STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE:

Trunk Bay Sugar Factory is significant as an example of the small and late sugar production facilities that in spite of falling sugar prices were able to operate successfully well into the 19th century. It dates from the period 1780 - 1800.

LOCATION OF STRUCTURE: On landside of North Shore Rd opposite entrance to Trunk Bay Beach

UTM REFERENCE: Zone Easting Northing

CLASS VI LAND ACREAGE (if not part of a complex or district: 2 acres).

There are no UTM references on any published map of the U.S. Virgin Islands.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION:

The boundaries of Trunk Bay Factory site follows a line running West-East from the point on the south side of Northshore Road after it has reached the flat area of Trunk Bay Valley to the line's intersection with the road and then follows the south side of the road-in-a-northerly and westerly direction to the starting point. The boundaries are defined to include all parts of the historical resource that is set in a protected area.

STRUCTURE: Type of, and composition: Rubble and brick masonry structure in the shape of a "T".

Physical Description: The stem of the "T" runs north and south and measures 26x28 feet. The head of the "T" measures 49x22 feet. The stem is one story and contained the boiling bench and along the exterior west wall a firing trench. The head of the "T" stands at a lower elevation with a ground floor one full story below the boiling room. It is at grade level to the south and west. It is divided in two sections by a masonry wall and contained the curing and storage rooms of the factory. Originally both wings of the building had a wood framed gable roof and the head of the "T" a second floor supported on wood beams. All wooden members have disappeared and the masonry walls stand to their full height except for the center section of the east wall of the "T". The sugar factory was built between 1780 and 1800. It does not have any architectural decoration of any kind. The factory site and the factory are a good illustration of a small and late sugar production facilities constructed at the end of the Virgin Islands period of prosperity. In spite of falling prices it was able to hold on until well into the 19th century. Though styleless the building exhibits sound and advanced building practices for the Virgin Islands.

PRESENT CONDITION: Excellent [X]  Good  [ ]  Fair  [ ]  Deteriorated  [ ]

(continue on reverse if necessary)
Factory
Historic Name: Trunk Bay
Common Name: Trunk Bay Factory
Cruz Bay Quarter, St. John, Virgin Islands

Photo credit F. C. Gjessing Date of photo July, 1972
Negative filed at Virgin Islands National Park

Storage wing of Trunk Bay Factory viewed from the southwest.