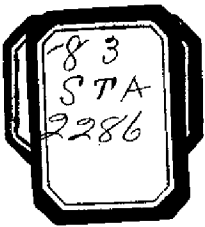


2286

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Form 504	
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY	
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE	
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT	
Type of Survey	<i>Topographic</i>
Field No.	Office No. <i>2286</i>
LOCALITY	
State	<i>Maryland</i>
General locality	<i>Chesapeake</i>
Locality	<i>Bay and Potapscow</i>
	<i>River 1898</i>
	<i>194</i>
CHIEF OF PARTY	
<i>O. B. French & Ogden</i>	
LIBRARY & ARCHIVES	
DATE	



2286

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

Henry S. Pritchett, Superintendent.

State: *Maryland*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographical Sheet No. *2286*

LOCALITY:

*Chesapeake Bay and Potomac
River*

1898

CHIEF OF PARTY:

O. B. French, Assistant

2286

W.D. G.
85757D
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1898

Desc. Report

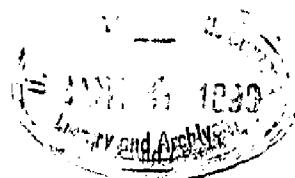
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U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY,

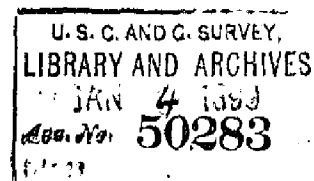
Library and Archives.

Washington, D. C.,

Nov. 16th., 1898.



Dr. Henry S. Pritchett,
Superintendent C. & G. Survey,
Washington, D. C.,



Sir:-

The following is a report to accompany topographic sheet No. 2286.

The territory covered by this sheet is on the southwest side of the Patapsco River, and extends back to the main county road from Baltimore to the north side of the Magothy River. The limits on the north are Curtis Bay, Cabin Branch, then a line westward to Cedar Hill Cemetery, and thence southwest to the road toward Pumphrey Station. The lower limit is the 39° 05' parallel of latitude westward nearly to Linstid triangulation station on Eagle Hill, thence northward to the main county road above mentioned.

The general character of the country is rolling with numerous creeks, or arms of the bay or river, extending back some distance from the main body of water. In several cases these creeks extend to the limits of the work. Along the banks of the creeks are numerous gullies or ravines through most of which flow small streams from springs.

The shore line along the Patapsco and out along the Bay is mostly bordered by eroded cliffs ranging in height from 5 to 40 feet. These cliffs are also seen occasionally along the creeks and small streams although not so prominent as along the Bay and Patapsco River.

The soil is quite varied ranging from stiff clay to soft sand of a silex character. The roads are usually very sandy and poor excepting parts of the main county road (particularly near Baltimore) which has been shelled and is as good as could be desired. The grades are very fair for a rolling country. The means of communication are by both land and water. A daily steamer runs between Baltimore and Rock and Stony Creeks, and the B. and A. Short Line R.R., which passes about a mile from Marley, offers ready communication both toward Baltimore and Annapolis. The creeks shown on the sheet are navigable nearly to their heads for light draft vessels, the greatest difficulty being to cross the bars at their entrances.

The vegetation in this section is quite varied. The streams are usually lined with small trees and brush, and some parts of the country are still uncleared. The forests consist mostly of small deciduous trees and brush with occasionally a grove of pine or cedar trees. Whenever the land has been cleared and then allowed to grow up again it is usually covered with a pine thicket.

Near Baltimore the arable land is devoted to the raising of small fruits and trucking. Farther away melons and cantelopes, and grains are the predominating products of the soil. These latter are usually marketed by small schooners plying up and

down the creeks. There are very few fruit trees excepting peach orchards and these are not very numerous.

There are no towns or villages in the territory covered by this sheet. There are several small picnic grounds on the banks of the creeks but no health or pleasure resorts of any prominence.

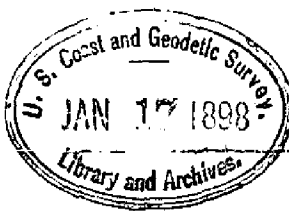
One noticable feature in this section is the absence of all fences excepting a very small enclosure about a few of the dwelling houses.

There are two small iron bridges shown on the sheet and another is to be constructed, I understand, at the head of Rock Creek. A new long bridge is under construction near the mouth of Curtis Creek at Walnut Point. Many of the culverts in the gullies and across small streams are wooden and are weak and often not very safe.

