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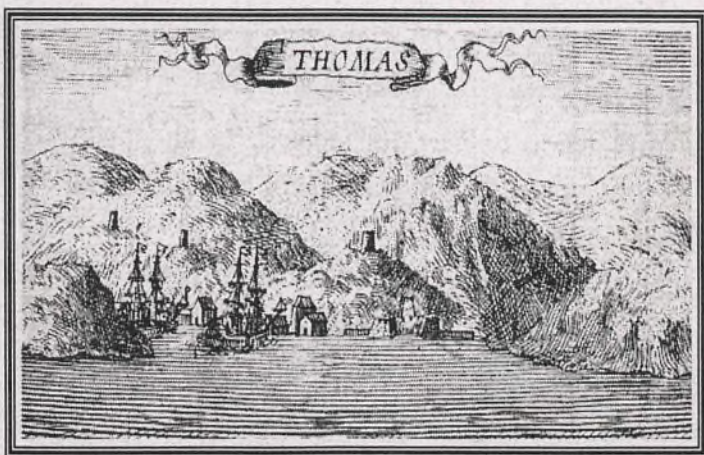
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THE 1688 CENSUS OF THE DANISH WEST INDIES (Portrait of a Colony in Crisis)

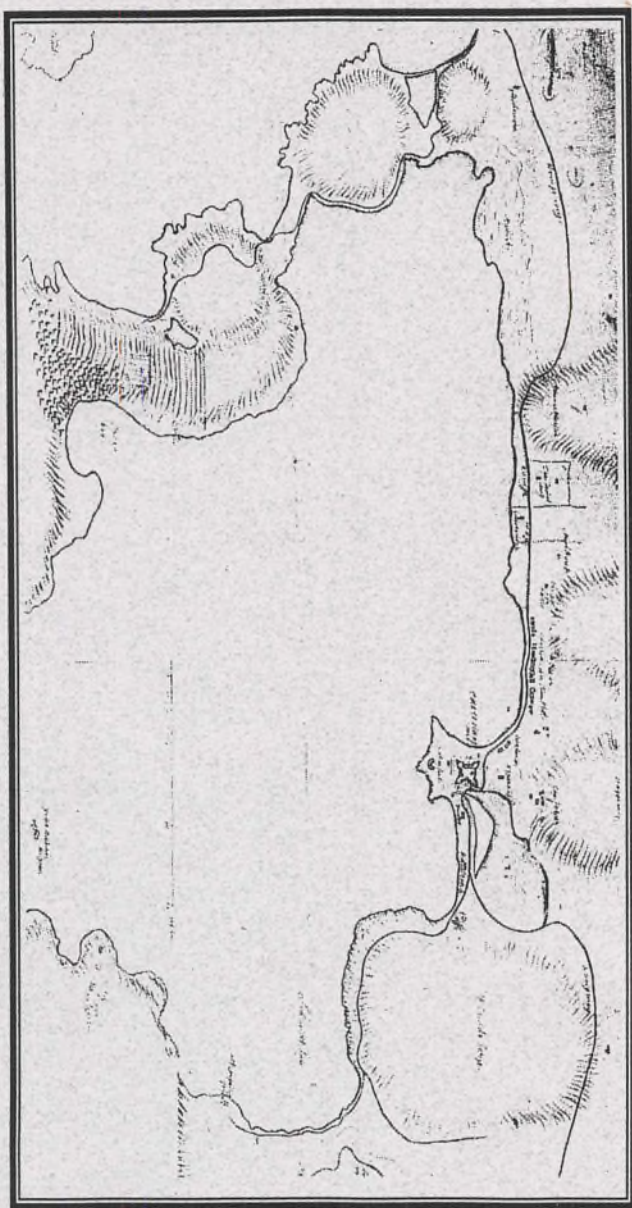


Translated by: Gary T. Horlacher
Edited and Annotated by: David W. Knight



Little Nordside Press

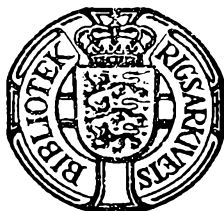
PO Box 9767
St. Thomas, U. S. Virgin Islands
00801



Sketch map of St. Thomas harbor in the late seventeenth or early eighteenth century.
(Royal Library Map Collection, Royal Library, Copenhagen, Denmark)

THE 1688 CENSUS OF THE DANISH WEST INDIES

(Portrait of a Colony in Crisis)



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00801

For Stephen C. Edwards

This would be a far better work were it not for the loss of his respected counsel.

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Introduction

Here, offered in an English translation and a readily readable format, is one of the Danish West Indies' most informative early primary documents. Compiled at a time when the debilitating effects of a decade of fiscal irresponsibility and corrupt leadership were forcing the colony's Copenhagen-based directors to reassess their own motives, methods, and overall intentions in the Caribbean region, it remains an indelible snapshot: a portrait of a colony in crisis.

It should be noted, however, that while the 1688 Census of the Danish West Indies offers a rather detailed glimpse of St. Thomas' landed settlers, certain elements of the population do not appear in this document. Most conspicuously absent are Danish West India Company officials, employees, and contracted servants, who were not accounted for unless they had taken up a parcel of land on their own behalf. Nor were enslaved persons bound to the Company recorded. Also missing from the record are the Danish military personnel who manned the Colony's fort, and all of the persons (both free and enslaved) associated with the Brandenburg African Company, with the exception of their Director and Overseer. Further, it can be assumed that a number of free transient seamen, merchants, and tradesmen, along with their family members and slaves, were present on the island but not included in the census. The Danish historian Kay Larsen (Kay Larsen, *Dansk Vestindien, 1666 - 1917* [C. A. Reitzels Forlag, Copenhagen, 1928] p.52), determined that the total population of St. Thomas by 1688 was 820 individuals. If this figure is correct, then some 90 persons were unaccounted for in the census.

Yet, despite its inherent limitations, St. Thomas' 1688 census endures as a vital reference tool for all of those who pursue an understanding of the early settlement of the Danish West Indies. No contemporary document can rival it in terms of its broad content or concise and informative format.

Translator's Notes

A full translation of the 1688 Census of Danish West Indian colony of St. Thomas is given here for the first time. This work initially appeared to be a straightforward project; however, several problems were encountered that proved difficult to resolve. In the seventeenth century the population of St. Thomas was quite culturally diverse and a few explanations are necessary concerning the language used in the translation and the complex naming customs of the era.

Before translating this document, it was important to attempt to determine who actually compiled the census and what their language background was. The original census was signed by three men, two of whom were listed as High German and one as Danish: Frantz Martens, Siymont Luck, and A. Brock. As the document used for this translation was written in Danish, it may have been the Dane, Brock, who served as the primary scribe. On the other hand, this census came from the Danish National Archives (Rigsarkivet) in Copenhagen and was not a rendering of the original, but rather a copy which had been sent to Denmark from the West Indies in the Spring of 1736. Consequently, there could well have been errors made when the document was copied, and it is possible that the original was written in German and then transcribed into Danish when it was being prepared to be sent off to Copenhagen. In any event, it appears as though whoever penned this version wrote in a vernacular Danish that had some German influence. The modern Danish *sk*, for example, was rendered in the German equivalent *sch*, as in the nationalities *Engelsch* or *Hollandsch*.

While preparing this translation, an attempt was made to retain the Danish word order and to use Danish-English cognates. This was done to assist English speaking researchers in becoming more familiar with the style of language used in these documents. In some cases this might make a sentence sound awkward; however, one should be able to compare the translation with the original in order to better understand the language, flavor, and style of the document. For example, in the

description of the property in entry number 6, the translation was rendered, ...*Otherwise there is found an Indigo works on the plantation.* This might have been a smoother, more straight forward translation, worded as, *There is also an Indigo works on the plantation.* Likewise, several of the plantations lengths and widths included the added comment, ...*according to the land deed's contents.* One could just as easily translate this as, *according to the contents of the land deed,* which retains the same meaning but does not follow the original Danish word order.

A few specific terms should be mentioned with regard to the present document. The Danish term *planter* was used rather than translating it to plantation owner. The plantations at this time were smaller than the plantations in the 18th and 19th centuries, and the term *planter* can be understood to be the person who owned, and in many cases physically worked, these relatively small agricultural plots. In describing the plantations, the term *capping-off* was repeatedly used in connection with newly taken up properties. It meant a capping-off of the trees, or more generally a clearing of the land. These references have been translated here as *cut away* in order to retain some of the flavor and still give the term clear meaning.

Besides the various problems encountered in language, one will notice a great diversity in the naming practices from one family to another. The Danish custom of naming at this time was a patronymic system where a child received the given name of the father as a surname with the added suffix *-sen* or *-datter*, depending on the sex of the child. For example, the five sons of Rasmus Pedersen were listed with the surname Rasmussen. The Dutch system of patronymics was similar to that of the Danish, but most often just added the suffix *-s*, rather than *-sen* or *-datter* (as in *Jaspers* or *Jurgens*). Many of the English, French, German, and others of the Dutch, used set surnames that passed from one generation to the next as is practiced today. In some cases the colonists abandoned patronymics altogether, and used nicknames or occupational terms as in the case of the Swede, Olle Peders Fischer, who

was by trade a fisherman. It appears that with the diversity in the colony, each person or family decided how they would keep their surnames. St. Thomas was a melting pot of cultures, and allowances were made for differences of customs that today might seem quite confusing.

A special thanks goes to David Knight of Little Northside Press for all his encouragement and insight. He was the real moving force in identifying and getting this document published in a ready format. Hopefully this work will be as useful and interesting to others studying the history of the Danish West Indies as it has been for us.

Utah, January 1998

Gary T. Horlacher

Editor's Notes

The 1688 Census of St. Thomas is a study in transliteration. In preparing this work, the Translator and Editor have made every effort to render individual names precisely as they appeared in the original text -- even in cases where there occurred conflicting spellings of a family's common surname. While some of these variations may have been simply misspellings, others were clearly personal preferences or an intentional altering of pronunciation in order to distinguish one individual from another with a similar name. In the majority of cases, however, the confused spellings can be solely attributed to the difficulties of communication in a place of such cultural and ethnic diversity as the colony of St. Thomas in the late seventeenth century.

