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

State: CALIFORNIA

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT
Topographic Sheet No. T-P 4885

LOCALITY
Santa Cruz Island
(East end)

1935

CHIEF OF PARTY
Chas. K. Cress
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 Letter T-P

REGISTER NO. 4885

State California

General locality Santa Cruz Island

Locality East and Eastern Part

Scale 1:20,000 Date of survey Dec. 1933-April 1934 34

Vessel C.S.B.

Chief of Party C.K. Green

Surveyed by R.S. Thompson

Inked by N.C. Skansen

Heights in feet above M.N. to ground to tops of trees

Contour Approximate contour Interval 50 feet

Instructions dated Oct. 31, 1932 and Sept. 9, 1933 19

Remarks.
Descriptive Report  
to accompany  
Topographic Sheet P  
East and Santa Cruz Island  
California  

Instructions  
October 31, 1932 and September 9, 1934  

Limits and Scale  
This sheet embraces the shoreline of the east end of  
Santa Cruz Island east of Prisoner's Harbor on the north side and  
east of Valley Anchorage on the south side.  

General Description.  
The shoreline shown on this sheet extends in a general  
east-west direction with the exception of that on the northeast portion  
of this portion of the island. Here there are several indentations  
and no beaches, with precipitous bluffs of volcanic rock 200 to 500 feet  
high. The base of this bluffline is dotted with offshore rocks. From  
Prisoner's Harbor east the rolling hills making down to the beach are  
sheared to form high precipitous bluffs of limestones 100 to 800 feet  
high, with a narrow strip of sand at the base, sometimes gravel, to  
form a half tide beach. From the vicinity of Smuggler's Cove on the  
eastern edge of the island to the western extremities on the south side  
of the island, the shoreline consists of narrow gravel and rubble  
beaches at the bases of the high limestone bluffs. These bluffs vary in  
height from 100 to 1000 ft., in elevation. The beaches toward the western  
extremities on the south side are dotted with small offshore rocks form  
ing what is known niggerhead beaches.  

Occasional canyons break the bluffline making directly  
back from the beaches with quite a rise so that in the rainy season  
during a good rain, the stream beds are scoured deeply making a state  
of rapid erosion. With the exception of the summit of the high peaks  
the island is bare of trees, except in isolated patches.  

There are no towns or settlements. There is a ranch  
that covers the "head" of the east end called the east end ranch. The  
main ranch that extends east to limits of the east end ranch covers  
the entire extent of the island.  

Contours were difficult to obtain on account of the  
inaccessibility of the bluffs. Consequently only those contours  
easily and economically to obtain are shown on the sheet.  

Special Notes  
Deep water extends to the base of the bluffs on the northeast  
portion of the island from China Bay to San Pedro Point and except for  
several offshore rocks, none more than 500 meters offshore, there are no  
dangers. The shoreline on the remaining portions of the sheet is dotted  
with small offshore rocks and no vessel should make within 500 meters of  
the shore.
Descriptive Report
to accompany
Topographic Sheet P
(2)

Landmarks

An oblong shaped grove of Monterey Pines directly in back of the anchorage at Scorpion Bay shows well to sea for a distance of about five miles. The location is lat. 34-05', long. 119-35'. The apex of the high bluff, yellow in color and 900 ft. in height on the south side of the island, lat. 33-59', long. 119-37', shows well to sea, and may be shown on small scale charts.

Control

20 triangulation signals on the sheet with 9 visible from the shoreline gave ample control. Only one long traverse was run and no adjustment was necessary.

Geographic Names

The country is undeveloped and very few new names appear. The land is given over to sheep grazing. Lobster fishing is the only other activity worth mentioning. At the main ranch, however, lat. 33-59', long. 119-41', not shown on the sheet, wine grapes of a very high quality and famous for their vintage are grown in the valley running thru the island from east to west.

Mention should be made here of the townsite called La Playa as shown on Chart 5202. There is no townsite or anything to show of any development at any time to warrant location on the chart. East End Anchorage as shown on Chart 5202 is locally known as Scorpion Bay. Tyler's Point as shown on Chart 5202 is now known as Potato Harbor. Yellowbanks, the first light south of Smuggler's Cove, is the local name, as is Middle Anchorage a general anchorage off the east end of the island as shown on the sheet. Preference should be given to the local names as they are known to all who frequent these shores. Hungryman's Gulch, an anchorage on the east end of the island, is a local name that should be used.

Changes in shoreline

The shoreline as shown on this sheet differs with that shown on previous sheets in that a shoreline traverse was actually made on this sheet giving more detail.

