

4199

C. & G. SURVEY  
L. & A.  
NOV 2 1926

Form 504

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

E. Lester Jones Director

C. & G. SURVEY  
L. & A.  
NOV 2 1926

Acc.

State: Florida

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Topographic  
~~Hydrographic~~ Sheet No. c 4199

LOCALITY

Tampa Bay

West Shore including

St. Petersburg Waterfront

1926

CHIEF OF PARTY

Ray L. Schoppe

GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

## DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

to accompany

### TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET "C".

TAMPA BAY, FLA.

#### AUTHORITY.

The topography on this sheet is executed in accordance with instructions issued to Ray L. Schoppe, Chief of Party under date of December 3, 1925.

#### EXTENT.

This sheet comprises a resurvey of the West shore of Tampa Bay, along the South and East shores of Pinellas Peninsula from triangulation station MAXIMO along the waterfront of the City of St. Petersburg and North as far as triangulation station CEDAR POINT. The entire shore of Papys Bayou is included in this sheet. It joins sheet "B" near triangulation station CEDAR POINT and sheet "G" at triangulation station MAXIMO. The main business part of the City of St. Petersburg lies within the limits of this sheet but only a portion of the street system is shown. All shoreline shown on this sheet is within the city limits of St. Petersburg.

#### CONTROL.

This area is adequately covered by triangulation and natural objects enough have been located so that future work should be easy to accomplish. A large amount of new construction in the city will doubtless result in numerous prominent structures which are not here shown because they are not yet completed.

#### METHODS.

Three point fixes control all the work along the Bay shore. In the Bayous, signals were located by means of planetable cuts and resections. A short traverse run through Big Bayou and Little Bayou checked closely on three point fixes at each end. All street intersections along the waterfront were rodded in and from these positions, the streets of the business section were transferred from the Department of Public Works blue prints. In Coffee Pot Bayou and Smaks Bayou a short scheme of plane table triangulation was extended as far as hydrography required. A resection on triangulation stations whenever visible through trees and buildings showed the locations to be accurate. In Papys Bayou, the shoreline is sand and mangroves, except where improved, and signals were located by means of plane table cuts from set ups on the towers at triangulation stations CEDAR POINT and SEE.

These intersections were checked by a traverse from the entrance to the bridge at signal APP and close agreement was noted. The shoreline North and West of signal APP was not run by this party. It appears to agree with the previous survey except that a real estate development called the Florida Riviera is now at work along the S.W. shore with two dredges extending the shoreline and raising the level of swampy land. The North and East shores of this area are high sandy knolls and are unchanged.

#### AGREEMENT WITH OLD SURVEYS.

The old surveys of this area were made before St. Petersburg had gained any size or importance. At present the City limits of St. Petersburg extend from the North shore of Papys Bayou to the South end of the Peninsula and Westward to Boca Ciega Bay. It includes some 300 miles of paved streets and while the phenomenal growth of last year will probably not continue at the same rate, there is sure to be a long continued period of building. An immense amount of low ground is being drained and much of it is being raised above sea level by means of hydraulic fill. The sheet shows conditions as they existed in March 1926. The only exception to that statement is the Municipal Recreation Pier. This is located on the site of the old wooden pier at the foot of 2nd. Avenue North and will be opened to the public before the holiday season of 1926. It is a magnificent concrete structure with a prominent pavillion on the outer end. The A. C. L. railroad pier at the foot of 1st. Avenue South is wrecked. The outer end is nothing but a mass of rotten piling. Next South of it the Fountain of Youth Pier is no longer servicable. It has been closed to the public.

The deep water harbor at the Port of St. Petersburg is easy of access and is bounded on it's North side by a substantial concrete dock and galvanized iron storage sheds. The sand fill East of this at the foot of 7th. Street is very prominent and shows up well from the Bay.

Previous to the construction of this basin, the port was dependent on Bayboro Harbor for all water communication. Bayboro Harbor lies North and East of the Power House Stack. It is a dredged basin with depths up to 11 feet at some of the docks. There is a project afloat to deepen Bayboro to 19 feet and the Port of St. Petersburg to 27 feet. Other details of the waterfront appear on the sheet and will not be noted here in detail. The entire waterfront from 7th. Avenue South to 9th. Avenue North is owned by the City.

Real estate developers are operating along other sections and their construction projects are not limited by reasonable or logical prospects. At Snell Isle the hydraulic fill is being pushed out into the Bay. In Smacks and Papys Bayou the low swampy areas are gradually being raised above water level by the same method.

