Form 504

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

State:

11-1913

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Inpp. Sheet No. 3663

LOCALITY:

191

CHIEF OF PARTY:
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

To Accompany Topographic Sheet No. 3663

SURVEY METHODS:

The survey was made by plane table and was controlled by triangulation. This sheet is connected with the one next west by the hydrographic location of signal "Cler" = a large house on the shore at Clermont Harbor. It is connected with the sheet next east by the triangulation point "Jesuit's Rest Cupola."

In running from the signal "Wave" to "St. Stanislaus College" an error of 80 meters in distance was made. It seemed apparent that this was made in one setup so it was traced back by three-point fixes and finally located about two and one half miles west of the college. It was adjusted by fitting the traverse to the corrected position of the station at which the error was made and the triangulation point "St. Stanislaus College."

In running from the "Pass Christian Catholic Church Spire" to the "Jesuit's Rest Cupola the traverse was cut slightly in azimuth only and was adjusted by swinging the line as a whole about the church as a pivot.

At the mouth of Wolf River beacon No. 1 was located by the hydrographic party while beacon No. 2 was cut in from the shore by the topographic party.

DESCRIPTION OF THE COAST:

From Clermont Harbor to the railroad bridge at Bay St. Louis the shore consists of sandy beach backed of which there is an almost continuous row of cottages interspersed with trees. The same kind of shore extends under the bridge and up into the bay to a point two miles beyond Coward's Point except that beyond Coward's Point there are fewer houses and more trees. From there across the Jordan River and around the back of the bay to Bayou Portage the shore is marshy except for a short strip of shell extending one and a half miles westward from Signal "Bay." From Bayou Portage around the rest of the bay to the bridge and from the bridge to the Jesuit's Rest Cupola the shore is of the same nature as to the westward of St. Stanislaus College, viz., sandy beach backed by houses and trees.

CHANGES IN SHORELINE:

The storm of September 1915 did quite a lot of damage all along the coast but from Waveland to Bay St. Louis the damage is most apparent. A road that paralleled the beach
here has in many spots been entirely washed away, while in other places the beach has been washed away up to the road. At Pass Christian the damage did not show much because most of it has been repaired. Many of the wharves along the shore have been destroyed, only the piles now showing where they were. Up in the bay itself, the west beacon which marked the Jordan River Channel was washed away by the storm of June 1916. The east beacon and a number of bush beacons now mark the channel. The mouth of Wolf River and the land thereabouts appears to have changed somewhat, having been washed away at some points and filled in at others. None of these changes are of very great extent. A bridge has been built across the mouth of Bayou Portage. It is a highway bridge and consists of a wooden trestle with a steel drawbridge over the channel.

TOWNS:

On this sheet are the towns of Waveland, Bay St. Louis, and Pass Christian. The town of Lake Shore does not come on this sheet but attention should be called to the fact that what is now called Lake Shore is marked as Toulme on the old charts. Also what is marked as Ullmanville is now Nicholson Avenue. The natives do not seem to recognize the name of Shieldsboro as belonging to that portion of the shore between Bay St. Louis and Waveland as shown on the old charts.

LANDMARKS:

