

## VIRGIN ISLANDS NATIONAL PARK

## Procedures, Observations, and Recommendations

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From July 6, 1957 to September 4, 1957, with the assistance of William L. Cutter, an investigation was conducted in the Virgin Islands with the objectives of 1) ascertaining the kinds of living and extinct land vertebrates on St. John Island, 2) to discover whether its outliers preserved kinds of land vertebrates that are not now living on St. John Island because of the presence there of the mongoose and finally, 3) to obtain any other information that would be useful for the National Park Service and to science.

Evidence of species formerly living on St. John Island is essentially negative. The kinds of land vertebrates now inhabiting the island are included in the report.

Material collected in the Virgin Islands is sufficient to permit the following studies, each of which could lead to published reports:

1. Taxonomic variation, distribution, and habits of the amphibia and reptiles of St. John Island and its outliers.

2. List of fishes collected from Lameshur Bay, St. John Island, Virgin Islands.

3. Per cent frequency of mollusks in East Lameshur Bay, St. John Island, and a statistical treatment of the four most common forms (individual variation, growth curve, size versus weight of shell, age groups, significance of markings as adaptive survival).

4. A bat, Stenoderma rufum, from St. John Island, giving complete description of skin, skull, and habits and a review of the history of the species.