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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

R. S. Patton, Director

State: LOUISIANA

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Topographic } Sheet No. F 4820
~~Hydrographic~~

LOCALITY

Co. Calcasieu Lake La.,

Northern Part.

Northern Half.

1934

CHIEF OF PARTY

J. C. Bose

4820

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT to Accompany Topographic
Sheet (Field) N. F.

Instructions. The survey was made in accordance with Supplemental Instructions from the Director, dated September 8, 1933.

Control. The control consisted of two first order triangulation stations, CALCASIEU, 1931 and GRAND LAKE, 1931; four second order stations, EAST, 1932, RHODES, 1932, LONG, 1933, and PECONI, 1933; three third order stations, BURTON, 1932, B.M.4 (USE), 1932, and B.M.6(USE), 1932; and three intersection stations, Hackberry Catholic Church, 1932, Grand Lake Catholic Church, 1932, and Windmill(Grand Lake), 1932.

These stations furnished adequate control and made it possible for the topographer to obtain fixes almost anywhere.

The topography was begun by the chief of party and run by him as far south as \odot Cod on the east shore and as far south as \odot Ed on the west shore. The sheet was then completed by J. E. Chachere, whose description is at the end of this report.

At the time when instructions were received to resume field work, which had been stopped on July 15, 1933, no aluminum mounted topographic sheets were on hand; therefore, the topography was done on a sheet of Whatman's linen mounted paper. The southern half of Calcasieu Lake was done on an aluminum mounted sheet.

The projection was constructed by the chief of party with care and was checked. However, after the field work had been completed and the projection was again checked before inking, it was found to have shrunk perceptibly. This shrinkage was fairly uniform and neither of the two topographers had had difficulty in obtaining good intersections of cuts.

Description. From Hoe to the northern limit of the settlement of Grand Lake (more commonly called Big Lake), the land is low and semi-marshy; it is fairly dry in dry seasons but becomes marshy during rainy months. It is locally referred to as grassy flats. It is used as grazing land. There is a marsh extending northward from Set.

The community of Grand Lake is primarily a summer resort. Several residents of Lake Charles have cottages and summer homes there. There is no post office nor are there telephone facilities. A shell highway passes through it. The shore line at Grand Lake is lined by a low seawall of cypress timber. The piers extending into the lake are rather flimsy walkways, having boathouses or landings for small boats at their offshore ends.

From Grand Lake southward, the land consists of low grassy flats. At an inshore distance of about a mile are scattered groves of live oak trees.

On the west side of Calcasieu Lake, the shore is very marshy as far south as Kelso Bayou. For about a mile west of this marshy shore, the land is occupied by the Hackberry oil field with hundreds of derricks. Some of the wells have been drilled in the lake itself. Kelso Bayou has some traffic of small tugs and oil barges.

South of the mouth of Kelso Bayou, the land is dry and higher. That part of the shoreline marked by hachures is a bluff clay bank about 12 feet high. From \odot Saw to \odot Ed, the land consists of grassy flats. All of the shore line bounding the flats is very irregular because it erodes easily.

A line of dolphins, consisting of a cluster of two to three piles, extends along the middle of the lake in an approximate north and south direction. These are channel markers, driven by the Corps of Engineers. The numbers shown beside the markers are not painted on them but were taken from a War Department map. Some of them are missing and were probably knocked out by tows of barges.

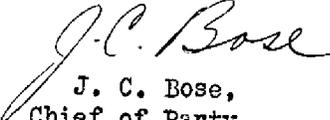
Two marine railways are shown at the northern end of the sheet. These properly belong on Sheet A. Burton's marine railway was not in existence when the topography on sheet A was done. This railway has a capacity of 350 tons. There are facilities for the repair of wooden vessels.

The other marine railway (Manning's) can handle boats of about 22 tons and seventy feet length. It is close to a shell highway. There is no machine shop to make extensive repairs, however.

Names. The names were obtained from local residents. The are well established locally. Commissary Point is shown on C. and G. S. chart No. 202 as Williams Point but no one was found who knew it by that name. The settlement of Grand Lake is locally called Big Lake and Calcasieu Lake itself is nearly always referred to as Big Lake.

Traverses. No traverses were run for any appreciable distances. A fix could generally be obtained and therefore no adjustments were necessary.

Landmarks. There are no features, natural or artificial, which stand out as suitable landmarks. Of course, the oil derricks are very conspicuous but they are not permanent.


J. C. Bose,
Chief of Party.

Description (southern part of sheet F).

