U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey: TOPOGRAPHIC
Field No.: T-8718
Office No.: 

LOCALITY
State: NORTH CAROLINA
General locality: Outer Banks
Locality: CAPE HATTERAS

CHIEF OF PARTY
Lt. Comdr. Riley J. Sipe (Field)
Lt. Comdr. George E. Morris, Jr.

LIBRARY & ARCHIVES
DATE: 

W.O.
DATA RECORD

T-8718

Quadrangle (II): Project No. (II): Ph 5(h5)A


Instructions dated (II III): undated

Completed survey received in office: Sept. 18, 1947

Reported to Nautical Chart Section: Sept. 25, 1947

Reviewed: Oct. 10, 1948

Redrafting Completed:

Compiled: Final Published:

Compilation Scale: 1:10,000 Published Scale: 1:24,000

Scale Factor (III): None

Geographic Datum (III): N.A. 1927 Datum Plane (III): M.S.L.

Reference Station (III): CE B-2, 649 NC-1/3TT-3.1, 1942

Lat.: 35° 14' 19.440" (599.1 mi) Long.: 75° 35' 06.541" (165.1 mi) Adjusted

State Plane Coordinates (VI): NORTH CAROLINA STATE COORDINATE SYSTEM

\[ X = \] \[ Y = \]

Military Grid Zone (VI)
# PHOTOSHAPS (III)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>Stage of Tide</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>6 April '46</td>
<td>1330</td>
<td>1:10,000</td>
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<tr>
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Tide from (III): CAPE HATTERAS

Mean Range: 3.6
Spring Range: 4.3

Camera: (Kind or source) U.S.C.& G.S. 9 lens
B.O. Bryant
E.L. Williams

Field Inspection by: D.G. Flippo
J.R. Smith

Field Edit by: Joseph K. Wilson

date: June 1948

Date of Mean High-Water Line Location (III): 10 - 13 Jan., 1947

Projection and Grids ruled by (III) T.L.J. (W.O.)
" " " " checked by: T.L.J. (W.O.)
date: 31 May 1947

Control plotted by: R. J. Pate
date: 13 June 1947

Control checked by: M. M. Slavney
date: 16 June 1947

Radial Plot by: M. M. Slavney
date: 26 Aug., 1947

Detailed by: R. A. Reese

date: Aug.-Sept. 1947

Reviewed in compilation office by: J. A. Giles
date: Sept., 1947

Elevations on Map Manuscript
checked by: J. A. Giles
date: Sept., 1947
STATISTICS (III)

Land Area (Sq. Statute Miles): 7.7

Shoreline (More than 200 meters to opposite shore): 8.4 Stat. mi.

Shoreline (Less than 200 meters to opposite shore): 2.7 Stat. mi.

Number of Recoverable Topographic Stations established: 5

Number of Temporary Hydrographic Stations located by radial plot: None

Leveling (to control contours) - miles: 1.8 Stat. mi.

Roman numerals indicate whether the item is to be entered by, (II) Field Party, (III) Compilation Party, or, (VI) the Washington Office.

When entering names of personnel on this record give the surname and initials (not initials only).

Remarks:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATION</th>
<th>SOURCE OF INFORMATION (INDEX)</th>
<th>DATUM</th>
<th>LATITUDE OR y-COORDINATE</th>
<th>DISTANCE FROM GRID IN FEET, OR PROJECTION LINE IN METERS</th>
<th>N.A. 1927-DATUM DISTANCE FROM GRID OR PROJECTION LINE IN METERS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pipe Station CE B-2, 1942</td>
<td>CE pp. 499</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>35° 14' 19.440</td>
<td>599.1 (1249.9)</td>
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<td>Grass, 1947</td>
<td>3 pt. fix. Pos. Comp.</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>35° 13' 42.645</td>
<td>1314.2 (534.8)</td>
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<td>Pipe Station CE B-1, 1942</td>
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<td>n</td>
<td>35° 37' 29.243</td>
<td>739.5 (777.8)</td>
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</table>

1 ft. = 304.8096 m

Statement to Accompany Descriptive Report

1. The map is composed of one topographic map manuscript, scale 1:10,000. The southern half of the area is water and no manuscript was prepared.