In an effort to broaden the scope of this work, a number of brief notations have been inserted into the census translation. As the 1688 census only recorded free and indentured citizens by their declared nationality, it seemed important to determine the number of individuals among St. Thomas' population that were already, by this early date, West Indian-born Creoles. In order to do this, it was necessary to extract places of birth from supplementary documentation. While this information may not be all-inclusive, it does underscore the extent of regional immigration to the Danish West Indian colony in the era. Please note that all names used in these footnotes were spelled as they appear in the cited sources.

To further supplement this work, a number of relevant charts and a brief historic timeline of the early years of Danish West Indian colonization have been compiled as appendices. A name index, referenced by census entry numbers, and location maps have also been included.

It is our hope that with this booklet, Volume II of the Local Knowledge Series, Little Nordside Press has further demonstrated its ongoing commitment to enhanced public access to a broad spectrum of

subjects relating to Virgin Island history. We have endeavored to format this work in a way that it will not only serve as a generally informative booklet, but also as a valued reference tool for genealogists, historians and students.

As in any project of such painstaking detail, it is necessary to recognize those persons who have lent their valuable time and support to the completion of this work: To Laurette Prime, Henry Hoff, Svend Holsoe, Caroline Keeler, and Charles and Terry Pishko, the Translator and Editor extend their sincere gratitude.

Eensomhed, St. Thomas V.I.

David W. Knight

Note: Technically not recorded as a census, the 1688 accounting of St. Thomas's inhabitants is part of a broader document group known as *The St. Thomas Land Lists*; a component of *The West India and Guinea Company Archives* which are housed in the Rigsarkivet in Copenhagen, Denmark. For those Virgin Island residents who wish to inspect a copy of the original document, it can be viewed on microfilm at the Enid M. Baa Library on St. Thomas.

Planterne paa 4^{de} Thomas

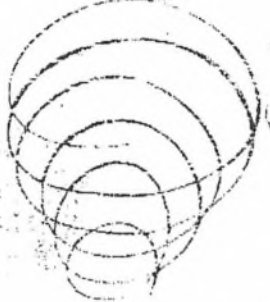
Med sine Hustru og Børn

Søgt

Servicer og Negosier

Angik Planterne paa 4^{de} Thomas

1688



Her paa 4^{de} Thomas
Med sine Hustru og Børn
Angik Planterne paa 4^{de} Thomas
1688

Planters on St. Thomas With their Wives and Children

**As well as
Servants and Negroes
Compiled on St. Thomas 25 July,
1688.**

NB Herewith are sent [in] parts by the ship
“de Vrouw Jacoba” [the Lady Jacoba] and the
Frigate, “Grevinde af Laurwigen” [Countess
of Laurwigen] with letters of 26 March and 21
April 1736.¹

¹ Notation is a reference to when this particular copy of the census was sent to Denmark.

1. 1800-1810
 2. 1810-1820
 3. 1820-1830
 4. 1830-1840
 5. 1840-1850
 6. 1850-1860
 7. 1860-1870
 8. 1870-1880
 9. 1880-1890
 10. 1890-1900
 11. 1900-1910
 12. 1910-1920
 13. 1920-1930
 14. 1930-1940
 15. 1940-1950
 16. 1950-1960
 17. 1960-1970
 18. 1970-1980
 19. 1980-1990
 20. 1990-2000
 21. 2000-2010
 22. 2010-2020
 23. 2020-2030
 24. 2030-2040
 25. 2040-2050
 26. 2050-2060
 27. 2060-2070
 28. 2070-2080
 29. 2080-2090
 30. 2090-2100

1. 1800-1810
 2. 1810-1820
 3. 1820-1830
 4. 1830-1840
 5. 1840-1850
 6. 1850-1860
 7. 1860-1870
 8. 1870-1880
 9. 1880-1890
 10. 1890-1900
 11. 1900-1910
 12. 1910-1920
 13. 1920-1930
 14. 1930-1940
 15. 1940-1950
 16. 1950-1960
 17. 1960-1970
 18. 1970-1980
 19. 1980-1990
 20. 1990-2000
 21. 2000-2010
 22. 2010-2020
 23. 2020-2030
 24. 2030-2040
 25. 2040-2050
 26. 2050-2060
 27. 2060-2070
 28. 2070-2080
 29. 2080-2090
 30. 2090-2100

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|--|--|
| 1 | Tomas Bernts(en) His wife Anna Brents ¹ 2 children, namely: ² Maria Berns Dorte Berns 1 servant, Hans Christoffersen Kroger 7 adult Negroes 2 Negro children | Holstein Dutch | Lutheran Reformed | Is a Bricklayer, [who] does handwork on the side. | 1000 feet wide and 3000 feet long | Is newly begun and not all cut away. |
| 2 | Jahn Cramue ³ | Flemish ⁴ | Reformed | Planter | Width and length he is not yet sure as neither the ground has been measured by him or any land deed | Is a new plantation which is newly taken up and resided. Yet in places part of the bush is cut away. |

¹ Anna Berentsen was noted in the 1691 census as having been born on Tortola (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists, (1686) 1688-1754, [Rigsarkivet, Denmark]).

² Both of the Berentsen children were reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

³ This was a second plantation taken up by Cramue (see entry # 18). Jan Cramue was among the earliest settlers of the colony. He was noted in Governor Iversen's journal as having taken up his first property in 1672, for which he received a formal land grant in 1678 (West India and Guinea Company, General Records, 1672-1703, [Rigsarkivet, Denmark]).

⁴ Spelled "Flaming" in the original text. Today, the Western portion of Belgium known as Flanders.

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|------------------------|--------------------------|------------|---|---|
| 3 | Rasmus Pedersen His wife, Sara Swains ⁵ 5 Sons, namely: ⁶ Peter Rasmussen Tomas Rasmussen Rasmus Rasmussen Johan Rasmussen Jacob Rasmussen 4 Negro Men 1 ditto, maron ⁷ 2 Negro women 3 Negro children | Danish English | Lutheran Reformed | Planter | 400 feet wide E. W., 3000 feet long N. S. | Plantation is well kept up but newly begun. |
| 4 | Johan Haris His wife, Isbeche Boris 2 step-children, 1 boy and 1 girl 1 of his own 1 boy 4 Negro men 1 Negro woman 1 Negro boy | English Curaçao | Reformed Reformed | | A plantation which is taken up by said Joha[n] Harris, planter here in this land, who does not know if he will receive of the company on account of Esmit has made claims. Otherwise it is in length 3000 feet and in width 400 feet. | Newly begun |

⁵ Rasmus Pedersen's wife, Sara, was noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Eustatius (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists).

⁶ Peter, Tomas, and Jannis Rasmussen were reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

⁷ Maron: A runaway slave.

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|--------|----------|------------|---|---|
| 5 | [blank] | | | | | The Royal Company's plantation in Mosquito Bay which until now has lay deserted and in wilderness, but now by Mr. Governor Esmit was taken up and some of the land already made ready for sowing for the company's advantage. |
| 6 | Johan Duncker * of Curaçao, which was registered by his attorney, Frans Martens 2 Negro men | | | | 150 feet wide in eastern and western lengths, stretches from the sea shore up to the top of the high mountain according to land deed. | His plantation which similarly lies mostly deserted on account of the Negroes a couple years ago were taken away by the Spanish. Otherwise there is found an Indigo works on the plantation. |

* According to Governor Iversen's journal, the Duncker plantation was taken up in 1677 and received a formal land grant in 1680 (West India and Guinea Company, General Records).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|---|--------------------------|------------|---|-------------------------|
| 7 | Simon Luck His wife, Maria Wads ⁹ 2 boy step-children, namely: ¹⁰ Mathias Tropke Marten Tropke 1 of his own, Christian Luck ¹¹ 1 servant, Holger Pauls 4 Negro men 2 Negro women 2 Negro children | High German ¹² Dutch | Lutheran Lutheran | Carpenter | 800 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet stretching S. and N. according to the land deed's contents. | Is well worked |

⁹ Simon Luck's wife, Maria, was noted in the 1691 census as having been born on Tortola (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists).

¹⁰ Mathis and Martin Tropke were reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

¹¹ Christian Luck was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

¹² In the 1691 census Luck's birthplace was listed as Vlissingen, a coastal town in Zeeland in the Netherlands (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|---|------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|---|
| 8 | <p>Sidsel Pedersdaatter, widow of Mr. Johan Gilles Pad. Three female children, namely: Maria Pad Siselle Pad Karen Pad Her sister's 2 children who have neither father nor mother, namely: 1 boy and 1 girl 2 Negro men</p> <p>has besides a man in the house, namely: Olle Peders Fischer¹³</p> | <p>Danish</p> <p>Swedish</p> | <p>Lutheran</p> <p>Lutheran</p> | <p>Planter Woman</p> <p>A fisher</p> | <p>400 feet in width E. and W., in length 3000 feet stretching S. and N. according to deed contents</p> | <p>Found fairly good condition.</p> |

¹³ As late as the end of the seventeenth century, working class individuals still commonly took the titles of their occupations as surnames. In some cases, however, the name as well as the trade may have been passed down through successive generations.

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|---|-------------------|----------------------|---|--|--|
| 9 | Nicolas Reny Bernd his wife Johanna Reny ¹⁴ 1 daughter, Anna Reny ¹⁵ 2 of his wife's brothers belonging to the household, namely: ¹⁶ Johann Hansen Thomas Hansen | French English | Catholic Reformed | Planter Help their brother-in- law in working the plantation | 216 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet S. and N. from sea shore on according to land deed and the map | Found in poor condition on account of him being old and blind and has no Negroes. |
| 10 | Rasmus Pedersen's 5 male-children's ¹⁷ plantation, which was willed by Francois Jega 1 Negro man 3 Negro women 3 mulattoes 1 Negro boy 3 small Negro children | Danish | Lutheran | Young, underage | 376 and a few feet wide E. and W., in length from sea shore on , as the deed shows. | Found well kept and worked. |

¹⁴ Nicaloy Reny's wife, Janneke, was noted in the 1691 census as having been born on Tortola (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists).

