Form 504
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey TOPOGRAPHIC

Field No. Office No. Project Ph-36(1.8)E
T-9205

LOCALITY
State TEXAS
General locality LAGUNA MADRE
Locality TORO ISLAND EU TORO

1967-
CHIEF OF PARTY
George E. Morris, Jr., Chief of Party

LIBRARY & ARCHIVES
DATE
MAR 31 1955
DATA RECORD

T-9205

Project No. (II): Ph-36(48)E

Quadrangle Name (IV): Lopena Island, NW

Field Office (II): Brownsville, 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

8 June 1949
26 July 1949
28 July 1949
26 Aug. 1949
24 Feb. 1950

Copy filed in Division of
Photogrammetry (IV)

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): JAN 9 1951

Date reported to Nautical Chart Branch (IV): JAN 15 1951

Date registered (IV): 10-8-52

Applied to Chart No. 5 95

Publication Scale (IV):

Publication date (IV):

Geographic Datum (III): N. A. 1927

Vertical Datum (III): MSK

Mean sea level except as follows:
Elevations shown as (2) refer to mean high water
Elevations shown as (0) refer to sounding datum
i.e., mean low water or mean lower low water

Reference Station (III): LAGUNA, 1939

Lat.: 26° 53' 09.045" 278.4m
Long.: 97° 22' 18.098" 499.5m

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)
FIELD INSPECTION by (II): W. H. Nelson
B. F. Lampton, Jr.
G. B. Torbert

Planetable contouring by (II): G. B. Torbert
B. F. Lampton, Jr.

Completion Surveys by (II): W. H. Sheerouse

MEAN HIGH WATER LOCATION (III) (State date and method of location): May 1950 - Shoreline of Gulf of Mexico by office interpretation of Storm W.L. of Laguna Madre by field inspection (confirmed by field edits)

Projection and Grids ruled by (IV): T. L. J.
Projection and Grids checked by (IV): H. D. W.
Control plotted by (III): L. A. Senasack

Control checked by (III): F. J. Tarcza

Radial Plot on Stereoscopic
Control extension by (III): F. J. Tarcza

Stereoscopic Instrument compilation (III):
- Contours

Manuscript delineated by (III): R. R. Hartley

Photogrammetric Office Review by (III): R. Glaser

Elevations on Manuscript checked by (II) (III): R. Glaser

Date: Nov & Dec 1949
November 1949
March & July 1950

Date: March & July 1950
December 1949

Date: Jan 1952

Date: 4/21/50
Date: 4/25/50
Date: 8/15/50
Date: 8/23/50
Date: 9/13/50
Date: 12/5/50
Date: 1/3/50
Date: 1/3/50
U.S.C. & G.S. nine lens camera, focal length, 8 1/2 inches.
Single lens camera, type 0, 6 inch focal length.

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</table>

Reference Station: Galveston, Tex.
Subordinate Station: Aransas Pass
Subordinate Station: Brazos Santiago

The mean range of tide in the Laguna Madre is less than 1/2 foot
Washington Office Review by (IV): Everett H. Ramsey

Final Drafting by (IV):
Drafting verified for reproduction by (IV):
Proof Edit by (IV):

Land Area (Sq. Statute Miles) (III): 31 square miles
Shoreline (More than 200 meters to opposite shore) (III): 32 statute miles
Shoreline (Less than 200 meters to opposite shore) (III): 12 statute miles
Control Leveling - Miles (II): 8.9

Number of Triangulation Stations searched for (II): 13
Recovered: 6
Identified: 4

Number of BMs searched for (II):
Recovered: 6
Identified: 6

Number of Recoverable Photo Stations established (III): 2
Number of Temporary Photo Hydro Stations established (III): none

Remarks:
* 6 triangulation stations were identified

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<th>Spring Range</th>
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<td>1.0</td>
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Date: 6 June 1952
Project Ph-36(46) 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(46) 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 1:24,000 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-9161, T-9169, T-9204, and T-9205, will be published as planimetric maps.