2. The several mapping operations were:
   (a) 9-lens aerial photography and laboratory processing, 1:10,000 scale.
   (b) The field survey included identification of shoreline, identification of horizontal and vertical control, planable contouring, clarification of photographic details, geographic names and boundary investigation.
   (c) Compilation by graphic methods.
   (d) Preliminary office inspection.
   (e) Field edit.
   (f) Final review of both map manuscripts to insure completeness and conformance with specifications, and to include corrections in accordance with the field edit survey of Yarn N
c
g. Processing
   Composite 1:20,000 scale blue line reductions are being prepared for smooth drafting. There will not be a 1:20,000 scale manuscript.

3. The map and the adjoining quadrangles will be published and distributed by the Geological Survey, in accordance with an agreement of March 25, 1947.

4. Data pertaining to the map will be filed and may be obtained as follows:
   (a) Filed in the Division of Photogrammetry
       (1) A map, scale 1:10,000, map manuscript, field edit and final review corrections applied, and field edit sheet.
   (b) Filed in Coast and Geodetic Survey Archives
       (1) Descriptive Report
       (2) 1:10,000 scale, cloth mounted photographic print of map manuscript.
       (3) The above print is to be permanently registered and when the map is published, a cloth backed copy of the published map will also be registered.

Oct. 22, 1947

[Signature] T. L. Gorvett, Cartographer, Photogrammetrist
FIELD INSPECTION REPORT
T-8718 (35° 07.'5"/75° 30.'7'5")
Project Ph-5 (45)
Sub-project A

Riley J. Sipe, Chief of Party

All phases of field work were completed in accordance with the Director's Instructions, Project Ph-5 (45), Field; and Instructions-Project Ph-5 (45) - Field, Supplement 1, dated 11 December, 1946, except for deviations herein noted.

The field work on these quadrangles was completed by the following personnel:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME AND TITLE</th>
<th>FIELD WORK</th>
<th>DATES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I. Y. Fitzgerald Photo. Aid</td>
<td>Shoreline Inspection</td>
<td>10 Jan - 13 Jan., 1947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. J. Hathorn Photogrammetrist</td>
<td>Horizontal Control</td>
<td>10 Jan - 15 Jan., 1947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. O. Bryant Photo. Aid</td>
<td>Contours &amp; Interior Inspection</td>
<td>16 Dec, 1946-15 Jan, 1947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J. R. Smith Engr. Aid</td>
<td>Contours &amp; Interior Inspection</td>
<td>16 Dec, 1946-15 Jan, 1947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. G. Flippo Photo. Aid</td>
<td>Contours &amp; Interior Inspection</td>
<td>16 Dec, 1946-15 Jan, 1947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. L. Williams Engr. Aid</td>
<td>Contours &amp; Interior Inspection</td>
<td>16 Dec, 1946-15 Jan, 1947</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Description of the Area:

That portion of the Outer Banks (which are 30 miles off the North Carolina Coast) lying south of an imaginary line through the Buxton Woods from Cape Hatteras to the Village of Frisco comprises the land area of this quadrangle.

The land area is divided roughly into two strips; one wooded with many ridges of dunes separated by marsh; and, the other section sandy with a multitude of dunes. The wooded area is wedge shaped with the base of the wedge extending from Pamlico Sound at Frisco south almost to the Atlantic Ocean and tapering to a point NW of the Cape. The ridges in this area vary from 5 to 60 feet above M.S.L. and are extremely irregular and heavily wooded. At a very few places it is possible to cross from one ridge to another. Generally the marshes are impenetrable and the ridges must
be entered at their beginning. There is one trail (extending along
the base of a ridge about halfway between the main road and the
sand dunes) which crosses the width of the quadrangle through the woods.

