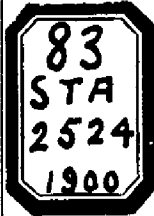


2524



U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

O. H. Tittmann

Superintendent.

State: Maryland

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographical Sheet No. 2524

LOCALITY:

Miles and Wye Rivers,

With topography

of adjacent

and tributary country.

1900.

CHIEF OF PARTY:

John W. Donn.

52 799

2524

*See also descriptive
report*

Memoranda

concerning additional names or
changes of names on sheet of the Wye and
Miles Rivers.

Miles River. The first change noted is at Woodland Creek. The name of
right bank. ? Lloyd's Creek is commonly used by the inhabitants.

7 *most common* The village at the head of Leeds Creek is Tunis Mills.

same as and? The point at west side of Leeds Creek is called Fairview.

The small cove above Leeds Creek is Gibson's.

The point between the Miles and Hunting Creek is Long Pt.

The bridge across the River occupies the same points as the
old Miles River Ferry.

Miles River The first Cove below the bridge is known as Fethel.

Left bank. All other names remain unchanged.

The River itself was given upon the old survey as St Michael
but the oldest inhabitant does not remember when it was so
called.

Ex River.

East Branch. Names remain unchanged from those formerly given, but the
River itself from Bruff's Island is considered to be properly
the Fack Wye, and my attention was frequently called to

its position as confirmatory of the fact.

Wye River

Middle Branch. There are no changes noted in the names on this River excepting the coincident fact that its name is incorrectly given, and should be "Wye Narrows".

Wye River.

East Branch. This on the authority of old residents should be called the "Front Wye" There is a complete unanimity of opinion and belief in these changes as a proper disposition of the names.

On this branch an additional name is added - that of a ferry from Wye Island to Piney Neck which is the name held by the body of land or peninsular lying between the River and Greenwood Creek. The ferry is known as the Drum Point Ferry.

The only additional name above this is at the head of the river which is called the Beaver Dam.

The name of Guilderry is not recognized as the name of a village lying near or on Marshy Creek. The name of Winchester applies to the whole settlement lying about this Creek and along the road toward Queenstown.

James W. Pomeroy
Chief of Party

U.S Coast and Geodetic Survey

O.H.Tittmann,Superintendent.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT OF LOCALITY

embraced

in the Topographical survey of the Miles and Wye Rivers
Maryland.

To accompany plane table sheet No.

Completed Jan.5th 1901.

John W.Donn,Chief of Party.

Schedule of topographical and physical subjects--

(1)Relief broad and^d simple,base of molded drift. Country generally low
and slightly rolling excepting that adjacent to the upper portion of
Back Wye where the land upon the highest part of the watershed rises
to the height of seventy feet. The highest banks do not exceed forty
feet.

(2)At the head of^{all} nearly stream tributary to the rivers,marshes are com-
mon,and increasing in area as the rivers diminish in depth. With the
^{ex}ception of these,the shores are usually of sand(silex),easily shifted
by moving water. Definition upon the sheet is given by dotted line.

(3) x

(4) x

(5) x

(6) Springs are rare but where existing are near the shore line and it is

a question whether they are constant springs from unfailing heads or mere seepings of the land that disappear during seasons of drought.

Their courses almost invariably follow the small gullies made by storm water. These however are not numerous as the general nature of the country in the slight inequalities of surface allows the storm water to flow off with but slight disturbance of its soil.

(7) The shores gradually recede by the combined action of wind, water and

frost, and occasionally suffer from an abnormal tide. The rate of erosion cannot be determined except by systematic investigation. The wider the area of water the greater the power of natural forces that operate to disintegrate and carry down the land into the sea. It follows therefore that erosion increases in a definitely increasing ratio as the forces that cause it are augmented by constantly widening areas. The eroded material passes down to the sea. Much of the clay that is found stratified in the banks with shell marl, oxidized iron ore, sand and quartz gravel, dissolves rapidly and quickly passes away with the tide. The preponderance of outflowing water eventually carries all things to the sea. There are no evidences of subsidence of shores and certainly none of emergence. There is no permanent growth of marsh areas except-

ing as has been before explained, at the head of small coves. At the present valuation of land and the large areas of waste or uncultivated sections there are no marshes that would pay for reclamation, even if they could be made arable by the most inexpensive diking.

)Vegetation is such as is usually found in temperate climates. Oak, hickory, ash, gum, maple, locust and other hard woods as cedar, chestnut and walnut, are native to the soil. Pine and poplar are found in all sections. Of fruit trees the apple, peach, pear, apricot, cherry, plum and damson abound. Of wild fruit the persimmon is found everywhere and its timber is valuable because of its hardness and durability.

)The lands may be designated in the proportions of arable, wooded and grass lands as three fourths, three sixteenths and one sixteenth, respectively. The wooded areas are generally full of underbrush.

Towns and villages have generally grown about postoffices or at some convenient place for the oyster beds and fisheries—that is upon tidal, navigable waters. Small factories, stores, machine shops and packing houses (vegetable and fruit) form the sources of profit and livelihood. The chief means of communication are by railroad and steamboat. Roads are usually such as natural conditions favor, and owe nothing to art and but little to labor. Shell roads extend from Easton to St Michaels and for a part of the distance between Bloomfield (E.C. & A.R.R.) and Tunis Mills. The rivers are navigable to within a short distance of their heads.

- The heads of the several branches of the Wye have sufficient amounts of water to supply a turbine wheel and there are both grist and saw mills. Distinctively there ^{are} no fords, and as before remarked all navigable stre-^{ams} are tidal. There are no period^{ical} floods or ice gorges, consequently the only changes of level in a rise or fall of water is due to tidal action. Bridges are of wood and kept in fair repair. Fences are of wood or wire.
- (10) Health or pleasure resorts do not exist unless boarding houses of various grades and varieties may be so called. They originated in the usual way—generally because of reasonable proximity to steamer transportation, bathing shores, churches and other facilities for summer living.
- (11) The population of the country tributary to the Wye River and branches has not sensibly increased since the survey in 1855. That of the Miles shows marked advance both in numbers of farms, areas of cultivation and growth on towns, notably Easton and St Michaels. Railroads have largely contributed to this. The growth promises to continue.

(12) x

(13) x

Schedule of statistical subjects.

- (1) Shore line 160 miles, Roads Streams Square miles
- (2) From the first of June to the close of September the season was noted for the generally extreme humidity of the atmosphere and the excessive and long prolonged heat.

(2) Three miles of shore line equivalent to square mile of interior country.

(4) Cost per square mile \$18., Scale of survey 1/20000.

(5) Number of triangulation points 22. New data. No old points recovered.

No clue to markings known.

