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U. S. COAST & GEODETIC SURVEY
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Form 504
Rev. Dec. 1933

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

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Topographic }
Hydrographic } Sheet No. ... 24

State FLORIDA

LOCALITY

ST. JOHNS RIVER

RACY POINT TO WHETSTONE POINT

1935

CHIEF OF PARTY

Hubert A. Paton

680

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

U. S. COAST & GEODETIC SURVEY
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

MAY 19 1938

REG. NO.

HYDROGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET Acc. No. _____

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

Field No. 24

REGISTER NO. H 6299

State FLORIDA

General locality ST. JOHNS RIVER

Locality RACY POINT TO WHETSTONE POINT

Scale 1 : 10,000 Date of survey May 23 - June 14, 19 35

Vessel PARTY NO. 26

Chief of Party Hubert A. Paton

Surveyed by Thos. M. Williams

Protracted by M. K. Spencer and C. I. Hudson

Soundings penciled by M. K. S.

Soundings in ~~fathoms~~ feet

Plane of reference Mean Low Water

Subdivision of wire dragged areas by _____

Inked by F. B. KELLY

Verified by F. B. K.

Instructions dated November 17 and December 5, 1935, 19

Remarks: _____

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

to accompany

SHEET NO. 24

ST. JOHNS RIVER, FLORIDA

RACY POINT TO WHETSTONE POINT

PARTY NO. 26 - PROJECT H. T. 168

October 15, 1935

INSTRUCTIONS:

The work on this sheet was done in accordance with instructions dated November 17 and December 5, 1933.

LIMITS:

This sheet is a survey of a portion of the St. Johns River, beginning on the north at Racy Point, Latitude $29^{\circ} 48'$ and extending to Whetstone Point, on the ~~South~~ ^{WEST}, Latitude $29^{\circ} 42'$. The Sheet covers all of the St. Johns River within these limits.

JUNCTIONS:

A junction on the north is made with Sheet No. 23 (H-6298) and on the ~~South~~ ^{WEST} with Sheet No. ~~24~~ ²⁵, ~~(H-6327)~~. The depth curves joined satisfactorily in both cases.

DATUM:

The datum on this sheet is "North American 1927". The triangulation stations were plotted from the unadjusted 1935 field computations based on the line Dan 1935-Lager 1935 which is common with Lieut K. G. Crosby's scheme. The Graphic Control Sheets JJ and KK were also on this same datum so the signals could be transferred without trouble.

SHORELINE:

The shoreline for this sheet is to be transferred from photo-topographic sheets when they are compiled by Ensign T. M. Price. The few small portions transferred from the G. C. Sheets was done by mistake, and should be erased if in conflict with the photographs. This shoreline was sketched-in by the topographers as a check for the photo compilers only.

For a complete description of the shoreline, see reports accompanying the G. C. Sheets.

SURVEY METHODS:

All soundings were taken with a hand lead line and read to the nearest half foot. An eight pound lead was used. The sounding lines were run parallel with the channel and spaced one hundred meters. Soundings were taken at fifteen second intervals for most of the work. The speed of the launch was kept at 3 to 4 knots. Cross lines were run every half mile. Positions were located

by the standard three point fix method and plotted with a three-arm protractor.

CHANNELS:

The channel in this area of the river is comparatively easy to navigate as it is well marked and a depth of $12\frac{1}{2}$ feet can be carried.

From a point about 100 yards south of Beacon No. 47, close the Racy Point Cut Range astern, (lighted Beacons Nos. 45 and 47) and steer $181\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ true through Racy Point Cut. Continue on course for $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles passing about 100 yards west of lighted Beacon No. 49. Continue on course for 0.15 mile and then enter the dredged cut on course 195° true for $\frac{3}{4}$ mile to a position about 50 yards east of lighted Beacon No. 60.

Haul slightly westward and with Dancy Point Range closed ahead (lighted Beacons Nos. 53 and 51) steer $220\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ true for $2\frac{1}{8}$ miles to a point about 200 yards from Dancy Point Front Range Beacon No. 53. Haul to the westward and steer 271° true for 1.9 miles to a point about 100 yards north of lighted Beacon No. 51A.

