DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
R. S. Patton, Director

State: NEW YORK

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Topographic Sheet No. A. 4776

Locality
East River,
Hikers Island and Flushing Bay.

1933

Chief of Party

I. E. Bittenburg.
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET "A" PROJECT H & T #152
FLUSHING BAY, EAST RIVER, NEW YORK HARBOR.

AUTHORITY Work on this sheet was done in accordance with orders
and verbal instructions of Aug., 9, 1953. Written instructions were
issued Sept. 2, 1953. Work on this sheet was done in September and Oct-
ober, 1953.

LOCALITY The area covered by this survey lies between the west end of Rikers Island and Whitestone Pt., East River, Flushing Bay and
Flushing Creek.

CONTROL Triangulation stations of Lieut. Woodworth, 1931-33
formed an excellent framework of horizontal control. Almost anywhere
on this sheet it was possible to obtain a good strong three point fix.
There are no traverses for control or topography on this sheet. Every
topographic station shown was cut in from triangulation stations or
three point fixes. The only traverses are between adjacent signals for
the locating of the shoreline.

METHODS Triangulation station Williamsburg, Bay, Screen, Old
Clason, Mansion, and Flushing were first occupied and cuts taken to
every signal visible. Further cuts were taken from station Bowery and
Wind Indicator and a three point fix on the East side of Rikers Island.
The survey is controlled on the west end by station Bowery and the East
end by a three point fix and a resection. In Flushing Creek southward
of station W. & J. Sloane Clock Tower several prominent signals
were cut in and located and then served to control the survey of Flus-
ing Creek by means of three point fixes. No triangles of error in the
cutting in of signals were encountered. The survey is on the N. A. 1927
datum. This was obtained by adding a correction factor to the Geographic
Positions of Lieut. Woodworth's triangulation of minus 11.5 meters to all
Latitudes given and plus 3.8 meters to all longitudes given. Sufficient
triangulation was available so that a check was had at each three point
fix.

MARKERS OF OTHER AGENCIES
An effort was made to tie in all markers of other bureaus
in this area. All the U. S. Engineers marks were searched for and those
found were located by existing topography. These are shown on the accompanying
list of recoverable stations and circled on the accompanying blue
prints. Numerous recoverable street monument of the Borough of Queens
were also located and shown on the sheet and blueprints. With these
locations and other prominent well defined features located every blue
print of either the U. S. Eng., Borough of Queens, Harbor Line Board etc.
can be applied directly to this survey, with no other control needed. At
least 3 common points are now located on every blue print which enters
into the construction of chart 226. The several U. S. E. stations located
will also serve to apply future soundings of that bureau to the chart.

GENERAL
GENERAL

In general the shoreline of this area is either rocky or muddy. In all cases the outer limits of the rocky stretches of shore line were located, and shown. Except for the W. side of Flushing Creek the inshore limits of the marsh were located and shown on the sheet. As the aerial photos of this area are in the process of compilation no detail behind the high water line was obtained except at the west side of Flushing Creek where it was thought that the railroad shown and the various intersections and bridge crossings would serve as good control points for the reduction of photographs. Numerous ruins of docks and wrecks are shown on this sheet. The wrecked barges shown East of the airport are the limits of numerous barges stranded and burned to the waters edge. Several additional wrecks were located by the hydrographic party.

It should be borne in mind that any rocks shown on the boat sheet should be disregarded as all rocks have either a topographic location or a sextant fix recorded in the sounding volumes. L. W. is to be obtained from the hydrographic sheet after the smooth sheet shall have been verified. The numerous rocks shown N. E. of signal You (College Point) are the limits of these rocks and the most prominent. Other rocks were located but could not be inked. The prick holes remain however. Wherever the wording Extent limits of rocks accompanied by the symbol for rocks awash are shown, the symbols represent actual locations of rocks awash. The remainder of these areas within the limiting lines is scattered boulders at and rocky coast line. No magnetic meridian is shown on this sheet as sheets B and C show this meridian at stations Bowery and Clason. Both these stations are common to this sheet. Clearances etc. of bridges are shown in the Coast Pilot. All of the beached or sunken barges are shown in a full line if above water at all times and in dashed lines if covered at any stage of the tide. The limits of rocks off signal Ban define an old bulkhead or dock. The rock crib off Ban is almost awash at H. W. The limits of rocks off Pod define the limits of an old dock or quay. The breakwater near Pod is a row of closest set piles. The rock piles on the North side of the Malba Dock (near Sig. Jim) are built up to form a protective barrier and extend approximately the entire length of the dock as shown by the dashed line. The small platform and the piles off signal Col are the remains of an old ferry slip.