A number of prominent objects were located by the plan-table for the use of the hydrographic party. They are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Lat. D.M.</th>
<th>Long. D.P.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cler.</td>
<td>A large house intended for a hotel but not now in use.</td>
<td>30 15</td>
<td>717 89 25 56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green.</td>
<td>Green house 4000m E. of Cler.</td>
<td>30 15</td>
<td>863 89 24 1318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dor.</td>
<td>White house with 3 dormer window. Center window.</td>
<td>30 16</td>
<td>0 89 23 376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buf.</td>
<td>Buff colored house with a green roof.</td>
<td>30 16</td>
<td>361 89 22 1411</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roof.</td>
<td>White house with red roof.</td>
<td>30 16</td>
<td>711 89 22 291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chur.</td>
<td>Spire of weather beaten church.</td>
<td>30 16</td>
<td>1124 89 22 667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gray.</td>
<td>Gray house half way between Chur &amp; End.</td>
<td>30 16</td>
<td>1737 89 22 228</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>End.</td>
<td>West house of two on end of wharf shaped like the letter Y - white with red roof.</td>
<td>30 17</td>
<td>173 89 21 1219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Lat.</td>
<td>D.M.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>Prominent white house.</td>
<td>30 17</td>
<td>847</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>House</td>
<td>White house with green roof</td>
<td>30 17</td>
<td>831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Mustard colored house with a red roof.</td>
<td>30:17</td>
<td>951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Win.</td>
<td>White house with 3 dormer windows. Center window.</td>
<td>30 17</td>
<td>1250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack.</td>
<td>Jackson House, a hotel behind signal Wave.</td>
<td>30 15</td>
<td>1480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pac.</td>
<td>Stack of oyster factory in Bay St. Louis.</td>
<td>30 19</td>
<td>913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ban.</td>
<td>E. Bu. marking entrance to Jordan, R., Channel.</td>
<td>30 20</td>
<td>1770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saw.</td>
<td>Group of three tall stacks on Geo's saw mill at mouth of Jordan River.</td>
<td>30 19</td>
<td>1713</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bay.</td>
<td>Large white house on back shore of St. Louis Bay.</td>
<td>30 22</td>
<td>980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wag.</td>
<td>Drawhouse on wagon bridge over Bayou Portage.</td>
<td>30 20</td>
<td>966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ster.</td>
<td>Taller of two stacks on oyster factory at Pass Christian.</td>
<td>30 18</td>
<td>1230</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tow.</td>
<td>Cupola on slate colored house 2 miles east of Pass Christian Catholic Church.</td>
<td>30 19</td>
<td>991</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ISLE AU PITRE:**

Isle au Pitre is a low island of marshy character consisting of a stiff clayey mud. There are no trees or houses on the island but it is covered with a short tough grass like shrub. The island has been wearing away rapidly on the southeastern shore. In some places the shore has receded 200m from the position which it occupied on chart No. 190. On the northern and western shores it has not washed away although the point on which the triangulation station "Cabbage" stood was washed away enough so that the signal has disappeared. Station "Creole" now stands about 20m from the shore and has been tipped over by the waves. Another hard storm will probably destroy it altogether. The station "Pitre" has also disappeared and its position is apparently covered by water. The other three stations West, East, and Shell still remain although Shell now stands right on the edge of the water and may go soon.

**Signed**

Roland D. Hoare
Deck Officer
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

STATISTICS.

Topographic Sheet ("O") 3663

Statute miles of shore line 29.0

Sq. St. Miles (counting 1 mile back) 29.0
SUPPLEMENTARY DESCRIPTIVE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY SHEETS NOS. 3663, 3664, AND
SUPPLEMENTARY TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET.
Register No. 3663
Register No. 3664

Date of Instructions. November 1st., 1917.

General Description. The coast from Creole Cap to Point aux Marchettes is entirely a salt marsh. The shore line is frequently broken through by bayous which wind their way inland and break up into a network of smaller bayous or end up in a lagoon. It is dangerous to attempt to walk inland for not more than 500 meters, one has to contend with numerous ditches, bayous, and treacherous sticky mud holes. There is not a prominent object in all this stretch of coast.

Changes in Shore Line. It is very evident that the northern shore has undergone considerable erosion. Wherever the shore line is exposed to a large body of water, erosion was found to have taken place.

Names. The names of the features in this locality were ascertained and corroborated by local fishermen. The following are either not shown on previous charts or conflict with the names used:

Big Bayou Pierre is the name in use for the bayou shown as Elephant Bayou.

Little Bayou Pierre is the name used for what is shown as Bayou Pierre.

Bayou La Fee is the name of the bayou indicated.

Grand Island is locally known as Half Moon Island.

Miscellaneous. The original topography of supplementary topographic sheet, referred to above, has been transferred to No. 3664.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]
Aid, C.& G. Survey.