Hydrography was not carried beyond the mouth of Deep Creek, it being necessary to have detailed shoreline for such streams. The field work was discontinued before this shoreline was compiled. On account of the water hyacinth it would not have been possible to traverse this stream more than one-half of a mile. It is not in use by any boats and is of no importance.

DANGERS:

The shoals and bars near the channel are generally marked with fishtraps in this area and should not be a menace if the courses and ranges are followed closely. There is a five foot unmarked shoal in Latitude $29^{\circ} 46.7'$, Longitude $81^{\circ} 31.8'$ in the vicinity of Moccasin Creek but this is not near the channel.

A line of fish stakes extend nearly to the channel off Deadman Point - Latitude $29^{\circ} 46.9'$, Longitude $81^{\circ} 32.9'$. Vessels venturing out of the channel in the vicinity of Deadman Point, Nine Mile Point, Palmetto Point and Racy Point should proceed very carefully as the bars off these points extend into the river and drop off very suddenly. In the area of this sheet and outside of the channel there are numerous old fish stakes and pilings of old docks which are particularly dangerous close inshore.

In the mouth of Deep Creek there is a line of old piling and many sunken logs that are difficult to avoid. There is a constant danger of encountering old logs, partially submerged, drifting with the wind and tide. They sometimes drag with one end afloat and appear to be old pilings.

CURRENTS:

The currents are tidal in character and small in velocity. The following observations were obtained during the work on this sheet:

Date 1935	Time of day	Stage of tide	Current		Wind		Locality	Depth feet
			Dir.	Force knots	Dir.	Force		
5/29	Noon	High	NW	.33	W	2	Federal Pt.	14
6/ 3	"	Low	NW	.10	SW	3	Dancy Point	11
6/4	"	Low	NW	.21	SE	3	Racy Point	18
6/6	"	Low	NW	.18	NE	3	Whetstone Pt.	10
6/7	"	Low	NW	.31	NE	3	Whetstone Pt.	11
6/10	"	Low	NE	.19	NE	2	Palmetto Bluff	11
6/11	"	Falling	NNE	.12	Calm		Moccasin Br.	8
6/12	"	Falling	NW	.45	SE	1	Racy Point	27
6/13	"	Falling	NW	.33	SE	1	Eagle Head	9
6/14	"	High	SE	.35	W	1	Racy Point	18

30

These measurements were made with a drift pole, with fixes taken at the beginning and end of the period. Velocities were scaled from the speed diagram on the boatsheet.

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS SURVEYS:

In comparing this sheet with the previous surveys as shown on Chart No. 684, it is noted that there is no evidence of the 8 foot dredged channel off the mouth of Deep Creek. The holes along the west bank of the river check those of the previous survey with the exception of the lone 18 foot sounding southeast of Eagle Head. This spot was crossed by one of the sounding lines and a seven foot sounding fell directly over the spot. *Marked "correct" in old records.*

There has been some erosion of the shoreline at Nine Mile Point and Bridgeport Point. The amount is too small for particular note but will probably show better on the photo-topographic sheets when compiled. In general this survey agrees closely with the previous work.

DISCREPANCIES:

The second sounding before Position 29, B day, is probably in error. A check was run later, see Volume 4, Page 40, and it is recommended the latter results be accepted.

Position 68, A day, has a sounding which is also in error. The correct depths were obtained on P day, Page 33, Volume 8.

GEOGRAPHIC NAMES: ✓GHE

The following names appearing on Chart No. 684 are still in common use and are recommended for retention:

- Racy Point
- Federal Point
- Bridgeport Point
- Eagle Head
- Nine Mile Point
- McCullach Creek
- Moccasin Branch
- Deep Creek
- Middle Point
- Whetstone Point

The following names are no longer in common use and should be deleted from the Chart No. 684:

- Oak Villa P. O.
- Penn P. O.
- Orange Mills P. O.
- Clay Landing

The following new names are in common use and are recommended for adoption:

- Dancy Point. The home of old Col. Dancy. There is a family cemetary bearing the names of the Colonel and his family, in this locality.
- Cole Point. Formerly the property of the Cole Family.
- Elbow Branch. In use by local fishermen.
- Cedar Point. Commonly applied to the prominent point upon which Triangulation Station Snake 1935 is located. This point is sometimes called Klondike Point but carefull investigation proved that the name of Cedar Point is in more common use by the local inhabitants and on local maps.

