

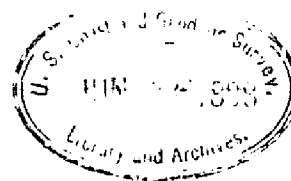
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Form 504	
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY	
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE	
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT	
Type of Survey	<i>Topographic</i>
Field No.	Office No. <i>2306</i>
LOCALITY	
State	<i>Louisiana</i>
General locality	<i>Lake Pont-</i>
Locality	<i>chartrain</i>
	<i>North Shore</i>
	<i>194</i>
	<i>1898</i>
	CHIEF OF PARTY
	<i>P. A. Melker</i>
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DATE	



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U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

Henry S. Pritchett, Superintendent.

State: *Louisiana*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. *2306*

LOCALITY:

Lake Pontchartrain

North Shore

Mandeville, Lewisburg.

1898.

CHIEF OF PARTY:

Assistant T.A. Welker.

2306 06

Write me at:.....

Telegraph me at:.....

My Express Office is:.....

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY,

Lake Pontchartrain, La.March 11th, 1898

2-547

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

Sir:

I have the honor to submit
 the following Descriptive Report to
 accompany the topographic sheet of
 the north shore of Lake Pontchartrain, ^{No. 2306}
 which includes the towns of Mand-
 riville and Twisburg.

The sheet covers all the shore line
 between Ragged Point, on the east, and
 a point about a half mile east of
 the mouth of the Chefumcte River, on
 the west, along the north side of Lake
 Pontchartrain, and includes all the
 territory adjacent to the shore for a
 distance of two or three miles back
 from the water.

The country covered by the sheet is low and flat, the soil being sandy, covered usually with a thin vegetable loam.

A cypress, or gum, swamp usually lines the shore and all bayous or streams, varying in width from a few feet to nearly a mile. A narrow strip of sand or hard ground borders immediately on the shore varying in width from five (5) metres to fifty (50) metres. The bordering swamp disappears at only two places along the shore, one at the town of Mandeville and the other at Louisburg, about two miles west of Mandeville.

East of Green Point a grass marsh separates the cypress swamp from the shore but west of Green Point this grass marsh disappears and is not seen again until the extreme western edge of the sheet is reached. Here it is merely a large area surrounded by the cypress swamp, and is just east of the Chupuncte River.

Back of the swamp the country is fairly hard and dry excepting during rainy weather when it is wet and soft the

country being so flat the water cannot run off quickly. This hard land is covered (excepting for occasional clearings) with pine and live oak timber with deciduous trees or brush growing wherever the ground is low and wet.

The roads shown on the sheet are usually in fair condition for travel although sometimes muddy and often somewhat sandy. They are merely wagon tracks through the woods excepting near the towns. Only one R.R. is on the sheet; viz. East Louisiana R.R., which extends toward the north connecting with the N.O. & N.E. R.R. at Pearl River.

Maudwith has telegraphic connection with Covington and other points.

The towns of Maudwith and Lewisburg are summer resorts principally. There is one saw mill at Maudwith and no other factories or mills in the territory covered by the sheet.

The means of communication are either by water or land. During the summer season regular steamers run

between New Orleans, and Mandeville and
Lewistown. There is a train once every
day to and from New Orleans (from
Mandeville) via Pearl River.

The small bayous shown on the
sketch are not navigable for anything
excepting very small boats as there is
only about one to two feet of water
at their mouths and they are too
narrow for boats of any size. Big Branch
and Big Bayou Caubin are fairly deep
for a short distance however, after
once getting in, and there is plenty
water to float larger boats than can
get in.

All the bridges shown are rough
wooden structures and not so very
strong or sound.

The fences are either wooden or wire
and a number are in a dilapidated
condition.

All the buildings are wooden, with two
or three exceptions, and a large number
are old and almost in ruins.

Very little of the country is cleared

excepting a few patches near the towns. Some of the old clearings have been abandoned and are now covered with a thick growth of small pines or deciduous brush. There are no orchards, with mentioning, on the shore excepting a few small pecan groves and a few isolated fruit trees around the houses.

Yours very respectfully,

Owen B. French

Assistant. C. & S.

Chief of Party: Assistant P. A. Walker.