Approved:

[Signature]
Commanding, Str.Hydrographer.
## LIST OF PLANE TABLE POSITIONS (TO ACCOMPANY TOPO. SHEET 3663).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signal</th>
<th>Latitude</th>
<th>D. M.</th>
<th>Longitude</th>
<th>D. P.</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rag</td>
<td>30° - 06'</td>
<td>274.5'</td>
<td>89° - 13'</td>
<td>1083.5</td>
<td>Temporary signal for inshore hydrography; not marked.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pole</td>
<td>30° - 06'</td>
<td>1549.4</td>
<td>89° - 14'</td>
<td>1009.0</td>
<td>Do.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>288.1</td>
<td></td>
<td>597.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>30° - 07'</td>
<td>856.5</td>
<td>89° - 14'</td>
<td>998.0</td>
<td>Station marked by standard disc, hydrographic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>991.0</td>
<td></td>
<td>608.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nat</td>
<td>30° - 06'</td>
<td>734.6</td>
<td>89° - 16'</td>
<td>911.0</td>
<td>Marked by 3&quot;x3&quot; sunk in the ground.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1112.9</td>
<td></td>
<td>695.5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## LIST OF PLANE TABLE POSITIONS (TO ACCOMPANY TOPO. SHEET 3664).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signal</th>
<th>Latitude</th>
<th>D. M.</th>
<th>Longitude</th>
<th>D. P.</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Three</td>
<td>30° - 03'</td>
<td>443'</td>
<td>89° - 21'</td>
<td>1271'</td>
<td>Station marked by standard hydrographic disc in a core of concrete.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1404'</td>
<td></td>
<td>326'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nine</td>
<td>30° - 02'</td>
<td>1632'</td>
<td>89° - 25'</td>
<td>356'</td>
<td>See description of stations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>215'</td>
<td></td>
<td>1251'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ras</td>
<td>30° - 01'</td>
<td>1610'</td>
<td>89° - 30'</td>
<td>604'</td>
<td>See description of stations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>237'</td>
<td></td>
<td>1004'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

...
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

To accompany Topographic Sheet No. 3164.

The first work was started from the shore line on range with Long Point L.H., and Rabbit Island Shoal Beacon and continued to the westward to Shell Point. After this was finished traverse was again started near Long Point L.H., on the same range as before and run to the eastward, using the established triangulation points to tie in the traverses and check their corrections.

Nature of Shoreline. The shoreline is mostly low and swampy, with a few stretches of sand to form a narrow beach. In many places, at very high water, it is flooded.

Nature of Interior. The land back of the shore is generally one large swamp covered with high grass. From Shell Point to the east as far as Baldwin Lodge there are but one or two clumps of trees within many miles of the shore. East of Pearl River there are some trees back near the railroad, between the latter and the shoreline. However, none of these are of sufficient prominence to form landmarks except those on Pt. St. John Island and Cedar Island.

Bayous and Rivers. The land is cut by many bayous which have their sources in the swamps and ponds. As a rule these are navigable by launches drawing four feet of water or less, for several miles inland. Unknown Fass is a good example. It connects Lake Borgne and Lake Catharine. The current through most of the bayous emptying into the Lake and the Sound is quite strong in both directions, due to the tide, and in many cases deep channels are cut. It was noticed that where Little (Blind) Rigolets makes the sharp bend near the L. & N. R.R. Bridge, the change from the old chart was very considerable and it seems natural to suppose that in a comparatively short time this stream will cut through to the Rigoleta.

At Dunbar there is a dredged canal running from the railroad north to Pearl River. There is probably a depth of at least five feet of water in the canal. At the mouth of Bayou Cady there is a long bar close to the dredged channel (probably made by the dredge). The outer extremity of this bar is marked by an inverted barrel on a stake. Throughout the length of the bar its location is shown by brush beacons. About one half of the bar is awash at low water.

At Clermont Harbor there is a dredged canal which
heads into a lagoon back of the Clermont House but the mouth of the canal is silted up so that there is only one foot of low water.