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STATISTICS:

Statute miles of sounding lines	302.4
Total number of soundings	15,327
Total number of positions	2,280
Area in square statute miles	13

FUTURE WORK:

Subsequent to the completion of the field work on this sheet, the U. S. Government has started work on the Florida Cross-State Canal. The plans are to dig a 30 foot channel and the center-line will fall along the entire length of this sheet. At the south shore, the canal will leave the river and be dug in a southwesterly direction, joining the river again at Moritani Point. (See Sheet #25)

Due to these extensive changes it is recommended that the entire area be resurveyed after the canal has been completed.

MISCELLANEOUS:

In the vicinity of Moccasin Branch, the bottom drops off very suddenly and the one fathom curve was not developed because of the irregularity of the shoreline and because of the presence of roots and stumps of old trees.

There is one good dock on this sheet. It is at Federal Point and has a depth of 11 feet along its face. There is a considerable amount of shipping from here, principally potatoes grown in the vicinity.

List of Aids to Navigation and Lists of Landmarks have been submitted previously. ✓

See Descriptive Report for Sheet No. 27 for a discussion of the water hyacinth found in the river in this locality. There is also a discussion of discrepancies between soundings due to the very soft character of the bottom, which applies equally to the work on this sheet.

Respectfully submitted

T. M. Williams,
Surveyor, C. & G. S.
Hydrographer.

Hubert A. Paton
by Hubert A. Paton,
Lieut. C. & G. S.

25

APPROVAL SHEET

to accompany

SHEET NO. 24

The sheets and records have been examined and are approved.

Hubert A. Paton
Hubert A. Paton,
Chief of Party

Verifiers Report on H 6299 (1935)

The records conform to the requirements of the General Instructions.

The topographic surveys for the area have not been received in the office.

The junction on the north with H ⁶²⁹⁸ ~~6327~~ will be made when that sheet is verified. H 6327 on its ~~east~~ ^{west} ~~side~~ ^{when that sheet is verified.} ~~has not as yet been registered.~~

In general only every other sounding was noted.

The sheet was very difficult to verify because the platter paid little or no attention to the spacing of the soundings in congested areas and because the paper was of very poor quality causing the pen to pick up threads & to not to spread.

When the boat struck logs some one changed the sounding obtained by the leadman to record the depth over the obstruction. In making the sheet the sounding was omitted & the obstruction noted with the clearance noted. (Vol 2 P 36, Vol 4 P 43, Vol 4 P 33, Vol 4 P 38, Vol 5 P 6, Vol 6 P 33, Vol 6 P 38)

In two cases no authority was found for fish stakes plotted on the sound sheet & they were removed.

Francis B. Kelly

Feb 17, 1939

Field Records Section (Charts)

H6299

HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET NO.

The following statistics will be submitted with the cartographer's report on the sheet:

Number of positions on sheet	2280
Number of positions checked	27
Number of positions revised	16
Number of soundings recorded	15327
Number of soundings revised	58
Number of signals erroneously plotted or transferred	0
Number of soundings erroneously spaced	Too many to count.

Date: Feb 17, 1939

Verification by	Francis B. Kelly	Time:	90 hrs.
"	Corrections by L. S.	"	8 hours.
Review by	Ed Straw	Time:	16 1/4 hours.

HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY NO. H-6299

Smooth Sheet Yes

Boat Sheet Yes

Records; Sounding 10 Vols., Wire Drag Vols., Bomb Vols.

Descriptive Report Yes

Title Sheet Yes

List of Signals Vol. #1

Landmarks for Charts (Form 567) Yes

Statistics See page 4 of D.R.

