

THE VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE OF FREDERIKSTED

By Robert S. Brown

Preface

Most of the buildings in small towns are the houses of the people who live there. The architecture thus reflected may often be termed 'vernacular', the common architecture of ordinary people. Differing from the architecture found in buildings designed by professional architects, vernacular architecture can provide us with information of social and economic importance about people living in a particular area, within a certain period of history.

This particular work concerns the vernacular architecture of the town of Frederiksted in the Virgin Islands of the United States. The town is located on the western coast of St. Croix, the largest of the three American Virgin Islands. St. Croix, and its sister islands of St. Thomas and St. John, lie seventy miles east of Puerto Rico in the Caribbean Sea, forming links in the chain of islands that make up the northeastern boundary of the Caribbean.

St. Croix, owned by the United States since 1917, has been predominantly an agricultural island, the main crop (now completely phased out) being sugar cane. There are two towns on the island; Christiansted, the larger of the two, situated in the center of the island, is active with government agencies, shops, restaurants and hotels. Frederiksted, though somewhat commercial, has remained a small town of the people.

Frederiksted has kept out of the mainstream of redevelopment and thus has been able to maintain its exceptional visual charm with wide streets and low arched buildings. However, many of the buildings are now vacant, abandoned or boarded up by their owners who have moved out of the town and now live in the cooler countryside.

Other houses have been rented out mainly for profit, with little or no concern being taken as to their upkeep or maintenance. According to a report from the Virgin Islands Planning Office, in 1978 over 70% of Frederiksted housing was renter-occupied.

In the 1950s and 1960s, an influx of tourists heightened interest in

Frederiksted and many new shops were opened. As tourism increased, this new source of revenue produced an increase in the building trades throughout the islands. Almost overnight, it seemed, old buildings were gutted, torn down or altered to accommodate new businesses or residences.

Among the first to realize the dangers of the building boom in the islands were the Danes, who had formerly owned the islands and have strong attachments with them. Shortly after World War II, two Danish professors, Kay Fisker and Erik Herløw, of the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Copenhagen, visited their old Danish West Indian colonies. The professors became alarmed with the new building activities, and proposed that the Royal Academy send out a group of Danish architects and students to survey and register the islands' historic buildings.

The results of the survey were published, in 1964, under the title, *Three Towns*. It is, without doubt, the best report of its kind ever made of the islands, but this work has seldom been used for the purpose intended: as a guide to historic preservation in the Virgin Islands.

Frederiksted itself is small, its architecture is highly visible and yet, in the late 1960s, two entire blocks were leveled to provide space for the Lagoon Street Project. The project is a modern concrete complex, with its stark walls and flat roof at complete odds with the older houses nearby. At the present time (1979), another plan, the Hill Street Urban Renewal Project, is ready for implementation. Again, this project will demolish many more of the older buildings of Frederiksted. These projects are shown on the map in Fig. 2.

In September, 1977, I began measuring one of the houses in the Hill Street area. A photograph of the building, taken in 1880, is shown in Fig. 3. The house had changed little during the ninety-odd years it had stood at the corner of Market and Prince Streets. A bit more weather beaten and abandoned, it was still the same building that received high grades in the Danish survey of workers in the 1960s.

Fig. 4 is a preliminary sketch from my field book. When I returned on the following day to continue the work, I found the house in the process of being demolished. The photograph in Fig. 5 was taken at that time. Today, all of the second floor timbers and the roofing have been removed, leaving only the rubble walls and crumbling columns.

Most of Frederiksted's buildings were designed and constructed by local men. These men may have lacked formal training in architecture, yet they were skilled in their craft and showed an innate sense of proportion and good taste. They took pride in their work, and they built an uncommon town.

It is my hope that this work may help alert some of our islands' residents to the imminent danger of losing a vital part of their history — their unique architecture.

History of St. Croix and Frederiksted

The Virgin Islands were discovered by Columbus in 1493, while on his second voyage to the New World. Columbus sent men ashore on the island which he called Santa Cruz, or Holy Cross. His men quickly encountered the fierce native Indians, a meeting which unfortunately led to the first recorded battle between the Amerindians and Europeans.

The Spanish never attempted to colonize Santa Cruz, but did drive other settlers from the land. In the mid 1600s, a group of Frenchmen seized the island from a small Spanish garrison, and claimed the land for the Knights of Malta. The French changed the spelling of the island's name from Santa Cruz to Sainte Croix. Under Danish rule it was simplified to Saint Croix.

The French brought colonists to the island and plantations were started for the cultivation of sugar cane, indigo, tobacco and other crops. Eventually many different problems: disease, mismanagement of plantations and financial losses, forced the French to move to other colonies. By 1700 the island was virtually deserted.

To the north of St. Croix, the Danish West India and Guinea Company controlled the islands of St. Thomas and St. John. They, too, were involved in the production of tropical crops and, although the Company had its good years and its bad ones, the organization's directors wished to obtain more land for sugar cane plantations. The island of St. Croix was larger than the combined area of St. Thomas and St. John and was relatively flat, ideal for cane. In 1733, the Danish company bought the island from France.

St. Croix lived up to all of the Danes' expectations in productivity and, by the end of the eighteenth century, it had become one of the major sugar islands in the West Indies. St. Croix's economy was based almost entirely upon one crop—sugar cane.

The Danes built the town of Christiansted on a natural harbor, on the northern coast of St. Croix. The French also seemed to have favored this area, and had used it as their main town. The design of Christiansted was very similar to that of many planned towns in the eighteenth century: broad streets arranged in a grid pattern, each avenue crossing another at precise right angles. The longer blocks followed the contour of the land, the shorter blocks connected them.

Provisions were made for administrative buildings, the fort, customs house, scale house and Company headquarters. A large area at the wharf was left clear to be used by the many carts and wagons which would be bringing barrels of sugar, rum and molasses to the ships in the harbor. Other sections of the town were set aside for public markets, where local produce would be sold.

In the early 1750s, a Danish Surveyor laid out a second planned town on the western coast of the island (see Fig. 6). This town was named for the King of Denmark, Frederik V. The plan divided the town, with one section to be north of the fort and the other section to the south. The idea proved to be impracticable as the land north of the fort was too swampy to build on. Therefore, the town of Frederiksted developed only in the area south of the fort. The final plan, Fig. 7, was basically the same as it is today.

Frederiksted never became much more than a convenient port for the planters on the western end of the island, and the town did not become the bustling community that the Danes had envisioned. By 1765, five years after the completion of the fort, only 341 persons were living in the town, compared to a population of 3,000 in Christiansted.

After slavery was abolished in 1848, there was a steady increase in the town's growth as many ex-slaves fled from the plantations and moved into both towns. It was not until 1870, however, that Frederiksted's population reached 3,000—and then misfortune struck.

On October 1, 1878, field laborers gathered in Frederiksted to sign their yearly work contracts with the various sugar cane planters. A shortage in local labor had led to the importation of cane workers from the neighboring islands and these people, working at the lowliest of jobs and unable to afford passage home, were ready for any change that might present itself, preferably one that might allow them to strike back at the establishment which oppressed them.

A combination of rum and rumor touched off a riot in town, and the field workers attacked the small garrison at Fort Frederik. The mob then broke into the sugar and rum warehouses and set the buildings on fire. Shops and homes were looted and, by the evening of October 1st, most of the northwestern section of Frederiksted was in flames. The shaded area, in Fig. 2, marks the boundary of the fire damage.

During the night, news of the riot was brought to the Danish commandant at Fort Christiansvaern, in Christiansted. Early the next morning the commandant led a party of relief soldiers into Frederiksted and the rioters were forced from the burning town. As they moved out into the countryside, the mob began to burn the sugar factories and the owners's homes. By the end of the month, the uprising, known locally as the 'fireburn' had left over forty estates in ruins and a quarter of Frederiksted had been destroyed or badly damaged.

Nevertheless, despite the riots, fires, low sugar prices and poor labor relations, St. Croix still clung to its one-crop economy—sugar cane. Sugar cane remained the island's main source of agricultural revenue until the 1960s, when the cane production was phased out. Today, St. Croix's economy is based primarily upon manufacturing and tourism.

Basic Designs of Frederiksted Houses

The destruction caused by hurricanes and earthquakes are constant fears throughout the Caribbean islands. The damage wrought to the islands by these natural disasters quite often influenced the design and construction of West Indian architecture. Few buildings were over two stories high and most were anchored firmly on strong masonry foundations, an apt description of many Frederiksted houses.

Most masonry walls were built of rubble, as shown in Fig. 8. Buildings were constructed of brick and limestone at times but, because the bricks were all imported and the stones cut by hand, these materials were more expensive, and less commonly used. Bricks and cut stones were used where strength was needed, as in columns and arches, and in vaulted ceilings often used in cisterns.

By their very nature, rubble walls could not be constructed as uniformly, or as smoothly, as walls of brick or stone. Masons felt that the conglomeration of volcanic stone, broken bricks, slabs of limestone, pieces of coral, etc., was unsightly, and almost all rubble walls were therefore covered with a coat of plaster. Often, these plastered walls were incised with lines to give them the appearance of cut stones. Some brick and stone walls were also plastered in order to protect the soft mortar.

Ground floor walls were usually one and a half, to two feet in thickness and, because there was no reinforcing, their strength depended upon their massiveness. The water cisterns were, in many cases, integral parts of the ground floor walls. The cistern however, was built with even thicker walls and sometimes lined with empty wine bottles, as an attempt to keep the rain water from leaking out. A second reason for using extra thick walls for the cistern was to provide the support for the weight of the kitchen chimney and cooking bench, which were often built in the room above (see Fig. 9).

The ground floor plans tended to be very simple, often one large room. At times, however, this area, which was normally used as a workshop or store, was divided by wood or masonry partitions.

The more interesting rooms were on the second floor, the living quarters. The floor plans of some of these rooms will be discussed in later chapters.

Some of the buildings, which were built solely as shops and warehouses, had flat roofs made of brick and, at times, pitched roofs with raking gables (Fig. 10). Some buildings seem to have changed roof styles several times. Examples are the Customs House, which has a brick roof hidden beneath a hip roof. Fort Frederik may have had flat *and* hipped roofs over the Commandant's Quarters at different periods in its history.

The great majority of houses in Frederiksted have hip roofs over the main structure. This design offers little resistance to hurricanes as there are no flat gables for the wind to exert pressure against. Most of the kitchen wings, however, do have gable roofs. There are usually shed type roofs over the front and rear galleries. The drawing in Fig. 11 shows the three types. Almost all of the smaller roofs over galleries, porticos and kitchen wings were not part of the main roof but were merely attached to, or built below it. The reasoning behind this policy was that if the gable or shed roofs were blown off, they would not tear the main roof off in the process.

This method of roofing is not used in modern island construction, a fact that worries many of the older residents. They remember the last hurricane which struck the island, in 1928, and they have little faith in the new cantilevered roofs. Some also distrust modern concrete, favoring the old type made of lime and sand. The old mortar never hardened like Portland cement, allowing the masonry walls to 'give' a bit in strong winds. New concrete and mortar, they fear, will eventually snap and crack, and in so doing, destroy the structure. They may be right: there has not been a fair test in more than fifty years.

