<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Survey</th>
<th>Topographic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Field No.</td>
<td>Office No. 2307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LOCALITY</strong></td>
<td><strong>Louisiana</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General locality</td>
<td>North Shore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locality</td>
<td>Lake Pontchartrain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>1898</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIEF OF PARTY</td>
<td>O.C. Melton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIBRARY &amp; ARCHIVES</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DATE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

Henry S. Pritchett, Superintendent.

State: LOUISIANA

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographical Sheet No. 2307

LOCALITY:

North Shore
Lake Pontchartrain
between
Cheluncte River and Pass Manchac

1898.

CHIEF OF PARTY:
Assistant P. A. Welker.
U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey,

Washington, D.C.

1898

Dr. Henry S. Pritchett
Superintendent of the Survey
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to present you this descriptive Report of original topographical sheet no. 2387. This sheet embraces the shore line and adjacent inland topography, on the North Shore of Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana; between the Chefune River and Pass Manchac; and was surveyed by me in March 1898.

The general character of the country is low and nearly covered by cypress intermixed with scrub and deciduous trees, with occasional open marshes of considerable extent.

The only towns or settlements of any size are Madisonville and Jay's Mill, both on the Chefune River, about three miles from its
North. These are built on ridges of high land lying between the River, and the Cypress swamp in their rear. The highest point in Madisonville is about nine and one half feet above the mean high water of the Choptochee. To the North of Madisonville the land becomes firm and higher.

The only firm land on the shore near the Lake is the so-called "Middleton Island," which is a very narrow strip of fine ground about two miles long. Its center is approximately one mile from the Lake shore, and is about halfway between the Choptochee and Langipalosa Rivers. Cypress swamps and the open marsh surround it. This land is now well timbered, but in past years it was a plantation. The highest point is about four feet above the surrounding low land. A very poor wood road running the whole length of the Island and then a "corduroy" road through the swamp furnished an outlet to the "Pochatula Road."

Along the Lake shore there is usually a strip of fine ground composed of either dirt or shells, and has an elevation of
from one to four feet. Many of these skulls are loaded on rafts and taken to New Orleans for various purposes.

Along to the low shores, the water-line is very irregular, although its general directions are either straight or long regular curves.

The shore gives evidence of erosion, the principal one being, that along the whole Lake Chon trees and stumps are seen standing out in the water, often as much as two hundred meters. Several fishermen made the statement that they remember when the shore in some places, was several hundred feet beyond where it is at present. However, this rapid encroachment of the water is greatly retarded by the trees which grow close to the water's edge.

There are three navigable watercourses shown on the topographical chart, the Cleftwater, and Longipaloss Rivers and Pass Manoan. The last named is the outlet from Lake Manoan to Lake Pontchartrain. The two Rivers flow through a lumber region of pine and cypress. The lumber is shipped after having been sawed by the numerous
Mills along the River. The largest mills being on the Chandeleur at Madisonville, and Covington.

Numerous small Bayous, branching from the river, drain the marshes and swamps. They are not navigable except by row-boats, and then for only several hundred miles. The marshes and swamps are about one foot above average high water, and are flooded during extreme high tides. They are dry in summer except after heavy rains, and are very buggy in winter.

Madisonville is a village of about one thousand inhabitants. It is a rather picturesque place, with its old style houses and the numerous large live-oak trees which stand in its streets. It has none of the attractions of a summer resort, but some people, from New Orleans and other places, spend the winter months in Madisonville, on account of its being healthy. It has been very fortunate in escaping the epidemics which have visited the Gulf States in recent years.

Madisonville is very isolated, having
No railroad or telegraphic facilities. However, these can be obtained at Covington, about seven miles north of the town, into which runs a branch of the New Orleans and North Eastern Rail Road. There is frequent communication between Madisonville and New Orleans by water; but no passenger boat runs between these places except in summer. The Post Office in Madisonville gets mail once each day from Covington.

Three wagon roads run out of the village; one, west toward Buckatula; another north to Covington, and a third east toward St. Bernard and Madisonville. The road running east, starts at Jay's Mill, a ferry joining this place with Madisonville. The roads are of dirt and are in fair condition. There is very little sandy road within the limits of the sheet, but they are inclined to be heavy after rains. No bridge roads exist except those shown on the sheet. And there are no bridges across the river.

Respectfully submitted,

William Brown, Aid C.V. Lenoir

Assistant P.O. Miller, Chief of party.