

# 9806

Diag. Cht. Nos. 1275-2 & 1276-2.

Form 504

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

## DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey Planimetric

Field No. Ph-90 Office No. T-9806

### LOCALITY

State Louisiana

General locality Atchafalaya Bay

Locality Point Au Fer Island - Locust

Bayou to Eugene Island

194 52-56

### CHIEF OF PARTY

E.H.Kirsch, Chief of Field Party

I.R.Rubottom, Tampa Photo. Office

### LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

DATE October 6, 1959

B-1870-1 (1)

# 9806

APPROVED BY:

*H. C. Lande*  
 Chief, Review & Drafting Sec.  
 Photogrammetry Division

*May Brinkley*  
 Chief, Nautical Chart Branch  
 Chart Division

*Lee Swamy*  
 Chief, Photogrammetry Div.  
*24 Sept '59*

*J. B. Swell*  
 Chief, Coastal Surveys Div.

*Chart 1275 - Feb 63 - Nichols - after V.4 R.  
 Chart 11356, 4/2/91, L. Arkenman, considered fully applied.  
 NO FURTHER CORRECTION*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT - DATA RECORD

T-9806

Project No. (II): 90B

Quadrangle Name (IV):

Field Office (II): HOUMA, LA.

Chief of Party: E.H. Kirsch

Photogrammetric Office (III): Tampa Florida

Officer-in-Charge: Ira R. Rubottom

Instructions dated (II) (III): 5 Sept. 1952  
Supplement 1 25 Sept. 1952  
Supplement 2 30 Sept. 1952

Copy filed in Division of  
Photogrammetry (IV)

Method of Compilation (III): Graphic

Manuscript Scale (III): 1:20,000

MAR 19 1956

Stereoscopic Plotting Instrument Scale (III): Inapplicable

Scale Factor (III): None

MAR 19 1956

Date received in Washington Office (IV):

Date reported to Nautical Chart Branch (IV):

Applied to Chart No.

Date:

Date registered (IV): 12/17/58

Publication Scale (IV):

Publication date (IV):

Geographic Datum (III): N.A. 1927

Vertical Datum (III): MHW

~~Mean sea level except as follows:~~

Elevations shown as (25) refer to mean high water  
Elevations shown as (5) refer to sounding datum  
i.e., mean low water or mean lower low water

Reference Station (III): FISH, 1933 ✓

Lat.: 29° 19' 18".929 (582.8m) ✓

Long.: 91° 17' 25".569 (689.9m) ✓

Adjusted  
Unadjusted

Plane Coordinates (IV):

State:

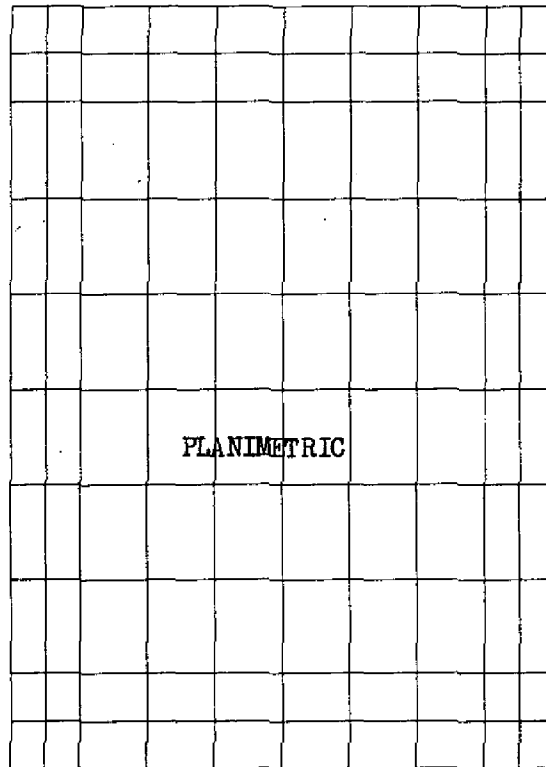
Zone:

Y=

X=

Roman numerals indicate whether the item is to be entered by (II) Field Party, (III) Photogrammetric Office,  
or (IV) Washington Office.