LANDMARKS PHOTOCONTROL POINTS & LIST OF RECOVERABLE STATIONS

There is attached to this report a list of landmarks, points for the control of aerial photos, and a list of recoverable stations.

H. S. Cole,
Observer.

I. E. Rittenburg, Lieut.,
Chief of Party.
LIST OF RECOVERABLE TOPOGRAPHIC STATIONS AND SHORT DESCRIPTION.

Ground lights, Airport. These lights are set flush with the ground.
Lit; centre of ceiling light at most western point of airport.
Protractor; centre of protractor for ceiling light at airport
Beacon light; on roof of hangar # 2
Pole; large flagpole at the inshore end of dock of Yacht Club.
Lid; [illegible] centre of tall chimney like vent
   just outside H. W. on sewer East of Ditmars Ave., between 27 & 29 Aves.
   see Desc. of triang. sta. Screen 1932/Spire; church spire with gold cross, Lat. 40-45, 397 meter; long 73-51-1181 m
Stack; tall black stack at I. R. T. car barns 40-45-290m long 73-50-988m
Stack; Tallest of several black stacks at the Highway dept.
   asphalt mixing plant.
Flagstaff; White flagpole atop large red brick building East side of Flushing creek
Chimney, Electric Co.; tall gray stack at the storage yards of the Queens
   Electric and Power Co., Roosevelt Ave., and Lawrence St.
Chimney at Incinerator plant; tall red brick chimney on College Pt. causeway
Wooden roof tank atop varnish factory near College Pt.
Flagpole near the College Point L. S. S.
Chimney on P. S. 129, small square red brick.

LIST OF POINT SUITABLE FOR THE CONTROL OF AIR PHOTO REDUCTION

The two airplane hangars at the airport.
Wind indicator at airport
The sewer on which station Flushing is located
The rock crib near sig. Ben
The sewer outlet on which station Screen and sig. Lid are located
The bridges in Flushing Creek
The R. R. and various intersections on the West side of Flushing Creek
The fence at the Golf Course, W. side of Flushing Creek
Intersection of Lawrence St., and Northern Boulevard
Corner of Bulkhead near sig. Joe
The rows of protective piling for the sewer East of sig. Col.
End of Malba Dock (East end of sheet)
The following determined objects are prominent, can be readily distinguished from seaward from the description given below, and should be charted:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Latitude</th>
<th>Longitude</th>
<th>Datum</th>
<th>Method of determination</th>
<th>Charts affected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E. Radio Tower WFCH</td>
<td>40.46</td>
<td>104.573</td>
<td>73.60</td>
<td>1040</td>
<td>Triang. 226-1213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. Radio Tower WFCH</td>
<td>40.46</td>
<td>1253</td>
<td>73.60</td>
<td>1253</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chy. American Rubber Co.</td>
<td>40.47</td>
<td>382</td>
<td>73.51</td>
<td>382</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standpipe College Point</td>
<td>40.47</td>
<td>678</td>
<td>73.50</td>
<td>678</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chy. Rikers Island</td>
<td>40.47</td>
<td>453</td>
<td>73.55</td>
<td>453</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roof Tank Rikers Island</td>
<td>40.47</td>
<td>478</td>
<td>73.63</td>
<td>478</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beacon N. Brother Island</td>
<td>40.48</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>73.68</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>N.A. 27 Topog. 226-1213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chy. N. Brother Island</td>
<td>40.46</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>73.64</td>
<td>19</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A list of objects which are of sufficient prominence for use on the charts, together with a description of the same, must be furnished in a special report on this form, and a copy of such report must be attached by the Chief of Party to his descriptive report. The selection, determination, and description of these points are of primary importance. The description of each object should be short, but such as will identify it; for example, standpipe, water tower, church spire, tank, tall stack, red chimney, radio mast, etc. Generally, flagstaffs and like objects are not sufficiently permanent to chart.
REVIEW OF TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY No. 4776

Title (Par. 56) Rikers Island and Flushing Bay, East River, New York

Chief of Party L.E. Rittenberg Surveyed by H.S. Cole Inked by H.S. Cole


1. The survey and preparation for it conform to the requirements of the Topographic Manual. (Par. 7, 8, 9, 13, 16.)

2. The character and scope of the survey satisfy the instructions.

3. The control and closures of traverses were adequate. (Par. 12, 29.)

4. The amount of vertical control that the Manual specifies for contours was accomplished. (Par. 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23.) There are no contours on this survey. The instructions calling for a basic shoreline only.

5. The delineation of contours was satisfactory. (Par. 49, 50.)

6. There is sufficient control on maps from other sources that were transmitted by the field party to enable their application to the charts. (Par. 28.) U.S. & E. blueprints were submitted with topo 4777 which also covers the area on this survey.

7. High water line on marshy and mangrove coast is clear and adequate for chart compilation. (Par. 16a, 43, 44.) The area shown on Chart 116 of North Beach, Covey Harbor shows a very rocky shoreline. This survey shows no rocks in the area.

8. The representation of low water lines, reefs, coral reefs and rocks, and legends pertaining to them is satisfactory. (Par. 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41.)

9. Rocks and other important details shown on previous surveys and on the chart were verified. (Par. 25, 26, 27.)

See note under item 7

10. The span, draw and clearance of bridges are shown. (Par. 16c.)

11. The clearance type of bridges and elevations of summits are given. (Par. 15, 51.)

12. The true line was shown on mountains. (Par. 16g.)

NOTE: Strike out paragraphs, words or phrases not applicable and modify those requiring it. Paragraph numbers refer to those in the Topographic Manual. Use reverse side for extending remarks.
13. The descriptive report covers all details listed in the Manual, in so far as they apply to this survey. (Par. 64, 65, 66, 67.)

14. The descriptive report also contains additional information required in topography relative to type of photography, method of compilation and type of ground control.

15. The descriptions of recoverable stations and references to shore line were accomplished on Form 524. (Par. 29, 30, 57, 67 except scaling of DIs and DPs, 68.) A list of recoverable stations with short descriptions is included with the descriptive report.

16. A list of landmarks for charts was furnished on Form 567 and plotting checked. (Par. 16d, s, 60.)

17. The magnetic meridian was shown and declination was checked. (Par. 17, 52.) The magnetic meridian is shown on T&777, the adjacent overlapping sheet.

18. The geographic datum of the sheet is N.A.(917) Datum V and the reference station is correctly noted. (Par. 34.) obtained by applying constants to the adjusted (N.A. Datum) field computations.

19. Junctions with contemporary surveys are adequate.

20. Geographic names are shown on the sheet and are covered by the Descriptive report. (Par. 64, 65k.) Only three names shown on entire sheet.

21. The quality of the drafting is good. (Par. 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50.)

22. No additional surveying is recommended.

23. The Chief of Party inspected and approved the sheet and the descriptive report after review. There is no statement that the sheet has been inspected and approved by the Chief of Party. His signature in typewritten only.

24. Remarks:

Reviewed in office by

Examinend and approved:

K. T. Adams
Chief, Section of Field Records

L. O. Gillette
Chief, Division of Charts

J. S. Brown
Chief, Section of Field Work

G. O. Ward
Chief, Division of Hyd. and Top.
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. A

REGISTER NO 4776

State. New York

General locality. East River

Locality. Rikers Island and Flushing Bay Creek

Scale. 1:10,000 Date of survey. Sept. Oct, 1933

Vessel. Shore Party # 15

Chief of party. L. E. Rittenburg

Surveyed by. E. S. Cole

Inked by. E. S. Cole

Heights in feet above ground to tops of trees

Contour. Approximate contour. Form line interval.

Instructions dated. Sept. 2, 1933

Remarks:

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