The three floor plans shown in Fig. 12 are of different Frederiksted houses. All of these plans are similar; three rooms wide and basically two rooms deep, with front and rear galleries and a kitchen wing. Two of the stairways are on the sides of the houses, the other stairway leads up onto the front gallery. Interior staircases are rare in Frederiksted houses, as they are in many West Indian structures.

These three plans are modifications of the eighteenth century 'central-hall' floor plan, well known in Europe and North America. Many central-hall houses were built in northern Europe and America but they had one drawback; the halls were ice cold in the winter. The reason for this oddity was the very nature of the design of the house—one side of a house is always slightly warmer or cooler than the other. This phenomena sets up a flow of air, from one side to the other, with the hall furnishing the tunnel for the breeze to move through.

This cooling condition was noticed in central-hall houses built in the southern colonies, in America, and was greatly appreciated during summers in Virginia and South Carolina. But, even in the American south, the coolness was disliked in the winter months. Frederiksted, located in the tropics, needed cooling all year.

In the two plans (see Fig. 13), one notices how the Frederiksted plan shows a widened hallway with the space now utilized for the living/dining area. Usually, two bedrooms were added on either side of the living area.

One has only to examine the floor plans (Fig. 12) to realize that these houses were built at a time when privacy was unknown. All of the rooms have doorways opening into other rooms or onto galleries. Some bedrooms had as many

as three doorways but, even though people might keep popping in and out of the rooms, the cooling breezes were welcome visitors. And, even with the widened hallway, the principle of warm/cool air flow did not change.

As a further inducement to the movement of air, most of the large Frederiksted houses were built in the main avenues, running north and south. This meant that the buildings' front or rear façade was alternatively blistered, as the tropical sun passed over each day. While one side was hot, the other was cool—ideal for the air flow through the rooms.

The shady galleries at the front and rear of most of the houses also cooled the easterly winds before they entered the main house through the many windows and doorways. And, perhaps as a final attempt to cool the rooms, there was usually a tray ceiling over the entire upper floor. The tray ceiling was built of wooden planks, nailed to the lower edges of the roof rafters. Since few interior partitions were higher than the exterior walls, this created an opening between the top of the partitions and the board ceiling.

Many designs of open lattice and stick work were used to form a grillwork within this open area. These air vents permitted the air currents (and conversations) to move from room to room and also helped to cool the house. A drawing of a tray ceiling is shown in Fig. 25, this is one in the popular 'Chinese Chippendale' pattern.

Interior doors were usually paneled on the side viewed from the living area, and consisted of plain planking on the other side. Since doors were normally left open there must have been a bit of scurrying about closing doors when company came, so that the paneling could be seen and admired.

Interior partitions were also usually paneled on the side facing the living area and the studs, framing and braces were left exposed on the reverse side. This wall treatment served more purposes than that of economy for almost all of the wooden structural members were open to inspection. It left little space for termites and roaches to hide. And, when problems were found they were quite easily taken care of.

Windows were usually of the jalousie type, opening inward, with the storm shutters opening out. This is the most common style in most houses. Storm shutters were paneled on one side, the side viewed when they are open. The drawings in Fig. 15 show some of the hardware used with the window and door shutters.

Exterior doors, leading onto the galleries, are similar in style, usually consisting of three panels. The top and middle panels are jalousies, with a solid panel at the bottom.

Few Frederiksted houses are without their galleries, and these cool shaded 'rooms' are often the most pleasant areas of the houses. Front galleries are places

to sit and relax—yet enable one to carry on conversations with friends, as they pass by in the street below. They are also excellent vantage points from which to watch the many island parades.

Most of the ornamental scroll-saw woodwork is found attached to the galleries and eaves. Many of these are masterpieces and it is seldom that one pattern is found repeated on two different buildings. Some of this fretwork is shown in the drawings in Fig. 16 and Fig. 17. The decoration on the rear galleries is usually of a much simpler style.

Many of the front galleries extend out over the sidewalk, supported by masonry columns or wooden piers. Often the main entrance to the second floor is from the sidewalk area, by means of a boxed-in stairway leading up to the gallery, or an entry room. The front doors are generally constructed of plain batten planking. The stairways leading up to the rear galleries are more apt to be simple wooden steps, although some were built of rubble masonry, cut stone or brick.

Many of the open stairways, leading up to the entry-ways have extremely ornate porticos over the front doorway. Three styles are shown in Fig. 18. Their designs show influences from the 'Victorian' period during which most of the Frederiksted houses were built, or rebuilt. During the 1878 fire burn probably dozens of the wooden second stories were destroyed and, when rebuilt in the 1880s, reflected the styles and tastes of that day.

The fine craftsmanship that is found in almost all of the Frederiksted houses certainly had its beginning in the early Danish Colonial era. The buildings designed by Danish professionals served as prototypes, and the features and details of government structures were often incorporated in the smaller private homes, built by island carpenters and masons.

The next three sections of this study will describe individual houses in Frederiksted.

Description of House 1

Number 12 King Street (marked as 1, Fig. 2), is a fine example of a Frederiksted home/shop. The building measures approximately 40' × 50' with its kitchen wing extending out another eighteen feet. Tax records indicate that the house was sold in 1864, by a Mrs. Anna M. Murphy, an early owner.

The building is located very close to the center of the area burned in the 1878 fire, and may have been damaged at that time. Since all of the exterior walls are of masonry they no doubt survived the flames. The interior walls, floor and roof

were most likely destroyed and the roof and interior work, which is seen today, probably date from a later period when the fire damage was repaired.

The ground floor consists of one large room divided by a wooden partition. These two rooms are usually rented to shopkeepers. Four wooden piers support the second floor joist beams. The ground floor has four doorways fronting King Street, three doors and one window in the rear wall and two windows on both the north and south walls.

The first and second floor walls are masonry, unlike most Frederiksted houses which have wooden framing on the second floor. The house has masonry string courses, cornice and cut stone quoins on the King Street façade, doubtless the home of an affluent townsman.

The main structure has a hipped roof, with a gable roof over the kitchen wing and shed type roofs over the front and rear galleries.

The boxed-in front stairway is located under the gallery, with the entrance on the sidewalk. The stairs lead up onto the front gallery, with the opening protected by a railing and gate. The boxed-in entranceway extends the full width of the sidewalk, forcing pedestrians to step out into the street in order to pass around the obstruction.

The plan of the second floor rooms is similar to those previously discussed; three rooms wide and two rooms deep. An ornate wooden archway, with sliding doors, separates the dining room and living room. The living room walls were originally paneled with narrow beaded planking, laid vertically.

Like many other Frederiksted homes, the walls of the bedrooms consist of the reverse sides of the paneling, with all studs, braces and framing exposed. Originally, the two rear bedrooms had doorways leading out onto the back gallery but both ends of this gallery have been partitioned off, creating space for two bathrooms.

A tray ceiling extends over the second floor rooms. The spaces between ceiling and wall tops has been used for open slatwork, mostly in the Chinese Chipendale style.

The kitchen wing is off the rear gallery and has been slightly modified. The masonry chimney and smoke hood are still in place, but the cooking bench has been removed to make room for a modern gas stove. Like most of the townhouses, the kitchen is located over the cistern, with easy access to fresh water for cooking and washing.

A short gallery along the north side of the kitchen leads onto the roof of a building next to the cistern. This structure once was the coach house for the property, but has been modernized and is now a rental unit.

In the early 1970s the wooden piers which supported the front gallery were removed and replaced by masonry columns and arches. Usually, this type of

work is a dismal failure, principally because of poor design and proportion. In this case, however, I believe the well executed columns have improved the appearance of the building.

At the present time (1979), the house might be purchased and, for a reasonable amount of money, restored to its former beauty. My own recommendation would be for the Virgin Islands Government to buy the building and turn the ground floor rooms into offices for the Bureau of Tourism, and have a Museum of the Virgin Islands People on the second floor.

Description of House 2

Number 211 Market Street is another fine Frederiksted house, but its second floor plan is entirely different than that of house 1. The main building measures approximately 28' x 62', with a kitchen wing eighteen feet long.

This house was probably damaged during the 1878 fire and we may assume that the second floor, constructed of wood framing, was rebuilt after that date. The masonry ground floor walls may not have been badly damaged and are quite likely the walls of the original building on the site.

During the late nineteenth century, the major portion of the ground floor area served as a sugar warehouse. Carts and wagons, carrying barrels of sugar, were able to drive under the east gallery to unload their cargoes at the rear of the house. Today, this driveway has been paved with concrete, and a second floor stairway has been constructed along one wall. The original stairway, shown in the drawing of the second floor plan, has been removed.

The ground floor plan is simple, one large room and cistern. Three wooden piers support the second floor beam joists. A small section of the room, in the southeast corner, seems to have been used as a bank which was known as the 'Saturday bank', and was also in business around the turn of the century.

The second floor plan is somewhat unusual, being one room wide and five rooms deep with galleries on the south and east sides. At one time there was probably a north, or rear, gallery off the kitchen wing. In place of this gallery a modern (1950) concrete veranda has been constructed, extending back to the end of the kitchen wing.

Starting at the south gallery, and following the floor plan back, are a parlor, living room, a dining room with two bedrooms behind. A servant's room is located in the kitchen wing. Additional rooms, built on part of the east gallery, may not have been part of the original design.

The second floor has housed a restaurant since the 1950s, and some alterations were made at that time. The south bedroom now serves as the kitchen for

the restaurant, and the original kitchen is used as an office and for storage. Two lavatories were added, one off the dining room, and another in a room on the east gallery.

The parlor and the living room are divided by three wooden arches with fluted columns and fretwork decoration. The living room and dining room are separated by a single arch with sliding doors, as shown in the drawing in Fig. 25. These three rooms contain some of the finest woodwork, and examples of the local cabinetmaker's skill, to be found in Frederiksted.

The main structure has a hipped roof, with a tray ceiling beneath. The kitchen wing has a gable roof and a shed type roof covers the galleries and veranda. All of the roofs are sheathed with galvanized sheeting.

Window and door treatment is very similar to that in house 1, with jalousies and storm shutters. The door hardware would seem to be consistent with a building date of *c.* 1880. The woodwork and design would also date the house from the same period.

Again, as in house 1, the exterior walls of the bedrooms are simply the reverse sides of the house framing, with all of the studs and bracing exposed. The interior walls of the three main rooms have received much more careful treatment however, and have been paneled with flush horizontal planking, chair rails and baseboards. It is unusual to find double walls in Frederiksted townhouses and one feels that this house was built by one of the town's more affluent residents.

Description of House 3

The small single story house at 54A Hospital Street is far less pretentious than the others in this study, but it is typical of many buildings in Frederiksted. The photograph (see Fig. 26), shows the house as it appeared around 1900. (The large building, to the left center, is the Catholic convent and both of these structures are in the area of the Hill Street Urban Renewal Project.)

Because 54A was built on steep terrain it was necessary to construct a high foundation on the lower side. As a result, this small house has a rather high (5½') basement, unusual for houses of this size. This basement area was probably used for storage or perhaps a small workshop. The room has three doorways in the west wall, and a window in both the north and south walls. This house apparently did not have a cistern. Water was probably collected in barrels under the rain spouts, or from the town wells.

The floor plan is three rooms wide and one room deep. All of the rooms have front and rear doorways, and connecting doorways in the plank partitions. The

south room has an additional doorway opening onto the Hill Street sidewalk. The rear doorway in the south room would seem to have been widened, permitting easy access to the kitchen.

The kitchen wing may be a later addition, although it clearly shows in the photograph taken in 1900. It is possible that the house once had a rear gallery, stretching across the back of the building. Part of this gallery, behind the north and middle rooms, may have been removed, leaving a short section to the south where the kitchen was built. In any case, the kitchen wing is constructed with clapboard siding, while the main structure was shingled. This may also point toward a different date for the two sections of the building.

All of the interior surfaces of the walls and ceiling are unfinished, with the studs, braces and rafters left exposed. All of these timbers, however, are skillfully fitted and their edges have been softened by the use of a carpenter's beading plane. The two dividing walls are constructed of vertical planks, with each board twelve to fourteen inches in width. There are simple air vents in the peak of each of these walls.

Although a small and comparatively unimportant house, all of the construction received the same careful workmanship that is found in the more expensive homes. The windows and doors have the same type жалюзи and shutters which were found in the other two houses. This may have been an inexpensive building, but the town carpenters did not stint on their work but seem to have given each house an equal amount of their skill and expertise.

Conclusion

During the spring and summer of 1978, the Virgin Islands Planning Office, and the Urban Renewal Board, invited Frederiksted residents to special meetings where many of the town's housing problems were discussed. And, although the boards' primary interests lie with rehabilitation, it is apparent that restoration must also be part of the overall plan.

At the meetings several persons expressed their hopes that when the final designs for the Hill Street Project is made it will reflect some of the ideas and recommendations suggested in the Danish survey of the 1960s. The Danes drew up several plans for new town buildings, including housing, which could be constructed with modern materials and yet their design would be compatible with those of the older buildings.

My study is far from a complete record of the town's architecture, and I wish to add to it at a later date, perhaps incorporating the vernacular architecture of Christiansted and Charlotte Amalie. As more people become knowledgeable

concerning our island architecture, I believe we move closer to preserving this vital cultural link with the past.

Acknowledgements

I wish to thank Mr. Frederik C. Gjessing, A.I.A., for the immense help he afforded me in this study. Without his knowledge of Danish Colonial architecture, and his kindness in offering to share this knowledge, I could not have completed this phase of my work.

I also thank Mr. Roy E. Adams, of the St. Croix Planning Office for his insight into island architecture, and for his extremely helpful suggestions.

The photographs of my measured drawings were taken by Mr. Gary Burnham, a fine lensman from Frederiksted.

The photographs in Figs. 3 and 26 are reproduced from *The Danish West Indies in Old Pictures*, a book published in connection with an exhibition of the same name on the occasion of the American-Danish Friendship Festival on the U.S. Virgin Islands in 1967.

All measured drawings, sketches and the photograph in Fig. 5 are the work of the author.

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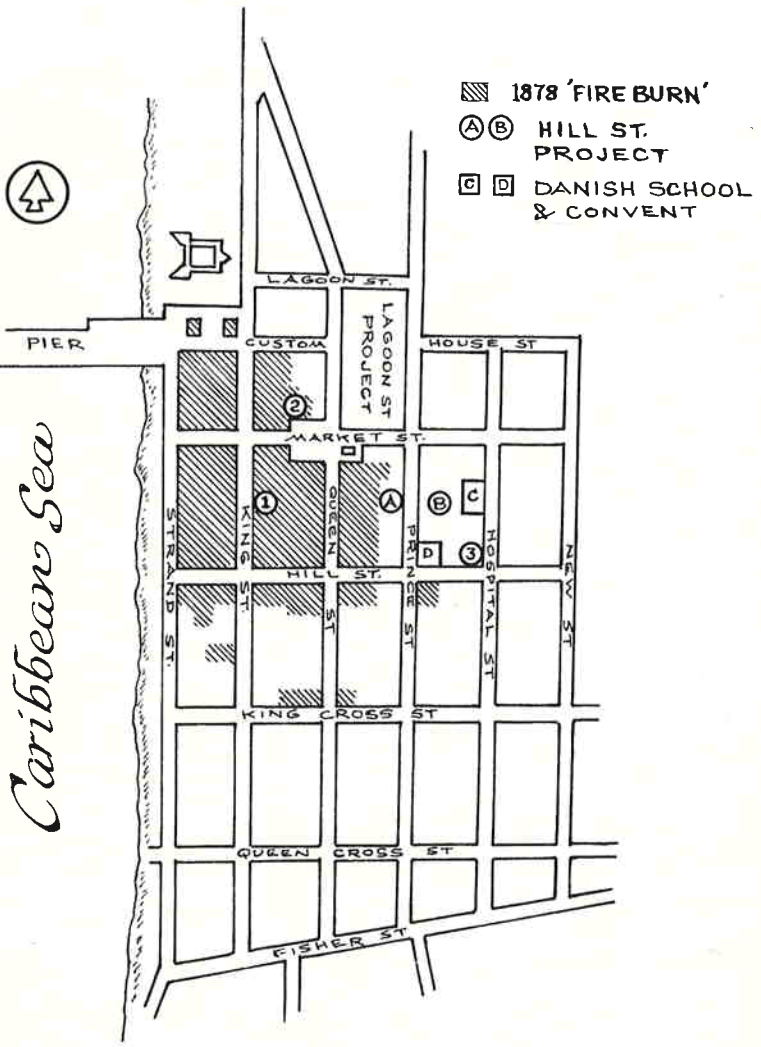
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FIGURE 1



STREET PLAN
of FREDERIKSTED

FIGURE 2

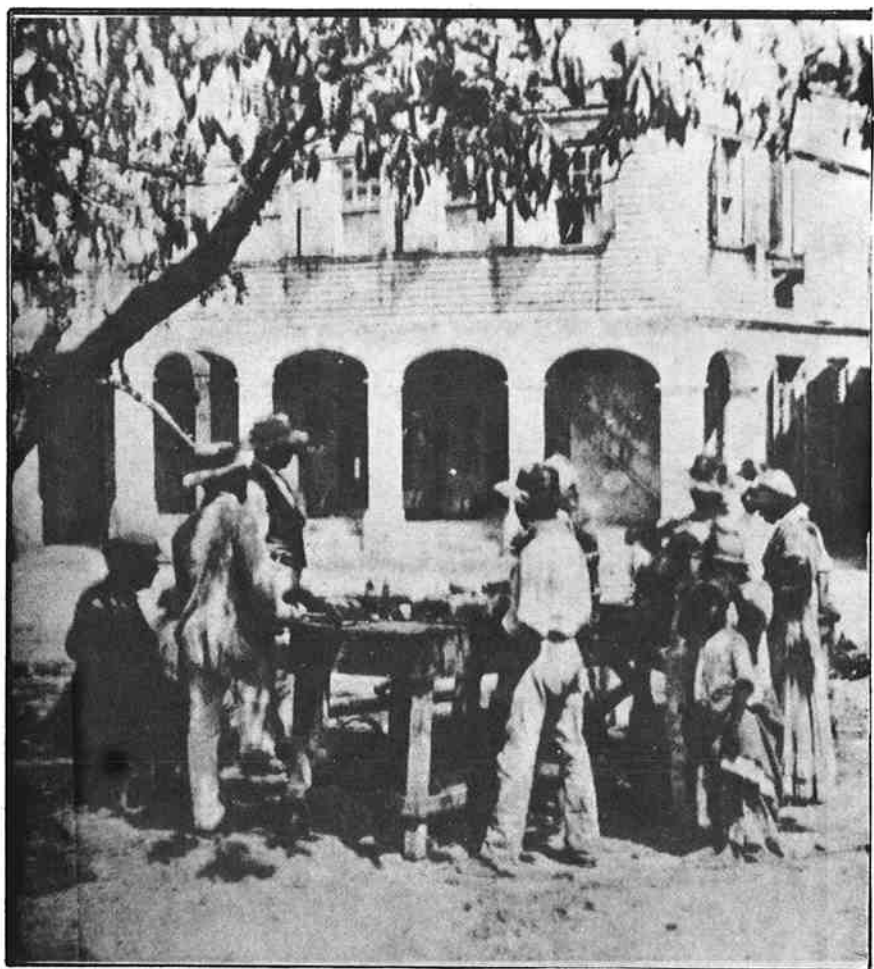


FIGURE 3

301 PRINCE ST.
 FREDERIKSTED
 ST. CROIX, V.I.

2 MARKET ST.
 SEPT 24, '77

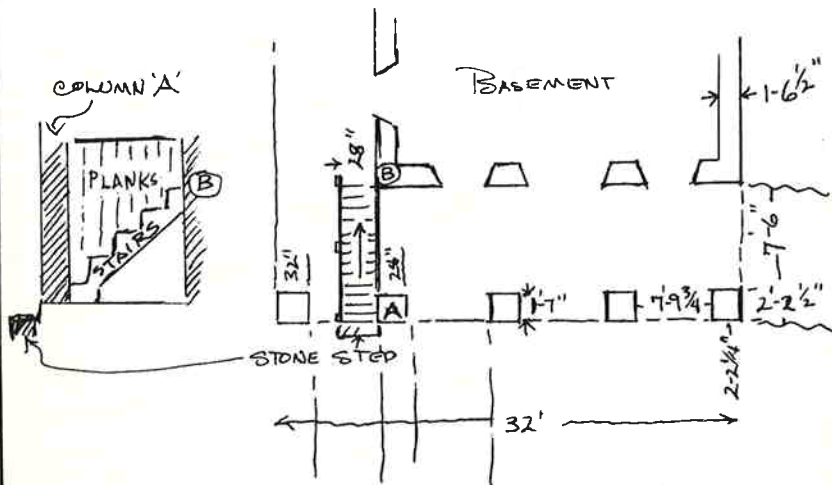
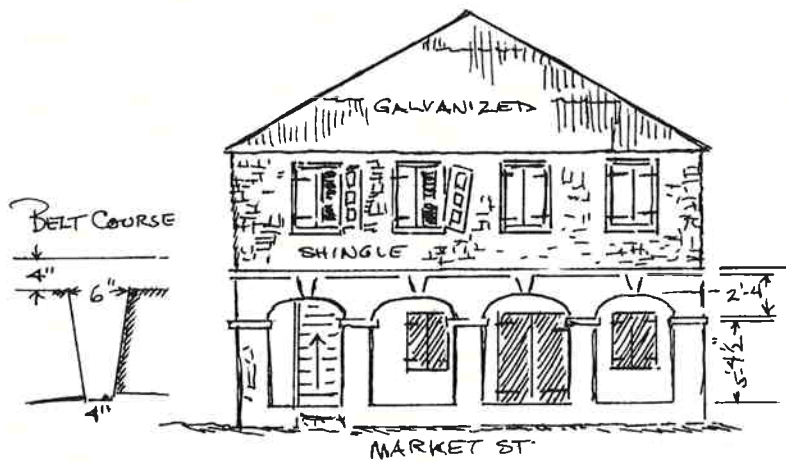


