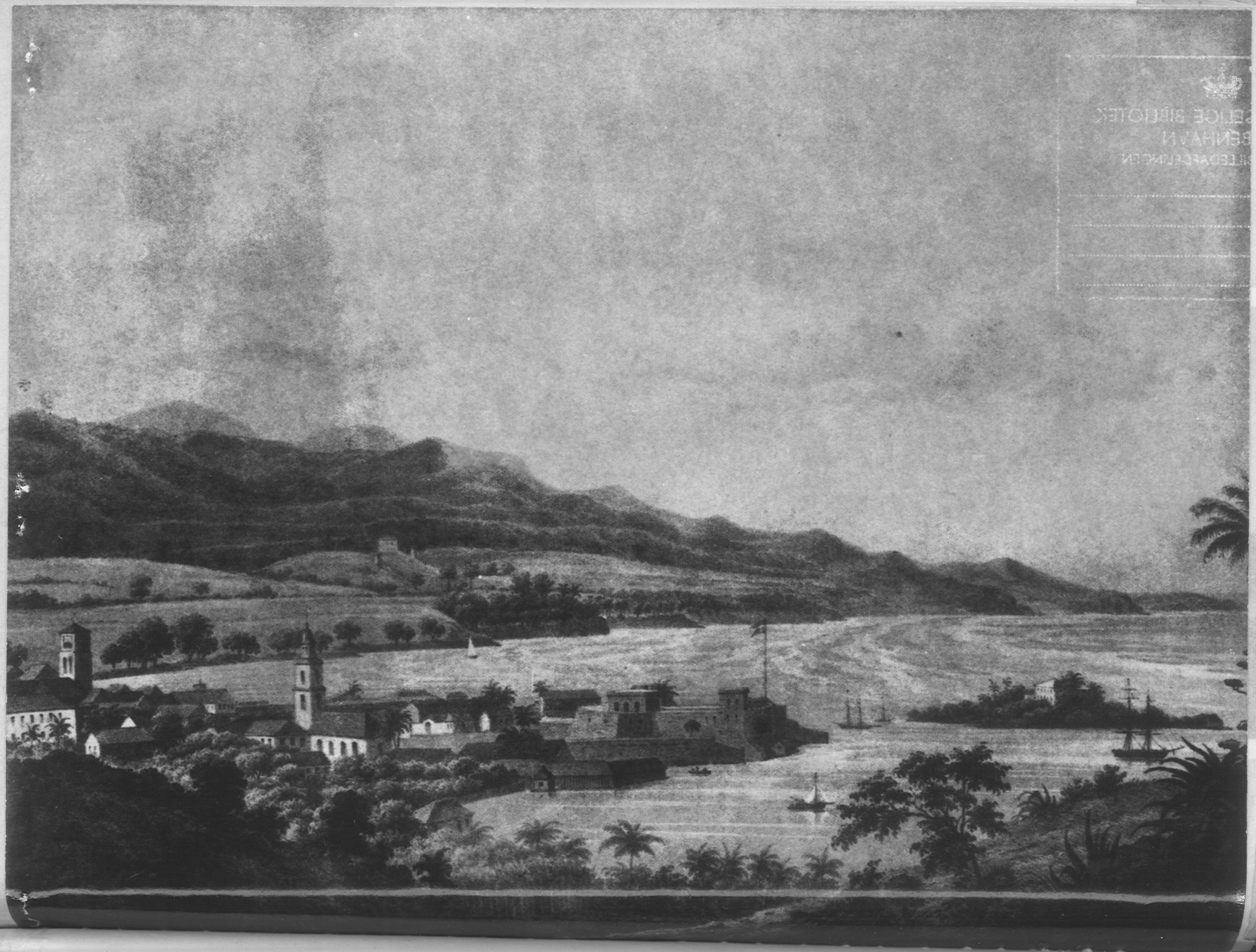
Fig. 17. -- Plan of Christiansted, St. Croix, by Ludvig Schellerup. 1856. From the original in the Rigsarkivet, Copenhagen, Denmark.


Peters Farm
Plantagen Recovery Hill
von Rohrs Minde
Gamle Hospitals Grunde
Rohrs Have
Kirkegaard
Grundrids
over

The Steeple Building is clearly visible in the foreground in this copy of a lithograph of Seidelin's drawing of Christiansted.

The third tier of the steeple is shown as being square and having windows, whereas it was actually octagonal and had no windows but clock faces instead. The steeple also seems to be placed at the front of the main body of the building--~~the military bakery~~ a warehouse at this date. In view of these discrepancies, it is doubtful that other details of the building, such as the windows, are correct.

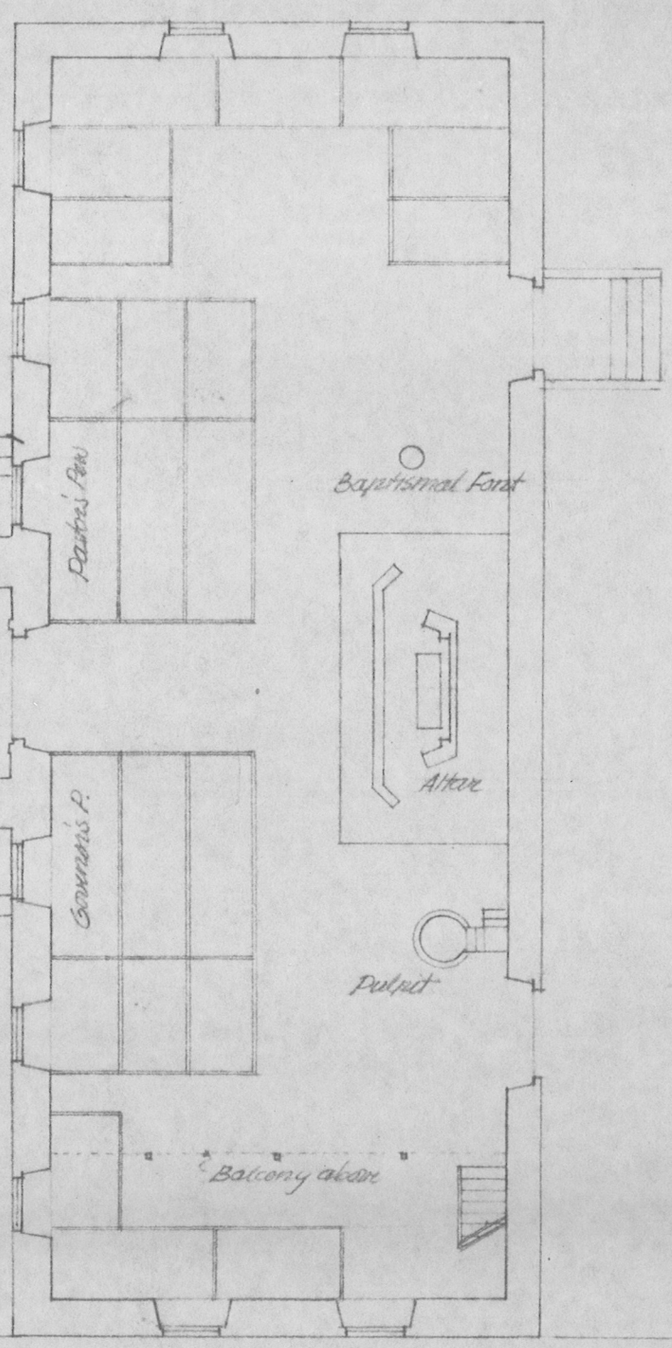
Fig. 18. -- Drawing of Christiansted, St. Croix, by P. Seidlin. ~~1866.~~ C. 1856-57 From a copy of a lithograph in the Royal Library, Copenhagen, Denmark.



Only the upper three tiers of the tower of the Steeple Building are visible in this painting of Christiansted. However, they resemble the existing steeple in every detail.

Fig. 19. — Christiansted, St. Croix. A painting by Fr. Visby. c.1866. From the original in the Trade and Shipping Museum at Kronborg Castle, Elsinore, Denmark.

Hospital Street



Company Street

North

Note:
Exposed floor area in main body of building paved with marble tile. Aisles under pews paved with brick. Number of pews is based on church rentals but exact placement is conjectural

Scale 3/32"=1'-0"

Church Street

20
ATION, GROUND & FLOOR PLAN: 1800

Fig. 21 -- Steeple Building: Floor Plan, Sheet No. 1
HABS No. VI-1, June 1957 by F. C. Gjessing

