U.S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

Henry S. Pritchett, Superintendent.

State: Cal.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. 2482

LOCALITY:

Pacific Coast Resurvey of San Francisco Bay, Portion of the City of San Francisco including Golden Gate Park, 1899-1900

CHIEF OF PARTY:

Fremont Morse
Description Report & accompanying Topographic sheet entitled:

Treasury Department

W. Coast Photographic Survey

Henry J. Mitchell, Superintendent

Pacific Coast

Survey of San Francisco Bay

Portion of the City of San Francisco

Including Golden Gate Park

Drawn at Dec. 15, 1897 to Jan. 5th, 1898

By: Freeman Merce, Assistant

Scale 1:2000

This sheet embraces a strip of country about two miles wide extending East and West across the San Francisco Peninsula, and including the greater part of the City of San Francisco. While executing the field work the outside shore line, along the ocean beach, was surveyed, as were also the scattering built up portions of the outskirts of the city. In this way sufficient street intersections were located on the sheet to control the plotting of the rest of the city streets, which were taken partly from a copy of the City Map obtained from
the Board of Public Works and partly from the
reduction of the city map made by Assistant
L.A. Birkett in 1882. The contours lines
within the built up portion of the city were
sketched in by eye from the heights of street
intersections obtained from the Board of Public
works. Outside of these limits they were trans-
ferred from the work of the former survey.
Golden Gate Park was reduced from a tracing
of the large scale map (100 ft. to the inch) in use
by the Park Commission. The city shaft lines
and base line on the Bay side of the street
were transferred from a tracing by Assistant Birkett
1875 (Assistant, Aug. P. Rodgers, Chief of Survey).
The base line on the Western end of
the street is mostly a sand beach, which
ends at the base of the cliff near the Cliff
House. Back from the beach the country rises
on a gradual slope, which is covered with drift
sand and sand dune forming a flat area from the ocean for a dis-
tance of about two miles. A strip of this
sand dune waste has been brought under cultivation
and the parks controlled in the Golden Gate
Park, and now is covered with trees, which
from the water present a very marked
contrast to the bare sands on either side.

In the vicinity of the Cliff House, the land rises abruptly until at a distance of about a third of a mile from the shore it reaches a height of about 200 feet.

The Cliff House is built on the edge of a rocky cliff opposite the Seal Rocks, and is one of the noted resorts of San Francisco. The outlying seal rocks are the home of numerous sea lions, which add greatly to the interest of a trip to the cliff. Close to the Cliff House and occupying a little cove to the north of it are the Sutro Baths. They are enclosed in a large building, and consist of several large swimming tanks supplied with sea water heated to different temperatures. The baths are said to be among the finest in the country.

To the Eastward of the Cliff House, and overlooking it, are the grounds of the residence of the late Adolph Sutro, the builder of the baths just mentioned. These grounds are beautifully laid out and are well kept. They are open to the public.

Communication with the city is rendered easy by a steam RR which runs around the cliffs.
of the fourth plane of the Golden Gate, and an
electric line which traverses 40, 30, 20, Clement,
and California streets into town. A second electric
line has its terminus near the shore south of
the Cliff and runs along the front of the
Park and turns towards town along 4th street.

Golden Gate Park, one of the most striking
features of the street, has already been referred
to. It embraces a strip of country about three
miles long and half a mile wide, with a
narrow strip, called the "fac-tumble," extending about
three quarters of a mile Eastward from the main
body of the park. The entire Western portion
of the park was formerly drifted sand dunes,
and considerable difficulty was experienced in
controlling them. This has been fully accomplished
and now farm and trees are growing where once
was a sand waste. The Eastern portion of the
park is naturally most fully improved, and most
of its attractions are located there. Gradually, how-
ever, the march of improvement is pushing East-
ward. Around the base of Strawberry Hill, on
which the old triangulation point "Point H" was located, an artificial lake has been built.
The water to supply it is pumped up from

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mills located on the ground southeast from it near 13th Avenue. Still farther west
two lakes have been formed by excavating
the sand in low points of the bank, sufficient
water being uncovered to form the lakes
without recourse to pumping. These latter
lakes are among the recent additions to the
park, and since their shores have been fully
naturalized by the art of the landscape gardeners
they will form a very attractive feature.
The Pan-Racetrack may in future be extended
Eastward to Van Ness Avenue, as at a recent
municipal election it was voted to issue bonds
for this improvement.

The principal change in the City of San
Francisco noticeable since the recovery of 1873,
is the steady growth of the city Westward. This
is particularly seen in the section of the city
lying North of Golden Gate Park and West of Twin
Mountain. This is called the Richmond
district. In 1873 no streets, except 14th
Avenue, were open west of 14th Avenue. Now
most of the streets are open and graded as far
out as 24th Avenue, and the district
is rapidly settling up.
On the south side of the Park the opening and grading of streets has been well begun in the vicinity of 9th and 10th Streets, and while this work was in progress 19th Street was being opened across the sand hills towards the old Ocean Avenue Road. This is the centering medley that in time will lead to the reclamation of the sand-hills country south of the Park between Black Ridge and the ocean beach.

In the main portion of the city the change, though perhaps not so apparent, are none the less going on. The business district is constantly extending its boundaries, and improving its buildings. Among the recent fine business buildings are the Mills, Crocker and Spreckles structures. Market street, the main artery of the city, is becoming the business center, and out as far as the City Hall is being built up with substantial modern buildings.

As also the residence portion of town is not only spreading outward in every possible direction, but is being more densely settled. The building of flats has in recent year
almost entirely superseded the erection of single houses for renting purposes. Apartment houses are almost unknown here. Their place is supplied by numerous family hotels and boarding houses.