The sandy or beach area in juxtaposition to the wooded area
extends from the eastern to the western quadrangle limits. It is
bordered on the south by the Atlantic Ocean. Elevations range
from sea level to 60 feet. A high sand ridge is along the edge of
and constantly encroaching upon the woods.

In the NE corner of the quadrangle are the ruins of an abandon-
ed C.C.C. camp and the buildings of the Cape Hatteras Coast Guard
Station. From there (with the exception of a small shack) to Frisco
there are no buildings. Frisco has a population of 100.

2. Completeness of Field Inspections:

Field inspection is felt to be adequate and complete. For
details refer to appropriate paragraph headings below.

3. Interpretation of the Photographs:

Nine lens, 1/10,000 scale photographs were used in all the field
work. No great difficulty was encountered in interpretation.

4. Horizontal Control:

The specially located control station off the center of photograph
#16022 was established with a Three-Point Fix (and a check angle)
of third order accuracy. The station is marked with a topographic
monument (SACK-1947).

A companion station (B-1, not shown on control index) of B-2,
649 NC-1/3TI-3.1 was recovered along with B-2, and a complete new
description submitted. Recovery of B-1 has been disregarded, because the geodetic
position for B-1 is not available.

The only other triangulation station (SHORE-1921) in this quad-
rangle was not found after a thorough search.

5. Vertical Control:

National Park Service bench marks with adjusted elevations were
used for control of contours. In extreme NW corner of the quadrangle,
two spot elevations (BU 19 - BU 20) were established by fly levels.
(See report for Quadrangle T-874)

6. Contours and Drainage:

Contouring was done directly on 9-lens photos, 1/10,000 scale.
Planimetral methods were used. The stereoscope was used to the fullest
extent before beginning and after contouring each day's work.

A five foot contour parallels the M.H.W. line of the Atlantic
Ocean. Immediately north of this a narrow ridge of dunes extends
the full width of the quadrangle. The dunes in this ridge range in
elevation from 9.6 feet to 14 feet. They are very close together.
A ten foot contour encloses this ridge. Though not exact, this
contour still is within limits and gives a good representation of the terrain. This specific example is cited because the handling of it is generally true of all the contouring when the terrain is often more complex, with tiny depressions and many peaks. To the field party this seemed the only economical and physical answer to the contouring problems in this quadrangle.

Contouring for Quadrangle T-8714, T-8718, and T-8717 was done where necessary on the same photographs and the quadrangle limits disregarded. Instead the center chamber of each photograph governed the area to be contoured.

There is no definite drainage pattern. In the wooded area, however, the marshes drain generally from the high ridges along the south edge of the woods north to other marshes and then westward toward Pamlico Sound.

7. **Mean High Water Line:**

The mean high water line was located by measurements from identifiable points of detail where possible.

The shoreline at Cape Hatteras, on either side of the point and the point itself, undergoes frequent changes. The mean high water line in this area was located by planable methods directly on the photographs.

8. **Low Water Line:**

The mean low water line was not delineated along the Atlantic Ocean.

The mean low water line along the Pamlico Sound is synonymous with the mean high water line as there is no perceptible periodic tide.

9. **Wharves and Shoreline Structures:**

There are no wharves or shoreline structures in the area of this quadrangle.

10. **Details Offshore from High Water Line:**

Adequately covered on photographs.

11. **Landmarks and Aids to Navigation:**

Form #557 submitted for all Landmarks and Aids to Navigation.

12. **Hydrographic Control:**

Existing horizontal control was supplemented by recoverable topographic stations to furnish the required control for hydrography.
13. Landing Fields and Aeronautical Aids:

There are no landing fields or aeronautical aids in the area.

14. Roads:

A portion of the main road from Hatteras to Buxton lies in the NW corner of this quadrangle. This is the most important road in the quadrangle. The only other roads lie along the eastern end of the quadrangle.

