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U S COAST & GEODETIC SURVEY
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Ed. June, 1928

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

R. S. Patton, Director

State: Virginia

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

~~Topographic~~ } Sheet No. A 4682
~~Hydrographic~~ }

LOCALITY

~~Perrin River and Approaches~~

~~Lower York River~~

~~Vicinity of~~

Ellen I. and Vicinity

1932

CHIEF OF PARTY

Herman Odessey

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DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

to accompany

TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET " A "

PERRIN RIVER AND APPROACHES,
VIRGINIA

U.S.C. & G.S.S. GILBERT

Herman Odessey, H. & G.E., Comdg.

Date of Instructions:- April 5, 1932.

Project No.:- HT - 97.

Limits:- The topography covered by this report is within the area between meridians $76^{\circ} - 23' - 11''$ and $76^{\circ} - 27' - 49''$ and the parallels $37^{\circ} - 15' - 15''$ and $37^{\circ} - 16' - 26''$.

Control:- The work on the sheet was controlled by triangulation stations Brown, Cedar, Cuba, Ellen, Gaines, Greene, Sandy, and Tue Point Light House. Set-ups were determined by stadia and orientation on a triangulation station, and checked frequently by resection lines from one or more triangulation stations and the solution of the three point problem. At no time were the positions sufficiently in error to require an adjustment of the topography. From triangulation station Brown to the head of Perrin River, the shoreline was controlled by plane table traverse run one way only, as shortage of time did not permit a closed loop, but in this case each distance and azimuth was checked with special care.

General:- The closing date for field work on this project was rigidly fixed as May 28, 1932, and allowed barely enough time for the GILBERT to make the trip from Yorktown to Boston and join the other

vessels of the bureau engaged on the survey of Georges Bank. It was clearly indicated very early in the survey that there was time to survey the shoreline only and such other essential features as could readily be determined without undue delay. In the case of Perrin River, the bayous were omitted due to lack of time. The topography at the eastern edge of the sheet between signals Neck and Door and at the western edge between triangulation station Gaines and the western end of Cuba Island, was done first and shows more detail than time would permit later in the survey.

There is a small fresh water marsh between signals Trunk and Spit and a larger one just west of signal White.

The land inshore from signal Low is a salt marsh enclosed by two sand spits separated by a boarded drain or channel. The point on the mainland north of signal Mike is also marshy, with a narrow sand ridge on the York River shore. A salt marsh connecting Cuba Island with the mainland is covered at high tide. There is also a marsh grass growth on the outside of Cuba Island. The marsh in the easternmost bend of Perrin River was not rodded in completely due to shortage of time. There is also another small salt marsh just east of signal Spit.

The marshy island halfway between triangulation station West Beacon and the mainland is not shown on chart No. 494. There are three or four small bushes on the island that are visible at all stages of the tide, while the remainder of the island is covered at extreme high tide. The grass shows at ordinary high water.

In inking the sheet, the marsh and high ground on Cuba Island and Ellen Island, were separated by heavy black lines because the distinctive growth of the two is quite marked. Where the heavy line

was drawn about the marsh on the islands, the banks are quite definite and the marsh grass shows at ordinary tides. Where the broken line is drawn outside the marsh symbol, the ground is covered at ordinary tides. All salt marshes shown are partially covered at high water.

The pier east of and near the mouth of Perrin River is a wood pile structure. Small boats tie up here. Small storage buildings and small tanks are adjacent to the pier.

The two piers about 130 meters 104 degrees true from triangulation station Brown are of a sturdier construction and in a more protected place, consequently are likely to be more permanent than the one first mentioned. The outer end of the eastern of the two is roofed, with a house under part of the roof.

The outer end of the small boat pier on the mainland behind Cuba Island is roofed over. All other docks are merely planks supported on stilts at which one may land from small boats at low tide to keep out of the mud.

Approaching the mouth of Perrin River from the southeast, the high ground of the islands, which are covered with pine trees and bushes, blend in with the background of the mainland. Ellen Island stands out in proportion to the nearness to it. There is a sufficient dearth of trees about signal Tree, a lone, tall poplar tree, for it to stand out from the surrounding background when approaching from the south and east.

Beacons Mid and East, each a red 3-pile wooden structure supporting a light, show up quite prominently from all directions.

The only part of the shore line that approaches a bluff is between signals It and Gab which is between 5 and 6 feet above the

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high water line.

Respectfully submitted,

W.H. Bainbridge

W.H. Bainbridge,
Jr. H. & G. Engineer.

Approved:-

Herman Odessey

Herman Odessey,
H. & G. Engineer,
Chief of Party.

RECOVERABLE TOPOGRAPHIC STATIONS.

No.	Station	Latitude		Meters	Longitude		Meters	Height	Description
		Degrees	Min.		Degrees	Min.			
1	Door	37	15	(88.0) 1762.0	76	23	(431.0) 1047.5	10	Front door in center of front of 2 story house without porch just west of 2 story house in yard surrounded by trees.
2	Gas	37	15	(231.0) 1618.7	76	24	(803.0) 675.5	30	S.E. corner of cupola and balcony effect on S.E. corner of house on east side/to beach. Gasoline pump at S.E. corner of house and store.
3	Tree	37	15	(46.0) 1804.0	76	25	(1217.0) 262.0	110	Lone tall poplar tree.
4	Dave	37	15	(62.0) 1787.7	76	25	(772.0) 707.4	4	Most N.E. pile of ruins of old wharf in front of Mr. Davis' home.
5	Gab	37	15	(1350.0) 499.7	76	26	(163.5) 1315.0	30	Central dormer window of new brick cottage with small wings on each end, surrounded by pine trees; Concrete bulkhead along property water front.
6	Bo	37	16	(1749.0) 161.0	76	25	(766.0) 712.4	4	S.E. corner of Brown's Pier, Perrin, Va.

This is to certify that topographic sheet No. A, covering the survey of Perrin River and approaches from Jenkin's Neck to Gaines Point, has been inspected and is approved.

Herman Odessey, H. & G.E.,
U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey,
Commanding Ship GILBERT.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

TOPOGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

U. S. COAST & GEODETIC SURVEY
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVE
SEP 14 1932
REG. NO. 4682
Acc. No.

The Topographic Sheet should be accompanied by this form, filled in as completely as possible, when the sheet is forwarded to the Office.

Field No. A

REGISTER NO. 4682

State Virginia

General locality Lower York River

Locality Ellen I. and Vicinity
~~Perrin River and approaches~~

Scale 1:10,000 Date of survey May 17 - 27, 1932

Vessel GILBERT

Chief of party Herman Odessey

Surveyed by J.S.Morton and W.H.Bainbridge

Inked by W.H.Bainbridge

Heights in feet above About 45 ~~to ground~~ to tops of trees

Contour, Approximate contour, Form line interval None feet

Instructions dated April 5, 1932

Remarks: _____