

4367a

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Form 504	
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE	
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY	
....., Director	
State: Hawaiian Is.	
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT	
Topographic Hydrographic	Sheet No. ^D 4367a
LOCALITY	
French Frigate Shoals	
Little Gin and Disappearing	
Islands	
1928	
CHIEF OF PARTY	
K.T. Adams	

NOTED BY THE OFFICE

DECLASSIFICATION BY NOAA

PURSUANT TO DOC SYSTEMATIC REVIEW
GUIDELINES AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION
3.3 (a), EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. COAST & GEODETIC SURVEY
Col. E. Lester Jones, Director

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT
to accompany

Topographic Sheet No. D 4367a

Little Gin and Disappearing Islands,
French Frigate Shoals,
Territory of Hawaii.

Steamer GUIDE
1928.

E. T. Adams
Chief of Party

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

REG. NO.

TOPOGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

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. D

REGISTER NO.

State Territory of Hawaii

General locality French Frigate Shoals

Locality Little Gin and Disappearing Islands

Scale 1/20,000 Date of Survey September 11, 192⁸

Vessel Steamer GUIDE

Chief of Party E. T. Adams

Surveyed by V. M. Gibbens

Inked by V. M. Gibbens

Heights in feet above _____ to ground to tops of trees

Contour, Approximate contour, Form line interval _____ feet

Instructions dated March 26, 192⁸

Remarks: _____

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT
to accompany
TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET NO.D
Little Gin and Disappearing Islands
French Frigate Shoals, T.H.
Scale: 1:20,000

AUTHORITY: Instructions of Director dated March 25, 1928.

LIMITS: Little Gin and Disappearing Islands.

CONTROL: Control for this survey is based on three stations located by triangulation this season.

METHOD: The usual method of plane table stadia was used, almost entirely, except when cuts were taken to tangents of reefs. One set up on each island was all that was required to complete the topography.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

These are low white coral and sand islands, formed by the washing of the sand up on the shoal coral reefs, and are always changing in size and shape, washing away in one place and building up in another according to the wind and sea. Therefore the topography of these islands is not of much value.

The higher part of Little Gin Island is sparsely covered with a salt grass.

There are a great many birds on this island and they nest on top of the sand and in holes and in bunches of the grass.

Disappearing Island is near the outside reef of French Frigate Shoals, and when heavy swells are running they will cover the island with water each time a heavy swell goes by. At times this island probably washes away to below the water level, to be built up again by a change in weather. It probably derived its name of Disappearing Island in this way.

The names of these islands came from the blue print of the survey of French Frigate Shoals by the U.S.S. TANAGER in 1923.

Respectfully submitted,

V. M. Gibbens
V. M. Gibbens,
Aid,
C & G Survey.

FORWARDED, approved.

K. T. Adams
K. T. Adams,
Chief of Party.

*Inspected and found adequate. The lat. & long. of one of the
D^m points was not placed on the sheet, as directed in Par. 34,
page 8 of the topo. manual.*
E. B. Ellis, June, 1929.

STATISTICS FOR TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET NO.D.

Little Gin and Disappearing Islands,
French Frigate Shoals, T.H.

TOPOGRAPHIC POSITION.

BUOY	Lat. $23^{\circ} 40'$	360.8M	Long. $166^{\circ} 11'$	1269.5M
		(1485)		(430.7)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

TOPOGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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. D

REGISTER NO. **43672**

State Territory of Hawaiian Is.

General locality French Frigate Shoals

Locality Little Gin and Disappearing Islands

Scale 1/20,000 Date of survey September 11, 1928

Vessel Steamer GUIDE

Chief of Party K. T. Adams

Surveyed by V. M. Gibbens

Inked by V. M. Gibbens

Heights in feet above _____ to ground to tops of trees

Contour, Approximate contour, Form line interval _____ feet

Instructions dated March 28, 1928

Remarks: _____

4367b

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Form 504

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

State: Territory of Hawaiian Is.

