Form 5614
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
B.C. PATTON Director

State: Texas

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT
Topographic
Hydrographic
Sheet No. E 4617

LOCALITY
Houston Ship Channel
Vicinity of Peggy Lake and
Scott Bay

1930-31

CHIEF OF PARTY
John A. Bond, R., and G.E.
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODENTIC SURVEY
R. S. PATTON, DIRECTOR

Project No. 68
1930-31

Descriptive Report
to
Accompany
TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET E
of
HOUSTON SHIP CHANNEL AND VICINITY
TEXAS

Chief of Party
Descriptive Report to Accompany Topographic Sheet E
Houston Ship Channel, Texas

INSTRUCTIONS.

The topography on sheet E is a part of Project No. 68, the instructions for which were dated July 24th, 1930.

LIMIT AND SCALE.

Surveyed on a scale of 1/5000, the sheet covers the shore line of Scott Bay and Peggy Lake with a portion of the adjacent Houston Ship Channel. The sheet joins sheet D on the southeast and sheet F on the northwest.

CONTROL AND SURVEY METHODS.

Usual plane table survey methods were employed. Positions were obtained mainly from three point fixes with a small amount of graphic triangulation in Scott Bay and Peggy Lake. One plane table station was established south of Peggy Lake by traverse to delineate the twenty foot contour.

A series of air photos of the Houston Ship Channel will be forwarded under separate cover, and should prove useful in supplying interior detail which could not be economically covered by plane table methods. The area included on this sheet is covered by photos Nos. 30 to 33.

In most cases the low water line shown on the sheet has been drawn from information obtained during the hydrographic survey.

All elevations on this sheet are known to be 0.5 ft. high, none of them has been corrected. See explanation in Descriptive Report, Sheet A. (T4613)
At a few places where there was a good agreement with the U.S. G.S. survey of 1915 small sections of the 20 ft. contour were drawn on the sheet without the usual survey methods.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF TOPOGRAPHIC FEATURES.

To the east and north of Scotts Bay is a steep 25 to 30 ft. bank closely paralleling the shore line. The bank is only partially tree covered and has several gullies leading inshore. The shore line of Coat Island and the western part of Scott Bay is low with many small reaches of marsh and mud flats.

The land areas adjacent to the ship channel are used as dumping grounds for dredge spoil. They are composed of a series of bare clay and sand dumps averaging 15 feet in elevation and are surrounded by low flats covered with a 5 foot growth locally known as "coffee bean". This growth is perennial in nature.

The U.S.E. base line extends along the channel side of Barnes Island and the narrow arm of land to the north of Peggy Lake. The base line is marked by bronze discs set in concrete every 500 feet with intermediate 100 ft. stations marked by a wooden stake.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS SURVEYS.

The shore line and land areas immediately adjacent to the ship channel are constantly undergoing changes due to the nearly continuous dredging operations.

A small pond in the marsh area of Barnes Island was not previously shown.

A field comparison with the U.S.G.S. survey of 1915 was made. In general a poor agreement of both shore line and the 20 ft. contour was noted.
All buoys shown on this sheet have been accurately located and there are no buoys in place in the area surveyed which are not shown.

The lower portion of what is charted as San Jacinto River, from Lynchburg to Morgan Point, is known locally as Houston Ship Channel.

NEW NAMES.

All names shown on the sheet have been taken from chart 532.

LANDMARKS.

A list of landmarks for charts which contains the positions of prominent objects and all beacons and ranges will be forwarded under separate cover.

Respectfully submitted.

Washington, D.C.,
November 12, 1931.

Edmund L. Jones
Aid, U.S.C. and G.S.

Approved:

John A. Bond
John A. Bond, H. and G. E.,
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

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. E

REGISTER NO. 4617

State Texas

General locality Houston Ship Channel

Locality Vicinity of Peggy Lake and Scott Bay

Scale 1/5000 Date of survey February, 1931

Vessel

Chief of Party John A. Bond

Surveyed by Edmund L. Jones

Inked by E. L. Jones, H. W. Murray

Heights in feet above MHW to ground to tops of trees

Contour, Approximate contour, Form line interval 20 feet

Instructions dated July 24, 1930

Remarks

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