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Form 504
 DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
 U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

State: *Virginia*

11-6613

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Sheet No. *4011*

LOCALITY:

Newport News

Reconnaissance Survey

1918

CHIEF OF PARTY:

E. B. Satham

Hydrographic Sheet 4011.

The original records of this sheet consist of the soundings in the sounding book and a drawing on thin tracing paper of the wharf line and sounding lines. No scale was given on this tracing, but by comparison with Chart 400, it was found to be evidently intended for $\frac{1}{5,000}$. As the Drafting Section was requested to plot the work on a scale of $\frac{1}{2,500}$, the tracing was enlarged to double size by photography and a smooth drawing made on vellum of the wharf line and sounding lines.

The location of the positions, ^{in the edg. book} was in most cases indefinite, so it was necessary to accept the locations given on the tracing paper as correct, although in two instances the plotting did not agree with the location given in the sounding book, in which cases the sounding book records were given preference as these improved the crossings with other lines considerably.

The original tracing is pasted in the back of ~~the first volume~~ of the sounding book for safekeeping, as it is the only location of most of the sounding line positions.

The following note, initialed S. B. L. appears on page 2 of the sounding book:

"The work recorded in this volume was done without signals. The positions are approximately located, by estimation of directions and distances from line directions and ends of wharves."

Samuel B. Loomis
May 13, 1918

5-GTV

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Place with descriptive report
of hydrographic sheet No. 4011

CHARTS (H) ✓

Drawing Section. May 8, 1918.

Chief, Division of Hydrography & Topography: *HCG*

Chief, Division of Charts:

Tidal reductions have been approved in
1 volume of Sounding Records for

HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET 4011

Newport News, Virginia,
E. B. Latham in 1918.

Plane of reference is
Mean low water reading

1.8' on staff at Newport News, Va.

L. P. Shidy

Acting Chief, Section of
Tides and Currents.

Hydrographic sheet 4011

Newport News, Va.

Surveyed in 1918 by E. B. Latham.

The methods employed on this work are not those prevailing in the Coast and Geodetic Survey. The only sheet submitted to the Office is a sketch on tracing paper, which is enclosed in the sounding book.

As stated in a note in the sounding volume no signals were used, the boat's positions being fixed by estimating distances and directions to adjacent wharves. This note is the only statement relative to the surveying methods employed, no descriptive report having been submitted.

The area covered by H. 4011 was resurveyed in 1919, and a comparison of the two sheets shows considerable difference between the two. As the later survey was made in accordance with Coast Survey methods, and is up to the standard, the differences must be assumed to be due to defective work on sheet 4011.

The wharves on sheet 4011 appear to have been located in connection with the hydrography. They differ by as much as 50 meters from the locations on

Sheet 4011-2

topographic sheet 3761 of 1918-19, the latter apparently being the better survey. There is no triangulation data on the sheet and no indication of the method of control that was used.

This work carries out the instructions of April 6, 1918 upon which it was based.

Nevertheless, it is my opinion that, while it may have had of temporary value during the war emergency, it has no present or future value, and will only confuse rather than add to our knowledge of the locality.

The sheet therefore should be rejected.

E. P. Ellis

March 16, 1920