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

O. H. Litchmann

Superintendent.

State: *Va.*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. *2695*

LOCALITY:

Chesapeake Bay - Eastern

Shore

Tangier & Watts Islands

1905

CHIEF OF PARTY:

"E. B. Latham, Asst."

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

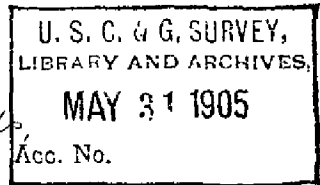
MAY 31 1905

Acc. No.

2695

Descriptive Report, Topographic Sheet,

Tanguier and Watts Islands



This survey was executed under the instructions of the Superintendent, dated April 20th 1905, during the months of April and May 1905.

The area shown, consists of low marsh islands with ridges of higher land, the ridges are but a few feet above high water. These ridges on the Tanguier group of Islands are entirely surrounded by marsh. On Watts Island the ridge is on the shore of Pocumote Sound.

The many boulders in the marsh and along shore, together with the gravel and sand, indicate a glacial formation.

Below the high water line the sand is coarse and heavy, very firmly set in place. The low water line is indicated by a series of dots.

From local information the recession is approximately one metre per month. There are a few pine trees on Watts Island and also some poplar the last are cultivated. There are no trees on the Tanguier group, excepting those cultivated. From the numerous tree stumps and local report, it is concluded that portions of the Islands was at one time well timbered. There are many stumps

of trees along the edge of the marsh, below high water line. The one family, the only occupants of Watts Island, are to a limited extent engaged in farming and stock raising. There are no farms on Jaugier Island, only a few small gardens cultivated. Almost the entire area, on the higher ridge of land on Jaugier Island, is occupied by dwelling houses. Lands here sell at approximately five hundred dollars for a lot fifty by one hundred feet. The P. O. and a. line of Steamers touch at lead harbor pier twice weekly to and from Baltimore Md. The mail is delivered daily, weather permitting, by a small boat from Lewisfield Md. A few hunters come to the Island in winter for the duck shooting, but there are no summer or winter resorts on the Islands.

This community subsists entirely from the fish crabs and oysters taken from the adjacent waters. While it is a most isolated community and unique in many of its customs, its people are contented and happy within their limited wants.

There are fairly good public schools for four months of each year. There is one Church, to which all belong and most attend. The number of inhabitants is approximately 1400. The wealth of the island, has greatly increased.

At the lower end of the island is a valuable deposit of sand, deep water can be carried to within a very short distance of the beach in many places.

Respectfully
E S Latham
Assist. Ct Survey

May 23rd 1905

Positions Tangier Motts Islands Virginia 1905

| Station | Latitude | metres | Longitude | metres | Remarks |
|-------------------------|----------|--------|-----------|--------|--------------------------------|
| Plane table station | 37° 47' | 428 | 75° 53' | 632 | Marked by 4" terra-cotta pipe |
| Chimney of house | 37° 48' | 306 | 75° 53' | 650 | |
| Plane table station | 37° 48' | 1444 | 75° 53' | 1020 | Marked by 4" terra-cotta pipe |
| Plane table station | 37° 47' | 1676 | 75° 53' | 1246 | " |
| Plane table station | 37° 47' | 910 | 75° 53' | 992 | marked by 4" terra-cotta pipe. |
| Plane table station | 37° 48' | 42 | 75° 59' | 282 | " |
| Plane table station | 37° 48' | 526 | 75° 58' | 1420 | " |
| Chimney of school | 37° 48' | 1154 | 75° 59' | 610 | |
| Plane table station | 37° 49' | 1206 | 75° 58' | 1166 | " |
| Plane table station | 37° 50' | 844 | 75° 58' | 966 | " |
| Chimney of school house | 37° 50' | 1512 | 75° 59' | 986 | |
| Plane table station | 37° 51' | 1040 | 76° 00' | 260 | " |
| Plane table station | 37° 52' | 148 | 75° 59' | 1300 | " |
| Plane table station | 37° 52' | 1640 | 75° 59' | 1024 | " |
| Plane table station | 37° 52' | 14 | 76° 00' | 490 | " |
| Tree | 37° 52' | 142 | 76° 00' | 340 | |
| White fishing house | 37° 50' | 896 | 76° 00' | 154 | |
| Plane table station | 37° 49' | 1242 | 76° 00' | 340 | Marked by 4" terra-cotta pipe. |