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

D. H. Gittmann
Superintendent.

State: *Maryland*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Hydrographic Sheet No. *2595*

LOCALITY:

*Tangier Sound, including
Annamassee River, Phank
Creek + Tyler's Creek.*

1902

CHIEF OF PARTY:

Gen. A. Flower

2595

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

OF

SHEET # 2595

Referred by the Librarian to

Comp. D.	Revised
Comp. E.	Revised
Comp. F.	Revised
Comp. G.	Revised

HYDROGRAPHY

RESURVEY OF

ACKNOWLEDGED

TANGIER SOUND, MARYLAND,
 FROM LATITUDE 37 - 55 TO LATITUDE 38 - 02
 INCLUDING

AUG 21 1902

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LITTLE ANNEMESSEX RIVER, SHANKS CREEK AND TYLER'S CREEK.

STATISTICS.

The signals used on this sheet, were mostly determined by the topographic parties. Signals Tree, Dark, Wall, Mat, Launch, Jake, Paw, Crook, Spin, and Bee, were located by the hydrographic parties and their determination will be found in the sounding records. The positions were all plotted on the sheet by members of my party, but when I took the sheet in hand, I discovered that the work was carelessly done and it was necessary to replot a considerable number of the positions. This necessitated erasures and corrections and will make difficult the inking of the soundings. Some of the *soundings on the* North and South lines over the Terrapin Sand Shoal at the N W. portion of the sheet, give from a foot to a foot and a half deeper water than the East and West lines. As the sounding lines on the next sheet above will overlap those at the northern edge of this sheet, the curves on this edge should not be inked until both sheets are at hand.

The principal harbor on Tangier Sound, Little Annemessex River, on which is located the town of Crisfield, is included by this sheet. This harbor and its approaches were quite closely developed. The channel up the river is very narrow, and although

well buoyed, is difficult to pass through, even in the day time^{#2}, by anyone not thoroughly familiar with it.

Janes Island Lt. Ho., on the end of the sand bar, extending southwesterly from the northern point of the river mouth, and Somer's Cove Lt. Ho. on the northern side of the channel at the point where it turns to the north east toward Crisfield, aid in navigating the channel, but boats drawing over 7 feet, unless carrying searchlights, should not attempt to enter at night. The least water found in the channel was near Somer's Cove Lt. Ho. where a minimum depth of 11 3/4 feet was found. The channel is so narrow that vessels drawing more than 10 feet should not attempt to pass through the channel at low water.

Crisfield is the only place on Tangier Sound where a supply of water can be obtained. Here the city has a pipe on the County wharf to supply boats with water. Steam boats arrive and leave Crisfield daily from and to Baltimore. A branch of the N. Y. P. & N. R. R. has its terminus at Crisfield and there are a custom house and post office. The Western Union and Postal Telegraph Companies have offices in the town. There are two marine railways for small vessels? There is no anchorage inside Somer's Cove Lt. Ho. except in the channel and a small place south of the steamer wharf for vessels drawing six feet and less. It is reported that the sand bar on the end of which is situated Janes Island Lt. Ho. is washing to the SE. *and gradually closing the channel.*

The channel up the Tangier Sound on this sheet is deep enough for vessels of any draft. East of black buoy No. 5 is the narrowest part of the channel. Here with a depth of 40 feet and over it is about 1100 metres wide. The greatest depth found, 123 feet, was

on a line normal to the channel banks at this place. The eastern bank of the channel north of Janes Island Lt. Ho. is very steep, jumping from soundings of two to three fathoms to soundings of from six to twelve. The ten fathom curve will run the length of the ^{sheet} channel on both sides, with a minimum depth of 63 to 64 feet in the ^{of the channel} channel between Lat. $37^{\circ} - 56'$ and $37^{\circ} - 57' - 20''$. The 10 fathom curves will come close together at the northern extremity of the sheet.

Shanks Creek is mostly dry at low water. There is a channel at the upper end used by small sailing craft to run from the Chesapeake Bay up to the village. This channel is practically closed at its mouth so that it can only be used by boats of two to three feet draft, on high water.

There is a channel of a minimum depth of $6 \frac{3}{4}$ feet through Tyler's Creek, to the southern village on Smith's Island, but it is shut off from the Sound by a sand bar, over which but four feet can be carried at M. L. W., just south of signal "Spin." This signal is a pole erected on the bar for the use of ^{the} small steamer which carries the mail daily from Crisfield to Ewell, Post office on Smith's Island, It marks the passage over the bar into Tyler's Creek.

The "Thoroughfare", the body of water making into Smith's Island at the north, was not surveyed as it could not be entered with pulling boats except at high water, from the Sound side.

Respectfully submitted,

Geo. L. Flower

Asst. U. S. C. & G. Survey,

Chief of party.

BM

Department of Commerce and Labor
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
Washington

860

October 18, 1904.

Mr. Andrew Braid,

Assistant in charge of the Office.

Sir:-

I forward herewith Hydrographic Sheet No. 2595,
"Tangier Sound, Cedar Straits to Big Annemessex River, Md.",
by Assistant Flower in 1901-2, together with report on same,
for the approval of the Office.

Report.

The protracting and plotting was well done and the
records were well kept.

H.L. Simons. (Signed).

Respectfully,

Assistant and Chief, Drawing and Engraving Division.