# DESCRIPITIVE REPORT

**Type of Survey**  Topographic  

**Field No.**  T-9190  
**Office No.**  T-9190  
**Project Ph-36(48)B**

## LOCALITY

**State**  Texas  
**General locality**  Padre Island  
**Locality**  Corpus Christi Pass

---

**1957**

**CHIEF OF PARTY**

George E. Lorris, Jr., Chief of Field Party  
Hubert A. Paton, Baltimore Photo. Office

**LIBRARY & ARCHIVES**

**DATE**  Apr. 5, 1955
DATA RECORD

T - 9190

Project No. (II): Ph-36(48)B Quadrangle Name (IV): Crane Islands SW

Field Office (II): Corpus Christi, Texas Chief of Party: George E. Morris, Jr.

Photogrammetric Office (III): Baltimore, Md. Officer-in-Charge: Hubert A. Paton

Instructions dated (II) (III): 14 February 1949 June 1949
Supplement No. 2 (field) 26 June 1949 and 28 July 1949 Copy filed in Division of
Office Files

Method of Compilation (III): GRAPHIC

Manuscript Scale (III): 1:20,000

Stereoscopic Plotting Instrument Scale (III):

Scale Factor (III): 1.000

Date received in Washington Office (IV):

Date reported to Nautical Chart Branch (IV):

Applied to Chart No. 493 Date: 11-19-51 Date registered (IV): 10-9-52

Publication Scale (IV): 1:24,000

Publication date (IV):

Geographic Datum (III): N. A. 1927

Vertical Datum (III):

Mean sea level except as follows:
Elevations shown as (2) refer to mean high water
Elevations shown as (2) refer to sounding datum
i.e., mean low water or mean lower low water

Reference Station (III): SCHUB, 1933

Lat.: 27° 38' 21.084" (649.0 m) Long.: 97° 13' 30.788" (844.1 m) Adjusted

Plane Coordinates (IV):

State: Texas Zone: South

Y =

X =

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

When entering names of personnel on this record give the surname and initials, not initials only.
Areas contoured by various personnel
(Show name within area)
(II) (III)
DATA RECORD

Field inspection by (II): B.F. Lampton
Date: July, 1949

Planetary contouring by (II): J. Clark
W. Gottlisch
B.F. Lampton
Date: June, July, 1949

Completion Surveys by (II): W. W. Shearer
Date: 15 October 1951

Mean High Water Location (III) (State date and method of location): April 1949
sketched on field photographs by planetary methods.

Projection and Grids ruled by (IV): T. L. Janson
Date: 9-13-49

Projection and Grids checked by (IV): T. L. Janson
Date: 9-13-49

Control plotted by (III): W. L. Lineweaver
Date: 9-14-49

Control checked by (III): Frank J. Tarcza
Date: 9-19-49

Radial Plot or

Control (III): Frank J. Tarcza
Date: 23 Sept. 1949

Stereoscopic Instrument compilation (III):
Planimetry
Contours

Manuscript delineated by (III): Leroy A. Senasack
Date: 6 Sept. 1950

Photogrammetric Office Review by (III): Joseph W. Vonasek
Date: 18 Sept. 1950

Elevations on Manuscript
checked by (II) (III):

J. W. Vonasek
Date: 15 Sept. 1950
Camera (kind or source) (III): USGS Single lens, single lens, type 0, Focal length 6 inches

<table>
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<td>12-8-48</td>
<td>1045</td>
<td>1:20,000</td>
<td>Not computed</td>
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<tr>
<td>48-0-1131</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>n</td>
<td><em>(Tide negligible)</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>48-0-1599 to 1604 incl. 12-9-48</em></td>
<td>1125</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>n</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>48-0-1668 to 1670</em></td>
<td>n</td>
<td>1151</td>
<td>n</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>25761</em></td>
<td>5-4-50</td>
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<td>5-4-50</td>
<td>1459</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

