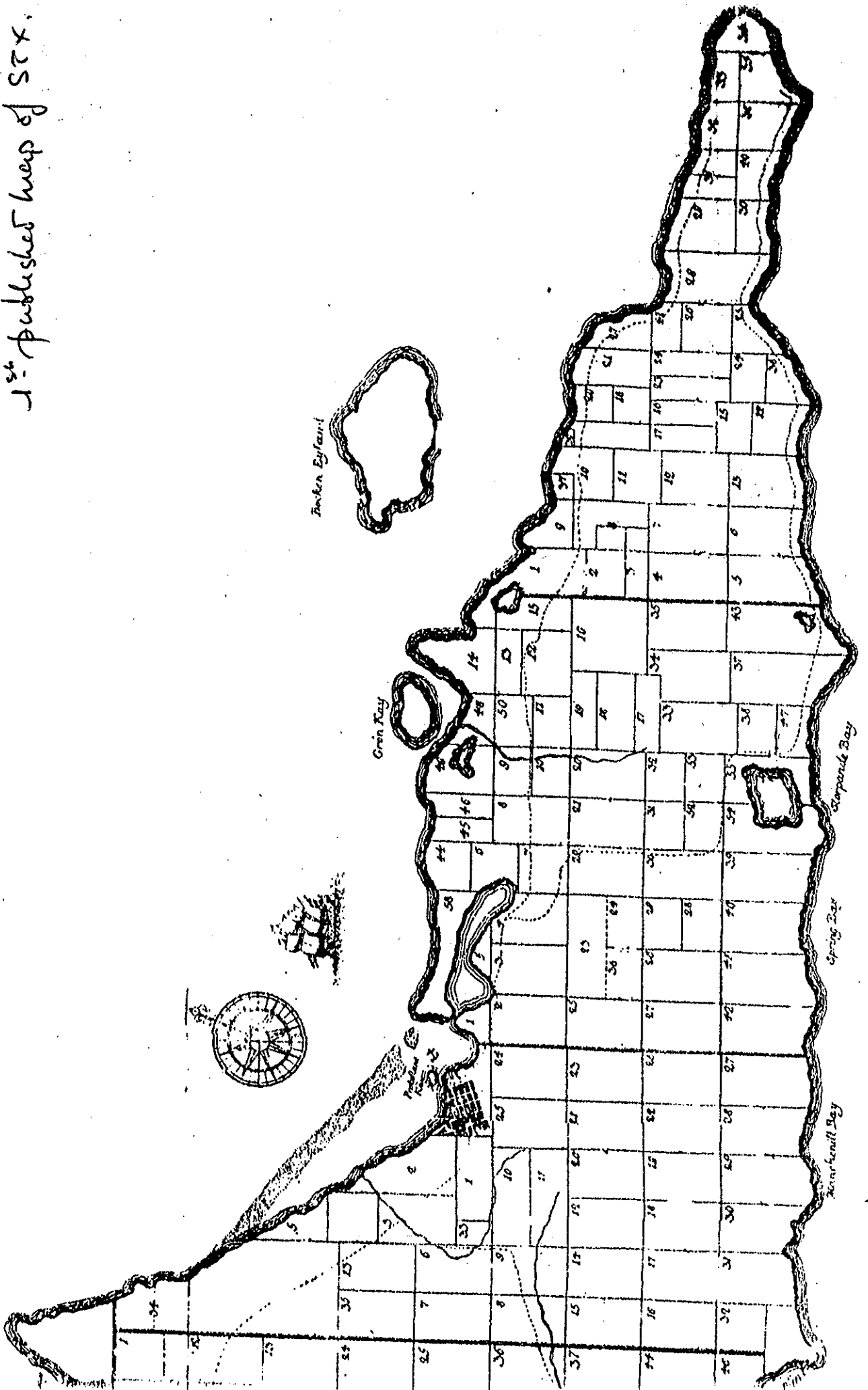


" Beck 1784/5

1st published map of 1784



HERMON HILL

(Company Quarter #1, 10, 11, 25, 33) 370 acres in 1772; then 341 acres after 29 sold to Beeston Hill

1738 - 1772 - No. 10 is main site with settlement; from 1772 onwards - No. 10 & 11 realigned

