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PUERTO RICO

RESEARCH GUIDE

by

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IGHL

RESEARCH SERIES

VOLUME 16

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POLITICAL HISTORY

The island of Borinquén was discovered by Christopher Columbus in 1493 during his second voyage to the New World. There was little interest in the island, however, until 1508. In that year Juan Ponce de León and others established the city of Caparra. The natives fought against the Spanish invasion successfully at first, but after forty years of war they were finally beaten. By 1550, because of slavery, wars, and sickness, the Indian population had most disappeared from the island.

The history of this Spanish colony is one of hurricanes, disease, and attacks by Caribbean Indian tribes from other islands, by the Dutch, the English, and the French. Despite these problems the population increased and the people established several towns and fortifications. Agriculture began to support the area.

The island belonged to the Viceroyalty of Santo Domingo between 1509 and 1526. After that, for eight years, it depended directly on Spain and the Council of the Indies. From 1534 to 1821 it was part of the Viceroyalty of New Spain (Mexico). Judicially Puerto Rico belonged to the *Audiencia* of Santo Domingo until 1527 when it passed to the *Audiencia* of New Spain.

Puerto Rico became an intendancy under the Viceroyalty of New Spain in 1782 and remained as such until 1821, at which time it became a dependency of Spain again. After 1850 a growing unrest on the island, and a desire to be free from Spanish domination, developed. During the Spanish-American War in 1898 the wish for freedom was partially realized. Puerto Rico escaped the Spanish clutch only to become part of the United States, as a protectorate. It wasn't until 1952 that the U.S. Congress approved a Puerto Rican constitution. Since then the island has been a free territory of the United States.

Today the country is divided into eight provinces or departments and these subdivided into municipalities.

Civil Registration

Puerto Rico established a demographic registry in 1880, under the Health Department. The keeping of records of

records of birth, marriage, and death, however, does not precede 1885. Duplicate copies of these records have been centralized in San Juan. This collection from around the island began to develop after 1903. Some time later this collection of approximately 5,000 volumes was transferred to the Historic Archive of Bayamón. A 224-page listing of these records is available at the San Juan and Bayamón archives, and at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Records since 1931 have been kept in duplicate form at the San Juan registry. The Archivo General de los Puertorriqueños houses the copies for Bayamón, 1898-1931; Fajardo, 1840-1934; Manati, 1900-1934; and Ponce, 1839-1920.

ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY

The Bishopric of San Juan, formed August 8, 1511, is one of the two oldest dioceses in Latin America, the other being at Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Included under its original jurisdiction were Cumaná, Nueva Barcelona, Vieja Guayana, Nueva Guayana, the missions in the upper Orinoco region, the islands of Trinidad, Margarita, Nueva Andalucía, San Felipe de Austria, and the Barloventos (Dominica, Granada, Santa Lucía, and San Vicente). Since 1791 the Diocese of San Juan lost all jurisdictions outside the island. During the colonial period and into the 20th century there was just the one diocese. There are now additional dioceses at Arecibo, Caguas, and Ponce. All of the extant colonial records for the Archdiocese of San Juan are housed in the Archivo Arzobispal at Old San Juan. The cathedral has preserved its records only since 1625, for baptisms, 1653 for marriages, and 1747 for burials. It also has marriage dispensations from the eighteenth century. The archive contains some parish registers from other parts of the island as well.

Parish Records

Many of the early parish registers of Puerto Rico have been lost to time through humidity, hurricanes, wars, and insects. A complete listing of what was extant in the late 1970s was made by Mary Bullock in her capacity as a volunteer for the Genealogical Society of Utah. A copy of this study is available at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City.

Some of the parish registers for the provinces of Bayamón, Guayama, Humacao, Mayagüez, and Ponce have been microfilmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah. Filming has been halted for a number of years. Some of the local government leaders are interested in seeing it begun again, but negotiations have failed many times.

FAMILY SOURCES

As genealogy is a study of family units, it stands to reason that the home of the nuclear family and the homes of children and grandchildren of the nuclear couple, should contain the most extensive materials available pertaining to the family's genealogy and history.

In Puerto Rico, the best place to begin all genealogical investigations is with the older family members and relatives, and if these are deceased, at the places(s) where they lived if possible. It should be remembered that over a third of the island's one-time population now lives in the United States, and relatives should be loved for there as well.

From this research it is usually possible to get some names, dates, and family traditions or stories, some of which may extend back as much as five generations. Invariably much of this information will be found in no other place, and when it is lost it is gone forever. Even though an ancestor may have been dead for twenty to fifty years, it is still a good policy to go to where they lived and find out what still exists in the minds of others, about them and their family. Because so many of Puerto Rico's living citizens have immigrated to the United States, it is imperative that the older generation record what it knows concerning ancestral places of residence, family traditions, names, dates, etc.

Almost every family has something of value to give to the diligent researcher. Care should be taken in the approach that is used, however. Many individuals, in an effort to obtain information, and before establishing trustworthy relationships with newly-met or little-known relatives, have asked questions which are too personal, or asked to borrow pictures, letters, documents, etc., that were very valuable to the owner. A previously established rapport through letters, phone calls, or visits, many times provides treasures of information that otherwise would have remained hidden, and then des-

troyed or thrown away at the death of that individual. Even kinship is not a pre-requisite to success in this area, if proper deference to and respect for age is cultivated.

A careful investigation will uncover some, if not all, of the following types of genealogical and family history material:

vital records	legal papers
church records	military documents
photographs	school records
picture albums	work records
biographies	diplomas
diaries	citizenship papers
death notices	newspaper clippings
marriage notices	marriage invitations
baptism notices	modern nobility papers
wills	inheritance papers
letters	family histories
retirement papers	family civil booklets

The last record mentioned: family civil booklets, sometimes exist for individuals who were married in Spain, or elsewhere in Latin America, and have brought this civil registration record with them.