15. Bridges:

There are no bridges within the limits of this quadrangle.

16. Buildings:

Adequately covered on photographs.

17. Boundaries:

No boundaries were shown on photographs. The legal description of all boundaries affecting this quadrangle will be submitted with all other boundary information for Project Ph-5(45)A. These descriptions contain all the available information for placing them on the map manuscript. Special Report on Boundaries, Ph S, filed in General Files of the Division of Photogrammetry.

18. Geographic Names:

Geographic names information will be incorporated in a special geographic name report by A. J. Wraith, Topographic Engineer.

Special report on Geographic Names, Ph S, filed in Geographic Names Section of the Div. of Charts.

Submitted:
24 February, 1947

E. L. Williams
Engr. Aid

Approved:
March, 1947

Riley J. Sipe
Chief of Party
COMPILATION REPORT
To Accompany
QUADRANGLE - T-8718

26 & 27 CONTROL AND RADIAL PLOT:

Subject of a special report to be submitted by Milton M. Slavney, Photogrammetric Engineer. Radial Plot report, filed in General Files of the Division of Photogrammetry.

28 DELINEATION:

The nine lens photographs used for this quadrangle were of fair scale, and satisfactory for delineation.

The field inspection was fair, but not complete in all instances. The recovery of the mean high-water line was very sketchy as a whole, and should be accepted only as reasonably correct.

The limits of some areas indicated as marsh are difficult to determine. It is believed that some unidentified areas on the field inspection photographs may be marsh but the compiler was not certain. Such areas in question are noted on the discrepancy overlay.

Contours were taken from the nine lens field photographs. No unusual difficulties were encountered in their delineation.

Pass points established by the main radial plot were almost sufficient for complete delineation. A few detail points had to be cut in where they were deemed necessary.

29 SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:

None used.

30 MEAN HIGH-WATER LINE:

See field inspectors report item No. 7. Questionable shoreline not located by the field inspector is noted on the discrepancy overlay. Shoreline discrepancies were reconciled by field editor and reviewer.

31 LOW-WATER AND SHOAL LINES:

No attempt was made to show the low-water line on this quadrangle. See field inspectors report item No. 8.

32 DETAILS OFFSHORE FROM HIGH-WATER LINE:

None

33 WHARVES AND SHORELINE STRUCTURES:

None

34 LANDMARKS AND AIDS TO NAVIGATION:

The landmarks recovered are being submitted with this report on Form No. 567.
35 HYDROGRAPHIC CONTROL:

See field inspectors report item No. 12.

36 LANDING FIELDS AND AERONAUTICAL AIDS:

None

37 POLITICAL BOUNDARIES:

No data relative to boundaries have been received from the field party. See item 17 Field inspectors report. Report received and filed in general files of the Div. of Photogrammetry.

38 CONTOURS:

Contours were transferred directly from the field inspection photographs to the map manuscript. The areas contoured are sand dunes and rise to a maximum height of 60 feet.

39 GEOGRAPHIC NAMES:

No geographic name data have been received in the Tampa office as of 10 Sept., 1947. Report received and filed in Geographic Names Section of the Div. of Charts.

44 COMPARISON WITH EXISTING TOPOGRAPHIC QUADRANGLES:

There are no topographic quadrangles available in this office for comparison.

45 COMPARISON WITH NAUTICAL CHARTS:

A comparison was made with U.S.C. & G.S. Chart No. 1232, having a print date of 25 Feb., 1946. The change that the shoreline at Cape Hatteras has undergone is considerable. The point of beach has receded northwardly for a distance of more than one thousand (1,000.0) meters. In the area just west of Hatteras Cove, the L. W. Line on the Nautical Chart has become the H. W. Line on the Map Manuscript.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard A. Reece
Richard A. Reece
Engineering Draftsman

Approved and Forwarded:

George E. Morris, Jr.
Chief of Party.
I recommend that the following objects which have been inspected from seaward to determine their value as landmarks be charted on the charts indicated.

The positions given have been checked after listing by

<table>
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<th>CHARTING NAME</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>SIGNAL NAME</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAPE HATTERAS LORAN</td>
<td>304 feet above ground</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>311 feet above MSL</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Triangular shaped</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Skeleton steel tower</td>
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<table>
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<th>CHARTS AFFECTED</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1110</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1232</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This form shall be prepared in accordance with Hydrographic Manual, pages 800 to 804. Positions of charted landmarks and nonfloating aids to navigation, if redetermined, shall be reported on this form. The data should be considered for the charts of the area and not by

\[ L.172(1949) \]
FIELD EDIT REPORT
Quadrangle T-8713
35°07', 5-75°30'/7.5
Project Ph-5(45)
Riley J. Sipe, Chief of Party

The field edit of this quadrangle was completed during June, 1943 by Joseph K. Wilson, Cartographer.

46. METHODS

This quadrangle was inspected by truck, traversing all existing roads. All features added to the map compilation were either cut in by planetable methods or from measurements from topographic features.

Reference to the letter from Chief, Division of Photogrammetry (Field Edit of the Barrier Beaches) dated 18 May 1943, to Lieut. Comdr. Riley J. Sipe.

47. ADEQUACY OF THE COMPILATION

The compilation was found to be adequate and complete except for a few omissions made during the field inspection and changes since that inspection.

A portion of the new road from the village of Hatteras to the village of Avon has been delineated by planetable on a copy of the double weight print of the map manuscript. See field edit report for quadrangle T-8714.

Attention is called to the boundary of the Cape Hatteras State Park. After a thorough investigation, no concrete information could be obtained. It seems as if the park will include all of the old C.C.C. property, but at the present time nothing has been done.

Attention is called to the shoreline in the immediate vicinity of Cape Hatteras. During the field edit, measured distances were made from identifiable topographic features and in general the mean high-water line is correct as shown on the map compilation. It is to be noted that the area just south of the point of Cape Hatteras is more subject to changes than to the north. The note, as is now on the map compilation in regard to the changes, is adequate.

All roads have been reclassified according to Photogrammetry Instructions No. 10, dated 14 April 1947.
48. **ACCURACY TESTS**

There were no accuracy tests specified for this quadrangle.

18. **GEOGRAPHIC NAMES**

The geographic names as appear on the name sheets were verified in the field and are correct as shown.

The map was examined for possible errors by Mr. F. L. Peele of Hatteras. Mr. Peele has been a resident of the vicinity for over forty years and is highly familiar with the area. He could find no errors.

Submitted:
25 June 1948

Joseph K. Wilson
Joseph K. Wilson
Cartographer, Photo.

Approved:
25 June 1948

Riley Sipe
Chief, of Party
See Form 567 for additional triangulation stations. To be charted as a landmark, 'Pape Hotton', year 2004. "Triangular-shaped shellton at Kauru, 1949+"
DIVISION OF PHOTOGRAMMETRY
Review Report of
Topographic Map Manuscript T-8718

Subject numbers not used in this report have been adequately covered in other parts of the Descriptive Report.

26 Control

National Park Service bench marks are located at half mile intervals along the barrier beach, and are described as mile posts, MP 64, MP 64.5, etc. Recovered bench marks have been shown on the map manuscript by the appropriate BM symbol.

28 Detailing

The original delineation was adequate except for corrections and changes in woodland cover. The woodland cover was adjusted by the reviewer to comply with Memorandum Instructions of Woodland Cover, dated August 18, 1948.

30 Mean High Water Line

The mean high water line has been delineated as of the date of photography, and supplemented by the field inspection. The action of wind, tide, current, and shifting sands, cause frequent changes in the shoreline and it is subject to continual change.