FIGURE 4

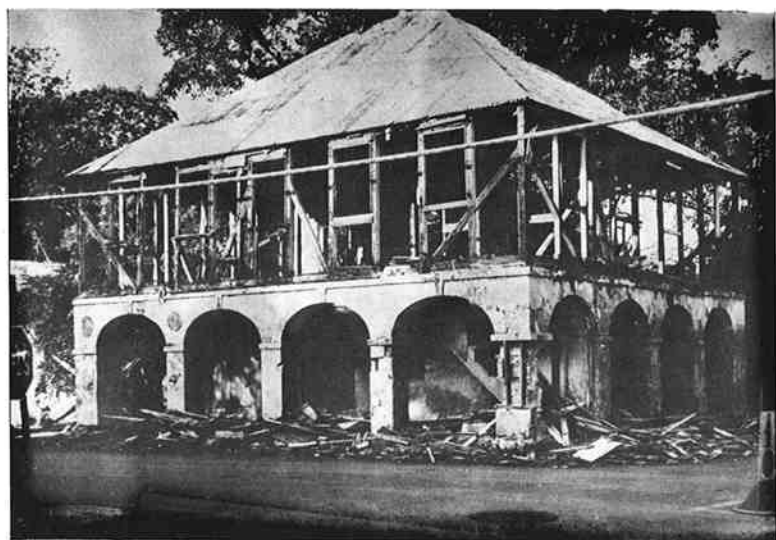


FIGURE 5

1751 PLAN
of FREDERIKSTED

Caribbean Sea

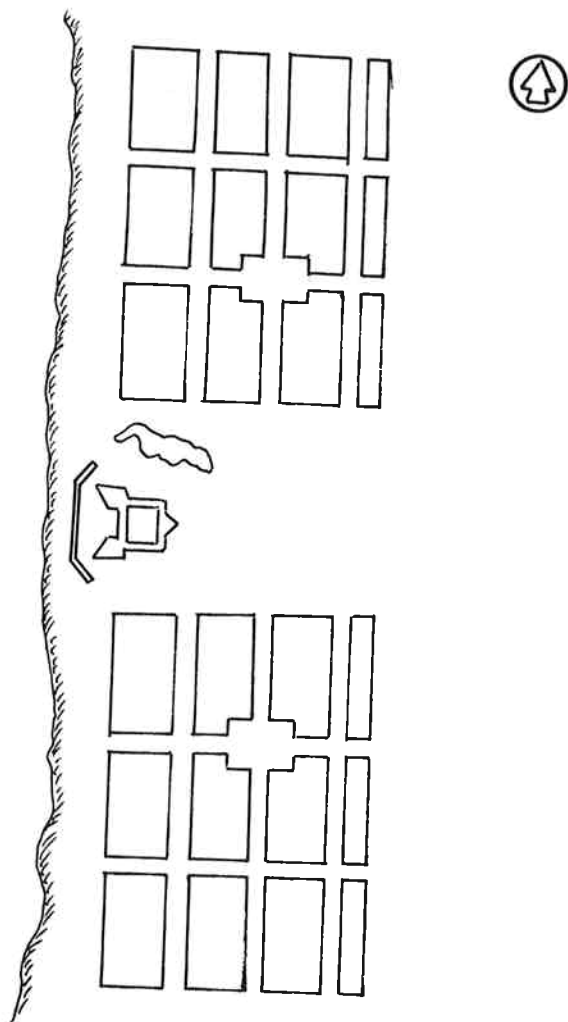


FIGURE 6

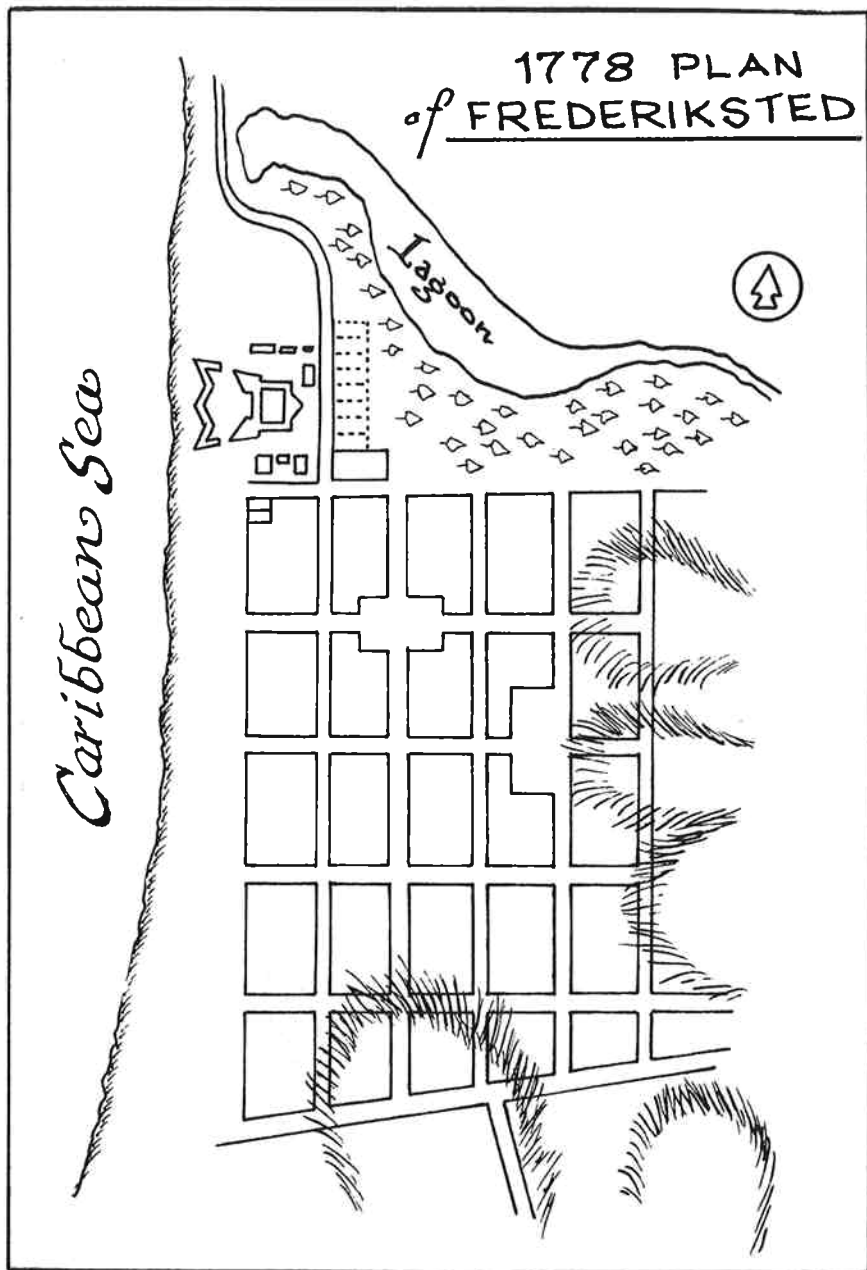
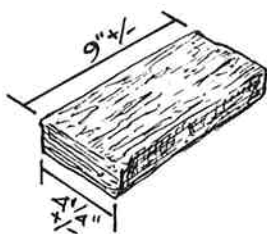
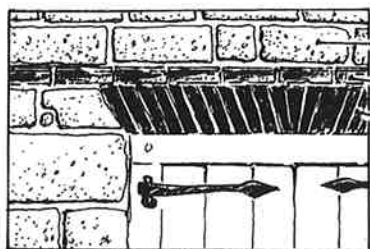


