

St. Maarten - Proselyte Reef

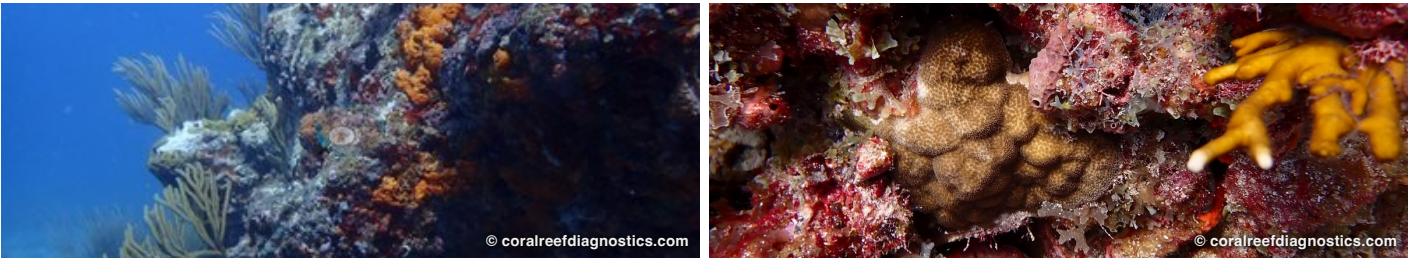
Caribbean · surveyed 2026-02-19



What was done. No diver transect was run at this site. The figure is a blind Claude computer-vision point classification of 114 photographs by the author, read without sight of any other method's result; other computer-vision methods are compared on the site page. The written account of the site is a review of its photographs, not a second survey.

HARD CORAL COVER 7.9% Claude computer vision (114 photos) ↘ 21%, 2006–2026	TODAY'S HEAT LOAD 29.5°C 4.7°C-weeks 16 Sep 2026 · +1.3°C vs the annual mean (28.2 °C) · NOAA Alert Level 1	HEAT STRESS (5-YR MEAN ANNUAL MAX. DHW) 13.9°C-weeks 🔥 NOAA annual peaks averaging 12–16 °C-weeks
MAX. DEPTH 16.1 m dive-log maximum	WATER TEMP. (SURVEY) 26.5°C -1.6°C vs the 12 months to 2026-08 mean sea temperature (28.1°C)	PHOTOGRAPHS 50 on file for this site
POSITION 17.9891, -63.0590 <i>HMS Proselyte</i> wreck position, 17°59.344'N 63°3.543'W (caribdiveguide.com / visitstmaarten.com).		

Named for the 1801-wrecked *HMS Proselyte*, whose encrusted chain and metal debris still turn up among the coral heads on this shallow, low-relief spur of brain and boulder star coral under a soft-coral canopy of sea plumes and fans. A blind Claude computer-vision point count puts coral cover around 7.9%. That is within the roughly 6.0-13% found in nearby diver surveys.



CV model comparison (hard-coral cover, %): In-house DINOv3 18.4 · CoralSCOP unedited 23.9 · **Claude 7.9** · [Reef Check](#) 2006 (same site) 10.0

Photographs: Anderson Mayfield/Coral Reef Diagnostics — 3 of 50 on file; watermarked · Full site record: <https://api.coralreefdiagnostics.com/site-pages/st-maarten-proselyte-reef.html> · Heat stress is the mean of the latest five annual maxima of [NOAA Coral Reef Watch](#) degree-heating weeks for this reef's [NOAA CRW](#) virtual station (Leeward Caribbean Islands) — a five-year heat history for the station's waters, not a measurement at this site on the dive date.