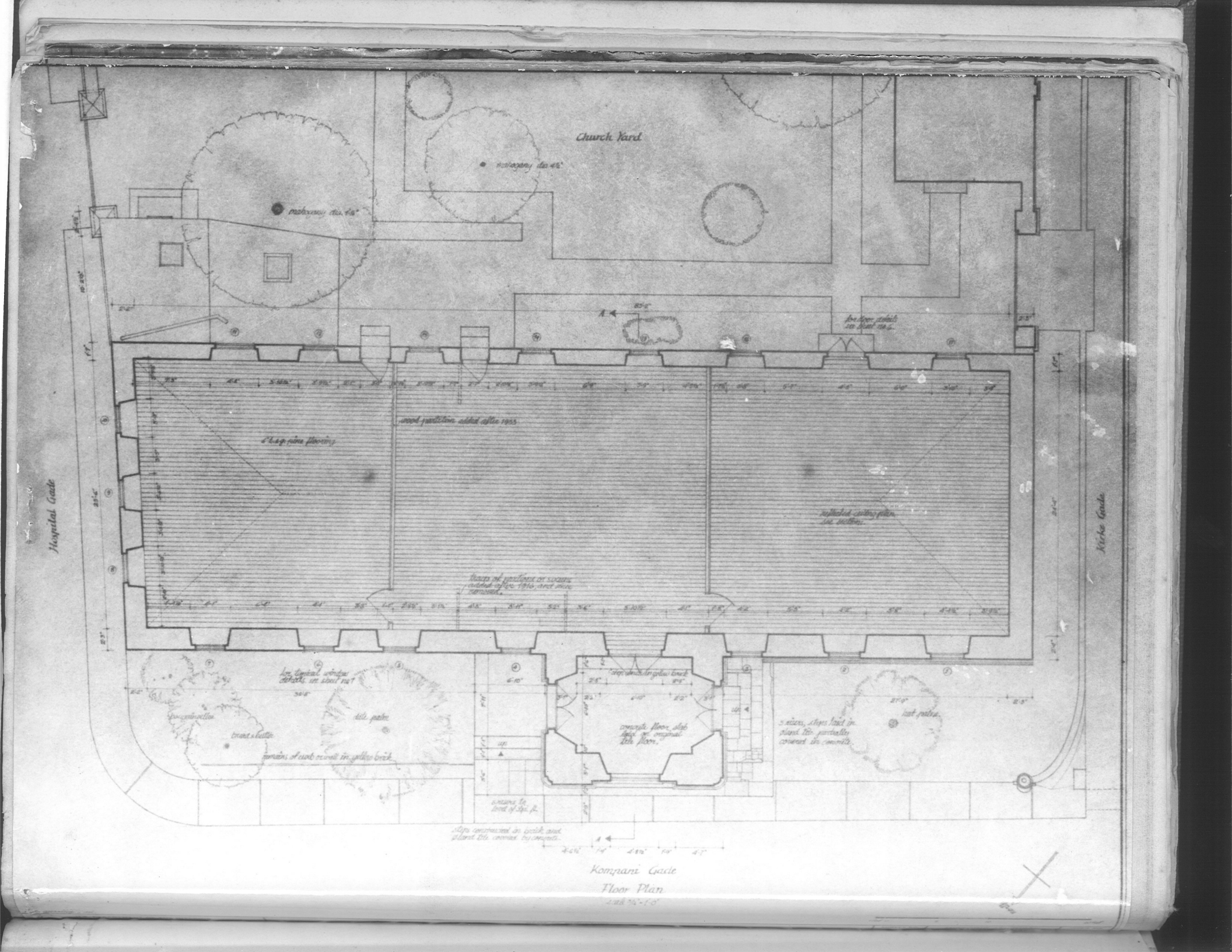
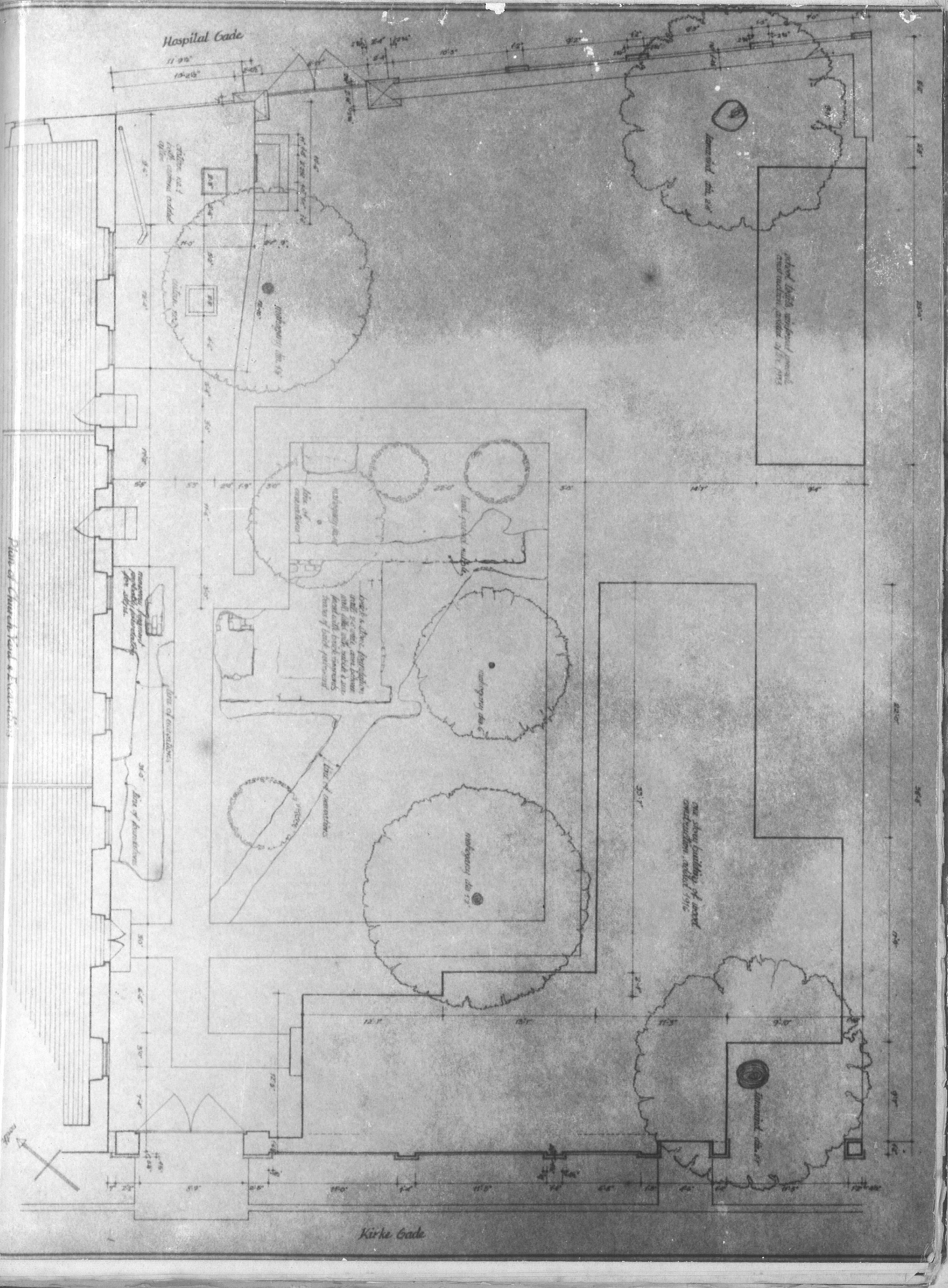

Church Yard
mahogany dia. 4ft
mahogany dia. 4ft
Hospital Gate
Kirke Gade
wood partition added after 1955
Oregon pine flooring
Remains of partitions or screens added after 1916, since removed.
Low elliptical window details as sheet no 1
Site of
Remains of early vaults in yellow brick
Concrete floor slab laid on original 18th floor.
Steps constructed in 1916, and altered 1955, covered by concrete
Kompani Gade
Floor Plan

Fig. 22 -- Steeple Building: Plan of Churchyard and Excavation, Sheet No. 2, HABS No. VI-1, June 1957, by F. Hanson and F. C. Gjessing



Plan of Church Yard & Enclosures

Scale 16 = 1'-0"