FIGURE 7



AVERAGE SIZE
OF BRICKS



CUT LIMESTONE

MOLDED BRICKS

GAUGED BRICKS

CUT STONE



RUBBLE
CONSTRUCTION

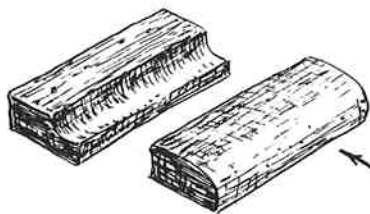
LIMESTONE

BRICK

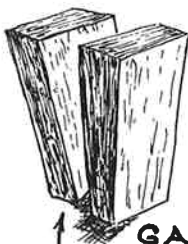
VOLCANIC ROCK

CORAL

PLASTER

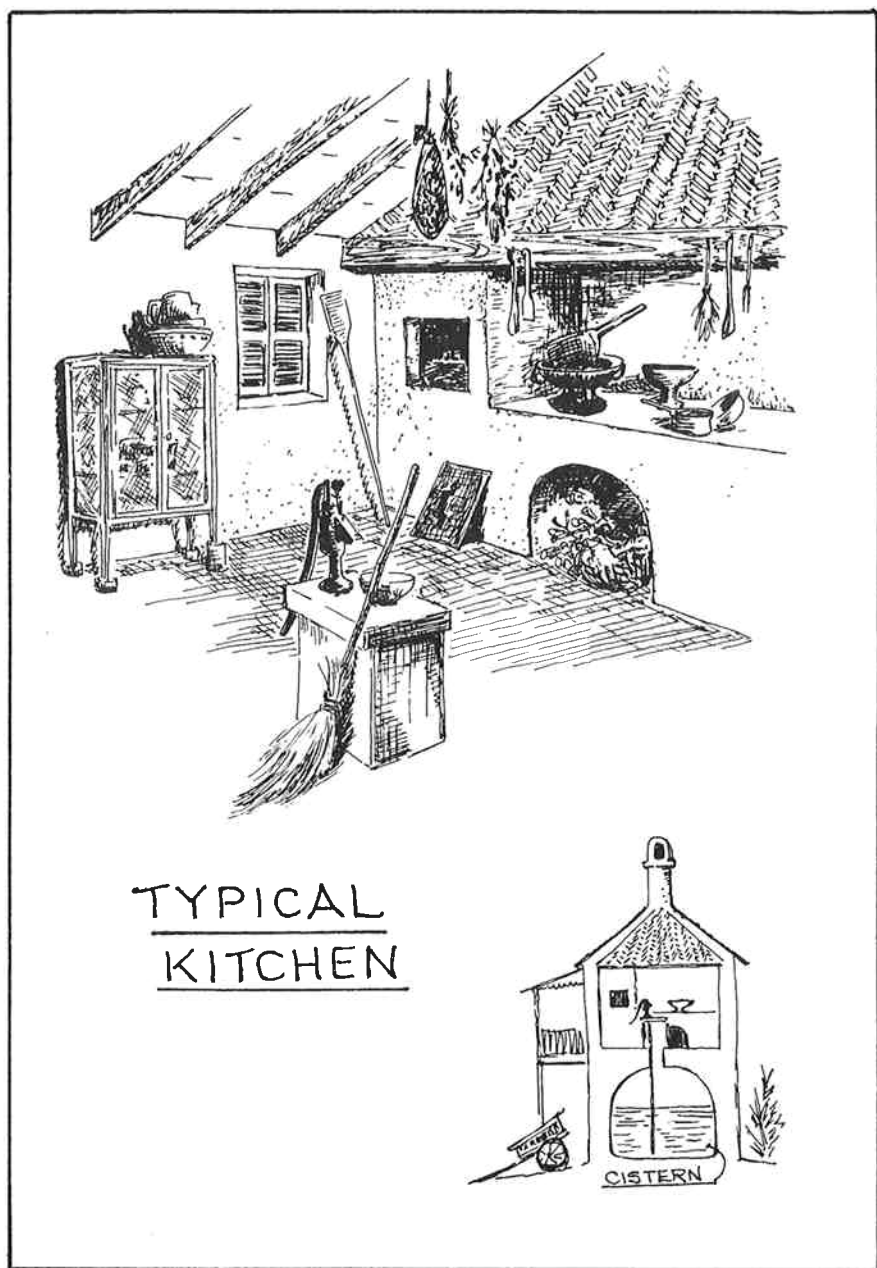


MOLDED OR RUBBED
BRICKS



GAUGED
BRICKS

FIGURE 8



TYPICAL
KITCHEN



FIGURE 9

RAKING GABLE



ROOFS

FLAT ROOF CONSTRUCTION

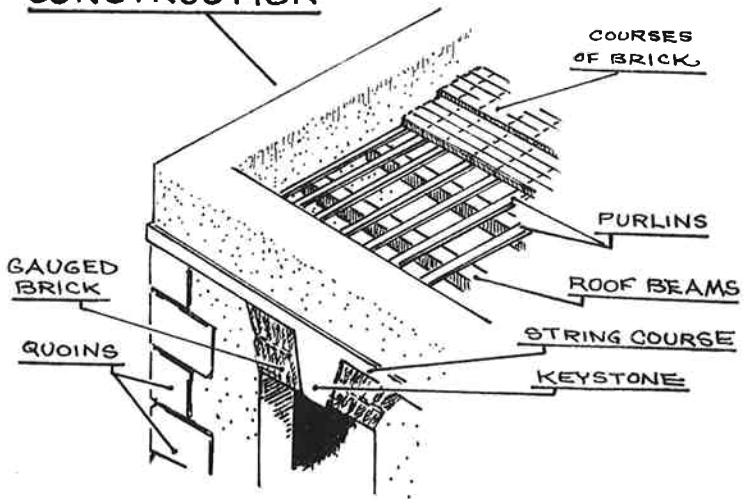
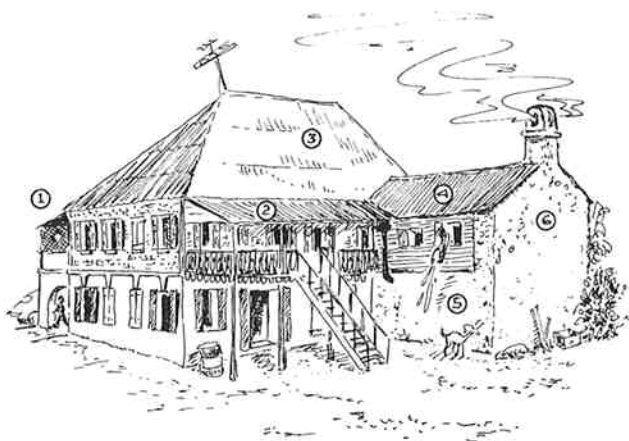


FIGURE 10

FREDERIKSTED HOUSE · REAR YARD



- 1 FRONT GALLERY - SHED ROOF
- 2 REAR GALLERY - SHED ROOF
- 3 MAIN STRUCTURE - HIPPED ROOF
- 4 KITCHEN WING - GABLE ROOF
- 5 RAIN CISTERNS
- 6 KITCHEN CHIMNEY

FIGURE 11

TYPICAL 2ND FLOOR PLANS

- B-BEDROOM
- C-CISTERN
- D-DINING ROOM
- E-ENTRY
- K-KITCHEN
- L-LIVING AREA
- S-SERVANT

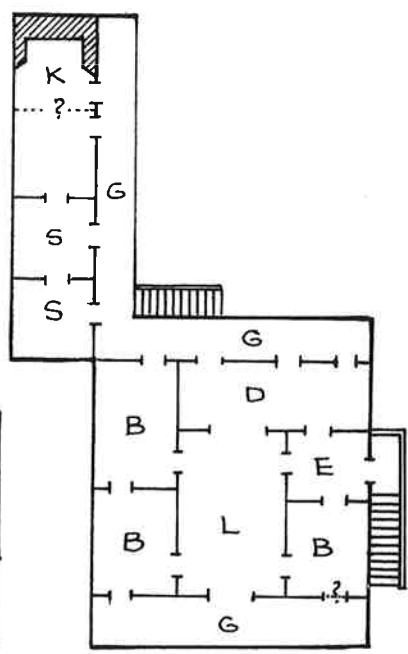
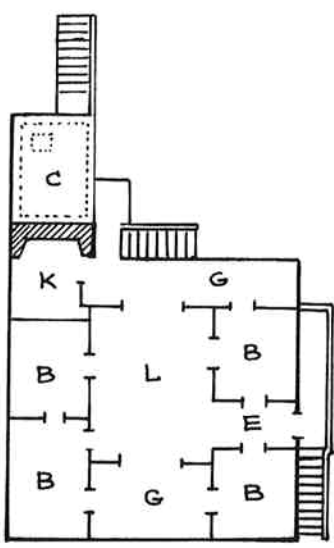
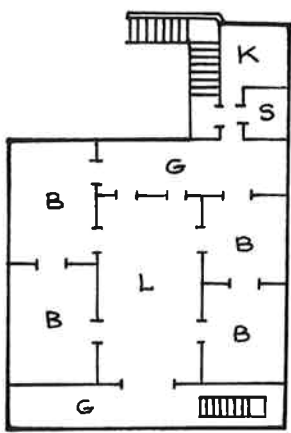


FIGURE 12

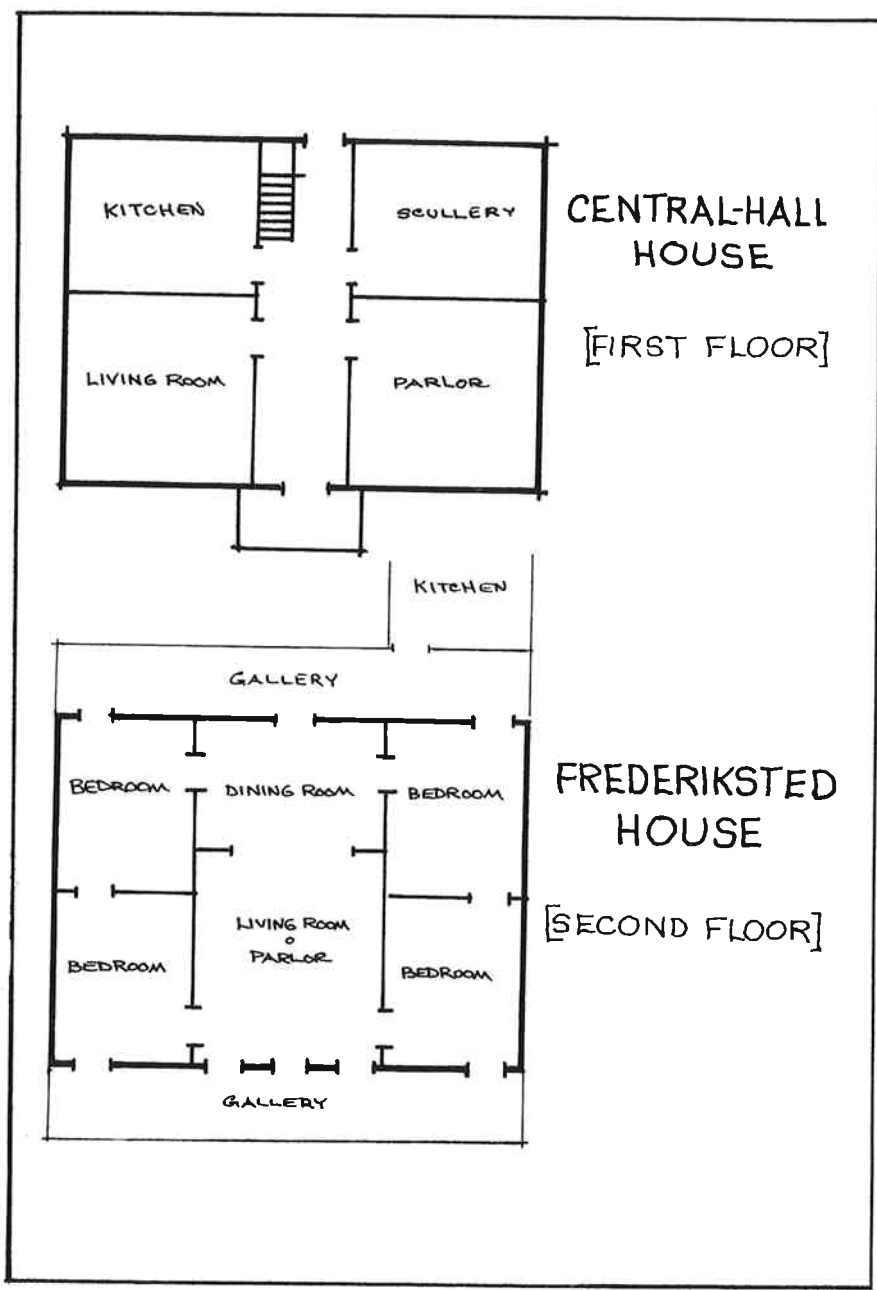


FIGURE 13

WINDOW TREATMENT

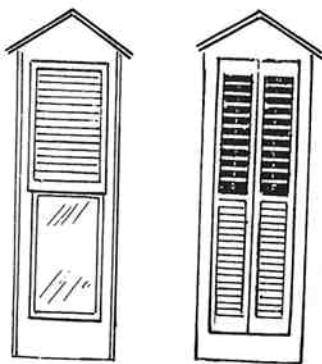
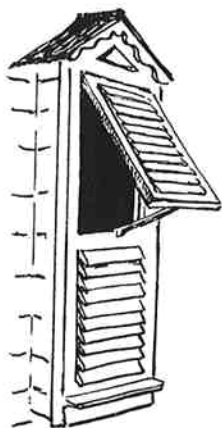
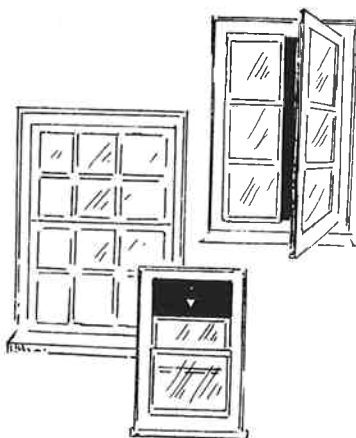
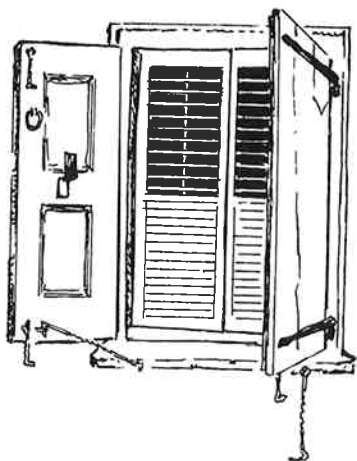


