



# USS Arizona: Mapping in the 1980s



Detailed mapping of the wreck began in 1982 and took several years to complete during hundreds of dives by NPS and U.S. Navy personnel.

Using plastic tape measures and the process of trilateration to locate thousands of points on the hull, decks and superstructure, the divers made detailed maps of the sunken hull. They also identified and described 400 features on the decks, many of them pieces of debris, which were assigned identification numbers and then added to the map, which was completed in 1986.

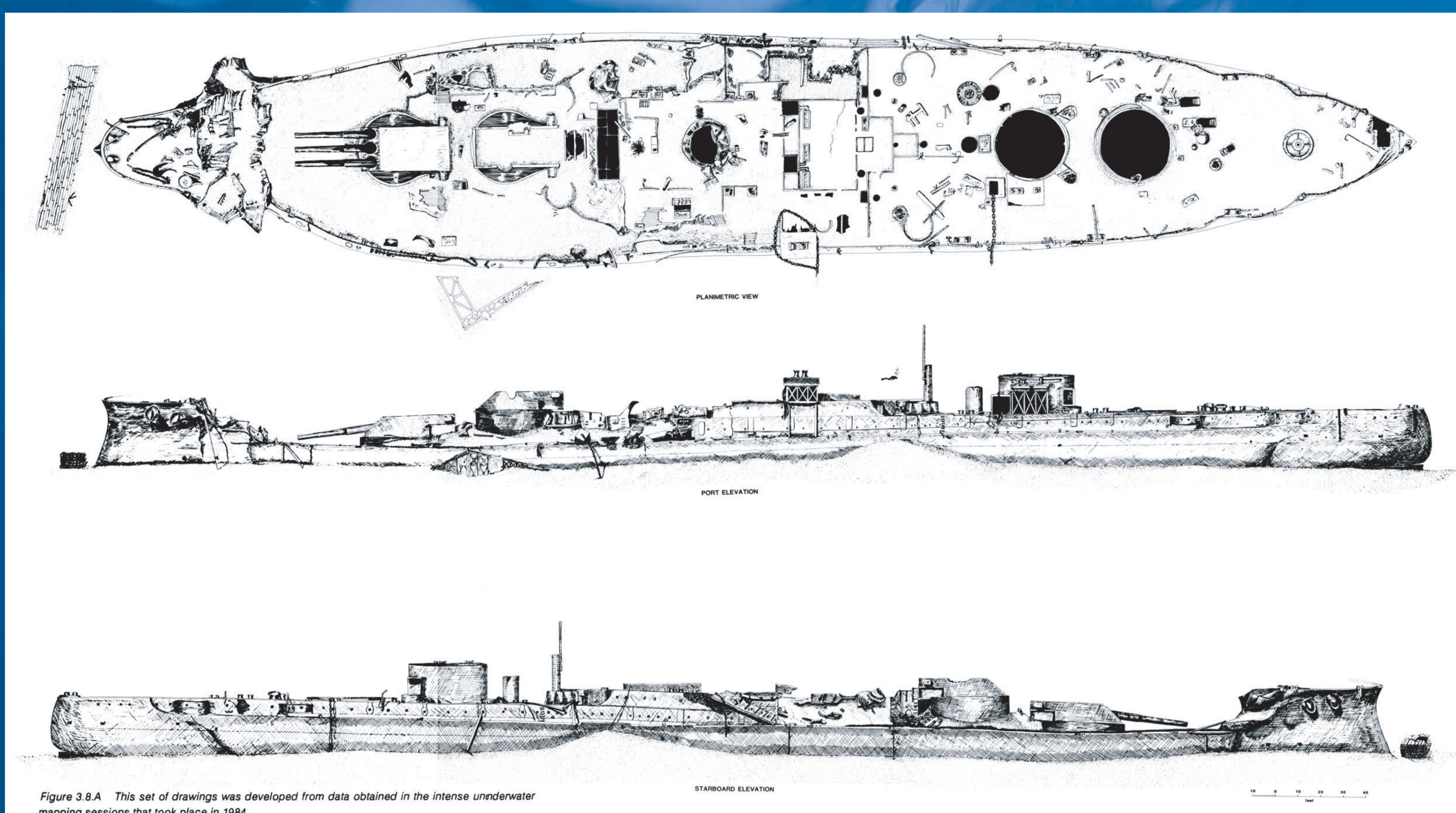
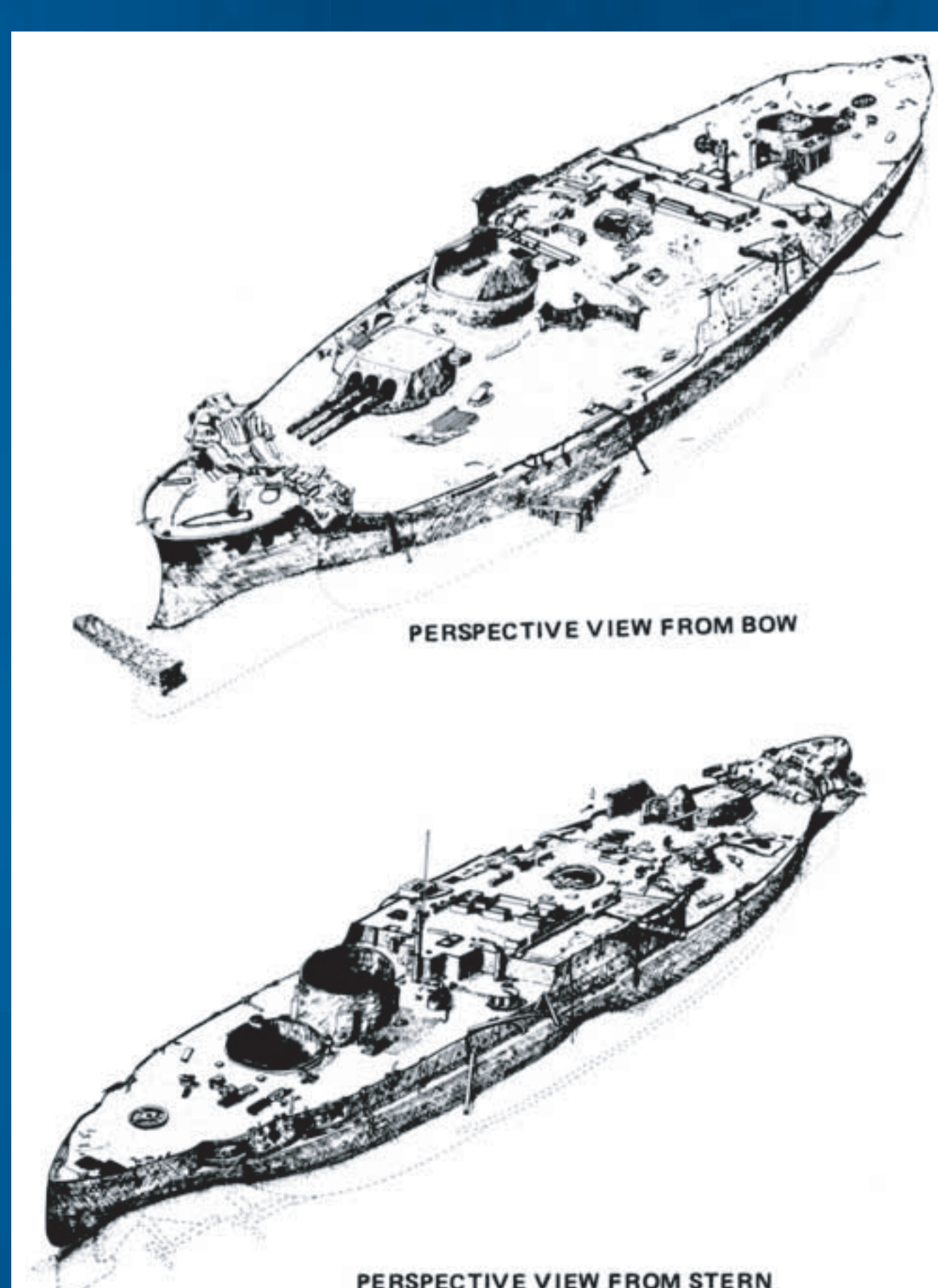


Figure 3.8A This set of drawings was developed from data obtained in the intense underwater mapping sessions that took place in 1984.

*NPS-Submerged Resources Center USS Arizona map from 1980s diver operations.*



*NPS-SRC USS Arizona map from 1980s diver operations.*

This map formed the core of what would become the USS *Arizona* GIS. Using the original ship plans, the 1980s data and new information that would be gathered by Submerged Resources Center divers equipped with state-of-the-art mapping equipment, the USS *Arizona* GIS project would be able to meet its goals of establishing a baseline network of measurements across the vessel to monitor hull movement and to provide permanent datum points for locating hundreds of structural features and artifacts on the ship's deck.