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

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey: Topographical
Field No.: 2513
Office No.: 2514

LOCALITY
State: Maryland
General Locality: Chesapeake
Locality: Bay

1940
CHIEF OF PARTY
F. F. Wells

LIBRARY & ARCHIVES
DATE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

H. S. Pritchett, Superintendent.

State: Ind.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topic: Sheets Nos. 213, 214

Sheet No. 1

No. 19, TREASURY DEPARTMENT

Chesapeake Bay from Poplar Island to Tilghman Island, and the Tilghman River from Tilghman Island to Oxford, Scale 1:20,000

Surveyed July 1901.

Topography by

F. B. Todd

F. J. Widlar.

F. J. Widlar,

Taking & Drafting

24470

52470
Feb. 2, 1901.

Mr. C. P. Tittmann.

Superintendent U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have this day returned to the Archives topographic sheets numbers 2494-2495-2513-2514, part of the resurvey of Chesapeake Bay. I have checked and transferred the topographic features on these sheets.

On sheets numbers 2513 and 2514 the roads, limits, and fence lines were largely transferred from the original sheets of the survey of Chesapeake Bay during 1849 and 1850. The shore line and such topographic features as could be delineated from stations occupied in running the shore line were resurveyed. The main road from Claiburn's to Easton, as resurveyed by Mr. Denn in 1899 and 1900, was transferred to this sheet. Tracings were made from the original sheets and, with the projections, compared with the new work and many discrepancies were noted. Accepting the new work as correct, an adjustment of the topography was made and the topography shown is an adjustment between the shore line as resurveyed, Mr. Denn's roads and the transfers from the original sheets. The sheet is left in pencil, except the shore line and a few roads and houses, pending an inspection and acceptance of the topography. Such an inspection, I understand, is contemplated during the coming spring or summer.
On sheet number 2494 most of the topographic features were transferred by Mr. E. F. Weid; the remaining parts of the topography were transferred, but no adjustment of the discrepancies was attempted except as mentioned below.

On sheet number 2495 all the interior topographic features were transferred and that portion of the sheet joining sheet number 2494 was adjusted to agree with the original work of 1847 and 1848 and that on sheet number 2494.

The whole of sheets 2494 and 2495 was left in pencil, pending the inspection and acceptance mentioned above.

Respectfully yours,

E[?] L[?]
Assistant.
Scale 1:20,000. Surveyed July-Nov. 1909.
This sheet embraces the Chesapeake Bay shore from Kings Point, just below Poplar Island, to the South end of Tilghman's Island, thence all of the northern shore of the Great Choptank River to Oxford.

Practically all the shore line upon the sheet was resurveyed by the planigraph, with the exception of the small coves on the Tilghman River which were transferred from the original sheet January 2, 1847. On the long shore and at several points on the river considerable change was found in the shore caused by the washing of clay banks. In some protected places it appeared practically unchanged. Long or Nelson's Point has been cut off by the action of the waves and now forms a small island between which and the main land a small crab boat can pass at high tide. Curiously in no case do new points seem to be forming.

Small schemes of triangulation were carried up Harris Creek, Broad Creek, and the Tilghman Rivers as far as practicable, some 4 or 5 miles,
In the more thinly populated sections the roads were narrow and buildings located. In other sections the roads were drawn over and any changes in physical features were noted upon a tracing of the original sheets of the Survey of 1847. This revised topography was then transferred to the new sheet. This work could be done very rapidly and to a degree of accuracy entirely sufficient for the scale of publication.

Practically all of the work, both triangulation and topography, in Harris and Broad Creeks, and the Erickson River was done by ca. 2,18, Latham. The rest of the sheet was done by the Chief of Party.

A supplemental sheet gives the heads of Harris Creek and Broad Creek.

Respectfully submitted,

F. F. Welsh,
Chief of Party.
Disreputable Report to accompany Topographic Sheet number

This proof is a part of the survey of the Aclar Bay, and the sheet embraces that part of the eastern shore of the Bay beginning at Tilghman's Island and extending up the Choptank River and its tributaries, Harris, Brann and Reed's Arm Rivers, to Oxford and Easton, Maryland. The shore line of Tilghman Island and part of Harris Creek was executed by Mr. J. F. Meek, U.S.C.G., and the remainder of the sheet was executed by myself. Triangulation was begun from the Barred, Tilghman Island—Cooper's Point and executed up the River to near their heads, where a plane table triangulation was made to the heads of river creeks and coves.

The Country is a sandy limestone on a foundation of clay. The shore line is much broken by creeks and coves. The recession in exposed parts of the Coast is at the approximate rate of 10 miles per year while in more sheltered positions it is unappreciable. The soil seems to be correlated to deep water, no appreciable outcrops in the depths of
Our are noticeable from a casual observation and from information of local navigators. The shore line is sandy bluffs, of from 2 to 10 feet in height and low marshy bordered shores, but there is no considerable area of marshes. The region is fairly well wooded, pine predominating with oak, cedar and locust in smaller quantities. Trees are from 40 to 80 feet in height. Approximately 60% of the County is cleared and under cultivation to wheat, corn and fruits. Hogs, cattle and horses are raised. Poultry farming on a small scale is almost universal among the farmers.

The oyster industry is of about equal importance with the agricultural interest. Many natural beds are in the Choptaunse river from which the dredging boats, sail boats of under ten tons, obtain their catch. Both planted and natural beds abound in the Harris, Broad and Tred corn river, from which the tender obtain his supply.

Fishing and crabbing are extensively followed at Easton and St. Michael are machine shops, flour mills and other manufacturing interest. There are small ship yards at both St. Michael and Oxford. Tilghman's Island is noted for the excellence of its oysters, both as roe and
and work boats.
The means of transportation are by the B & O Railroad through Easton, Royal Oak St Michael and Celairbourne, thence by boat to Baltimore, this line has a double daily service during the summer months and a daily service during winter. The Delaware and Chesapeake Railway through Oxford and Easton offers a double daily service to Philadelphia all the year. Two lines of boats leave at Oxford daily from and to Baltimore. A large percentage of the farmers take boarders through the summer months, there is no large summer resort on the sheet.

The country is in a high state of cultivation. Wire fences and fences. Here seems no unusual prosperity. Easton a small city of 5000 with water works, electric lights etc is the largest town in the sheet, the banking facilities are very good. St. Michael and Oxford are the only other towns on the sheet, each having approximately 1000 inhabitants. The shore line and channels with their topography as can be seen in a few positions incidental to running the shore line was entirely surveyed. The entire topography was transferred from the sheets of Mr. Kitts, executed in 1847-1848.
this being revised by driving over the roads and noting changes.

Washington, D.C.

January 12, 1901

E. H. Latham
asst. Corp Survey
No. 18. TREASURY DEPARTMENT

M. Beard -
Is this a Progress Sketch?
(and if so should it be returned to the first or returned) or shall it be considered as a description of new names to go with his description report?

Yes

B = Bound with descriptive report.

JAN 17 1901
Department of Commerce and Labor
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

State: MD.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Type C Sheet No. 2514

Locality:

Cheapeake Bay from Tangier Island to

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Chief of Party: