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Department of Commerce and Labor
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
A. F. Fittmann
Superintendent.
State: *Alabama*

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DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Top e Sheet No. *2865*

LOCALITY:

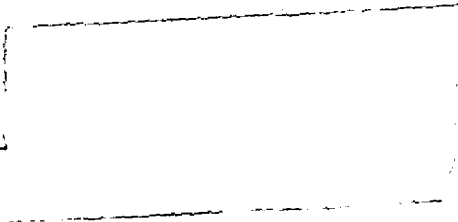
*Entrance to
Mobile Bay*

1908

CHIEF OF PARTY:

J. W. Maykin

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(Topographic Sheet.)

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR
Coast and Geodetic Survey
O.H. Tittmann, Superintendent.

ALABAMA

Mobile Bay Entrance. (Resurvey.)

Plane Table Survey by J.H. Hawley, Aid.

J.W. Maupin, Assist., Chief of Party.

May-June, 1908.

SCALE--- 1/20,000.



W.B.G.

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Form 65.—Field Letter.

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RECEIVED
BY ASSISTANT IN CHARGE
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11-644

Department of Commerce and Labor

COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

Referred to Mr. B. [unclear]

Washington DC.

Aug 10, 1908

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This letter to be filed with Topographic sheet
(acc. No 2865.) Entrance to Mobile Bay.

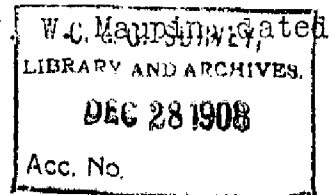
Descriptive report is embodied in
my Annual Report June 1-1907 to July 31-1908
dated July 13-1908.

There were no plane table positions
determined. All points used were determined
by triangulation.

John W. Maupin
Asst C & G S.

* Copy filed herewith DEC 28 1908

Extract from Annual Report of Assistant J.
July 13. 1908.



On May 10, 1908, I was detached from the office in Washington, D. C. and instructed to make a re-survey of the Entrance to Mobile Bay, Ala. I left Washington, D. C. May 10 and proceeded to Mobile, Ala. where I made preparations and organized party. Field operations were begun May 12, 1908. While executing this work I had under my charge Mr. Jean H. Hawley, Aid, Mr. Fred B.T. Siems, Aid, and Mr. A. J. Ela, Deck Officer.

The work continued in operation from May 12 to June 30, 1908, without interruption except for occasional squally weather. A gasoline launch which was rented for \$260.00 per month was used on this work. On this work Mr. Jean H. Hawley executed the topography, Mr. A. J. Ela executed the triangulation and all members of the party were engaged on the hydrography.

The topography which is comprised on one sheet extends westward about four miles from Fort Gaines and eastward about four miles from Fort Morgan. It is low and sandy, scarcely rising above an elevation of twelve feet. On the Fort Morgan side it is thinly wooded with pine trees while on the Fort Gaines side it is more thickly wooded within the limits of the sheet. Extensive improvements are going on at Fort Morgan and within several years it will no doubt be a comfortable and pretty place. A sea-wall is under construction

also ice plant, water tank, barracks, etc. Subsoil is being deposited on the reservation grading and streets are undergoing construction and shade trees will be set out shortly.

The hydrographic and topographic changes, which were caused mainly by the storm of 1906, and, which were developed by the re-survey, will, of course, be apparent from the records of the work. Dixie Island has entirely disappeared as also has Sand Island, with the exception of the jetty around the Light House. West Sand Island has shifted to the westward and has been cut through so that it now forms two islands. The storm effected very little change inside of Mobile Bay and the changes on the outside are not very vital as they are mainly away from the channel. The channel seems to have deepened slightly and the dredged channel across the outer bar appears to have shifted a little to the westward. A sand sucker dredge boat is at work on the channel across the outer bar but the dredging is very slow and no doubt will take considerable time to effect much change in the chart.

In executing the triangulation the base from \blacktriangle Fort Morgan to \blacktriangle Sand Id. L.H. front range was used and this was expanded to a net sufficient to give enough signals for executing the work.

In general the weather and conditions for the work were good. There are no stores neat Fort Morgan and all supplies had to be purchased in Mobile. The steamer Gen. Batchelder, which is owned by the Army, makes daily trips between Fort Morgan and Mobile.