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

Fig. 23 — Steeple Building: Cross Section and Details of the Steeple and Main Section. Sheet No. 3, HABS No. VI-1, June 1957, by F. C. Gjessing

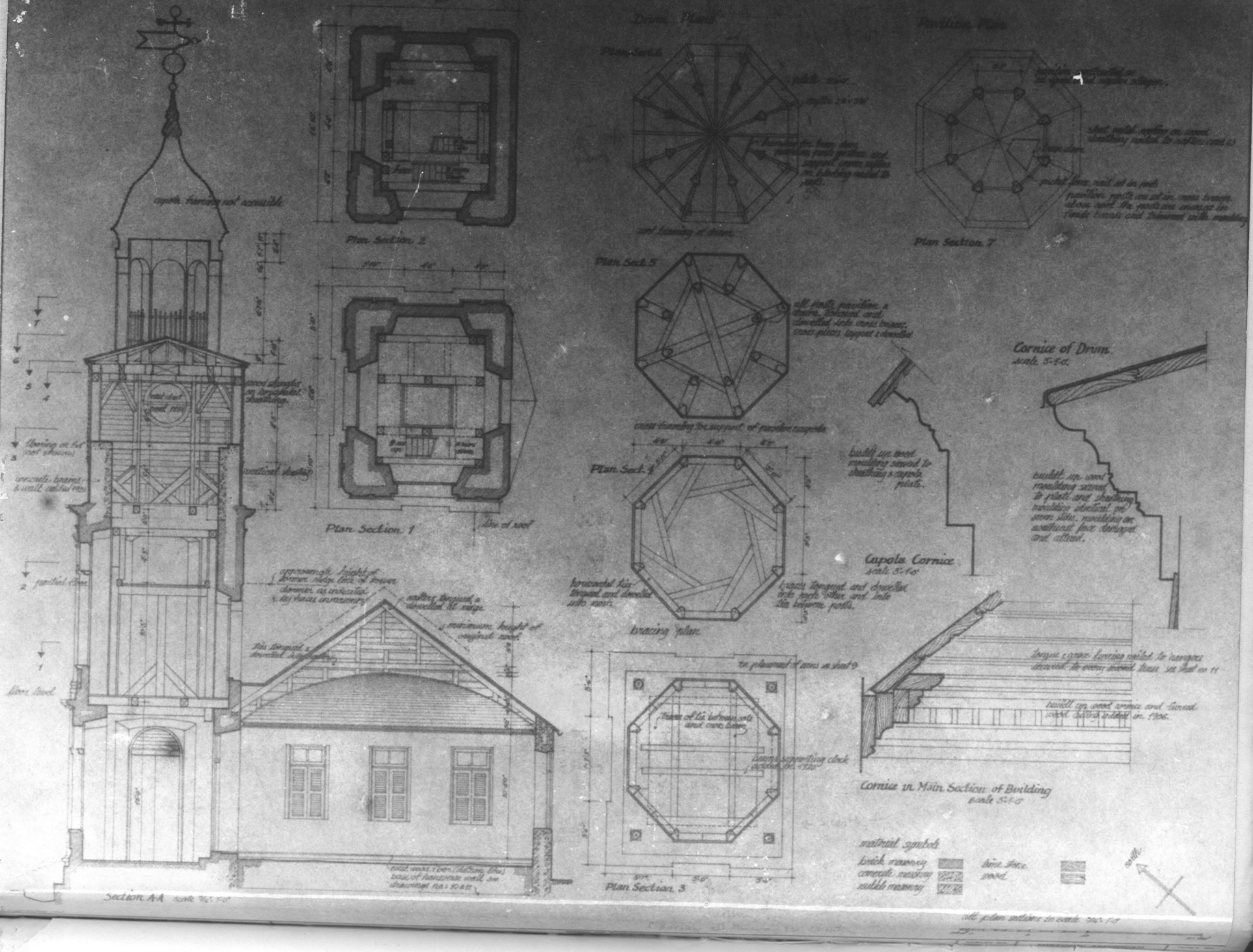

Plan Section 2
Plan Section 1
Plan Section 3
Plan Section 7
Plan Sect 5
Plan Sect 4
bracing plan
Section A-A
Cornice of Drum.
Cupola Cornice
Cornice in Main Section of Building
material symbols
brick masonry
concrete masonry
rubble masonry
lime stone
wood.

Fig. 24 -- Steeple Building: Company Street Elevation, Sheet No. 4, HAER No. VI-1, June 1957, by F. C. Gjessing


wood shingles
sheathing on frame
wood shingles on sheathing
vertical siding on sheathing
stuccoed brick masonry
corrugated metal roofing
stucco finish
Kompani Gade Elevation (Northwest)

Fig. 25 — Steeple Building: Church Street Elevation, Sheet No. 5, HABS No. VI-1, June 1957, by F. C. Gjessing

