

3375

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Department of Commerce and Labor  
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

Superintendent.

State: *Virginia*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

*Hyd.* Sheet No. *3375*

LOCALITY:

*Mattaponi River - Scotland Land  
ing to Anstede*

1912

CHIEF OF PARTY:

*C. H. Ferguson*

11-2845

3375



# 3375

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.

COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

O.H. TITTMANN, Superintendent.

Survey of the Mattaponi River, Virginia.

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TITLE SHEET  
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For Hydrographic Sheet ~~"E"~~ 3375

Extending from one mile above Sandy Point VA. to Dunkirk, Va.

between

Latitude  $37^{\circ} 41'$  and  $37^{\circ} 49'$

Longitude  $76^{\circ} 57'$  and  $77^{\circ} 06 \frac{1}{2}'$

Scale 1/20,000.

From April 14, to June 10, 1912.

Schooner "MATCHLESS".

O.W. FERGUSON, Assistant, C.&G.S. In command.

OBSERVERS.

O.W. FERGUSON, Assistant; James E. Marsh, Mate.

Frank S. Borden, and M. Steinberg, Aids.

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DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.  
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For Hydrographic Sheet "E". 3375

Extending from one mile above Sandy Point Va. to Dunkirk Va.

between

Latitude 37° 41' and 37° 49'  
Longitude 76 57 and 77 06 1/2.

Scale 1/20,000.

From April 14, to June 10, 1912.

Schooner "MATCHLESS".

O.W.FERGUSON, Assistant; C.&G.S. in command.

OBSERVERS.

O.W.FERGUSON, Assistant; James E. Marsh, Mate.

Frank S. Borden, and M. Steinberg, Aids.

RECORDERS.

H.W.Godsey, C.W.,  
J.H.Dukes, W. 2nd. Cl.

LEADSMEN.

R.Myrdal., H.C.Tong., and A.S.Bristow.

COXSWAIN.

R.Myrdal., H.C.Tong., and A.S.Bristow.

TIDE OBSERVERS.

M.L.Tabor., F.Franke and H.W.Godsey.

Hydrographic Sheet "E".

This is the last of the two sheets comprising the survey of the Mattaponi River and reaches to Dunkirk, 40.6 miles by channel above Westpoint Va. AT this place there is a bridge across the river without a draw, the depth at low water being 1 1/2 to 2 feet , and this is the head of all navigation, excepting that at high water stages some timber is floated down the river.

The width of the river on this sheet will average 280 m. for two thirds of its length, then from a mile above Beudley it narrows down to 100 m., while at Aylett it is about 45 and at Dunkirk 35 m. It winds up a low flat belt of land of from 1400 to 300 m. wide at three places where the high ground seems to have constricted the width of the ancient river .

TIDES.

This stretch shows marked tides which are of aid to navigation. As we ascend the York River from TUES POINT LIGHT HOUSE to Westpoint and on up the Mattaponi, the range in tides increases and reaches a maximum of 3.6 feet at Walkerton, diminishing rapidly from this point to Aylett, 9 1/2 miles where it is 2.3c ft. and at Dunkirk the end of the survey about 1 1/2 feet, but the swell of the tide is felt a long way above Dunkirk, showing that the slope of the river is very gentle and that it is susceptible of being made a navigable canal for twenty miles or more with very few if any locks needed for slack water navigation.

SHORES.

This sheet presents a great change in the character of the shores, the lower two, thirds are marshy for about two thirds of their extent, the marsh area being two to three square miles, covered with a growth of short wild grass, flags and calamus. Other stretches of shore especially where high ground is touched are quite sandy, but the upper third of this sheet presents shores

## Hydrographic Sheet "E".

of high ground of clay and sand or wooded shores where trees grow in extensive pastures or swamps.

## WATER.

Over all this sheet the water is strictly fresh and of a pretty good quality. Artesian water is obtained in many places along the river, there being a good place at Walkerton. At Aylett is a large spring of excellent water at a point of high ground about 100 m. from the river and at an elevation of about 6 feet from mean stage.

## CHANNEL

Ten feet at low water can be carried over this sheet to Walkerton. From Walkerton to Aylett only 4 feet can be depended on at low water. From Aylett to Dunkirk two feet at low water and nearly 4 feet at high water and 8 to 10 feet at a flood stage.

## NAVIGATION.

One Steamboat runs daily between Walkerton and Westpoint, and twice a week to Aylett. Tuesdays & Thursdays. Many Schooners and Barges load with lumber, mine props, trees and wood for Baltimore Philadelphia and New York. Tug boats handle ships and barges from Westpoint to Walkerton, but many schooners are now depending on their own sails aided by their small gasoline boats.

Small gasoline boats do all the towing between Walkerton and Dunkirk. Many rafts of logs are said to be sunk in the channel between Walkerton and Dunkirk, to the injury of the channel. Sometimes the launch Inspector drawing 4 feet, would strike what seemed to be logs in the channel

The U.S. Engineering Department had a snag boat working on the channel between Walkerton and Dunkirk.

## TOWNS.

Walkerton having 250 and Aylett 150 inhabitants are the only places on this sheet that could be called Towns, ship and receive large quantities of produce and goods. The steamer also receives and discharges freight at Roanes and Jones Landing, all other landings are for loading lumber ties and some grain.

