GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ST. THOMAS-ST. JOHN HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE APPROVES THREE APPLICATIONS AT OCTOBER 13 MEETING

The St. Thomas-St. John Historic Preservation Committee (STT-STJHPC) met on Tuesday, October 13, 2026, and reviewed four applications. Three were approved, and one was granted a continuance pending additional information.

1. **HPC-30-2026- Approved as Presented**
   Norre Gade 13, Kongens Quarter
   Franklyn and Ruth Benjamin (RBS Builders)
   Rehabilitation of structure at Norre Gade 13, Charlotte Amalie. This includes new roof decking and metal roofing, addition of a new wood deck with access stairs and ramp, new doors and windows, and repairs to brick walls.

2. **HPC-31-2026- Approved with Conditions**
   Commandant Gade OV 7BA, Dronningens Quarter
   Gigi Caines & Nia Gumbs
   The porch demolition is approved for partial demolition which includes the removal of the roof, the roof support poles, and rails. The porch deck and support poles are to remain in place with the front edge of the porch being cut back to the support beam. To demolish existing damaged porch any further and the new plans for replacement and replacement of windows and doors and repaint subject to additional review.

3. **HPC-33-2026- Continued for further Review**
   Parcel D-3 Cruz Bay (Cruz Bay Restrooms)
   Emily Hobbs, (Emily Burton Architecture)
   Renovation of existing public restrooms and construction of a new wood-framed second floor with siding. This includes plumbing, electrical, ventilation and exterior improvements and an exterior staircase to the second level. The second floor would be constructed within the existing building footprint.

4. **HPC-32-2026- Approved as Presented**
   Kronprindsens Gade 75, Kronprindsens Quarter
   There has been a Conditional Approval by staff for Building Name Sign Application for the Inspector General's Building.

Executive Session Discussion

The St. Thomas-St. John Historic Preservation Committee (STT-STJHPC) issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) on Friday, October 30, 2026, to Wharfside Village Hotel Development in the Cruz Bay Historic District for an unauthorized addition to the building. The plans approved by the Committee for Application No. HPC-17-2026 on June 9, 2026, are not consistent with the construction activities at the site. See NOV attached.

The Virgin Islands Historic Preservation Commission (VIHPC) is committed to preserving the territory's built heritage by protecting the unique historic architecture found in all of the Virgin Islands' historic districts and sites. To support this mission, the Commission:

- Conducts design reviews for exterior changes within historic districts
- Provides technical assistance and guidance on historic preservation
- Offers small grants for preservation projects

For more information on the reviewed applications, please contact VIHPC Commission/Committee Coordinator Bradley A. Streberg at Bradley.streberg@dpnr.vi.gov or Eboni Powell at eboni.powell@dpnr.vi.gov.