¹⁵ Anna Reny was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

¹⁶ Johan Hansen was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on Tortola; his brother, Thomas, was noted as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

¹⁷ In the 1691 census only four children of Rasmus Pedersen were noted, all of whom were born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|------------------|----------------------|------------|---|---|
| 11 | Hari David ¹⁸ his wife, Catrina Kar ¹⁹ 1 child Hari David ²⁰ 1 Negro man | Dutch Dutch | Reformed Reformed | Planter | Can not figure his plantation's length or width on account that he has no land deed. | Is a new plantation and also is already cut away [and] planted with provisions. |
| 12 | Tomula Congardi his wife, Janike Le Weber | French French | Reformed Reformed | Planter | Can not actually know his plantation's length and width as he is a newcomer and does not have any land deed yet | Has begun to cut a little |
| 13 | Lasaris Segyret ²¹ his wife Maria Dekonning ²² 2 children, namely: ²³ Andreas Segyret Jacob Seygeret (<i>sic</i>) 2 Negro men 1 Negro woman 1 Negro boy | Dutch Dutch | Reformed Reformed | Planter | 200 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet N. and S. according to land deed and the map. | Well planted |

¹⁸ Hari David was noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Martin (ibid.).

¹⁹ Hari David's wife, Coetie, was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on Tortola (ibid.).

²⁰ Hari David (Jr.) was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

²¹ Lazar Siejoreth was noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Martin (ibid.).

²² Lazar Siejoreth's wife, Maria, was noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Eustatius (ibid.).

²³ Andreas and Jacob Siejoreth were both reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|------------------|----------------------|------------|---|--|
| 14 | Jörgen Iversen's ²⁴ plantation, no people or Negros found [there] | | | | Breadth in East and West 200 feet, in length S. and N. 3000 feet, on which is a little existing Indigo works | Completely found in bush. |
| 15 | Robert Lamar ²⁵ his wife Marin Wil ²⁶ | French French | Catholic Catholic | Planter | 444 feet wide east and west, in length 3000 N. and W. according to land deed's description | Found in good condition and well kept up, according to the energy he has. |
| 16 | Jan de Wint 3 Negro men 2 Negro women | Dutch | Reformed | | width 708 feet E. and W., in length N. and W. 3000 feet to the top of the highest mountain, according to land deed's contents | Well worked |

²⁴ Jörgen Iversen: First governor of the Danish West Indian colony. Iversen, as well as his wife and new born child, were killed in a mutiny aboard the ship *Havmanden* in 1682 while returning to the West Indies (Waldemar Westergaard, Ph. D., *The Danish West Indies Under Company Rule (1671-1754)*, [The Macmillan Co., New York, 1917]).

²⁵ The name of Robert Lamar first appears on a census of St. Thomas inhabitants in 1686, in which his wife was recorded as having been born in the West Indies. On the 1691 census, his wife's name was entered as Elisabeth, and her birthplace noted as Nevis. Intriguingly, no age was recorded for Robert Lamar until the 1699 Land List, when he was reportedly ninety years of age. Robert Lamar, along with his wife, Elisabeth, were still recorded as living on their plantation as late as 1711 (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists).

²⁶ Robert Lamar's wife, Elisabeth was recorded in the 1691 census as having been born on Nevis (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|----------------------|--------------------------|--|--|---|
| 17 | Mr. Engelbert Christian Overseer Peder Nielsen 2 servants: Michell Andersen and Margrette Sontomb 3 Negro men 2 Negro women 2 Negro children | Danish Danish | Lutheran Lutheran | citizen in Copenhagen keeps over- seer here | 1200 feet wide E. and W., in length S. and N. from sea coast up to the top of the high mountain 3000 feet | This plantation is unplanted and burned which is also pretty to see. There is not 1 lot of indigo, or sugar to be found on it. |
| 18 | Johan Cramue ²⁷ his wife Maria Fatt ²⁸ 3 children namely: ²⁹ Wilm Cramue Johan Cramue Maruhe Cramue Has with him his wife's daughter's child, namely: Maria Swais, ³⁰ father and motherless 5 Negro men 3 Negro women 2 Negro children | Flemish English | Reformed Reformed | Planter | 314 feet wide E. and W., in length to the top of the high mountain 3000 feet, according to land deed and the map | Found well planted and kept up |

²⁷ (See entry #2)

²⁸ Jan Cramue's wife, Maria, was recorded in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Christopher (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists).

²⁹ Willem and Jan Cramue were both noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

³⁰ Maria Swains was noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|------------------|----------------------|------------------|--|-------------------------|
| 19 | Capt. Daniel Mooy His wife Dorte Swains ³¹ 2 children, namely: ³² Cornelia Mooy Sara Mooy servant Lars Andersen 3 Negro men 4 Negro women 2 Negro boys 1 little Negro child 1 overseer: Andres Reins, his wife ³³ Maria Class | Dutch English | Reformed Reformed | | 225 feet wide E. and W., in length S.W. 3000 feet according to land deed and the map. | Well worked |
| 20 | Sebilla Swain ³⁴ old and decrepit 4 Negro men 2 Negro women 1 Negro boy | English | Reformed | Planter Woman | 322 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet up to the top of the high mountain | Well worked |

³¹ Danial Mooy's wife, Dorothea, was recorded in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Eustatius (ibid.).

³² Cornelia and Sara Mooy were both noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

³³ Andreas Rhein and his wife, Maria, were both recorded in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Martin (ibid.).

³⁴ Sibilla Swain was the widow of Thomas Swain Sr., and one of the earliest settlers on St. Thomas. According to Governor Iversen's journal, the Swains took up their property in 1672, and received a formal land grant in 1678 (West India and Guinea Company, General Records, 1672-1703). Recorded as "Mother Swain" in 1686, Sabilla Swain was reported in the 1691 census to be eighty-six years of age (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|---|---|--|------------|--|---|
| 21 | Johan Bull his wife Beatis Robbert ¹⁵ 3 children, namely: ¹⁶ Else Bul Beatis Bull Alita Bul In the house is an old widow woman by the name Else 1 Negro boy | Dutch English English | Reformed Reformed Reformed | Planter | 310 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet and to the top of the high mountain | Found tolerably well according to his poor condition. |

¹⁵ Jan Bul's wife, Beatrix, was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on Tortola (ibid.).

¹⁶ Else and Beatis Bul were both reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|--------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| 22 | Antony d'Konig his wife Anthonette Klerj ³⁷ 3 sons, full-grown, namely: ³⁸ Agustinj d'Konig Antoni d'Konig Jacob d'Konig 3 daughters: ³⁹ Gertrud d'Konig Lisabet d'Konig Rachel d'Konig 1 Negro man 1 Negro woman 1 Negro boy | Dutch Dutch | Reformed Reformed | Planter | 360 feet long E. and W. in length 3000 feet N. to the top of the mountain according to land deed's contents | Found in good condition and well worked |
| 23 | Mr. Jens Fredrichsen Hoffman ⁴⁰ 1 Negro man 1 Negro boy | Danish | Lutheran | Pastor here for the Danish parish | According to his own statement, should be 312 feet wide E. and W., in length to the top of the mountain 3000 feet | Found somewhat good according to his poor opportunity |

³⁷ Antoni d'Konig's wife, Antennett, was recorded in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Eustatius (ibid.).

³⁸ Antoni [Jr.] and Jacob d'Koning were noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas; Agustinj was reported as born on St. Eustatius (ibid.).

³⁹ Lisabet and Rachel d'Koning were noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

⁴⁰ This property was set aside for the support of the Lutheran Pastor, who generally lived in the colony's fort. Pastor Jens Fredrichsen Hoffman arrived in St. Thomas in February of 1686 on a three year contract. Discontent over conditions in the colony, Hoffman deserted St. Thomas in 1689 with only ten months remaining on his contract (Jens Larsen, *Virgin Islands Story (A History Of The Lutheran State Church...)*, pp. 22-23, [Muhlenberg Press, Philadelphia, 1950]).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|---|---|---|--|---|-------------------------|
| 24 | Christine Pieters, ⁴¹ Pieter Greth's widow 1 daughter: Gertrud Pietters 1 Negro man 1 Negro woman 1 Indian girl | English | Reformed | Planter woman | 566 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet stretching N. to the top of the mountain | Found in good condition |
| 25 | Pieter Hansen his wife Catrina Elissabet his two step-children, namely: ⁴² Jorgen Hansen Anna Maria d'Hem Servant, Ole Hansen 2 Negro men 1 Negro woman 1 Negro boy 1 little Negro child In the house here on their plantation: 1 single person namely Ole Matinsen Stüfe also, Jan Röneberg and his wife Maren Nielsdatter | Danish Danish Danish | Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran | Planter Carpenter | 500 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet N. and S. according to land deed and the map | Found in poor condition |

⁴¹ Christina Peters was recorded in the 1691 census as having been born in New England; her sixteen year old daughter, Gertrud, was noted as born in Amsterdam (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists).

⁴² Jorgen Hansen and his sister, Anna Maria, were both noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|---|--|---|---|--|
| 26 | Dina Daniels is the widow of Simon Ocker ⁴³ Her children, namely: Pieter Marie Gouerd Marie Diana Marie Antonette Giesel 3 Negro men 5 Negro women 2 Negro children found with her in the house: Moses Catro | Dutch French | Reformed Reformed | Planter woman Teaches school | 297 feet wide and in length N. to W. 1500 feet according to land deed | Found well worked |
| 27 | The Brandenburg ⁴⁴ director Mr. Callie's overseer Hals Dufo | French | Catholic | | 205 feet wide in length 3000 feet | Well worked and planted from uppermost to the lowest |

⁴³ Simon [von] Ockeren was one of the earliest settlers of the St. Thomas colony, having taken up his property in 1672. He received formal title to his plantation from Governor Iversen in 1678 (West India and Guinea Company, General Records, 1672-1703).

⁴⁴ In 1685 the Duchy of Brandenburg was granted the right to establish a commercial trade depot on St. Thomas (John P. Knox, *A Historical Account of St. Thomas, W.I.*, [Charles Scribner, New York, 1852]).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|---|------------------|----------------------|------------|---|-------------------------|
| 28 | Dina Daniels ⁴⁵ one more plantation | | | | 412 feet wide E. and W., in length stretches from sea coast to the top of the highest mountain | Well worked |
| 29 | Lucas Folckers his wife Maria Schwain 4 children, namely: Folckers ⁴⁶ Margreta Christopher Jannica Gaf Servant Peder Pedersen 3 Negro men 3 Negro women | Dutch English | Reformed Reformed | Planter | 367 feet wide E. and W., in length to Johan de Wint side N. 3000 feet to the top of the mountain, on the west side toward Dina Daniels, stretches N. and W. 3000 feet according to land deed's contents | Found well worked |

⁴⁵ See entry #26.

