

4424

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Form 504	
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE	
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY	
_____, Director	
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State: New Hampshire	
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT	
Topographic <del>Hydrographic</del>	Sheet No. 4424
LOCALITY	
Newburyport	
Hampton Harbor	
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1928	
CHIEF OF PARTY	
C.K. Green	

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET # 2

Instructions dated - August 1, 1928. (H.E. Finnegan)

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF COAST

At the northern limits of the sheet, Great Boars Head with the standpipe, is the most prominent landfall.

Hampton Beach is a summer resort with prominent buildings and houses, extending from Great Boars Head to Hampton Harbor.

The entrance to Hampton Harbor or river is approximately 150 meters wide and bridged by a wooden trestle. Hampton Harbor is very shoal. At low water, tidal flats bare over the entire harbor with the exception of two or three channels and a small area just inside the bridge. The harbor is surrounded by low marsh land.

There are several groups of rocks in the vicinity of the entrance. Town Rocks, on the north side of the entrance, cover at high water, but are awash at half tide, Gun Rocks, on the south side of the entrance, are partly bare at high water. White Rocks and Round Rock have elevations from five to ten feet and form the outer end of the southern side of the entrance.

From the entrance southward, the shoreline is made up of sand beach with small sand dunes in the background. Thomas Rock is awash at  $\frac{3}{4}$  tide. There are a number of houses near the southern limits of the sheet.

The reef off the entrance, made up of two groups of rocks, is about  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile in length and extends in a northeasterly and southwesterly direction. Rocks awash can be seen in this reef at almost every stage of tide below high water.

LANDMARKS

In addition to the standpipe at Great Boars Head, the dark church spire at Hampton Beach can be listed. (See list on form 567).

CHARACTER OF CONTROL USED

Station "Entrance" was located on Round Rock by using stations "Hampton Falls, 1850" and "Boars Head, standpipe, 1912" with a check on "Salisbury Beach L.S.S., flagpole, 1912". Two additional intersection stations were located. "Casino, cupola 1912" and "Salisbury Marsh, monument 1834" were recovered, the latter to end the traverse at the southern limits of the work.

CLOSING ERRORS OF TRAVERSES

No unusual errors were encountered. Traverses, starting at station "Entrance", were run northward to the Standpipe and southward to Salisbury Marsh monument. The allowable errors were not exceeded in either case.

The shoreline and topography of the harbor was run in by short traverses and three point fixes.

AUXILIARY METHODS

Sextant fixes were used in locating the rocks and the extent of the off-lying reef. Four angles were taken at each fix. These were plotted on the sheet in the field.

FORM LINES

No actual elevations were determined and no form lines drawn on this sheet.

### CHANGES IN PROMINENT AND OFF-LYING FEATURES

Considerable care was taken in locating the rocks in the reef known as Sunk Rocks. These were visited at low water. While every rock was not definitely located, the most important and limiting ones are shown.

Their location, as determined in this survey checks favorably with that shown on topographic sheet 835. As the rocks are not completely shown and only by sunken rock symbols on the old sheet, accurate comparison could not be made.

Attention is called to the rocks near the high water line some 360 meters ExS of Dark Church Spire. The large rock is not shown in the previous surveys. Sunken rock symbols are shown on topographic sheet 1023 approximately 90 meters north of the group of rocks located in this survey. No rocks were found to correspond with the old position.

### CHANGES IN COASTLINE

Extensive changes have occurred in the coastline at the entrance to Hampton Harbor. On topographic sheet 835, survey made in 1855, the channel is shown between Gun Rocks and Round Rock, running in a northeasterly and southwesterly direction. On topographic sheet 835A, revision made in 1912, the channel is shown to the southwest of White Rocks, running in a southeasterly and northwesterly direction with a point built out to White Rocks from the north side. The channel is now to the northward of White Rocks with a sand flat extending out in a southeasterly direction from Town Rocks. It is estimated that the maximum height of this sand flat or bar above low water is three feet.

