U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey: Topographic
Field No.__________________Office No. 2269

LOCALITY
State: Maryland
General locality: Patapsco
Locality: River
Vicinity of Baltimore

CHIEF OF PARTY
John Ross

LIBRARY & ARCHIVES
DATE ________________________
U. S. COAST AND GEOETIC SURVEY.

Henry S. Prattin, Superintendent.

State: Maryland

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographical Sheet No. 2269.

Locality: Patapsco River, vicinity of Baltimore.

1895.

Chief of Party: [Signature]

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51805
Sheet No I
Patapsco River, Md. Register.
- General Characteristics -

This sheet representing the country lying south of the middle branch of the Patapsco and across the main branch to the high ridge that has its southern watershed tributary to Sapsi Creek. The area partly in Baltimore County and partly in Anne Arundel - shows on the middle branch water shed a country of moderate ascent to the ridge. This has its east end opposite Ferry Bar and west declivity at the village of Mt. Vernon, and descending rapidly to the Patapsco R. proper the average slope of the northern valley-shed being less than one-third of the southern; the distances respectively having relatively the same proportion. Several minor valleys cut the northern slope. Orchard of the Patapsco R. the land main slope
for an average distance of 37\frac{1}{2} mile, then abruptly to the ridge dividing—
forming the origin of the Patapsco
and tributary water-shed.

**Geological features**

The formation, geologically considered
is entirely drift. Over it are the surface
ledges cut out. On the western
portions large deposits of Red hematite rock abound, and these
have been extensively worked for
125 years. Much black clay is
also found. In pockets a red clay
is found of which mineral red
faïence is made. Pure white sand
is found in close proximity to
this clay. Large deposits of gravel
also abound. The valley of the Patapsco
is alluvial, subject to overflows dur-
ing the spring months. Extensive
marshes narrow the stream to
small dimensions, upon which
grow wild grass, wild oats,
bushes and willows. These marshes
are fresh, and their reclamation,
while not impracticable, would be attended with an expense not justifiable in consideration of the cheapness of arable land in the near vicinity.

Vegetation—

The trees are of forest growth, usually. Shade or ornamental trees exist only about houses or upon a few small lawns and in cemeteries. The variety of trees embrace Oak, Hickory, Pile, Elm, Birch, Beech, Dog-wood, Poplar and Walnut. The latter are abundant. The average height of the forest trees is about fifty feet. There is much underbrush and brush. Brush abound in considerable variety. They are peach, pear, apple, cherry and plum. There is but little grasslands. Lands mostly cultivated in small fruits and vegetables. Arable land to wooded is the proportion of one to one. There are a number of small villages—their settlement induced by land maintained by
proximity to Baltimore City. Industries of varied character exist in the Eastern part: repair shops for Railroads traversing it,iquer factories, chemical works etc. Means of communication by land are steam and Electrical Rail. Roads are fairly good, some excellent with moderate grades - road covering gravel or stones. No water power exists. The Patapsco during the spring is apt to go beyond its boundaries - vertical range of tide about 1 foot, horizontal range about 5 to 7 feet. Few of bridges exist - mostly of wood, one of iron. The Patapsco is crossed by steam and electrical cars upon wooden bridges. The Baltimore and Ohio crossing Gom Falls upon an iron truss bridge. Several places of 1st and 2nd grade exist. The sheet being a red survey. The increase of industries and population is great to compare with the first survey.
all things are new, but no change in mind appear to have been made.

--- Statistical Subjects ---

Weather during the season extending from June to September was generally dry. The cost of the work done was about one-third the cost of a square mile of interior and

Scale of survey: Cost of a topographical work and number of about told all received. Plane table found determined with proper degree of accuracy and ranged about twelve to the square mile, determined by the three point problem generally.

No traverse lines run. All details capable of being shown on the scale were determined with same accuracy as characterized the station.

Semi of plane table points was met by accurate determination.

Worst of square miles, 15.

Best of square miles, 100.