FIGURE 14

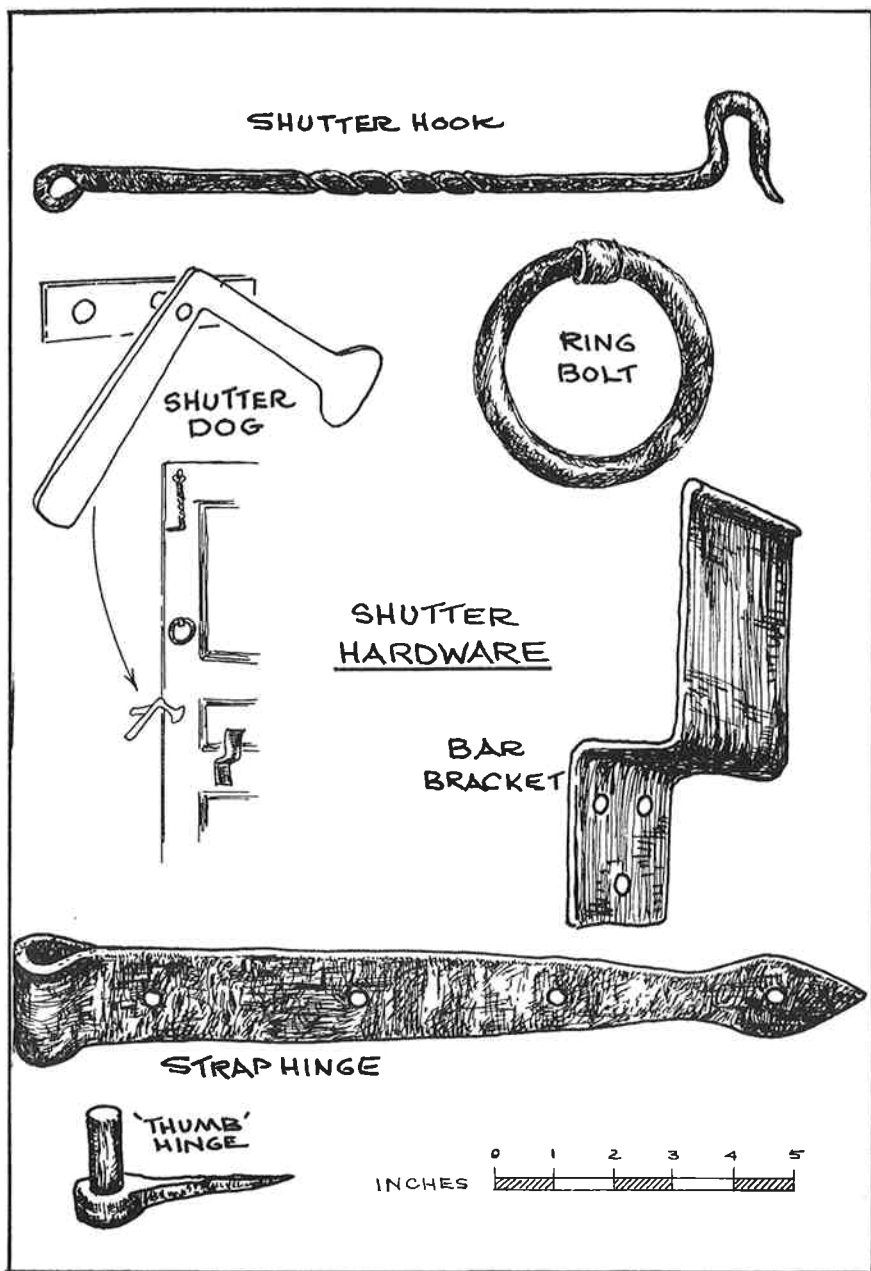
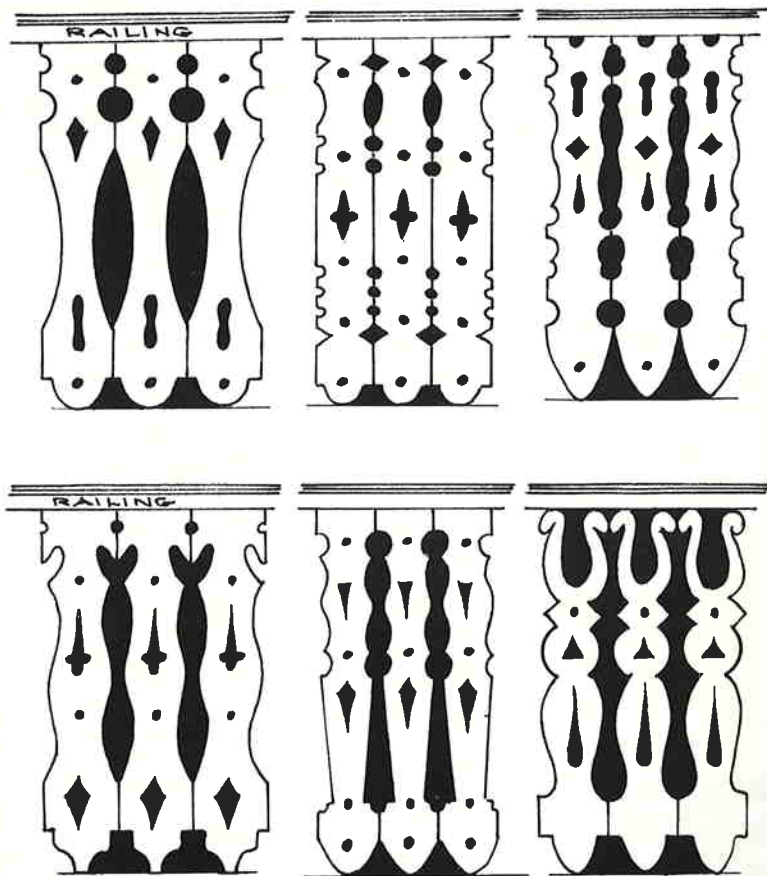


FIGURE 15

WOODEN BALUSTERS



APPROX. SCALE IN FEET



FIGURE 16

EXAMPLES of
SCROLLWORK



Fig. #17

APPROX. SCALE IN FEET

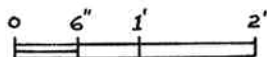
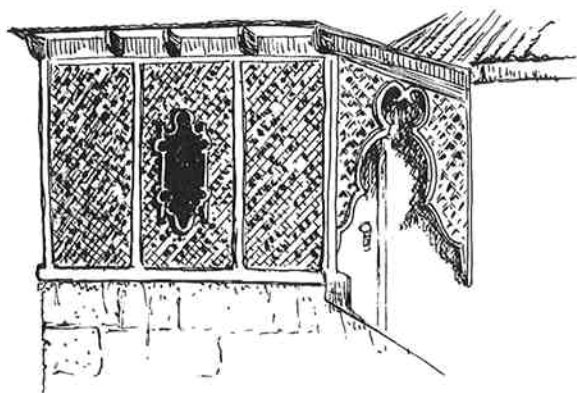


FIGURE 17



PORTICOS

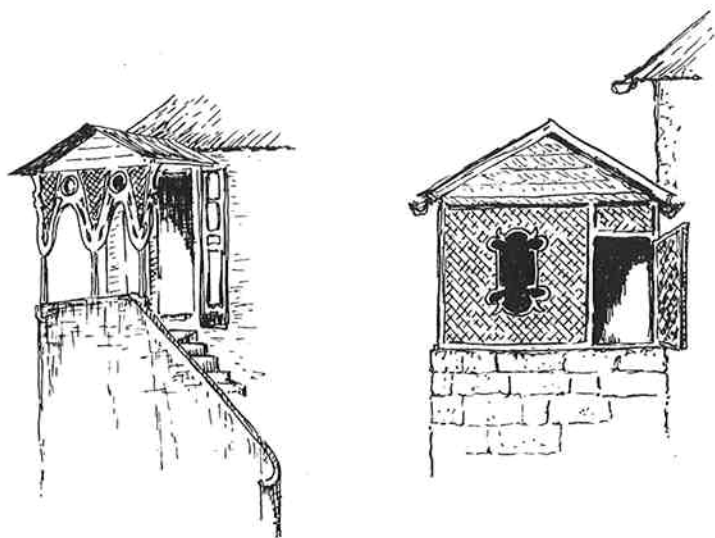


FIGURE 18

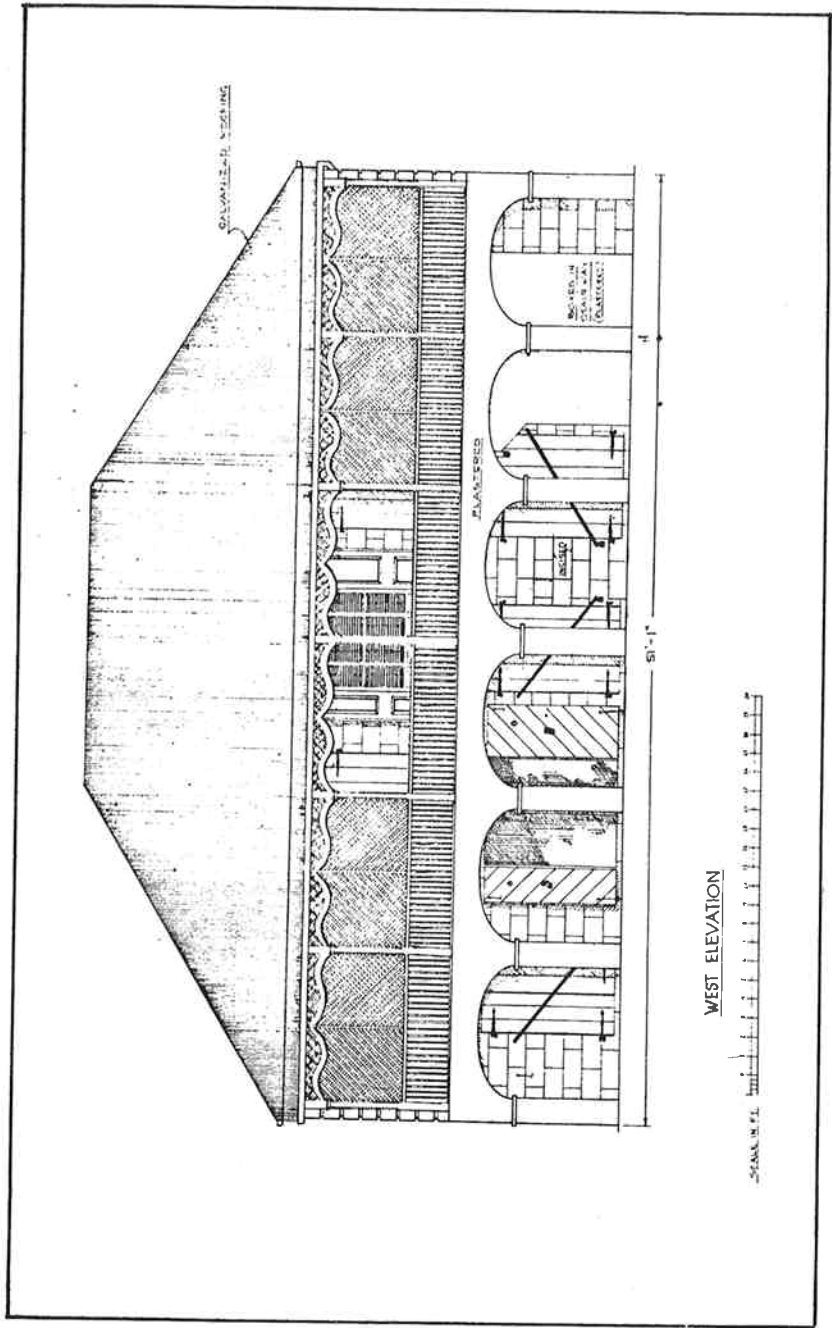
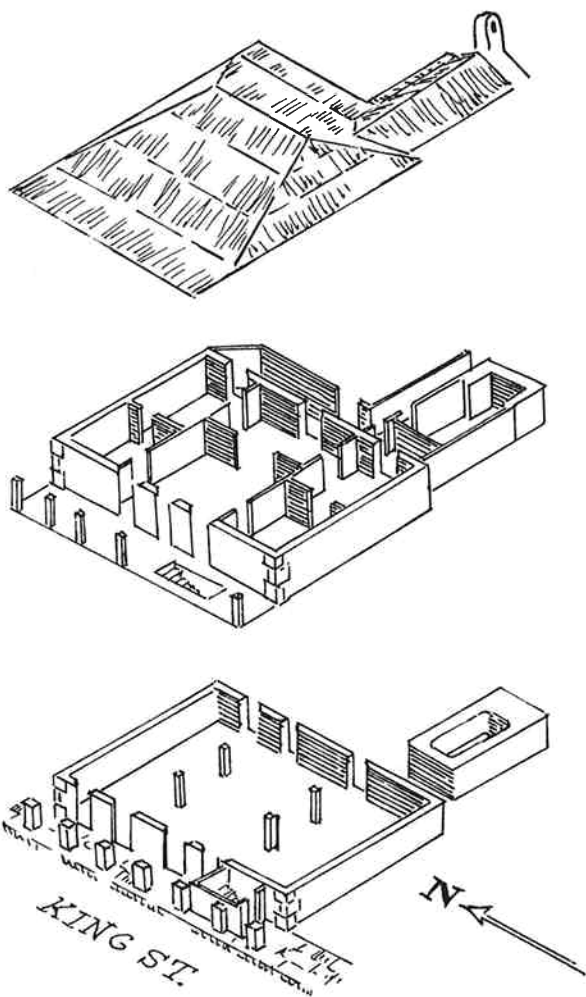


FIGURE 19
 12 King Street, Fredericksred, St. Croix, V.I.