⁴⁶ Lucas Volkers' son Volker, and his daughter, Margreta were both noted in the 1691 census as having been born on Curaçao; Christopher was reported as born on St. Martin (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|---|----------------------|--------------------------|--|--|---|
| 30 | Jan d'Wint ⁴⁷ His wife Susanna Rückers 3 children, namely: Tohmas d'Wint Johannes d'Wint Sussanna d'Wint 9 Negro men 1 Maron 7 Negro women 14 Negro children | Dutch English | Reformed Reformed | Planter and merchant | 800 feet wide E. and W., in length S. and N. 3000 feet to the top of the mountain, according to land deed's contents | Found well worked |
| 31 | Boy Cornelisen his wife Catrina Bavi ⁴⁸ 2 father and motherless children 2 Negro men | Dutch Dutch | Lutheran Reformed | Captain of the Company Barque | 426 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet S. and N. up to the top of the mountain according to land deed's contents | Found in poor and desolate condition |

⁴⁷ This was most likely the couple listed in the 1691 census as Jannes and Anna DeWindt; both were noted as having been born on St. Eustatius (ibid.).

⁴⁸ Boy Cornelisen's widow was noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Martin (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|--------|----------|------------------|---|--|
| 32 | Margrete Gaehs, ⁴⁹ [widow] of deceased Mr. Thomas Swain 4 children, namely: Christian Wads Thomas Swain Margreta Swain Sara Swain 10 Negro men 7 Negro women 8 Negro children | Brasil | Reformed | Planter woman | 650 feet wide E. and W., in length N/O (<i>sic</i>) 3000 feet up to the top of the high mountain, according to the land deed's contents Also, 1 plantation on the North Side, which belongs to the aforementioned widow of Tomas Swain which is 1000 feet wide, length in N NW to the top of the mountain | Found in good condition Likewise as much as is cut away is well worked |
| 33 | Thiosecia Saman, ⁵⁰ Andrus Saman's widow 1 son, namely: Gellare Saman 1 daughter: Magdalena Saman is a widow with a small child 7 Negro women | Dutch | Reformed | Planter woman | 200 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet up to the top of the mountain | Is not kept up because of the slaves |

⁴⁹Margrete Gaehs was the widow of Thomas Swain Jr.. The Swains (Thomas Sr. and Jr.) were among the earliest settlers on St. Thomas. The younger Swain was recorded in Governor Iversen's journal as having taken up his plantation in 1673; he received a formal land grant in 1678 (West India and Guinea Company, General Records, 1672-1703). By 1691, the Swain property was reported to be in the possession of "Thomas Swains heirs" (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists).

⁵⁰ Andrus Saman and his wife were among the earliest settlers in the Danish colony. They first took up their property in 1672, and received formal title from Governor Iversen in 1678 (West India and Guinea Company, General Records, 1672-1703). In the 1691 census Theovistis Saman was reported to have been born on St. Eustatius; her daughter, Magdelene Lagrande, was recorded as being born on St. Martin; and her granddaughter, Evia Lagrand (noted above as "a small child"), was said to have been born on St. Thomas (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|------------------------------------|--|------------|--|--|
| 34 | Hendrick Jansen ⁵¹ his wife Janicke Saman 1 child Sussana Janckis ⁵² 2 Negro man 2 Negro women 4 Negro children Here in the house single person, Pieter d'Glas | Dutch Dutch | Reformed Reformed | Planter | 200 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet according to purchase deed's contents | Found well worked |
| 35 | Lambert Bastian ⁵³ his wife Anna Bastians | Dutch | Reformed | Planter | 203 feet E. and W. wide, in length 3000 feet according to land deed's contents | Found in poor condition as they are old folk and without Negroes |

⁵¹ Handrick Jansen and his wife appear in the 1686, 1688, and 1691 censuses. In the 1691 census both Hendrick and Jennite were reported to have been born on St. Martin (ibid.).

⁵² Sussana Janckis was noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

⁵³ In the 1686 census both Lambert and Anna Bastians were reported as having been born in the West Indies (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|---|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------|--|-------------------------|
| 36 | Mr. Vice-Governor Heintz his beloved Gertrud Sens his 2 step children, namely: Sens Pieter von den Lindenhoff ⁵⁴ Anna Pieters von den Lindenhoff servant Karen Pedersdatter 10 Negro men 7 Negro women 4 Negro children | German Dutch | Lutheran Reformed | | 403 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet S. and N. according to land deed and the map | Well planted |
| 37 | Cornelius Jacobsen his wife Eppenette Jacobs ⁵⁵ 1 Negro man 1 Negro woman | Brabant ⁵⁶ English | Reformed Reformed | Planter | 250 feet E. and W. wide, in length 3000 feet N. to East according to land deed's contents | Found well planted |

⁵⁴ Sens Pieter von den Lindenhoff was noted in the 1691 census as having been born on Curaçao (ibid.).

⁵⁵ Cornelius Jacobsen's wife, Ebeneike, was recorded in the 1691 census as having been born on Barbados (ibid.).

⁵⁶ Brabant: A province of Belgium.

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|--------------------------------|----------|------------|--|--|
| 38 | Gillis David's, here in the house Johan Blær his wife Anna David ⁵⁷ 2 children, namely: Gillis Blær Rabbert Blær | Dutch Scottish Dutch | Reformed | Planter | 265 feet in width E. and W., length 3000 feet according to land deed | Somewhat well |
| 39 | Johan Pur his wife Ellen Jensdatter | Danish | Lutheran | Carpenter | 320 feet E. and W. wide, in length 3000 feet | Stands in wilderness and planted lengthwise with grass. |
| 40 | Kay Bay ⁵⁸ Capt. Daniel Mooy | | | | 1582 round about, does not know length or width written because it is a round-mountain | New plantation and which already has been cut away [and] planted . |

⁵⁷ Johan Blær's wife was noted in the 1686 census as having been born in the West Indies (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists).

⁵⁸ Kay Bay: The far southwest portion of Charlotte Amalie harbor, lying roughly in the area of Frenchtown today.

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|----------------------|--------------------------|------------|---|-------------------------|
| 41 | Hurricane Bay ⁵⁹ Mr. Johan Hadts ⁶⁰ his wife Ariana Delicat 4 children, namely: ⁶¹ Johannes Johnsen Daniel Johnsen Lisabet Johnsen Maria Larson 6 Negro men 5 Negro women 1 Negro child | English Dutch | Reformed Reformed | Innkeeper | 600 feet wide called Orcan-bay according to land deed and the map | Well planted and worked |

⁵⁹ Hurricane Bay: A bay on the eastern side of Hassel Island, known today as Careening Cove.

⁶⁰ John Hatch was reported in the 1691 census as having been born in Ireland (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists).

⁶¹ Daniel and Lisabet Hatch, as well as Maria Larson, were noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|--------|----------|---------------|---|-------------------------|
| 42 | New Quarter⁶² Maria Gam, ⁶³ widow 4 children, namely: ⁶⁴ Hendrick Eden Johannes Eden Philippus Eden Maria Eden 1 Negro man 1 Negro woman 1 Indian woman 1 little Negro child | Dutch | Catholic | Planter woman | 300 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet according to land deed and the map | Found well worked |

⁶² New Quarter: The geographical designation for a broad land area lying east of Charlotte Amalie and extending into the Tutu valley. Also commonly referred to on early maps and documents as Prins Georges, St Joris, or Nye Quarter.

⁶³ Noted as Maria Eden in the 1691 census, Maria Gam's husband, Otto Eden, was executed by order of Governor Adolph Esmit in 1683 for allegedly inciting rebellion (West India and Guinea Company, Journal of Happenings, [Rigsarkivet, Denmark]).

⁶⁴ The 1691 census records Henrich Eden as having been born in Surinam; Jan, in Amsterdam; Philip, on St. Thomas; and Maria, on Antigua (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|----------------------|--------------------------|------------|--|---|
| 43 | Peter d'Buch ⁶⁵ the younger His wife Constantin Anderssen ⁶⁶ 3 children, namely: Peter d'Buch Jancke d'Buch ⁶⁷ Maria d'Buch 1 Negro man | Dutch English | Reformed Reformed | Planter | 216 feet E. and W. wide and in length 3000 feet according to land deed | Well planted |
| 44 | Pieter d'Buch the elder 1 Cotton ginner ⁶⁸ Jan Pieters 1 Negro man | French Dutch | Reformed Reformed | Planter | 300 feet wide E. and W. in length | Decrepit condition because of the [lack of] slaves. |

⁶⁵ Pieter d'Buyck was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Eustatius (ibid.).

⁶⁶ Pieter d'Buyck's wife, Constantin, was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Christopher (ibid.).

⁶⁷ Jannetie d'Buyck was noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

⁶⁸ The mechanical cotton gin was not invented until 1793. The "cotton ginner," referred to above, was presumably a person who specialized in the removal of seeds from cotton.

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|---|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------|--|-------------------------|
| 45 | Mads Hansen ⁶⁹ his wife Ellen Jensdatter have taken in 1 father and motherless child 1 servant Peder Hansen Has in the house Jep[pe]Larsen who previously was Vice-Gouv (<i>sic</i>) Overseer 2 Negro men 1 Negro woman 2 small Negro children 1 Negro for said Jeppe | Danish Swedish Swedish | Lutheran Lutheran Lutheran | Planter | 303 feet E. and W., in length 3000 feet according to land deed | Found well planted |

⁶⁹ Mads Hansen was one of the first planters to take up land in the New Quarter. He took up his property in 1677 and received a formal land grant from Governor Iversen in 1678 (West India and Guinea Company, General Records, 1672-1703).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|----------------|----------------------|--|---|--|
| 46 | Willem Vernie ⁷⁰ his wife Gertrud Herden ⁷¹ 4 children, namely: ⁷² Henrich Vernie Willem Vernie Elisabet Vernie Maria Vernie 1 Negro man 1 Negro woman 1 Negro child | Dutch Dutch | Reformed Reformed | Planter | 307 feet wide in E. and W., length 3000 feet S. and N. according to land deed | Half ruined because of lack of slaves |
| 47 | Robbert Rickert ⁷³ his wife Ellen Rechert 2 children, namely: Johan Rickert Roben Rickert 1 Negro man 1 Negro woman | Irish | Catholic | Planter and overseer on the Royal Company's Plantation in Mosquito Bay | 300 feet wide E. and W., length 3000 feet N. and W. | Well worked |

⁷⁰ William Fomie was noted in the 1691 census as a fisherman (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists).