Cloth-backed lithographic prints of the original map manuscripts 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 1:24,000 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**

This area, with the exception of Toro Island and parts of Mesquite Rincon, Lopem, Bamberia, Calabaza, and Padre Islands, is a portion of an area known locally as the "mud flats". At one time this was covered by the Laguna Madre but is now above mean high water, covered only under certain meteorological conditions.

Cattle are grazed over the grass covered potreros, or islands, and is the chief industry of the area although extensive petroleum exploration work has been done but no producing wells exist.

The Intracostal Waterway has been dredged across the area from north to south.

In the northern portion of Padre Island, there is a sand and shell beach along the Gulf of Mexico, paralleled by a ridge of partially grass covered sand dunes. Sand from these dunes has spilled over into the grassy flats to the west in many places in the northern part of this section, and covers more than half the island in the southern part. The western part is a grass covered area consisting of flats and low dunes. To the west of this, there are sand flats extending into the Laguna Madre, with a few small grass covered islands. In the south and central portions of the quadrangle, the Gulf beach is paralleled by a ridge of partially grass covered dunes that are fairly stable. To the west of the ridge is a low but rugged grassy area. To the west of this there is an area of shifting sand dunes. West of this there are sand flats extending into the Laguna Madre. The flats contain numerous islands of shifting sand dunes. There are a number of places where the sand flats extend entirely through the island except for the Gulf beach.

West of Padre Island no difficulty was encountered in interpreting the photographs and the quality of the photographs was adequate. Two tones predominated; white and gray (light and dark). The white and light gray is mud and sand. The darker gray with the mottled tones are the numerous potreros, or grassy islands, which range up to twelve feet above the "mud flats". The darker gray tones are small grassy low areas, usually wet during the rainy seasons. The intermittent ponds vary in tone from white to dark gray, depending on the formation found on the bottom of the pond.

The Gulf beach appears white on the photographs. The ridge of dunes along the beach appears as numerous dark dots except in the few spots where sand has not spilled through. In these places the dunes are almost indistinguishable from the grassy flats to the west except under a stereoscope. The grassy area appears dark and mottled. The grass covered dunes in this area are difficult to distinguish from the flats except under a stereoscope. The sand flats appear smooth gray. The islands are dark, sometimes bordered by a white sandy beach. The shifting sand dunes are white. The darker gray tone in these areas are flat depressions between the dunes. The sand flats are smooth gray. The islands in the flats are white, sometimes containing dark dots of grass.
At the time of field inspection, there was no water in the Laguna Madre that fell in any portion of the photographs covering Padre Island, (48-0-1558 through 48-0-1565).

Interior field inspection was done on 1:20,000 scale single lens photographs 48-0-1245, 48-0-1248, 48-0-1558 through 48-0-1565, each 1 of 2; and 48-0-1889.

3. HORIZONTAL CONTROL

Two fixed aids to navigation, CORPUS CHRISTI-PORT ISABEL LT 218 1949 and CORPUS CHRISTI-PORT ISABEL LIGHT 219 1949, and MON NO 13(USE) 1949 were located with third-order accuracy. See "Special Report, Supplemental Third Order Control and Aids to Navigation, Project Ph-36(48), Baffin Bay to Arroyo Colorado."

AVOCA 2 1913, WINDMILL 1913, GOAL 1938, BEAT 1913, CORRAL 1939, SINK 1939, and FLANK 1939 were reported lost.

Horizontal control was identified on 1:20,000 scale single lens photographs 48-0-1247, 48-0-1558 2 of 2, 48-0-1565 2 of 2, and 48-0-1886.

4. VERTICAL CONTROL

Four USE bench marks were recovered and used for control of contouring in all the area except Padre Island. They are BM 192 USE, BM 200 USE, BM 201 USE, AVOCA RM NO 2, and BM 13 USE. A correction of -1.02 feet was applied to place these elevations on Mean Sea Level Datum of 1929.

* Disussed in more detail under §4 Descriptive Report T-9188.

Two Humble Oil & Refining Company bench marks were also used west of Padre Island; BM MUD and BM HAT. No adjustment was necessary to place these elevations on Mean Sea Level Datum of 1929.

There are no bench marks on that part of Padre Island covered by this report. For control of contouring 8.9 miles of fourth-order levels were run. Levels for quadrangles T-9203 ( ), T-9205 ( ), and T-9208 ( ) were run as a unit in one closed loop on triangulation station DUNN, a second-order bench mark established by the Humble Oil & Refining Company. Level points were numbered 05-01 through 05-18.

Vertical control work was accomplished on photographs 48-0-1558 through 48-0-1565, each 1 of 2, 48-0-1245, 48-0-1889, and 48-0-1248.

5. CONTOURS AND DRAINAGE

Contouring was performed by standard planetable methods directly on the photographs.
The stereoscope was used both before and after field work to sketch and check contours before inking.

Contours on Padre Island were generalized to a great extent.

Contouring was accomplished on single lens photographs 48-0-1245, 48-0-1246, 48-0-1559 through 48-0-1565 each 1 of 2, and 48-0-1389, and on nine lens photograph No. 25748.

There is no definite drainage pattern.

6. WOODLAND COVER

The entire area is open, either sand, sand and mud flats, or grass.

7. SHORELINE AND ALONGSHORE FEATURES

See Revised Report

See "Special Report, Identification and Delineation of the Shoreline of Laguna Madre, Project Ph-36(48)" for shoreline of Laguna Madre. See §14 below

The mean high water line of the Gulf of Mexico was located by measurements from points of identifiable detail. No tone or line on the photographs was found which could be positively identified on the ground. See §35 this report

Because of spring tides a thorough inspection of the mean low water line could not be made. However, it is approximately 5 or 6 meters offshore of the mean high water line.

At the time of photography a shallow pass had been cut through the island. This pass shows clearly on photograph 48-0-1561. Weather Bureau records show that photography took place near the end of a four day period of strong northerly wind. From this, the conclusion is that this pass was opened by water from Laguna Madre being forced across the island. At approximately 2200, 30 October 1949, a norther struck this area. Northerly wind velocities up to 52 miles per hour were recorded by the Port Isabel Coast Guard Station. The following morning a pass had been cut through the island in almost the same position as that existing on 9 December 1949. Fourteen days later surf action had closed the Gulf end of the pass so that vehicles could traverse the beach with some inconvenience. One month later the pass was almost visibly indiscernible, and two months later no trace of the pass existed.

From local inquiry, it was established that this pass opens during periods of strong winds, both from Laguna Madre and the Gulf of Mexico. When opened from the Laguna Madre this pass soon closes. When opened from the Gulf of Mexico it does not close as quickly, sometimes not for months.
8. OFFSHORE FEATURES

There are no offshore features.

9. LANDMARKS AND AIDS

Chart Letter 92160

See "Special Report, Supplemental Third Order Control and Aids to Navigation, Project Ph-36(48), Baffin Bay to Arroyo Colorado." See §14 below

There are no landmarks for charts or aeronautical aids.

10. BOUNDARIES, MONUMENTS, AND LINES

See "Special Report, Boundaries, Project Ph-36(48), Baffin Bay to the Rio Grande." See §14 below

11. OTHER CONTROL

 Recoverable topographic stations FATE and EVER were established on Padre Island. No additional control was established on the mainland. See §48 this report

12. OTHER INTERIOR FEATURES

Culture is very sparse. One road on Padre Island enters the area from the north but ends at a large shifting sand dune area. There are no roads of any kind in the remainder of the area.

There is an abandoned camp on the southeast corner of El Toro.

13. GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

See "Special Report, Geographic Names, Project Ph-36(48), Baffin Bay to Port Mansfield (Red Fish Landing)." See §14 below

14. SPECIAL REPORTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA


"Special Report, Identification and Delineation of the Shoreline of Laguna Madre", to be submitted at a later date. *

"Special Report, Boundaries, Project Ph-36(48), Baffin Bay to the Rio Grande", forwarded to the Washington Office 8 June 1950. *

"Special Report, Geographic Names, Project Ph-36(48), Baffin Bay to Port Mansfield (Red Fish Landing)", forwarded to the Washington Office 6 December 1949, filed in Geographic Names Section, Div. of Chart.

* Filed in Div. of Photogrammetry:
Horizontal Control, Quadrangle T-9205( ), forwarded to Baltimore Office 4 and 15 May 1950.
Data, Padre Island Section of quadrangle T-9205( ), forwarded to

Data, Quadrangle T-9205( ), letter of transmittal Ph-36 Field 72
forwarded to Baltimore Office 24 July 1950.

Submitted
20 July 1950

Grover B. Torbert
Cartographic Survey Aid

Approved
24 July 1950

George E. Morris, Jr.
Chief of Party
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* See Director’s Letter No. 63-wv, dated 27 September 1950.

1 FT. = 0.3048006 METER

Joseph W. Vonasek
COMPUTED BY: L. L. Bloom
DATE: 7/17/50

L. A. Senasack
CHECKED BY: H. R. Gross
DATE: 7/11/50
COMPILATION REPORT

T-9205

PHOTOGRAHMETRIC PLOT REPORT

See descriptive report for T-9208.

31. DELINEATION

Graphic methods were used.

The compilation was greatly facilitated due to first hand information furnished by G. B. Torbert, who field inspected most of the area of this manuscript before being assigned to this office.

32. CONTROL

The identification, density, and placement of horizontal control were adequate.

33. SUPPLEMENTAL DATA

See field report, item 14.

34. CONTOURS AND DRAINAGE

On Padre Island, where the spot elevations indicated an omitted contour, many minimum sized contours were drawn in at the compilation office. Where the space was too small to show omitted contours, the elevation was shown, thereby resulting in the delineation of an abundance of spot elevations in some areas.

35. SHORELINE AND ALONGSHORE DETAILS

Low-water lines are based on data furnished by the field party.

The shoreline of Padre Island along the Gulf of Mexico was delineated from office inspection of the 1950 nine-lens photographs in preference to the field inspection on the 1948 single-lens prints.

36. OFFSHORE DETAILS

No comment.
37. LANDMARKS AND AIDS

Form 567 is being submitted for two fixed aids to navigation, both of which are triangulation stations.

38. CONTROL FOR FUTURE SURVEYS

Forms 524 are being submitted for two recoverable topographic stations. These stations are listed under item 49. See §68 this report

39. JUNCTIONS

Junctions have been made and are in agreement with the following:

- To the north – T-9203
- To the west – T-9204
- To the south – T-9207 and T-9208
- To the east – No contemporary survey

40. HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL ACCURACY

No comment

41 thru 45 – Inapplicable.

46. COMPARISON WITH EXISTING MAPS

See §62 this report

T-9205 has been compared with U.S.G.S. Lopena Island quadrangle, scale 1:62,500, edition of 1923, reprinted 1946.

The Intracoastal Waterway and spoil banks to the east of it do not appear on the quadrangle.

47. COMPARISON WITH NAUTICAL CHARTS

See §65 this report

T-9205 has been compared with U.S.C.& G.S. nautical chart No. 1287, scale 1:80,000, published 7-4-49, corrected to August 7, 1950.
47. COMPARISON WITH NAUTICAL CHARTS (continued)

Items to be applied to nautical charts immediately:
None

Items to be carried forward
None.

Respectfully submitted
5 December 1950

Ruth R. Hartley
Carto. Photo. Aid

Approved and forwarded

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

Bahia Island

Catalina Island

Commissioner Precinct 1

Commissioner Precinct 3

Gulf of Mexico

Intracoastal Waterway

Kenedy County

Laguna Madre

**López Island**

Padre Island

**Treviño Island**

Bandera Point (B.6.N. 10/51)

Not mapped. SMR

Potrero Lopeno (B.6.N. 10/51)

El Toro (B.6.N. 10/51)

Names underlined in red are approved.

6-15-57. L. Hecq

*Signifies that there is a name conflict for this feature that will have to be settled by B. 6.N. decision before final printing.
49. NOTES FOR THE HYDROGRAPHER

The following recoverable topographic stations are delineated on the manuscript:

FATE, 1949
EVER, 1949
RM Avoca 2, 1952

Sec 568, this report.
PHOTOGRAMMETRIC OFFICE REVIEW


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

ALONGSHORE AREAS
(Nautical Chart Data)
19. Other alongshore cultural features

PHYSICAL FEATURES

CULTURAL FEATURES

BOUNDARIES
31. Boundary lines 32. Public land lines

MISCELLANEOUS

Reviewer
Supervisor, Review Section or Unit

41. 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

M-2623-12
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</table>

*Comments on charts indicated in the charted area:*

- The positions given have been checked after being charted on the charts indicated.
- The following objects which have (have not) been inspected from seaward to determine their value as landmarks be determined.

3 January 1951
51. Methods.—Field edit was accomplished by visual inspection while driving the beach and cross-country in a Jeep. Spoil bank top elevations along the Intracoastal Waterway were obtained from a boat by hand level methods.

Field edit information is shown on the Field Edit Sheet and photograph 48-0-1278.

52. Adequacy of compilation.—The map manuscript is adequately compiled and will be complete after field edit additions and corrections.

53. Map accuracy.—No tests were specified. The contour pattern appears adequate from visual inspection. See §40 of this report

54. Recommendations.—None offered.

55. Examination of proof copy.—The County Surveyor of Kenedy County, Mr. Francis G. French, has agreed to examine the proof copy of the map. His address is Sarita, Texas.

No errors were detected in geographic names. Those in conflict were not investigated.

56. Commissioner Precinct lines.—These lines have been changed since field inspection. A new legal description is being submitted. Changes within the project will be made on the Field Edit Sheets of the quadrangles affected. This quadrangle lies entirely within Precinct 1.

Respectfully submitted,

8 January 1952

William H. Shearouse
William H. Shearouse,
Cartographer
62. **Comparison with Registered Topographic Surveys:**

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Survey T-9205 is to supersede the above surveys for nautical charting purposes.

63. **Comparison with Maps of Other Agencies:**

Lopena Island, Tex., quadrangle (USGS) 1:62,500 1923 reprinted 1946

64. **Comparison with Contemporary Hydrographic Surveys:**

None.

65. **Comparison with Nautical Charts:**

1287 1:80,000 1941 corr. to 51-3/5

Corrections in the map resulting from field edit and review have been shown on the map manuscript in red.

66. **Adequacy of Results and Future Surveys:**

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

67. **Shoreline:**

For a more comprehensive discussion of shoreline refer to copies of correspondence and instructions included in the Descriptive Report for T-9214.

68. **Topographic Stations:**

Avoca 2 RM was identified as a bench mark during the field inspection but was in contradiction by 73 meters with the computed position from data given in the triangulation description for Avoca 2. A new position was determined during the field edit and is shown on Form 524 filed under this survey number. This latter position plots approximately 30 meters northeast of the triangulation position. Because Avoca 2 has been lost the discrepancy could not be resolved.

Reviewed by:

Everett H. Ramey
Approved:

Laund 7 Jan 1954
Chief, Review Section
Division of Photogrammetry

Chief, Nautical Chart Branch
Division of Charts

Chief, Div. of Photogrammetry
Chief, Div. of Coastal Surveys
HISTORY OF HYDROGRAPHIC INFORMATION
QUADRANGLE T-9205

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 foot depth curves at mean low water datum originate with the following:

USC&GS Hydrographic Surveys:
H-6489 (1939) 1:20,000
H-6494 (1939) 1:40,000

USC&GS Nautical Charts:
895 (1952)-6/2  1:40,000
1287 (1952)-6/23 1:80,000 (compared with)

Hydrography compiled by C. Theurer and checked by C. B. Samuel.

C. Theurer
Division of Photogrammetry
24 July 1952

Note: Nautical Chart Files Letter 582(52) shows a private channel—just completed—from the Intracostal Waterway westward 1500' ft. in approximate latitude 26° 58'. See permit 1807.
## Nautical Charts Branch

**Survey No. 7-9206**

Record of Application to Charts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Chart</th>
<th>Cartographer</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28 Dec 57</td>
<td>895</td>
<td>N. MacEwen</td>
<td>Before Verification and Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8/7/71</td>
<td>11304</td>
<td>L. Adams</td>
<td>Before After Verification and Review</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>SS by BP143754-757</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Before After Verification and Review</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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.