The range shown South of the Port of St. Petersburg is a day range and the marks are unlighted. In the entrance to the Port of St. Petersburg one light is shown here. The outer lighted beacon was destroyed but has been rebuilt since this sheet was surveyed. It's location is shown on Hydro sheet "B".

From Maximo Point to Coffee Pot Bayou there are numerous evidences of construction but there seems to be no natural erosion or encroachment of sand or mangrove shoreline. In the region around Smacks and Papy's Bayous, the mangrove has extended seaward and where the old sheets show a mere fringe of mangrove, the present sheets show practically solid growth and a distinct high water line. In the entire area between triangulation station CEDAR POINT and Fourth Street, there is little dry solid ground. It is swampy except where drained and filled. In this region a vast amount of money is now being spent to make the area habitable. With the extensive operations in draining, dredging and sand filling now going on, it will doubtless become habitable and more or less built up in the next few years.

#### LANDMARKS.

Whenever possible prominent objects have been cut in by triangulation. The lighted beacons in this area are frequently rebuilt and except in the near future, should not be used until it is certain that no changes have been made. There are no hills or natural features visible from sea. The country is flat and covered with pines, palmettos and mangrove. The soil is sand and mud. No rocks exist here.

As viewed from the Bay the following objects appear prominent and are easily distinguished.

Triangulation station RED TANK - A water tower at Lakewood Estates was red lead color when located but is now covered with aluminum paint.

✓ Triangulation station POWER HOUSE STACK - Red brick, at Bayboro Harbor is now illuminated at night and is therefore prominent at night as well as day.

~~Triangulation station EAST GABLE, freight shed. - Port of St. Petersburg, galvanized iron roof, South of 7th. Avenue and located on prominent sand fill.~~

Triangulation station Municipal Gas Plant, TALL STACK - This is located by Steamer HYDROGRAPHER. It is within the limits of this sheet but was not needed for topography.

✓ Triangulation station ICE PLANT STACK - White brick with an electric sign "ICE" at the top.

✓ Triangulation station South Tower SORENO HOTEL - Square tower on a large yellow building close to the yacht basin.

✓ Triangulation station TOWER, Vinoy Hotel. - This is a bell tower. The only one on a large reddish brown hotel.

Triangulation station SEE - Observation tower at Club San Remo on "Reveria" property, is surmounted by a large searchlight which is frequently operated in winter season.

Numerous other points have been located by triangulation, but some of them are losing their value to the surveyor on account of the erection of high buildings in towns. It should be noted that range lights in the bay are frequently destroyed and rebuilt. They should not be used in future surveys until their location is checked. Not a single light in this area, that was used in previous surveys, is standing now.

NAMES.

St. Petersburg is located on Pinellas Peninsula and in a county of the same name. The spelling of this name is correct as above and should not be spelled "Pinelos". The old spelling is retained in naming triangulation stations on this sheet but it is recommended that the corrected spelling be adopted. And from this, the names on chart 177 are correct and well known locally. An attempt has been made by certain real estate agents to change the names of Papys and Smacks Bayou. The proposed names were something like Bayou Grande and Bayou Placido. There is no excuse for this change and the old names should be retained. 4th. street North is a main highway and is called Gandy Boulevard.

The enclosed area South of the Municipal Pier is called the Yacht Basin. The fill on the shore end of this pier is well known as the Spa Beach and is a popular bathing beach.

A list of recoverable positions is attached herewith.

Respectfully submitted

*Ray L. Schoppe*  
Ray L. Schoppe  
Chief of Party.

# RECOVERABLE PLANE TABLE POSITIONS

Object	Latitude		Longitude		Remarks
	° /	D.M. met.	° /	D.P.met.	
Flag	27-42	86	82-39	326	Flagpole Florentine Way
Tile	27-42	812	82-40	1010	Tower on old house
Span	27-42	1448	82-38	227	Middle of square tower Alta Marina
Bell	27-47	752	82-37	630	Bell mounted in ornamental arch
Tower	27-47	970	82-37	1000	S.E. Tower on entrance to <sup>Coffey's</sup> Bayou bridge
Vane	27-47	1206	82-37	1519	Weather vane on square tower
Tip	27-47	1220	82-37	898	Tank Snell Is. Property
Black	27-47	1469	82-38	11	Chimney on So. side of yellow stucco house
Pet	27-48	210	82-37	1510	Tank at orphanage
Hoc	27-49	829	82-36	411	Chimney on Mr. Kitchens hou
Windmill	27-50	1052	82-38	722	At Rio Vista
So. Upright Bridge	27-50	1097	82-36	1125	Temporary bridge
Yellow Tower	27-50	1252	82-38	480	Rio Vista Obs. Tower & Tank
White Tank	27-50	1811	82-36	306	Riviera Nurseries
Obs. Tower	27-51	398	8236	1069	Riviera Field Office