12 KING ST-FREDERIKSTED

FIGURE 20

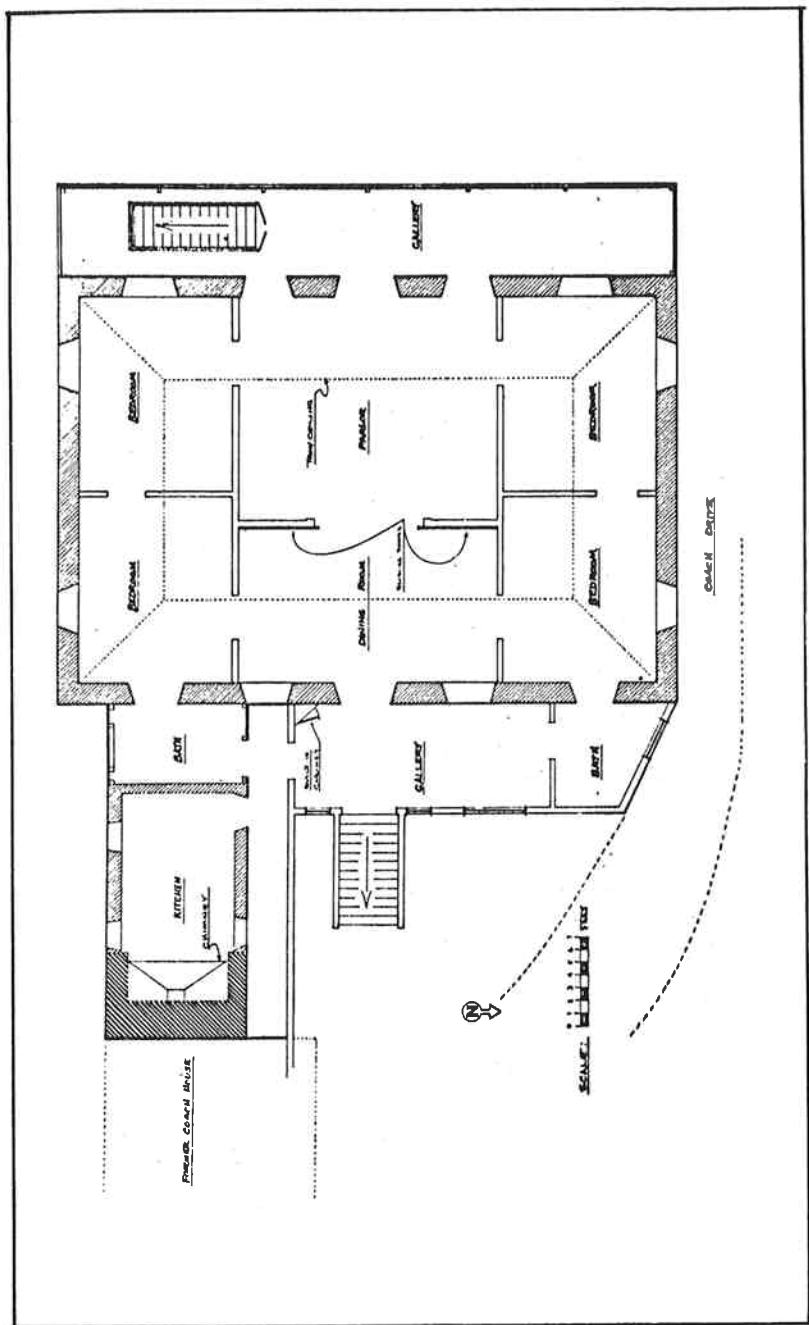


FIGURE 21
12 King Street, Frederiksted, St. Croix, V.I.

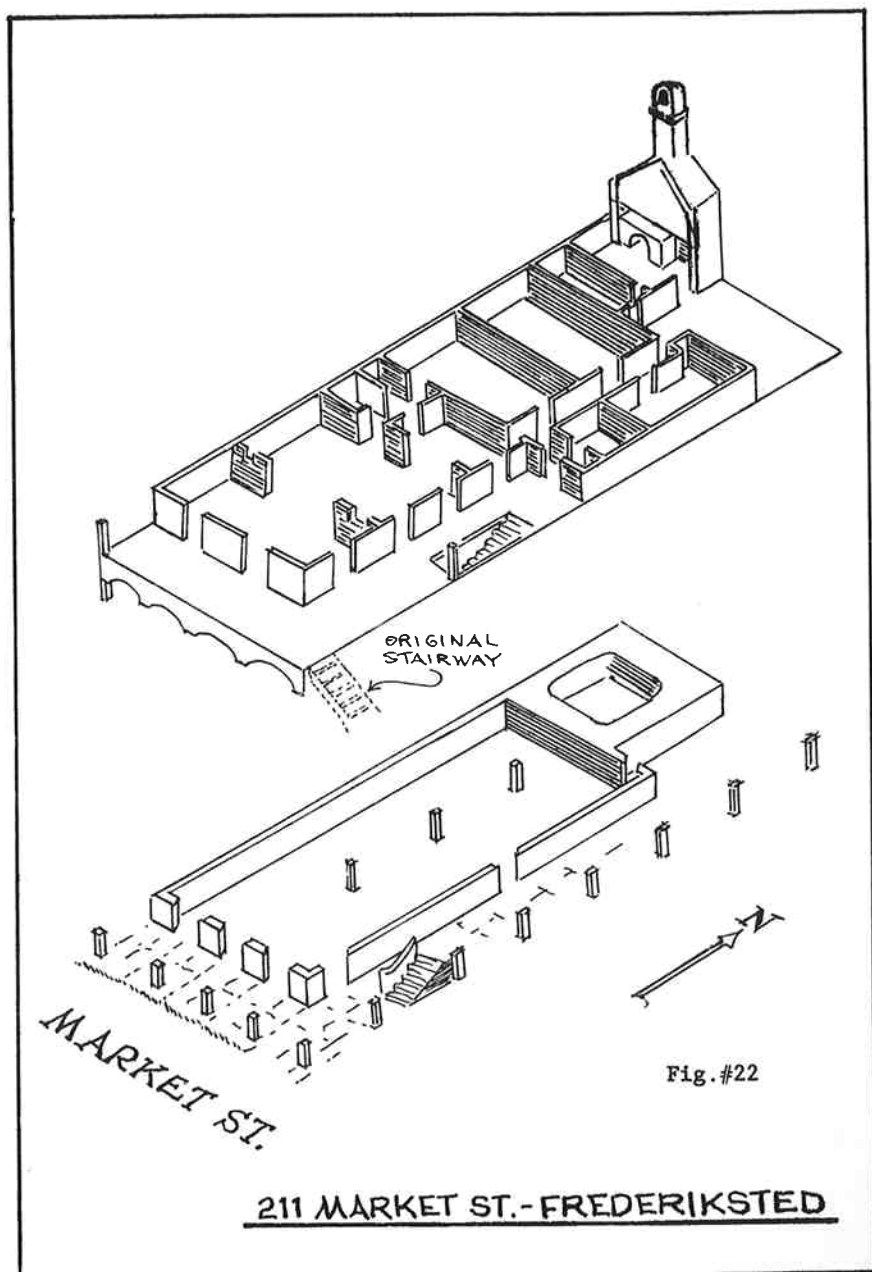
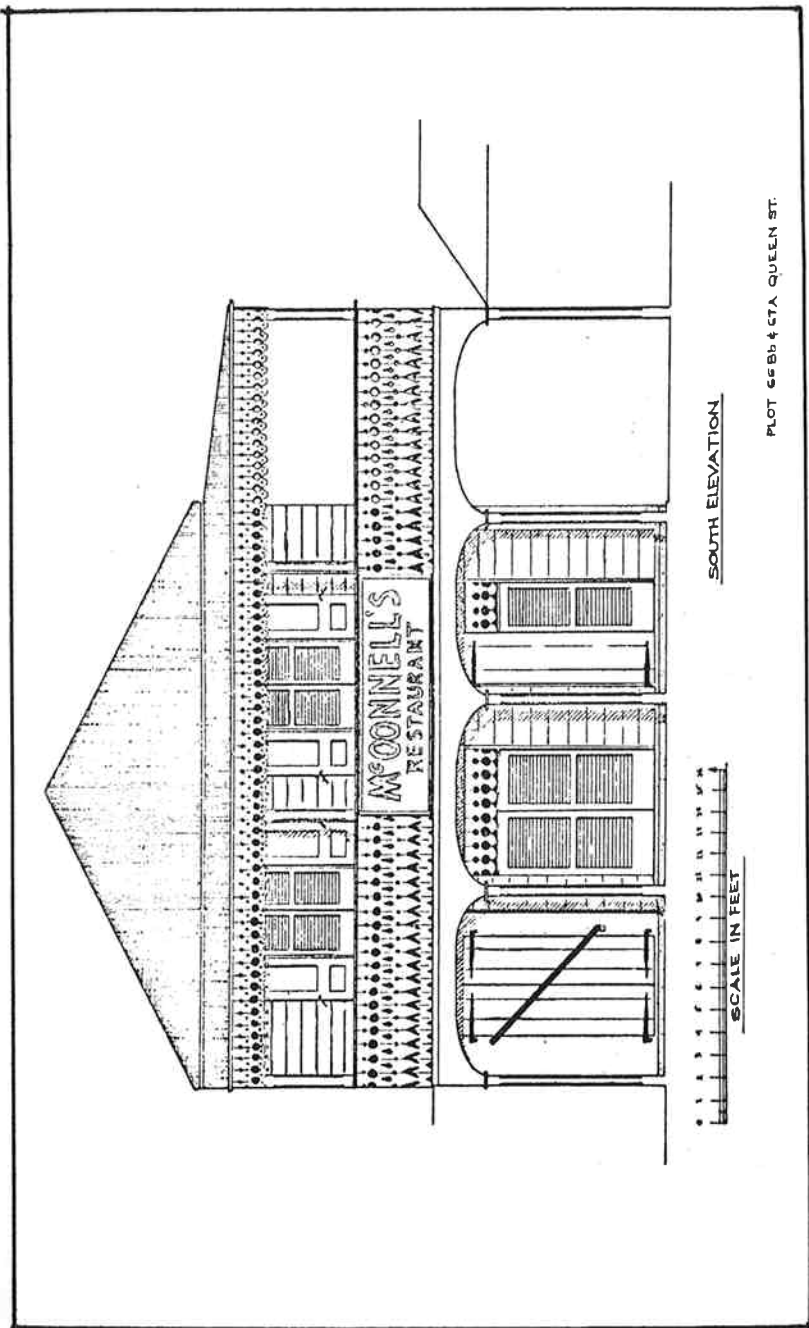


FIGURE 22



PLOT 66B5 & 67A QUEEN ST.

