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Department of Commerce and Labor
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

H. Littmann
Superintendent.

State: *P. R.*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Hypoc. Sheet No. *2854^a*

LOCALITY:

Southeast Coast
Porto Rico, Shoal
in Yabucoa Approach

1909

CHIEF OF PARTY:

M. Hopkins

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Descriptive Report.

to accompany hydrographic examination of reported shoal in the approach to Yabucoa anchorage, S. E. Coast of Porto Rico.

Having been informed by the Local Inspectors of Steam Vessels at San Juan that the Steamer J. F. Luckenbach, drawing about 16 feet of water, had grounded at a point in the approach to Yabucoa, where the chart showed from 20 to 22 feet, advantage was taken of an opportunity to search for the reported danger on the morning of May 21, while on the way to Cabras Island to determine the position of the new lighthouse at that point.

A rock, upon which the shoalest sounding obtained was 15 feet, was found at a distance of about 275 meters E. S. E. from black can buoy No.1.

In absence of signals, the positions were located by angles between the tangents to the most prominent points of rock, situated northeast, northwest and south-southwest of the area developed.

A certain discrepancy appears in the platting, the shoal spot falling too far to the southward relatively to the buoy, from which its bearing was E. S. E., magnetic.

why did he not locate the buoy?

From an examination of Chart No. 918, upon a copy of which this work is platted, it would appear that the development of the channel now in use is not sufficiently complete to give any clear idea of the amount of water to be found there.

I was informed by the captain of the Steamer Ramos, of the New York and Porto Rico Steamship Company, that he had found a depth of 18 feet in the channel north of the buoy.

A small keg buoy was left on the shoal spot, but is not likely to remain long.

It is recommended that the rock be buoyed by the Lighthouse Service if the channel is to continue to be used.

Descriptive Report. No. 2.

From an examination of Chart No. 918 it would seem that the approach about three eighths of a mile to the westward of the entrance reef would be safer and more convenient if properly buoyed.

No tidal observations were made in connection with this work.

Respectfully submitted,

W. C. Hodgkins

Assistant, C. & G. Survey,
Comdg. Steamer Bache.

May 25, 1909.

To the Superintendent, Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Washington, D. C.

*Mr. Graves says that the eastern entrance here
has been in use, and is more convenient for anchoring and
bearing the harbor with the easterly wind; he says not
that the western entrance would be used in that case as
any need of buoying it at present (SSS) June 3-09*

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Hyd. Sheet 2584^a

This sheet develops the rock reported by the As. Luckenbach in the approach to Port Yabucoa.

Positions were determined by means of tangents to the shoreline, with satisfactory results, apparently -

That the least water was obtained on the rock is not certain; there is nothing in the records to warrant the assumption that it was -

Tides were not observed; but the range is small and the resulting uncertainty in depth is probably not in excess of one foot.

The location of the entrance buoy, block C1, and the outline of the shoal it marks are uncertain.

The chart of Port Yabucoa as a whole is incomplete and the survey there should be extended over all important areas, with special development as indicated.

The survey of the principal entrance is

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unfinished; in parts the results are
doubtful and conflicting and necessary
development is entirely lacking.

The chart is published on scale of
1/10000 while the original work is on
1/20000. The hydrography involved does
lend itself readily to such treatment.

J. H. C.

6-10-09

H. 2584 Applied to Chart 940

Jan. 5, 1948.

H. E. MacEwen