Rapid and extensive changes are frequent in the vicinity of the entrance due to strong tidal currents and occasional heavy northeast storms. Some changes were noted while the survey was in progress.

The shoreline at the limits of the survey agrees with that of previous surveys.

### NEW NAMES

New names added are, Gun Rocks, Inner Sunk Rocks, and Outer Sunk Rocks. These names were obtained through local inquiry.

### MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

The low water line as determined on the topographic sheet does not check entirely with that shown on the hydrographic sheet. The topographic low water line in nearly all cases, is beyond the hydrographic low water line, which is probably due to the fact that the topographic low water line was determined at a stage of tide somewhat below mean low water.

The houses, with the exception of the larger buildings shown on the sheet, were not definitely located. After the streets had been located, these houses were placed by inspection according to the number in each block.

The sheet now shows a distortion of about 15 meters per mile in both directions.

Through:

*Chas. H. Green*

Chief of Party.

Respectfully submitted,

*Carl F. Ellers*

Jr. H. & G. Eng'r.

*Inspected and found adequate, except that the rocks were  
southwest of 0407 (from T. 835 and 835A) should have been shown.  
E. P. Ellis Aug. 1929*

# PLANE TABLE POSITIONS & TOPOGRAPHIC SIGNALS

Object Hydro.Name	Latitude	D. M.	Longitude	D. P.	Height	Remarks & Description
	o ' "	Meters	o ' "	Meters	Feet	
Tower	42 - 54	1111	70 - 48	1093	40	Center of white square tower, top.
Mut	42 - 54	641	70 - 49	116	20	W. Gable black tar paper covered house.
Cor	42 - 54	409	70 - 48	937	-----	N.E.corner of house near H.W.line.
●	42 - 53	1828	70 - 48	1033	8	Southwest end of double row of piling.
Bel	42 - 54	140	70 - 48	1167	-----	S. Gable of attic window on S.roof of yellow house.
Tow	42 - 53	1808	70 - 48	1254	-----	Center of square tower on S.E.cor.of small brown house
Lot	42 - 53	1688	70 - 49	16	10	White toll house on north end side of bridge.
Cal	42 - 54	73	70 - 49	149	-----	S.W.Gable of yellow house with red roof.
Kat	42 - 54	227	70 - 49	614	2	Banner on stick.
Sig	42 - 53	1523	70 - 49	937	3	Banner on stick.
Gray	42 - 53	1061	70 - 50	53	10	N. Gable of gray shack.
Red	42 - 53	808	70 - 49	1323	10	N.Gable of red shack.
Post	42 - 53	486	70 - 49	705	8	Post with banner.
Gab	42 - 53	462	70 - 49	207	-----	N.Gable of highest house, unpainted.Near S.end of bridge
Wit	42 - 53	683	70 - 49	207	-----	White toll house on south end of bridge,
●	42 - 53	1026	70 - 48	1044	-----	Chimney on the east end of Beckman's cottage.
End	42 - 53	50	70 - 49	37	-----	Chimney on most northerly of row of beach houses.
Hot	42 - 52	1519	70 - 49	41	-----	Center of white house .

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

## TOPOGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

C. & G. SURVEY  
L. & A.  
MAY 15 1929  
Acc. No.

REG. NO. 4424

The Topographic Sheet should be accompanied by this form, filled in as completely as possible, when the sheet is forwarded to the Office.

Field Letter No. 2

REGISTER NO. 4424

State New Hampshire

General locality Newburyport

Locality Hampton Harbor

Scale 1 - 10,000 Date of survey September, 1928.

Vessel Launch Ogden Shore Party

Chief of Party C.K. Green

Surveyed by C.F. Ehlers

Inked by C.F. Ehlers

Heights in feet above ----- to ground to tops of trees

Contour Approximate contour Form line interval ----- feet

Instructions dated August 1, 1928.

Remarks: Revision Survey