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Treasury Department,  
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

*O. W. Lutzmann*  
Superintendent.

State: *Virginia*

U. S. C. & G. SURVEY,  
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

JUL 13 1904

Acc. No. *2647.*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

*Topographic* Sheet No. *2647.*

LOCALITY:

*Chesapeake Bay - Eastern  
Shore. Chesconessex  
Creek to Pocomoke  
River.*

1904

CHIEF OF PARTY:

*C. P. Latham, Asst.*

2647

# Descriptive Report.

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Topographic Sheet of the Survey of Chesapeake Bay, Eastern Shore, from Pocomoke River to Chesconnessex Creek.

Spelling? 2

The survey shown on this sheet, was executed by the instructions of the Superintendent, dated October 16<sup>th</sup> 1903. The area surveyed is low flat and well wooded. The surface is largely of a sandy loam with an under strata of clay.

Clay underlies that portion of the area south of Guilford Creek. North of this creek there is a large portion of the area underlain by a coarse gravel, with an admixture of clay. There are evidences of an extensive glacial moraine near the outlet of Guilford Creek. Extensive marshes extend, from the tillable lands, from one to four miles. These marshes are generally pointed by a narrow strip of sandy beach, they are generally hard and well covered with grasses, making an excellent pasturage for cattle. At extreme spring tides they are covered to a depth of four to six inches. The higher lands are about equally divided between cultivated lands and woods. From the style of

farming in vague, and equal amount of pine woods and cleared land is necessary for the purpose of agriculture. The straw from the pines are carried to the fields for the fertilizing and loosening the soil for potatoe cultivation. Second growth pine predominates in the wooded areas, then are some oak gum chestnut and hickory in the swamps woods. Trees average from 40 to 80 feet in height. Most of the original growth of timber has been cut. The sawmills cut trees to as small as six inches in diameter to obtain lumber to manufacture barrels. Sweet potatoes, irish potatoes, strawberries, tomatoes and turneps are the main crops. Not enough corn is produced for home consumption.

This area and County, is one of the most prosperous Communities in Cauntry. The produce is largely sold through a produce exchange, organised and managed by the farmers, of Accemac and the adjoining County of Northhampton. Poultry, Cattle, hogs and horses are extensively raised. Many standard bred trotting horses being produced. All the area not natural 'oyster rock' is under cultivation to oysters, this industry clamming fishing and crabbing are extensive. Provision is made for keeping crabs until they shed and become soft when they are shipped. Good shelter and holding ground can be had in

all the creeks. There are connections through the marshes at high water between Maucor and Chesconnesset Creek, Chesconnesset Creek and Deep Creek and Deep Creek and Hunting Creek, they are extremely difficult to follow as even at high water there is not more than four feet and this only in the channels.

The shore line, only at exposed places, recedes but slowly, about a metre in five years. Little change was observed except at exposed places. No marine conveniences or supplies can be procured. Many small boats are built but the material and workmanship is poor.

There are no summer or winter resorts within the limits of the sheet insects make the living or being on the shores very unpleasant, during the summer months.

Two steamers are operated by the B. Co. S. Ry bi-weekly to and from Baltimore touching at Davis pier. Sailing during the winter are irregular.

The time between Davis and Baltimore is approximately eighteen hours. Landings, now abandoned, were formerly made on Messing Hunting and Chesconnesset creeks.

Railroad service to the region is excellent. The New York Philadelphia and Annapolis railway operates a triple daily passenger service and numerous freight-trains daily.

While this is one of the most prosperous agricultural communities in the United States, there seems to be but little improvement in roads bridges or houses.

Farms are valued at from fifty to one hundred dollars per acre. The roads are exceedingly bad, during the winter season but fairly good during the summer.

The school system is extensive and good, no institution of higher grade than high schools.

E. B. Athain

Hallwood Va June 18<sup>th</sup> 1904

Asst. Geol. Survey, Chief of Party