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Diag. Ch. No. 77-B

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

C. N. Fittmann
Superintendent.

State: *Md. & Va.*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Hydrographic Sheet No. *2709*

LOCALITY:

Potomac River,
Nanjimoy Reach

1904

CHIEF OF PARTY:

D. B. Wainwright

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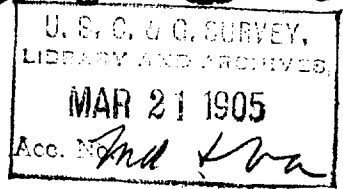
Description Report

2709

(2) Nanjemoy Reach

(1) Potomac River

Sheet No. - 2709



No date given

The survey contemplated a full development of the river channel, the determination of the continued existence of the shoals outside the channel and the location of any new shoals.

It was not intended to make as thorough a development of the areas outside the channel including the old shoals since a combination could be made with the old work.

There has been little change in this stretch of the river since the last survey. Several new shoals were discovered, which owing to their small area were missed by the lines of the former survey. They are situated ^{towards} the right bank of the river at some distance from the channel. There is a small area at the upper end of the sheet which needs further development. It is in the channel near the line joining the Δ^s "Mason Pt." and "Grimes" at 420. The soundings are $2\frac{1}{2}$ + 23 feet with surrounding depths of 30 ft.

It would seem this discrepancy was an error in the record of one (1) fathom, but owing to the peculiarities of the river in this locality this cannot be taken for granted without additional development.

Several days search was made for a reliable man for tide keeper without success, and a boy of fifteen was finally employed who did fairly well. While enquiries were being made ("a, f, c" days) soundings were in progress and the tide readings at Mathias Pt + Clifton Beach used for making the reductions, a time allowance of half an hour being made for the gauge at the former place, and of an hour for the gauge at the latter place. From the results of simultaneous comparison of gauges the difference in time for the same stage of the tide for points along that portion of the river is a very irregular quantity. "c" day shows constant differences of a foot at a number of crossings undoubtedly due to the fact that the time allowance did not fit that day.

Both on account of the irregularity of the bottom and the inexperience of the recorder

soundings were made by the leadsmen at mill.

It will be noted that the changes in course are not always coincident with a position determination. During this part of the season two new crew members were employed and neither of them had more than a slight knowledge of the compass & most changes of course had to be made under direct supervision.

D. B. Mainwright
Assistant C. S. G. Denny

U. S. Hydrographic Survey.
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INSPECTOR OF CHARTS,
HYDROGRAPHIC SECTION.

Report
on
Hydrographic Sheet
No. 2709,
Nanjemoy Reach,
Md. and Va.
Assistant Wainwright,
1904.

In nearly all of this work the soundings were taken at will.

The distance between positions, on most of the lines, is too great and the shoals are not fully developed.

The records were well kept with the exception that the beginning and ending of lines should have been more carefully described.

The plotting and protracting were well done.

H.L. Simons. (Signed).