U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey: Topographic
Field No.: Office No.: 2530

LOCALITY
State: Puerto Rico
General locality: San Juan
Locality: Entrance

1941

CHIEF OF PARTY
John Nelson

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DATE
U.S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

O.H. Seligman, Superintendent

State: Porto Rico

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. 2530

LOCALITY:
From San Juan Entrance to Pt. Coro Gorda
Westward on the North Coast

1901

CHIEF OF PARTY:
John Nelson Assistant
Note:

The sand dunes are shown on all photos by red circles (dotted), indicating a height of less than ten meters. This plan was adopted in preference to the usual symbol, because of the fact that the dunes were covered with a dense growth of tropical foliage which could not be shown if the usual symbol were used.

The roads are shown in all cases where they were passable. In some cases the roads, which are merely full-cost tracks, are pretty well obstructed, but if we were able to put one team over them, they are shown as passable.
Topographic Sheet No. 2530

This sheet extends from the western entrance of San Juan Harbor to Punta Cerro Gorda to the westward, joining Sheet No. 2413 of last season’s work on the east.

The coast line is nearly all a sand beach bordered by a series of sand dunes of considerable height covered with a dense growth of low brush. The variation from a sand beach is found in several strata of coral rock which are common along the coast of Porto Rico, varying in height from 10 to 20 meters.

A line of breakers is seen from a quarter to a half mile off shore which was impossible to locate. This makes it difficult to approach the coast and landing in a boat is impossible, even on the sand beach on account of the abrupt slope from the water’s edge and the heavy surf which is always present on this coast.

Dr. Salinas, an extremely important feature in approaching San Juan from the west is shown on this sheet.

The country adjoining to the southward reaching to the foot hill a distance of from three
to five miles is devoted to the production
of Sugar cane. There are many coconut groves
in the vicinity of the Rio Palo Seco.

A large lake is shown on the published chart
just west of Palo Seco. This lake could not be
found, although a big marsh (not shown on this
chart; as it extends about 3 miles back from the
coast) in this vicinity would indicate considerable
low country which might easily be inundated
during the rainy season. But as it is covered
with high marsh grass, it is doubtful.