Approved by Chief of Party Yes

Recoverable Station Cards (Form 524) None

Special Chart for Lighthouse Service -----
(Circular Nov.30, 1933)

Hydrography: Total Days 16 ; Last Date June 14, 1936

Remarks _____

GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

Survey No. H-6299

Name on Survey	On Chart No. 684		On previous survey No. 7-1464-146		On U. S. S. quadrangle Maps <i>Palmetto Quad</i>		From local information D.R.		On local Maps		P. O. Guide or Map		Rand McNally Atlas		U. S. Light List	
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	K							
<u>Racy Point</u>	✓			✓												1
<u>Elbow Branch</u>	✓				✓											2
McCullach Branch <u>Creek Branch</u>	✓	✓	✓		✓											3
<u>Deadman Point</u>	✓				✓											4
Ninemile <u>Nine Mile Point</u>	✓	✓	✓		✓											5
<u>Moccasin Branch</u>	✓	✓	✓		✓											6
<u>Palmetto Bluff</u>	✓															7
Bridgeport (Point)?	✓	✓	✓		Bridgeport Pt.				JJ							8
<u>Deep Creek</u>	✓	✓	✓		✓											9
<u>Federal Point</u>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓											10
Fairview <u>Verdiere</u>	✓	Verdiere Pt	Verdiere Pt	Verdiere Pt	✓				KK							11
<u>Middle Point</u>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓											12
<u>Fairview</u>	✓				✓											13
Whetstone <u>Whetstone Point</u>	✓		Whetstone	✓	✓											14
<u>Cole Point</u>	✓				✓											15
Dancy Pt <u>Dancy Point</u>	✓		Home of Col. Dancy		✓								Dancy			16
<u>Dog Bar Branch</u>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓											17
<u>St. Johns River</u>	✓	✓														18
<u>Cedar Point</u>	✓	GNS			✓											19
<u>Eagle Head</u>	✓	✓	✓													20
<u>Clay Landing</u>	✓															21
<u>Park R.P.</u>	✓	✓														22
<u>Orange Mills R.P.</u>	✓	✓														23
<u>Oak Kina R.P.</u>	✓	✓														24
																25
	Names underlined in red approved															26
	by <u>GFE</u> on 6/10/38															27

MEMORANDUM

IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

SURVEY
 DESCRIPTIVE REPORT } No. H-6299
~~PHOTOSTAT OF~~ } ~~No. 1~~

{ received May 19, 1938
 { registered May 27, 1938
 { verified
 { reviewed
 { approved

This is forwarded in order that your attention may be directed to the matters as indicated below. Please initial in column 3 as an acknowledgement that your attention has been thus directed. The complete original records are available if desired. If you cannot give this your immediate attention, please initial, note, and forward to the next section marked, calling for the records at your convenience.



ROUTE		Initial	Attention called to
20			
22			
24			
25	✓	<i>T</i>	Pages 2 and 5
26			
30	✓	<i>T. P. Reed</i>	Page 3
40			
62			
63			
82			
83			
88			
90			

RETURN TO

82	T. P. Reed
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V JBR

Note: See also D.R. for Graphic Control sheets JJ, KK for Local Information

	Remarks.	Decisions
1		USGB decision
2		
3	McCullough Cr* Decision 3/5/41	U.S.G.B
4		
5		
6		
7		
8	St. J.J. Bridgeport a local name } A settlement? D.R. (H-6299) Bridgeport Pt } Hold for Planimetric Map	
9		
10		
11	USGB decision 5/10/39	submitted to USGB 6/10/38
12		
13	See planimetric Map - Application uncertain on this sheet	
14		
15		
16	Location of point on this sheet Lat. 29-42.2; 81-34 Pancy 7/25/39 per T 5204	Ref to see also KK 
17		
18		USGB decision
19	Flint Pt. U.S.G.B decision 3/5/41	see H-6298
20	Do not ink on this sheet. no shoreline shown	see D.R. Graphic Control 
21		See D.R.
22		see D.R.
23		see D.R.
24		see D.R.
25		
26		
27		

LAC

TIDE NOTE FOR HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET

July 27, 1938.

Division of Hydrography and Topography:

✓ Division of Charts: Attention: Mr. E. P. Ellis.

Plane of reference

~~Tide reductions are~~ approved in
10 volumes of sounding records for

HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET 6299

Locality Racy Point to Whetstone Point, St. Johns River

Chief of Party: H. A. Paton in 1935

Plane of reference is mean low water reading

1.8 ft. on tide staff at Tocoí

10.1 ft. below B.M.1

Height of mean high water above plane of reference is 1.0 foot.

Condition of records satisfactory except as noted below:



Acting Chief, Division of Tides and Currents.