On the east shore of Calcasieu Lake, south of \odot Cod is a stretch of marsh about 200 meters wide and widening out to the eastward. South of this marsh, the land is dry as far south as Commissary Point and sparsely dotted with bushy briars called "Cherokee Roses". About $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of \triangle EAST is a graded road leading due east from the lake and near it are several houses. South of \triangle EAST and extending along the shore is a strip of low grassy land. This gradually slopes off into marsh south of a small slough near \odot Com. Near \odot Mis is also a small slough. From \odot Com to \triangle PECONI there is high marsh, that is, marsh covered with tall cane grass.

Just north of \odot Sar, a canal runs eastward from the lake. Another canal follows along the shore line, forming a series of narrow islands. About 0.6 mile south of \odot Sar is another canal leading east. A third canal running east lies about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile south of \odot Ree. These canals were part of a reclamation project now abandoned. They are not navigable except for row boats or flat bottomed boats, and are used only by trappers and fishermen.

A short distance south of \odot Can is the canal of the North American Land and Timber Co. It runs east as far as the Intra-coastal Canal near Sweet Lake and is navigable for small launches. North of \odot Dip is a small canal leading in a southeasterly direction parallel to the shore. Near \triangle PECONI, Bayou Bois Connie empties into the lake.

The shore line from \odot Ab to \odot Com is very irregular because it is being worn away by wave action. From \odot Com south to \triangle PECONI, the shoreline is less irregular and broken, as the dense cane grass acts as a protective mat.

On the west shore of Calcasieu Lake, south of \triangle RHODES, the ground is dry and grass covered. It is dotted with occasional live oaks. A short distance south of \odot May is Hackberry Bayou. This stream is a shallow slough and of no navigational importance. A narrow strip of marsh extends along the banks of this stream. A deep bight between \odot Dis and Knot marks the end of the dry ground. The ridgeline is clearly outlined as shown by the broken line on the sheet. South of this line, the ground is lower and semimarshy. It is covered with grass and occasional small bushes and is shown on the sheet as low grassy flats. This extends south as far as a small slough just north of \odot Run. South of this slough and extending as far south as \triangle Long is high marsh, covered with cane grass. Near and just south of \odot We is the narrow entrance to Long Point Lake, a shallow lake or cove about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile in diameter. Running northwards and parallel to the shore of Calcasieu Lake is a canal which was dredged into a shell bank for obtaining shells. This shell bank is covered with small trees and bushes. Long Point Bayou flows into the southwestern part of Long Point Lake and north of the bayou is another shellbank covered with trees and bushes.

About midway between \odot May and Dis are the ruins of an old steamboat landing. As it has not been in use for some time, it has fallen into decay.

J. E. Chachere

J. E. Chachere,
Topographer.

Approved and forwarded:

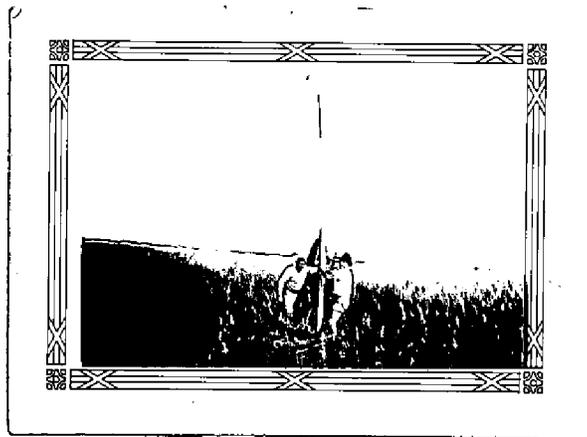
J. C. Bose

Chief of Party

*Applied to drawing of sheet No. 542
Jan 9/35*



East shore, Calcasieu Lake. Looking east,
near signal "Ree"



East shore Calcasieu Lake. Erecting signal "Ree".



East shore Calcasieu Lake, looking north-east
up the mouth of Bayou Bois Connie. Δ PECONI is
seen over the right edge of the left shack.

*Piles as plotted on H5458 check O.K.
with T4820 L.S.S.*

LIST OF PILES MARKING CHANNEL THROUGH CALCASIEU LAKE

NUMBER OR NAME	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE	
	o	'	Meters	Meters
(Dol)	30	02	968 ✓	180 ✓
4 (Fin)	30	02	747 ✓	148 ✓
10 (Van)	30	00	1692 ✓	14 ✓
11 (Sec)	30	00	1241 ✓	1593 ✓
12	30	00	781 ✓	1565 ✓
13	30	00	322 ✓	1555 ✓
14	29	59	1718 ✓	1528 ✓
17 (Gap)	29	59	335 ✓	1470 ✓
19 (Lop)	29	58	1272 ✓	1426 ✓
21	29	58	378 ✓	1375 ✓
22	29	57	1729 ✓	1338 ✓
24	29	57	831 ✓	1309 ✓
25	29	57	369 ✓	1292 ✓
26 (Nor)	29	56	1761 ✓	1217 ✓
28 (Mid)	29	56	858 ✓	1063 ✓
29	29	56	1423 423 ✓	1005 ✓
30 (Soo)	29	55	1805 ✓	914 ✓
31	29	55	1362 ✓	833 ✓ 775
32	29	55	899 ✓	769 ✓ 32
33	29	55	10 ✓	629 ✓ 34

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 LOUISIANA

General locality Calcasieu Lake.

