Department of Commerce and Labor
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

Superintendent.

State: Wai

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Top. Sheet No. 3455

LOCALITY:

1914

CHIEF OF PARTY: W. E. Tindall
Descriptive Report to Accompany Topographic Sheet No. 3455, Little Beach Cove, Parramore Island, Virginia.

Survey Methods.—The positions of Bell's packing house, of Bench Mark No. 1, and of Bulman's watch house were determined by plane table triangulation on sheet No. 3454, scale 1:10,000. These, together with triangulation station Little Beach, were transferred by tracing paper to this sheet, doubling the distances between each. Bench Mark No. 1 was then occupied with this sheet on the table and the other table stations, A to G, determined by plane table triangulation in the usual way.

The mean low water shore line was determined and surveyed as described in the report on sheet No. 3456, Sting Ray Point Cove.

Shore Lines.—The broken line indicates the outer edge of the marsh; the high water line is indefinite and hard to determine at many places. The entire shore of this cove is low marsh, extending to the hill on which is station Little Beach, and is flooded at extreme high tide. At ordinary high water, parts of the marsh are bare but are separated by shallow bodies of water. Several narrow creeks extend into the marsh and even cut off sections of it.

The mean low water lines were not difficult to determine, except the southeast side of the flat on which is station B (marked by a stake). There the bottom is uneven, and this is more or less an approximation to the exact position of mean low water. But there is certainly a lane of shallow water between this flat and Parramore Island that a lowering of the plane of 0.5 foot would not wipe out.

The three detached flats in the northern half of the cove and the flat surrounding the marsh on which is Bell's packing house are certainly separated from Parramore Island and from each other by water of ample depth
to eliminate any possibility of uncertainty due to an error in the plane
of as much as 0.5 foot.

The long narrow ridge of detached low water line northward of station
F is a spoil bank which was thrown up on the southern side of a dredged
boat channel.

Base Line.-- The base line on the south shore of the cove east of Little
Powder Tub Creek was measured by Mr. Fred E. Ruediger, County Surveyor, in
March, 1905, in connection with an oyster survey made by him. The end stakes,
cedar stubs, were recovered by him and were cut in on this sheet by plane
table. His measurement of this line gives a length of 13.52 chains.

Depths.-- A channel having a depth of about 4 feet at mean low water
spans this cove as shown by the line of circles on the sheet which indicate
the positions of bushes set to mark the eastern side of the channel.

James Rock (marked by a bush) is northward of the channel, which here lies
close to the spoil bank. Eastward of the line of bushes the water is
shallow (from 1 to 2 feet deep), except in narrow drains which lie between
shoals and in general lead to the several creeks that empty into the cove.
The bottom is a mixture of sand and mud but is moderately hard in places.

E. Parker
Assistant