FIGURE 23

South Elevation, 211 Marker Street, Frederiksted, St. Croix, V.I.

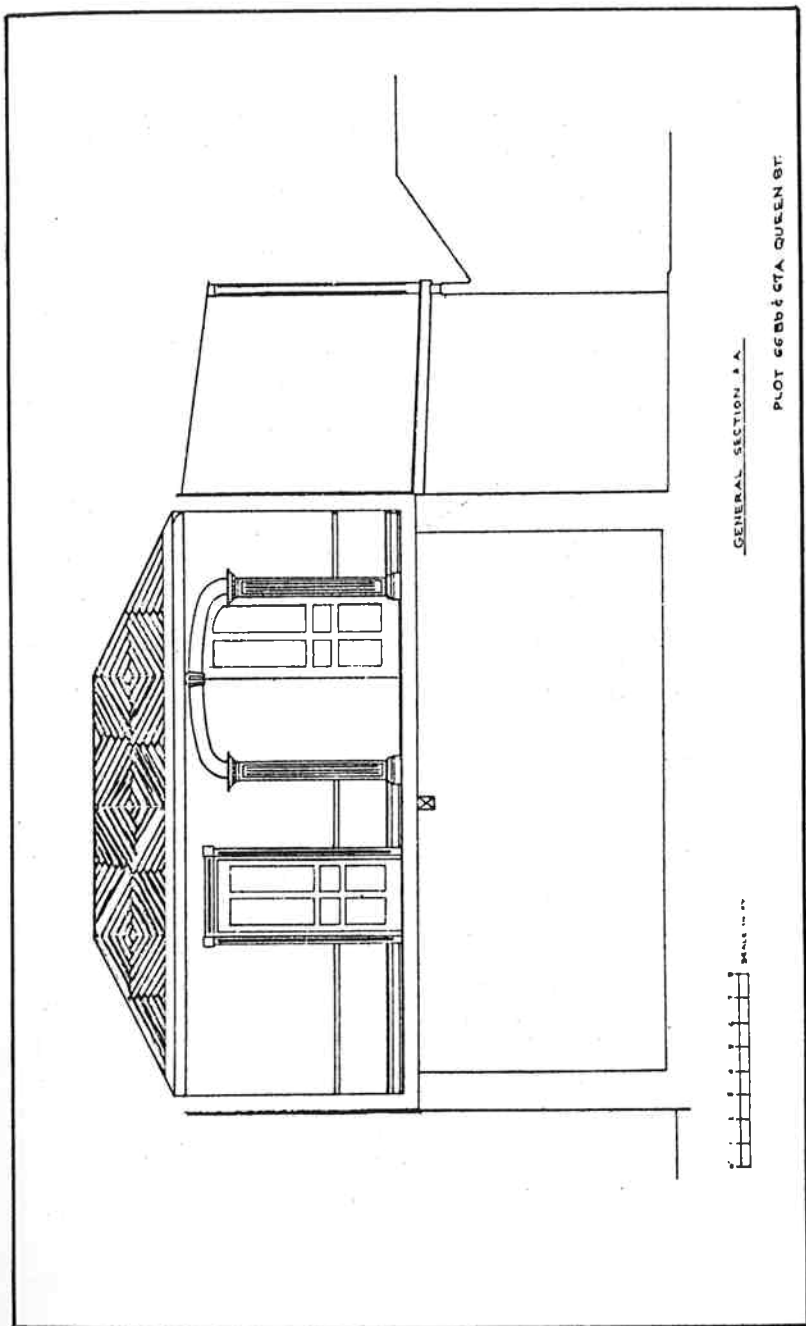


FIGURE 25
 General Section, 211 Market Street, Frederiksted, St. Croix, V.I.

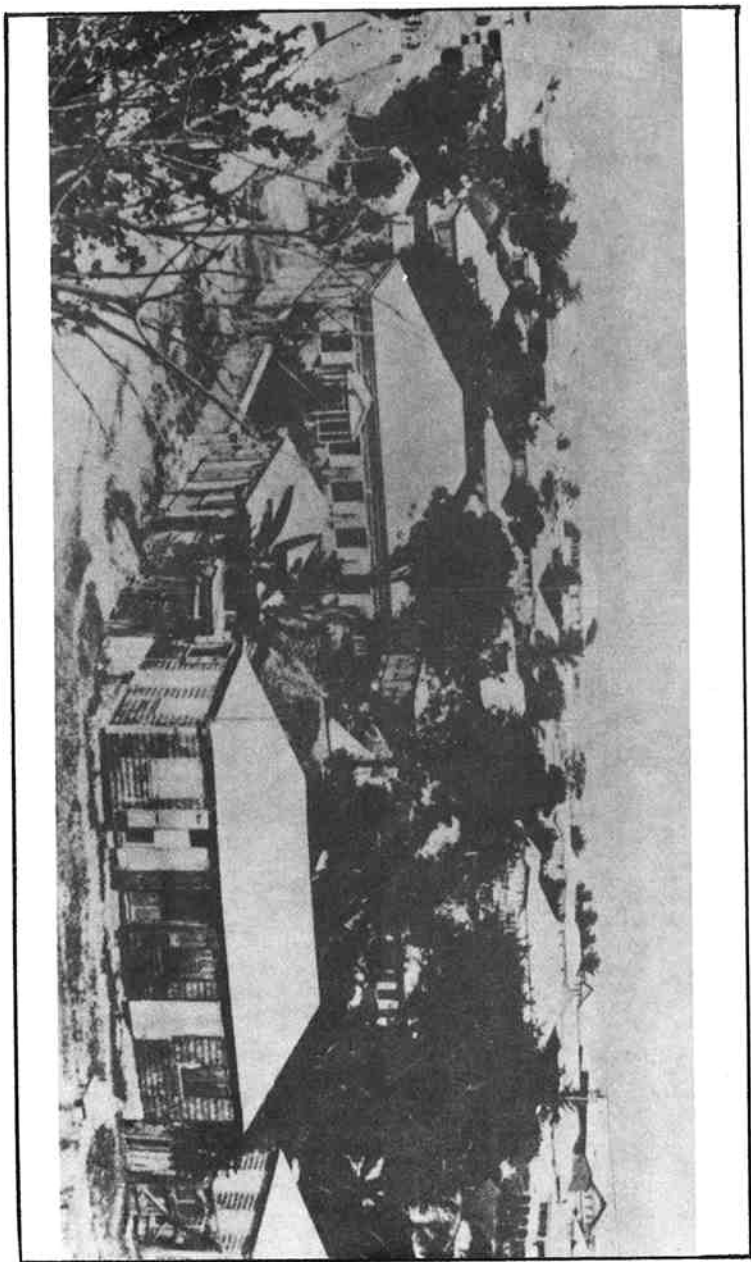


FIGURE 26
54A Hospital Street, Frederiksted, St. Croix, V.I., c.1900.

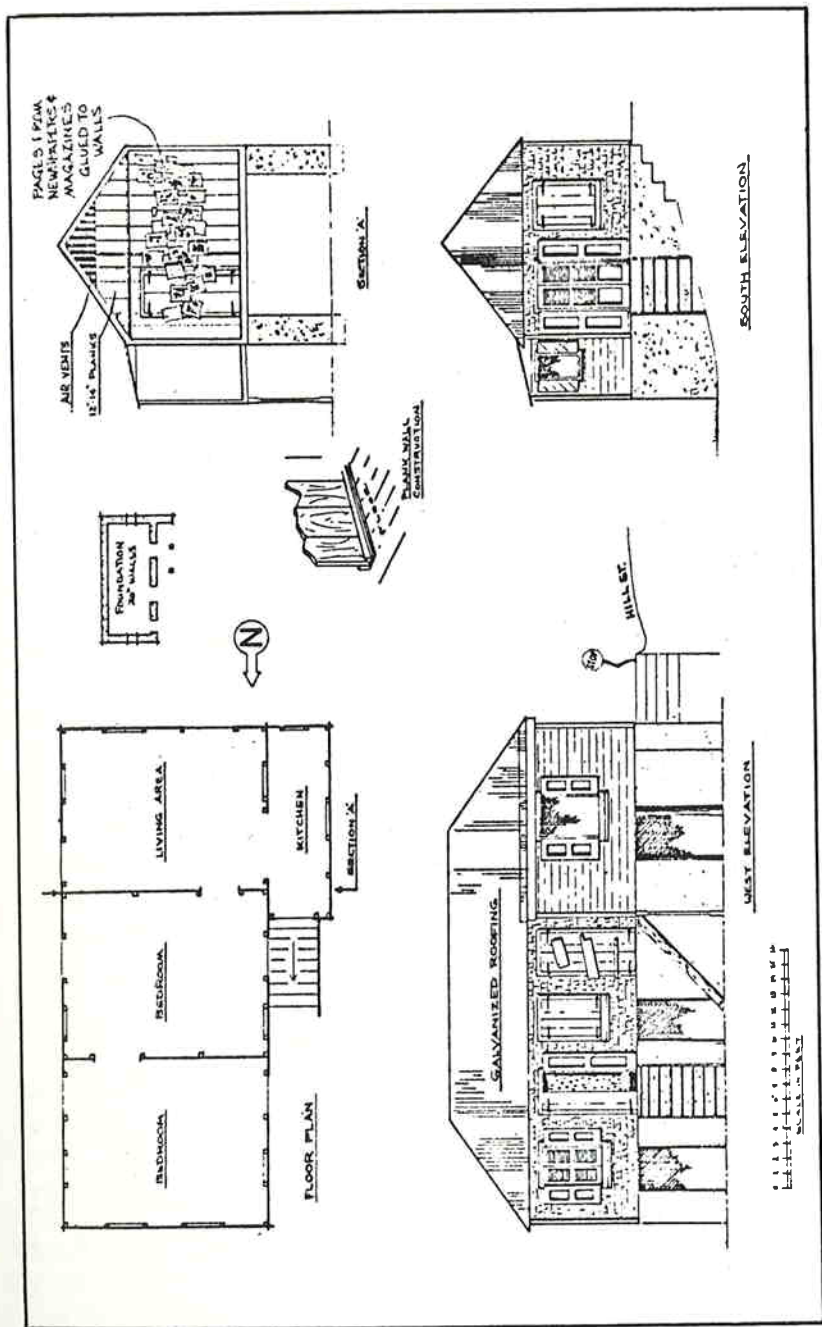


FIGURE 27
54A Hospital Street, Fredenkssted, St. Croix, V.I.