## LANDINGS AND DISTANCES BY CHANNEL FROM WESTPOINT VA.

Scotland Landing	-----	23.8	miles.
White Oak	"	-----	24.2 "
Rickahock	"	-----	25.4 "
Horse	"	-----	26.5 "
Locust Grve	"	-----	27.9 "
x Walkerton	"	-----	28.7 "
Endfield	"	-----	29.0 "
White Bank	"	-----	29.4 "
x Roanes	"	-----	33.0 "
Pointers	"	-----	<del>##</del> 33.5 "
Rosespout	"	-----	33.8 "
Poplar	"	-----	34.7 "
x Jones	"	-----	36.2 "
x Aylett	"	-----	38.2 "
Old Hall	"	-----	39.2 " <del>Old Hall</del>
Dunkirk	"	-----	40.6 "

These landings marked by a cross are where the steamer making trips every two days stops. All excepting Walkerton and Aylett are very small, marked generally by a small wharf where boats load with lumber and other commodities.

## COMMODITIES.

The produce shipped is the miscellaneous product of the farms

of which peas and sweet potatoes are of the greatest value. Lumber of all kinds is shipped in varying quantities, the people showing a preference to working at lumber business rather than at farming.

Survey of the Mattaponi River  
 GEOGRAPHIC POSITIONS.  
 For Hydrographic sheet E.

33370

△ BEN	37° 41'	498. <sup>m</sup> 37	76° 56'	1269. <sup>m</sup> 2
△ HOOK	" 41	834.63	" 57	198.0
△ Lone Pine	" 41	926.0	" 57	164.5
△ LUM	" 41	596.48	<del>58</del> 58	21.19
△ RAIN	" 41	1067.89	" 57	1092.96
△ Tree on Point	" 41	894.2	" 58	155.0
△ Whf. House	" 41	880.0	" 58	337.0
△ FERRY	" 41	1482.4	" 58	547.89
△ YOU	" 42	24.6	" 58	266.8
△ Lone chy.	" 42	535.6	" 58	358.4
△ Barn	" 42	960.5	" 58	667.1
△ HOCK	" 42	567.2	" 58	894.0
△ RICK	" 42	1002.4	" 58	747.0
△ Whf.	" 42	983.8	" 58	780 <sup>7</sup> / <sub>5</sub>
△ MACGEORGE	" 42	548.6	" 59	261.1
△ HILLSBORO	" 42	1039.3	" 59	37.8
△ HORSE	" 42	719.0	" 59	992.2
△ WOODBURY	" 42	1099.3	" 59	1232.6
△ GREG	" 42	1282.3	77 00	630.7
△ LOG	" 42	1402.8	" 00	286.3
High Chy.	" 42	1690.0	" 00	460.5
△ ORANGE	37 42	1713.3	" 00	956.8
△ GROVE	" 43	159.7	" 00	15.0
△ PEA	" 43	515.4	" 01	2.7
△ VINE	" 43	933.3	" 00	1406.3
Smoke stack of canning Factory	" 43	858.0	" 01	682.0
△ DRAW	" 43	589.1	" 01	888.5
△ BRIDGE	" 43	790.6	" 01	729.4



	°	'	m	°	'	m
Upper Chy. of Ho. at white bank	37	43	380.0	77	02	192.0
△ CAMP	"	43	583.7	"	02	339.3
△ BELL	"	43	889.3	"	02	10.7
△ NORTH	"	43	1058.8	"	02	685.7
○ HOUSE	"	43	1262.5	"	02	395.7
Upper chy. of big Ho.	"	44	19.0	"	02	908.0
△ PAT	"	43	1486.9	"	02	1104.1
△ WHITE	"	44	2.8	"	02	939.5
△ SYC	"	44	119.7	"	03	161.8
△ BASE	"	44	183.8	"	02	1172.3
OUT	"	44	162.5	"	02	1215.7
△ BURY	"	44	703.8	"	03	66.5
△ MORE	"	44	1052.6	"	03	547.4
△ GOFF	"	44	1095.9	"	03	278.2
△ ULTRA	"	45	133.6	"	03	1347.5

STATISTICS SHEET "E".

3375  
 U.S. SURVEY 8  
 JUL 28 1912

Date 1912	Letter	Vol	Positions	Soundings	Miles Statute	Vessels
May 4	a	1	33	126	2.50	Whaleboat
" 14	b	1	12	49	0.50	"
" 14	a	1	27	224	6.25	Launch
" 18	b	1	19	164	3.00	"
" 25	c	1	54	372	6.75	Whaleboat
June 5	d	1	120	756	14.50	"
" 6	e	1	08	54	.50	"
" 8	f	1	55	336	6.00	"
"	c	1	42	299	6.90	Launch
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>2380</b>	<b>46.90</b>	

VEC  
Aug. 7, 1912.

HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET 3375.

Mattaponi River, Virginia, by Asst. O. W. Ferguson  
in 1912.

TIDES.

	Walkerton ft.	Aylett ft.
Mean low water, or plane of reference on staff	3.1	2.0
Lowest tide observed " "	1.8	2.2
Highest " " " "	8.0	5.0
Mean range of tide	3.9	2.8

Coast and Geodetic Survey

AUG 7 1912

TIDAL DIVISION

RECEIVED  
BY ASSISTANT IN CHARGE  
TIDAL DIVISION

AUG 7 1912

O. W. Ferguson

Hyd. Sheet No 3375

The ground on these sheets is thoroughly covered, the control excellent and the crossings very good. Angles were taken at frequent intervals on both the channel and cross lines.

It would have been better, if both sheets had been plotted on a larger scale. Further developements could have been brought out and the soundings would not have been so crowded.

However these sheets are a great improvement on the former work of this party, and are entirely satisfactory.

R. L. Johnston

Dec. 1912.