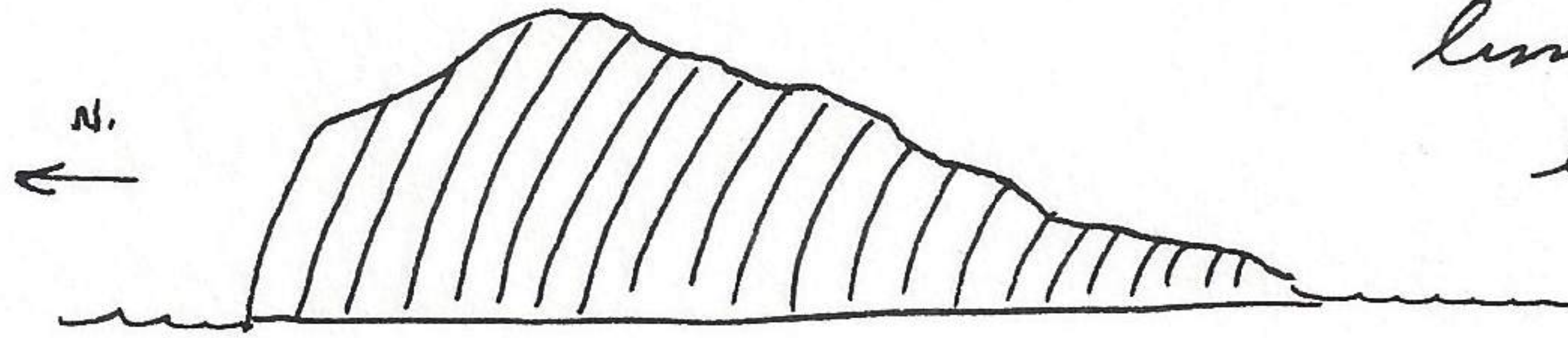


capitous north slopes and trees and grass on the south side. The stratigraphy is as follows:



overturned beds to north. The bedding planes of metamorphosed limestone?, caused easy erosion of Atlantic ground swell to erode the N side to an almost perpendicular slope.

Considerable faulting and intrusion has occurred. Goats now graze on all these Cayes. Grass covers all open exposures. Returning on the south side of these Cayes we noticed an increased rough sea whenever we passed by the water gaps between the islands or Cayes. Grass island would be suitable for a more extensive faunal survey.

At Ratta Cay in the Durlow Cay we inspected the Cay and found 21 nests and eggs of the ground dove and 8 nests of the mountain dove. The ground doves nested in prickly-pear trees and the mountain doves were on the ground associated with ledges. Both males and females of the doves were on the island as about twice as many doves were present as nests. One nest contained 4 eggs - 2 yellow and 2 white. This small island has more prickly-pear cacti trees per unit area than any other island or Cay examined. The closest distance between two nests of the ground doves was 8 feet. It is believed that the ground dove nests here because of favorable nesting habitat and because of the lack of human habitation or interference. One wonders if the use of prickly-pear cacti as nesting loci is not because of mongooses but is an innate habit of the bird. The per cent frequency of dove nests is in inverse ratio to the distance from the mainland of St. John, there being many nests on nearby Cayes and only a few on the most distant islands, thus showing the dependence of the mainland to these outlier Cayes. The peninsulas on the main island serve as islands for nesting doves. This condition of arid community may be produced by goats and the more xeric conditions are more favorable for ground doves. The wind blown peninsulas will always be available for ground doves after the main successional forests of the island become sealed with solid tropical forests. The forest type birds will be favored and the open field communities will become more unfavorable or more limited for existence. On Ratta Cay the grass is in good stands although limited to only a few square yards. Ratta Cay is apparently too small to support goats. Several terns