A U. S. Marine Hospital is located at Leading Point about half way between Curtis Bay and Hawkins Point on the Patapsco River.

At Hawkins Point is a modern fort with several large guns in place. Adjoining the fort is a large factory for the preparation of fertilizers. Hawkins Pt. and the Marine Hospital have telephonic connection with Baltimore.

Very respectfully submitted
Oliver B. Truick
Assistant C. S. S.



U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

Gen. W. W. Duffield, Superintendent.

State: *Maryland.*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. 2286.

LOCALITY:

*Chesapeake Bay,
Patapsco River.*

1898.

CHIEF OF PARTY:

H. E. Ogden, Assist.

✓
All communications should be forwarded
under cover to the "Superintendent U. S.
Coast and Geodetic Survey, Washington, D. C."

JAN 15 1898 36926

Treasury Department,

Office of the Coast and Geodetic Survey,

Washington, D. C., _____, 189 .

Descriptive Report

Topog. sheet No 2286 - Chesapeake Bay, Patuxent River etc.

H. G. Ogden 1898

This region may be described generally as rolling land, the hill tops with an elevation of about 100 ft above Tide water. The formation at places is quite complex. The soil is sandy but yields good crops with the aid of fertilizers. It is a garden truck region the farmers finding a ready market in Baltimore, where the product is demanded in the season by small boats generally employed in oyster dredging during the winter months.

The region is peculiar in its artificial or cultural details in that there are no fences, even on the road sides. The majority of roads are only cart tracks through the fields, and are liable to be

shifted as the requirements of the farmers demand. The county roads are made of shell in part, with this exception the roads are all heavy & bad traveling. The county roads & some others used as the main lines of communication have been shown on the sheet by full lines.

The county is supplied with regular communication to Baltimore by small steamer plying between that city & the landings on Rock & Stony Creeks. The "Annapolis short line R.R." is also available some six or seven miles back from the River.

The inhabitants depend upon wells for drinking water & for stock, but few of them, however, maintain more stock than a couple of horses & a cow. There are no pasture lands. A number of small springs are noted, breaking out at the foot of the Bluffs, notably at the head of Rock Creek and at the wharf in Fox Cove, are some of the same creek. There is also good water at the

mouth of Rock Cr. an arm of Bodkui Cr.
and a spring at the head of the main branch
of Bodkui Cr. On the County Road back of
Bodkui there is a large (?) fresh pond, that
empties into Bodkui Cr. The stream is but a
thread & the water of the pond is reputed not
palatable, there is a fine spring house at
the head of the pond. There are doubtless other
springs that I did not meet with. The supply
from those I sampled seemed to be small.

There are no running streams or rivulets during
the summer months, but the condition of the
stream beds indicated that at times they may
carry a considerable body of water.

A comparison of the sheet with the original
survey in 1851-5 shows very few changes in natural
features. There has been comparatively little erosion
along shore, except the extending of Rock Pt and the
northern face near the Pt., nor has there been much

building, where the shore is protected by groves
 as frequently occurs in this section, the two swamps
 are nearly identical. The building is more observable
 at the mouths of the smaller creeks; the encroach-
 ments at the entrances to Rock & Bodkin Creeks,
 under water, are the cause of some alarm
 among the people and they believe the end
 is being accelerated by the deposit on the
 flats of the material dredged out of the channels.
 It seems probable that natural causes alone will
 close these creeks eventually.

The weather during August & Sept. was
 very favorable for work except for the heat in the
 early part of Sept. In my report to the Supt.
 I have referred to this subject in detail.

About 10 miles of shoreline, embracing
 mire and swamps is the equivalent of a square
 mile of interior topography. On this sheet there
 are 49 miles of such shoreline, equal to about

five (5) square miles. Omitting consideration of shoreline then we obtained between July 22 and Sept 22 - two months, 7 sq miles of Topog. including water areas of the creeks, at cost for Party expenses of \$46.18 per sq mile; during the next month there was a great deal of sickness in the party, greatly delaying the work, but by the 21 October the area had been increased to 21 square miles at average cost of \$52.79 per sq. mi.; if we add to this 5 sq. mi. for the equivalent of the shoreline, we should have for interior Topog. 26 sq miles at \$42.64 per sq. mi. with an average of nearly 9 sq. mi. per month. The work is on scale of 20,000.

Herbert G. Ogden
Asst. C.E.S.