

5534

U. S. COAST & GEODETIC SURVEY  
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY  
R. S. PATTON, DIRECTOR

## DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Topographic } Sheet No. T-5534  
~~Hydrographic~~

State Alabama

### LOCALITY

Bon Secours Bay

~~Collins Creek to Sand Bayou.~~

Seymour Bluff and Vicinity

1935 4

CHIEF OF PARTY

M. H. Reese.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 1934

5534

Applied to ed 1266 - April 1936 - St. J. Samba

Applied to I.W.W. Chart 872, Oct. 1946 A. J. H. <sup>1/10</sup> 3/6

Applied to Chart 873 AGR

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
U.S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

REG. NO.

TOPOGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

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. ....

REGISTER NO. T-5534

State.....Alabama.....

General locality.....Bon Secours Bay.....

Locality.....Seymour Bluff and vicinity  
Collins Creek to Sand Bayou.....

Scale.....1:10,204..... Date of photos survey..... June 23, 19 34

~~XXXXX~~ Air Photo Compilation Party No. 24, Pensacola, Fla.

Chief of party.....M. H. Reese.....

Surveyed by.....See data sheet in descriptive report......

Inked by.....H. A. Butters, Jr......

Heights in feet above.....-----.....to ground to tops of trees

Contour, Approximate contour, Form line interval.....-----.....feet

Instructions dated.....June 7....., 19 34.

Remarks: Compiled on scale of 1:10,204. Enlarged and printed  
by photolithography on scale of 1:10,000. Scale factor 0.98.

\*\*\*

Blueprints, scale 10,204 from 2/28/36

- STATISTICS -

on

SHEET, FIELD NO. \_\_\_\_\_, REG. NO. T-5534

PHOTOS, NO. \_\_\_\_\_ C-1 TO NO. \_\_\_\_\_ C-6

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPHS \_\_\_\_\_ 6/23/34 TIME \_\_\_\_\_ 9:00 a.m.

BY

DATE  
FROM TO

ROUGH RADIAL PLOT \_\_\_\_\_ --- \_\_\_\_\_

SCALE FACTOR (0.98) \_\_\_\_\_ --- \_\_\_\_\_

SCALE FACTOR CHECKED \_\_\_\_\_ --- \_\_\_\_\_

PROJECTION \_\_\_\_\_ *E. P. Hernandez, Jr.* 7/1/35

PROJECTION CHECKED \_\_\_\_\_ *E. L. Fitch* 7/1/35

CONTROL PLOTTED \_\_\_\_\_ *S. S. Gill* 7/1/35

CONTROL CHECKED \_\_\_\_\_ *H. C. Caulfield* 7/2/35

TOPOGRAPHY TRANSFERRED \_\_\_\_\_ --- \_\_\_\_\_

TOPOGRAPHY CHECKED \_\_\_\_\_ --- \_\_\_\_\_

SMOOTH RADIAL LINE PLOT \_\_\_\_\_ *H. A. Butters, Jr.* 7/11/35

RADIAL LINE PLOT CHECKED \_\_\_\_\_ *E. P. Hernandez, Jr.* \_\_\_\_\_

DETAIL INKED \_\_\_\_\_ *H. A. Butters, Jr.* 7/11/35

PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF SHEET \_\_\_\_\_ *E. L. Fitch* 7/22/35

TOTAL AREA OF SHEET 28.0 sq. Statute Miles

AREA OF DETAIL INKED 8.5 sq. Statute Miles

(Land Area)

AREA OF DETAIL INKED -- sq. Statute Miles (Shoals in Water Area)

LENGTH OF SHORELINE (more than 200 m. from nearest opposite shore)

28.5 Statute Miles

LENGTH OF SHORELINE (rivers and sloughs less than 200 m. wide)

8.3 Statute Miles

GENERAL LOCATION Bon Secours Bay

LOCATION *Seymour Bluff and Vicinity*  
~~Gellins Creek - Sand Bayou~~

*Seymour, 1935*  
30° 15' 13.617" (419.3 m.) (unadjusted)  
87° 47' 26.512" (708.8 m.)

DATUM North American 1927

Latitude 30°15'15.741" (484.7 m.) ✓

Longitude 87°49'05.148" (137.6 m.) ✓

STATION BANK 1918-1935  
(Adjusted)

COMPILER'S REPORT

FOR

PHOTO TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET NO. T-5534

I. GENERAL INFORMATION:

Instructions dated June 7, 1934.

