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

*O. H. Juddmann*

Superintendent.

State: *Va.*

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DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

*Topographic* Sheet No. *2663*

LOCALITY:

*Chesapeake Bay, Eastern  
Shore; Mattawoman Creek  
to Craddock Creek.*

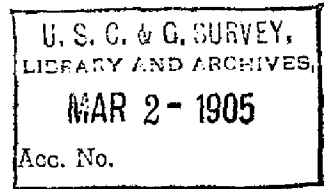
1904

CHIEF OF PARTY:

*E. B. Latham, Asst.*

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# Descriptive Report



COAST AND  
GEODESIC SURVEY  
Topographic Sheet, Chesapeake Bay, From Craddock  
Creek to Hungan Creek  
FEB 28 12 37 PM 1904

This sheet was executed by instructions from the Superintendent dated October 16<sup>th</sup> 1903 during August September October and November 1904.

The area shown is a flat sandy surface lying between 10 and 15 feet above mean low water. The slope is quite gentle with the exception of banks along the Bay and Reed shores. The underlying strata is of clay. Along the Bay shore there are sand flats with several lines of mounds. The pattern is generally hard.

The sand hills are covered with pine and undergrowth and are stationary. The recession is approximately (0.5) five tenths of a metre per year. On exposed points the recession is greater. There is a small marsh between Craddock and Occohannock creeks. South of Occohannock the high lands make out to the Bay shore. Along a larger portion there are bluffs of clay ranging from 5 to 20 feet.

There remain but little of the original growth of timber which consists of pine oak hickory gums etc. There is large portion of the area in second growth pines. Heights of trees vary from 20 to 80 feet. There is little

Undergrowth, as the wooded areas are gleaned for the pine straw to furnish fertilizer for the potato crop. About the heads of creeks there is a considerable area of swampy woods with a heavy tangle of undergrowth. There is but little fruit grown. Peaches, Pears and Apples are grown for home consumption only.

The cultivation of the potato both round and sweet is the principal agricultural industry. Some corn and trucking crops are raised.

There are only small towns on the area shown.

The commerce incidental to agriculture are the only supports of the towns. No manufacturing industries are operated. There is a canning factory near the head waters of Ocohanock Creek and this with a few saw mills and barrel factories are the only industries noted. The cultivation of the oyster is extensive almost the entire areas of the creeks south of Ocohanock Creek are cultivated. Lines of Communication are the N.Y. Phil and Dev. Railway, one of the main trunk lines of communication between North and South and a bi-weekly boat line from landings in Ocohanock Creek to and from Baltimore Maryland.

There are no summer or winter resorts on the sheet. There is but little increase in the area of cleared or tillable land during fifty years

since the last survey. The larger land tracts have been divided and are now owned and farmed in tracts of twenty to two hundred acres. The greater portion of shore line is unchanged. At the mouths of creeks there has been great change, in some of the smaller creeks there has been a levee thrown up which entirely cuts off the creeks.

The roads during summer are excellent and fairly good during winter.

There is practically no shipping except in Ochokanod Creek. Only small sail boats running potatoes and oysters to the Cape Charles Markets ever use any of the creeks. The <sup>to</sup> canals are very shoal and a local knowledge is required to navigate them.

E. B. Latham

Assist. Co. Survey Chief of Post

Cape Charles Va. Jan 1905