If these materials are unavailable in the home in question, then the homes of friends, neighbors, and relatives should be visited, as should local libraries, archives, and museums.

Further information on this area of research can be found in the following publications:

Platt, Lyman De. Genealogical Historical Guide to Latin America. Detroit, Michigan, 1978. Spanish edition: Una Guía Genealógico-Histórica de Latinoamérica.

In Chapter 1 of this book, entitled "Research Standards," there is a section on Family Sources which identifies these sources and describes them in detail.

Ryskamp, George R. Tracing Your Hispanic Heritage. Riverside, California, 1984.

Section I of this book, entitled "Techniques and Principles" includes several areas of interest to family research.

Ryskamp, George R. Tracing a Spanish family through local records. Salt Lake City, 1980.

This presentation demonstrates, using actual genealogical investigations, how to develop a genealogy in Spain, birthplace of many of Puerto Rico's ancestral couples of the immediate past.

Larios Martín, Jesús. Curso de genealogía: Técnica y posibilidades. Madrid, 1961

This course details some family records and local records that one should be aware of in genealogical investigations.

The books listed previously also contain detailed information concerning some of the records listed in the following sections.

CENSUS RECORDS

General censuses for the island of Puerto Rico have been taken in 1860, 1872, 1877, 1887, 1897, 1899, y 1910. The whereabouts of those for 1860, 1877, 1887, and 1897 have not been determined. The census for 1872 is located at the Archivo General de los Puertorriqueños in Old San Juan. The 1899 census is in the National Archives at Washington, D.C. The 1910 census has been microfilmed and will be noted in detail below.

There are 1872 slave schedules for Puerto Rico that have been microfilmed on eight rolls from original records found at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. For Dorado, Naranjito, Trujillo Alto, Trujillo Bajo and San Juan the records are found on microfilm rolls 475649 and 1025159 at the Family History Library. The other records are found as follows: Arecibo, Camuy, Ciales, Hatillo, Manati, Morovas, Quebradilla, Utuado (475650 and 1025160); Anasco, Cabo Rojo, Mayagüez (475651 and 1025161); Mayagüez, Sabana Grande, San Germán (475652 and 1025162); Adjuntas, Barroa, Coamo, Guayanilla, Juana Díaz, Peñuelas, Yauco (475653 and 1025163); Barranquitas y Ponce (475654); Arroyo, Cidra, Guayama (475655 and 1025164); Aguas Buenas, Caguas, Cayey, Cidra, Gurabo, Hato Grande (San Lorenzo), Sabana del Palmar (Comerio), Salinas (475656 and 1025165).

There is another set of slave schedules for 1879 for the island which gives the municipality, first names of the slave in alphabetical order, names of the owners, and a physical description of the slaves. This census is located at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. in Records Group 186.

Additionally, there are the following censuses, or census-type records that have been identified.

Tax lists for the municipalities of Puerto Rico, 1765-1898, arranged alphabetically by municipality, and then chronologically. The numbers of these lists increases up to about 1860 and then begins to diminish again. They are located at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. under Records of the Spanish Governors of Puerto Rico (Record Group 186) A preliminary inventory of these records was compiled by George S. Ulibarri in July of 1964.

Padrones of the parish of Nuestra Señora del Pilar in Río Piedras, 1774-1798, are housed in that parish archives.

Padrones of the parish of San Antonio in Isabela, 1830, 1841, 1846, and 1875 are housed in that parish archives.

Censuses of the municipality of Ponce, 1837-1868, are housed at the archives of the municipality of Ponce.

Electoral censuses for San Germán, 1860-1900, are housed at the archives of the municipality of San Germán.

There is a partial census for 1873 (probably part of the 1872 census noted above), located at the Archivo General de los Puertorriqueños, for the municipality of Hormigueros.

There are additional censuses for 1860 for Bayamón, 1797 for Maricao, Santa Bárbara in San Juan for 1833 and 1840, Santo Domingo in San Juan for 1833, an electoral census for Toa Baja for 1892, and for the years 1874-1898 there are censuses for Hormigueros, San Germán, and Sabana Grande, also at the AGP. A population and scholastic census for Manati also exists for an undetermined year.

Additionally, there are **padrones de riqueza** located at the AGP of undetermined years containing records of the landed gentry together with their names, the names of their children, civil status, and whether they were native of Puerto Rico or residents only.

The municipal archives at Caguas has a copy of the 1898 census of that municipality.

The 1910 census of Puerto Rico has been microfilmed and exists for basically the whole island. It is located on microfilms 1375769-1375796 at the Family History Library. The municipalites are found in alphabetical order.

NOTARIAL RECORDS

After the records already mentioned, the notarial records are the most informative and important. Everything of a public or legal nature pertaining to individuals that was ever recorded usually found its way into the notarial books. These books (called **protocolos**) included the following types of documents, which have been kept in their Spanish spellings to preserve the integrity of their meanings: **aceptaciones, agregaciones, ajustes, almonedas, apartamientos, aplicaciones, aprendizas, aprobaciones, arrendamientos, asientos, autos, cambios, capellanías, capital (bienes), capitulaciones matrimoniales, cartas de dote, cartas de examen, cartas de pago, censos, certificaciones, cesiones, codicilos, compañías, compra-ventas de bienes raíces y otras propiedades, compromisos, conciertos, concordias, contratos, consentimientos, consignaciones, convenios, curadurías, cuentas, declaraciones, defensorias, dejaciones, demandas, depósitos, discernimientos, donaciones, dotaciones, dotes, emancipaciones, encabezamientos, esperas, fianzas, filiaciones de hijos naturales, finiquitos, foros, fundaciones, garantías, hipotecas, idoneidades, indemnidades, indignidades, informaciones, inventarios, juramentos, lastos, liberaciones, libertades, libramientos, libranzas, licencias, liquidaciones, mancipaciones, mayorazgos, mejoras, memorias, minoraciones, nombramientos, obligaciones, pagos, particiones, pedimentos, perdones, permutas, poderes, posesiones, posturas, prohibiciones, prohiaciones, promesas, prorrogaciones, protestas, quejas de una variedad de cosas, ratificaciones, recepciones, recibos, reclamaciones, reconocimientos, rendiciones, renun-**

ciaciones repudiaciones, requerimientos, resguardos, retenciones, retrocesiones, revalidaciones, revocaciones, salarios, seguros, servicios, señalamientos, soldadas, solicitudes, subrogaciones, sustituciones, tasaciones, testamentos, traducciones, transacciones, trasposos, tutelas, ventas, y vínculos.

There are two archives containing the majority of the notarial records of Puerto Rico. One is the Archivo General de Protocolos in San Juan. The records there begin about 1790 and continue to the present. The archives contains the military notaries, and the notaries for San Juan, Cangrejos, Leiza, Río Piedras, and Trujillo.

The Archivo de Protocolos de Bayamón contains the following collections: Bayamón, 1796-1853; Corozal, 1811-1853; Guaynabo, 1784-1853; Lajara, 1859-1900; Morales, 1863-1882; Naranjito, 1826, 1847-1853; Toa Alta, 1795-1853; Toa Baja, 1830-1855; Vega Alta, 1836-1857; Vega Baja, 1778-1857; and the **protocolos** of Ramón Rodríguez for 1858-1878.

LAND RECORDS

Of all the records best suited to genealogical and historical research in Puerto Rico, those that deal with land are found in more assorted places than any other and are called by a variety of names: **tierras, tierras y aguas, capellanías, mayorazgos, vínculos, memorias, obras pías, encomiendas**, and so forth.

The chaplaincy records (**capellanías**) were formed by donations to the Catholic Church during the colonial period. Wealthy individuals would bequeath their property to the custody of the church which would assign a chaplain to administer the estate from year to year, taking some of the profits to pay his salary, to say masses in behalf of the deceased benefactor, and to provide other Christian services. These records exist in many civil and ecclesiastical archives.

The **mayorazgos** and **vínculos** are hereditary land registers, usually passed from father to oldest son. The **encomiendas** were one of the first land records created on the island. Few of them remain except in Spanish archives. The **tierras y aguas** are land and water rights, containing original grants and titles. These

include decrees, grants, official correspondence, and **visitas** describing the land and water useage in the specific area.

Finally, there are land records in the modern land offices (Registro de la Propiedad) and municipal archives. These records begin about 1760 and include land buying and selling, wills, property divisions, and so forth.

MILITARY RECORDS

There was no standing army as such in Puerto Rico until the mid-1700s. During the early colonial period, the major military efforts consisted of protection provided by militia units conscripted from the estates of various Spanish settlements.

The viceroy of Nueva España, and the **capitán general** of Cuba, or commander-in-chief of the army, from time to time controlled the military in Puerto Rico. Usually the local governor of Puerto Rico served as the de facto military commander.

There were four main groups of military personnel included in the designation of "military." These groups were: 1) veteran Spanish soldiers assigned for short duration throughout the island; 2) veteran Spanish troops assigned permanently to a given area; 3) provincial militia units; and 4) urban militia units.

In the Archivo General de los Puertorriqueños there is a card index of military personnel that have served in Puerto Rico. This index is being added to as records are brought to the attention of archive personnel. Some information on military family members is also available. Much of the information contains extracts of records from the Archivo Militar de Segovia in Spain.

Microfilm 1,156,352 of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City contains service records for Spanish and Puerto Rican military men from 1793-1800. An index to these records is available in:

Patronato Nacional de Archivos Históricos. Catálogo XXII del Archivo de Simancas, Secretaría de Guerra (siglo XVIII, Hojas de Servicios de América. Valladolid, Spain: Patronato, 1958.

Specifically, these records are for the **Cuerpo de Milicias Disciplinadas de Infantería y Caballería de la Isla de San Juan** for the year 1795, and the **Regimiento de Infantería Fijo de San Juan**, for the years 1793, 1795, 1799, and 1800.

Because of Puerto Rico's territorial status with the United States, there are also pension records for Puerto Rican citizens at the National Archives in Washington, D.C. for the years 1898 to the present. The Pension File Index for 1898-1934 is available on microfilm at the Family History Library and elsewhere. There are also Widow's Applications for the years 1898-1958. Service records for men who have served in all branches of the Armed Forces for the years 1918 to the present are available at the National Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, Missouri. Information as to the contents of these service records can be obtained by submitting a "Request Pertaining to Military Personnel Records." This form can be obtained from the National Personnel Records Center.

Other military records, including troop lists, commissions, conscriptions, regimental register sheets, and petitions of soldiers for permission to marry, can be found throughout the archival systems of Spain, the United States, and Puerto Rico.

In the Archivo Histórico Nacional of Spain, there is a section called "Ordenes Militares" for the military orders of Santiago, Calatrava, Alcántara, Montesa, Malta, Carlos III., and Temple. Many of these records have been published, especially those parts of the sections of petitions to enter the various Orders, and petitions to marry.

Various publications are important to the study of the military in Spain and Latin America.