When entering names of personnel on this record give the surname and initials, not initials only.



Areas contoured by various personnel  
(Show name within area)  
(II) (III)

## DESCRIPTIVE REPORT - DATA RECORD

Field Inspection by (II): E.T.Ogilby  
B.F.Lampton, Jr.

Date: Dec. 1952

Planetable contouring by (II): Inapplicable

Date:

Completion Surveys by (II):

*None!*

Date:

Mean High Water Location (III) (State date and method of location):

18 May 1953

Air Photo compilation

Projection and Grids ruled by (IV): Austin Riley (W.O.)

Date: 28 Aug. 1953

Projection and Grids checked by (IV): H.D.Wolfe (W.O.)

Date: 4 Sept. 1953

Control plotted by (III): J.Steinberg

Date: 3 Dec. 1953

Control checked by (III): R.J.Pate

Date: 14 Sept. 1954

Radial Plot of Stereoscopic

Control Extension by (III): M.M.Slavney

Date: 6 Jan. 1955

Stereoscopic Instrument compilation (III):

Planimetry

Inapplicable

Date:

Contours

Date:

Manuscript delineated by (III): I.I.Saperstein

Date: 6 May 1955

Photogrammetric Office Review by (III): J.A.Giles

Date: 31 May 1955

Elevations on Manuscript

checked by (II) (III): None

Date:

Camera (kind or source) (III): U.S.C.&amp;G.S. Nine-Lens

Number	Date	Time	Scale	Stage of Tide
39569	29 Sept. 1952	11:07	1:20,000	1.3
39570	"	11:09	"	1.3
39607	"	11:58	"	1.2
39608	"	11:59	"	1.2
39609	"	12.01	"	1.2

*Photography of 1956:*

56-L-489 to incl. 495	23 October 1956	1:20 000	(infra-Red)
56-O-856 " " " 861	"	1:20 000	
56-W-4270 " " " 4277	"	1:30 000	
56-W-4465 " " " 4467	24 October 1956	1:30 000	
56-W-4557 " " " 4561	"	1:30 000	
56-W-4564 " " " 4570	"	1:30 000	

Tide (III)  
(Predicted)

Diurnal

Ratio of Ranges	Mean Range	Spring Range
	1.0	1.4
1.1	1.1	1.9

Reference Station: GALVESTON

Subordinate Station: Eugene Island., Atchafalaya Bay

Subordinate Station:

Washington Office Review by (IV):

*J. J. Streifler*

Date:

*July 1958*

Final Drafting by (IV):

Date:

Drafting verified for reproduction by (IV):

Date:

Proof Edit by (IV):

Date:

Land Area (Sq. Statute Miles) (III): 26

Shoreline (More than 200 meters to opposite shore) (III): 22

~~Shoreline (Less than 200 meters to opposite shore) (III):~~

Control Leveling - Miles (II): None

Number of Triangulation Stations searched for (II): 10

Recovered: 3\*\*

Identified: 2

Number of BMs searched for (II): 0

Recovered: 0

Identified: 0

Number of Recoverable Photo Stations established (III): \*

Number of Temporary Photo Hydro Stations established (III): 0

Remarks:

\* 4 Topographic Stations have been reported destroyed.

\*\* Eugene Island Light, 1933 falls to the west of sheet limits,  
but has been shown on the manuscript.



Summary  
to accompany planimetric map T-9806

The subject planimetric map is one of "Planimetric and Topographic Mapping Project Ph-90 (6090)". It covers the western portion of Point au Fer Island by Atchafalaya Bay in the State of Louisiana on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico.

The island is low and marshy with a fringe of shell all along the west shore and its shoreline is subject to continual change. From Point au Fer in a northwesterly direction is a shell reef of several miles, whose extent and position also are subject to change. Exploration and development of oil near the Gulf shore are the cause for the dredging of many additional canals, a few tanks and isolated cabins.

Graphically compiled in 1955 from 1952 nine-lens photography and results of 1953 field inspection at the Tampa District Office, the original compilation manuscript was revised in 1957 from 1956 single-lens photography by office interpretation only. There was no additional field inspection of the later photography and field edit in this project was generally confined to those areas accessible by road. T-9806 is one of several sheets in this project without completion survey since there are no roads within the limits of this quadrangle.

According to instructions as of 30 September 1952, the U. S. Geological Survey will be furnished with a copy of the later planimetry after Washington Office Review for the purpose of a new publication at the scale of 1:62500.

A cronar film positive at compilation manuscript scale of 1:20000 and the Descriptive Report will be registered and filed in the Bureau Archives.

July 1958

## 2. AREAL FIELD INSPECTION

The Gulf of Mexico shore is a fringe of marsh and shell mixed with some sand, backed through a large portion of the quadrangle by a low, brush covered ridge. The shore of Atchafalaya Bay is mostly marsh with a thin fringe of shell over the marsh in places. The remaining land area is entirely marsh.

There has been some drilling for oil but there are only two producing wells in the quadrangle. The spoil along the canals to the drilling sites has eroded until it is no longer discernible on the ground and should be shown as marsh on the map manuscript.

There is considerable trapping done and the offshore waters are productive shrimping grounds. There is a seasonably occupied shrimp drying camp at Point au Fer.

Point au Fer Shell Reef, extending to the northwest from Point au Fer, is considered a serious hazard to navigation.

The field inspection is believed to be complete. Field work was done on nine-lens photographs 39569, 39570, 39607 and 39608.

The photographs are clear, however, the shoreline is more distinct on some photographs than others, and the compiler should examine all photographs of each area before delineating the shoreline.

## 3. HORIZONTAL CONTROL

All control was searched for and identified on the photographs if recovered, except in the case of EUGENE ISLAND LIGHT 1933. The following stations were reported as lost on Form 526: POINT AU FER LIGHT HOUSE 1886, POINT AU FER 1909, POINT AU FER 2 1913, POINT AU FER STACK 1933, EASTER 1933, ATCHAFALAYA BAY SHIP CHANNEL BEACON 3 1933, EUGENE 1909.

Station POINT AU FER STACK 1933 was previously reported as lost, but identifiable for photogrammetric control. At the present time the original position of the stack cannot be determined with sufficient accuracy for photogrammetric control.

Station EUGENE ISLAND LIGHT 1933 was recovered in good condition, however, on the only photograph on which this station appears no detail of the lighthouse is discernible and the station was not identified. It is hoped that the office copy of the photograph will show sufficient detail to permit positive identification of the station.



4. VERTICAL CONTROL

There is no vertical control in the quadrangle.

5. CONTOURS AND DRAINAGE

This is a planimetric quadrangle and no spot elevations in the marsh were required. The entire quadrangle was examined for any contours not covered by previous topographic quadrangles and no elevation above the five foot contour interval could be found.

All drainage is tidal through marsh and is clearly visible on the photographs.

6. WOODLAND COVER

There is no woodland in the quadrangle.

7. SHORELINE AND ALONGSHORE FEATURES

There is a fringe of shell along the Gulf of Mexico shore that is apparently receding across the marsh. There is a strip of marsh between the shell and the shoreline along most of the shore that is gradually eroding keeping the width of the strip more or less constant. As the shell crosses the marsh the grass is killed. After it has crossed a section the ground under the marsh appears as mud flats, appearing light gray on the photographs. Soon marsh grass reappears, first as small circular clumps, then covering large areas, both appearing dark on the photographs. The mud flats are of the same character as the marsh in every way except for the absence of grass, and since they will all soon be covered by grass it is recommended that the entire strip be mapped as marsh. For some distance north and south of triangulation station END 1933, the shore appears to have stopped receding and is even building outward at one place and the strip of marsh has eroded away leaving a fast shoreline of shell beach. At Point au Fer there is also a fast shoreline formed by a shell beach and a brush covered ridge.

For the purpose of nautical charts, the shoreline of the Gulf of Mexico should be shown as fast along a shell fringe throughout its entire length, as this is the appearance from a short distance offshore.

The shore of Atchafalaya Bay is also bordered by a shell fringe in places, but this is merely a thin layer over the marsh. Only at one point is the shell of sufficient density to form a fast shoreline.

