

2380

Form 504

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey

Topographic

Field No.

Office No.

2380

LOCALITY

State

Va - Md

General locality

Fox Islands

Locality

1895

194

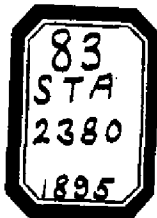
CHIEF OF PARTY

W. C. Hodgkins

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2380



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U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

W. W. Duffield Superintendent.

State: *Va. & Md.*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. *2380*

LOCALITY:

Fox Islands.

1895.

CHIEF OF PARTY:

W. C. Hodgkins

2380

Descriptive Report
to accompany Top^c Sheet N^o 2380 of the
Fox Islands, Chesapeake Bay, Virginia.

— " —

These islands are low and marshy and are much cut up by coves and creeks.

In places along the western edge of the chain a sandy ridge or beach is found, apparently the last vestige of the formerly considerable area of solid land. There are to be sure one or two small patches of such land still left on Great Fox Id., but they are inconsiderable.

These islands are all rapidly disappearing and it will require but a comparatively short time to complete their effacement.

The western, or Tangier, shore is rather bold giving heavy seas free access to the bank, where the marsh, underlaid by quicksand, is easily undermined and broken up into lumps which quickly disintegrate. In bad storms the waves wash completely across the islands and spread the material upon the flats to the eastward or carry it off into the deep water to westward.

The "Fox Poplar," on Great Fox Island, is the only tree of any size on any of the islands.

There is no agriculture, trade or commerce, and there are no inhabitants. At the time of the survey, the owner of the islands, Mr. Wm Ellinger was living in the only house, near the Maryland line, and was endeavoring to begin the culture of oysters.

This survey was made at the request of the Governor of Virginia, to afford a basis for certain grants made by an act of the General Assembly of Virginia to Mr. Ellinger.

W. C. Hodgkins
Chief of Party