Lohmann Villena, Guillermo. Los Americanos en las Ordenes Militares, 1529-1900. Vol. 1 (Santiago); Vol. 2 (Calatrava, Alcántara, Montesa, Carlos III., y Malta). Madrid, 1948.

These volumes contain biographical notes on the ancestors of the military men being studied, to the third and fourth generations.

Ocerin, Enrique de. Indice de los Expedientes Matrimoniales de Militares y Marineros que se conservan en el Archivo General Militar de Segovia, 1761-1865. Vol. 1, Madrid, 1959.

The Archivo General Militar de Segovia consists not only of the personal records of thousands of Spaniards dedicated to the service, but also of their civil counterparts, as well as many of Hispanic origin in America. The many documents comprising the 67,397 bundles of the Archive contain service records, sacramental register copies, many of which have been destroyed in their originals due to the wars; coats of arms imprinted on passports; military orders, advancements, and many other types of records.

FAMILY HISTORIES

IGHL Research Series, Volume 15, entitled Latin American Family Records, has over 3,500 family histories, surname references, and genealogies listed in it. A number of these have references to Puerto Rican families. Some of the more important references are the following.

Acosta, Ursula, and David E. Cuesta. Familias de Cabo Rojo.

Archivo General de Indias. Catálogo de Pasajeros a Indias. 7 volumes.

Calcagno, Francisco. Diccionario Biográfico Cubano.

Casanova, Gustavo. Cuatro Genealogías y Dos Biografías.

Casanova, Gustavo. Esbozos Genealógicos: Familias de Cabo Rojo y Mayagüez, Puerto Rico.

Casanova, Gustavo. Genealogía de la Familia Carbonell de Cabo Rojo.

Cifre de Loubroñ. Esteña- Catálogo de Extranjeros Residentes en Puerto Rico en el Siglo XIX.

Cifre de Loubriel, Estela. La formación del pueblo puertorriqueño.

Cifre de Loubriel, Estela. La Inmigración a Puerto Rico durante el Siglo XIX.

Coll, Cayetano. Puertorriqueños Ilustres.

García Carrafa, Arturo. Enciclopedia Heráldica y Genealógica.

Gaudier, Martín. Genealogías, Biografías e Historia del Mayagüez de Ayer y Hoy.

Gaudier, Martín. Genealogías Puertorriqueñas.

IGHL. Revista.

Larrazabal, Carlos. Familias Dominicanas.

Lluch, Francisco. Catálogo de Inscripciones Demográficas y de otro Indole del Linaje Puertorriqueño Ortiz de la Renta.

Nieto, Rafael. dignidades Nobiliarias en Cuba.

Peraza, Fermín. Diccionario biográfico cubano.

Ramírez, Guillermo. Orígenes Puertorriqueñas.

Rosa, Esther M. Biografías Puertorriqueñas.

Rosa-Nieves, Cesáreo. Biografías Puertorriqueñas: Perfil histórico de un pueblo.

Santa Cruz, Francisco X. Historia de Familias Cubanas. 9 volumes.

The final result of this Surname History Project is to compile an index of all published and manuscript family histories that can be identified in Spain, Latin America, and the United States. Another aspect of this project is the compilation of brief family histories in a series entitled The History of Surnames in Latin America and Hispanic America (1492 - 1992). Each one of these histories shows the origin of the surname in Spain, thus tying the descendants to the original branch of the family wherever possible.

Some 260,000 surnames have been identified by IGH in anticipation of beginning the series mentioned above. Even though most of these surnames have disappeared in the modern era, they are vital to the study of ancestors. This collection of surnames, therefore, needs to

be treated from both the actual realities and the historical perspective. In order to do this, IGHL has divided the Surname History Project into two sections, or series.

Series 1 will deal with the 1,000 most common surnames among living Hispanics. These 1,000 surnames cover 95% of the modern population. Preliminary histories have already been compiled on each of them and are available at IGHL headquarters. Series 2 will contain an alphabetical study of all Hispanic surnames that have been identified in Latin America and the Hispanic United States.

OTHER GENEALOGICAL REGISTERS

Cemetery Records

The oldest cemetery in Puerto Rico is the Cementerio de Santa María Magdalena de Pazzis in Old San Juan. The oldest part of the cemetery was inaugurated in 1814. The earliest tombstone inscriptions, however, have disappeared. The oldest extant inscriptions date back to the 1860s.

Old cemetery registers prior to civil registration do not exist. Examples of the types of records originating since 1885 are as follows. These records, for San Juan, are kept in the Oficina de Propiedad Pública.

1. Burial Register (enterramientos), Book 1 (July 1, 1923 - March 31, 1925) contains date of burial, name and surname of the deceased, age, time of death, and cause of death.
2. Register of Plot Rentals and Purchases (venta y arrendamientos de terrenos), Book 1 (September 14, 1888 - November 18, 1908) contains index of renters or buyers, dates, descriptions of property, renewal dates.
3. Transfer of Cadavers (exhumados), 1921 to the present contains niche numbers, sections of the cemetery by numbers, numbers of the renters or buyers, and payments.

Nobility

There are some genealogical proofs of claimed nobility similar to hidalguías housed in the Archivo General de los Puertorriqueños.

Immigration-Emigration-Migration Records

There were strict rules for controlling population movements during most of the colonial period. All persons traveling to Puerto Rico technically had to be cleared by the Casa de la Contratación in Seville. The Archivo General de Indias is publishing the early passenger lists to Latin America. The original records exist from 1509 - 1790 in that archive. Seven volumes of these lists have now been published for the early colonial period up to 1599 as noted in the list of books above.

The archives of Spain are full of proofs of massive emigrations, many of these individuals going to Puerto Rico. The records dealing with this subject are scattered in the notarial archives, in passports, in padrones de hidalguía, and so forth.

Several studies of immigration to Puerto Rico have also been identified in the book list above. These are very valuable references.

Civil-Criminal Cases

These records are housed at the Archivo General de los Puertorriqueños in the section called "Departamento de Justicia." The records begin in approximately 1800 and come up to the present. The types of records are wills, contracts, land titles, baptismal certificates, inventories, bills, and personal correspondence.

Also at the Archivo General de los Puertorriqueños is the section called "Real Audiencia." This section contains wills, land concessions, administration and distribution of properties, land disputes, adoptions, recognition of marriage dowries, cases of bigamy, adultery, debt disputes, marriage disputes, copies of notarial records, cleanliness of blood records (an Inquisition document), biographical information concerning individuals connected with the royal court (tomas de razón), and some censuses. This court was the superior court and in many cases the court of first re-

sort for many cases on the island. The collection is very valuable for this reason.

Miscellaneous Records

There are about 150 bundles of state penitentiary and district jail records for the period 1800 - 1920 housed at the Archivo General de los Puertorriqueños, including court decisions on those who were confined during that period, prison records, and biographical sheets on the various prisoners.

There is also a section in the AGP called "Probanzas de Soltería" which contains proofs of civil status, or specifically of single civil status.

The National Archives of the United States also contains many documents pertaining to the period of history of Puerto Rico prior to 1898 which are being turned over to the Archivo General de los Puertorriqueños.

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V.34	Research in Buenos Aires	7.95
V.35	Research in Lima	7.95
V.36	Spain, General Guide: Political Divisions	19.95
V.37	Spain, General Guide: Ecclesiastical Divisions	49.95
V.38	Spain, Research Guide	7.95

Puerto Ricans

IN NORTH AMERICA BY DR. FRANCESCO CORDASCO WITH DIEGO CASTELLANOS

Jesús Martinez is about to enter school. He is a fine looking five-year old. He has perfect eyesight, normal hearing, and good strong teeth. He speaks very well, is in excellent health, and of above-average intelligence. Hence, **he has no learning disabilities**. Yet, this young American cannot be educated in most school districts of the United States. In fact, most educators here cannot **begin** to teach him.

His father, José Martinez, migrated to the United States mainland twenty years ago at the age of six. At a time when he was ready to learn to read and write his mother tongue, José was instead suddenly thrust into an exclusively English-speaking environment where the only tool he possessed for oral communication was completely useless to him. When he went to school it was as if the teacher were broadcasting in AM but José was equipped to receive her only in FM. He remembers it this way: "My teacher and I could not communicate with each other because each spoke a different language and neither one spoke the language of the other. This made me stupid, or retarded, or at least disadvantaged." Since teachers cannot be expected to "work miracles" on kids who are disadvantaged, José fell victim to the self-fulfilling prophecy: "He won't make it." They agreed, however, to allow him to "sit there" because the law required that he be in school.

For the next two years José "vegetated" in classes he did not understand—praying that the teacher would not call on him. The fact is the teacher rarely called on him and seldom collected his papers on the grounds that she could not expect of José what she demanded of the "more fortunate" children. Reasonable as this notion appears to be, it served only to cause the child's self-concept to deteriorate.

José retreated into a sort of psychological isolation and began to hate not only school, but the society he saw reflected by the school. Frustrated and discouraged, he began to find reasons for staying home from school and, as soon as permitted, dropped out. José, who refers to himself as a school "push-out," never really learned English well. He has a great deal of difficulty reading it and cannot write it. He speaks Spanish fluently but never learned how to **read and write** his mother tongue. He is a functional illiterate in two languages.

When he is working, it is usually at the lowest paying job. He is the first to be laid off, remains unemployed longest, and is least able to adapt to changing occupational requirements. As José reflects upon his boyhood ordeal, his concerns turn to his young son who is about to embark on his own educational experience. He knows the educational process has undergone a drastic overhaul in the past few years. He wonders if the system is now able, or willing, to deal with his son and vice versa. He knows that a Puerto Rican child in the States who at the beginning of school is unable to acquire literacy in English in competition with his English-speaking classmates and who is not permitted to acquire it in his own language, makes a poor beginning that he may never be able to overcome. For Puerto Rican migrants to the United States mainland, the spectre of inadequate education and marginal employment are the haunting realities of contemporary survival in deteriorating urban contexts.

Some 1.5 million Puerto Ricans live on the United States mainland. American citizens since 1917, Puerto Ricans have migrated to the United States mainland in the search for economic opportunity.

Poor economic conditions on the island inspired massive emigration to the mainland in the previous two decades, but no similar phenomenon has occurred in the 1970s. Between 1970 and 1974, some 21,000 more Puerto Ricans returned to the island than left. A dominant theme runs through the studies that have been done on Puerto Ricans and their experience on the mainland. It relates to the enormous cultural conflicts they encounter in the United States. The Puerto Rican learns norms, values, beliefs, and behavior patterns which enable him to adjust to his social and cultural environment and to meet his needs. For the Puerto Rican migrant, there is a right way for a wife to behave, a right way to socialize children, and a right way for a child to respond to his parents. There is also a right language to speak. When individuals are socially adjusted, they know the correct ways to behave within their culture, and they act out these behavior patterns in their daily life. To a great extent, the Puerto Rican migrant's life on the mainland is like the individual who is experiencing a social crisis because the norms and values that guide his behavior conflict with those in the larger environment.

