



## Station Brazos, Texas

Later named Station Port Isabel; renamed Station South Padre Island in 1998.

USLSS Station #6, Eighth District

Coast Guard Station #222

<b>Location:</b>	North end of Brazos Island, entrance to Brazos Santiago; 26-04' 00"N x 97-08' 00"W
<b>Date of Conveyance</b>	1879
<b>Station Built:</b>	1881 (?)
<b>Fate:</b>	Sold to Brownsville Navigation District in 1958

### Remarks:

Station South Padre Island has had a life-saving presence along the Gulf of Mexico for the last 83 years. The original station, named Brazos Santiago, was established in 1881.

A lifesaving station was established on Boca Chica beach in 1918 and was named Station Brazos. A hurricane destroyed the station in 1919 and it was rebuilt by 1923 at a new location on the southern end of South Padre Island to a building that was used for 50 years.

The current station was constructed in 1974, which houses the main office spaces and duty crew berthing. Though the old building is still standing, it is now used as an annex for the University of Texas-Brownsville/Texas Southmost College. In 1998, Station Port Isabel was renamed to Station South Padre Island reflecting the island name and the actual geographic location of the station.

### Keepers:

Charles L. Cardiff was appointed keeper on 30 December 1881 and was discharged on 5 September 1882.


Thomas W. Norman was appointed keeper on 5 September 1882 and transferred to Station San Luis on 24 November 1888.

Fenwick W. Thomas was appointed keeper on 1 December 1888 and declined the appointment on 29 December 1889.

John Flynn was appointed keeper on 1 February 1889 and resigned for physical reasons on 15 July 1904.

John Hangland was appointed keeper on 31 August 1904 and transferred to Station San Luis on 22 January 1906.

Wallace L. Reed was appointed keeper on 15 January 1906 and was still serving in 1929.

Photographs:	Description:
	<p>Original caption: "FRONT VIEW OF THE FINEST COAST GUARD STATION IN THE WORLD IF RIGID INSPECTION AND FIRST QUALITY OF MATERIALS AND WORKMANSHIP COUNT FOR ANYTHING [;] THE FINEST COAST GUARD STATION IN THE WORLD [;] 1923 [;] CONTRACT 92.24% COMPLETE."; Photo by J. C. Ocker, taken 4 July 1923; no photo number.</p>
	<p>Original caption: "VIEW LOOKING FROM THE</p>



VIEW LOOKING FROM THE WEST  
75.18% COMPLETED

WEST 75.18% COMPLETED."; Photo by J. C. Ocker, taken 4 July 1923; no photo number.



BRAZOS JAN 1937  
LOOKING N.E.

Original caption: "Brazos Jan 1937 Looking N. E."; photographer unknown; no photo number.

**STATION  
SOUTH  
PADRE  
ISLAND (FOR  
RELEASE)**

SOUTH  
PADRE  
ISLAND, Texas  
(Feb 7)--Co-  
located with  
the Coast



Guard Cutter Amberjack, an 87-foot coastal patrol boat, at Station South Padre Island is the Coast Guard Aids to Navigation Team South Padre Island. USCG photo by PA2 James Dillard; dated 7 February 2001.



**STATION SOUTH PADRE ISLAND (FOR RELEASE)**

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, Texas (Feb 7)--Co-located with the Coast Guard Cutter Amberjack, an 87-foot coastal patrol boat, at Station South Padre Island is the Coast Guard Aids to Navigation Team South Padre Island. USCG photo by PA2 James Dillard; dated 7 February 2001.

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