2310

83
S7A
2310

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

Henry S. Pritchett, Superintendent.

State: California

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographical Sheet No. 2310

LOCALITY:

Resurvey San Francisco Bay, San Mateo to San Carlos

1897-98

CHIEF OF PARTY:

Ferdinand Westdahl, under direction of Asst. A. F. Rodgers

2310

Descriptive Report to accompany topographic sheet entitled

Treasury Department

U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey

Henry S. Pritchett Superintendent

Pacific Coast

Re-survey of San Francisco Bay

California

San Mateo to San Carlos

Topographic Survey under the direction of

Assistant Aug. F. Rodgers

by Ferdinand Westdahl Assistant

x x x x x x x x x

Scale $\frac{1}{10.000}$

This is a resurvey entirely of the area covered with solid land, but only in part of the marsh lands. Roads and fences are accurately surveyed when it was practical to do so. Houses are determined by one pod-reading only, or by intersection, except large and prominent buildings. Houses surrounded by shrubbery and ornamental grounds are paced in and the garden walks and drive-ways sketched approximately. Small fences surrounding

barns, town-lots, etc. are sketched or omitted altogether.

Contours. The contours are referred to the level of the marsh lands in their natural state. The 70 ft. contour on the entire sheet is surveyed with a leveling instrument and plane-table; the 40 ft. contour from the NW. limit of the sheet to Belmont only, and the rest sketched in approximately owing to want of time. The contours of the Angelo △ hill, except the 70 ft., are copied from the original survey, but the small hill at Laurel Creek was leveled to the summit.

Towns and settlements. San Mateo is the largest town within the area covered by this sheet. (It was formerly the county seat.) The business part has several brick buildings occupied as stores, hotels, etc. There is a small fruit-canning but no other manufacturing industry. The town derives its support from the large number of villas in its vicinity to the Westward and Southwestward, all occupied by wealthy people. There is also some trade with farmers in interior valleys towards the coast, and there is a daily stage hence to Spanishtown and Pescadero.

Homestead is a small settlement clustered around a store

and post-office, school-house, and a church, with several small farms in the vicinity. It lies off the line of the railroad and has no station.

At Laurel Creek is a R. R. station, now called "Burrford", where trains stop occasionally for passengers and morning and afternoon for freight. There are dairy farms here supplying the San Francisco market with milk.

Belmont has two small hotels, neither crowded at any time, two stores, a blacksmith shop, post-office, and a few other tradesmens houses. A private school for girls and a military school for boys are located about one mile from the R. R. station in the narrow valley through which runs the Angelo Creek.

San Carlos is a new town-site with few houses and great hopes. It is noted for its very substantial and quaint R. R. station built of rough sandstone by the projectors of the town, and much money has been spent in building roads and other improvements.

Between San Carlos and Belmont, abreast of Angelo △ hill and indeed including it, is another town-site called "Sunnyside". Its it are but three or four small houses westward of the R. R., and

numerous white-painted block-stakes in the grain fields between the R. R. and the marsh.

The shade-trees along the roads are generally Eucalyptus trees or cypress. The native oaks are rarely found below the 20 ft. contour.

On the marsh lands the shore-line and principal sloughs have been re-surveyed, and all improvements, such as Oyster beds, houses, dykes, etc. existing there. Where a change in the small sloughs had taken place, such as a new connection with another slough or the closing of a former boat passage, it was surveyed if known or suspected, but all minor changes could not be noted without going over the entire area. Generally the flats at the head-waters of the sloughs are being gradually contracted by the growth of marsh grass. The boundary line between the marsh and the dry land is in many places illy defined, caused principally by the tramping of grazing cattle. The dykes built over the marsh lands are generally ineffective owing to the imperfect damming of the small sloughs crossed by them. These dams have nearly all washed out and the ditches created by the building of the dykes have assisted in forming new connections

between sloughs. After the high tides prevailing in winter months as soon as the marshes are uncovered a very swift current runs through these small sloughs and ditches. They are consequently deep though not wide. The area westward of Hayward's Landing, now abandoned because of the filling up of the slough leading to the bay, is enclosed by the only effective dyke within the limits of the sheet. The old sloughs within this dyke still exist and contain water, but it stands at a lower level than that of the adjacent sloughs and is gradually being freshened by winter rains. The marsh land within is solidifying and sinking below the level of the surrounding marsh in a natural state. It is first utilized for grazing cattle and soon becomes fit for cultivation. I have been informed that such reclaimed land is very productive.

Respectfully submitted

Ferdinand Westdahl

Assistant

Respectfully forwarded at request of Assist. Westdahl with letter of explanation in regard to Descriptive Report for 8th Sheet executed by him

Very Respectfully, Allg. O. Rodgers Assistant

UNITED STATES COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
SUB-OFFICE
JUN 22 1898
SAN FRANCISCO
CAL