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Date of decision
March 26, 1943

Adopted name Assateague Cove

Description a water area on the northeastern side of Chincoteague Inlet, between Fishing Point and Assateague Point, centering near lat. 37°52'48" N., long. 75°22'00" W., Accomack County, Va. (Not Assateague Anchorage nor Tom Cove.)

| Names | Authorities |
|----------------------|---|
| Assateague Anchorage | 1851 - Coast Survey, hydrog. survey H-297 (on this sheet the present long Fishing Point does not exist, that name being applied near lat. 37°54'. The water area is not named on C.S. hydrog. survey H-1487, 1881, but Fishing Point had by then built up almost to lat. 37°52'). |
| " " | 1902 - U.S.C. & G.S., hydrog. survey H-2615 (title of this sheet. Fishing Point had built up to about its present southernmost extremity, a little south of lat. 37°52', and had started to turn to northwestward). |
| " " | 1908 - U.S.C. & G.S., topog. survey T-2897 (about the same as in 1902, but T-2897a, 1914, shows a further extension of Fishing Point to northwestward). |

Submitted by U. S. C. & G. S.
 Date January 29, 1943
 Card by LH

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Decision of Executive Committee
Assateague Cove
 WLGJ *E.E.C.* KTA

- Assateague Anchorage 1920 - U.S. Corps Eng., Chincoteague Island quad., adv. sheet, also 1942.
- " " 1934 - U.S.C. & G.S., planimetric map T-5201 (hydrog. surv. H-5716, present chart 1220 based on latter).
- " " 1937 - U.S. Coast Pilot, Atlantic Coast, Sec. C, pp. 121 and 125.
- " " 1937 - U.S.C. & G.S., chart 1220, reissued 1938 & 1941.
- " " 1937 - U.S.C. & G.S., chart 1221, reissued 1938 & 1941.
- " " 1940 - U.S. Light List, North Atlantic Coast, p. 224 (After No. 1375 and p. 226, sub-title. Also 1942 ed., p. 236).
- Assateague Anch. 1941 - U.S.C. & G.S., chart 1109, also 1942.

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Local usage

Tom Cove

C.& G.S. (1942) field party consulted 10 local authorities who verify this name as in wide use for many years. Recommended by field party.

Assateague Anchorage

C.& G.S. (1942) field party found 2 local authorities who verify this name.

Comment in 1942 names report: This cove was widely known as Assateague Anchorage, because it was rather deep and offered shelter for ships during storms. However, during the last several decades this cove has filled in and has become very shallow. The name "anchorage" no longer fits it because it is too shallow for ships. It is now merely a good oyster cove. The name "Tom Cove" has come to be applied to this feature, and this name has become famous for the well-known "Tom Cove" oysters produced there.

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The 1937 Coast Pilot (p. 121) states that in 1934 the depths in this water area were from 9 to 15 feet, with a controlling entrance depth of 10 ft. It also states that Fishing Point is building up rapidly to northwestward, at a rate of about 75 yards a year. Since the 1942 names report (p. 73, under New Inlet) likewise states that Assateague Point is also growing in size, it is probable that the depths here may be even less than in 1934, thus rendering the term "anchorage" still less appropriate. It would, therefore, seem possible that within a relatively short period of time these two points may merge, or at least come very close together, a factor to be taken into consideration in connection with this case.

The 1908 C. & G.S. topographic survey T-2897 has the name TOMS COVE applied to a small cove indenting the extreme northeastern part of this body of water. According to the 1942 names report, this is FYKES COVE (5 local authorities, in wide use at least 40 years), the name being derived from that of small nets called "fykes", used here in fishing.

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Light No. 1412 (N. Atl. L.L. 1940, p. 226) is called TOMS COVE Light -- situated where Fishing Point turns to north-westward.

The newly reported name is thus associated with this feature by several other authorities.

(U.S.C. & G.S., 1/29/43)