Contours

Where possible on traverse of the shoreline, contours were cut in as far back from the shoreline as possible. Peaks were also cut in for elevations and checking the old contours as shown on the old bromide sheets which were carried along in the field.

Richard S. Thompson, Surveyor
Topographic Sheet # T-P has been inspected and approved by me. Field work was done under occasional supervision by me and the office work under supervision by Lieut. R. W. Knox.

Chas. K. Green, Chief of Party.
To: H.M. Strong
From: C.F.M.

GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

Date: Feb. 28, 1935

CALIFORNIA

Names underlined in red approved March 22, 1935

Harlow Bacon

Examined by: H.B.

Approved by the Division of Geographic Names, Department of Interior.

Referred to the Division of Geographic Names, Department of Interior.

Under investigation. Q

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<th>Status</th>
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<th>Names assigned by Field</th>
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Note: Remove East End Anchorage and insert Scorpion Bay
Section of Field Records

REVIEW OF TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY NO. 4905 (1934) - FIELD LETTER P

Santa Cruz Island, Eastern Part, California
Surveyed December, 1933; April, 1934
Instructions dated October 31, 1932; September 9, 1933 (C. K. Green)

Plane Table Survey

Chief of Party - C. K. Green.
Surveyed by - R. S. Thompson.
Inked by - N. C. Skansen.

Cloth Mounted


The Descriptive Report is clear and comprehensive and satisfactorily covers all matters of importance.

The records conform to the requirements of the Topographic Manual, with the following exceptions:

a. Heights of rocks awash which were erroneously referenced to L. W. (see D. R. T. 4906, page 1) were changed in the office to M. L. L. W.

b. Elevations of rocks bare at H. W. are shown in black. The requirement is that red figures be used for elevations above M. H. W.

c. A rock shown as rock awash bare 10 feet at L. W. in lat. 34° 02.65', long. 119°35.00' was changed to a bare rock with elevation of 5 feet in red. A rock awash in lat. 34°02.7', long. 119°55.3' described as bare 2 feet at H. W. was changed to a rock awash at extreme H. W.

d. In a few instances island rocks were shown with elevations above L. W. They were reduced in the office and the correct elevation above M. H. W. is now shown.

2. Compliance with Instructions for the Project.

The survey complies with instructions.

3. Junction with Contemporary Surveys.

Satisfactory junction was made with T-4908 (1934). The junction with T-4909 (1934) along the south shore is cut about 5 meters in longitude.
4. **Comparison with Prior Surveys.**

   a. **T-555 (1855).**

   This survey is on a scale of 1:10,000 and includes about 3 miles of shoreline in the vicinity of San Pedro Point and Smugglers Cove. It was compared with the present survey and was found to be in fair agreement in the delineation of shoreline and in the rocks. There are no rocks which require carrying forward.

   b. **T-876 (1859).**

   This survey (scale 1:10,000) includes about 2 miles of shoreline which is shown on the present survey. The shoreline is in good agreement with the present location. All rocks are verified with the exception of three foul areas and a rock awash in the vicinity of lat. 34°01', long. 119°38', which are carried forward in green.

   c. **T-1437 (1875).**

   A comparison of this survey with the present survey shows good agreement in shoreline. In a few instances there appears to be a slight amount of change due to shoreline being shifted outward by erosion of the bluffs. The resurveyed contours although not tied into the old system, agree with the old contours in general trend. There is good agreement in the offlying rocks of the two surveys except that several new rocks are now located. One sunken rock near shore in lat. 33°59.3', long. 119°36.8' is carried forward to the new survey in green.

5. **Field Drafting.**

   The field inking is satisfactory.

6. **Additional Field Work Recommended.**

   No additional field work is required.

7. **Superseding Old Surveys.**

   Insofar as the topography actually included on the present survey is concerned, it supersedes the following surveys for charting purposes:

   - T-555 (1855) in part
   - T-876 (1859) in part
   - T-1437 (1875) in part
8. **Note to Compiler.**

Attention is called to the topographer's recommendation regarding the discontinuance of the town of La Playa on Chart No. 5202 (see D. R. page 2).


Examined and approved:

C. K. Green, Chief, Section of Field Records.

L. G. Giblet, Chief, Division of Charts.

J. S. Borden, Chief, Section of Field Work.

H. W. Mudge, Chief, Division of H. & T.

Apprised to Charles E. Smith

May 20-14
J. O.

J. O.

May 1-16
J. O.

May 1-16