The remainder of the shoreline is apparent at edge of marsh, including the shore of canals along old eroded spoil.

There is no mean low water line sufficiently distant from the mean high water line to be shown.

The few cultural shoreline features have been indicated on the photographs.

8. OFFSHORE FEATURES

The Point au Fer Shell Reef was visited, it is believed, during a low stage of tide. At this time none of the reef was visible above the water. A stranded wreck above mean high water has been indicated on the photographs.

A number of small offshore marsh islets have also been indicated on the photographs.

9. LANDMARKS AND AIDS

Locust Bayou Canal Daybeacons 1 and 2 have been recommended for deletion on Form 567 as the channel they marked is now completely closed and they are of no further value to navigation.

10. BOUNDARIES, MONUMENTS AND LINES

See "Special Report, Boundaries, Project Ph-90" and "Special Report, Public Land Lines, Project Ph-90."

11. OTHER CONTROL

Four previously established topographic stations have been reported as lost on Form 524.

12. OTHER INTERIOR FEATURES

Cultural features are very sparse. Two producing oil wells have been identified as well as a catwalk and storage tank in conjunction with one. The scattered cabins should be shown as Class 1 buildings.

13. GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

See "Special Report, Geographic Names, Project Ph-90".

14. SPECIAL REPORTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA

Letter of Transmittal No. 90-5, Forms 567, to be forwarded to Washington Office at a later date.

Letter of Transmittal No. 90-6, Forms 567, to be forwarded to Photogrammetric Office at a later date.

Letter of Transmittal No. 90-7, "Special Report, Public Land Lines, Project Ph-90" and other land lines data, forwarded to Washington Office 29 April 1953.

Letter of Transmittal dated 28 January 1953, public land lines data, forwarded to Washington Office same date.

Letter of Transmittal No. 90-8, "Special Report, Geographic Names, Project Ph-90", to be forwarded to Washington Office at a later date.

Letter of Transmittal No. 90-9, "Special Report, Boundaries, Project Ph-90", forwarded to Washington Office 6 May 1953.

Letter of Transmittal No. 90-43, Data, Quadrangle T-9806( ),  
forwarded to Washington Office MAY 21 1953

Submitted  
21 May 1953

*B. Frank Lampton, Jr.*

B. Frank Lampton, Jr.  
Cartographic Survey Aid

Approved & Forwarded  
MAY 21 1953

*E. H. Kirsch*

E. H. Kirsch  
Chief of Party

COMPILATION REPORT T-9806

PHOTOGRAMMETRIC PLOT REPORT.

Submitted with T-9672.

31. DELINEATION.

The graphic method was used.

The field inspection was adequate, and no difficulty was encountered in the interpretation of the photographs. The scale of the photographs was fair but some tilt was noticed.

Attention is called to the fact that Eugene Island has been shown on the manuscript, even though it falls outside the established limits.

The Island was delineated holding the lighthouse as a detail point. Owing to the fact that the lighthouse could not be definitely seen on the one photograph it fell on, (see Photogrammetric Plot Report) the position of the island may be in error. It is therefore requested of the field editor that the position and delineation of EUGENE ISLAND be checked.

32. CONTROL.

See Photogrammetric Plot Report.

33. SUPPLEMENTAL DATA.

None used.

34. CONTOURS AND DRAINAGE.

Reference Item 5.

35. SHORELINE AND ALONGSHORE DETAILS.

The shoreline inspection was good, and no difficulty was encountered in its delineation. The shoreline along the Gulf of Mexico was shown with a mean high-water line to conform with the field inspector's report. (Item 7). The narrow strip of marsh on the offshore side of the shell mean high-water line was shown with a grass-in-water symbol wherever it appears on the photographs.

All buildings and alongshore features have been shown.

36. OFFSHORE DETAILS

The limits of POINT AU FER SHELL REEF could not be determined with any degree of accuracy in the office and was therefore omitted from the manuscript. The geographic name, however, is shown under Item 48.

A wreck has been shown on POINT AU FER SHELL REEF.

The two piles about 600 meters, offshore from triangulation station END, 1933 have been discussed under Item 9.

37. LANDMARKS AND AIDS

POINT AU FER REEF LIGHT has been shown although it falls outside the normal limits of the manuscript. Reference Item 9.

38. CONTROL FOR FUTURE SURVEYS

All recoverable topographic stations, four(4) in number, have been reported destroyed.

No topographic or photo-hydro stations were established.

39. JUNCTIONS

T-9031 (Ph-21) to the north- water.  
T-9807, to the east- in agreement.  
T-9971, to the south- in agreement.  
No contemporaneous survey to the west.

40. HORIZONTAL and VERTICAL ACCURACY

See Item 31 in reference to the horizontal position of EUGENE ISLAND.

#### 41. BOUNDRIES

The boundry of TERREBONE PARISH has been shown according to the 1944 field report on boundries for Ph-21 and Ph-90. This report is not in agreement with the report submitted by the State Research Engineer, entitled "TERREBONE PARISH BOUNDRIES" revised as of July 24, 1944.

#### 42. PUBLIC LAND LINES

No section or meander corners were recovered in the field. However, it is believed a satisfactory reconstruction of the section lines were made from the following plats:

1. Dependent Resurvey of Limiting Boundry and Extension Survey Including Lands on POINT AU FER ISLAND; by the General Land Office survey April 1942.
2. Map showing survey of Township and Range Lines on POINT AU FER ISLAND for the Barnsdall Oil Co. by T. Baker Smith dated 18 Nov. 1939.

It will be noted that a meander line has been shown on the manuscript although it is contrary to the Topographic Manual (5453e). This meander line was shown because the plats mentioned above join at the meander line and not with each other. (A section line discrepancy print was made for the verification by the field editor)

#### 46. COMPARISON WITH EXISTING MAPS

Comparison has been made with planimetric map T-5389 scale 1:20,000 dated 1931. The shoreline has eroded since the 1931 compilation, and with the exception of man made canals, compares very favorably with the 1955 compilation.

Comparison has also been made with the POINT AU FER QUADRANGLE scale of 1:62,500 edition of 1935 reprinted in 1936. The comparison was favorable.

#### 47. COMPARISON WITH NAUTICAL CHARTS

Comparison has been made with C&GS Chart 1276, scale 1:80,000 published March 1939, bearing a print, date of 9 Feb. 1953.

The maps mentioned under Item 46 are probably the sources of the topography used on the chart and the same differences apply.

ITEMS TO BE APPLIED TO NAUTICAL CHARTS IMMEDIATELY

None

ITEMS TO BE CARRIED FORWARD:

None

*Irving I. Saperstein*  
I.I. Saperstein

Approved and Forwarded:

*H. C. Applequist*  
*for*

Ira R. Rubottom,  
Chief of Party



Ph-90 (52) SCALE OF MAP 1:20,000

SCALE FACTOR

1 FT. = .3048006 METER  
COMPUTED BY: B. Wilson  
DATE: 10/21/53  
CHECKED BY: J. Steinberg  
DATE: 10/22/53  
COMM-DC-57843

PROJECT 24200

T-9806

49. NOTES TO THE HYDROGRAPHER:

An obstruction, shown on Chart 1276 at approx. Latitude  $29^{\circ} 16' 00''$  Longitude  $91^{\circ} 18' 54''$  has not been located. The obstruction (believed to be a submerged wreck) could not be seen on the photographs and the field inspector failed to locate it.

Any investigation will have to be done by the hydrographer.

T-9806.Geographic Names.

- ✓ Alligator Bayou
- ✓ Atchafalaya Bay
- ✓ Burkes Bayou
- ✓ Dead Alligator Point
- Eugene Island      *falls outside sheet limits*
- ✓ Fishing Bend
- ✓ Fishing Point
- ✓ Fox Point
- ✓ Gulf of Mexico
- ✓ Lake Chapeau
- ✓ Little Bayou
- ✓ Locust Bayou
- ✓ Louisiana
- ✓ Mullet Cove
- ✓ North Point
- ✓ Point au Fer
- ✓ Point au Fer Island
- ✓ Raquet Pass
- ✓ Saint Mary Parish
- ✓ Terrebonne Parish
- ✓ Turn Point

Names approved 11-27-56

L. Heck

r.v.







72  
18

# PHOTOGRAMMETRIC OFFICE REVIEW

T-9806

1a. Classification 1-b-1 unclassified

1. Projection and grids J.G. 2. Title J.G. 3. Manuscript numbers J.G. 4. Manuscript size J.G.

## CONTROL STATIONS

5. Horizontal control stations of third-order or higher accuracy M.M.S. 6. Recoverable horizontal stations of less than third-order accuracy (topographic stations) XX 7. Photo hydro stations XX 8. Bench marks XX 9. Plotting of sextant fixes XX 10. Photogrammetric plot report J.G. 11. Detail points J.G.

## ALONGSHORE AREAS

(Nautical Chart Data)

12. Shoreline J.G. 13. Low-water line XX 14. Rocks, shoals, etc. XX 15. Bridges XX 16. Aids to navigation J.G. 17. Landmarks XX 18. Other alongshore physical features J.G. 19. Other along-shore cultural features J.G.

## PHYSICAL FEATURES

20. Water features J.G. 21. Natural ground cover J.G. 22. Planetable contours XX 23. Stereoscopic instrument contours XX 24. Contours in general XX 25. Spot elevations XX 26. Other physical features J.G.

## CULTURAL FEATURES

27. Roads XX 28. Buildings J.G. 29. Railroads XX 30. Other cultural features J.G.

## BOUNDARIES

31. Boundary lines J.G. 32. Public land lines J.G.

## MISCELLANEOUS

33. Geographic names J.G. 34. Junctions J.G. 35. Legibility of the manuscript J.G. 36. Discrepancy overlay J.G. 37. Descriptive Report J.G. 38. Field inspection photographs J.G. 39. Forms J.G. 40. Jesse A. Giles William A. Rasure  
Reviewer Supervisor, Review Section or Unit

41. Remarks (see attached sheet)

## FIELD COMPLETION ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO THE MANUSCRIPT

42. Additions and corrections furnished by the field completion survey have been applied to the manuscript. The manuscript is now complete except as noted under item 43.

Compiler

Supervisor

43. Remarks:

M-2623-12

Review Report of  
Planimetric Map T-9806  
July 1958

62. Comparison with Registered Topographic Surveys:

T-637	1:9660	1855
T-1690	1:20,000	1886
T-5389	1:20,000	1934
T-6323a	1:20,000	1935

The elongated strip of marsh with its northern tip--Point au Fer--has changed considerably from time to time. There are other differences elsewhere between subject survey and those of 1934-35. T-9806 is to supersede above-listed registered surveys for nautical charting purposes for common areas.

63. Comparison with Maps of Other Agencies:

POINT AU FER, LA., 1:62500, 1935, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army. This quadrangle compares less favorable with subject survey than do Coast Survey compilations of the same time period (1934-35).

64. Comparison with Contemporary Hydrographic Surveys:

None!

65. Comparison with Nautical Charts:

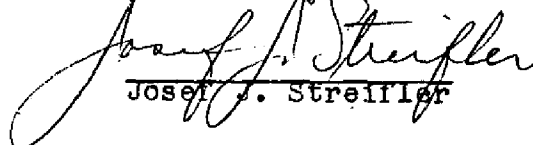
1275	1:80,000	Revised to 57 9/16
1276	1:80,000	Revised to 57 11/11
1050	1:175000	Revised to 58 5/12

Nautical chart 1275 compares favorably with T-9806. Non-critical changes may, at some future time, be applied to charts 1276 and 1050 (additional canals appearing on subject survey are being referred to).

66. Adequacy of Results and Future Surveys:

Single-lens photography obtained in 1956 was used in the revision of the original compilation manuscript without additional field inspection or completion survey. However, a thorough examination of the photography (which includes one strip of infra-red pictures) preceded the application of appropriate changes. The map is believed to be within the requirements of adequacy and accuracy.

Reviewed by:

  
Josef J. Streifler