DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topo. Sheet No. 3716

LOCALITY:

Mobile Bay

Mobile River

1918

CHIEF OF PARTY:

F. D. S. Steers
DATE OF INSTRUCTIONS: December 8, 1917.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: On account of the wharves and piers on the western side of the Mobile River, the traverse between Choctaw Point and One Mile Creek was carried up Blakey Island and the water front out in.

The region is low and with the exception of the city of Mobile itself is mostly swamps and cane brakes, the latter being as a rule ten feet high, and therefore the stations were kept near the river's edge; above the city the traverse was carried zig-zag across the river.

The islands south of Choctaw Point and west of the channel were formed as a result of the dredged channel. They are low and sandy and covered in most places with high cane brakes. The water from the islands eastwards to the channel is shallow and littered with snags and logs.

The channel between these islands and Choctaw Point is narrow and abrupt, and the low water line extends for a considerable distance outside that of high water.

The western part of the river has numerous slips and docks, and during the past year numerous slip yards have been established.

On the eastern side, Pinto Island which is also low and sandy with high cane brakes has evidently been cut through by a narrow cut deep gully. On the northern Island are lots on the Henderson Shipbuilding Company and the Ilionu Dry Dock Shipbuilding Company.

Between Pinto and Blakey Islands is Pinto Pass, which is shallow and filled with snags and old logs.

North of Pinto Island is Blakey Island, the western part of it sandy with high cane brakes, the eastern part marshy with deep mud. On the only high spots on the island triangulation signals NOOK and XORD were built.

Above One Mile Creek, the western side of the river is swampy. The Louisville and Nashville Railroad follows the western bank and there are also numerous lumber wharves and the remains of saws.

The banks of One Mile Creek are covered with timber swamps and numerous mills. The southern and western banks of Blakey Creek are also covered with timber swamps with mills, wharves fronting the Creek, while the eastern bank northward is one unbroken swamp.

The map of the City of Mobile which was obtained from the city engineer is also forwarded. The land north of Tennessee Ave. and eastward of the #80 R. 36 which is shown on the map as cut up by streets is in reality the L. & N. freight yards, while the land north of One Mile Creek is still a swamp.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

Sextant angles to determine location of Arlington Wharf and of the
Emergency Fleet Corp'n. Concrete Shipbuilding Company's Wharf, vicinity

At station No. 1 at a point on North side of Arlington wharf and 290 ft.
west of location of outer end of wharf.
Mobile Channel Beacon No. 40 ------------------------ 106 15

Battery Gladden ----------------------------- 7 08
Monroe Park Water Tank ----------------------- 72 04

Beacon #43 and Water Tank ---------79 12

At station No. 2, shore line in line with North side of wharf
Mobile Channel Beacon No. 40 --------------- 32 56
No. 42
Battery Gladden ------------------------- 23 10
Monroe Park Water Tank ------------------- 30 54

Beacon #40 and Battery Gladden--------- 56 06
" 42 " Water Tank ---------------- 54 05

At station No. 3, shore line at end of South side of wharf
Mobile Channel Beacon No. 40 --------------- 33 15
No. 42
Battery Gladden ------------------------- 22 29

Beacon #40 and Battery Gladden --------- 55 44

This wharf is being built by the city of Mobile and is to be
300 feet wide and 8200 feet long.
For plan of wharf see blue print by City Engineer sent herewith.

At wharf of Emergency Fleet Corp'n, Concrete Shipbldg. Company.

Station No. 1 N.E. corner of wharf

Mobile Channel Beacon No. 40 --------------- 30 42
No. 42
Battery Gladden ------------------------- 58 34
Line of wharf to shore ------------------- 118 55

Station No. 2, S. W. Corner of wharf

Mobile Channel Beacon No. 40 --------------- 33 06
No. 42
Battery Gladden ------------------------- 55 38
Line of wharf to shore ------------------- 118 20

The above wharves are plotted in pencil on bromide copy of
topographic sheet 3716, returned herewith.

[Signature]
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

TOPOGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

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. 3716

State . Alabama
General locality . Mobile Bay
Locality . Mobile River - Iron Point
Chief of party . F. B. T. Siemens
Surveyed by . R. R. Seere
Date of survey . March-May 1918
Scale . 1:10000

Heights in feet above
Contour interval . . . feet.
Inked by . RRM . . . Lettered by .

Records accompanying sheet (check those forwarded): Photographs, Descriptive report, Horizontal angle books, Field computations, Data from other sources affecting sheet . Map of city of Mobile obtained from the City Engineer of Mobile

Remarks:

At station No. 1, at a point on North side of Arlington wharf and 290 ft. west of location of outer end of wharf.
Mobile Channel Beacon No. 40 ------------------- 106 15
* * * 42
Battery Gladden ------------------------------- 7 08
Monroe Park Water Tank ----------------------- 72 04
Beacon #42 and Water Tank ------------------- 79 12

At station No. 2, shore line in line with North side of wharf.
Mobile Channel Beacon No. 40------------------- 32 66
No. 42
Battery Gladden ------------------------------- 23 10
Monroe Park Water Tank ----------------------- 30 54
Beacon #40 and Battery Gladden---------------- 56 06
42 * Water Tank ----------------------------- 54 05

At station No. 3, shore line at end of South side of wharf.
Mobile Channel Beacon No. 40 ------------------- 35 15
No. 42
Battery Gladden ------------------------------- 22 29
Beacon # 40 and Battery Gladden ----------- 55 44

This wharf is being built by the city of Mobile and is to be 300 feet wide and 8200 feet long.
For plan of wharf see blue print by City Engineer sent herewith.

At wharf of Emergency Fleet Corp'n. Concrete Shipbldg. Company.

Station No. 1, N.E. corner of wharf
Mobile Channel Beacon No. 40 ------------------- 30 43
No. 43
Battery Gladden ------------------------------- 58 34
Line of wharf to shore ------------------------ 118 55

Station No. 2, S.W. Corner of wharf
Mobile Channel Beacon No. 40 ------------------- 33 06
No. 42
Battery Gladden ------------------------------- 55 38
Line of wharf to shore ------------------------ 118 20

The above wharves are plotted in pencil on bromide copy of topographic sheet 3716, returned herewith.