Section of Field Records

REVIEW OF HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY NO. 6299 (1935) FIELD NO. 24

Racy Point to Whetstone Point, St. Johns River, Florida
Surveyed in May and June 1935, Scale 1:10,000
Instructions dated Nov. 17 and Dec. 5, 1933 (MIKAWA)

Hand Lead Soundings.

3 Point fixes on shore signals.

Chief of Party - H. A. Paton.
Surveyed by - T. M. Williams.
Protracted by - M. K. Spencer and C. I. Hudson.
Soundings plotted by - M. K. S.
Verified and inked by - F. B. Kelly.

1. Condition of Records.

The records are neat and legible and conform to the requirements of the Hydrographic Manual.

The Descriptive Report is complete and satisfactorily covers all items of importance.

2. Compliance with Instructions for the Project.

The survey satisfies the instructions for the project.

3. Shoreline and Signals.

The shoreline and topographic signals originate with topographic maps and graphic control surveys which have not as yet been received in the office. The present survey will be compared with them and the shoreline applied when they are received. See paragraph headed "shoreline" on page one of the Descriptive Report regarding small sections of shoreline that has been inked on the present survey. *The shoreline from T-5203, T-5204, T-5205 and T-5206 drawn on H-6299(1935) Sept. 16, 1939. L.S.S.*

4. Sounding Line Crossings.

The sounding line crossings are satisfactory.

5. Depth Curves.

Within the area of the survey the usual depth curves can be satisfactorily drawn.

Because the range of tide is only one foot no low water line appears on the sheet.

6. Junctions with Contemporary Surveys.

The junctions with H-6298 (1935) on the north and H-6327 (1935) on the west will be considered in the reviews of those surveys.

7. Comparison with Prior Surveys.a. T-2027 (1875) Scale 1:80,000.

This small scale reconnaissance survey contains a single line of soundings in the section of the river covered by the present work. The depths obtained are in fair agreement with the present survey. The old survey, within the common area of the present survey, should be disregarded in future charting.

b. H-1636 (1885), Scale 1:20,000.

This survey covers the entire area of the present survey. The depths agree with the new work generally within one foot over large flat areas, greater differences are due to dredging by the U. S. Engineers subsequent to the old survey. There is no information on the old survey that is not fully covered by the present survey and the former should be superseded for future charting of the common area.

8. Comparison with Chart No. 684 (New print dated Dec. 3, 1937).a. Hydrography.

The chart is based on H-1636 (1885), reported information and surveys by the U. S. Engineers.

Within the area covered, the present survey shows an adequate development of the salient features, and for charting purposes, should supersede all prior information.

The survey shows no evidence of the charted 8 foot dredged channel into Deep Creek. The natural depth in the area of the channel is 7 feet. The descriptive report (page 2), states that Deep Creek is not used. The dredged channel symbol and legend should be omitted from the chart.

b. Controlling Depths.

The present survey shows a controlling depth in June 1935, of 12-1/2 feet in the channel 0.8 of a mile south of Racy Point; the chart shows 13 feet in September 1937.

c. Aids to Navigation.

The charted positions of navigational aids are in agreement with the present survey, except that the range beacons at Racy Point do not properly mark the channel, since the range falls practically on the east side of the cut. Since the Corps of Engineers reported that 13 feet was available

in September 1937 (2-1/4 years after the present survey was made), no further action is recommended.

9. Field Plotting.

The protracting was fair, but too many soundings were inaccurately spaced.

10. Additional Field Work Recommended.

No additional work is required.

11. Superseded Old Surveys.


Within the area covered, the present survey supercedes the following old surveys for charting purposes:

T-2027 (1875) in part (contains hydrography)
H-1636 (1885), in part

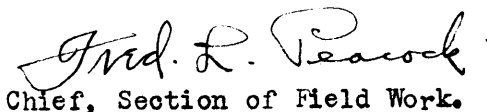
12. Reviewed by - Leo S. Straw, Feb. 28, 1939.

Inspected by - E. P. Ellis.

Examined and approved:



T. B. Reed,
Chief, Section of Field Records.



Chief, Section of Field Work.



Chief, Division of Charts.



Chief, Division of H. & T.

Applied to chart 684 - 6/24/39 PBC

Applied to chart Comp. 686 January 19, 1940 H. MacEwan

Applied to chart comp. 685 (in part) October 26, 1940. L.A.M.