11-5613

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. E **4367b**

LOCALITY:

FRENCH FRIGATE SHOALS

(La Perouse Pinnacle, East Island,

Round Island, Gin Island, Bare

Island)

1928

CHIEF OF PARTY:

K. T. ADAMS

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

7-43676

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT
to accompany.

TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET "E"
French Frigate Shoals, T. H.
Gin, East, Bare, Round Islands and La Perouse Pinnacle.
Scale 1/10,000

DATE OF INSTRUCTIONS: March 25, 1928.

DATE OF SURVEY: July 11, 12, 19 and August 6, 1928.

LIMITS: This sheet was layed out to include La Perouse Pinnacle and Round Island as the southwest and northwest limits, respectively; to have East Island and Bare Island near it's center; and Gin Island near it's southeast corner.

CONTROL: The 1928 triangulation stations of the Steamer GUIDE, on the larger islands, were the control for this survey.

METHOD: The plane table and stadia method was used, the table being set up at a triangulation station on each island and oriented on other triangulation stations.

The work was done in conjunction with signal building, and time was saved by working at points near the ship's anchorages.

At La Perouse Pinnacle, a set-up was made on the small rock, nine foot elevation, west of the large rock. The high water line of the large rock was rodde from a pulling boat, it being otherwise inaccessible. The locations of the easterly limit and easterly peak were checked by plane table cuts from triangulation station ROUND.

The small hydrographic signals, on reefs awash, were located by plane table cuts for immediate use by hydrographic parties, and were later located by triangulation. In some cases this triangulation had no check, but was checked by the topographic locations. The triangulation positions were used in plotting the smooth hydrographic sheets.

Some reefs awash could not be landed on and were located by the hydrographers.

GEOGRAPHIC NAMES: The names of islands used on this sheet are those that appear in the work of the "Tanager Expedition" of the U. S. Navy in 1923-24. No new names have been assigned.

LAND-MARKS: La Perouse Pinnacle, with it's elevation of 122 feet, is the only landmark visible from any distance. When close to the shoal area, the breakers and the light green color of the water distinguish it from the deeper water of dark blue.

GENERAL: La Perouse Pinnacle and the small rock west of it are of volcanic rock. All other islands are of white coral sand that shifts about on coral

reefs. The shapes and sizes of these islands are constantly changing, under the action of water currents. In general they are from 3 to 6 feet in elevation.

Round Island and East Island have a sparse growth of salt grass, and hold their general shape better than the others on this sheet.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis B. Quinn
.....
Francis B. Quinn, Jr. H & G E.

APPROVED:

K. T. Adams
.....
K. T. Adams, H & G E, Chief of Party.

LIST OF PLANE TABLE POSITIONS:

Signal	Lat. & Long.	D.M. & D.P.	Remarks
FAR	23 49 166 13	06.5 433.3(1265.0)	Cross banner on 16 ft. pole on reef awash. (unmarked)

Inspected and found adequate, except that an erroneous datum was used in plotting the Δ^m points. All of the eight Δ^m points were uniformly 2 meters in error in lat. and 9 meters in error in long. based on the field computations. The necessary correction for long. has been indicated on the sheet, the error in lat. being too small to require correction.

The lat. & long. of one of the Δ^m points was not placed on the sheet as directed in Per. 34, page 8 of the Topo. Manual.

E. P. Ellis

June, 1929.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

REG. NO. 4367b

TOPOGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

CONFIDENTIAL

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. E

REGISTER NO. **4367b**

State ~~Territory of Hawaiian Is.~~

General locality French Frigate Shoals

Locality La Perouse Pinnacle; East, Round, Gin and Bare Islands.

Scale 1:10,000 Date of survey July 11, 12, 19
August 6, 1928

Vessel U.S.C. & G.S.S. GUIDE

Chief of Party K. T. ADAMS, H & G E.

Surveyed by FRANCIS B. QUINN, Jr. H & G E.

Inked by FRANCIS B. QUINN, Jr. H & G E.