⁷¹ William Fomie's wife was reported in the 1686 census as having been born in the West Indies (ibid.).

⁷² In the 1691 census Henrich Fomie was reported as having been born on St. Eustatius; his siblings, Willem and Elisabeth, were noted as born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

⁷³ Robben Rickart was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Christopher; his wife, Ellen, was noted as born in Ireland (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|------------------|----------------------|--|---|-------------------------|
| 48 | Jan Breton overseer Michel Jansen 3 Negro men 1 Negro woman 1 Negro child | French French | Catholic Catholic | Planter | 719 feet wide in E. and W., in length 3000 feet according to land deed | Well worked |
| 49 | Joresberg Plantation ⁷⁴ Now belonging to Engelbrecht Christian 1 overseer Philips Rods 7 Negro men 4 Negro women 5 Negro children | Irish | Reformed | Inhabitant in Copenhagen but held by a servant | 1500 feet wide E. and W., 3000 feet long according to land deed | Well worked |
| 50 | Johan Selvan his wife Nille Burck ⁷⁵ 2 children, namely: Johan Millan ⁷⁶ Tam Baschesvil | Irish Irish | Catholic Catholic | Planter | 405 feet E. and W. wide, length in S. and N. 3000 feet according to land deed | Well planted |

⁷⁴ The Joresberg plantation was taken up by Governor Iversen in 1676, and was the first plantation started in the New Quarter (West India and Guinea Company, General Records, 1672-1703). Engelbrecht Christian (noted above) was most likely a guardian for the deceased Iversen's underage heir. By 1691, Joresberg was in the possession of Jorgen Iversen's nineteen year old son, Iver Jørgensen (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists).

⁷⁵ Johan Selvan's wife was noted in the 1686 census as having been born in the West Indies (ibid.).

⁷⁶ Johan Millan was noted in the 1691 census as having been born on Montserrat (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|-------------------|----------------------|------------|---|--|
| 51 | Sel Pasil his wife Neli Robbertz ⁷⁷ 4 children, namely: ⁷⁸ Jores d'Wal Johan d'Wal Robbert Pasil Elisabet Pasil 2 Negro men 1 Negro woman | French English | Catholic Reformed | Planter | 408 feet E. and W., in length 3000 feet S. and N. according to land deed | To the best of their ability as the slaves are only a few, well worked |
| 52 | Mr. Johan Boris and his wife left 2 plantations which run into each other upon which no one is on other than the overseer Leuen Tommermand ⁷⁹ 5 Negro men 3 Negro women 1 Negro boy 5 Negro children | Dutch | Reformed | Overseer | 900 feet wide E. and W., in length 6000 feet S. and N. according to land deed | Found somewhat well worked, but poorly maintained |

⁷⁷ Gellis Basill's wife, Elena, was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Eustatius (ibid.).

⁷⁸ Joris, Lesebeth, and Robben [Basill] were noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

⁷⁹ Leuen Tommermand was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Eustatius (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|--------------------|--------------------------|------------|---|-------------------------|
| 53 | Captain Jochum Delicat his wife Elisabet de Fischer Cornelis Delicat ⁸⁰ Maria Delicat Lisabet Delicat Nelle Delicat 8 Negro men 1 Indian man 4 Negro women 1 Indian woman 3 Negro children | Dutch Dutch | Reformed Reformed | | 830 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet S. and N. according to land deed and the map | Well worked |
| 54 | Jacob Thoma 3 children, namely: Jacob Thoma Anna Thoma ⁸¹ Maria Thoma 2 Negro men | Dutch | Reformed | Planter | 382 feet wide N. S., in length E.W. 3000 feet according to land deed and the map | Well worked |

⁸⁰ In the 1691 census, Cornelis was reported as having been born on Guadeloupe; Maria and Betie, on St. Christopher; and Niltie, on St. Eustatius (ibid.).

⁸¹ In the 1691 census Anna Thoma was reported to have been born on Antigua; her sister, Maria, was noted as having been born on St. Martin (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|---|-----------------|----------------------|--|---|-------------------------|
| 55 | Pieter L'Gron his wife Barbara Ranrt ⁸² 4 children, namely: ⁸³ Jan Berwil Louis Berwil Maria Berwil Lisabet Berwil 3 Negro men 1 Negro woman 1 Negro child 1 little Negro child | French Dutch | Reformed Reformed | Planter and overseer on the Royal Company Plantation | 550 feet N. and S. wide, in length E. and W. 3000 feet according to land deed | Well worked |
| 56 | Ditto Pieter L'Gron 2 Negro men 1 Negro woman 2 Negro children | | | | 650 feet wide N. and W. and 3000 feet E. and W. according to land deed and the map. | Well worked |

⁸² Peter Legron's wife, Barbara, was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Eustatius (ibid.).

⁸³ In the 1691 census, Louis and Maria were noted to have been born on Antigua; Liesabeth, was reported as born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|---|--------------------|--------------------------|------------|--|---|
| 57 | Arrian Delicat ⁸⁴ his wife Antonette Brevil ⁸⁵ 1 child Barbara Delicat ⁸⁶ 1 Negro man 1 Negro woman | Dutch Dutch | Reformed Reformed | Planter | 1000 feet wide S. and N., in length 3000 feet E. and W. according to land deed and the map | Is a new plantation and thus what has been cut away [is] well worked. |
| 58 | Captain Jasper Jansen Rais his wife Sussana Maria ⁸⁷ 4 children, namely: Pieter Jaspersen Jaspar Jaspersen Jannicke Jaspers Sussanna Jaspers Servants: Peder Rasmussen and Christen Simonsen 4 Negro men 2 Negro women 2 Negro boys 3 small Negro children | Dutch Dutch | Reformed Reformed | | 150 feet wide E. to S., in length 3000 feet according to land deed and the map | A beautiful plantation and well worked and planted. |

⁸⁴ Arien Delicat was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on Tortola (ibid.).

⁸⁵ Arien Delicat's wife, Anna, was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Martin (ibid.).

⁸⁶ Barbara Delicat was noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

⁸⁷ Jasper Jansen's wife, Sussana, was recorded in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Christopher (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|---|--------------------|--------------------------|------------|--|--|
| 59 | Johan Schiffel his wife Beatris Jaspers 1 child: Samuel Johansen 2 Negro men | English Dutch | Reformed Reformed | | 200 feet wide W. to S., in length 3000 feet | Newly begun and as much (of the land) is cut away is planted |
| 60 | Lewin d'Wint his wife Josiana von der Varden 5 children, namely: Levin d'Wint Jan d'Wint Adriana d'Wint Maria d'Wint Josiana d'Wint 1 Negro man 1 Negro woman | Dutch Dutch | Reformed Reformed | Planter | Still no land deed | Newly begun |

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|---|--------|----------|------------|---|--|
| 61 | Mr. Maria ⁸⁸ Borel's widow Maria Thoma ⁸⁹ 7 children, namely: ⁹⁰ Maria Borel Ivo Borel Pieter Borel Martines Borel Matias Borel Anna Barbara Borel Elisabet Borel 8 Negro men 4 Negro women | Dutch | Reformed | | 1000 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet according to land deed and the map | A beautiful plantation. Well planted and worked |
| 62 | Jan de Wint's plantation in Irebay ⁹¹ | | | | 1000 feet wide E. and W., in length S. and N. 3000 feet. according to land deed and the map. | Newly begun |

⁸⁸ This entry is clearly a mistake. Maria Thoma was the widow of the Danish West India Company Secretary, Mathias Borel (ibid.).

⁸⁹ Mathias Borel's widow, Maria, was recorded in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Martin (ibid.).

⁹⁰ Of the four Borel children noted in the 1691 census, only the eight year old, Elisabeth, who was reported as born on St. Eustatius, was born in the West Indies (ibid.).

⁹¹ Irebay: Shown on early maps of St. Thomas as Irebay or Yerse Bay, today known as Jersey Bay.

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|-----------------|----------------------|------------|--|---|
| 63 | Mr. Vice-Governor's ⁹² Plantation in Irrebay | | | | 1500 feet wide, in length 3000 feet according to land deed and the map | Worked and planted but poor with maintenance |
| 64 | Jacobus von Campen 3 Negro men | Dutch | Reformed | Planter | Knows no width or length as there is no land deed | Newly begun |
| 65 | Mathias Joris his wife Anna Hansdatter | Dutch Danish | Reformed Reformed | Planter | 420 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet according to land deed | Poorly planted |

⁹² Vice-Governor Christopher Heins.

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|----------------------------------|--|--|---|-------------------------|
| 66 | Mr. Andreas Pedersen Brock ⁹³ his beloved Anna Edwards 1 boy Samuel v. der Hude 2 Negro men 4 Negro women 3 Negro children | Danish Dutch Dutch | Lutheran Reformed Reformed | | 700 feet wide S. and N., in length E. and W. 3000 feet according to land deed | Well planted and worked |
| 67 | Tobias v. Wundergem his wife Maria Rambert ⁹⁴ 4 children, namely: ⁹⁵ Isack v. Vondergem Jacobus v. Vondergem Abraham v. Vondergem Tobias v. Vondergem 2 Negro men 1 Negro woman | Dutch ditto | Reformed ditto | Planter and in addition a lathe turner | 600 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet S. and N. according to land deed | Well worked |

⁹³ Once a respected Danish West India Company official, by the date this census was concluded Brock was facing charges for public drunkenness and his assault of the Lutheran pastor, Jens Fredrichsen Hoffman (West India and Guinea Company, General Records, 1672-1703).

⁹⁴ Tobias von Wonderghem's wife, Maria, was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Martin (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists).

