

St. John's Episcopal Church  
Church Records

Surveyed by

Svend E. Holsoe  
March 1996

received 5/15/2010  
fr. Wm Cissel at  
St John's Church

## FOREWORD

I have used the listing by Arnold R. Highfield, entitled *The Historical Records of St. John's Anglican Church, Christiansted, St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands*, The Society of Virgin Islands Historians, Bibliographic Series, Number 3, 1990, as the basis for this survey. I have added and modified the above listing as it seemed appropriate to conform to the records and their present state. This survey is not complete in all details, and an additional confirmation of the listings with the actual records would be worthwhile.

I am grateful to my friend, William Cissel for his introduction, and most especially to Father Keithly R. F. Warner, Rector, at St. John's for allowing me to see these important records.

Svend E. Holsoe

4.5, 6 = X<sup>8</sup>  
7 = 111  
8 = I

Church Registers [combined Baptisms, Marriages & Burials]

[Register belonging to the Parish of Christiansted.]

This volume was probably once a single volume bound together. Today that binding is gone. There are three sections to the volume as follows:

[A Register of all the Baptisms in the Parish of Christianstadt in the Island of St. Croix in America, Cecil Wray Goodchild, Minister, [1765]-[1786].] Pagination lost.

Presumably this section began in 1761 as the two following sections do, but the first several folio pages are missing, and it begins in the middle of 1765. The register today ends in Jan. 1779. However, when in the 1950s, Rachel Colby made a transcription of portions of the list, she found entries until January 1786. It is probable that the register originally continued until 1787, as with the others, but that is also lost today.

Contains Name of person baptised, parents, date of baptism and date of birth.

A Register of all the Marriages in the Parish of Christianstadt in the Island of St. Croix in America, Cecil Wray Goodchild, Minister, 1761-1787. 16 folio pages.

Contains Names of Marriage partners, place of wedding, whether by license or banns and date.

A Register of all the Burials in the Parish of Christianstadt in the Island of St. Croix in America, Cecil Wray Goodchild, Minister, 1761-1787. 30 folio pages.

Contains Name, date, place of burial and age of deceased.

Volume seen in March 1996, parts are very fragile.

[Register, belonging to Saint John's Church of England Situated Within the Island of St. Croix in America, [1797]-1841.]

[First 24 folio pages missing; presumably contained the period 1787-1797]. 25- folio pages.

Volume contains baptisms, marriages and burials, and seems to be a duplicate of parts of the following volume.

Baptisms list, for whites: date, name of child, parents, and sponsors, and for slaves: date, name and owner. Marriages list: names of each couple, how married (license or banns), date and priest officiating. Burials list: date, name of person, age and where buried.

From 1818, the volume continues only with the baptism of whites.

Volume seen 1996, in reasonable condition.

Church Registers [combined Baptisms, Marriages & Burials] -  
continued

*Register, belonging to Saint John's Church of England Situated  
Within the Island of St. Croix in America (Commonly Called  
West India) commencing September 1st 1799. [Ends in 1841  
with marriages.] 139 folio pages*

Register with listings for baptisms, marriages, deaths,  
burials with ages and the dates of each occurrence.

[N.B.: Highfield's listings for 1799, 1800 & 1801 are  
integral parts of the above mentioned volume, and not  
separate volumes.]

Volume seen March 1996 and is in very fragile  
condition.

*1-3 after  
edge*

## Baptismal Records

*Baptisms of Free Colored Children Belonging to the English Church for June 25, 1815-January 1, 1841.* Not paginated.

Lists date of birth, date of baptism, child's name, parents' names, residence, profession, sponsors and officiating minister.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Baptisms of Slaves for January 5, 1834-July 12, 1848.* Not paginated.

Lists date of birth, date of baptism, names of the children, names of the parents, names of the sponsors, names of the owners/estates of the slaves and remarks.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Register for Baptisms of Whites and Free Colored Persons Belonging to St. John's Church of England Situated in the Jurisdiction of Christiansted in the Island of St. Croix for January 1841-December 1854.* 135 folio pages.

Listings of names, date of baptism, date of birth, age, sex, legitimate or illegitimate, names of parents, parents' ages, occupations, places of residence, character (nationality), to church affiliation, and sponsors' names and occupations.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Register for Baptisms for 1855-1867.* Not paginated.

Listing of names, date of birth, legitimate or illegitimate, names of mother and father, occupation and residence, church affiliation, name of sponsor, sponsor's occupation and remarks.

Volume seen March 1996, in poor condition.

*Register of Baptisms for October 4, 1867-February 20, 1875.* 195 folio pages.

Contains date of baptism, date of birth, child's name, parents; names, occupation of father, residence, sponsor's names, and minister officiating.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Register of Baptisms for February 20, 1875-February 18, 1883.* 196 folio pages.

Lists date of baptism, date of birth, child's name, parents' names, occupation of father, sponsors' names and minister officiating.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

Baptismal Records - continued

*Baptisms Solemnized During the Years March 3, 1883-October 21, 1899.* 300 folio pages.

Register listing dates of baptism, child's Christian name, parents' names, abode, quality, trade or profession and minister's name.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Register of Baptisms for October 21, 1899-July 13, 1934.* 300 folio pages.

Lists date of baptism, child's Christian name, parents' names, abode, quality, trade or profession and name of minister officiating.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Baptismal Register for August 5, 1934-August 29, 1965.* 102 folio pages.

Lists names of persons baptized, place and date of birth, date of baptism, father's name and mother's maiden name, sponsors, and name of priest.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Baptismal Register for September 5, 1965-October 21, 1973.* 102 folio pages.

Lists names of persons baptized, place and date of birth, date of baptism, father's name and mother's maiden name, sponsors' names and name of priest.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Baptismal Register for October 21, 1973-May 20, 1984.* 105 folio pages.

Lists names of persons baptized, place and date of birth, date of baptism, father's name and mother's maiden name, sponsors, and name of priest.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Baptismal Register for May 30, 1984-[to Present].* 1-[ ] folio pages.

Lists baptismal number, name of baptized, place and date of birth, date of baptism, father's name, mother's maiden name, sponsors, name of priest, date of confirmation [but not used], and "other records & remarks".

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

## Confirmation Records

*Confirmations for 1880-1912.* Not paginated.

Lists names alphabetically by first initial of last name, ages, residence, date of confirmation, and remarks.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*List of Candidates Confirmed for June 11, 1905-June 12, 1960.* *fragile*

Not paginated.

Register book listing names of the candidates, date of confirmation and their ages.

Volume not seen March 1996.

*Register of Confirmations for June 3, 1961-[Present].* [48] folio pages.

Register book listing names, sex and ages of candidates confirmed at St. John's Church.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

## Marriage Records

*Register for Marriages of Whites and Free Coloured Persons for January 1, 1841-September 28, 1867. Not paginated.*

Register book listing dates of marriages, the bridegroom's name, profession and religion, the bride's name, whether spinster or widow, her religion, ages, the sureties' names, where the marriage took place, banns or licenses and remarks.

Also a list of marriages of slaves from May 13, 1841-June 24, 1848 [in the reverse direction of the volume].  
Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Register of Marriages for October 5, 1867-September 12, 1902. 195 folio pages.*

Register book listing date of marriage, names of parties, age, condition, occupation, residence, banns or license, names and occupation of warranters and minister officiating.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Register of Marriages in the Parish of St. John in the Island of St. Croix, D. W. I. for February 5, 1902-[Present]. Not paginated.*

Register book listing dates of marriages, names of parties, ages, condition, occupation, residence, by banns or license, names and occupations of warranters, and name of minister officiating.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.



## Burial Records

*Register of Funerals Belonging to St. John's Church (of England) Situated Within the Jurisdiction of Christiansted in the Island of St. Croix in America, Commonly called West India, for 1818-1840. Not paginated.*

Register giving listings of interments of white people and free people of color with their ages, place of residence, place of burial and date of burial.

[Does this volume include slaves?]

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Register of Interments of White and Free Colored Situated in the Jurisdiction of Christiansted in the Island of St. Croix for 1841-1854. Not paginated.*

Register with listings of names, date of burial, where buried, when and where baptized, married and to whom, rank, situation or profession, age, disease and remarks.

From the backside of the book, going in the opposite direction from the above, is a listing of the interments of slaves for the period, 1841-1848.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Register for Burials for January 2, 1855<sup>6</sup>-October 7, 1867. Not paginated.*

Register lists dates, name, sex, age, married state, occupation, last residence, place of birth, religion, with whom married, cause of death, place of death, and remarks.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Register of Burials for the Island of St. Croix, Danish West Indies for 1867-1784. 201 folio pages.*

Register lists names, date of birth, age, occupation, last residence, place of birth, place of burial, legitimate or illegitimate, married or single and minister officiating.

[N.B. The individual years listed in the Highfield catalog are all parts of this one volume.]

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Register of Burials for December 16, 1874-March 28, 1883. 201 folio pages.*

Register book giving listings for names, date of death, age, occupation, last residence, place of burial, legitimate or illegitimate, married or single and minister officiating.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

Burial Records - continued

*Register for Burials Performed during the Year 1883-1899.* 300 folio pages.

Register gives listings of names, place of birth, abode, illegitimate or legitimate, when buries, age, and by whom the ceremony was performed.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Register of Burials in the Parish of St. John in the Island of St. Croix, D.W.I., 1899-1924.* 300 folio pages.

Register book giving listings of names, abode, when buried, age and by whom the ceremony was performed.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Register of Burials in the Parish of St. John in the Island of St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, July 24, 1925-December 28, 1994.* 176 folio pages.

Register book listing names, abode, when buried, age, and by whom the ceremony was performed.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

## Vestry Records

*Minutes of Vestry for 1788-1817.* Not paginated.

Listings of the meetings of the vestry concerning financial matters, appointees, property assessments, resolutions, etc., with the names of the members present at the meetings.

Volume not seen March 1996.

*Minutes of Vestry Meetings for 1817-1844.* Not paginated.

Register for the meetings of the vestrymen of St. John's Church with names, locations of meetings, dates, remarks, resolutions and letters listed.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Minutes of the Vestry for 1845-1873.* 262 folio pages.

Listing of vestry meetings for St. John's which includes letters, petitions, resolutions, financial reports and the names of wardens and vestrymen concerned.

Volume not seen March 1996.

*Minutes of the Vestry for 1873-1907.* Not paginated.

Register book for meetings of the vestry of St. John's listing dates for each meeting with names of those attending and remarks concerning church business.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Minutes of the Vestry for May 1906-1952.* Not paginated.

Register book for the meetings of the vestry of St. John's Church listing letters, resolutions, financial business, elections, etc., with the names of the wardens and vestrymen taking part.

Volume seen March 1996, in good condition.

*Vestry Minute Book for 1952.* Not paginated

Listing of letters, meetings, financial reports with the names of the wardens and vestrymen concerned.

Volume not seen March 1996.