Heights in feet above M.T.L. to ground to tops of trees

Contour, Approximate contour, Form line interval _____ feet

Instructions dated March 25, 1928

Remarks: For reefs awash within the limits of this sheet, see

Hydrographic Sheets Nos. 8, 12 and 13.

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Form 504	
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE	
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY	
....., Director	
<div></div>	
State: Hawaiian Is.	
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT	
Topographic Hydrographic	Sheet No. F 4367C
LOCALITY	
French Frigate Shoals	
Whale, Trig, Tern and Shark Islands	
1928	
CHIEF OF PARTY	
K.T. Adams	

9-bec applied to Compilation of Chart 4172 7/18/46 C.R.B./-
4367 a, b, c " " " " 4172 Aug. '46 L.S.S. (via ch. 4171)

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
Col. E. Lester Jones, Director

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT
to accompany

TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET NO. F 4367^c

Whale, Trig, Tern, and Shark Islands,
French Frigate Shoals, T.H.

Steamer GUIDE
1928

K. T. ADAMS
Chief of Party

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

REG. NO.

TOPOGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

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. F

REGISTER NO.

State Territory of Hawaii

General locality French Frigate Shoals

Locality skate, Whale, Trig, Tern, and Shark Islands

Scale 1/20,000 Date of survey August 9, and 10, 1928

Vessel Steamer GUIDE

Chief of Party K. T. Adams

Surveyed by V. M. Gibbens

Inked by V. M. Gibbens

Heights in feet above _____ to ground to tops of trees

Contour, Approximate contour, Form line interval _____ feet

Instructions dated March 28, _____, 1928

Remarks: _____

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT
to accompany
TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET NO. F
Whale, Trig, Tern and Shark Islands,
French Frigate Shoals, T.H.
Scale: 1:20,000

AUTHORITY: Instructions of Director dated March 25, 1928.

LIMITS: Whale, Skate, Trig, Tern and Shark Islands.

CONTROL: Control for this survey is based on six stations located by triangulation this season.

METHOD: The usual method of plane table stadia was used almost entirely, except when cuts were taken to tangents of coral reefs.

One to two setups on each island were all that was required to complete the topography.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

These are low white coral sand islands, formed by the washing of the sand up on the shoal coral reefs, and are always changing in size and shape, washing away in one place and building up in another, depending on the wind and sea. Therefore the topography of these islands is not of much value.

The higher parts of these islands are sparsely covered with a salt grass, except Skate and Shark Islands, which have no vegetation. Tern Island is the highest of the islands, with more vegetation, and is probably the most permanent of the islands.

There are a great many birds on these islands, and they nest on top of the sand, in holes and bunches of grass.

The names of these islands came from the blue print of the survey of French Frigate Shoals by the U.S.S. Tanager in 1923.

Respectfully submitted,

V. M. Gibbens
V. M. Gibbens,
Aid,
C & G Survey.

FORWARDED, approved.

K. T. Adams
K. T. Adams,
Chief of Party.

*Inspected and found adequate.
The lat. & long. of one of the Δ points was not placed
on the sheet, as directed in Par. 34, page 8 of the
Tops. Manual.
E. P. Egan, June, 1929*

STATISTICS FOR TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET NO. F.

Whale, Trig, Tern, and Shark Islands,
French Frigate Shoals, T.H.

TOPOGRAPHIC POSITION.

Lean	Lat. $23^{\circ} 48'$	Buoy planted by ship.
	(981.5)	
	Long. $166^{\circ} 18'$	
	(485)	

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

REG. NO. 4367C

TOPOGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

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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. E

REGISTER NO.

4367C

State ~~Territory~~ of Hawaiian Is

General locality French Frigate Shoals

Locality Whale, Trig, Tern and Shark Islands

Scale 1/20,000 Date of survey Aug. 29 and 30, 1928

Vessel Str. Guide

Chief of Party K. T. Adams

Surveyed by V. M. Gibbens

Inked by V. M. Gibbens

Heights in feet above to ground to tops of trees

Contour, Approximate contour, Form line interval feet

Instructions dated March 28, 1928

Remarks: