



2482

52090

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

Henry S. Pritchett , Superintendent.

State: *Cal.*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. *2482*

LOCALITY:

*Pacific Coast Resurvey
of San Francisco Bay,
Portion of the City of San
Francisco including Golden
Gate Park.*

1899-1900

CHIEF OF PARTY:

Fremont Morse

2482



Description Report & accompanying Topographic
sheet entitled:

Treasury Department 52090
U.S. Coast & Geodetic Survey

Henry S. Pritchett, Superintendent
Pacific Coast

Resurvey of San Francisco Bay
Portion of the City of San Francisco

Including Golden Gate Park

Surveyed Dec 15, 1899 to Jan. 9th, 1900.

By Fremont Morse, Assistant

Scale 10000

This sheet embraces a strip of country about two miles wide extending East and West across the San Francisco Peninsula, and including the greater part of the City of San Francisco. While executing the field work the outside shore line, along the ocean beach, was resurveyed, as were also the scattering built up portions of the outskirts of the city. In this way sufficient street intersections were located on the sheet to control the plotting of the rest of the city streets, which were taken partly from a copy of the City Map obtained from

the Board of Public Works and partly from the reduction of the City Map made by Assistant L.A. Sengstetter in 1882. The contour lines within the built up portion of the city were sketched in by eye from the heights of street intersections obtained from the Board of Public Works. Outside of these limits they were transferred from the work of the former survey. Golden Gate Park was reduced from a tracing of the large scale map (100 ft. to the inch) in use by the Park Commission. The city shore line and shore line on the Bay side of the sheet were transferred from a tracing of Assistant Cristobal's work of 1895 (Assistant Aug. F. Rodgers, Chief of Party).

The shore line on the Western end of the sheet is mostly a sand beach, which ends at the base of the cliff near the Cliff House. Back from the beach the country rises in a gradual slope, which is covered with shifting sands blown in from the ocean for a distance of about two miles. A strip of this sandy waste has been brought under cultivation and the sands controlled in the Golden Gate Park, and now is covered with trees, which from the water presents a very marked

contrast to the bare sands on either side.

In the vicinity of the Cliff House the land rises abruptly until at a distance of about a third of a mile from the shore it reaches a height of about 300 feet.

The Cliff House is built on the edge of a rocky bluff opposite the Seal Rocks, and is one of the noted resorts of San Francisco. The outlying seal rocks are the home of numerous sea lions, which add greatly to the interest of a trip to the Cliff. Close to the Cliff House and occupying a little cove to the north of it are the Suter Baths. They are enclosed in a large building, and consist of several large swimming tanks supplied with sea water heated to different temperatures. The baths are said to be among the finest in the country.

To the Eastward of the Cliff House, and overlooking it, are the grounds of the residence of the late Adolph Suter, the builder of the baths just mentioned. These grounds are beautifully laid out and are well kept. They are open to the public.

Communication with the city is rendered easy by a steam R.R. which winds around the cliffs

of the South shore of the Golden Gate, and an electric line which traverses Pt. Lobos Av, Clement, and California streets into town. A second electric line has its terminus near the shore south of the Cliff and runs along the front of the Park and turns towards town along H. street.

Golden Gate Park, one of the most striking features of the sheet, has already been referred to. It embraces a strip of country about three miles long and half a mile wide, with a narrow strip, called the "pan-handle", extending about three quarters of a mile Eastward from the main body of the park. The outer or Western portion of the park was formerly drifting sand dunes, and considerable difficulty was experienced in controlling them. This has been fully accomplished and now lawns and trees are growing where once was a sand waste. The Eastern portion of the park is naturally most fully improved, and most of its attractions are located there. Gradually, however, the march of improvement is pushing Westward. Around the base of Strawberry Hill, on which the old triangulation point "Round Top" was located, an artificial lake has been built. The water to supply it is pumped up from

mills located in the low ground Southeast from it near 13th Avenue. Still farther West two lakes have been formed by excavating the sand in low parts of the Park, sufficient water being uncovered to form the lakes without recourse to pumping. These latter lakes are among the recent additions to the Park. When once their shores have been fully beautified by the art of the landscape gardener they will form a very attractive feature.

The plan-handle may in future be extended Eastward to Van Ness Avenue, as at a recent municipal election it was voted to issue bonds for this improvement.

The principal change in the City of San Francisco noticeable since the resurvey of 1882, is the steady growth of the city Westward. This is particularly seen in the section of the city lying North of Golden Gate Park and West of Lone Mountain. This is called the Richmond district. In 1882 no streets, except Pt. Lobos Avenue, were open west of 1st Avenue. Now most of the streets are open and graded as far out as 24th Avenue, and the district is rapidly settling up.

On the south side of the Park the opening and grading of streets has been well begun in the vicinity of 9th and 10th Avenues, and while this survey was in progress 19th Avenue was being opened across the sand hills towards the old Ocean House Road. This is the entering wedge that in time will lead to the reclamation of the sand-hill country South of the park between Black Ridge and the ocean beach.

In the main portion of the city the changes, though perhaps not so apparent, are none the less going on. The business district is constantly extending its boundaries, and improving its buildings. Among the recent fine business buildings are the Mills, Crocker and Sprinkles structures. Market street, the main artery of the city, is becoming the business center, and out as far as the City Hall is being built up with substantial modern buildings.

So also the residence portion of town is not only spreading outward in every possible direction, but is having more densely settled. The building of flats has in recent years

almost entirely superseded the erection of single houses for renting purposes. Apartment houses are almost unknown here. Their place is supplied by numerous family hotels and boarding houses.