POST-OFFICE ADDRESS: COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY STEAMER BACHE, PENSACOLA, FLA.

TELEGRAPH ADDRESS:

EXPRESS OFFICE:



DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

STEAMER BACHE

MAR 12 9 06 AM '27

Pensacola, Fla.  
March 9, 1927

To: The Director,  
U. S. C. & G. Survey,  
Washington, D. C.

From: Commanding Officer,  
Steamer BACHE.

Subject: Topographic sheet No. 4199.

Reference: Directors letter February 21, 1927, File 10-McC.

Photostat copies mentioned in the above reference are returned under separate cover. The information regarding low water has been supplied as nearly as possible on sheet No. 4199.

When the field work on this sheet was done in March 1926 there was a tremendous amount of dredging and filling in progress and a sheet completed at that time would fail to show conditions as they are at present.

It is believed that the information as shown on the photostats is a close approximation to the conditions as they exist at the present. This information has been reviewed by each officer now on board.

The area at the inner end of Papy's Bayou and Smack's Bayou was not surveyed by this party and can not be shown in an up to date manner unless the aerial photographs of that region are consulted. This was noted in the Descriptive Report. Since this whole area has been mapped by the aerial method, it would be a great improvement in the chart to supplement the plane table work with the photographic result. Possible this could be done by conferring with the Director of Public Works, St. Petersburg, Fla.

*Ray L. Schoppe*  
Ray L. Schoppe

10-McC

February 21, 1927.

Reur. to [unclear] v. for [unclear]

To: Commanding Officer,  
U. S. C. & G. S. S. BACHE,  
Pensacola, Florida.

From: The Director,  
U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Subject: Addition to topographic sheet.

There are forwarded to you under separate cover photostats of sections of topographic and hydrographic sheets in the vicinity of St. Petersburg surveyed by your party.

You will note that topographic sheet No. 4185 shows the character of the area between high and low water lines. The topographer has apparently taken pains to note the general limits of the marsh, and has shown where the flats are of sand or mud. Adjoining this sheet is topographic sheet 4199 on which this information is entirely lacking. It is desired that you indicate on the photostat of that sheet, if possible to do so from the information at hand, the characteristics of the area outside of the high water line.

Photostats of the hydrographic sheets are forwarded for such assistance as they may be in this connection.

As a new chart is being prepared of this vicinity, it is desired that the information be returned as soon as practicable. It would appear that this should have been noted in the review of topographic sheet 4199. The difference between the two sheets is very marked at the junction between them in connection with this point.

(Signed) E. Lester Jones

Director.



3-VRC

March 14, 1927.

To: Commanding Officer,  
U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey,  
Steamer BACHE,  
Pensacola, Florida.

From: The Director,  
U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Subject: Topographic Sheet No. 4199.

The receipt is acknowledged of the photostat copies of sections of hydrographic sheets Nos. 4565 and 4566 and of topographic sheets Nos. 4185 and 4199 noted in your letter dated March 9, 1927.

Topographic sheet No. 4199 will be amended to show the additional delineation furnished on the photostats.

Please accept my thanks for this information.

(Signed) R. L. Faris

Acting Director.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

TOPOGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

NOV 2 2 29 PM '26

REG. NO. 4199

The Topographic Sheet should be accompanied by this form, filled in as completely as possible, when the sheet is forwarded to the Office.

Field No. "C"

REGISTER NO. 4199

State Florida

General locality Tampa Bay

Locality Shore including  
West Coast Old Tampa Bay St. Petersburg

Scale 1:20:000 Date of survey March, 1926

Vessel BACHE

Chief of Party R.L. Schoppe

Surveyed by E.J. Burke

Inked by E.J. Burke

Heights in feet above to ground to tops of trees

Contour, Approximate contour, Form line interval feet

Instructions dated June 3, 1924 Dec. 3, 1925

Remarks: