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Department of Commerce and Labor  
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

\* *O. H. Tittmann*  
Superintendent.

State: *Mass.*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

*Hydrographic* Sheet No. *3031*

LOCALITY:

*Pollock Rip Shoal and  
Mantucket Sound -  
Examination of reported  
dangers*

*10,000*

190

CHIEF OF PARTY:

*W. C. Hodgkins*

3031



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DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

to accompany Hydrographic Sheet No. .  
NANTUCKET SOUND AND POLLOCK RIP SLUE,  
MASSACHUSETTS.

Scale 1:40000

*scale too small  
4500*

Surveyed in July and December, 1909.  
by the party on the Steamer BACHE commanded by  
Assistant W. C. Hodgkins.

*I should have used  
a sweep or  
wire drag if  
possible*

COAST AND  
GEODETIC SURVEY  
DEC 16 1909  
REFERRED TO  
Assistant in Charge

RECEIVED  
BY ASSISTANT IN CHARGE  
AND REFERRED TO  
DEC 16 1909  
*L. and Q*

The work on this sheet includes the examination of several areas in which shoaler water than that shown on the chart had been reported. One of those reports was verified and another partially confirmed, but in the other cases the shoal water reported could not be found.

A. The first shoal examined lay about  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles to the southward and eastward of the Bishop and Clerks Light-House. This shoal was found and developed. *note m. 9-1909 p 455-6*

B. The next was a reported 17 ft. spot about 5 miles east of the first and about a mile west of the Handkerchief. A shoal area exists there,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  fathoms being indicated on the chart, but it seems improbable that there is as little as 17 feet at mean low water.

Two 14 ft. spots reported on the western side of the north end of Pollock Rip Slue could not be found. The chart shows 16ft. in the neighborhood of one of these spots and it is very doubtful if any <sup>thing</sup> shoaler exists. This examination gave a least depth of 17 feet in that locality.

No indication could be found of a 22 ft. spot called "Southeast Rock" about a mile to the north and west of Pollock Rip Shoals Light Vessel.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT. No. 2.

The water is deep in that neighborhood and if a rock exists there, it must be a large boulder which would require a wire drag to detect it.

A similar lack of definite results followed the search for "Logwood Bar" and "Station Shoal". These are so close to the beach that even if they exist no vessel should come close enough in to be endangered by them, but their existence is very doubtful.

The last and most important area examined was the main channel of Pollock Rip Slue in which several vessels had reported striking bottom or obstructions. Nothing can be said with certainty in regard to the existence of obstructions, but there does not seem to be much foundation for the reports of the shoaling of the slue.

*2. This statement and the sheet, indicate that soundings may not have been plotted at all in the field.*

With regard to the report by the master of the "City of Everett", the Inspector of the Second Light-House District told me that the crew of the Shovelful Light Vessel reported to him that the EVERETT struck on the shoal spot shown on the chart near the wreck of the barge "SHENANDOAH".

The positions of the buoys and light vessels marking this passage were determined in the second week of December, 1909.

In the July work, tidal reductions were referred to the gauge at Hyannisport and in <sup>the</sup> December work, to a gauge established near the boat-house of the Life Saving Station at Monomoy Point.

On certain days when it was too rough to land an observer or when other reasons made it impracticable to observe tides, approximate reductions were obtained from the tide tables or from comparison with the preceding or following day.

Respectfully submitted,

*W. C. Hodgkins*

Assistant, Coast & Geodetic Survey.

To the Superintendent,  
Coast and Geodetic Survey,  
December 14, 1909, Washington, D.C.

Hyd. Sheet 3031 -

The examinations on this sheet were made to verify reported changes in hydrography within the areas covered -

The weather conditions during much of the work were very unfavorable - especially that in Pollock Rip Blue and vicinity, which was done in December - The crossings show differences of considerable magnitude. Indications and important features should have been developed in greater detail - and work extended to satisfactory junction at its limits -

The work on spots A and B, Nantucket Sound, rather confirms the old work - At A the Georges Creek struck showing  $15\frac{1}{2}$  fms, the least water found is 19 ft - At B nothing shallower than the previous surveys shown was developed -

The reported shoals are doubtless fragments of wrecks and very difficult to locate without the aid of some form of drag -

Spot C off Chatham is in agreement with the Charted Survey -

The reported  $3\frac{3}{4}$  fath rock at D was not found. A single unconfirmed sounding of 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  faths was found  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile to westward of spot examined; but is doubtless an error - It has not been charted.

Work at E northwest of Pollock Rip Blue Entrance, shows that previous conditions have been maintained.

In Pollock Rip Blue

The reported shoaling at north entrance was confirmed, though depths found are in excess of those reported.

The blue has narrowed by reason of the westerly movement of the east shoal -

J. L. C.

2-25-10

STATISTICS SHEET "D".

Date. 1909.	Letter.	Vol.	Pos.	Soundings.	Miles.	Boat.
July 17.	a	1	32	252	4.8	Launch 31.
" 19.	b	1	47	422	5.2	"
" 21	c	2	120	717	12.5	"
Dec. 6.	d	3	95	557	18.5	"
<b>TOTAL.</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>1948</b>	<b>41.0</b>	
July 20.	A	1	166	1170	22.5	Str. BACHE.
" 21.	B	1	45	298	7.5	"
" 21.	B	2	70	472	8.3	"
Dec. 6	C	3	38	192	8.5	"
" 7.	D	3	33	184	8.3	"
" 8	E	3	129	690	34.2	"
" 9	F	2	110	479	21.4	"
" 10	G	2	41	156	7.7	"
" 11	H	4	175	877	34.8	
<b>TOTAL.</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>807</b>	<b>4518</b>	<b>153.2</b>	
<u>RECAPITULATION.</u>						
Launch 31.	4	3	294	1948	41.0	
Str. BACHE.	8	4	807	4518	153.2	
Dinghy.	1	*	5	3		
<b>Grand Total.</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1106</b>	<b>6469</b>	<b>194.2</b>	



ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO  
SUPERINTENDENT, COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY,  
WASHINGTON, D. C."

VEC

Department of Commerce and Labor  
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY  
Washington

*See Sir*  
*AB*  
*1/25/10*

January 25, 1910.

Mr. Andrew Braid,  
Assistant in charge of Office.

Sir:

In accordance with a verbal request from Mr. Flower, I have made special the reduction of the accompanying 6 volumes of soundings on Pollock Rip Slue and vicinity, Mass., by party of Assistant W. C. Hodgkins in 1909. A portion of these soundings had to be reduced by predicted tides, which is especially unfortunate in this locality where many soundings are small enough to become dangerous to navigation if not properly reduced. The great uncertainty of making predicted tides for reducers, is shown on G day, December 10th, on which day the work of this division differed by more than 2 feet from the reducers furnished by field estimation.

Respectfully yours,

*L. P. Shidy*  
Chief of Tidal Division.

Hyd Sheet No 3031

Feb. 12, 1910.

The plotting of the work on this sheet has  
been verified and found correct

H. L. Simmons

44, 1909

Balsw