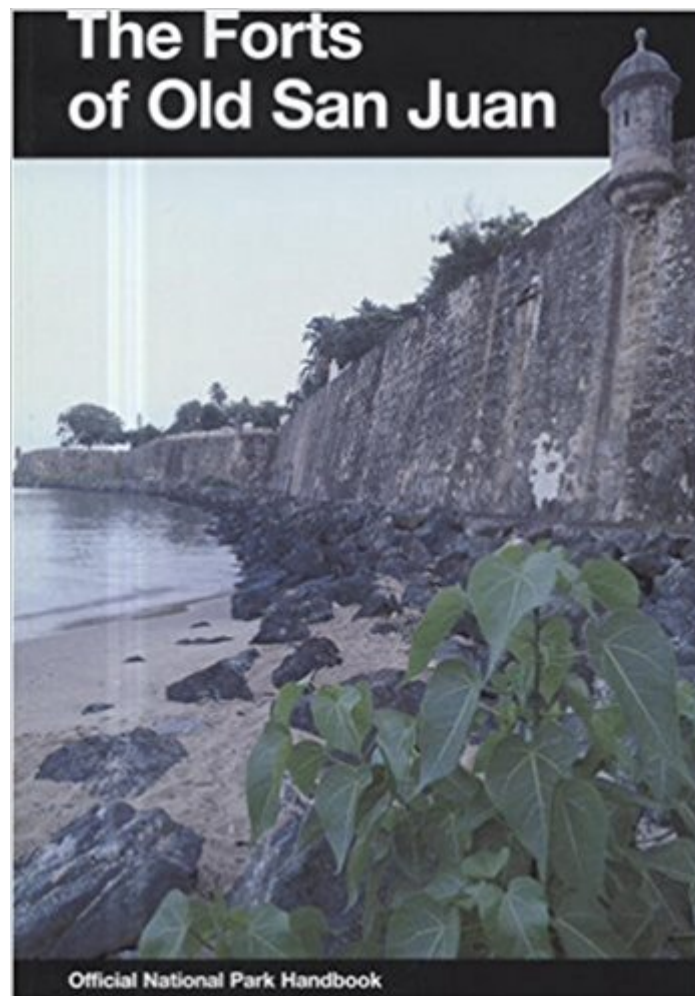




Ebook Directory
the best source of ebook

The book was found

Forts Of Old San Juan: San Juan National Historic Site, Puerto Rico (National Park Service Handbook)



Synopsis

Tells the story of the evolution of the defenses of San Juan, Puerto Rico, and the role they played in helping to safeguard Spanish possessions in the Caribbean from the 16th to the 19th centuries.

Book Information

Series: National Park Service Handbook (Book 151)

Paperback: 80 pages

Publisher: National Park Service (November 12, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 091262762X

ISBN-13: 978-0912627625

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.2 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,900,067 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #59 in [Books > Travel >](#)

[Caribbean > Puerto Rico](#) #1027 in [Books > Travel > Caribbean > General](#) #1717

[in Books > History > Americas > Caribbean & West Indies](#)

Customer Reviews

Interior Dept., National Park Service, Division of Publications

Very interesting with lots of history

Perfect

"The Forts of Old San Juan" is the official National Park Handbook for touring Castillo de San Felipe del Morro and Castillo de San Cristobal in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The former, known as El Morro, was designed by Juan Batista Antonelli and built by 18th-century engineers. The fort covers over 5 acres and had the primary responsibility for defending the harbor of San Juan, doing so with batteries of cannon on four different levels. The latter, San Cristobal, is the largest of the San Juan forts, covering 27 acres, and protected the city's landward approaches. I wish I had this booklet when I visited the forts a couple of years ago because while visitors had a sense that these were an imposing pair of defensive positions, you get a more sophisticated understanding from reading it. This booklet is divided in three parts: Part 1, Old Forts in a Modern World establishes the key idea

that in fortifying San Juan the Spanish military engineers made maximum use of the city's natural defensive features and erected fortifications that controlled both land and sea approaches. Part 2, Gateway to the Indies provides the history of Puerto Rico and the importance of San Juan as a strategic seaport. This is where you will find a look at La Fortaleza, the first fort built to protect the harbor and city of San Juan. Small by European standards, its main purpose was to repel attacks by the Island-Carib Indians and not the Dutch (who destroyed the fort in 1625). However, it does give you a basis for comparison to the other forts. This chapter also looks at Sir Francis Drake's attack in 1595 and the Earl of Cumberland's attack in 1598 (a diagram explains how a siege worked circa 1700). Part 3, A "Defense of the First Order" explains how Puerto Rico's strategic significance compelled King Philip IV to repair and strengthen the fortifications to the massive edifices we can still see today. In 1797 the prolonged attack by General Ralph Abercromby and Admiral Sir Henry Harvey failed. However, the city fared less well when an American naval squadron commanded by Admiral William T. Sampson, including the U.S.S. Iowa, bombarded the forts. Even though it has been a couple of years since I visited, the text is clear enough and the illustrations have enough details that it all readily came back to me. The handbook is illustrated with contemporary photographs, maps, and diagrams of the forts, along with a few historical paintings and illustrations. So if you are visiting San Juan and decide to visit the Forts of Old San Juan, pick up this handbook so you can not only understand the various architectural structures you will be seeing but also the history of the forts and the practical utility of the forts in defending the harbor and town of San Juan. If you have visited other National Parks and picked up other handbooks then you already know these are high quality efforts.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Forts of Old San Juan: San Juan National Historic Site, Puerto Rico (National Park Service Handbook) Fodor's Pocket Puerto Rico, 5th Edition: The Best of the Island with Historic Old San Juan (Fodor's in Focus Puerto Rico) San Juan Antigua Old San Juan, Puerto Rico 2011 EDITION + BONUS CHAPTER: Have an Adventure Recipes from Puerto Rico: Fritters from Puerto Rico Stories from Puerto Rico / Historias de Puerto Rico (English and Spanish Edition) Natural Puerto Rico / Puerto Rico Natural North Cascades: A Guide to the North Cascades National Park Service Complex, Washington (National Park Service Handbook) Moon Spotlight San Juan & Puerto Rico's East Coast: Including Vieques & Culebra Lowell: The Story of an Industrial City : a Guide to Lowell National Historical Park and Lowell Heritage State Park, Lowell, Massachusetts (National Park Service Handbook) A Taste of Puerto Rico: Traditional and New Dishes from the Puerto Rican Community Sponsored Identities: Cultural Politics in Puerto Rico (Puerto Rican Studies) San Juan

Islands Cruise Guide: A Boaters Handbook for Camping the San Juan's and Surrounding Area - Expanded Edition (Volume 2) The Food Service Professional Guide to Controlling Restaurant & Food Service Operating Costs (The Food Service Professional Guide to, 5) (The Food Service Professionals Guide To) Manasses (Bull Run) National Battlefield Park-Virginia (Illustrations): National Park Service Historical Handbook No.15 Appomattox Court House: Appomattox Court House National Historical Park, Virginia (National Park Service Handbook) Boston and the American Revolution: Boston National Historical Park, Massachusetts (National Park Service Handbook) San Juan Islands: Including Victoria and the Gulf Islands (Moon San Juan Islands) De San Juan a Ponce En El Tren/ from San Juan to Ponce on the Train Frommer's Vancouver Island, the Gulf Islands & the San Juan Islands (Frommer's Vancouver Island, the Gulf Islands & the San Juan Islands) Ultimate Washington/the Best of Seattle, San Juan Islands, Puget Sound and the Cascades: The Best of Seattle, San Juan Islands, Puget Sound and the Cascades (Ultimate Guides)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)