CULTIVATION. None of the land along or near the shore can be cultivated, with one exception. At Baldwin Lodge, between Grand Plains Bayou and the railroad, the ground is seven or five feet higher than the surrounding swamp and is cultivated. The Lodge building is surrounded by a few large trees.

At Lake Shore, near Bayou Cady, there are a few signs of cultivation but not to any extent.

TOWNS & VILLAGES. There are no towns on this sheet which are of any size or importance. Rigolets and Dunbar were almost completely wiped out of existence at the time of the storm in September 1915. At present there are a few hunting lodges and a station house at each place. Baldwin Lodge is a hunting lodge and is also a flag stop on the L. & N. R.R.

At Dunbar the station consists of two old box cars located north of the track and just east of the railroad end of the canal. The piers on the shore of Lake Borgne were ruined by the storm above mentioned and have not been rebuilt.

Lake Shore is on the north bank of Bayou Cady and is pretty well hidden in the trees shown on the sheet. The Clermont House and pier are in ruins.

TRIANGULATION POINTS AND SIGNS. A new signal was built at Shell Point and located by Captain H.A. Seran, working from the HYDROGRAPHER.

The only object on the western portion of the sheet which was located by plane table for the use of the hydrographic party, was a small shed at the east end of the Rigolets trestle.

The water tank, located along the line of the L. & N. R.R. some little distance west of Rigolets was located by triangulation.

The smoke-stack at Dunbar is described as the lower of the two on the factory. At present the two stacks are almost the same elevation, a section of one of the stacks having been carried away at the time of the storm in Sept., 1915. The wider stack was used as the triangulation point.

The signal Pearl was recovered.

Pear River Drawbridge has been rebuilt since it was located as a triangulation station. The new bridge, Pearl River, L.H., St. Joseph's Beacon, have all been relocated by triangulation by Capt. H.A. Seran, working from the HYDROGRAPHER.

A hydrographic location was obtained of Pearl River Beacon, by Mr. Sutcliffe, during the progress of the hydrographic work along this shore.
TRIANGULATION POINTS AND SIGNALS (Continued)

Heron, Lake Borgne L.H., Miss, Moon and Start were all standing and recovered.

On Grand Island the base of the old signal "Half" was found.

WELL ESTABLISHED LOCAL NAMES, Unknown Pass is not named on the chart. Little Rigolets is known as the Blind Rigolets.

Other local names shown on the sheet are as follows:

Camel Outside Bayou.
Asher's Ditch.
Heron Bay Bayou.
Three Oak Bayou.
Bayou Boland.
Bayou Cady.

Grand Island is locally known as Half Moon Island.

Note:

The section from Shell Point to a point one mile west of Dunbar was run by Mr. A.C. Witherspoon and the rest of the sheet by Mr. P.A. Perrin.

A.C. Witherspoon, Cpt., Cpt. Survey

P.A. Perrin, D.O.

Approved.

H.A. Davis,
Chief of Party
The finished Topographic Sheet is to be accompanied by the following title sheet, filled in as completely as possible, when the sheet is forwarded to the Office.

U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Register No. Supplementary 3664 3664

State . Louisiana.

General locality . Coast of Louisiana.

Locality . From Malheureux Point to Point aux Marchettes.

Chief of party . F. B. T. Siems.

Surveyed by . William H. Overshiner.

Date of survey . February 5, 1918 - March 6, 1918.

Scale . . . . 1:40,000

Heights in feet above

Contour interval . . . feet.

Inked by Wm. H. Overshiner Lettered by Wm. H. Overshiner

Records accompanying sheet (check those forwarded): Photographs,
Descriptive report, Horizontal angle books, Field computations,
Data from other sources affecting sheet New names secured from
local fishermen.

Remarks:

The shore line on this sheet was transferred to sheet No. 3664.

Shore line transferred by Nathan Cherniack.
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

STATISTICS

Topographic Sheet "B".

Statute miles of shore line  64.0

sq. st. miles area
all shore line.
Affix to card. #78  Nov 29 1956  M.K. Reuberger