U.S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey Topographic
Field No. Ph-90 Office No. T-9879

LOCALITY
State Louisiana
General locality Gulf Coast
Locality Caillou Bay and Lake Pelto

\( 1952-53-54 \)

CHIEF OF PARTY
E.H. Kirsch, Chief of Field Party
H.C. Applequist, Tmps. Photo. Office

LIBRARY & ARCHIVES
DATE June 5, 1958
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT - DATA RECORD

T. - 9879

Project No. (II): 6090

Quadrangle Name (IV):

Field Office (II): Houma La.

Chief of Party: E. H. Kirsch

Photogrammetric Office (III): Tampa Photo Office

Officer-in-Charge: H. C. Applequist

Instructions dated (II) (III): 5 Sept. 1952

(Supplement 1 ) 25 Sept. 1952

(Supplement 2 ) 30 Sept. 1952

Copy filed in Division of Photogrammetry (IV)

Method of Compilation (III): Graphic

Manuscript Scale (III): 1:20,000

Stereoscopic Plotting Instrument Scale (III): Inapplicable

Scale Factor (III): None

Date received in Washington Office (IV) MAR 19 1956

Date reported to Nautical Chart Branch (IV):

Applied to Chart No. Date: Date registered (IV): 5-12-58

Publication Scale (IV):

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 (4) refer to sounding datum
I.e., mean low water or mean lower low water

Reference Station (III): FELICAN 1928

Lat.: 29°06'11.15" (351.6) △

Long.: 90°50'35.34" (955.8) △

Adjusted

Plane Coordinates (IV): State: Zone:

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.
Field inspection
Areas contoured by various personnel
(Show name within area)
(II) (III)
DESRIPTIVE REPORT - DATA RECORD

Field Inspection by (II): W. M. Reynolds
C. H. Baldwin
E. T. Ogilby

Date: March 1953

Planetable contouring by (II): W. M. Reynolds
C. H. Baldwin
E. T. Ogilby

Date: March 1953

Completion Surveys by (II):

Mean High Water Location (III) (State date and method of location): March 1953

Air Photogrammetric Compilation

Date: Oct. 1956

Projection and Grids ruled by (IV): Austin Riley (W. O.)

Date: Sept. 1953

Projection and Grids checked by (IV): H. D. Wolfe (W. O.)

Date: Sept. 1953

Control plotted by (III): R. E. Smith

Date: March 1955

Control checked by (III): R. A. Reece

Date: March 1955

Radial Plot of Stereoscopic Control reduction by (III): M. M. Slavney

Date: April 1955

Stereoscopic Instrument compilation (III): Inapplicable

Date:

Planimetry

Contours

Manuscript delineated by (III): E. T. Ogilby

Date: Jan. 1956

Photogrammetric Office Review by (III): J. A. Giles

Date: Feb. 1956

Elevations on Manuscript checked by (II) (III): J. A. Giles

Date: Feb. 1956
**DESCRIPTION REPORT - DATA RECORD**

**Camera (kind or source) (III):** C & G S 9-lens Camera 8½" focal length

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>Stage of Tide</th>
<th>Single-lens</th>
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<td>28 Sept. 1952</td>
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<td>39h61</td>
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**Reference Station:** Pensacola

**Subordinate Station:** Calloog Boca

**Washington Office Review by (IV):**

**Final Drafting by (IV):**

**Drafting verified for reproduction by (IV):**

**Proof Edit by (IV):**

**Land Area (Sq. Statute Miles) (III):** 11

**Shoreline (More than 200 meters to opposite shore) (III):**

**Control Leveling - Miles (II):** None

**Number of Triangulation Stations searched for (II):** 6 Recovered: 1 Identified: 2

**Number of BMs searched for (II):** 6 Recovered: 0 Identified: 1

**Number of Recoverable Photo Stations established (II):** None

**Number of Temporary Photo Hydro Stations established (II):** None

**Remarks:**

*One station was "leaning" but was considered of sufficient accuracy to be used by the radial plot.*
SUMMARY
TO ACCOMPANY TOPOGRAPHIC MAP T-9879
October 1957

This is one of project PH-90 (6090) Planimetric and Topographic Mapping. It covers the center portion of the chain of ISLES DERNIERES on the Gulf Coast of Louisiana.

Compiled in 1955 at the Tampa District Office from 1952 nine-lens photography and based on 1953 field inspection, the manuscript was revised in 1957 from 1956 single-lens photography. Extensive changes in the shoreline between 1952 and 1956 necessitated the later photography, which was well defined for appropriate revision.

After addition of hydrographic information, the map will be published by the U. S. Geological Survey as a standard topographic quadrangle at a scale of 1:24,000 and replace a previous publication of 1935.

A "GRONAR" film positive at manuscript scale (1:20,000) and the Descriptive Report, as well as a cloth-backed lithographic print in colors after final printing by G. S. will be registered and filed in the Bureau Archives.

The subsequent changes between 1952 and 1956 can be studied by comparing this map with the 1952 photography.
2. AREAL FIELD INSPECTION

The land area of quadrangle T-9878( ) is comprised of the most westerly of the Last Islands (Isles Dernieres) and a very small part of the marsh mainland in the extreme northeast corner. The remainder of the area being in Caillou Bay and the Gulf of Mexico.

The land area of quadrangle T-9879( ) also contains a part of the above mentioned island group, with scattered marsh islands connecting to the marsh mainland to the north. The water area consists of parts of Caillou Bay, Lake Pelto and the Gulf of Mexico.

The Last Islands (Isles Dernieres) are low barrier beaches between the bays and lakes to the north and the Gulf of Mexico to the south. The land is principally marsh with a narrow sand beach along the gulf side. There are also some areas of scattered mangrove and small sand dunes. The mangrove is low, seldom reaching higher than four feet and is not a feature to be mapped in this area. See Field Inspection Report, Quadrangle T-9882( ).

The area is not inhabited, except by trappers. Neither is the area developed. Access is by boat only either by way of Lake Pelto from the east or Caillou Bay and Bayou Grand Caillou from the north.

The only industries are fishing and trapping. Large fleets of trawlers shrimp and fish in Caillou Bay and the Gulf. The trapping of muskrat during the winter season is the second largest resource of the area.

Field inspection is believed complete and was performed on the following nine-lens photographs: 39460, 39461, 39462, 39465, 39466, 39467, 39468, and 39473.

Photography was of recent date and good quality. No difficulty was encountered in their interpretation in the field.

3. HORIZONTAL CONTROL

All control was searched for and where recovered was identified.

The following stations were reported lost: HOUSE NEAR STATION ILETTES 1928; CHA 1924; VILLETT 2 1928; HOUSE NEAR STATION BOGUE 1928; BOGUE 1906; BOCA 1928; and WHISKEY 1928.

Station BOGUE 1906 was reported lost but was identified. The station was recovered in the edge of the water and leaning out of position. It is believed the identification of the station is positive.

No supplemental control was established.
4. **VERTICAL CONTROL**

RACCOON POINT TIDAL BENCHMARKS 1, 2, and 3 were searched for and Bench Marks 1 and 2 were recovered.

RACCOON POINT TIDAL BENCHMARK 2 was identified.

CAILLOU BAY TIDAL BENCHMARK MARKS 1, 2, and 3 were also searched for and Bench Mark 2 was recovered.

No supplemental vertical control was established.

5. **CONTOURS AND DRAINAGE**

Spot elevations were determined for the marsh areas and the beach along the Gulf by hand level from the level of the water. These elevations were then reduced by readings taken from the permanent tide gage at Bayou Rigaud.

All drainage is through the many bayous and canals. These are self-evident from the photographs.

6. **WOODLAND COVER**

There is none.

7. **SHORELINE AND ALONGSHORE FEATURES**

The mean high water line along the Gulf was inspected by walking along the beach and has been indicated on the photographs. The mean high water line is the offshore edge of the sand beach. The back sides of the islands and the marsh areas to the north is, in most cases, apparent shoreline. There are short stretches of shell along the edge of marsh which should be shown as fast shoreline where it is of significant size. These areas have been labeled "shell" on the photographs.

The exact mean low water line has been indicated in some areas along the outside (Gulf) beach where a dark tone is found offshore of the mean high water line. This dark tone is a band of eroded marsh, the outer edge of which has an abrupt drop of one foot or more and is the exact mean low water line. This condition exists, apparently, from the sand being pushed inshore over the marsh faster than the edge of marsh erodes away. (See photographs 39467 and 39468). In addition, the exact mean low water line has been indicated along sand bars which have built up, particularly at and near the numerous small passes. These bars show as a dark tone also but are lighter and smoother than the instances of eroded marsh foreshore. (See photograph 39466).
The exact mean low water line could not be identified on all of these bars. In such areas, the approximate mean low water line was shown.

The mean low water line is synonymous with the edge of marsh, apparent shoreline, throughout the marsh area.

There are no docks, wharves, piers or landings in the area.

There are no submarine cables in the area.

There are no other shoreline features.

8. OFFSHORE FEATURES

Adequately covered by the photographs.

9. LANDMARKS AND AIDS

There are no landmarks of any kind in the area.

There are no aeronautical aids.

One fixed aid to navigation, Caillou Boca Light, was identified on photograph 39467 for location by the radial plot.

10. BOUNDARIES, MONUMENTS AND LINES

There are no political boundaries which effect either map. For public land lines data see "Special Report, Public Land Lines, Project Ph-90".

11. OTHER CONTROL

None was established.

12. OTHER INTERIOR FEATURES

There are no roads in the area.

There are no bridges or cables over navigable waters in the area.

There are no airports or landing fields within the area.

The only buildings are isolated cabins located throughout the marsh. These are occupied seasonally but should be mapped as Class 1 buildings for their landmark value. These have been labeled "cabins" on the photographs.
13. GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

See "Special Report, Geographic Names, Project Ph-90".

14. SPECIAL REPORTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL DATA

Letter of Transmittal No. 90-5, Forms 567, to be forwarded to Washington Office at a later date.

Letter of Transmittal No. 90-6, Forms 567, to be forwarded to Photogrammetric Office at a later date.


Letter of Transmittal dated 28 January 1953, land lines data forwarded to Washington Office same date.

Letter of Transmittal No. 90-8, "Special Report, Geographic Names, Project Ph-90", to be forwarded to Washington Office at a later date.


Letter of Transmittal No. 90-32, Data, Quadrangles T-9878( ) and T-9879( ), forwarded to Washington Office Submitted

12 May 1953

MAY 14, 1953

William M. Reynolds
William M. Reynolds
Cartographic Survey Aid

Approved & Forwarded
MAY 14, 1953

E. H. Kirsch
E. H. Kirsch
Chief of Party
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATION</th>
<th>SOURCE OF INFORMATION (INDEX)</th>
<th>LATITUDE OR y-COORDINATE</th>
<th>LONGITUDE OR x-COORDINATE</th>
<th>DISTANCE FROM GRID IN FEET, OR PROJECTION LINE IN METERS</th>
<th>DATUM CORRECTION</th>
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<td>02386</td>
<td>29 06</td>
<td>11.139</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>P.87</td>
<td>90 50</td>
<td>35.346</td>
<td>FORWARD 351.6 (1195.6) BACK 955.8 (666.6)</td>
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<td>BOGUE, 1906, 1928</td>
<td></td>
<td>29 03</td>
<td>47.389</td>
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<td>(Destroyed)</td>
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<td>90 48</td>
<td>21.786</td>
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</table>

1 FT. = 0.3048006 METER
COMPUTED BY: B. Wilson DATE: 10/13/53
CHECKED BY: J. Steinberg DATE: 10/11/53
COMPILATION REPORT T-9672

PHOTOGRAHMATIC PLOT REPORT

Submitted with T-9672.

31. Delineation

The graphic method of compilation was used.

32. Control

See Photogrammetric plot Report.

33. Supplemental Data

None used.

34. Contours and Drainage

There were no contours. The drainage was easily delineated as it is all tidal and self-evident on the photographs.

35. Shoreline and Alongshore Details

The shoreline was clearly indicated by the field inspector. The low-water line was delineated from data furnished by the field party. All cabins along the shoreline were delineated as Class 1 buildings and labeled cabins.

36. Offshore Details

None.

37. Landmarks and Aids

Reference Item 9.
38. **CONTROL FOR FUTURE SURVEYS**

None.

39. **JUNCTIONS**

A satisfactory junction was made with T-9878 on the west, T-9860 on the east and T-9871 on the north. There is no contemporary survey on the south.

40. **HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL ACCURACY**

No statement.

41. **PUBLIC LAND LINES**

No section corners were recovered. There is no information available from which to construct land lines.

46. **COMPARISON WITH EXISTING MAPS**

Comparison was made with a brown line print of C & G S Planimetric Manuscript T-5291. 1:20,000 scale, corrected to July 1934. There is extensive shoreline changes in the Isles Dernieres group. There are minor shoreline changes elsewhere.

Comparison was made with Geological Survey Quadrangle DERNIERE LA. SCALE 1:31,680, field examined in 1935. The same changes appear as stated.

47. **COMPARISON WITH NAUTICAL CHARTS**

Comparison was made with C&GS Chart No. 1274; scale 1:80,000 published 1938, last correction date Dec. 29, 1952. The maps listed under Item 46 appear to be the source of topography and the same differences are found.

**ITEMS TO BE APPLIED TO NAUTICAL CHARTS IMMEDIATELY**

None

**ITEMS TO BE CARRIED FORWARD**

None

Approved and Forwarded

Eugene T. Ogilby
Carto Photo Aid

H. C. Appling
Chief of Party
Geographic Names.

Bay California
Bay Round
Bay Wilson
Big Msale Bayou (not Msale Bayou)

Gaillon Bay
Gaillon Bocca
Coupe Nouvelle
Derniere (title only, no feature of this name, except as part
Of Isles Dernieres)

Flat Bayou

Grand Pass des Mettes
Gulf of Mexico

Isles Dernieres

Lake Palto
Little Msale Bayou (BGN decision: not Bayou Grand Sale)
Louisiana

Pass Wilson
Pelican Bayou (not part of Bayou Colyell)

Pelican Lake

Terrebonne Parish

Whiskey Island
Whiskey Pass

Names approved 12-4-56.
L.H.ck L.A.
I recommend that the following objects which have (have not) been inspected from seaward to determine their value as landmarks be charted on (deleted, from) the charts indicated.

The positions given have been checked after listing by [signature].

H. S. palequist
Chief of Party.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>STATE</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>CHARTS AFFECTED</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CULTURE</td>
<td>8.100 foot entrance to dry dock, triangular, dotted structure 300 feet</td>
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<td>29°33' 15.42''</td>
<td>50°50' 54.77''</td>
<td>NA°</td>
<td>L A 117</td>
<td>2-5877</td>
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</table>
PHOTOGRAMMETRIC OFFICE REVIEW

T- 9879


CONTROL STATIONS

5. Horizontal control stations of third-order or higher accuracy M.M.S.  6. Recoverable horizontal stations of less than third-order accuracy (topographic stations) J.G.  7. Photo hydro stations XX  8. Bench marks J.G.  


ALONGSHORE AREAS

(Nautical Chart Data)


PHYSICAL FEATURES


CULTURAL FEATURES


BOUNDARIES

31. Boundary lines XX  32. Public land lines XX  

MISCELLANEOUS


40. Jesse A. Giles 
Reviewer

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.

43. Remarks:

Compiler

Supervisor

M-2523-12
61. **GENERAL STATEMENT**

T-9879 was originally compiled from 1952 nine-lens photography and 1953 field inspection. The descriptive report fails to mention additional photography (single-lens, 1956) that was used for extensive corrections - particularly along the main shore of Isles Dernieres.

62. **COMPARISON WITH REGISTERED TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEYS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey</th>
<th>Scale</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>T-410</td>
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<td>T-1691</td>
<td>1:20,000</td>
<td>1887</td>
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<td>T-1762</td>
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<td>T-5291</td>
<td>1:20,000</td>
<td>1934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-6108</td>
<td>1:20,000</td>
<td>1934</td>
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Considerable differences exist between these surveys. The area is subject to frequent storms and hurricanes and continuous erosion change the shoreline and shape of islands constantly. The chain of islands known as Isles Dernieres are more noticeably affected with diminishing degree in the low marsh covered areas towards the mainland.

The subject topographic survey is to supersede the above listed registered surveys for nautical charting purposes for common areas.

63. **COMPARISON WITH MAPS OF OTHER AGENCIES**

DERNIERE, LA., 1:31680, 1935, U. S. Geological Survey. There is a lack of agreement between these surveys for causes listed under No. 62.

64. **COMPARISON WITH CONTEMPORARY HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEYS**

There are no contemporary hydrographic surveys of this area.
65. COMPARISON WITH NAUTICAL CHARTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chart</th>
<th>Scale</th>
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<td>1274</td>
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<tr>
<td>1275</td>
<td>1:80,000</td>
<td>57 9/16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1050</td>
<td>1:175,000</td>
<td>57 2/25</td>
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Nautical charts 1274 and 1275 include the major changes made available by T-9879. Chart 1050 does not indicate these changes.

One additional aid to navigation - a fixed light - has been established north of the east end of Caillou Boca after field inspection of March 1953. This light appears on charts 1274 and 1050 but could not be identified on the 1956 photography.

66. ADEQUACY OF RESULTS AND FUTURE SURVEYS

Careful study of 1956 photography resulted in considerable changes of the original detailing of the manuscript. Though there was no field inspection nor field edit, the clearly defined photography of 1956 warranted the revisions applied. These changes are confined to shoreline, limits of sand and general drainage pattern. There is no culture within the limits of this quadrangle and the highest ground elevation is four (4) feet.

Reviewed by
Josef J. Streiffer

Approved
La Lande
Chief, Review and Drafting Section
Photogrammetry Division

Chief, Nautical Chart Branch, Charts Division

Chief, Photogrammetry Division

Chief, Coastal Surveys
# NAUTICAL CHARTS BRANCH

SURVEY NO. T 9879 1952-56
REV DATED OCT 57

Record of Application to Charts

<table>
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<th>CARTOGRApher</th>
<th>REMARKS</th>
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<td>Before Verification and Review</td>
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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.