



TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE GEORGE P. BUSH, COMMISSIONER

Surveying Division Coastal Boundary Survey Approval

Project:

Shoreacres Shoreline Restoration

Project No:

SL20170025 GLO

Grant No. F13AF00131 CIAP

Project Manager:

Molly Powell, Upper Coast Regional Manager

Texas General Land Office

Surveyor:

Gregory Schmidt, Licensed State Land Surveyor

Description:

Coastal Boundary Survey, dated May 3, 2014, by Gregory Schmidt, Licensed State Land Surveyor, delineating the line of Mean Higher High Water, along the western shore of Galveston Bay, same line being a portion of the littoral boundary of the William P. Harris Survey, A-30, and being on the western boundary line of Galveston Bay Submerged Land Tract 214, situated at Shoreacres Subdivision and extending approximately 0.6 miles northwesterly from the Houston Yacht Club Marina, coordinates N29°37'17" (29.621450°) W95°00'20" (95.005531°), WGS84. A copy of the survey has been recorded in Book M, Page 412, of

the Harris County Surveyor's Records.

A Coastal Boundary Survey for the above-referenced project has been reviewed and accepted; upon completion of public notice requirements, the survey will be filed in the Texas General Land Office, Archives and Records, in accordance with provisions of the *Texas Natural Resources Code*, Chapter 33.136.

Approved:

Signed:

Surveying Division

Date

Approval Filed as:

Tex. Nat. Res. Code Article 33.136 Harris County, Sketch No. 19

TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFIGE

Art. 33.136, Natural Resources Code

Co. HARRIS, SK No. 19

File Date 12/19/2018 by K. Schre: ber

SURVEYOR'S REPORT COASTAL BOUNDARY SURVEY PART OF THE EASTERLY LINE OF SHOREACRES, A SUBDIVISION OUT OF THE WILLIAM P. HARRIS SURVEY ABSTRACT NO. 30, HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS

At the request of ARUP Texas, Inc. and in my capacity as a Licensed State Land Surveyor in Texas, the line of Mean Higher High Water of a portion of the easterly line of Shoreacres, a subdivision out of the William P. Harris Survey, Abstract Number 30, Harris County, Texas, was conducted under my direction and supervision. This survey was performed as per the requirements outlined in the Coastal Public Lands Management Act of 1973, as amended, Chapter 33, Natural Resources Code, and specifically Section 33.136, Natural Resources Code, "Property Rights: Preservation of Littoral Rights". The purpose of this survey was to evidence "...the location of the shoreline in the area depicted in this survey as that shoreline existed before commencement of erosion response activity..." (Section 33.136(b), Natural Resources Code). The project site is along approximately 3,100 linear feet of the westerly shoreline of Galveston Bay adjacent to the City of Shoreacres.

The William P. Harris Survey borders on Galveston Bay and title was received from the Mexican Government on December 10, 1832. For grants issued by the King of Spain and the Mexican State before the adoption of common law in Texas, the boundary between sea and upland must be determined in accordance with principles announced in Las Siete Partidas, the basic law of Spain and Mexico which defines "shore" as all ground covered with water at high tide during the whole year, whether in winter or summer.

In a decision by the Texas Supreme Court in the case of Luttes vs. State (324 SW 2nd 167, on remand 328 SW 2nd 920) it was found that the littoral boundaries for civil law grants differ from the boundaries of common law grants. The court states that for civil law grants (grants by Spain and Mexico) the boundary is the line of Mean Higher High Water (MHHW) and for common law grants (grants made by the Republic and State of Texas) the boundary is the line of Mean High Water (MHW). This case described that the best method of determining MHHW and MHW is to employ the use of scientific tide gauges.

The Luttes case defined MHHW as a tidal datum that is the average of the higher of the two daily tides observed over a specific 19 year period (epoch) and MHW as a tidal datum that is the average of all high tides over a specific 19 year period (epoch). Tides are defined as the regular and predictable rise and fall in sea level due to the gravitational pull of the sun and moon. Sea levels are also influenced by weather conditions, geographical location and topography of the coastline. The combination of these conditions can result in a wide variation in the elevation of the tidal datum from location to location. Due to this variation, the tidal datum had to be determined at the project location. Because of the impracticality of obtaining 19 years of tide readings at a specific location, methods have been developed to correct short term observations between project site staff gauges, secondary tide gauges (gauges with more than one year but less than 19 years of observations) and a primary tide gauge (gauges with more than 19 years of observations).

TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE Art. 33.136, Natural Resources Code Co. HARRIS, 5 K No. 19

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Tide gauges along the Texas coastline are installed, operated and maintained by agencies such as the Texas Coastal Oceanic Observation Network (TCOON). This project is situated approximately 4 miles south of the Morgan's Point Tide Gauge and approximately 8 miles north of the Eagle Point Tide Gauge, both of which are operated by TCOON and have published offsets between the North American Vertical Datum (NAVD) 88 and the 19 year observed Mean Higher High Water datum.

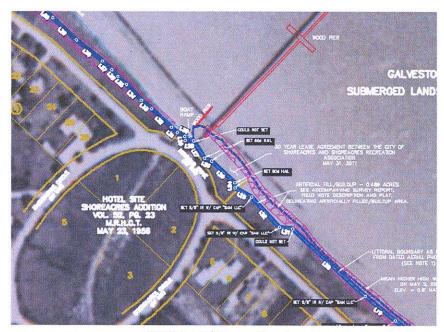
A site staff gauge was installed at the Houston Yacht Club to collect data for approximately 1 week. The gauge used was an OHMEX TideM8 pressure gauge that was calibrated for the ambient temperature, salinity and pressure of the area. Tide data was collected simultaneously with the Morgan's Point and Eagle Point Tide Gauges for four high tide cycles. These readings were compared using the height-difference method resulting in a calculated NAVD88 elevation of 0.88' for MHHW at the site staff gauge.

Using the calculated elevation for the site staff gauge, points were located on the elevation of the Mean Higher High Water line along the westerly shoreline of Galveston Bay for the entire project length. These points were incorporated into a surveyed meander line which was tied to the Texas Coordinate System of 1983, South Central Zone — NAD 83 (1993) using NGS Monument AW5663 "HGCSD 50" for reference. The combined scale factor used for this project is 0.99987928. Published elevation for this point is 8.81' NAVD88.

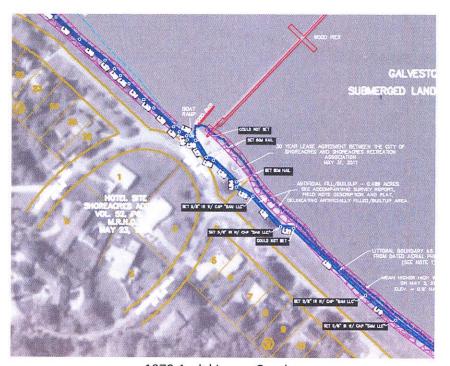
Concrete rubble and slabs have been placed along the majority of the shore in the project area. Since the purpose of this survey is to identify the shoreline as it existed prior to any erosion response activity, historical aerial imagery was reviewed. A digitally scanned aerial photograph dated 8-25-1953 supplied by the Texas General Land Office (TGLO) revealed the potential of a filled or built up area in the vicinity of the present boat ramp and piers when compared to current imagery.

Additional aerial imagery was collected in digital format from the Texas Natural Resources Information System (TNRIS), dated 1957, 1969, 1979 and 1989. Each digital image was overlaid onto the survey aligning pavement and visible occupation lines in Computer Aided Drafting software (CAD). The imagery was turned on and off in the CAD file in sequence to observe shoreline changes over time.

Upon examining the photos the shoreline stayed substantially the same in the two earliest 1953 and 1957 photos, with some erosion noted along the portion of the shore northwest of the boat ramps. The 1969 photo is very grainy and it is difficult to discern the shoreline with any certainty, however a new pier is evident, and the distance from the pavement edge of Miramar Drive to the shoreline increased approximately 45 feet in the vicinity of the docks. The 1979 and 1989 images show this distance increasing even more, on the order of 65' to 75' from the 1953 shoreline. No increase in surface area along the remaining portions of the shoreline was evident. The 1979 and 1989 shorelines closely follow the present MHHW meander line as surveyed. The changes are evident when the 1953 and 1979 imagery is compared, as shown on the following page.



1953 Aerial Image Overlay



1979 Aerial Image Overlay

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For the purposes of this survey it is assumed that the apparent increase in area in the vicinity of the boat dock and piers is the result of either (1) build up as a result of shoreline protection response or (2) fill placed along the shoreline. A line was digitized within the CAD software following the apparent shoreline in the 1953 aerial image. Deviations between this line and the MHHW meander line of the present shore of 10 feet or less were considered to be coincident, due to the methodology and uncertainty in determining the 1953 line from the aerial photo. The 1953 aerial imagery and the subsequent digitized line is the best evidence we have recovered that indicates the shore prior to commencement of any fill, build up, or shoreline protection activities.

A plat showing the results of this survey was prepared and filed with this report.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory Schmidt

Licensed State Land Surveyor

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