*Not used in radial plot.*

Reference Station: Galveston, Texas
Subordinate Station: The mean range of tide is less than 1/2 foot in the Laguna Madre

Washington Office Review by (IV): C. Haarovich

Final Drafting by (IV): None

Drafting verified for reproduction by (IV): None

Proof Edit by (IV): None

Land Area (Sq. Statute Miles) (III): 10
Shoreline (More than 200 meters to opposite shore) (III): 16 Statute miles
Shoreline (Less than 200 meters to opposite shore) (III): 4 statute miles
Control Leveling - Miles (II): 10.7
Number of Triangulation Stations searched for (II): 2
Recovered: 1
Identified: 1
Number of BMs searched for (II): 2
Recovered: 0
Identified: 0
Number of Recoverable Photo Stations established (III): None
Number of Temporary Photo Hydro Stations established (III): None

Remarks: In the Laguna Madre area, the mean range of tide is less than 1/2 foot.
SUMMARY 8-9190

Project PH-36(48) consists of fifty-two quadrangles at 1:20,000, each 7.5 minutes in latitude and longitude, covering the Gulf Coast of Texas and the Intracoastal Waterway from Aransas Bay to Brownsville and the Mexican Border. Adjoining the project to the north is a series of shoreline surveys in Part IV of Project PH-14(46).

Information concerning PH-36(48) in its broader aspects will be included in a project completion report to be compiled at the conclusion of the review of all surveys in this project.

Twenty-six of the quadrangles in this project are topographic surveys and are to be published at 1:12,000 scale by the Geological Survey. The other twenty-six quadrangles are planimetric surveys. Of these, nineteen are to be used as bases by the Geological Survey for the compilation of 7.5 minute topographic quadrangles and will not be published as planimetric maps. The remaining seven, T-9175, T-9176, T-9177, T-9181, T-9189, T-9201, and T-9206, will be published as planimetric maps.

Cloth-backed lithographic prints of the original manuscript at compilation scale and the descriptive reports for all maps in this project will be filed in the Bureau Archives. Cloth-backed copies of the published topographic quadrangles at 1:20,000 scale will also be filed.

All special reports except the Geog. Names Report will be filed in the Project Completion Report.
2. **AREAL FIELD INSPECTION.**

The quality of the photographs was adequate.

The area includes a portion of Padre Island and some spoil islands created by the dredging of the new Intracoastal Waterway. At the northern edge of the quadrangle, there are several old passes, which almost cross the island, but are now closed. South of these, there is a ridge of high sand dunes paralleling and adjacent to the beach. Some of these are well anchored with grass and appear almost black on the photographs. Others are shifting and appear white, with occasional black patches of grass.

Adjacent to the ridge and immediately west, there is a low grassy valley, which is being used as a pasture. It appears as various shades of gray on the photographs. Where the coastal ridge is shifting, sand is spilling into the valley and threatens to cross it. Attention is called to Station ZERO, 1949. In July, 1949, the sand was approximately six feet from the station, about 100 feet further west than at the time the photographs were taken.

The darkest tones in the valley are grassy depressions where rainwater seeps into the ground. Water does not remain in these long enough for them to be classified as intermittent ponds or marsh.

Along the western edge of the valley, there is a series of partially grass covered dunes, rising from the floor of the valley and in most cases, completely separated from each other. West of these is a strip of shifting sand dunes, varying from 1/4 to 1 mile wide. These are long ridges running approximately east and west, sloping from a maximum elevation on the east end to a minimum on the west. The dunes sit on a fairly stable floor, which may be identified by the darker, gray tone on the photograph. The floor also has its maximum elevation on the east side, sloping to the west, and for the most part, continuing to form the shoreline.

There are a few stable grassy patches along the west side of the island, but they are in danger of being covered by sand.

3. **HORIZONTAL CONTROL.**

Triangulation Station FISH, 1933, was reported destroyed on Form 526.

Horizontal control was identified on photographs 48-0-1129 and 1130.
4. VERTICAL CONTROL.

