U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

O. H. Tittmann, Superintendent.

State: Md.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. 2563

Locality:
Pantische River, from Mouth to Watiquin Creek

1901-02

Chief of Party:
S. Forney
Treasury Department
U.S. C. and G. Survey
O.H. Vettermann, Superintendent

Sheet No. 2563

Descriptive Report:
Original Topographical Sheet:
Nantucket River

and

Further Topographical
Edition thereof

of

Chesapeake Bay
Maryland,
Scale 1/20,000,
1901-02.

Sincerely,
Othman Homey
Assistant, U.S. C. & G. Survey

Received 1st March 8th, 1902

This descriptive Report has been transmitted with
a Survey of Bay Sheet No. 2563, the Original
Sheet is now being scaled.

Othman Homey
Assistant, C. & G. Survey
Sheet No. 2563.

Description Required: Original Topographical Sketch; Scale 1:20,000, Nanticoke River from its mouth to Waterquim Creek, and the interior topography of the Peninsula between the Nanticoke and Niconico Rivers. Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake Bay, Maryland.

The work on this sheet is based on a Plane Table triangulation begun by the Nanticoke River. From this point, triangulation points, "Muff" and "Rear", the line of the Nanticoke River, and Waterquim Creek to the "Indi" Cannery at the head of navigation, are traced in the interior, positions of buildings, marsh and timber limits, mouths and heads of large creeks, were determined with the Plane Table. The creeks between their heads and mouths were transfixed from the old original sheet, Survey of 1854. The Creek lines surveyed in 1854 are in very well with my chart of 1901, showing no changes at the heads of creeks, and very slight changes at the entrance to the large creeks. Some of the small creeks showed no changes whatever, either at their entrances or their heads.

The Western Shore of the Nanticoke River
is bounded by a vast marsh extending across to Fishing Bay. The interior from roaring Point to Nanticoke Creek, is mostly high rolling ground of isolated hills and ridges ranging in height from ten to 20

five feet above mean high tide. The curves are shown for every 10 feet of elevation and indicate the heights above mean high tide.

The full red lines show the twenty foot curve and the broken red lines the ten foot curve.

The trail along the river shore and extending one mile back is a sandy course, well adapted to the growing of flax and berries. In

quantities of which are shipped away every year. The interior of the Peninsula to White Ashen is a clay soil mixed with sand, and is good farming land. A greater part of this land is covered with a thick growth of yellow pine timber. There are from two mills in operation on the Peninsula from the Nanticoke River to White Ashen, including a large modern plant at the latter place.

From roaring Point to Nanticoke Creek, there is almost a continuous line of farms, divided into three town-
Nanticoke, "Biscoe or Walterville," and Tuckahoe. Nanticoke being the largest and best-built city of the residences there evidence of the prosperity of their owners, there are two good wharves in this locality—one at "Rocking Point" (the landing place for Nanticoke) and one at Biscoe. Steamboat from Baltimore made daily landings at the former and twice times a week at the latter. There is no navigation on the Chesapeake Bay. Nanticoke and Nanticoke River is open. Tuckahoe at the mouth of Tuckahoe Creek has no wharf. The steamboat "Archer" in the Nanticoke River one mile from the town, and lands her freight and passengers in lighters and small boats; the entrance to the creek being too shallow and restricted for the steamboats to come inside under a landing and turn around.

From January 27th to February 25th, 1902, the Nanticoke and Tuckahoe Rivers were blocked with ice and steamship navigation and communication with Baltimore was entirely suspended during that time. On the night of January 17th, 1902, a portion of the Biscoe wharf was carried away by the drifting ice fields.
The waters of the Neatricha and Nicasico-River Abound with Crabs, Fish and Her-\nving, in season. While the oysters beds in these areas are not as plentiful as\nthey were year ago. The oysters along the\nriver shores are sandy and hard breathing. While in the interior of the Peninsula they are\nhard and in fine condition during\ndry weather, but after a rain storm or flood\nthey are soft and muddy, and in places\nalmost impassable, during these conditions\nmany portions of the oyster beds are\nand the fish are in our dear\nwater are too cold and the fish are under water. The turn line of the\nNicasico River from Stump Point to Whitebox was surveyed by Mr. R. T.\nHicks and U.S. C. & G. 1901. The remainder of\nthe work on this sheet was executed by\nTherman Beanney Assistant U.S. C. & G. Army\n1901-1902.\n
"Bicaro", sometimes called "Waterbeeto" by the\npeople here. It took this name about thirty\nyear ago from a family of Walters\nwho settled when the town was located, the Post\nOffice Department called "Bicaro", commercially it is known\nas Bicaro, all goods consigned to this place.
by freight or express and addressed to Belfast, Maryland, and the people there knowing that name, Nanticoke Creek is the only deep but
narrow on the Nanticoke River for all lands,
except from the truth, it is also the only safe
crossing on the lower end of the river.

There is now a bill before Congress asking
for an appropriation to dredge the entrance
of this creek and make such improvements
that will enable the Baltimore Steamboat
to come in to the creek and make landings
at Sturgeon. Ten years ago a part of the U.S.
Engineer Corps made a detailed hydrographic
survey of this creek from its approaches and
its entrance to the head of navigation with
a view of making improvements; should
an appropriation become available,

I have been informed by the people of Sturgeon
that, in order to facilitate the chances for
an appropriation to study and improve
the entrance to this creek, the Maryland
Legislature, ten years ago, passed an act
changing the name of this stream from "Nanticoke" Creek to "Nantipquin" River,
That is called "Nanticoke" Point on the

1860 is called "Hump" Point by the natives in this region. Men seventy years of age who lived here all their lives, tell me that they have heard it called by that name as long as they remember. The point on the same near Nanticoke Church is called "Nanticoke Point," and has been known by that name for some other fifty years.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Capt. E. B.ServerError,

Yarklin Nanticoke Co.

Maryland.

March 8th, 1902.