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

State: LOUISIANA

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT
Topographic } Sheet No. G & H 6041
Hydrographic

LOCALITY

Calcasieu Lake.
Cal Southern Part.
South-eastern Part.

1933
1934

CHIEF OF PARTY
J. C. Bose
INSTRUCTIONS: The survey was made in accordance with Supplemental Instructions from the Director dated Sept. 8, 1933.

LIMITS: The limits of the area surveyed extend from Lat. 29° 49' to Lat. 29° 56' and from Long. 93° 13' to Long. 93° 20'. The area shown is that part of Calcasieu Lake lying south of Bayou Bois Connie and Long Point and east of Calcasieu Pass.

CONTROL: The control for this survey consisted of four second order triangulation stations; namely, Peconi, Lamb, and Lake, and Long.

TRAVERSES: Since the triangulation stations were visible at almost every plantable position and good fixes were always obtainable, no traverses were necessary.

LANDMARKS: There are no outstanding landmarks on this sheet. There are a number of piles used as channel markers in the lake. The positions of these are listed on a separate sheet attached.

DESCRIPTION: The land from O Dip to Calcasieu Pass is all marsh. Some is high marsh and some is low marsh but it is impossible to clearly define the limits of each as the physical appearance depends upon the weather and the height of water in the lake. Low marsh is marsh which is nearly always covered by at least a few inches of water. From O Dip to A Lamb the land is generally low. A fringe of tall cane grass extends along shore and is about 100 meters in width. Beyond this fringe, the vegetation consists of short marsh grass. The land beyond the fringe of tall cane is lower than that along the shore. Near A Peconi is Bayou Bois Connie, a small stream flowing into the lake from the east. Near the mouth of the bayou are several shacks used by trappers and fishermen. The bayou is used as a place of refuge from winter winds by the trappers for their small boats.

Just north of O Van is a small canal. This canal, like several to the north of A Peconi, was part of a drainage and reclamation project, now abandoned. About 1 mile south of this canal is the mouth of Mangrove Bayou. This stream empties into the lake from a southeasterly direction. It has no navigational importance.

Near O Den, is the mouth of Grand Bayou. This stream flows into the lake from a southeasterly direction. It is of no navigational importance. The mouth of the bayou was used by several houseboats as a place of shelter at the time of the survey.

Just north of A Lamb is the mouth of Lambert Bayou. All of these bayous are shallow a short way past the mouth and are not used except by very small craft.

The land from A Lamb to O Van, is much the same as from Lamb to O Dip. A fringe of tall cane grass extends a long shore and is about 100 meters wide. Back of this is low marsh covered with short grass and intermittent ponds. The shore line seems to be somewhat protected by the tall cane grass and is not as irregular as where cane grass is absent.
Near Om, (north gable of shack,) is a small slough. The land along this slough is low and covered with tall cane grass. The shore line from Om to A Lake is very irregular, being a series of points and bights.

The land from Om to A Lake is high marsh covered with grass. It is marsh only in wet weather and in dry weather appears to be grassy flats, and is suitable for grazing.

Calcasieu Pass is the outlet from Calcasieu Lake to the Gulf. It is navigable to small boats, tugs and barges but is too full of oyster reefs for craft drawing very much water.

Extending northeast from a point about one third of a mile north of A Lake are the jetties, a stone revetment, built to protect the old channel and now abandoned. The solid line on the sheet represents parts of the structure visible above water at the time the survey was made. The broken line indicates portions covered by water.

Extending down the middle of the lake is a row of pilings used to mark the channel. These are not painted and many have been washed away.

The numbers shown on the sheet were taken from a print issued by the U. S. Engineers Office, New Orleans, dated 1916 and revised to July, 1931.

Another row of pilings marks the new channel leading from the mouth of Calcasieu Pass in a northeasterly direction. There were eight piles in this row when the survey was made but the fourth from the south end has been washed away. These piles, according to the U.S.E. print, are seventy feet west of the dredged channel.

South of the jetties is a row of small islands created by dirt dredged from the channel. One of these is a small trappers shack. (Om Cab).

Cut in the lake are several groups of piles formerly used as foundations for oil derricks. At the time of the survey, one derrick was standing at Om Well. This was used as a hydrographic signal. This derrick has been removed and the topographer was informed that the piles will also be removed in a short time. A crew is employed at the present time in this matter.

NAMES: All names used on the sheet are well established locally. No new names were coined by the topographer.

J. E. Chachere
Topographer

J. C. Bose
Chief of Party
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DESCRIPTIVE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY
TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET (FIELD) NO. H.

INSTRUCTIONS: The survey was made in accordance with Supplemental Instructions from the Director dated September 8, 1933.

LIMITS: The limits of the area surveyed extend from Lat. 29° 49' to Lat 29° 55' and from Long. 93° 19' to Long. 93° 27'. The area includes that part of Calcasieu Lake known locally as West Cove.

CONTROL: stations. The control for the survey consisted of two second order triangulation stations, Long, 1932 and Lake, 1924, a triangulation station established by the U.S. Geological Survey, Bitch, and an intersection station, Old Tower; also located by the U.S. Geological Survey. In addition to these triangulation stations, x-baner targets were established at o Pan, Step, Stv, Asp, Bun, West, Toe, Ball, Cen and Rab. Dead Tree, Lone Tree, Windmill, Mast, and Hat were likewise located by planetable cuts and later used for resection.

TRAVERSES: As sufficient control was furnished by triangulation stations and points graphically located, no traverses were necessary.

LANDMARKS: There are no outstanding landmarks on the sheet. The only points worth considering are o Windmill, a windmill tower on St. John’s Island, and o Mast, the southern mast of two radio antenna masts at Stark’s Clubhouse near the west end of the lake.

