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Department of Commerce and Labor
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

O. T. Tamm
Superintendent.

State: *Virginia*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

T Sheet No. *2808*

LOCALITY:

Potomac River
Nomini Cliffs to
Sandy Point

1906

CHIEF OF PARTY:

Sehman Torrey

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

O. H. TITTMANN, SUPERINTENDENT.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET, VI

RE-SURVEY OF THE LOWER POTOMAC RIVER.

FROM

NOMINI CLIFFS TO SANDY POINT.

VIRGINIA

SCALE 1/20,000.

SURVEYED BY.

Walter Jones

ASSISTANT C&G SURVEY.

1906

U. S. C. & G. SURVEY
NO. 2808
1906

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

SHEET V. 1906.

TOPOGRAPHY.

LOWER POTOMAC RIVER, VA.

The work on this sheet, represents the re-survey, of the portions of the shore line, where changes have taken place since the last survey was made, and the interior work, contouring-roads-creeks and other topographical details, as far back from the river, to the high land overlooking the Potomac River.

SHORE LINE. At the training wall on the East point of the entrance to Nomini Creek, the North shore has made out in to the Potomac, twenty and twentyfive metres, since the last survey was executed. On the West side of "Kingopsico" Point the shore line has eroded seventy five and ninety metres since the last survey was made, and the triangulation station of 1904 is completely washed away, The point where it was originally located is now outside of low water mark on the beach. West of the Western entrance to "Lower Machodoc River" the northern shore of the Potomac has eroded forty and fifty metres, since the last shore line was surveyed. Inside the entrance to Glebe Creek on the Southern shore, the shore line has eroded, twenty to one hundred and fifty metres since the last survey was made.

"NOMINI CLIFF'S". These bluffs are the most prominent, precipitous, and highest land marks, on the Potomac river, below Washington City and are from 20 to 140 feet above mean high water on the Potomac,

at their Eastern end. The formation is curious, and would make an interesting study for the Geologist. These Cliff's are full of Fossil deposits of curious formation. From the point marked "Old Mill" and boat landing, there is a waggon road, leading up to "Stratford", The old, General Henry Lee, ("Light Horse Harry" of Revolutionary fame,) estate, and the birth place of General Robert E Lee. The residence is a large stately building, constructed of brick, in the Colonial style of architecture, and is in a good state of preservation. This house is about 1 1/2 miles from the boat landing, noted on the chart. And the estate now belongs to Doctor Stewart, Treasurer of Westmoreland county, Va,

The country from Stratford along the river to Currioman Bay and Nomini River, is broken up in to deep steep gulches, and heavily timbered, THE hills are high, reaching an elevation of 140-160 and 190 feet above mean high water on the Patomac. From Nomini Creek to Bowen's Creek the country is lower, reaching an elevation of 40 feet 2 1/2 miles back from the Potomac. From Bowen's Creek to Sandy Point the country rises again to an elevation of 160 feet. Four miles back from the Potomac, The country from Nomini Creek to Sandy Point is well settled and intersperced with fine farms, under a good state of cultivation. The Randall line of boats make regular trips from Washington to one wharf in Currioman Bay, four wharf's in Nomini Creek and three wharf's in Lower Maachodoc River, Fine oysters and fish

abound in these waters, and there are two large packing and canning houses on Nomini Creek, with numerous saw mills throughout the country, that furnish lumber for shipment from Currioman Bay and Nomini Creek and Lower Machodoc River.

The country between Glebe Creek and Kingcopsico Point, is called "Black Grounds", the land is low and very wet, especially in the rainy season, making the roads almost impassable at times. On the high ground from Mt. Holly to the Hague, the roads are good and the land beautifully located for farming purposes. The contours on the sheet, are shown for every 20 feet difference of level, The heights are given in feet and show the elevations above mean high water on the Potomac River.

The roads were run by Plane Table traverse lines, brought up from triangulation stations, on the Potomac shore, and checked at every possible point, The heights were carried along the traverse lines by vertical angles, taken with the P&T Alidade, When the timber was too thick to use the Plane, Table, the contours and other details, within the forest limits was put in with a small sketching table, starting from Plane, Table, stations on the road traverse lines, and they all checked up remarkably well with the regular P, T, work, This sketching work was done on days that were too damp or stormy to expose the P, T, sheet to the elements.

The India ink work on this sheet, was partly put on, before the

field work on the sheet was completed, The sheet was used in the field partly inked, "Chin, Chin", water proof liquid "Pearl", and "Higgins", American, India, water proof liquid inks were used, I have called attention to the above method, to illustrate, that that Topographical sheets can be inked with the above inks, and with care the inked sheets can be used in the field without blurring the parts inked.

Respectfully, Submitted.

Stehman Forney

Assistant, C, & G, Survey.

NOTE

The curves in red, show the contours for every 20 feet difference of level, The heights are given in feet, and show the elevations above mean high water, on the Potomac River.

Stehman Forney.

Chief of Party.