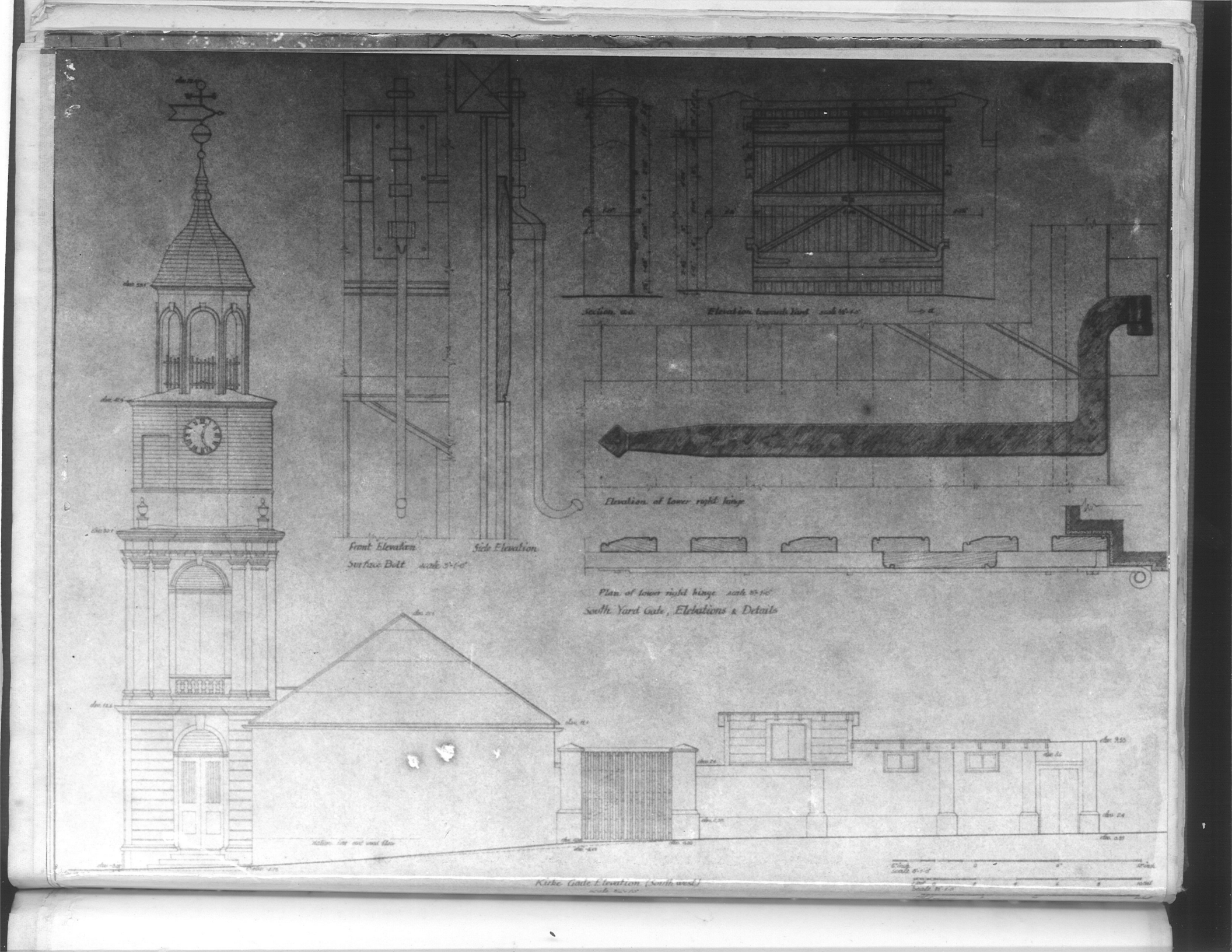

Section. a.a.
Elevation towards Yard scale 1/8"=1'-0"
Front Elevation
Side Elevation
Surface Bolt scale 3"=1'-0"
Elevation of lower right hinge
Plan of lower right hinge scale 3"=1'-0"
South Yard Gate, Elelations & Details
Kirke Gate Elevation (South west)

Fig. 26 -- Steeple Building: Yard Elevation, Sheet No. 6,
HABS No. VI-1, June 1957, by F. Hanson & F. C. Gjessing

