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Form 504 Rev. Dec. 1933	
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE U.S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY R. S. PATTON, DIRECTOR	
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT	
Topographic Hydrographic	} Sheet No. 3 (Field)
State	Bahama Islands
LOCALITY	
Mayaguana Island	
Abraham Bay	
1940	
CHIEF OF PARTY	
G.C. Mattison	

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. 3

REGISTER NO. **T6789 RESTRICTED**

State BAHAMA ISLANDS

General locality MAYAGUANA ISLAND.

Locality ABRAHAM BAY

Scale 1:4800 Date of survey December, 1940.

Vessel HYDROGRAPHER

Chief of party G. C. MATTISON

Surveyed by P. A. WEBER

Inked by P. A. WEBER

Heights in feet above M.H.W. to ground ~~to tops of trees~~

Contour, ~~approximate contour~~ Form line interval .5 feet

Instructions dated November 9,, 1940.

Remarks: _____

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

To Accompany

Topographic Sheet No. "3". T-6789 (1940)

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Mayaguana Island, Bahama Islands.

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G. C. Mattison, Chief of Party.

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INSTRUCTIONS:

This work was done in accordance with Director's Instructions for Project H.T.-258 dated November 9, 1940.

LIMITS:

This sheet covers the eastern shore of Abraham Bay from a point about 1-1/2 miles NNW of Guano Point and extending in a general NE'ly direction, along the western shore of Horse Pond Bay to a point about 1.1 miles distant. The inner limit of the area surveyed is bounded by the King Road which roughly parallels the beach, in a NW'ly and SE'ly direction, about 700 to 1000 meters inshore. At the eastern limit of the sheet the King Road angles to within about 100 meters of the beach.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Guano Point is at the east entrance to Abraham Bay and is prominent from the westward. It is a low, brush covered rocky.

point about nine feet above MHW.

From Guano Point the shoreline runs in a general N'ly and NW'ly direction to the westward of the point and is unbroken except for a small creek which is about 1200 meters N of Guano Point. This creek has as much as four feet of water in it but is inaccessible except at extremely high water due to the extensive shoal area at its entrance. The creek is very short and is soon lost in the flat mangrove covered area to the north.

To the eastward of the point the shoreline runs in a NE'ly direction.

The shoreline in the area covered by this sheet is rocky with stretches of sand and covered with low brush about ten to 15 meters inshore from the high water line.

From the creek, to the northwestward there is a low ridge about 15 to 20 meters inshore from the beach and about 6-foot maximum height above M.H.W. From this ridge the land drops to a low flat area covered with intermittent ponds to a distance of about 500 meters inshore and thence rises slightly to the King Road which has a maximum elevation of about 9.2 feet above M.H.W. in this area. From the point where the land rises to the King Road a dense growth of low brush and trees eight to 15 feet high begins, and extends to the limits of the sheet.

From the creek southward to Guano Point there is a similar low, brush covered ridge about five feet above M.H.W. 15 to 20 meters inshore. From Guano Point north^{east}westward to the limits of the sheet this ridge is more pronounced and reaches an elevation of nearly

15 feet above M.H.W. It is 20 to 30 meters inshore from the beach and formed by loose coral rocks of various sizes which have been piled up by storm action; there is very little vegetation on this ridge.

The land behind these two ridges drops to a small flat open area and then rises upward to the King Road and beyond to the limits of this sheet. At the extreme eastern limit of the sheet the land behind the ridge continues to rise and reaches a height of 24.3 feet above M.H.W. as shown. Where the land begins to rise a dense growth of brush and trees eight feet to fifteen feet high extends to the limits of the sheet.

SETTLEMENTS:

A small settlement, about 500 population, known as Abraham Village lies near the east end of Abraham Bay about one mile north of Guano Point and 700 meters inshore from the beach. The village site is on the first small ridge from the beach and is from six feet to twelve feet above M.H.W.

There are a great number of small cabins and larger houses scattered throughout the village limits. Some of the houses are frame structures and others are made of coral rock and plastered with a mixture of home-made cement made from burning conch shells.

There is a low power radio station, with operator on duty, which maintains communication with Nassau, the capital of the Bahaman group. Besides the radio operator, who is paid by the government, there is also a constable and a justice of the peace who con-

stitute the law enforcement agency of the village.

The water supply is obtained from three community wells which are open holes in the ground about 3 meters in diameter and very shallow. The water doesn't look very good and outsiders should boil it before using; the natives, however, seem to thrive on it.

In order to give the natives a little money the Nassau Government has had roads built on the island connecting different settlements. The main road, known as the King Road, is merely a wide trail cleared through the brush. There is a road from the beach which joins the King Road at the village. This road is made of crushed limestone, which through constant wetting has packed solid, it is about two feet above the ground surface.