The information used in the compilation of this sheet was obtained from notes and sketches on the field photographs and from members of the field inspection party in areas where the draftsman could not determine the exact nature of detail from the photos.

All names appearing on this compilation were taken from U.S. C. & G. Survey Chart #1266 or from notes on the field photographs. *(See page 4)*

The important features of this compilation are the shorelines of the Gulf of Mexico, Bon Secours Bay and Little Lagoon. Other detail is of less importance, as the area is very poorly developed and sparsely settled.

Along the edge of Bon Secours Bay and west of Lat.  $30^{\circ}15.8'$  - Long.  $87^{\circ}46.0'$  the shoreline is abrupt and there are bluffs ranging from five to twenty feet in height, ~~as shown on the overlay tracing.~~ East of the latter point and extending inland about half a mile is an extensive marsh. The photos of this area were poor, ~~and because the shoreline is very broken it has been represented as indefinite by a broken line.~~ *A shoal line is shown outside the high water line.*

At several places along Bon Secours Bay, notably in the vicinity of Seymour Bluffs, fields that at one time were cultivated are at present over grown with grass and scattered trees.

The road running westward to Fort Morgan traverses the northern portion of the area represented. This road and its several branches and loops are in poor condition, being little more than trails.

The western part of the area is characterized by a series of sand ridges, varying in height from five to fifteen feet and wooded with pine, scrub oak, brush and palmetto. Between these ridges are swampy areas that are characterized by pine, brush

and grass. These areas are roughly parallel to the Gulf of Mexico.

Immediately along the Gulf and extending inland from 200 to 300 meters is an area of sand dunes from five to fifteen feet high. The only vegetation in this area consists of occasional grassy spots.

Two fire lanes in the central portion of the sheet are shown. ~~noted on the overlay tracing.~~ Small and unimportant trails, which lead to no definite point, have not been shown.

All existing docks and houses which are clearly discernible on the photos have been shown on the sheet.

Because of the small range of normal tide in this area, approximately 1.1 ft., only high water lines have been shown.  
(Day Markers)

The Pensacola-Mobile Beacons Nos. 125 to 137<sup>A</sup> inclusive, are shown on the compilation. They have been transferred to this sheet from the aluminum plane table sheet #6253b.

The area covered by this sheet has been traced from photos Nos. C-1 to C-6 taken with the Aero Service Corporation's single-lens camera on June 23, 1934 at 9:00 a.m.

## II. CONTROL:

### (A) Sources

1. Triangulation by Lieut. M. H. Reese, 1934.
2. Triangulation by Lieut. G. I. Anderson, 1935.

The geographic positions of triangulation stations established by these parties were computed on the North American 1927 Datum, from adjusted values.

As Station BANK 1918-1935 could not be accurately tied in on the photos, a short traverse was run to the northeast corner of a nearby dock. The geographic position of this dock was computed and was used as supplementary control in this area.

### (B) Character

As there were no stations along the Gulf of Mexico, control for this sheet is weak, particularly as the photos are of the single-lens type and had only a fifty-five percent overlap. Consequently, some difficulty was encountered in constructing the radial line plot.

(C) Errors

No errors were found in the control used in compiling this sheet.

III. COMPILATION:

(A) Method

The single-lens radial line method of plotting has been used in the compilation of this sheet.

(B) Adjustment of plot

Most of the photos used in the tracing of this sheet were free from excessive tilt and their scale did not differ greatly from that of the projection.

(C) Interpretation

The graphic symbols used are those approved by the Board of Surveys and Maps, 1932, except the symbol ( { ) that has been used to denote brush.

(D) Information from other sources

No information other than that mentioned under "General Information" has been used in the compilation of this sheet.

(E) New names

The following names are not shown on U.S. C. & G. Survey Chart #1266: Eugene Pt., Sheephead Pt. and Childress Pt., in the western part of Little Lagoon. These names were obtained by the field inspection party from two fishermen who reside in that locality. The names are not widely known and are probably used only by local inhabitants and fishermen.

The name Gasque, a small settlement, was obtained by the field party from the proprietor of a small store there, in which the postoffice is located. The settlement consists of only a few houses.

IV. COMPARISON WITH OTHER SURVEYS:

The junctions of this sheet with T-5497 on the East and T-5535 on the West are satisfactory.