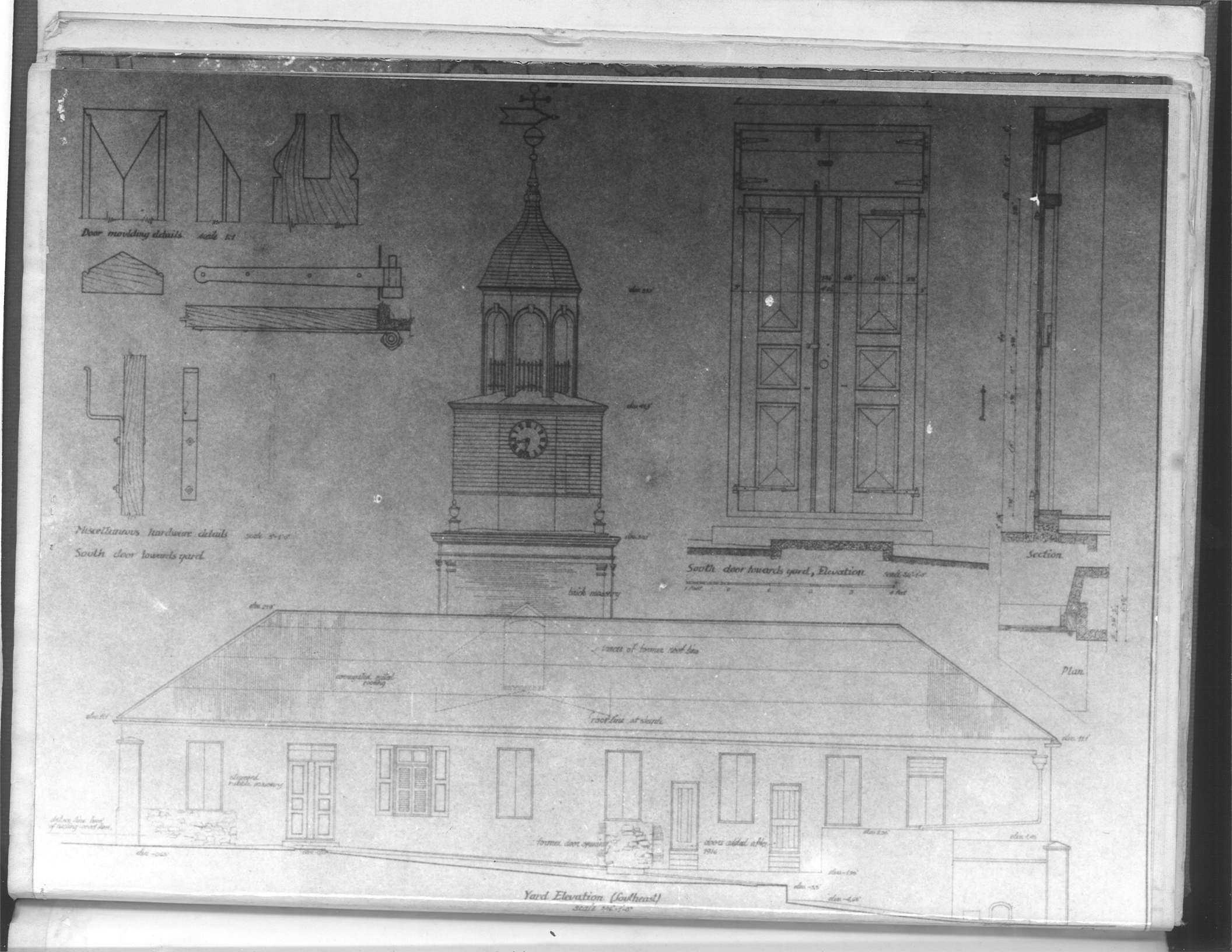
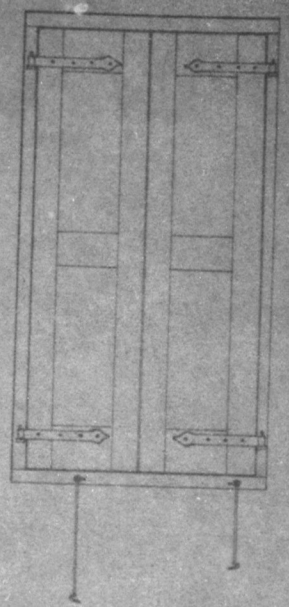
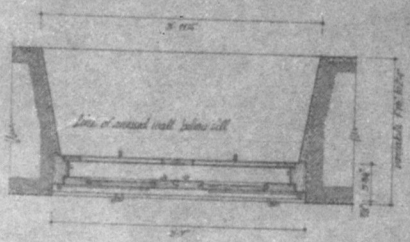

Door moulding details scale 1:1
Miscellaneous hardware details scale 3"=1'-0"
South door towards yard
South door towards yard, Elevation
Section
Plan
brick masonry
fences of former roof line
corrugated metal roofing
roof line at steeple
stepped rubble masonry
former door opening
doors added circa 1914
Yard Elevation (Southeast)
Scale 3/16"=1'-0"

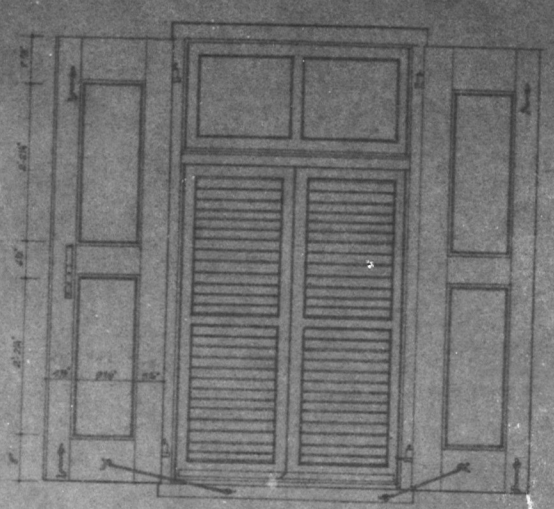
Fig. 27 -- Steeple Building: Hospital Street Elevation, Sheet No. 7, HABS No. VI-1, June 1957, by F. Hanson & F. C. Gjessing



Exterior Elevation with closed shutters



Plan Section



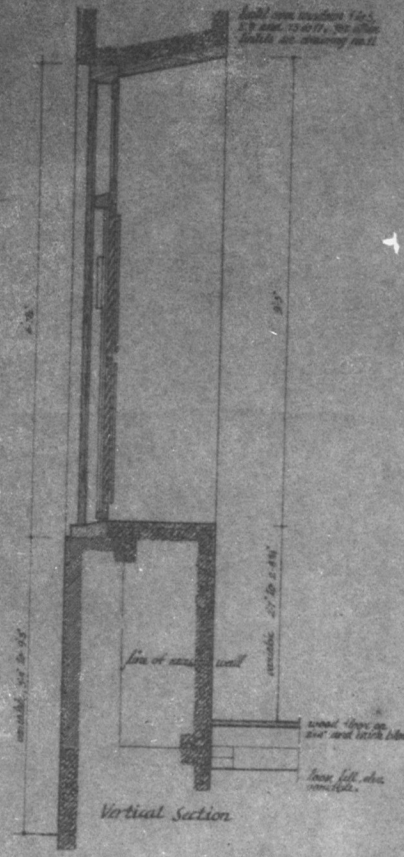
Note:
all existing windows installed in 1929, except for window no 11 (see drawings 6 & 10) all sill of the 1929 shutter faces of remains with below sill found in openings 1, 2, 3, and 4, and for door openings label shutters 1, 11 and 14.