A correct understanding of the Puerto Rican community on the mainland depends on a knowledge of (1) the nature of the Puerto Rican migration, its patterns, and the changes it has produced both on the island and on the mainland; (2) the nature of Puerto Rican identity, particularly racial, religious, familial, and communal; (3) the patterns of prejudice and discrimination against Puerto Ricans; (4) the political and economic achievements of Puerto Ricans on the mainland; (5) the adjustment of Puerto Ricans to the new environment of life on the mainland; and (6) the problems and needs of the Puerto Rican child in American mainland schools.

SECONDARY SCHOOL

Babín, Teresa María. **The Puerto Ricans' Spirit**. Translated by Barry Lubby. New York: Collier Books, 1971.

A general treatment of the island, with notices of the folklore, historical and contemporary literature, and fine arts of Puerto Rico. A sensitive and well written account.

Brahs, Stuart. **An Album of Puerto Ricans in the United States**. New York: Franklin Watts, 1973.

Largely a portfolio of photographs with accompanying commentary on Puerto Rican life on the mainland. Good beginner's text.

Brau, María M. **Island in the Crossroads: The History of Puerto Rico**. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1968.

A comprehensive history of the island with a full and detailed account of the Spanish role in Puerto Rican history.

Cooper, Paulette, ed. **Growing up Puerto Rican**. New York: Arbor House, 1972.

A collection of short autobiographical accounts by mainland Puerto Ricans.

Cordasco, Francesco. **The Puerto Ricans, 1493-1973: A Chronology and Fact Book**. Dobbs Ferry, New York: Oceana Publications, 1973.

A collection of documents and an annotated chronology.

Matilla, Alfredo, and Ivan Silen, eds. **The Puerto Rican Poets/Los Poetas Puertorriqueños**. New York: Bantam Books, 1972.

A bilingual anthology of 20th century Puerto Rican poets, stressing themes on the Puerto Rican experience in New York City as well as on the island.

McKown, Robin. **The Image of Puerto Rico. Its History and its People: on the Island—on the Mainland**. Foreword by Francesco Cordasco. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1973.

A delightfully written cameo portrait of the Puerto Ricans and Puerto Rico: an essentially kaleidoscopic overview of the Puerto Rican experience on the island, and tangentially on the mainland.

Senior, Clarence. **The Puerto Ricans: Strangers—Then Neighbors**. Chicago: Quadrangle, 1965.

Well developed dimensional overview of the history of Puerto Rico, the migration to the mainland, and Puerto Rican relationships with other groups.

Sterling, Philip, and María Brau. **The Quiet Rebels**. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1968

Biographies of Puerto Rican leaders and their responses to Puerto Rican needs.

Thomas, Piri. **Down These Mean Streets**. New York: Knopf, 1967.

An intensive and highly moving autobiography of a young Puerto Rican in New York City. See also, the author's **Savior, Savior, Hold My Hand**. Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, 1972.

Wagenheim, Kal. **Puerto Rico: A Profile**. New York: Praeger, 1970. Second edition, 1975.

The best single source for the general reader on the geographical, cultural, social, and economic history of Puerto Rico.

UNDERGRADUATE

Cordasco, Francesco, and Eugene Bucchioni. **The Puerto Rican Experience: A Sociological Sourcebook**. Totowa, N.J.: Littlefield, Adams, 1973.

A resource text with materials on the island background, the migration, life on the mainland and education in mainland schools.

Fitzpatrick, Joseph P. **Puerto Rican Americans: The Meaning of Migration to the Mainland**. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall, 1971.

An overview and trenchant study with materials on the dynamics of migration, the problem of identity, the family, the problem of color, religion, education, welfare. See also, José Hernández Alvarez, **Return Migration to Puerto Rico**. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1967.

Hauberg, Clifford A. **Puerto Rico and the Puerto Ricans: A Study of Puerto Rican History and Immigration to the United States**. New York: Twayne, 1974.

A monographic account which deals with the island and its history, with migration, the mainland experience, assimilation and leadership.

Hill, Marnesba D., and H. B. Schleifer. **Puerto Rican Authors: A Bibliographic Handbook**. Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow, 1974.

A bilingual guide with brief entries for some 250 Puerto Rican authors, writers, and journalists.

Lopez, Adalberto, and James Petras, eds. **Puerto Rico and Puerto Ricans: Studies in History and Society**. Cambridge, Mass.: Schenkman Publishing Co., 1974.

An excellent sourcebook on Puerto Rican history and the migration to the mainland. Includes a chronology of Puerto Rican history.

Lopez, Alfredo. **The Puerto Rican Papers: Notes on the Re-Emergence of a Nation**. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, 1973.

An informative, loosely structured series of vignettes on Puerto Rican history and the migration to the mainland. Incisive discussion of the ideology of resistance and the **independentista** movement.

Marqués, René. **The Oxcart (La Carreta)**. Translated by Charles T. Pilditch. New York: Charles Scribner, 1969.

A powerful and moving drama about the problems of a Puerto Rican family moving from a mountain village in Puerto Rico to a San Juan slum and then to New York. An acknowledged classic.

Margolies, Richard J. **The Losers: A Report on Puerto Ricans and the Public Schools**. New York: Aspira, 1968.

An important report on visits to a number of schools (in mainland cities) with description and evaluation of programs for Puerto Rican children.

Ribes Tovar, Frederico. **A Chronological History of Puerto Rico.** Translated by A. Rawlings and P. Block. New York: Plus Ultra Publications, 1973.

A convenient handlist of names and dates but with no connective narrative.

Silen, Juan A. **We, The Puerto Rican People: A Story of Oppression and Resistance.** Translated by C. Belfrage. New York: Monthly Review Press, 1971.

An **independentista** tract which rejects the myth of Puerto Rican docility, and examines in scathing terms the "Americanization" of Puerto Ricans.