1738	No. 10 Company Quarter Taken up William Smith		
1742	Smith 1/2 (7 slaves); sells 1/2 to Sara Harris (5 slaves)		free/slaves
1745	Samuel Downing (#1, 10, 11) (17 slaves, including 1 belonging to Sara Harris		-/17
1750	Samuel Downing heirs (#10, 11)	animal mill	-/23
	Note: # 1 sold to John Latham - inhabited		
1754	Edmund Kelly (#10, 11, 25)		-/22
	Note: Downing keeps part of #10 - has 19 slaves		
1755	Edmund Kelly	animal mill	5/35
1760	Edmund Kelly		6/61
1766	Edmund & Patrick Kelly to Thomas Lillie	windmill	10/142
1772	Thomas Lillie - 370 acres later 341 acres, 29 sold to B. Hill		9/183
1780	Peter Nugent		12/131
1792	Christopher Nugent to Christopher McEvoy Sr. heirs		4/104
1797	John Rengger		-/131
1804	Mary Rengger		2/132
1815	Isaac DuBois		2/79
1824	At auction by King to Thomas Dalton		
1827	At auction to Royal Loan Commission		
1830	At auction to Capt. J. Gyllich		3/97
1836	Capt. Gyllich sells to Royal Loan Commission		
1841	Rented by Carl Bithorn		12/89
1853	Auctioned to H. L. Arnesen - cultivated with Work & Rest		
1855	H. L. Arnesen		56
1863	William Clindinen (with Aldershvile); 100 acres cane		3/39
1870	William Clindinen;	no cane	23
1880	H. McAdam		38
1890	F. MacKay		
1895			9
1911	C. O. Hansen		24
1920	Douglas Skeoch, Robert Keith, M. K. Armstrong - 5 acres sugar		
1924	Ditto	no cane	
1942			4 families

No. 10 Company Quarter

1738 1500 x 4000 purchased from Company in Oct. by Wilhelm Smit

1742 1500 x 4000 Wilhelm Smit, cotton 0/7 residents

Note, Commission says in 1741 1/2 sold to Thomas Williamsen

1/2 sold to Sarah Harris

1745 Sarah Harris ns, 0/1

Samuel Daunings heirs 2000 x 1500

10b (37.5 acres)

10a (87.5 acres)

10c (25 acres)

1754 Mathias Ferrall x 1500 0/0	Edmund Kelly x 1500 0/0*	S. Dauning heirs (T. Lillie 10a; 12 slaves)
1755 Mathias Ferrall x 1500 0/0	Edmund Kelly x 1500 0/0	S. Dauning heirs 0/0
1758	Edmund Kelly	S Dauning heirs - to be measured
1760 Francis Portugis x 1500 8/4	Edmund Kelly	?
1765 F. Portugis	E. Kelly	?
1766 F. Portugis, fpc, 0/6	Edmund Kelly Jr.	?
1767 F. Portugis 8/6	Thomas Lillie	?
1768 F. Portugis, fpc, 8/8	Thomas Lillie	?
1773 F. Portugis 0/8	Thomas Lillie	Isaac Evans 1000 x 1000 (Golden Rock)
1780 F. Portugis heirs 0/0	Thomas Lillie	Isaac Evans
1792 F. Portugis heirs 0/0	with Herman Hill	James Tower
1797 F. Portugis heirs 0/0		
1805		
1815 F. Portugis heirs 0/4		Battelle
1830 F. Portugis heirs 0/8		Kierluff - 10c=25 acres; 1a=39 acres 0/0
1841		Carl Bithorn 1/10 rents Herman Hill
1855 S. de Francis heirs 2 "Catherine's Hope"		Patrick Murphy, 13, 10c=11 acres, 1a=38 "Contentment"
1863 Phillip Roche	15 residents	Phillip Roche
1870 Mary Roach	20 residents	Mary Roach
1880 R. Nygaard	16 residents	R. Nygaard
1890 W. C. Bowes		W. C. Bowes
1911 J. C. Canegata	4 residents	J. C. Canegata
1920 John Richard Leevy	All pasture	J. R. Leevy
1924 Ditto	84 acres pasture; 2 acres sugar	J. R. Leevy
1942 0 residents		0 residents

In Summary

Company Quarter 10b, a 37.5 acre parcel known as **Catherine's Hope**, was inhabited more or less continuously by a free African-American family (the Portugis) from the 1750s to the 1840s. During their tenure, the property was operated to raise livestock and provisions. Cotton may have been cultivated prior to 1790. A settlement may have been established on the property in the 1740s, and it continued to be occupied into the 1850s. Around 1860 it was joined to 10c, and occupation may have ended at that time. No settlement site is shown on any historic map, including those reliable ones of 1750, 1779, 1792, 1856 or 1919.