⁹⁵ In the 1691 census, Cobus (Jacobus) was reported as having been born on Tobago; brothers, Abraham and Tobias, were noted as born on Curaçao (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|--|--|------------|---|-------------------------|
| 68 | Louis Boudvid Lefleur his wife Maria Fufal ⁹⁶ here in house with them: 1 old poor-old man namely: Jan Lewin 3 Negro men | French Dutch | Reformed ditto | Planter | 600 feet wide E. and W., in length N. and S. 3000 feet according to land deed | Somewhat well |
| 69 | Mickel Schapa Jansen his wife Mincke Delicat ⁹⁷ has in the house Jan Gratin 1 servant girl Dina Rebæus 3 Negro men 3 Negro women 1 Negro child | French Dutch French Dutch | Catholic Reformed Catholic Reformed | Planter | 480 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet W. and S. according to land deed | Somewhat well worked |

⁹⁶ Louis Baubenvin Lafleur's wife, Maria, was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Croix (ibid.).

⁹⁷ Michiel Chapa's wife, Mintje, was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Christopher (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|---------|----------|------------|---|--|
| 70 | Deceased Simon von Ockern's ⁹⁸ surviving children's plantation, namely: Arron von Ockern Anna von Ockern Alette von Ockern | Dutch | Reformed | | 600 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet N. and S. according to land letter | Well worked |
| 71 | Paul Kennem ⁹⁹ his wife Else Kemaren 1 daughter Margrete Basin ¹⁰⁰ | English | Reformed | Planter | 405 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet S. and N. according to land deed | Newly begun and poorly worked as they are old people |
| 72 | Johan Krabin 1 son, Jochim Krabin | English | Reformed | Planter | 412 feet E. and W., in length 3000 feet S. and N. according to land deed | Found in poor condition |

⁹⁸ (See entry #26)

⁹⁹ Recorded in the 1691 census as Poel and Else Kendi (ibid.).

¹⁰⁰ Margrete Basin was noted in the 1691 census as having been born on Martinique (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|---|----------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--|---|
| 73 | Thomas Jansen Rein his wife Sussana ¹⁰¹ 3 children, namely: ¹⁰² Johan Rein Maria Rein here with them a father and motherless child: Martin Martinsen 2 Negro men 1 Negro woman | Dutch Dutch | Reformed Reformed | Planter and tailor | 400 feet wide E. and W. and in length 3000 feet N. and S. according to land deed | Found somewhat according to the opportunity of the slaves |
| 74 | Robert Brack his wife Janike Hasten ¹⁰³ 2 children, namely: ¹⁰⁴ Robbert Brack Janike Brack here in the house with, the wife's sister namely: Gresi Astern ¹⁰⁵ | English | Reformed | Planter | 312 feet wide E. and W. and in length 3000 feet according to land deed | Found in poor condition, on account of no Negroes |

¹⁰¹ Thomas Jansen Rhein's wife, Susanna, was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Eustatius (ibid.).

¹⁰² In the 1691 census Johan Rhein was reported to have been born on St. Christopher; his sister, Maria was noted as born on St. Eustatius (ibid.).

¹⁰³ Rübben Brag's wife, Jannitie, was recorded in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Christopher (ibid.).

¹⁰⁴ Robbert and Janike Brack were both reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

¹⁰⁵ By 1691 Rübben Brag's household included two of his wife's sisters, Maria and Gres Astern, both reported to have been born on St. Christopher (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|---------------------------|----------------------|------------|--|-------------------------|
| 75 | Balter d'Kruter free Negro ¹⁰⁶ His wife Maria d'Hokj ¹⁰⁷ 2 old Negro men 1 Negro woman 1 little Negro boy | | ¹⁰⁸ | Planter | 400 feet wide E. and W., in length S. 3000 feet according to land deed and the map | Somewhat well planted |
| 76 | Pier du Piu his wife Maria Fleurj ¹⁰⁹ 3 Negro men 1 Negro woman 1 Negro child | French Dutch | Reformed Reformed | Planter | 619 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet S. and N. according to land deed | Well worked |
| 77 | Emanuel Baret his wife Johanne Lenar ¹¹⁰ 1 child Antonj Barret ¹¹¹ | Port- uguese French | Catholic Catholic | Planter | 412 feet wide E. and W., in length N. and S. 3000 feet, according to land deed | Poor condition |

¹⁰⁶ Balter was one of at least two early planters on St. Thomas who were of African heritage (another being Simon Lamar: see #81). Recorded as "Bolton d'fry Neger" on the 1691 census, his birthplace was given as Crab Island -- known today as Vieques (ibid.).

¹⁰⁷ Balton's wife, Maria, was reported in the 1691 census as having been born in Africa (ibid.).

¹⁰⁸ Balten and Maria were both noted as Catholics in the 1691 census (ibid.).

¹⁰⁹ Piere de Puy's wife was noted in the 1686 census as having been born in the West Indies (ibid.).

¹¹⁰ Emanuel Baret's wife, Anna, was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on Martinique (ibid.).

¹¹¹ Antoni Baret was noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|---|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|--|
| 78 | Carl Gilberg his mate Jan Balberrig | English Flemish | Reformed Catholic | Planter | 307 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet S. and N. according to land deed | Poorly worked because of no slaves. |
| 79 | Jan Jansen his wife Else Neid ¹¹² 4 children, namely: Jan Jansen Michel Jansen Maria Jansen Magrete Jansen | Dutch English | Reformed Reformed | Planter and carpenter | 309 feet E. and W. wide, in length 3000 feet S. and N. according to land deed | Found only poor on account of lack of Negroes. |
| 80 | Samuel von Tein 1 Negro man with 1 hand | Dutch | Reformed | Planter | 300 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet but no land deed | Newly begun |

¹¹² Jan Jansen's wife was recorded in the 1686 census as having been born in the West Indies (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|
| 81 | Simon Lamar ¹¹³ his wife Ebinetto Bokollj ¹¹⁴ here in the house 1 single woman Mette Nielsdatter 1 Negro man | Dutch English | Reformed Reformed | Planter and Bricklayer | 200 feet in width E. and W., in length 3000 feet but no land deed | On account of lack of slaves, only little worked |
| 82 | Johan Simonsen his wife Catrine Pedersdatter 1 Negro man | Dutch Danish | Catholic Lutheran | Planter and house carpenter | 314 feet wide E. and W., in length 3000 feet N. and S. according to land deed | In quite poor condition |

¹¹³ In the 1691 census Simon Lamar was noted as having been born on St. Eustatius (ibid.). Lamar had once been a slave, purchased by Governor Iversen on behalf of the Danish West India Company for his abilities as a mason. He was granted freedom, along with the status of a free citizen, for his work on the construction of the colony's fort (deJong and Gjessing, A.I.A., *Fort Christian Historic Structures Report* [The Department of Conservation and Cultural Affairs, St. Thomas, V. I., 1982], p.20).

¹¹⁴ Ebbonetie Lamar was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on Nevis (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|---|--------|----------|----------------------|---|---|
| 83 | Lucas Folckers ¹¹⁵ 3 Negro men 2 Negro women | | | | 426 feet wide N. and S., in length E. and W. 3000 feet according to land deed and the map | Well worked |
| 84 | Berendt Ruds ¹¹⁶ his wife Johanne Andressen 2 children, namely: Gertrud Ruds Johanne Ruds here in the house, his wife's sister Barbara Andressen who is father and motherless | Dutch | Reformed | Planter | 300 feet wide N. and S., in length 3000 feet E. and W. according to land deed | In quite poor condition because of lack of Negros |
| 85 | Mr. Engel Heysen bachelor 6 Negro men 1 Negro woman | | | Merchant and planter | 800 feet wide and in length 3000 feet according to his own submitted hand | Well worked |

¹¹⁵ (See entry # 29)

¹¹⁶ Berrent Roudt was an early colonist who first took up a 200 foot parcel of land in 1674. After complaining that he could not make a profit from the piece of land that he had worked for five years, Governor Iversen granted him another parcel which had been abandoned by Gabriel Mortensen in 1678 (West India and Guinea Company, General Records, 1672-1703). Roudt's name does not appear in either the 1686 or 1691 censuses (West India and Guinea Company, St. Thomas Land Lists).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|---|---------|----------|------------|---|---|
| 86 | Lein Hinrichs his wife Elisabet von (sic) 2 children, namely: Henrich Henrichsen Jancke Fregier 1 Negro woman who is lame both in the hands and feet | Dutch | Reformed | Planter | 500 feet N. and S. wide, in length 3000 feet according to land deed | In poor condition, on account of lack of Negroes. |
| 87 | Louis Cotior his wife Anna Lawis ¹¹⁷ 4 children, namely: ¹¹⁸ Louis Cotior Johan Cotior Magrette Cotior Elisabet Cotior 1 Negro man 1 Negro child | English | Reformed | | Does not know length or width on account of no land deed | Newly begun |

¹¹⁷ By 1691, Anna Cotjour and her four children were the only inhabitants reported as living on the plantation; her place of birth was recorded as St. Christopher (ibid.).

¹¹⁸ The four Cotjour children, Louis, Jan, Elisabeth, and Margriete, were noted in the 1691 census as all having been born on Nevis (ibid.).

| No | Name | Nation | Religion | Occupation | Plantation Description | Condition of Plantation |
|----|--|------------------|----------------------|------------|---|-------------------------|
| 88 | Thom Roland his wife Maria Saman ¹¹⁹ | English Dutch | Reformed Reformed | | No land deed | Newly begun |
| 89 | Henrich Jansen ¹²⁰ | | | | Is not yet measured, but yet is as owner | Newly begun |
| 90 | Dina Daniels | | | | | |

Inhabitants in the town Carlota Amalia (sic)

| | | | | |
|------|---|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| 1(B) | Jan d'Jan | French | Catholic | Tailor |
| 2(B) | Frands Martensen his wife Maria Utdendael ¹²¹ 1 daughter Maria Martens ¹²² 1 Negro girl | High German, Dutch | Reformed Reformed | Innkeeper |

¹¹⁹ Tam Rauling's wife was noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Christopher (ibid.).

¹²⁰ Hendrich Jansen and his wife, Jannetie, were reported in the 1691 census to have been born on St. Martin (ibid.).

¹²¹ Frans Martens' wife, Maria, was recorded in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Eustatius (ibid.).