Locality Calcasieu Northern Part. (from 1217)

Scale 1 : 20 000 Date of survey August-September, 1933

Vessel Project HT-138

Chief of party J. C. Bose

Surveyed by J. C. Bose and J. E. Chachere'

Inked by J. C. Bose and J. E. Chachere' (shore line); symbols and lettering by H. R. Burfford.

Heights in feet above.....to ground to tops of trees

Contour, Approximate contour, Form line interval.....feet

Instructions dated September 8, 1933

Remarks:.....

applied to Chart 591 - 4/25 Andy

*applied to chart 1279
12/27-35 g.H.S.*

REVIEW OF TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY No. 4820

Title (Par. 56) *Calcasieu Lake, Louisiana*Chief of Party *J.C. Base* Surveyed by *J.C. Base* Inked by *J.C. Base*
J.E. Chachere *J.E. Chachere*Ship — Instructions dated *Sept. 8, 1933* Surveyed in *Aug. - Sept. 1933*

1. The survey and preparation for it conform to the requirements of the Topographic Manual. (Par. 7, 8, 9, 13, 16.) *Par. 7 not complied with. No initials given as to projection, plotting triangulation etc.*
2. The character and scope of the survey satisfy the instructions. ✓
Whatmans Paper used for reasons stated in Descriptive Report
3. The control and closures of traverses were adequate. (Par. 12, 29.) ✓
4. ~~The amount of vertical control that the Manual specifies for contours-formlines was accomplished. (Par. 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23.)~~
5. ~~The delineation of contours-formlines is satisfactory. (Par. 49, 50.)~~
6. There is sufficient control on maps from other sources that were transmitted by the field party to enable their application to the charts. (Par. 28.) *None submitted*
7. High water line on marshy ~~and mangrove~~ coast is clear and adequate for chart compilation. (Par. 16a, 43, 44.) ✓
8. The representation of low water lines, reefs, ~~coral reefs and rocks~~, and legends pertaining to them is satisfactory. (Par. 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41.) ✓
9. ~~Reefs and other important details shown on previous surveys and on the chart were verified. (Par. 25, 26, 27.)~~ ✓
10. ~~The span, draw and clearance of bridges are shown. (Par. 16c.)~~
11. ~~Locations and elevations of summits are given. (Par. 19, 51.)~~
12. ~~The tree line was shown on mountains. (Par. 16g.)~~

NOTE: Strike out paragraphs, words or phrases not applicable and modify those requiring it. Paragraph numbers refer to those in the Topographic Manual. Use reverse side for extending remarks.

13. The descriptive report covers all details listed in the Manual, in so far as they apply to this survey. (Par. 64, 65, 66, 67.) ✓
14. ~~The descriptive report also contains additional information required in aero-topography relative to type of photographs, method of compilation and type of ground control.~~
15. The descriptions of recoverable stations and references to shore line were accomplished on Form 524. (Par. 29, 30, 57, 67 except scaling of DMs and DPs, 68.) *10 Cards Submitted*
16. A list of landmarks for charts was furnished on Form 567 and plotting checked. (Par. 16d, e, 60.) *None submitted*
17. The magnetic meridian was shown and declination was checked. (Par. 17, 52.) ✓
18. The geographic datum of the sheet is *N.A. 1927 (Adjusted)* and the reference station is correctly noted. (Par. 34.) ✓
19. Junctions with contemporary surveys are adequate. *The H.W. Line from A Papani to O.Dip has been duplicated from T 6041 and its details have been carelessly drawn. This portion of the H.W. Line should be taken from T 6041*
20. Geographic names are shown on the sheet and are covered by the Descriptive report. (Par. 64, 66k.) ✓
21. The quality of the drafting is good. (Par. 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50.) *Except as noted in Par. 19*
22. No additional surveying is recommended. ✓
23. The Chief of Party inspected and approved the sheet and the descriptive report after review by

24. Remarks: *attention was been called to the*
~~Mr. Base's should be asked to comply with the requirements of~~
Par. 7 of the Topographic Manual

Reviewed in office by *Chas O. Bush Jr. May 11, 1936*

Examined and approved:

E. K. Green
 Chief, Section of Field Records

Fred. R. Peacock
 Chief, Section of Field Work

L. O. Lobert
 Chief, Division of Charts

J. H. Wade
 Chief, Division of Hyd. and Top.