Steiner, Stanley. **The Islands: The Worlds of the Puerto Ricans.** Photos by Geno Rodriguez. New York: Harper & Row, 1974.

An immense socio-historical portrait of Puerto Rico and its people, with contrasting and vivid delineations of life in mainland Puerto Rican barrios.

Steward, Julian Haynes. **People of Puerto Rico: A Study in Social Anthropology.** Champaign, Illinois: University of Illinois Press, 1956.

Still a fine anthropological study of four different communities in Puerto Rico, and a study of a selected group of upper class families.

Wagenheim, Kal, with Olga Jimenez de Wagenheim. **The Puerto Ricans: A Documentary History** New York: Praeger, 1973.

A massive collection of materials on the island's history from its discovery to the present, with diverse materials on the migration and mainland experience.

Young Lords Party. **Palante: Young Lords Party.** Photos by Michael Abramson. Text by the Young Lords Party and Michael Abramson. New York: McGraw-Hill, 1971.

A portfolio of photographs with accompanying text on confrontations of young Puerto Ricans and the establishment **Palante** is the Spanish equivalent of "Right On." See also, Richard C. Schroeder, **Spanish-Americans: The New Militants.** Washington: Editorial Research Reports, 1971.

GRADUATE

Bibliographies

Bravo, Enrique R. **Bibliografía Puertorriqueña. Selecta y Anotada.** New York: Urban Center of Columbia University, 1972.

A bilingual annotated bibliography of 338 main references, largely of the island experience and with entries mostly in Spanish. (English section by Marcial Cuevas).

Cordasco, Francesco, with Eugene Bucchioni and Diego Castellanos. **Puerto Ricans on the United States Mainland: A Bibliography of Reports, Texts, Critical Studies and Related Materials.** Totowa, N.J.: Rowman and Littlefield, 1972.

An annotated bibliography of 754 main entries dealing with bibliographical resources; the migration to the mainland; the island experience; conflict and acculturation on the mainland; education on the mainland; and social needs encompassing health, housing, employment, and other human needs.

Dossick, Jesse. **Doctoral Research on Puerto Rico and Puerto Ricans.** New York: School of Education, New York University, 1967.

A classified list of 320 doctoral dissertations completed at American mainland universities.

Pedreira, Antonio Salvador. **Bibliografía Puertorriqueña, (1493-1930).** With a Foreword to the new edition by Francesco Cordasco. New York: B. Franklin Reprints, 1974.

Originally published 1932. A vast retrospective repository of some 10,000 entries, with sections on bibliographical sources; general information; natural history; public health; social economy; political and administrative history; cultural organization, history of Puerto Rico; literary history; and miscellaneous works.

New York (City). Board of Education. **The Puerto Rican Study, 1953-1957: A Report on the Education and Adjustment of Puerto Rican Pupils in the Public Schools of the City of New York.**

J. Cayce Morrison, Director. New York: Board of Education, 1958. Reissued with an Introductory Essay by F. Cordasco. New York: Oriole Editions, 1972.

Final report of the most complete study of the impact of Puerto Rican migration on the public schools of New York City, and how the schools affected Puerto Rican children and their parents. The study's recommendations were never implemented.

Rogler, Lloyd H. **Migrant in the City: The Life of a Puerto Rican Action Group.** New York: Basic Books, 1972.

A Puerto Rican citizens' group (i.e., Hispanic Confederation of Maplewood) over a forty-four month period, from inception to action in behalf of community needs. Maplewood is a pseudonym for a large Eastern City.

Wagenheim, Kal. **A Survey of Puerto Ricans on the U.S. Mainland in the 1970s.** New York: Praeger, 1975.

An invaluable repository of U.S. Census data which surveys "the dramatic changes in the size and nature of the Puerto Rican community in the past three decades; and measures such key indexes as population growth and dispersion, income, education, employment."

The Balch Institute's subject specialties — American immigration and ethnic group history — are interpreted by various library, museum, community affairs, research and education programs. For further information on reading list schedules and bulk rates, contact The Balch Institute, 18 S. Seventh St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19106

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LOCALITY ANALYSIS FOR PUERTO RICO

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Locality analysis plays an essential part in determining the objectives for family history research. It should be done as soon as a specific new place of origin or residence is identified, and, of course, must be completed before step two of the records analysis can be completed.

Locality Analysis involves two processes. The first is to locate the exact place or places from which one's ancestors came and determine the various jurisdictions to which that place belonged. (This is, in effect, an answer to one of the initial questions asked in the People Analysis: Where did the ancestor live?) The second goal of Locality Analysis is to learn as much about that particular place as one can. This includes not only the physical location and the geographical features of the place, but, to better understand the life of the ancestor, also requires a knowledge of its history and physical appearance.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF LOCALITY REFERENCE WORKS

Gazetteers

A Gazetteer of Porto Rico (BYU F 1954 G19)

Geographic Names Information System: Puerto Rico : alphabetical listing, July 1990. Reston, Va. : U.S. Geological Survey, National Mapping Division, Office of Geographic Research, 1990. (BYU E 155 .U58 P83x 1990)

Omni Gazetteer of the United States of America. Detroit : Omnigraphics, Inc., 1991. (BYU E 154 .O45 1991) (FHL)

Geographical Dictionaries

Diccionario geográfico de Puerto Rico. por S. Arana-Soto. San Jose, P.R. : [s.n.], 1978. (FHL)

Ecclesiastical Directories

Directorio arquidiocesano, San Juan, P.R. : Sección II; parroquias capillas, personal encargado. San Juan, P.R. : La Arquidiócesis, 1980. (FHL film 1162471 item 5)

Estampas de nuestra iglesia. San Germán, P.R. : Editora Corripio, C., 1989. (FHL)

Registros parroquiales de Puerto Rico. Puerto Rico : La Sociedad, 1973. (FHL film)

Los registros parroquiales y la microhistoria demográfica en Puerto Rico. por Mario A. Rodríguez León. San Juan, P.R. : Centro de Estudios Avanzados de Puerto Rico y el Caribe, 1990. (FHL)

Encyclopedias

La Gran Enciclopedia de Puerto Rico, Tomo I Historia. por Vicente Báez, ed. Madrid : C. Corredera, Apartado 29130, 1976.

These are examples available from six major categories of books that can be valuable in completing a locality analysis for this country.

1. Atlases and Maps. Individual atlases that exist for most Hispanic countries can help locate ancestral towns and establish the proximity of ancestral towns to other towns found during the research. Typical of these is one for Mexico, Nuevo Atlas Porrua de la Republica Mexicana (Editorial Porrua: Mexico, D.F., 1980), available in many local libraries. This small volume contains maps of each state, historical maps, ad a general country-wide index, as well as various geographical entity lists. Maps in these should be in a scale of at least 1:250,000.

Another useful geographical tool for the Latin American genealogist will be the Index to the Map of Hispanic America, published by the American Geographical Society. (Washington: 1945). As this is an index to a collection of maps, scale 1:1,000,000, it will generally only be found in a large public or university library. It covers all Latin American countries in good detail.

Also of value for locating especially small hamlets and for recreating geographical details of local life are the Untied States Army Map Service Select Series and Topographical Maps produced for all of these countries. Any place, no matter how small, will appear on these detailed maps (scale 1:50,000). Unfortunately, these maps have no direct index, and locating places can only be accomplished by using latitude and longitude references in the gazetteers such as those published by the U.S. Office of Geography. (See the following section on gazetteers).

Maps and atlases are being digitalized for computer storage at an incredible rate. As that process continues these will become increasingly available on CDROM and on the Internet and World Wide Web. Currently, for example, the University of Texas at Austin Perry Castaneda Library Map Collection has placed many atlases and maps from the CIA on the Computer Internet. Check with the library for the current address and the countries available.

2. Gazetteers. Gazetteers are long lists of place names with a minimal amount of information to identify and locate each particular place. Since many of these gazetteers list geographical subdivisions smaller than the parish or municipality, and other features such as rivers and mountains, they can be of great help when the particular place to be located does not appear in the atlases or geographical dictionaries available to the researcher. Many countries also publish postal guides and political divisions guides.

Gazetteers, such as the United States Board on Geographical Names Gazetteer, prepared by the Office of Geography of the Department of the Interior, are frequently more readily obtained in the United States than local geographical dictionaries and detailed atlases of Hispanic countries. The Hispanic countries covered by the U.S. Board on Geographical Names series and their numbers in that series are:

Argentina, 103	Honduras, 27
Bolivia, 4	Mexico, 15
Brazil, 71	Nicaragua, 10
Chile, 6	Panama, 110
Costa Rica, 7	Paraguay, 35
Cuba, 30	Puerto Rico, 38
Dominican Republic, 33	Spain and Andorra, 51
Ecuador, 36	Spanish Sahara, 108
El Salvador, 26	Uruguay, 21
Guatemala	Venezuela, 56

For a number of Hispanic countries there are updated versions of these gazetteers published by the Defense Mapping Agency (DMA). These are included under each country in the last section of this chapter. These gazetteers have now been placed by the DMA (in collaboration with the U.S. Board of Geographic Names on the computer Internet under the title GEOnet Names Server.

3. Geographical dictionaries. These vary in size, from one and two volume dictionaries to large series containing sixteen to twenty volumes. In the United States, those covering Hispanic countries are generally found in the Family History Library Catalog or in large public or university libraries which have map collections. Nearly every country has at least one such dictionary, although these can vary dramatically in the amount of detail they contain. Some of the large countries such as Mexico even have state or regional geographic dictionaries. Whether national or regional these are most helpful in locating a particular town, and usually provide a written description of the town, or other geographical unit. These descriptions, as well as individual place name entries, can be used to identify the larger geographical unit (where records would usually be found) to which a smaller unit, whose name is the only one the family remembers, belongs. Figure 7- , a page from Volume I of the Diccionario geografico de Guatemala, illustrates this principle, showing the caserios of Guatemala. These dictionaries also often provide information in developing the history of the ancestral locality as a background to the family history.

4. Ecclesiastical guides and directories. Many Catholic dioceses, publish directories listing the various parishes, seminaries, and convents which make up the diocese. These directories always include the names of local parishes and the priests who serve there. They also may contain maps and other aids, and interesting and pertinent information about local history, including even local jurisdictional changes. Many of these are available through the LDS Family History Centers and in libraries having the CIDOC Collection of Latin American Church documents on microfilm. For at least four countries, Spain, Puerto Rico, Mexico, and Argentina, such guides exist which also indicate at least the beginning date for parish registers

in nearly every parish in the country.

5. Historical Atlases, Maps and Materials. In the chart in the last section of this chapter a special category has been created for geographic reference tools that were printed before 1900 but are still widely available or were written to deal with geography during an historical period, most often the colonial period. The use and format of these materials parallels that of their contemporary counterparts described in other sections above.

6. Local histories. As the name implies, these are histories that deal entirely with a particular town or region, found both as books and as articles in periodicals. Scholarly historical journals such as The Americas and Hispanic American Historical Review are particularly valuable. These do not help in locating exact places, but can be extremely valuable in helping to understand the history of that locality, and especially to trace its jurisdictional changes.

Central America and Caribbean



Other Resources: Puerto Rico

See Puerto Rico satellite image at <http://geology.com>