

U.S. Hydrography



Mid - Late 19th Century

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About

1 Alexander Dallas Bache, second Superintendent of the Coast Survey. Under his leadership, the Coast Survey was not only a chartmaker, but also one of the great science organizations of the world.

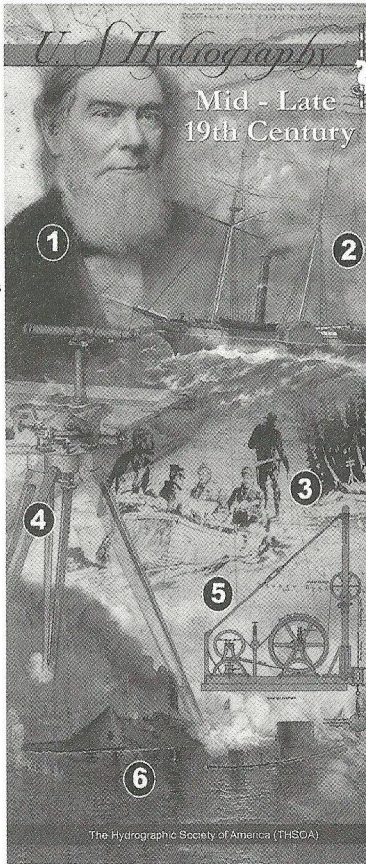
2 An 1852 painting of the US Coast Survey ship ROBERT J. WALKER by W. A. C. Martin. On June 21, 1860, twenty sailors died when the WALKER sank in rough seas after being struck by a commercial schooner.

3 Sketch depicting skiff hydro sounding operations in Alaska during 1898.

4 Diagram of alidade and plane table, primary instruments used for topographic mapping and shoreline delineation prior to aerial photography.

5 Diagram of a Sigsbee Sounding machine, invented by Charles D. Sigsbee. For more than 50 years it was standard equipment for deep-water oceanographic studies.

6 "The Monitor and Merrimac: The First Fight Between Ironclads", a chromolithograph of the Battle of Hampton Roads, produced by Louis Prang & Co., Boston. Credit: U.S. Library of Congress.



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The Hydrographic Society of America (THSOA) mission is to promote education in hydrography.

Founded in 1980, THSOA is a non-profit organization whose membership is open to any individual or organization with an interest in surveying in hydrospace. No formal qualifications are required.



Our mailing address (no office) is Hydrographic Society, 56 Bradley Street, Middletown, CT 06457.

For more information about THSOA, visit our website at www.thsoa.org.