37 Political Boundaries

Boundaries were investigated by the field inspection party and the subject is adequately covered by a Special Report of Boundaries PH-5, filed in the general files of the Division of Photogrammetry.

The Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreation Area, mentioned in the Special Boundary Report is not applicable to this map. The project is in a planning stage, making the final boundaries and date of materialization very questionable.

The field inspection and field edit parties were unable to obtain sufficient information for the delineation of the Cape Hatteras State Park Boundaries. The park is shown on the Map Manuscript, by name only.

39 Geographic Names

Geographic Names were investigated by the Field Inspection Party and have been approved by the Geographic Names Section of the Division of Charts. Attached, following the review report, is a list of all Geographic Names for this survey. A special Geographic Names Report for PH-5 is filed in the Geographic Names Section of the Division of Charts.
41. Comparison with Existing Topographic Surveys

Comparison was made with the following Topographic Surveys. All common topographic features are superseded by T-8718.

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<th>Survey Number</th>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>3836</td>
<td>1:5,000</td>
<td>1921</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

45 Comparison with Nautical Charts

Refer to subheading 45 of Compilation Report.

47 Adequacy of Compilation

An examination of map manuscript T-8718 reveals it to be complete in all details as a topographic quadrangle and as a base map for common area nautical charts and hydrographic surveys.

48 Accuracy Test

Horizontal

No horizontal accuracy test was made. The combination of adequate 9-lens photographic coverage, 9-lens radial plot methods and adequate horizontal control insures a horizontal accuracy equal to or better than National Map Accuracy Standards.

Due to the unstable shoreline and shifting dunes, the accuracy applies to the delineation of details as of the date of photography supplemented by field inspection and field edit surveys.

Vertical

No vertical accuracy test was made. The unstable characteristics of the dunes render any test useless.

Accuracy Statement

The published map will carry the following statement: "This map complies with the National Standards of Map Accuracy" supplemented by appropriate statements on unstable features.

Reviewed by:

Harland R. Cravat 10/22/48

Approved by:

S. V. Griffith
Chief, Review Section 3

H. A. Wadsworth
Chief, Nautical Chart Branch
Division of Charts
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name on Survey</th>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>Cape Hatteras Coast Guard Sta.</td>
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* = Decis. of BGN.  
Underlined names approved.  
10-21-48.
I recommend that the following objects which have been inspected from seaward to determine their value as landmarks, be (deleted from) the charts indicated.

The positions given have been checked after listing by I. Y. Fitzgerald

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>CHARTING NAME</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>SIGNAL NAME</th>
<th>LATITUDE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE</th>
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<th>DATE OF LOCATION</th>
<th>CHARTS AFFECTED</th>
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<td>75 32</td>
<td>1927</td>
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<td>Church in Frisco</td>
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This form shall be prepared in accordance with Hydrographic Manual, pages 800 to 804. Positions of charted landmarks and nonfloating aids or landmarks for charts.
I recommend that the following objects which have been inspected from seaward to determine their value as landmarks, be charted on the charts indicated.

The positions given have been checked after listing by R. R. Wagner, Tampa Photogrammetric Office.

R. J. Sipe
Chief of Party.

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<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
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<tr>
<td>CHARTING NAME</td>
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<td>DESCRIPTION</td>
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L. 334 (1948)
## NAUTICAL CHARTS BRANCH

### SURVEY NO. 82/8

**Record of Application to Charts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
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<th>REMARKS</th>
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<td>12-32</td>
<td>C. Wilson</td>
<td>Before After Verification and Review √</td>
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Before After Verification and Review

Before After Verification and Review

Before After Verification and Review

Before After Verification and Review

Before After Verification and Review

Before After Verification and Review

Before After Verification and Review

Before After Verification and Review

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Before After Verification and Review

Before After Verification and Review

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A basic hydrographic or topographic survey supersedes all information of like nature on the uncorrected chart. Give reasons for deviations, if any, from recommendations made under "Comparison with Charts" in the Review.