U.S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

Henry S. Brinton, Superintendent.

State: California

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.
Topographical Sheet No. 2311

LOCALITY:
Resurvey San Francisco Bay
San Carlos to Menlo Park.

1897.

CHIEF OF PARTY:
Asst. A. T. Rodgers
(Ferdinand Peckhall)
Descriptive Report

to accompany topographic sheet with title as follows:

Treasury Department,

JUL 1, 1876

W. S. Coast and Grade Survey

Henry J. Hitchcock, Superintendent.

Pacific Coast

Re-survey of San Francisco Bay

California

San Carlos to Monte Park

Topographic survey under the direction of

Assistant C. F. Rodgers

by Ferdinand Westall, Assistant

Scale 70,000

This is a resurvey of all the area covered with solid sand, but not entirely so of the salt marsh lands, where only the bay shore lines, the principal sloughs used, or capable of being utilized, for navigation, and some small connecting sloughs have been resurveyed.

All depths are determined by one rod reading only, or
by intersecting, except the large and more conspicuous buildings.

All small fences surrounding barns, farm lots, etc., are sketched on.

omitted. Fences bounding roads and large fields are carefully

surveyed as a rule also the town blocks where it was practical to

find corners. The method used to survey the houses of towns

after the blocks were determined was to set up the table at first

intersection, read the rod field at the start line about three

hours and then let the rodman pace the distance in.

The region near Monto Park, covered with natural oak

forest, was very difficult to survey accurately, because no signals

could be seen and the rod had to be depended upon almost

entirely. The lines of the R. R. were first established accurately

and used as a base for orientation. The hours and miles

surrounded by trees and shrubbery are paced in and the garden

walks, drive ways and ornamental grounds sketched as accu-

rately as possible.

Contours. These are based upon the salt marsh in its

natural state. All contours shown on this sheet are surveyed

with a leveling instrument and plane table. The contour lines
done after the other topography was executed. The contours were followed individually and marks were left on fence posts, etc., which were then determined with the tables by the setting up anywhere, a fence and reading the distance to the contour. This was found to be a very rapid method.

Towns. Redwood City, the County seat of San Mateo county, is the principal town within the limits of the Park and is shown in its entirety. It is a flourishing place containing many stores, hotels, and trade stores. It is a supply depot for all the settlements on the coast and interior valleys, and much farming is done over the roads leading to the town. Two daily stages leave for the coast and interior settlements.

Redwood lumber, whence the town derives its name, was formerly manufactured on the mountain valleys of the interior, towards the coast, hauled to Redwood City, and shipped thence to the San Francisco market; but now the conditions are reversed. Lumber of all kinds is imported to Redwood City by bay craft and large going vessels and distributed to the interior. Two tanneries are located here, one of them being
a very large establishment employing about 200 men. This is Frank's Island, located on the marsh immediately in front of Redwood City. The small slough leading up to the town, although dredged at some time, is entirely dry at large low waters. The municipality has built a wharf where it goes into the main slough, and a winding roadway across the marsh closer to the town. At this wharf there are two or three feet of water at the lowest tides, with a channel to the bay.

Menlo Park consists of a few stores, saloons, a hotel, and boarding houses near the R.R. station with a collection of cottages, dwellings of laboring people employed on the R.R. and large country places in its immediate vicinity. Surrounding this small settlement are numerous large, elegant villas with extensive ornamental gardens and orchards around each of them, all occupied as summer residences by wealthy people.

Feltonby Park is a new town site and has only a few hours upon it. Towards the R.R. is a hedge of cypress pines in three places by gateways built of stone. The center...
one of these gates is a stone arch surmounted by a large sculpture of a greek figure.

Fronting the bay shore of this point is an extensive oyster bed owned by the Morgan Oyster Company. It is enclosed by a fence the pickets of which are of split redwood three to four inches in diameter driven into the bottom about six or eight inches apart in order to keep out starvers, seals, and other predatory marine animals which feed upon and destroy oysters. The upper edge of the fence is protected by having light boards nailed to the pickets. This construction is purposely light so as to offer no serious obstacle to bay craft, which in foggy weather frequently by accident run through it. Upon this bed are transplanted oysters from the beds at the head of the bay where they are first placed for a year or two when transported over the R.R. from the Atlantic coast.

Outside of this oyster bed, a small Chinese fishing establishment, and a few ineffectual dykes near the solid land there are no improvements on the saltmarsh.
within the area of this sheet. All the sloughs draining into
Redwood City Slough were surveyed by special direction in
order to show the total area of drainage and to furnish a
definite comparison with the former survey by which changes
in similar unimportant sloughs and flats might be esti-
mated. As a general rule, sloughs are diminishing in area.

Of the old triangulation points within the limits of
this sheet the monument on Pulgas Reef Bar is still
standing almost intact. There has been some digging around
the base by curious persons and some bricks have been looted,
but otherwise it is in good condition.

At Marsh Island a piece of pecking
very old, stuck into the ground, but it bore no marks of
backs. Not knowing the nature of the underground mark,
if any, it was not disturbed.

Respectfully submitted

Ferdinand M. Sutter

Assistant