Other than small boat buildings for personal use there is no industry in the village.

The natives sell the surplus of crops, which is pitifully small, and some fish for a livelihood.

SOIL:

The surface of the ground is rocky throughout. The rocks are mostly brittle and flat in the low areas, which are covered by water; there is no suitable soil for cultivation here. In the higher sections the rocks are not so soft and are of irregular shapes; there is some soil between the rocks but it is not very deep.

VEGETATION:

Except in the intermittent pond and flat rocky areas, and the village, the entire area is covered with impenetrable brush and trees in which are scattered patches of corn. The brush rises to a height of about eight feet and the trees from 15 to 20 feet.

CONTOURS:

Contour interval of five feet.

Contours controlled by numerous plane table elevations.

CONTROL:

The survey was controlled by a local Grid of plane coordinates with Triangulation Station ABE as point of origin. Coordinates of ABE: 6,000 Meters North, 15,000 Meters East.

SURVEY METHODS:

Standard Planetable Survey Methods were used.

Spirit levels were run along the beach and along King Road to the northwestward. Elevations were carried along King Road to southeastward and along beach from Guano Point to the northeastward.

All elevations are in feet above M.H.W. as determined by tide staff in Abraham Bay.

All topographic signals were located by traverses run between triangulation stations.

CLOSURES:

All traverses closed satisfactorily.

A traverse from Δ HAM was run up the road to the village and thence northward along King Road to a connection with sheet to west. From the crossroads in the village a traverse was run along the King Road to the southeastward and thence along the beach to Δ GUANO. These traverses closed within allowable limits and were adjusted. Traverses along the beach from Δ VILLAGE to Δ GUANO POINT were tied into triangulation stations on either end.

GEOGRAPHIC NAMES:

Guano Point, Mayaguana Island, Abraham Bay, Horse Pond Bay are the only names used on this sheet.

The village takes its name from the name of the Bay and is called Abraham Village or sometimes Abram Village.

The above names are in official use and appear on existing charts.

PLANETABLE POSITIONS:

A list of Planetable Positions with their elevations is attached to this report.

STATISTICS:

A table of statistics is attached.

Approved and forwarded;

G. C. Mattison
G. C. Mattison,
H. & G. Engineer,
Chief of Party,
U. S. C. & G. Survey.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip A. Weber
Philip A. Weber, Aid,
U. S. C. & G. Survey.

TOPOGRAPHIC STATIONS.

<u>Station</u>	<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
NOON	5678 N	21152 E	Topo. Disc. ✓ Elevation 5.3 ft.

REFERENCE MARKS

	<u>Latitude</u>	<u>Longitude</u>	<u>Elevation</u>
R.M.#1 (HAM)	6630.0 N	19968.5 E	3.280 ✓
R.M.#2 (HAM)	6639.0 N	19966.0 E	2.840 ✓
R.M.#1 (GUANO)	5363.0 N	20343.5 E	2.489 ✓
R.M.#2 (GUANO)	5376.5 N	20337.5 E	2.499 ✓

STATISTICS

Statute miles of shoreline	2.9
Statute miles of roads	2.6
Area Surveyed	1.0

SURVEYS SECTION

REVIEW OF TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY NO. 6789 (1940) FIELD NO. 3

Bahama Islands, Mayaguana Island, Abraham Bay
Surveyed in December 1940, Scale 1:4,800
Instructions dated November 9, 1940 (HYDROGRAPHER)

Plane Table SurveyAluminum Mounted

Chief of Party - G. C. Mattison
Surveyed by - P. A. Weber
Inked by - P. A. Weber
Reviewed by - Harold W. Murray, May 5, 1941
Inspected by - H. R. Edmonston

1. Junctions with Contemporary Surveys

- a. The junction on the west with T-6788b (1940) is excellent.
- b. No other contemporary work adjoins the present survey limits.

2. Comparison with Prior Surveys

No prior surveys have been made by this Bureau in this area.

3. Comparison with H.O. Chart 2805 (New Print date July 1938)

Charted information is purely of a reconnaissance nature and bears little relation to the present survey.

No magnetic meridian observations were made.

4. Compliance with Instructions for the Project

The plan, character, and extent of the survey satisfy the instructions for the project.

5. Condition of Survey

- a. The inking of the topographic details is very good.
- b. The Descriptive Report is clear and comprehensive and satisfactorily covers all items of importance.

6. Additional Field Work Recommended

This is an excellent survey and no additional field work is necessary.

7. Superseded Surveys

No prior surveys have been made in this area by this Bureau.

Examined and approved:



Thos. B. Reed,
Chief, Surveys Section



Chief, Division of Charts



Chief, Section of Hydrography



Chief, Division of Coastal
Surveys