6621

U. S. COAST & GEODETIC SURVEY
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
R. S. PATTON, DIRECTOR

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Topographic / *Hydrographic* } *Sheet No.* T-1

State Mass

LOCALITY

Vineyard Sound

Nonamesset Island to Jobs ~~Point~~ Neck

193 9

CHIEF OF PARTY

Chas. M Thomas

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1934

6621

applied to chart 249. 8/19/37 g.K.S.

Applied to Cht 1210 – 11/28/39. P.B.C.

Only critical changes applied to chart 348. 3/8/41 g.K.S.

1210

Form 537a
Ed. Nov. 1929

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. T-1

REGISTER NO. T6621

State Massachusetts

General locality ~~Easterly group of Elizabeth Islands~~ Vineyard Sound

Locality ~~Hadley Harbor~~ Nanamesset Island to Jobs Neck

Scale 1:5,000 Date of survey May 23, to June 14, 1938

Vessel Motor Vessel GILBERT

Chief of party Chas. M. Thomas

Surveyed by Lt. J. P. Lushene

Inked by Lt. J. P. Lushene

Heights in feet above _____ to ground to tops of trees

Contour, Approximate contour, Form line interval _____ feet

Instructions dated January 17, 1938

Remarks: Lt. Lushene was transferred to the U.S.C.& G.S.S. OCEANOGRAPHER before getting his Descriptive Report written, which was written by the Chief of Party.

GPO

POST-OFFICE ADDRESS:

TELEGRAPH ADDRESS:

EXPRESS ADDRESS:

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET T-1, HADLEY HARBOR, AND ISLANDS IN THAT VICINITY.

* *

INSTRUCTIONS, dated Jan. 17, 1938. (Survey made by Lt. J.P. Lushene, Report made by Lt. Chas. M. Thomas)

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

This sheet includes the group of islands south, southwest, and west of Hadley Harbor, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles southwest of Woods Hole, Mass., all of these islands being owned by the well known Forbes family, a prominent and aristocratic clan, the various families and in-laws of which have been inhabiting and summering in their elaborate homes on these islands for the past hundred and fifty years. The very amiable and congenial autocrat of the Forbes clan is W. Cameron Forbes, former Governor-General of the Philippines, who spends his summers in "The Mansion", on Naushon Island, near the head of Inner Harbor. Many of his relatives and in-laws also spend the summers at their handsome homes located on the various islands. Most all of them, due to their heritage, seem to have a love for the sea, and various kinds of floating craft, their ancestors having carried on a lucrative trade with the Orient during the clipper ship days.

Members of these families have done much towards the improvement of the waters in the vicinity of these islands, to facilitate safe navigation of small craft through the waters adjacent to these islands, such as having had channels dredged out, range poles installed, and numerous docks, boat-houses and floats built. They have also had detailed surveys made of these islands, and aerial photographs made of them, as one member of the Forbes family seems to be especially interested in surveying.

Some of the islands are bare, and some wooded, as shown on the topographic sheet. The shore line along most of these islands is rocky, with numerous boulders of various sizes along same, many of them being well off-shore. However, at short intervals in a few places the beach is sandy for a short distance, and free from boulders. Such places are usually used for private bathing beaches.

These islands, as can be seen from the topographic sheet, are separated by inlets and small straits through which strong currents ebb and flow. The three principal ones are called East Gutter, Middle Gate, and West Gutter, across which are low stone bridges, to enable the local inhabitants to travel from island to island on horseback or in carriages. No automobiles are allowed on any of these islands, as these very hospitable and congenial people enjoy getting away from the modern methods of transportation during the summer months, getting back to the "horse and buggy days" for a change, where they can enjoy the quiet solitude of the islands for awhile each year.

LANDMARKS:

There are no prominent nor special landmarks located on these islands, with the exception of the different residences, docks, and boat-houses along the shore-line.

In navigating to the Forbes dock, at the head of Inner Harbor, the usual and safest courses pass between two small home-made spar bouys, northeast of Bull Island; thence between Bull Island and Nonamessett Island, about mid-channel; thence using a back range composed of two white stakes near a residence on the west side of Nonamessett Island, and after rounding the northeasterly westerly point of Goats Neck, thence in a SSWly direction about midway of Inner Harbor to the main Forbes dock on Naushon Island. This is the dock that is used by the small private steamer of the Forbes estate, which plies back and forth between Naushon Island and Woods Hole several times a day, carrying supplies, and also members and guests of the Forbes families.

CHARACTER OF CONTROL USED:

The control used was obtained from the three 2nd-order triangulation stations, ALLEN, 1938; HADLEY, 1938; both located on Nonamessett Island; and CAMERON, 1938, located on Uncatena Island. Plane-table traverses and three-point fixes were used when needed and found feasible. The plane-table traverses checked out well within the required limits, the closing errors being unusually low, due to the extreme care having been taken with the plane-table work, and also due to the lack of distortion of the aluminum mounted topographic sheet, no traverse adjustment being necessary.

The offlying features, such as rocks and shoals awash at various stages of the tide were located by cuts from plane-table setups and rod readings, three or more cuts being obtained when available.

Since this area had recently been mapped by the Geological Survey, and had been photographed from the air in co-operation with the owners of the islands, no attempt was made to obtain contours of them, as it was contemplated that the contours from the Geological Survey field sheets would be transferred to the topographic sheet, resulting in the required degree of accuracy.

CHANGES DUE TO THE HURRICANE OF SEPT. 21, 1938:

In all probability there are numerous changes in the shore-line at certain places in this vicinity, the most apparent and outstanding change being the washing away of Pine Island, located a short distance north of Nonamessett Island. After the hurricane was over, there was practically nothing left of this island except a flat reef of boulders awash at about half tide.

LIST OF NEW NAMES:

Well established local names used:	Corresponding names on Chart 348:
TIMMY POINT	NAUSHON POINT
BULL ISLAND	BULLS NECK ISLAND
INNER HARBOR	HADLEY HARBOR
GOATS NECK	GOATS NECK PENINSULA.

LIST OF PLANE-TABLE POSITIONS:

	Latitude	Longitude
CHIM, a brick chimney with concrete facing, on lone house near Mink Pt., Nonamessett Isl.	41 30' D. M. 1540m.	70 40' D. P. 1291m.

Note: (The above is the only definite point located.)

Chas. M. Thomas

Chas. M. Thomas, Chief of Party.

	Remarks	Decisions
1		414707
2		415707
3		415707
4		415707
5		415707
6		415707
7		415707
8		
9		415706
10		415706
11	USGB Tc	415706
12		415706
13		415706
14		415706
15		415706
16		415706
17		415706
18	Resubmitted - good authority same on USGS (1936)	415707
19		415706
20		415707
21		415707
22		415707
23		414707
24		
25		
26		
27		

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GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

Survey No. T 6621

Name on Survey	On Chart No. 249 A,	On previous survey No. B,	On U. S. quadrangle Maps C,	From local information D	On local Maps E	P. O. Guide or Map F	Rand McNally Atlas G	U. S. Light List H	K	
Jobs Neck										1
Bachelor Island										2
Monohansett Island *	✓									3
Vockatimest Island	✓	Veckatimest *								4
Goats Neck *	Goats Neck I.									5
Inner Harbor	Hadley Hbr									6
Uncatena Island										7
Buzzards Bay	✓									8
Timmy Point										9
Hadley Harbor										10
Nonamesset Island *	✓									11
Monsod Bay *	348									12
Vineyard Sound *	✓									13
Mink Pond										14
Pine Island	348									15
Cedar Island *	✓									16
Lackeys Bay	✓									17
Bull Island **	Bulls Neck * I.									18
East Gutter	348									19
Middle Gate	348									20
West Gutter	348									21
Northwest Gutter				* - USGB decisions						22
Naushon I.	✓									23
										24
										25
										26
										27

Names underlined in red approved by GPE on 8/3/39

M 234 12

FORM M-238

MEMORANDUM

IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

SURVEY
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT
~~PHOTOSTATIC~~

~~XXXXX~~
No. T -6621

received July 24,1939
registered Aug. 1,1939
verified
reviewed
approved

This is forwarded in order that your attention may be directed to the matters as indicated below. Please initial in column 3 as an acknowledgement that your attention has been thus directed. The complete original records are available if desired. If you cannot give this your immediate attention, please initial, note, and forward to the next section marked, calling for the records at your convenience.

ROUTE		Initial	Attention called to
20			
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RETURN TO

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✓ JBR

Section of Field Records

REVIEW OF TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY NO. 6621 (1938) FIELD NO. T-1

Massachusetts; Vineyard Sound;
Nonamesset Island to Jobs Neck
Surveyed in May-June 1938, Scale 1:5,000
Instructions dated January 17, 1938 (GILBERT)

Plane Table Survey — Aluminum Mounted

Chief of Party - C. M. Thomas
Surveyed and inked by - J. P. Lushene
Reviewed by - J. A. McCormick, January 29, 1941
Inspected by - H. R. Edmonston

1. Junctions with Contemporary Surveys

A satisfactory junction was effected with T-6622 (1938) on the east. Present project instructions do not call for new plane table surveys on the west.

2. Comparison with Prior Surveys
T-191 (1845), 1:10,000; T-1858 (1888-89), 1:5,000

Aside from some filling in of sand and marsh, changes in the area between 1845 and 1938 have been minor and it is probable that they are of far less extent than those caused by the hurricane of September 1938 (descriptive report, page 2). Rock detail on the present survey is not as complete as that of T-1858 and inland detail, in accordance with project instructions, was not determined to the same extent as on the earlier survey. Because of the considerable detail which must be retained from T-1858 and because of the hurricane changes, the present survey should be used only to supplement prior information.

3. Comparison with Chart 249 (New Print of Aug. 20, 1940)
Chart 348 (New Print of Aug. 8, 1940)

a. Topography

Sunken rocks charted in Lat. 41° 30.1'; Long. 70° 41.8' were reported by Mr. Alexander Forbes (see descriptive report, page 1) in Chart Letter 340 of 1924. These rocks are shown more accurately on T-1858 and should be charted from that survey. Corrections have already been applied to Chart 249 from the present survey but more could be added. The charted name "Veckatimest I." obscures rock detail from T-1858 recommended for retention in the preceding paragraph.

b. Aids to Navigation

Charted positions of fixed aids in the area are substantially as shown on the survey.

4. Condition of Survey

Satisfactory.

5. Compliance with Instructions for the Project

Neither the present survey nor the accompanying hydrographic survey, H-6348 (1938), are complete as regards offlying rocks and obstructions.

6. Additional Field Work Recommended

Because of hurricane changes and because of deficiencies in navigational information, complete new hydrographic and air photographic surveys of this area have been recommended in the reviews of H-6348 (1938) and T-6622 (1938).

7. Superseded Surveys

T-191 (1845) only, is superseded in part.

Examined and approved:

Thos B Reed
Chief, Section of Field Records

F. S. Borden
Chief, Division of Charts

Raymond P. Eyman
Chief, Section of ~~Topography~~ Hydrography

G T Rude
Chief, Division of Coastal Surveys