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

State: Massachusetts

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Locality
Mount Batture Point Beach
Fair Horse Neck to Quicksand Pt.

1934

Chief of Party

Wm. D. Patterson, Lieut.
U.S. Coast & Geodetic Survey
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. "D"

REGISTER NO. 6119

State Massachusetts

General locality Buzzards Bay

Locality Horse Neck to Quicksand Pt.

Scale 1:10,000 Date of survey August 1934

Chief of party Lieut. Wm. D. Patterson, U. S. C. & G. S.

Surveyed by Victor A. Bishop, Surveyor, U.S.C & G.S.

Inked by Charles R. Smith

Heights in feet above to ground to tops of trees

Contour, Approximate contour, Form line interval feet May 14, 1934; Supplemental Instructions dated July 11, 1934

Remarks: 
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY

TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET "D" (Field Letter)

VICINITY OF WESTPORT HARBOR, MASSACHUSETTS.

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DATE OF INSTRUCTIONS

Director's Instructions dated May 14, 1934 and Supplemental Instructions dated July 11, 1934.

LIMIT AND EXTENT

South shore of Massachusetts from Quicksand Point at the junction with Sheet "C" (Field Letter) eastward to a point approximately 2/3 of a mile northeast of Gooseberry Neck, and the Westport River (East & West Branches) to approximately latitude 41° 32' 0".

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF COAST

The shoreline from Quicksand Point eastward to Westport Light is sandy with numerous offshore rocks, some of which are approximately 700 meters from high water line. From the mouth of Westport River eastward to Gooseberry Neck the shore is of an even sandy nature with sand dunes just back of high water line. There are no bare rocks in this area. Around Gooseberry Neck the shoreline is gravelly with rocks extending offshore for approximately 200 meters. On the south end of the Neck a reef which bares at low water extends southward about 400 meters. Another smaller reef extends about 100 meters offshore from a point approximately midway of the eastern shore of the Neck. From Gooseberry Neck eastward to the limit of the sheet the shoreline is a smooth pebble beach. There are beach houses built along the entire ocean shore of this sheet.

In the Westport River, northward from a point 2/3 of a mile north-northwest of Westport Light on the west shore of the west branch of the river the shoreline is irregular, heavily wooded, and rises rapidly. The east shore of the west branch of the river from the bridge at Westport Point northwest to the edge of the sheet is high ground, rising steeply at the shoreline. The west shore of the east branch of the river from a point 400 meters northeast of the bridge to the edge of the sheet, is also high ground, quite irregular and rising abruptly. The east shore of the east branch of the river, from LOW ROCK 1934, northward to the edge of the sheet is very irregular and rather high. All other sections of the river shore, including the islands, are generally very swampy.
CONTROL

All triangulation used for the control of this survey was executed this year and computed on the North American 1927 datum, except for station RED ROOFED HOUSE CHIMNEY 1914. A linear correction of minus 16.1 meters in latitude and plus 2.7 meters in longitude was applied to this station in order to place it on the 1927 datum. Many hydrographic signals were located by plane-table triangulation to furnish control for hydrographic surveys. Generally speaking, triangulation stations were located at rather close intervals but in a few instances permanent topographic stations were established. These are all natural objects and are unmarked. They are described on Form 524 and will be submitted under separate cover.

LANDMARKS

A list of landmarks is submitted under separate cover as a special report.

BRIDGES

There is one bridge located at Westport Point. This bridge is of the draw type but at present there is no way of opening or closing the draw. Horizontal clearance on either side of the central pier is 12 feet. Vertical clearance above mean high water is 3 feet when bridge is closed. There are numerous other openings between the pile piers which support the bridge and small craft are constantly using these as well as the main channel.

Respectfully submitted,

Victor A. Bishop
Victor A. Bishop, Surveyor,
U. S. Coast & Geodetic Survey.

Approved:

Wm. D. Patterson
Lieut.,
Chief of Field Party No. 5.

