Form 504
U.S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey: Topographic
Field No.: Office No.: 2286

LOCALITY
State: Maryland
General locality: Chesapeake
Locality: Bay and Patapco

Rise, 1898
194

CHIEF OF PARTY
O.B. French & Ogden

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DATE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

Henry S. Pritchett, Superintendent.

State: Maryland

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographical Sheet No. 2286

Locality:

Chesapeake Bay and Potoke River

1898.

Chief of Party:

O. B. French, Assistant
Dr. Henry S. Pritchett,
Superintendent C. & G. Survey,
Washington, D. C.,

Sir:—

The following is a report to accompany topographic sheet No. 2286.

The territory covered by this sheet is on the southwest side of the Patapsco River, and extends back to the main county road from Baltimore to the north side of the Magothy River. The limits on the north are Curtis Bay, Cabin Branch, then a line westward to Cedar Hill Cemetery, and thence southwest to the road toward Pumphrey Station. The lower limit is the 39° 05' parallel of latitude westward nearly to Linstid triangulation station on Eagle Hill, thence northward to the main county road above mentioned.

The general character of the country is rolling with numerous creeks, or arms of the bay or river, extending back some distance from the main body of water. In several cases these creeks extend to the limits of the work. Along the banks of the creeks are numerous gullies or ravines through most of which flow small streams from springs.
The shore line along the Patapsco and out along the Bay is mostly bordered by eroded cliffs ranging in height from 5 to 40 feet. These cliffs are also seen occasionally along the creeks and small streams although not so prominent as along the Bay and Patapsco River.

The soil is quite varied ranging from stiff clay to soft sand of a silex character. The roads are usually very sandy and poor excepting parts of the main county road (particularly near Baltimore) which has been shelled and is as good as could be desired. The grades are very fair for a rolling country. The means of communication are by both land and water. A daily steamer runs between Baltimore and Rock and Stony Creeks, and the B. and A. Short Line R.R., which passes about a mile from Marley, offers ready communication both toward Baltimore and Annapolis. The creeks shown on the sheet are navigable nearly to their heads for light draft vessels, the greatest difficulty being to cross the bars at their entrances.

The vegetation in this section is quite varied. The streams are usually lined with small trees and brush, and some parts of the country are still uncleared. The forests consist mostly of small deciduous trees and brush with occasionally a grove of pine or cedar trees. Whenever the land has been cleared and then allowed to grow up again it is usually covered with a pine thicket.

Near Baltimore the arable land is devoted to the raising of small fruits and trucking. Farther away melons and cantelopes, and grains are the predominate products of the soil. These latter are usually marketed by small schooners plying up and
down the creeks. There are very few fruit trees excepting peach orchards and these are not very numerous.

There are no towns or villages in the territory covered by this sheet. There are several small picnic grounds on the banks of the creeks but no health or pleasure resorts of any prominence.

One noticable feature in this section is the absence of all fences excepting a very small enclosure about a few of the dwelling houses.

There are two small iron bridges shown on the sheet and another is to be constructed, I understand, at the head of Rock Creek. A new long bridge is under construction near the mouth of Curtis Creek at Walnut Point. Many of the culverts in the gullies and across small streams are wooden and are weak and often not very safe.

A U. S. Marine Hospital is located at Leading Point about half way between Curtis Bay and Hawkins Point on the Patapsco River.

At Hawkins Point is a modern fort with several large guns in place. Adjoining the fort is a large factory for the preparation of fertilizers. Hawkins Pt. and the Marine Hospital have telephonic connection with Baltimore.

Very respectfully submitted

Owen B. Enrich
Assistant Cntl.
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.


State: Maryland.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. 2286.

LOCALITY:

Chesapeake Bay, Patapsco River.

1898:

CHIEF OF PARTY:

H. C. Ogden, Ass't.
Descriptive Report

Shore Sheet No. 2286 - Chesapeake Bay, Patapsco River

14th August 1898

This region may be described generally as

rolling lands, the hill tops being an elevation

of about 100 ft. above tide water. The formation

at places is quite complex. The soil is sandy

but yields good crops with the aid of fertilizers.

It is a garden truck region the farmers finding a

ready market in Baltimore, where the product

is delivered in the season by small boat, generally

emplaced in oyster dredging during the winter months.

The region is peculiar in its agricultural or cultural

detail, in that there are no fences, even on the

road sides. The majority of roads are old and

treads through the fields, and are liable to be
shifted as the requirements of the farmer demand. The county roads are made of chilli or port, with this exception: the roads are all heavy to kick at landing. The county roads to some others used as the main lines of communication have been shown on the chart by full lines.

The county is supplied with regular com. munication to Baltimore by small steamer flying between that city and the landings on Rock o. Tony Creek. The Annapolis short-line R.R. is also available some day or seven miles touch from the River.

The inhabitants depend upon wells for drinking water or for stock, but few of them, know, maintain more stock than a couple of horses or a cow. There are no pasture lands. A number of small springs run网红, trucking out at the foot of the Bluffs, notably at the head of Rock Creek and at the wharf in Tan Cove, an arm of the same creek. There is also good water at the
month of Bach Cr. an arm of Bodkin Cr. and a spring at the head of the main branch of Bodkin Cr. On the County Road Book of Bodkin there is a large (?) fish pond, that empties into Bodkin Cr. The stream is not a

Thames - the water of the pond is reputed not potable, there is a fine spring house at the head of the pond. There are another other springs that I did not, meet with. The supply from these. I sampled seemed to be small. Then an no running streams or wells during the summer months, but the condition of the stream bed indicated that at times they may carry a considerable body of water.

A comparison of the chart with the original survey in 1851-5 shows very few changes in natural features. Then has been comparatively little erosion along shore, except the eroding of Bach Pt and the northern jetty near the Pt. Nor has there been much
Fielding, where the shore is protected by grove as frequently occurs in this section, the twoumps are nearly identical. The Upelding is more frequented at the mouth of the smaller creeks; the seaward muck at the entrance to Rock about one Creek, under water, are the cause of some alarm among the people and they believe the end is King accelerated by the deposit on the flat of the material dredged out of the channel. It seems probable that natural causes alone will close these creeks eventually.

The weather during August & Sept. was very favorable for much except for the heat in the early part of Sept. In my report to the Dept. I have referred to this subject in detail.

About 10 miles of shoreline, embracing
   min and echanns is the equivalent of a square
   mile of interior Topography. On this sheet there
   are 49 miles of such shoreline, square to about
five (5) square miles, omitting consideration of shoreline then men obtained between July 22 and Sept 22. Two months, 7 sq miles of topo.

including water areas of the creeks, at cost for 20.84 acres at $46.18 per sq mile; during the next month, there was a great deal of sickness in the party, greatly delaying the work, but by

the 21 Oct the area had been increased to 21 square miles at average cost of $52.79 per sq mi:

If an add to the 5 sq mi, for the equivalent of the shoreline, I should have for interior topo.

26 sq miles at $42.64 per sq mi. with an average of nearly 9 sq mi. per month. The work is on scale of 20,000.

Herbert G Ogden

Sur. Corps.