As there are no bench marks in the quadrangle, a closed loop of
fly levels was run from Mustang Island Tidal Bench Mark No. 1 through
T-9188( ) into this quadrangle to furnish vertical control for
contouring.

5. CONTOURS AND DRAINAGE.

Contouring was done by planetable methods on 1:20,000 scale ratio
prints of single-lens photographs taken at 1:40,000 scale, Nos. 48-0-
1130, 31. Much of the area consists of shifting sand dunes and was
not contoured. A number of spot elevation have been shown in these
areas. Spot elevations shaded and a general note was made indi-
ating the range in the heights of the shifting sand dunes.

The sand dunes are very steep, with small peaks, and on most of
them, the highest contour is too small to be shown.

There is no drainage except for some intermittent streams con-
necting ponds and intermittent ponds near the northern edge.

6. WOODLAND COVER.

The only vegetation that should be mapped is a small area of
scrub near the northern edge. It has a very dark tone and is easily
identifiable.

7. SHORELINE AND ALONGSHORE FEATURES.

The mean high water line along the east side of Padre Island is
that of the typical open sand beach. Mean high water line was located
by reference distances from identifiable points of detail at frequent
intervals. It was found that there had been no perceptible change in
the mean high water line since the date of photography.

The mean high water line of Laguna Madre along the western shore
of Padre Island was very difficult to determine. There were no lines
of debris or vegetation to guide the field inspector. This shoreline
is gradually building out into Laguna Madre because of the action of
the prevailing southeast winds upon the shifting sand dunes. As this
sand is gradually moving into the lagoon, there is very little water
along the shoreline. The water is very clear. As a result, the
photographs show no recognizable change of tone at the water line.
This mean high water line was located by reference distances from
points of identifiable detail where possible to do so. In most of the
area, this was not possible and the mean high water line was located
by plane table directly on the photographs. The plane table was set
up over a point of identifiable detail and oriented on a second point
of detail located as near the principal point of the photograph as
possible. Distances were read in feet and plotted in meters at 1:20,000
Inspection of the mean high water line of the Gulf of Mexico side of Padre Island was done on contact prints, Nos. 48-0-1599 to 48-0-1604 inclusive. Inspection of the mean high water line along Laguna Madre side of Padre Island was done on contact prints, Nos. 48-0-1668 to 48-0-1670 inclusive. See side heading 67 of the Review Report.

The mean low water line was not located because of condition of the surf at the time of field inspection, making a definite determination of the mean low water line impossible.

8. OFFSHORE FEATURES.

Adequately covered by the photographs.

9. LANDMARKS AND AIDS.

There are no landmarks in the quadrangle. There are two fixed aids to navigation. Chart Letter 268(50)

Fixed aids to navigation are covered in "Special Report, Location of Aids to Navigation, Project Ph-36(48), Latitude 28° 00' to Baffin Bay."

10. BOUNDARIES, MONUMENTS, AND LINES.

See "Special Report, Boundaries, Project Ph-36(48), Latitude 28° 00' to Baffin Bay."

11. OTHER CONTROL.

The only road runs from the end of the old Don Patricio Causeway southward into the quadrangle. The south end of the road is now covered with sand. The rest is still usable, but should be classified as abandoned.

Nueces County is planning a new road from the end of the causeway now under construction, but the location is still tentative and should be investigated during field edit. Some parks and buildings on the island are still in the planning stage, located by field editor. See field edit report, side heading 81 of 32.

13. GEOGRAPHIC NAMES.

See "Special Report, Geographic Names, Project Ph-36(48), Aransas Pass to Baffin Bay."

14. SPECIAL REPORT AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA.


Records, Quadrangle T-9190( ) forwarded to Washington 1 August 1949 on letter of transmittal Ph-36, Field 25.

Submitted:

B. Frank Lampton, Jr.
Cartographic Survey Aid.

Approved:

George E. Morris, Jr.,
Chief of Party.
<table>
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<th>STATION</th>
<th>SOURCE OF INFORMATION (INDEX)</th>
<th>DATUM</th>
<th>LATITUDE OR $\nu$-COORDINATE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE OR $x$-COORDINATE</th>
<th>DISTANCE FROM GRID IN FEET OR PROJECTION LINE IN METERS</th>
<th>DATUM CORRECTION</th>
<th>N.A. 1927 - DATUM DISTANCE FROM GRID OR PROJECTION LINE IN METERS</th>
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1 FT. = 0.3048006 METER
COMPUTED BY: Millard F. Kirk
DATE: 6 Sept. 1949
CHECKED BY: J. Steinberg
DATE: 13 Sept. 1949
COMPILATION REPORT
T - 9190

PHOTOGRAMMETRIC PLOT REPORT

Refer to radial plot report for this area which is part of the descriptive report for T-9175.

31. DELINEATION

This survey was delineated by graphic methods only.

32. CONTROL

The identification, density, and placement of the horizontal control was adequate.

33. SUPPLEMENTAL DATA

Geographic names standard No. 2, dated 4 November 1949 was furnished by the Washington Office.

Special Report Boundaries—Aransas Bay to Baffin Bay, Project Ph-36 (48).

Boundary Sheet 2, Kleberg County, General Land Office.

Boundary Sheet 3, Nueces County Highway Map.

Special Report, Location of Aids to Navigation, Project Ph-36(48) latitude 28° 00' to Baffin Bay.

Special Report on Supplemental Control, Project Ph-36(48) latitude 28° 00' to Baffin Bay.

34. CONTOURS AND DRAINAGE

Refer to item 5 of this report.

35. SHORELINE AND ALONGSHORE DETAILS

Refer to item 7 of this report.

Shoreline inspection was adequate.

Shoal lines were delineated from office interpretation of the photographs.

36. OFFSHORE DETAILS

Refer to item 8 of this report.
37. **LANDMARKS AND AIDS**

Refer to item 9 of this report.

Form 567 for 2 non-floating aids to be charted are being submitted with this report.

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38. **CONTROL FOR FUTURE SURVEYS**

Forms 524 for a total of four recoverable topographic stations are being submitted with this report. A list of the four stations is included in item 49 of this report.

39. **JUNCTIONS**

Junctions with Survey No. T-9188 to the north and T-9189 to the west have been made and are in agreement. To the east and south are water areas. Junctions with T-9189 on the west.

40. **HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL ACCURACY**

No comment.

41 through 45.

Inapplicable.

46. **COMPARISON WITH EXISTING MAPS**

There were no topographic quadrangles available which cover the area of this manuscript.

47. **COMPARISON WITH NAUTICAL CHARTS**

This manuscript has been compared with USGS Chart No. 1286, scale 1:80,000, published October 1942 corrected to 1 August 1949.
47. **COMPARISON WITH NAUTICAL CHARTS** (continued)

Items to be applied to nautical charts immediately:
None

Items to be carried forward
None.

Respectfully submitted
6 September 1950

Leroy A. Senasack
Cartographic Survey Aid

Approved and forwarded
September 1950

Hubert A. Paton
Comdr., USC&GS
Officer in Charge
GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

Fourmile Hill
Gulf of Mexico
Intracoastal Waterway
Laguna Madre
Packery Channel
Padre Island
Nueces County
Kleberg County
Commissioner Precinct {precincts are not shown; this is in accordance with the area's topographic instructions.
No. 4

Names underlined in red are approved.
4-16-51.
L. Heck.
49. NOTES FOR THE HYDROGRAPHER

The following is a tabulation of recoverable topographic stations shown on the manuscript:

NUCSES-KLEBERG COUNTY LINE MARKER, 1949
NUCSES-KLEBERG COUNTY LINE MARKER, 1949
YARD, 1949
ZERO, 1949
PHOTOGRAMMETRIC OFFICE REVIEW

T. 9190

1. Projection and grids

2. Title

3. Manuscript numbers

4. Manuscript size

CONTROL STATIONS

5. Horizontal control stations of third-order or higher accuracy

6. Recoverable horizontal stations of less than third-order accuracy (topographic stations)

7. Photo hydro-stations

8. Bench marks

9. Plotting of sextant fixes

10. Photogrammetric plot report

11. Detail points

ALONGSHORE AREAS

(Nautical Chart Data)

12. Shoreline

13. Low-water line

14. Rocks, shoals, etc.

15. Bridges

16. Aids to navigation

17. Landmarks

18. Other alongshore physical features

19. Other alongshore cultural features

PHYSICAL FEATURES

20. Water features

21. Natural ground cover

22. Planetary contours

23. Stereoscopic instrument contours

24. Contours in general

25. Spot elevations

26. Other physical features

CULTURAL FEATURES

27. Roads

28. Buildings

29. Railroads

30. Other cultural features

BOUNDARIES

31. Boundary lines

32. Public land lines

MISCELLANEOUS

33. Geographic names

34. Junctions

35. Legibility of the manuscript

36. Discrepancy overlay

37. Descriptive Report

38. Field inspection photographs

39. Forms

Reviewer

Supervisor, Review Section or Unit

MISCELLANEOUS

40. Remarks (see attached sheet)

FIELD COMPLETION ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO THE MANUSCRIPT

42. Additions and corrections furnished by the field completion survey have been applied to the manuscript. The manuscript is now complete except as noted under item 43.

Compiler

Supervisor

43. Remarks:
I recommend that the following objects which have (have not) been inspected from seaward to determine their value as landmarks be charted on (indicate) the charts indicated.

The positions given have been checked after listing by

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Illustration Name</th>
<th>Charting Name</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Signal Name</th>
<th>Latitude</th>
<th>Longitude</th>
<th>Datum</th>
<th>Method of Location and Survey No.</th>
<th>Date of Location</th>
<th>Remarks Chart</th>
<th>Inshore Chart</th>
<th>Offshore Chart</th>
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<td>27 37</td>
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<td>97 14</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>27 36</td>
<td>689.4</td>
<td>97 14</td>
<td>1177.5 Ph-36 (48)</td>
<td>1949 X X</td>
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<td>1286</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 individual field survey.
51. **Methods.**—All roads were ridden out to check their classification and to visually check planimetric features and contours.

The planetable was used to locate new roads and buildings at the northern limit and in Nueces County Park No. 1. This park is being developed and should be so labelled on the published map.  

Due to grading at the park site the contours have been changed. Standard planetable methods were used to make corrections. They were made on the Field Edit Sheet.

Deletions, additions and corrections were made on the Field Edit Sheet and photograph 48-0-1130. A legend is shown on the Field Edit Sheet.

52. **Adequacy of compilation.**—The Laguna Madre Causeway, which has been completed since field inspection in 1949, leads into the north part of this quadrangle and some development has taken place. These features have been added to the Field Edit Sheet and the map compilation will be up-to-date when they are delineated.

53. **Map accuracy.**—Considerable planetable work was required. The accuracy of compiled planimetric features proved excellent. So did the contours. No vertical accuracy test was specified but about 4 miles of planetable traverse was run and no contours were found in error more than a foot vertically. Horizontal position of contours proved to be very good.

54. **Recommendations.**—The "shifting sand dunes" originally shown with spot heights are of such nature that they are constantly moving. It is recommended that they be labelled with a general area label showing approximate high and low elevations rather than spot heights. **Recommendation applied**

55. **Examination of proof copy.**—It is recommended that the proof copy of the map be sent Mr. J. R. Laurence, County Engineer, Nueces County Courthouse, Corpus Christi, Texas. Mr. Laurence has charge of the development of Nueces County Park No. 1 and will furnish any additional park information that he may have at that time if so requested.

**Geographic Names.**—The name NUECES COUNTY PARK NO. 1 is recommended. The authority for this name is the County Engineer. **Re. 51 above! see note in red ink.**

No discrepancies were noted in geographic names as charted.

Respectfully submitted,

15 October 1951

**William H. Shearouse**

William H. Shearouse,
Cartographer
REVIEW REPORT
Topographic Map T-9190
11 June 1952

62. Comparison with Registered Topographic Surveys:

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Scale</th>
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<td>T-1628</td>
<td>1881-82</td>
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<td>T-4905</td>
<td>1934</td>
<td>1:10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>H-6396</td>
<td>1930</td>
<td>1:20,000</td>
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<td>(combined Topo &amp; Hydro survey)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>T-6663b</td>
<td>1938</td>
<td>1:20,000</td>
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Noticeable cultural as well as man-made changes have taken place on Padre Island.

For nautical charting the new map (T-9190) supersedes the topographic surveys listed above.

63. Comparison with Maps of Other Agencies:

Crane Island Quadrangle, Drawn 1929, 1:62,500, USE
Corpus Christi Quadrangle, Compiled 1908-09, 1:125,000 USE

The old location of the Corpus Christi Pass is closed off on the new map.

64. Comparison with Contemporary Hydrographic surveys:

Although survey H-6396 noted above under side heading 62 is not a contemporary survey, a comparison was made of the new and the old shoreline, which were found to be in close agreement.

65. Comparison with Nautical Charts:

Chart No. 1286, 14 April 1952, 1:50,000

Noticeable cultural and man-made changes have taken place on Padre Island.

66. Adequacy of Results and Future Surveys:

This map complies with the project instructions and the National Map Accuracy Standards.

In the Laguna Madre area the water stages vary widely with meteorological conditions. In view of this it was decided to omit the high-water line where it is indefinite and unmarked by visible evidence on the ground, and in its stead to indicate by a broken line symbol the approximate limits of areas which were subject to inundation. This decision was arrived at mainly for these reasons:

1. The difficulty encountered in identifying the MHW line from the photographs of the Laguna Madre area and of other similar
areas throughout the project.

2. It was considered impractical to resolve this problem by extensive leveling.

For a more detailed study and investigation of this subject, refer to the correspondence and various reports to be attached to the completion report which will be submitted when the review of the surveys on this project has been completed.

The reasons and the decision reached in adopting the special treatment accorded to the shoreline delineation are discussed in the pages of correspondence and instructions attached to the Descriptive Report for T-9180.

67. Shoreline Delineation:

The shoreline along the Gulf coast north of Four Mile Hill was redelineated using 9-lens photograph 25777, which was flown in 1950. Originally, the shoreline had been delineated from single-lens photography taken in 1948.

Reviewed by:

[Signature]
Charles Hanavich

Approved:

[Signature]
L.C. Lande 27 Dec 1959
Chief, Review Section
Division of Photogrammetry

[Signature]
J.R. Edmondson
Chief, Nautical Chart Branch
Division of Charts

[Signature]
Max Stutzer
Chief, Div. of Photogrammetry

[Signature]
Earl O. Hardinge
Chief, Div. of Coastal Surveys
HISTORY OF HYDROGRAPHIC INFORMATION
QUADRANGLE T-9190

Laguna Madre and Padre Island - vicinity Fourmile Hill, Texas

Hydrography was applied to the manuscript of this quadrangle in accordance with Division of Photogrammetry general specifications dated 18 May 1949.

Soundings and 6, 12, 18, 30 and 60-foot depth curves at mean low water datum originate with the following:

U. S. C. & G. S. Nautical Chart No. 893 (Temporary Standard), 1:40,000, 1952
1287 1:80,000 52-6/23
1288 1:80,000 52-5/5
Hydrographic Survey No. 6395, 1:20,000, 1938
Hydrographic Survey No. 6396, 1:20,000, 1938
Hydrographic Survey No. 6402, 1:40,000, 1938

Hydrography was applied by S. J. Hathorn and checked by C. B. Samuel.

S. J. Hathorn
Division of Photogrammetry
9 July 1952
### Record of Application to Charts

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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.