Statistics:
Area in Sq. Statute Mi.- 16.0
Length of Shoreline in Statute Mi.- 4.5.0

No report on Geographic Names.
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<th>Name on Chart</th>
<th>New Names in local use</th>
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Section of Field Records

REVIEW OF TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY NO. 6119 (1934)

Horseneck to Quicksand Pt., Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts.
Surveyed August 1934
Instructions dated May 14, 1934 and July 11, 1934, (PATTERSON)

Plane Table Survey - Aluminum Mounted

Chief of Party - W. D. Patterson.
Surveyed by - V. A. Bishop.


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

a. No report on Geographic Names was submitted.

b. The notes in regard to rocks awash fail to state at what stage of tide the rocks bare the amount shown. These were assumed to refer to low water and have been so indicated on the sheet.

c. All elevations of bare rocks are in slanting black figures, instead of vertical red figures as required by the Topographic Manual.

d. Positive information regarding the existence or non-existence of rocks located on former surveys and not verified on the present survey was not furnished either on the sheet or in the Descriptive Report.

2. Compliance with Instructions for the Project.

The survey complies with instructions except that the low water line was not located in Westport River. This was probably easier to determine by hydrography.

3. Junction with Contemporary Surveys.

Good junctions were made with T-6118 (1934) and with T-6121 (1934). The junction with T-6120 (1934) is satisfactory except that there is a discrepancy of about 10 meters between the two locations of Signal "AGE" in lat. 41°31'.7, long. 71°02'.85.


a. T-182bis (1844).

This survey is in good agreement with the present survey both in general features and in geographic location of shoreline. Practically all of the rocks shown, on the old survey have been verified. Half Tide Rock shown on this survey in lat. 41°28'.65, long. 71°02'.6 is now marked by a beacon and has been located by triangulation and is shown as H-5622 as Little Southwest Rock Bn. Several rocks in the vicinity of lat. 41°29'.4, long. 71°02'.2 have not been verified in
the new survey and will be disposed of in the review of the contemporary hydrographic survey. There is some difference in the delineation of the low water line but in most cases the low water of the new survey is farther out indicating that the new location was made at a lower stage of tide.

b. T-2217 (1895)

There is a remarkable agreement in shoreline between this survey and the present survey. Particularly is this true in the irregular shoreline and the islands of the East Branch of Westport River. A number of rocks (bare, awash and sunken) originating with the above surveys are in conflict with those on the present survey and have been disposed of in accordance with principles laid down in "instructions for review of topographic surveys". The more important of these so considered are the following:

(1) In the vicinities of lat. 41°30' 0, long. 71°06' 5 and Gooseberry Neck, a number of bare rocks are shown on T-2217 (1895-96) which are not on T-183 (1844) nor on the present survey, and are believed to be a generalized representation of what is more accurately shown on the present survey. This contention is especially true in view of the fact that the topographer of the present survey was in the vicinity during low tide and would certainly have seen the rocks, if they existed, since several rocks awash at M.L.W. were found which were not shown on T-2217 (1895-96). The delineation on the present survey will supersede that shown on T-2217 (1895-96).

(2) A number of rocks (inshore and offshore) which cannot be properly disposed of in this review have been indicated on the present survey in pencil and will be disposed of when the contemporary hydrographic sheet has been reviewed.

5. Field Drafting.

The field inking of the survey is satisfactory.

6. Additional Field Work Recommended.

The survey is complete except for the low water line and the rocks mentioned in par. 4, this review. Inasmuch as the latter features will be disposed of in the review of the contemporary hydrographic survey no additional work is required in connection with this sheet.

7. Superseding Old Surveys.

Insofar as the topography actually covered in the present survey is concerned, it supersedes the following surveys for charting purposes:
T-183 bis (1844) in part.
T-2217 (1895) in part.


Inspected by - A. L. Shalowitz.

Examined and approved:

C. K. Green, Chief, Section of Field Records.
L. O. Dohr, Chief, Division of Charts.

T. F. Borden, Chief, Section of Field Work.

Chief, Division of H. & T.

Applied to drawing of Chart 237 June 11, 1935 - J.F.W.

See Review T-5602 for discussion of discrepancies with this survey.

W. J. H. - F. H. B.