¹²² Maria Martens was noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

| | | | | |
|------|---|--|--|----------------|
| 3(B) | Else Johansdatter | Danish | Lutheran | Spins and Sews |
| 4(B) | Moses Scherri his wife Margiet Annis 1 apprentice Marten Blamlj also in house Ceri diginis, a retired soldier from Christiansfort 1 Negro boy | English English High German Spanish | Reformed Reformed Lutheran Catholic | Shoemaker |
| 5(B) | Antonj Parropar ¹²³ his wife Maren Jensdatter 3 children, namely: Anthonij Parapar Maria Paropar Anna Paropar | Dutch Danish | Reformed Lutheran | Carpenter |

¹²³ Antonj Parropar was noted in the 1686 census as having been born in the West Indies (ibid.).

| | | | | |
|------|---|--------------------------------------|--|-----------|
| 6(B) | Johannes Timmermand ¹²⁴ his wife Maria Hobuc ¹²⁵ 1 child Rebecka Timmermand ¹²⁶ 1 apprentice Jochum Tiesen Here in the house Lasen's wife of Christiansfort: Ana Magdalena Gron 1 child Hans Marten Ligwart | Dutch Danish Dutch | Reformed Lutheran Lutheran | Carpenter |
| 7(B) | Titus von Heysen ¹²⁷ his wife Fransina Möller 4 children, namely: ¹²⁸ Johannis von Heysen Titus von Heysen Matias von Heysen Francina von Heysen | Dutch Dutch | Reformed Reformed | Fisher |

¹²⁴ Johannis Timmermann was reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Eustatius (ibid.).

¹²⁵ Johannis Timmermann's wife Maria, was noted in the 1691 census as having been born "at sea" (ibid.).

¹²⁶ Rebecca Timmermann was recorded in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

¹²⁷ Both Titus van Huysen and his wife Fransmine were reported in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Christopher (ibid.).

¹²⁸ In the 1691 census Titus (jr.) and Fransinne were noted as having been born on St. Eustatius; Matheus was reported as born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

| | | | | |
|------|--|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 8(B) | Swend Henrichsen his wife Anna Baltels 1 child Henrich Henrichsen ¹²⁹ his step-child Johan Hop Servant Jacob Christensen | Danish Dutch | Lutheran Lutheran | Blacksmith |
| 9(B) | Juel Margen his wife Anna Steffens ¹³⁰ 1 son, Johannis Tefus 1 Negro man 1 Negro child Rabin d'Kleri ¹³¹ | English Dutch | Reformed Reformed | Tailor Cotton Ginner |

This catalog thus by us the undersigned to be compiled according to Mr. Governor Esmit's order and [is] every one of the inhabitants here on St. Thomas. Their information we witness with our own hands.

Dated St. Thomas, the 25th July, 1688

Frantz Martens

A. Brock

Siymont Luck

NB The copy which was brought from the West Indies was brought here by Niels Svensen with *gif* (*sic*)

¹²⁹ Henrich Henrichsen was reported in the 1691 census to have been born on St. Thomas (ibid.).

¹³⁰ Anna Steffens was noted in the 1691 census as having been born on St. Christopher (ibid.).

¹³¹ Rabin d'Kleri was reported in the 1686 census to have been born in the West Indies (ibid.).

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Appendix

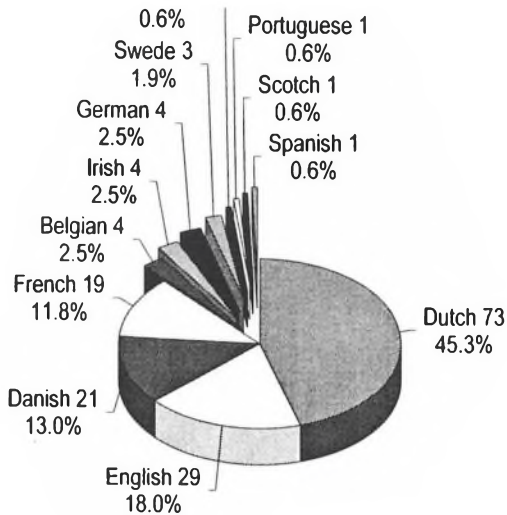


Chart I

Free Inhabitants of St. Thomas by Declared Nationality

In the 1688 Census of the Danish West Indies, free inhabitants were recorded by their respective nationalities rather than by place of birth. As displayed in the above chart, of the 161 free adult citizens whose nationalities were recorded, the overwhelming majority were of Dutch background. Danish settlers represented only 13% of the declared property owning adult population.

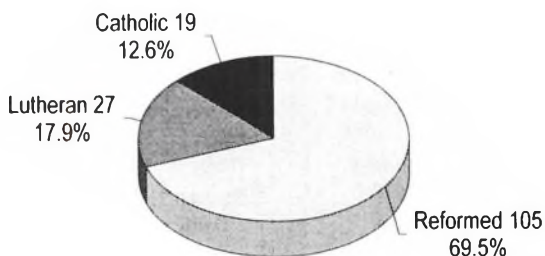
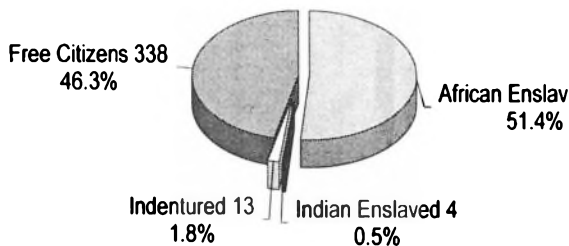


Chart II

Free Inhabitants of St. Thomas by Declared Religion

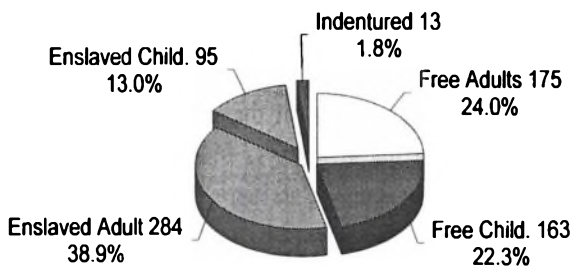
In the 1688 Census of the Danish West Indies, 151 free adult residents claimed a religion for themselves or their households. While persons of Dutch heritage made up the overwhelming majority of those who claimed to be “Reformed”, their numbers were bolstered by the presence of English and French Huguenot immigrants who had also settled in the colony. Members of the Danish State Lutheran Church represented only 17.9% of St. Thomas’ declared population. Catholics, although they represented 12.6% of the reported free population, and Jews, who may have been present although undeclared, were not permitted to construct their respective houses of worship until well into the eighteenth century.



Charts III & IV

Above: Population breakdown by free citizens, indentured servants, or enslaved persons of African and Amerindian descent.

Below: Breakdown of free, indentured, and enslaved individuals by age group. (No age distinction was offered for indentured servants.)



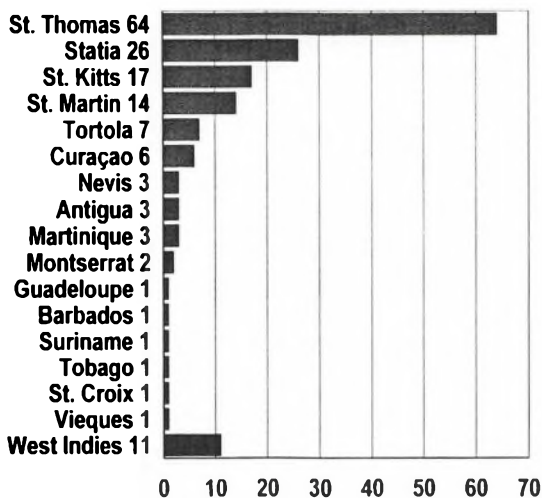


Chart V

Declared Birthplaces of Free Persons Appearing in the 1688 Census Who Were Born in the West Indies

Of the 338 free inhabitants of St. Thomas recorded in the 1688 Census, 162 (47.9%) were determined through additional sources to have been born in the West Indies. The above chart indicates their individual places of birth and the number of persons born to each location.

Children made up the bulk of St. Thomas' West Indian Creole population, representing 58.6% (48 girls and 47 boys). Women (47) made up 29% of residents born in the West Indies, and men (only 20 individuals) accounted for a scant 12.3%. Of the 64 persons noted as having been born on St. Thomas, all were young people.

Not included in this list were two additional individuals who were born in the Americas but not in the Caribbean region: Christine Pieters, who claimed to have been born in New England; and Margrete Gaehs, who was reportedly born in Brazil.

A Historic Timeline of the Danish West Indies, 1622-1689

1622 Dutch interests in Copenhagen petition the Danish Crown for permission to establish a company to trade in the West Indies. Although license is granted in **1625**, nothing comes of the venture.

1647 Carrying a letter of introduction from the Danish King, Frederick III, Gabriel Gomez launches a failed attempt to trade with the British in Barbados.

1652 Danish customs records the first ship to set out for the West Indies from Denmark. In command is Captain Erik Nielsen Smit.

1653 Erik Smit makes his second successful journey to trade in the West Indies. He returns to Copenhagen with a cargo of 4,000 barrels of tobacco, 40,000 lbs. of ginger, 2 hogsheads of sugar, and 7 barrels each of sugar and indigo.

1654 Encouraged by Smit's success other Danish merchants organize their own ventures. Four ships set out from Copenhagen and one from Elsinore to trade in the West Indies.

1655 Unrest between Spain and England makes trading in the West Indies dangerous. Smit's third trading venture ends in failure when his ship and cargo are confiscated.

1657 to 1660 war between Denmark and Sweden

1659 A Danish sea captain, Jens Petersen, is noted in New Netherland records as in command of an English pirate vessel operating off the South American coast.

1662 Erik Smit is again successful with a trading venture to the West Indies. The idea of establishing a Danish colony in the Caribbean stems directly from the positive results of his voyage.

1665 to 1667 Second Dutch War

1665 A plan to colonize the island of St. Thomas in the West Indies is laid before the Danish Crown. Within weeks Erik Smit is named Governor of St. Thomas and ordered to take possession of that island. To guard against enemy attack it is proposed that the island be colonized with a multinational citizenry.

1666 Governor Erik Smit dies on St. Thomas. The expedition's Lutheran Minister, Kjeld Jensen Slagelse, ascends to the leadership of the colony.

1667 After much hardship the Danish lead settlers abandon their attempt to colonize the island of St. Thomas.

1670 Danish King, Christian V, allows for the formation of the Danish West India Company. Under the Company's charter, preparations are begun for a second attempt at the occupation of St. Thomas. Jörgen Iversen is appointed as the colony's new Governor.

