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U. S. C. & G. SURVEY
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES
31 1907

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31 1907

Department of Commerce and Labor
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

O. Plattman
Superintendent.

State: *Virginia*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Sheet No. *2821*

LOCALITY:

Potomac River, Coan

River to Little Wicomico

River

1906-7

CHIEF OF PARTY:

Stephen Farney

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DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

SHEET X

TOPOGRAPHIC RE-SURVEY

OF THE

LOWER POTOMAC RIVER

VIRGINIA SHORE

FROM

COAN RIVER TO MOUTH OF LITTLE WICOMICO

1906-07.

SCALE 1/20,000

The work on this sheet represents the re-survey of those portions of the shore line where changes have taken place since the last survey was made; also, the interior work, contouring, roads, creeks, and other topographical detail, as far back from the Potomac River to the high land overlooking it, and taking in the main county roads leading to and from the county seat at Heathsville, Northumberland County.

Shore Line:

From the mouth of Coan River to Little Wicomico River. The shore line along the Potomac River has eroded in places 3-21-32-48-63-and 100 metres, and has made out in places 2 to 40 metres. At the entrance to "God", "Pressly's", "Hulls" and "Cupid" Creeks, the shore line has changed and also at the mouth of the Little Wicomico River. The revised shore line has only been completed to within 580 metres of the mouth of the "Little" Wicomico. All of the re-survey of this river, shore line on Chesapeake Bay to Fleet's Point and the Great Wicomico, will come Sheet L 2.

The shore line, several hundred metres inside the entrance to the above named creeks has not changed materially since the last survey was made.

The highest elevation on this sheet is 106 feet above mean high water on the Potomac River. The contours on the sheet are shown for every 20 feet difference of level. The heights are expressed in feet, and give the elevation 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 River and checked at every possible point. Contours were carried along with the traverse lines, by vertical angles taken with the P.T. Alidade. When the timber was too dense to use the Plane Table, the contours and other detail within the forrest limits was put in with a small sketching table, starting from the Plane Table stations on the road traverse and they all checked up 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.

Sub Sketch:

The work on this part of Sheet X, represents the survey of the country from Coan Wharf to the head waters of Coan River; roads and contouring from Coan Wharf to Heathsville, the county seat of Northumberland County. Thence to Burgess Store, on the road leading to Reedville, on the Great Wicomico.

The country from Coan Point along the Potomac River to the mouth of the "Little" Wicomico River, is low and flat, rising to an elevation of 100 feet back from the Potomac five miles. This country is thickly settled and well cultivated.

Heathsville is a pretty little town, very old, and has a population of about four hundred, two hotels, four stores, three churches, Court House and Jail, the latter with its doors open about eleven months in every year. The county roads shown on this sheet are right good, except on the low lands bordering on the Potomac, there they are very bad, especially in the rainy season when they are almost impassable at times.

The India ink work on this sheet was partly put on before the field work was completed and the sheet was used in the field until finished. "Chin" "Chin" Water Proof Liquid Pearl and "Higgins" American India Water Proof Liquid inks were used. I call attention to the above facts to illustrate that Topographic Sheets can be inked with these inks, and with care the inked sheets can be used in the field without blurring the inked parts.

Respectfully submitted

William Loring

Assistant C. & G. Survey,

Chief of Party