DESCRIPTION: The land along the shores of the lake is, generally, marsh. From △ Long, following the north shore of the lake, the land is marsh covered with short marsh grass and occasional patches of tall cane grass. The shore is irregular. Near o Can is a canal dredged in a northwesterly direction for the purpose of hauling shells during construction of Cameron Highway, which lies northwest of the lake. About three quarters of a mile and one mile respectively southwest of this canal are two small bayous. They have no navigational importance. From these two bayous to △ Long, the shore is very irregular, and in general, the land is higher than that from the bayous westward. About 0.4 mile east of o Too is another canal running northwestward, dredged for the purpose of hauling shells to the highway. West of this canal the land is high marsh covered with short grass and intermittent ponds. Around these ponds, usually tall cane grass is found. About halfway between o West and △ Ditch, the high marsh slopes off into low marsh. This extends around the west end of the lake as far as a canal running into the lake from the northwest. This canal also runs to the highway near Stark’s Clubhouse.

From △ Ditch to West Pass, the land is high marsh. Along the shore the ground is high and the shore is irregular. This high ground extends back about 100 meters to marsh. Several small sloughs run from the marsh to the lake. The marsh is covered with short marsh grass.

West Pass is a winding, shallow channel leading from Calcasieu Lake to Calcasieu Pass. It flows into Calcasieu Pass about one and one half miles south of △ Lake. The west end has been dredged as far as Oyster Bayou but the outlet to Calcasieu Lake is full of oyster reefs and is impassable except to very small boats. About three quarters of a mile south of the lake near o Hut (w. gable of trapper’s hut), Oyster Bayou flows into West Pass.

About one mile north of the point at which West Pass leaves the lake, there is an island known locally as Rabbit Island. It is nearly all low marsh but has a fringe of higher ground around the north and east sides. This high ground is covered with small shrubs.
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. 6041

REGISTER NO. 6041

State. LOUISIANA

General locality. Calcasieu Lake

Locality. Southern Part

Scale 1:20,000. Date of survey. September-October, 1934

Vessel. Party No. 6, Project HT - 138

Chief of party. J. C. Rose

Surveyed by. J. E. Chachere

Inked by. J. E. Chachere (shore line); H. R. Burford (symbols and lettering)

Heights in feet above to ground to tops of trees

Contour, Approximate contour, Form line interval feet

Instructions dated. September 8, 1933

Remarks: 

...
St. Johns Island is formed by the lake on the north, West Pass on the South and West, and Calcasieu Passes on the east. The land on this island is high marsh, generally. A ridge runs across the center of the island and is dotted with occasional oak trees. Small shrubs are found along the lake shore. A windmill can be seen from the lake. This land furnishes grazing to large numbers of cattle. Several fishing huts are to be found along the east side of the island. That part of Calcasieu Pass east of the island is full of oyster reefs. At the present time some of these shells are being removed by a dredge.

**NAMES:**
All names used on this sheet are well established locally. No new names were coined by the topographer.

\[Signature\]  
J. E. Chachere  
Topographer

\[Signature\]  
J. C. Rose  
Chief of Party

\[Signature\]  
Applid to Chart 591 4/9/35 - Henry
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. ________

REGISTER NO. 6041

State. __________ LOUISIANA __________

General locality. __________ Calcasieu Lake. __________

Locality. __________ Southern Part. __________

Scale. 1:20,000. Date of survey. October-November, 1933.

Vessel. Party No. 6, Project HT-158

Chief of party. J. E. Pose __________

Surveyed by. J. E. Chachere

Inked by J. E. Chachere (shore line); H. R. Burford (symbols and lettering)

Heights in feet above ground to tops of trees

Contour. Approximate contour. Form line interval ________ feet

Instructions dated. September 8, 1933.

Remarks: Most of survey made in October, 1933; portion near St. John's Island completed March 1934.

applied to chart 591 - 4/27-35 g.h.s.

applied to chart 1271

1/27-35 G.H.S.
Title (Par. 56) Colcasin Lake, Louisiana

Chief of Party J.C. Bate Surveyed by J.E. Chachera Inked by J.E. Chachera

Ship — Instructions dated Sept. 8, 1933 Surveyed in Oct. 1933

1. The survey and preparation for it conform to the requirements of the Topographic Manual. (Par. 7, 8, 9, 13, 16.) Does not comply with Par. 7 as to plotting triangulation, projection etc.

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 — formalines — was accomplished. (Par. 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23.)

5. The delineation of — contours — formalines — is satisfactory. (Par. 49, 80.)

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.) None Submitted

7. High water line on marshy and mangrove coast is clear and adequate for chart compilation. (Par. 16a, 43, 44.)

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

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

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

11. Locations and elevations of summits are given. (Par. 10, 51.)

12. The tree 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, 55, 66, 67.)

14. The descriptive report also contains additional information required in areo-topography relative to type of photographs, 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 DMs and DPs, 68.) Cards submitted

16. A list of landmarks for charts was furnished on Form 567 and plotting checked. (Par. 16d, e, 60.) None submitted

17. The magnetic meridian was shown and declination was checked. (Par. 17, 52.)

18. The geographic datum of the sheet is N.A.27(Adjusted) and the reference station is correctly noted. (Par. 34.)

19. Junctions with contemporary surveys are adequate.

20. Geographic names are shown on the sheet and are covered by the Descriptive report. (Par. 64, 66k.)

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 by

24. Remarks: Mentor is made of clay and is being impassable due to low rise. These are evidently all below water at all stages of the tide.

Reviewed in office by Chas. R. Perine, May 23, 1936

Examined and approved:

[Signatures]

Chief, Section of Field Records
Chief, Section of Field Work
Chief, Division of Charts
Chief, Division of Hyd. and Top.