brick masonry — plaster
rubble masonry — concrete

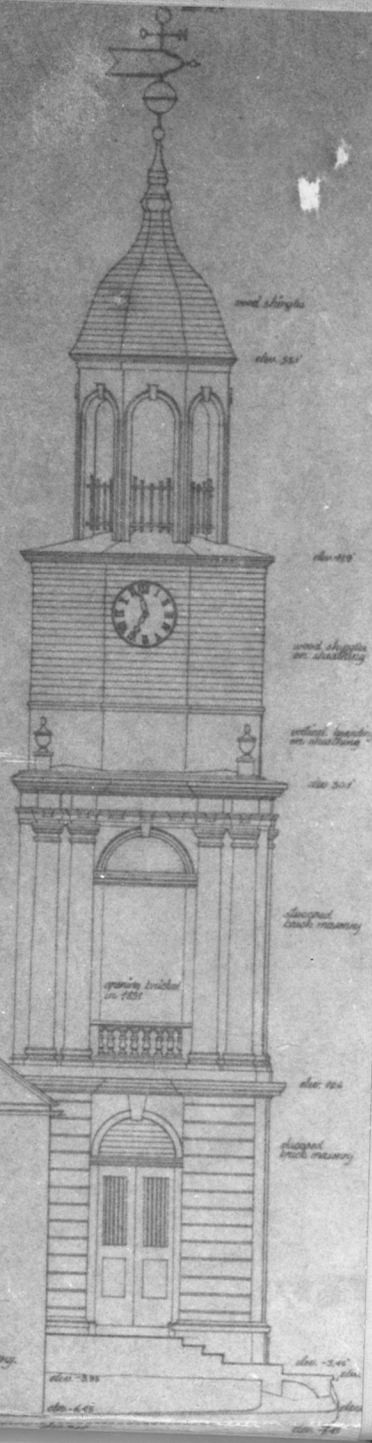
Exterior Elevation with open shutters
Typical window No. 6. scale 3/4"=1'-0"

graphic scale for drawings in scale 3/4"=1'0"

graphic scale for drawings in scale 1/2"=1'0"



Vertical Section



Hospital Gade Elevation (Northeast)
scale 1/4"=1'-0"

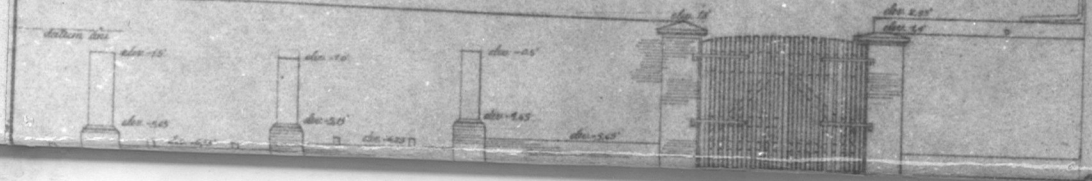


Fig. 28 -- Steeple Building. Excavation Plan, Sheet No. 10, HABS No. VI-1, June 1957, by F. C. Gjessing