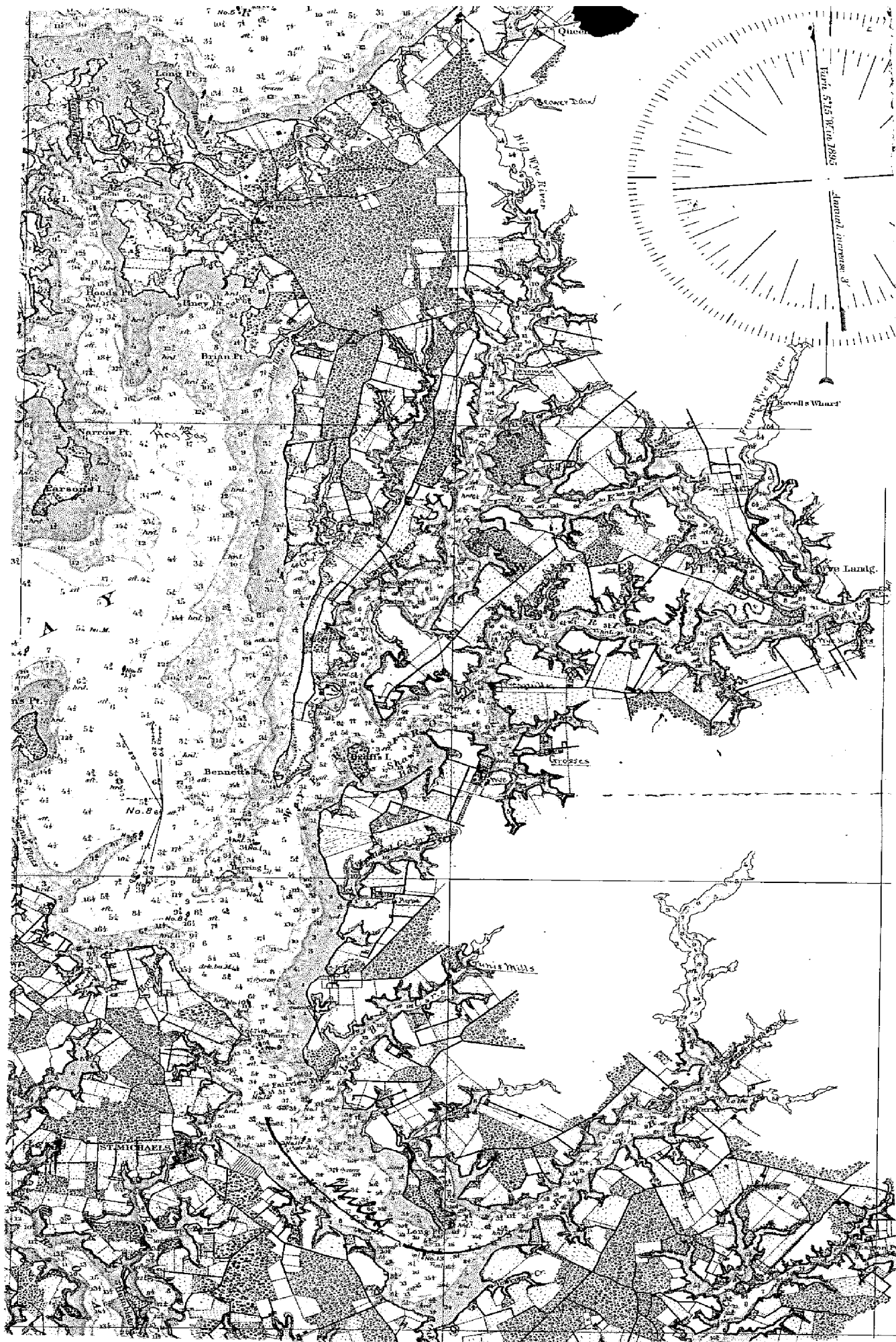
(6) Accuracy &c of P.T. points were secured the number averaging 8 to the square mile. Methods of determination various-Three and two point problems, P.T. triangulation, traverse with forward line and resection, declinator and distance.

(7) The fulness of topographical details and precision were up to a proper standard as the scale required. Approximation is not usually justifiable what is not of sufficient importance to properly determine is best left of the map. Uncertainty must arise from a lack of triangulation points, where such exists. The well known distortion of the backed paper used in plane table work renders p.t. triangulation imperfect and annoying. No plane table party in my opinion should go into the field without facilities for throwing in additional triangulation points where deficiencies exist. It is most difficult to establish points that will be recoverable after the lapse of a few years.

(8) In the proposed "Bulletin Of Topography" this subject will bear a large part.



Philip W. Jones
Chief of Party



U.S.Coast and Geodetic Survey

O.H.Tittmann

Superintendent

~~The~~ Miles and Wye Rivers
and Branches.

Topographical survey

made during July, August, September and October

1900

Scale 1/20000

Mem: With few exceptions the names appearing upon the accompanying fragment of the old chart are unchanged. Upon this fragment additional names have been written underlined by red. Other names that could not be ^{in that way} be exactly located have been written upon the field sheet.

It is proper to mention here that the consensus of opinion proves that the names of the several branches of the Wye River are not properly given upon the chart. The oldest residents and largest property holders give to the Branch on the East the name of Back Wye, and that running parallel with the Eastern bay the more significant name of Front Wye. That known by chart as Back Wye is Wye Narrows. Wye River therefore is called such to the point of separation of the branches above Bruff's Island.