Company Quarter 10c, a parcel known as **Contentment**, was operated between 1750 and 1850 as a stock/provision farm by the owners of nearby sugar estates, most particularly Golden Rock and Herman Hill. Prior to the 1830s, no residents are listed in the land tax records. However, it certainly was occupied (by enslaved laborers recorded on Golden Grove or Herman Hill), prior to that decade. A settlement is shown on the property on a 1750 map; no settlement is shown on Oxholm's map of 1779, but Oxholm does show a small settlement, which he labels "Towers" (after John Towers, owner of Golden Rock sugar plantation) on his 1794 map. A settlement is also shown on the British Admiralty map of 1856. Around 1860, Catherine's Hope (10b) was annexed to this property, and the owners continued to reside in the Contentment settlement, which is depicted on the USCGS map of 1920.

Contentment and Free Hill/Catherine's Hope (Company Nos. 1e, 10b and 10c). The section of the Bypass that will create a new roadway between Contentment Road and Peter's Farm Road will cut across portions of Company Quarter Nos. 1e, 10b and 10c. Parcel Nos. 1e and 10c comprise a 49-acre property known as **Contentment**. Parcel 10b, consisting of 37.5 acres, was originally named **Free Hill**, later changed to **Catherine's Hope**. Originally these two properties were part of a single plantation ground, Company Quarter No. 10, that was sub-divided in the 1750s.

Company Quarter No. 10, a 150-acre plantation ground, was first purchased by Wilhelm Smit in October 1738. In 1742, Smit's property was classified as a cotton estate and was being worked by 7 resident slaves (Rigsarkivet 1742-1915; 1759). According to the Cronenberg-Jaegersberg map of 1750 (Figure 1), the Smit settlement was situated in the northeast corner of the property.

By 1755, Company No. 10 had been subdivided into 3 parcels: a 75-acre plot belonging to the heirs of Samuel Downing, a 37.5 acre parcel belonging to Francis Portugis and a 37.5 acre parcel belonging to Edmund Kelly (Rigsarkivet 1642-1915; 1759). In the 1760s, the Downing and Kelly parcels, amounting to 112.5 acres, were acquired by Thomas Lillie, who incorporated a total of 87.5 acres from them (parcel 10a) into his **Hermon Hill** plantation and transferred the remaining 25 acres (parcel 10c) to Isaac Evans. The location of these three parcels is depicted on Oxholm's map of 1794 (Figure 3). The parcel belonging to Isaac Evans became known as **Contentment**, while the parcel (10b) belonging to Francis Portugis took the name **Catherine's Hope** or **Free Hill**.

Contentment (Company No. 1e and 10c). This property originated in the late 1760s as a 25-acre parcel belonging to Isaac Evans, the owner of Golden Rock, a sugar plantation, whose main settlement was located about 1 mile north on Company No. 4. It remained attached to Golden Rock until the 1820s (Rigsarkivet 1642-1915; 1759). The owners of Golden Rock used Contentment as pasture, provision ground, timber preserve, and probably as a reservoir. The Smit settlement site was located on this land according to Cronenberg-Jaegersberg map of 1750 (Figure 1). But, it must have fallen into disuse, for no settlement appears on the Oxholm map of 1779. During the next fifteen years a small settlement was built, which appears under the name of "Towers" (after James Towers, the owner of Golden Rock), on Oxholm's 1794 map (Figure 3). This complex may have been built on the site of the old Smit establishment. Prior to 1832 the number of residents on Contentment is unknown, for they were included in the population figures for Golden Rock in the land tax records.

In 1825, parcel 10c was transferred from Golden Rock to Councilor Vogelsberg, who, in turn sold it to Lawyer Kierchoff in 1827. The following year, Kierchoff added a parcel (Company 1e) of 24 acres from Company Quarter No. 1 (Richmond) to the property, which thereafter took the name Contentment. This parcel had previously been uninhabited. No residents are recorded on Contentment for the years 1825-1831.

In 1832, Carl Bithorn, a merchant of Christiansted, acquired Contentment and moved onto the property with his family and house slaves. Thereafter the property was continuously inhabited and worked as small livestock and provision estate until the advent of American rule (Rigsarkivet 1742-1915). In 1917, 10 laborers and six squatters worked on the estate, but none of them lived there (National Archives 1917). The property was uninhabited in 1942 (National Archives 1942). The Contentment settlement appears on the British Admiralty map of 1856 (Figure 4), as a long rectangle on the USCGS maps of 1919 and 1929 (Figures 5-6), and on the USGS map of 1958 (Figure 7) under the old name "Towers."

