1895

Form 504

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey Topographic

Field No. ..... Office No. 1895

LOCALITY

State Florida

General locality Pensacola

Locality Bay

1889

~~194~~

CHIEF OF PARTY

P. A. Welker

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U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

F. M. Thorn, Superintendent.

State: Florida.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topo. & ~~Hyd.~~ Sheet No. 1895.

LOCALITY:

Bayou Grande, a Tributary of Pensacola Bay.

1889.

CHIEF OF PARTY:

P. A. Welker.

1895

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U. S. COAST & GEODETIC SURVEY
SEP 9 1889
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey
F. M. Thorn, Superintendent

State: Florida

Descriptive Report
Topographic and ~~Hydrographic~~ Sheet No. 1895

Locality
Bayou Grande
A Tributary of Pensacola Bay

1889

Chief of Party
P. A. Welker

U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey Office,

Washington, Sept 6th, 1889.

U.S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
SEP 9 1889
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

Mr. T. C. Mendenhall,
Supt. U. S. C. & G. Survey,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

In compliance with "Instructions and Memoranda for Descriptive Reports, 1887," I beg leave to submit the following report of the work performed by the party of P. A. Welker, Sub-Assist. on the survey of Bayou Grande, a tributary of Pensacola Bay, Florida, 1889.

The work consists of a topographic and hydrographic survey on a scale of $\frac{1}{10000}$.

The topographic survey was made entirely with the plane table and no triangulation points were located on the bayou.

Bayou Grande is a salt water stream emptying into Pensacola Bay about two miles north of Pensacola Navy Yard. The stream is not navigable on account of the shallow water at its mouth.

It is irregular in shape, with numerous arms usually heading in a fresh water swamp. The distance from the mouth to the head is about six miles.

The shore line is almost entirely of hard sand beach and the soil along the beach is sandy. Within about 1½ miles of the head, however, the stream begins to narrow rapidly and the shore line is marshy.

The surrounding country is low generally and is a mixture of sand and clay of a yellowish color. It is heavily timbered, the trees being from 20 to 100 feet in height, and the proportion of arable land is small. Numerous swamps are scattered about.

Some peaches, plums, and vegetables are raised though generally the soil is not good for agricultural purposes.

Most of the heavy timber is in the large swamps. It consists of spruce, pitch, and yellow pine; scattering live-oak, water oak, and scrub-oak; a little cypress and juniper, mostly small trees; a little cedar; red bay and sweet bay; magnolia

and palmetto. In the swamps there is also a thick growth of underbrush of various kinds ranging from 1 to 10 feet in height, generally scrub-oak.

Pine timber is still being cut in this locality but not to a great extent as most of that which was valuable has been taken out. There are no saw mills on the bayou and what lumber is cut is taken to Pensacola in rafts.

The shore line in the vicinity of the mouth of the bayou has washed away considerably, this being shown by the fact that the triangulation point "Bayou Grande" of 1856 is now under water.

Starting from a point about ½ mile outside of the mouth of the bayou to about ½ mile inside, there is a sand bar with only from 2 to 3 feet of water on it.

Upon reaching Jones' Point the water rapidly increases in depth and 10 feet (?) can be carried up the main channel for about 3 miles (soundings have not yet been plotted.) The greatest depth in the chan-

nel is 17.7 feet.

The main road from Warrington to Pensacola crosses the bayou over a trestle bridge at its mouth. This bridge has no draw and there is only about five feet between the floor of the bridge and the water, at an ordinary tide. There is also a low trestle bridge across the bayou about one mile from its head.

Only the high water line is shown on the sheet.

The most delightful place on the bayou is at its mouth where there are several pretty houses.

Mullet, trout, and other salt water fish and a few oysters are found.

The system of execution of the hydrography was of zigzagging across the bayou and running longitudinal lines through the channel.

The general character of the bottom is fine sand. At some places, especially towards the head, mud and grass are found.

The various roads on the sheet all lead to Warrington and are the only means of communication. Most of them are not in a very good condition for travel on account of the deepness of the sand while others are poorly defined.

Warrington is the nearest place and post office.

Fences are built of wood and wire.

The mean range of tides for the few days was 1.56 feet and the difference between highest and lowest tide was 1.75 feet.

The general character of the weather during season was good.

Statistics and table of reference will be found appended.

Very respectfully,
Chas. H. Deetz,
Recorder.

Statistics

Number of Plane Table and Hydrographic signals	54
" " miles of shore line surveyed	26.1
" " " " marsh " "	13.5
" " " " fences surveyed	7
" " " " roads "	7
" " " " creeks "	3.7
Approx. area of (sq. miles) country surveyed	5

Hydrography

Area sounded in sq. miles (nautical)	1.7
Number of miles of sounding	52.8
" " angles measured	758
" " positions determined	379
" " soundings	7253
Tidal stations established	1

Topography and Hydrography on one sheet

Table of Reference

Date 1889	Letters	Vol's	Number of Angles	Number of Soundings	Number of Miles (N)	Boat used	In charge
Apr. 17	a	1	186	1644	10.74	Cutter	P. A. Welker
" 18	b	1 & 2	162	2285	16.19	"	"
" 19	c	2 & 3	184	1932	10.53	"	"
" 20	d	3	226	1392	15.33	"	"
Totals	4	3	758	7253	52.79		