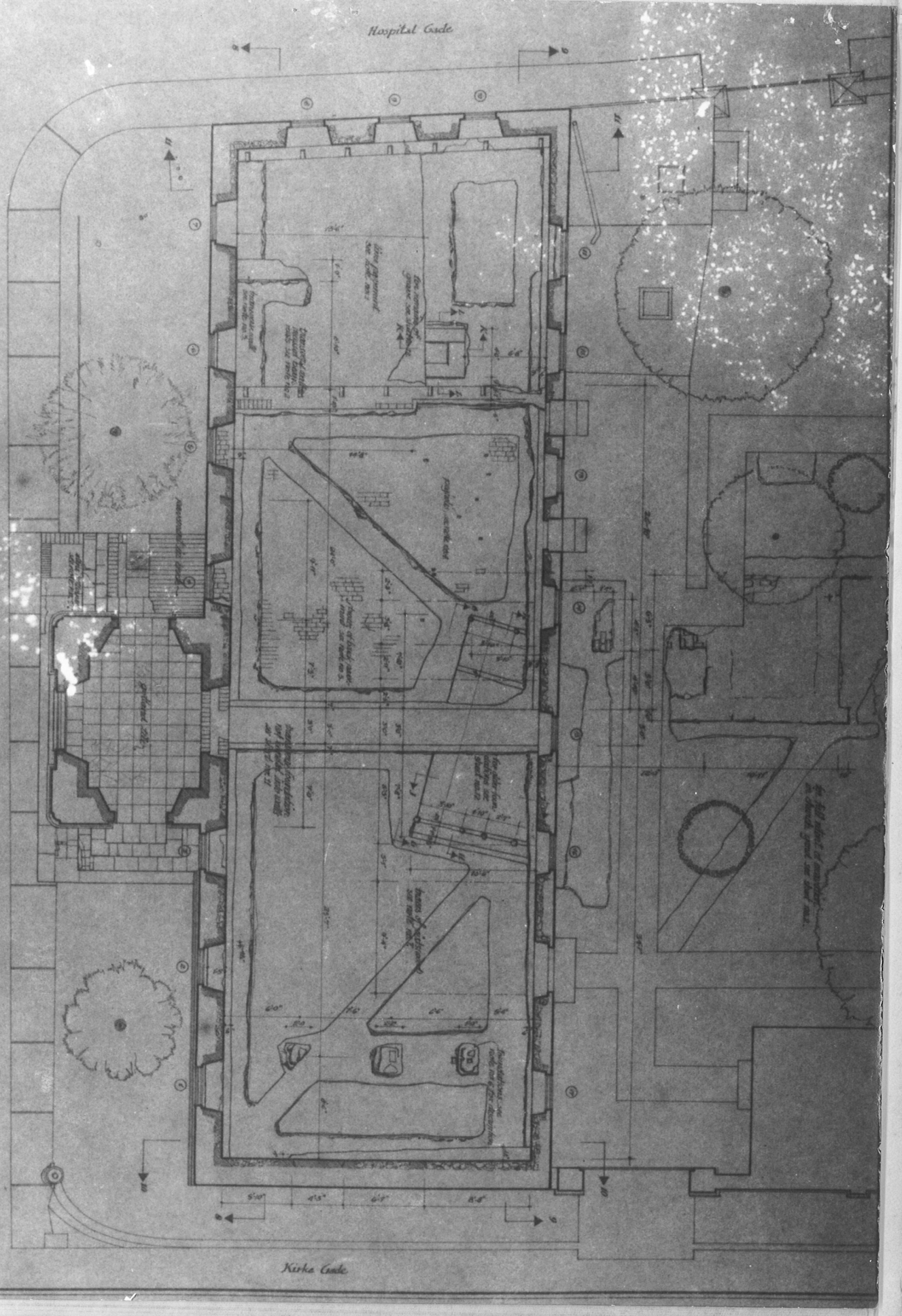
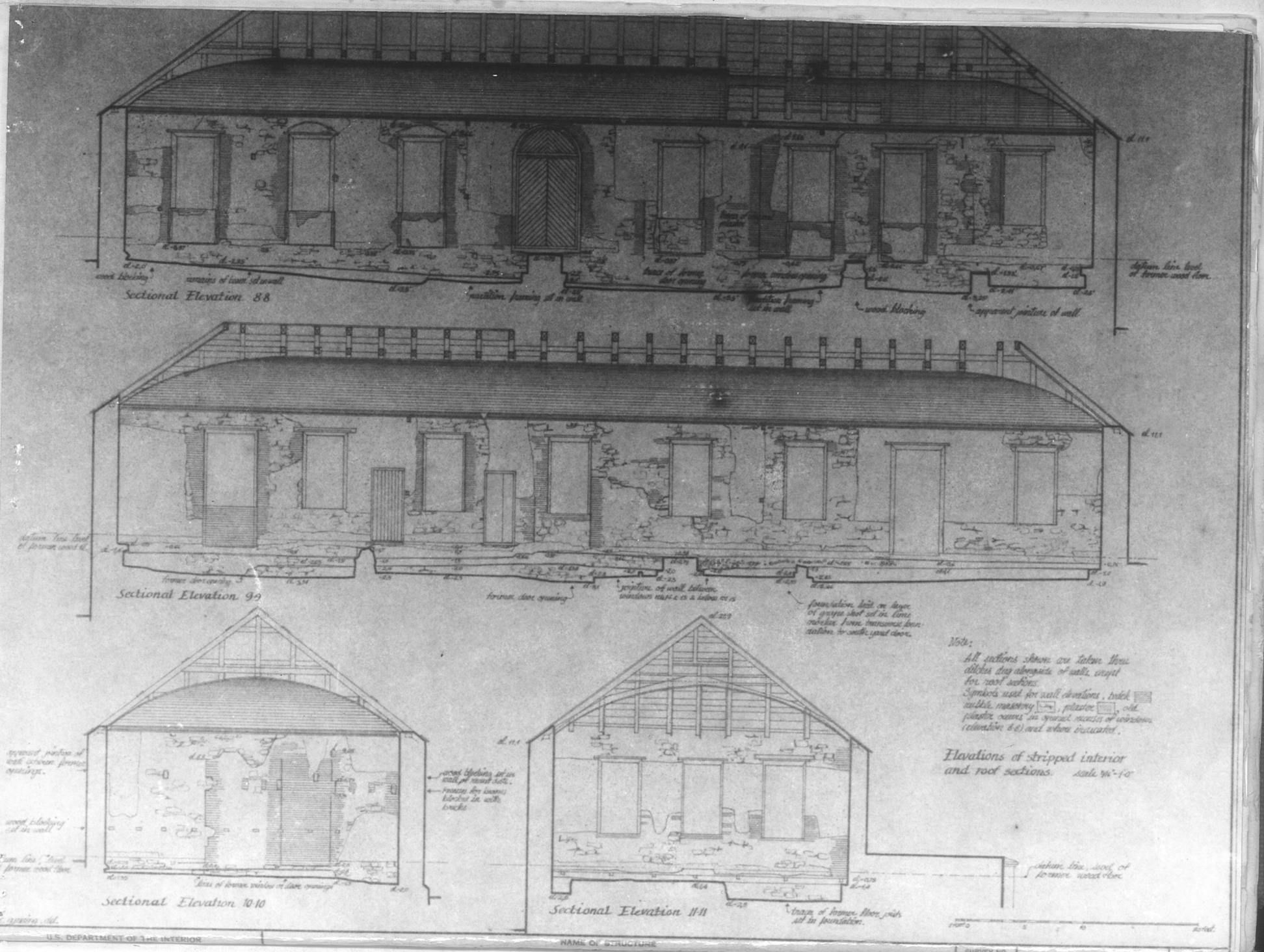

Hospital Gate
Kemponi Gate
Excavation Plan
Kirka Gate

Fig. 29 — Steeple Building: Elevations of Stripped Interior and Roof Sections. Sheet No. 11, HAER No. VI-1, June 1957, by F. C. Gjessing



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR | NAME OF STRUCTURE | SURVEY NO. | HISTORIC AMERICAN | INDEX NO.

Plate I -- Company Street and Steeple Building, Christiansted, St. Croix. Postcard view by A. Lauridsen. C.1916


K. Lourdes

Plate II -- Steeple Building: Hospital and Company Street Elevations. D. Jones and C. Johnson. May 1951.

Plate III — Steeple Building: Company and Church Street Elevations. F. C. Gjessing. September 1956.