V. LANDMARKS:

The list of landmarks of value to navigation is being submitted by this party. - *None submitted for this sheet by this party.*

VI. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER SURVEYS:

To the best of my knowledge, this sheet is complete in all detail of importance for charting purposes and no further surveys are needed at this time. *See below.*

*H. A. Butters, Jr.*

Submitted by: H. A. Butters, Jr.,  
Draftsman.

Approved by: *M. H. Reese*  
M. H. Reese,  
Chief of Party.

*This survey is considered correct within 0.3 to 0.6 feet in most parts and 0.3 to 0.9 feet for other detail.* *J. G. E.*



## Remarks

## Decisions

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2		
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4		
5	JANDY BAYOU ON T277	
6		
7	no authority discovered, but seems established. 6th	
8	used locally but not well established	not for chart, but O.K. for photo-compilation.
9	do.	
10	do	
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GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
Survey No. T-5534

Name on Survey	A On Chart No.	B On previous survey No.	C On U. S. quadrangle Maps	D From local information	E On local Maps	F P. O. Guide or Map	G Rand McNally Atlas	H U. S. Light List	
<u>Bon Secours Bay</u> ✓	1266		U. S. (DGN.)						1
<u>Shell Bank Bayou</u> ✓	1266	T 277 T 3712	all are word	Shellbank.					2
<u>Gasque</u> ✓	1266		✓		✓				3
<u>Seymour Bluff</u> ✓	1266	T 277							4
<u>Sand Bayou</u> ✓	1266								5
<u>Collins Creek</u> ✓	1266	T 277 T 3712							6
<u>Palmetto Beach</u> ✓	1266								7
<u>Eugene Point</u> ✓									8
<u>Sheephead Point</u> ✓									9
<u>Childress Point</u>									10
<u>Little Lagoon</u> ✓	1266	misc. 2							11
<u>Gulf of Mexico</u> ✓	✓								12
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> Names underlined in red approved by <u>B. E. G. [signature]</u> on 2-6-36 </div>									13
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REVIEW OF AIR PHOTO COMPILATION T 5534

Scale 1:10,000

Comparison with Graphic Control Surveys

T 6253b (1935), 1:10,000

T 6253b is of the entrance to Bon Secour River and covers only a small portion in the northeast corner of T 5534.

No shoreline was rodded in within the limits of T 5534.

On T 6253b at lat.  $30^{\circ} 10 \frac{1}{2}'$ , long.  $87^{\circ} 45 \frac{1}{2}'$  is an unnamed topographic signal. This signal falls in shoal areas and is not visible in the photographs. It is not shown on the smooth sheet of H 5707 but is on the boat sheet. It is apparently of a temporary nature and has not been transferred to T 5534.

All detail on T 6253b within the limits of the compilation is shown on T 5534 except this unnamed signal and the magnetic meridian.

Comparison with Contemporary Hydrographic Surveys

H 5707 (1935), 1:10,000

H 5707 covers the entrance to Bon Secour River. There are no conflicts with the hydrography.

Comparison with Previous Topographic Surveys

Misc. 2 (1845), 1:200,000, Reconnaissance  
T 277 (1849), 1:20,000  
T 2087 (1892), 1:20,000  
T 2088 (1892), 1:20,000  
T 3712 (1917), 1:40,000  
T 3714 (1918), 1:40,000

Several changes in details are noted between the above surveys and T 5534.

On T 3712 the two docks at Seymour Bluff on Bon Secour Bay (long.  $87^{\circ} 48'$ ) no longer exist.

T 5534 is adequate to supersede the above surveys over the common area.

Comparison with Chart 1266

The two docks at Seymour Bluff no longer exist.

There are no landmarks on the chart within the limits of this survey and no list has been submitted.

All lights and beacons submitted in chart letter 313 (1935) within the limits of this survey are shown. This letter includes all aids now shown on the chart.

Feb. 20, 1936.

*Frank G. Erskine*

Frank G. Erskine.

## REVIEW OF AIR PHOTO COMPILATION NO. T-5534

Chief of Party: M. H. Reese

Compiled by: H. A. Butters, Jr.

Project: Alabama-Florida Compilation

Instructions dated: June 7, 1934.

1. The charts of this area have been examined and topographic information necessary to bring the charts up to date is shown on this compilation. (Par. 16a, b, c, d, e, g and i; 26; and 64)

Yes.

2. Change in position, or non-existence of wharfs, lights, and other topographic detail of particular importance to navigation which affect the chart, is discussed in the descriptive report. (Par. 26; and 66 g, n)

Yes.

3. Ground surveys by plane table, sextant, or theodolite have been used to supplement the photographic plot where necessary to obtain complete information, and all such surveys are discussed in the descriptive report. (Par. 65; and 66 d, e)

None necessary. *Beacons from T-62536.*

4. Blue-prints and maps from other sources which were transmitted by the field party contain sufficient control for their application to the charts. (Par. 28)

None submitted.

5. Differences between this compilation and contemporary plane table and hydrographic surveys have been examined and rectified in the field before forwarding the compilations to the office and are discussed in the descriptive report.

*T-62536 and H-5707 cover northeast corner of this survey. See Review report.*~~No contemporary surveys available.~~

6. The control and adjustment of the photo plot are discussed in the descriptive report. Unusual or large adjustments are discussed in detail and limits of the area affected are stated. (Par. 12b; 44; and 66 c, h, i)

Yes.

7. High water line on marshy ~~and mangrove~~ coast is clear and adequate for chart compilation. (Par. 16a, 43, and 44)

Yes.

NOTE: Strike out paragraphs, words or phrases not applicable and modify those requiring it. Paragraph numbers refer to those in the Topographic Manual. Refer also to the pamphlet "Notes on the Compilation of Planimetric Line Maps from Five Lens Air Photographs."

8. ✓ The representation of <sup>high</sup> ~~low~~ water lines, ~~ports, harbors, reefs, and~~ ~~marks~~, and legends pertaining to them is satisfactory. (Par. 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41)

Yes.

9. ✓ Recoverable objects have been located and described on Form 524 in accordance with circular 30, 1933, circular letter of March 3, 1933, and circular 31, 1934. (Par. 29, 30, and 57)

Submitted by Lieut. I. E. Rittenburg. *Filed under T-62536*

10. ✓ A list of landmarks was furnished on Form 567 and instructions in the Director's letter of July 16, 1934, Landmarks for Charts, complied with. (Par. 16d, e; and 60)

Submitted by Lieut. I. E. Rittenburg. ~~and by this party.~~  
*chart letter No. 313 (1935)*

11. ✓ All bridges shown on the compilation are accompanied by a note stating whether fixed or draw, clearance, and width of draw if a draw bridge. Additional information of importance to navigation is given in the descriptive report. (Par. 16c)

~~Yes.~~ *No bridges*

12. ✓ Geographic names are shown on the overlay tracing. The accepted local usage of new names has been determined and they are listed in the report, together with a general statement as to source of information and a specific statement when advisable. Complete discussion of place names differing from the charts and from the U. S. G. S. Quadrangles is given in the descriptive report, together with reasons for recommendations made. (Par. 64, and 66k)

Yes.

13. ✓ The geographic datum of the compilation is <sup>N. A. 1927</sup> and the reference station is correctly noted. (Unadjusted)

Yes.

14. ✓ Junctions with adjoining compilations have been examined and are in agreement. (Par. 66j)

Yes.

15. ✓ The drafting is ~~satisfactory~~ *fair* and particular attention has been given the following:

1. Standard symbols authorized by the Board of Surveys and Maps have been used throughout except as noted in the report.
2. The degrees and minutes of Latitude and Longitude are correctly marked.

3. All station points are exactly marked by fine black dots.
4. Closely spaced lines are drawn sharp and clear for printing.
5. Topographic symbols for similar features are of uniform weight.
6. All drawing has been retouched where partially rubbed off.
7. Buildings are drawn with clear straight lines and square corners where such is the case on the ground.

(Par. 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 48)

16. ✓ No additional surveying is recommended at this time.

17. Remarks:

18. Examined and approved;


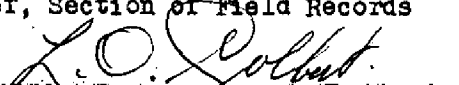
  
M. H. Reese  
Chief of Party

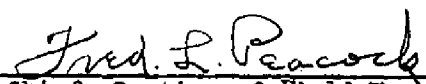
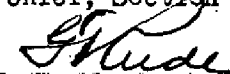
19. Remarks after review in office:

Reviewed in office by:



Examined and approved:

  
Chief, Section of Field Records  
  
Chief, Division of Charts

  
Chief, Section of Field Work  
  
Chief, Division of Hydrography  
and Topography.