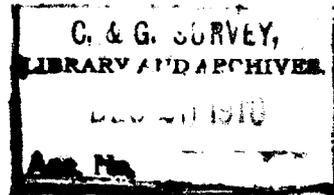


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Diag. Ckt. No. 78-Z



Department of Commerce and Labor  
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

Superintendent.

State: *Virginia*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

*Hyd* Sheet No. *3207*

LOCALITY:

*Junction of Appomattox and  
James Rivers - City Point to  
Petersburg, Va.*

1910

CHIEF OF PARTY:

*O. W. Ferguson*

3207

215

# 3207

2 Sheets

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY SUPPLEMENTARY TOPO-  
GRAPHY AND HYDROGRAPHY OF THE APPOMATTOX RIVER, VA., 1910.

RECORDED BY  
The navigable portions of the Appomattox River consists  
of about 11 1/2 miles extending from the junction with the  
James River at City Point, Va. to Petersburg Va

There is a good depth of water at its confluence with  
the James but the union of the channels is near the center of  
a wide bay about 2 3/4 x 1 1/2 miles in extent and 4/5 of this  
area is mud flats from 1 to 3 feet in *depth*. The channel  
is crooked and difficult to follow until after reaching Buz-  
zards Island where the width of the river gets down to 150 metres  
and gradually narrows all the way to Petersburg getting down to  
50 metres wide in many places. The first men of Petersburg  
have requested me to forward to you a big petition for two  
lights, one at the upper point at the mouth and between the two  
Rivers and one about Buzzards Island, nearly a mile above, where  
the Appomattox begins to assume its normal width.

The location of the first light proposed would be of  
great benefit to the navigation of the James River. The environs  
of both locations comes on James River sheet, 1438 and the peti-  
tion will be forwarded to you as soon as the hydrographic in-  
formation can be gotten into proper shape to accompany the  
petition.\* There is no difficulty in following the channel from  
Buzzards Island to Petersburg.

Above Point of Rocks is Sunken Island Shoal which is one  
of the controlling low depth places. *a mile and three quarters above SUNKEN ISLAND is HAINS SHOALS where,*  
Very recently, a barge  
coming down the river, loaded to a depth of nine feet, grounded  
here and, after waiting for several days, had to lighter off to

*\* I will send the petition now as the subject is quite accurately set forth  
on the accompanying chart and the new hydrography (field work of which is  
now finished) will not - alter the merits of the case.*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY SUPPLEMENTARY TOPO-  
GRAPHY AND HYDROGRAPHY OF THE APPOMATTOX RIVER, VA., 1910.

8 1/2 feet.

Shortly after this the Captains of tugs refused to take a barge from City Point to Petersburg, drawing nine feet and part of her load had to be discharged.

At the mouth of Lieutenants Run, between Petersburg and Plandford a restricting bar is formed after heavy rains making frequent dredging necessary. A job of dredging right here has recently been underway.

This run drains a cultivated section of country where the declivities are very large.

It is proposed to divert this flow near the river, conduct it along down the right bank and discharge it at an inland chute.

This river is obliged to take care of a good deal of sediment that is carried into it, and it does not do this without damage to navigation, though with less than one would expect.

Navigation.

About three barges a week pass up or down this river, One steamer plying between Petersburg and Richmond makes a round trip every two days. A number of small sailing vessels are towed up or down this river and a number of smaller boats propelled by gasoline engines, for either business or pleasure, pass up or down.

The Freight.

The freight is lumber, ties, wood, Canned goods and fertilizer.

VEC  
Mar. 14, 1911.

HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET 3207.

Appomattox River, Virginia, by Asst. O.W.  
Ferguson in 1910.

TIDES.

	City Point ft.
Mean low water, or plane of reference on staff	2.6
Lowest tide observed " "	0.9
Highest " " " "	6.3
Mean range of tide	2.8

Coast and Geodetic Survey  
MAR 21 1911  
TIDAL DIVISION