1672 to 1678 Third Dutch War

1672 Governor Jorgen Iversen and a colonizing force of 190 persons land on St. Thomas and claim the island in the name of the Danish Crown. Seven months later, only twenty-nine of the original settlers have survived the harsh conditions in colony. Among the dead is the Lutheran Minister, Kjeld Jensen Slagelse.

1673 Sixty new settlers arrive on St. Thomas aboard the Danish ship *Pelican*; of them, only six survive the first four months after their arrival.

1675 Fifty-eight settlers depart from Denmark aboard the *Havmanden*. Over the course of their journey two persons desert and eleven others die. Of the ship's passengers who land on St. Thomas twenty-one die within seven months of their arrival.

1678 Before retiring as Governor of St. Thomas, Jorgen Iversen issues the colony's first formal land deeds. The documents guarantee each settler clear title to his land in perpetuity, requiring only the payment of a yearly tax of one or two capons or hens to the Company.

1679 Nicolaj Esmit is appointed to succeed Iversen as Governor of St. Thomas. His administration is soon marred by poor judgments and indecisive actions.

1682 Backed by a faction of discontent colonists Adolph Esmit deposes his brother and takes over as Governor of St. Thomas. His tenure is marked by two years of corrupt and despotic leadership. St. Thomas becomes known as a haven for pirates.

Concerned over the state of affairs in the colony, the Company Directors in Copenhagen persuade Jorgen Iversen to return to St. Thomas in an effort to regain control over the settlement. Early into his voyage to the West Indies, Jorgen Iversen, along with his wife and newborn child, are murdered aboard the *Havmanden* in a shipboard mutiny.

1684 Gabriel Milan receives an appointment as Governor and is sent to St. Thomas to replace Adolph Esmit. Aware of his impending downfall, Esmit gathers together whatever valuables he can lay hands on and has them sent off island for safe keeping.

Upon Milan's arrival on St. Thomas, Adolph Esmit is detained in the colony's fort and soon imprisoned.

1685 Racked with fever and increasingly suspicious of a plot to overthrow his office, Milan resorts to swift reprisals and brutal punishments in an attempt to maintain his authority over the colony.

1686 A delegation from Copenhagen arrives on St. Thomas to assess the situation. Their leader and attorney for the Company, Commissioner Michael Mikkelsen, is armed with full powers to deal with the situation as he deems fit.

Warned of the Commissioner's arrival, Milan attempts to muster the support of the St. Thomas colonists in a futile effort to usurp Mikkelsen's authority. After a three day standoff Milan finally surrenders his office and along with Adolph Esmit is returned to Copenhagen to face charges.

Vice-Governor Christopher Heins is left with temporary control over the colony pending the appointment of a new Governor.

1687 After a commission finds only petty irregularities, and some cases of tampering with Company accounts, Adolph Esmit is released from a Copenhagen prison and reinstated as Governor of St. Thomas.

The arrival on St. Thomas of a cargo of Guinea slaves is noted in the Company records.

1688 Adolph Esmit arrives on St. Thomas to take up his position as Governor. After only three months in office Esmit's incapacity to govern has been made apparent; he is again returned to Copenhagen as a prisoner.

On July 7th the inhabitants of St. Thomas are called upon to make public their preference for Governor. Asked if they stood with Adolph Esmit, they respond with a resounding, "No!" When asked if they were willing to support Vice-Governor Christopher Heins as their governor, they respond in the affirmative.

1689 Gabriel Milan is tried and found guilty of brutality while serving as governor on St. Thomas; he is beheaded in a public execution on the New Square in Copenhagen.

On October 2, Governor Christopher Heins dies in office on St. Thomas; he is succeeded by the Company Secretary, John Lorentz.

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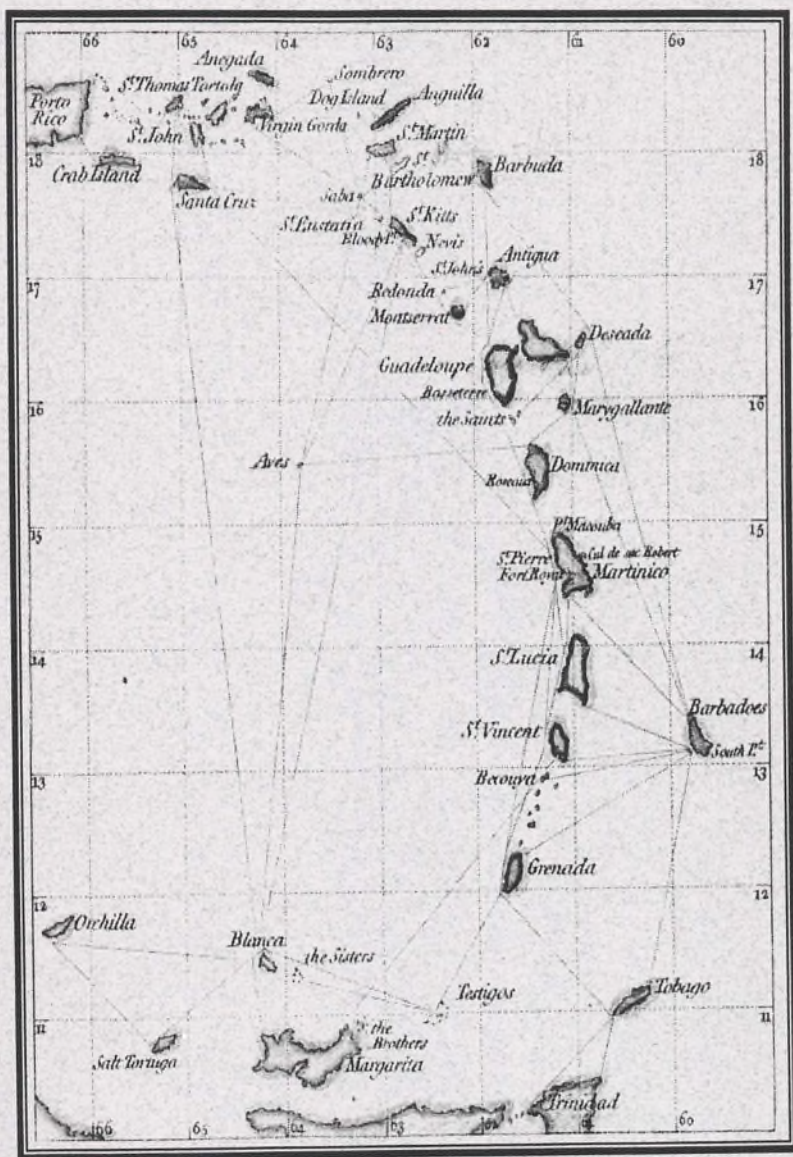
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Gary T. Horlacher has a master's degree in Linguistics, and is an accredited genealogist in Danish, German, and Swedish family research. He spent two years in Norway and has traveled throughout the United States, Germany, Denmark, and the Virgin Islands in the process of compiling genealogical research. An accomplished author and translator, he has published several family history books and articles. For the past eight years Gary has run a private family history research firm focusing on United States, British Isles, German, Danish, Swedish, Norwegian, Dutch, French, Italian, Hungarian, Polish, and Russian sources. He is currently employed by the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah, as a Scandinavian reference consultant.

David Whitney Knight received a Fine Arts Scholarship and attended the Art Students League in Manhattan where he studied portraiture and graphic arts. The son of St. John's resident dentist, David returned to the Virgin Islands upon the completion of his education, and for many years participated in the local marine industry before going on to establish two St. John based commercial corporations.

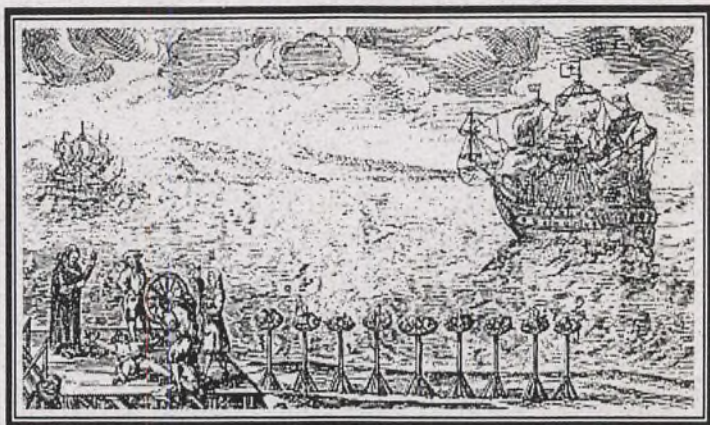
Drawn by the intrigues of the Virgin Islands' past from an early age, David continues to extend his knowledge of local history through intensive archival research and his attentiveness to the islands' rich oral and physical resources. His perspectives have been further shaped by his extensive travels throughout the Caribbean, United States, Denmark, Iceland, Canada, and both South and Central America. Having dedicated the last seven years exclusively to Danish West Indian history and genealogy, he has compiled a vast resource library of primary documents and important secondary reference works relating to the Virgin Islands. He is a published author and lecturer, as well as a recognized authority in the field of colonial era glass.

Currently living on St. Thomas, David has recently expanded the scope of his historical research and consulting firm with the inception of a locally-based publishing house, Little Nordside Press. He is the proud father of an eleven year old son, a third generation of the Knight line on St. John, who shares his father's propensities for travel, history and the natural sciences.



The Islands of the Eastern Caribbean

Extract from a chart by L. S. De Rochette, London 1784.



In 1683, the mutineers of the Havmanden were “broken on the wheel” at public executions in Copenhagen. Among their crimes were the brutal murders of St. Thomas’ first governor, Jorgen Iversen, along with his wife and newborn child
 (Photocopy from Royal Library, Copenhagen, Denmark)

By 1688 the Danish West Indian colony of St. Thomas stood poised on the brink of anarchy. A decade of unsound leadership at the hands of brothers Adolph and Nicholas Esmit, and their successor, Gabriel Milan, had left the colony’s coffers depleted and its citizenry near revolt. On July 7, 1688, the island’s inhabitants were called upon to swear their support for St. Thomas’ forthright Vice-Governor, Christopher Heins, the man whose duty it became to lead the colony into a new era. The 1688 Census of the Danish West Indies, completed only twelve days after Heins’ appointment as governor, remains as an indelible snapshot: a portrait of a colony in crisis.



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