An inventory of the Contentment site prepared in 1854 (National Archives 1854) listed the following buildings:

- A dwelling house with Kitchen and Cistern
- 4 Negro rooms
- 2 Houses of 1 room each
- 1 new House of 2 rooms
- Stable, Carriage House and Cattle Pen

The structural remains of the main Contentment settlement will not be directly impacted by the Bypass road. However, a spur road connecting the Bypass road with Contentment Road could impact an ruinate historic house, as well as nearby foundations and archaeological remains located along Contentment Road, about 50 yards distance from the main Contentment settlement. The origin of these remains is unclear. They could have been part of the Contentment village. Or they could have been built after 1850, when the land on which they sit was parceled out. They do no appear on the Admiralty map of 1856, nor on the USCGS maps of 1919 and 1929 (Figures 4-6).

Lillie's Hope/Hermon Hill (Company No. 33). This property, originally comprising 37.5 acres, was first taken up by Samuel Graves in 1740 and was occupied by 1745 (Rigsarkivet 1742-1915; 1759). In 1750, as shown by the Cronenberg-Jaegersberg map (Figure 1), Graves was cultivating sugar, and his settlement (too indistinct on the map to appear in Figure 1) was located on either side of Contentment Gut about 100 hundred yards east of the junction of routes 70 and 83. Between 1761 and 1765, Company No. 33 was acquired (along with 30 acres of Company Nos. 1 and 2) by Thomas Lillie, who named this property **Lillie's Hope**. In 1766, Lillie added three other properties (1/2 of Company No. 10, Company No. 11 and 1/2 of Company No. 25), which he acquired from Edmund Kelly. At the time of this land consolidation, settlement sites existed on Company No. 11 as well as on Lillie's Hope. The Lillie's Hope settlement consisted of a dwelling house, various out-houses, 24 slave houses, a cattle mill, and a sugar factory (Rigsarkivet 1768).

Sometime between 1768 and 1772, Thomas Lillie reconfigured his property lines through land swaps and resurvey. The result was a 420-acre tract that took the name Hermon Hill-Lillie's Hope, later shortened to just **Hermon Hill**. As a consequence of this readjustment, Company No. 33 doubled in size to 75 acres and the measurements of Company Nos. 10 and 11 each changed from 4000' x 1500' to 3000' x 2000'.

Hermon Hill was operated as a sugar plantation from the 1740s until the 1920s. There is no record of post-emancipation squatters or small farmers (Rigsarkivet 1742-1915; National Archives 1916-1924). In 1792, 7.5 acres from Company Nos. 1 and 2 were transferred to Orange Grove. In 1829, 33 acres (including 3.8 acres of Company No. 33) around Aldersville Hill were transferred to Johannes Mouritzen, who named this holding **Aldersville**. In 1832, another 25 acres (most of it from the western side of Company No. 33) were transferred to Beeston Hill.

Sometime between 1794 and 1856 the Contentment Road was built along the Contentment Gut, across the northern part of Hermon Hill. This probably occurred around 1829, when Aldersville was created, for the Road defined the boundary between Aldersville and Hermon Hill and provided the only access to the Aldersville villa.

In the eighteenth century, as shown by Peter's Oxholm's map of 1779 (Figure 2), the Hermon Hill settlement spread from the summit of Hermon Hill (217 feet) across the valley traversed by Contentment Gut to the top of Aldersville Hill (320 feet). The industrial area (factory and mill) was on Hermon Hill, which actually belonged to Company No. 11 (previously No. 10) and was part of a plantation settlement established by W. Smit (the first owner of the tract) in 1738. The slave village was located in the valley just north of Contentment Gut. This was the approximate site of Samuel Graves' settlement in 1750 (Figure 1) and probably the site of the Lillie's Hope village and settlement. Thus, the extensive Hermon Hill settlement of 1779 combined two earlier settlement sites. The great house complex on top of Aldersville Hill was constructed after 1750, probably after the merger of Lillie's Hope and Hermon Hill. Oxholm's map of 1794 (Figure 3) shows the same settlement pattern, with less detail.

Appraisalment of estate Hermann Hill

Land

85 Acres of corn land @ \$40	\$ 3400	00
256 7/20 pastures @ 5	1280	00
	<u>\$ 4680</u>	00

Stock

4 working oxen @ \$50	\$ 200	00
2 flock bulls @ 50	100	00
43 cows @ 30	690	00
17 Steers @ 30	510	00
8 Steer calves @ 10	80	00
9 Bull calves @ 10	90	00
	<u>1670</u>	00

Buildings

32 Laborer rooms	\$ 450	00
Yard buildings consisting of:		
2 Houses & Kitchen	400	00
3 Cattle pens	250	00
	<u>1100</u>	00
1 Side wall plough		10 00
Total	\$ 7400	00

H. Hill 9th January 1890

A. Hill = Peter Oerichsen

Tromsøhus i den Christenede Bygning, det 14 Januar 1890. B. D. N. N. 2/1890