

# 3659

Diag. Cht. No. 1222-2 & 78-2

Form 504

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

## DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey ..... HYDROGRAPHIC

Field No. .... Office No. H-3659

### LOCALITY

State ..... VIRGINIA

General locality ..... CHESAPEAKE BAY

Locality ..... EASTERN SHORE OF VIRGINIA

CAPE CHARLES CITY TO NASWADDOX CREEK, VA.

19 1914

CHIEF OF PARTY

O. W. Ferguson

LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

DATE ..... MAY 27, 1914

B-1870-1 (1)

# 3659

U. S. Schr. Matchless.

LIBRARY

Place with descriptive report  
of hydrographic sheet No. 3659

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

*ELP*  
Drawing Section.

O. H. Tittmann Superintendent.

Survey of the Chesapeake Bay, Eastern Shore, Va.

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TITLE SHEET

\*-36 57 - -\*

- - - -

For Hydrographic Sheet B.

Extending from Cape Charles City, Va. to Naswaddox Creek, Va.

(between)

	°	'		°	'
Latitude	37	15	to	37	29
	°	'		°	'
Longitude	75	56	to	76	05

Scale 1:20,000.

From January 21 st, 1914 to May 9 th, 1914.

Schooner "Matchless".

O. W. Ferguson, Assistant, C. & G. Survey, in Command.

OBSERVERS.

O. W. Ferguson, Assistant.

James E. Marsh, Mate.

M. D. Glessner, Deck Officer.

Walter E. Perkins, Deck Officer.

B. Paul Burtis, Deck Officer.

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

## COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

O. H. TITTMANN, SUPERINTENDENT.

Survey of the Chesapeake Bay, Eastern Shore, Va.

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DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.  
-----For Hydrographic Sheet **3659**

Extending from Cape Charles City, Va. to Nasawaddox Creek.

(between)

Latitude	37 <sup>o</sup>	15'	to	37 <sup>o</sup>	29'
Longitude	75 <sup>o</sup>	56'	to	76 <sup>o</sup>	05'

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From January 21 st, 1914 to May 9 th, 1914.

SCHOONER "MATCHLESS".

O. W. Ferguson, Assistant, C. &amp; G. survey, in Command.

## OBSERVERS.

O. W. Ferguson, Assistant, James E. Marsh, Mate.

M. D. Glessner, Deck Officer, Walter E. Perkins, Deck  
officer. Paul B. Burtis, Deck Officer, H. W. Godsey, Chief Writer.

## RECORDER.

A. S. Bristow, Writer 2cl.

## LEADSWAIN.

W. H. Buckmaster, Q. M. 3cl. J. R. Roberson, Sea. Richard Diggs, Sea.  
and H. C. Tong, Sea.

## Coxswain.

H. H. Thomas, C. B. M. R. Myrdal, S. M. M. and W. H. Buckmaster, Q. M. 3cl.

## TIDE OBSERVERS.

The entire Crew.

DESCRIPTION REPORT HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET B, FROM CAPE CHARLES CITY TO  
 NASAWADDOX CREEK, MAY 9 th, 1914.

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 DESCRIPTION.

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 This sheet extends in places, four miles off shore, over wide sandy shores with shallow water, with bars out from half mile to a mile and quarter from shore. It includes King Creek, Cherrystone Creek, The Gulf Creek, Mattawoman Creek, and Hungers Creek, all of which are guarded by wide shallow bars in front, and must be entered through a channel trailing for below.

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 TOWNS.

There are no towns on the coast of this sheet excepting Cape Charles and its lower confines. The villages of Sunnyside ~~and~~ Eastville and Shadyside lie back three miles inland.

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 OCCUPATION

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 The occupation of the people is principally farming, with a good deal of attention to Oystering and some to fishing. In all of these creeks are men engaged in ~~freshing~~ in a small way, with Batteaux or Bug Eyes.

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 PRODUCE

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 The products are potatoes, in quite large quantities, and other farm produce in smaller quantities, some lumber oysters crabs and fish.

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 SHORES.

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 The shores are generally sandy, clean and hard, excepting the softer places and grassy shores in creeks. They are difficult to approach owing to shallow water ridges and bars extending out in places as far as 1 1/4 miles.

DESCRIPTION REPORE OF HYDROGRAPHIS SHEET B.FROM CAPE CHARLES CITY TO  
NASAWADDOX CREEK.MAY 9th,1914.

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CREEKS  
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There are many creeks, coming in one after another about as many as there is room for ,they are all shallow,affording great oppertunities for oyster-culture, and their shores though rising from only three to twelve feet are often picturesque and pleasant.

- (1) Kings Creek just above Cape Charles City,a small creek  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles long and  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile wide is occupied quite extensively *in* oyster culture. Small boats navigate this creek. It is quite shallow at its mouth, only one or two feet at low water. A bridge is projected and partly constructed at its mouth about which there is some contention, it being claimed that the draw is too narrow and forces the craft on the bar below before there is time to turn.
- (2) Cherrystone is a large creek  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles long and from  $\frac{1}{2}$ , to a mile wide. It furnishes six feet at low water and is the home of a large number of small craft. The shore is generally clear, with many buildings showing a prosperous appearance and the creek is noted for its oysters .
- (3) Gulf Creek is a small creek  $1\frac{3}{4}$  miles long <sup>and</sup>  $\frac{1}{8}$  wide

DESCRIPTION REPORT OF HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET B. FOR CAPE CHARLES CITY TO  
NASAWADDOX CREEK. MAY 9 th, 1914.

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(4) Mattawomen Creek is a large Creek  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles long and average  $\frac{3}{8}$  mile wide furnishes 4 feet at the mouth and is quite generally shallow throughout, from one to three feet.

It is naverageable for only boats drawing 2 to 3 feet.

(5) Hungers Creek is a large creek 4 miles long and  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile wide, with improved farms occupying the shores, and furnishes large areas for oyster culture. Furnishes four feet at <sup>its</sup> entrance, at low water, but, as is usually the case, about this shore, there is no deeper water, on an average, inside.

(A) Only small light draft boats can navigate this creek, and the channel is narrow.

(6) The water is of a fair quality, obtained from wells,

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BOTTOM

*with 100-60 ft channels behind*  
The bottom is irregular in surface<sup>e</sup> hard ~~with~~ bars extending well out *( $\frac{1}{2}$  mile to mile)* furnishing, ~~outside~~, clams and crabs. In creeks the bottom is softer; good for oysters and fair for anchorage.

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CURRENTS  
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Currents are only fairly strong, but broken in force and slowed up by the wide and shallow water.

## DESCRIPTION REPORT OF HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET B. FOR CAPE CHARLES CITY TO

NASSAWADDOX CREEK. MAY 9 th, 1914.

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## DAY MARKS AND LIGHTS.

There are no lights on this sheet excepting the Cape Charles City Harbor lights, and the red lighted beacon about 300 meters below Sandy Island, and also marking the channel to Cherrystone creek.

The day marks are few and local, all creeks being bushed out. The black can bouy at Nassawaddox has been carried ashore, and there is another old can bouy on the beach a mile below.

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HARBOR

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There are no harbors on this sheet excepting the creeks which are impossible of entrance during rough weather and the shoals cause breakers far out; Boats seeking shelter try to make Cape Charles City.

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NAVIGATION

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This sheet examines the depths out to seven fathoms and the navigator can readily see the depths, also the channels for entering creeks can be seen and are kept marked by bushes by local navigators.

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CRAFT

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Nothing but small boats, Batteaux and Buggies navigate these waters, *they* emanate from all the creeks, and are frequently seen.

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SHIPPING

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These boats are freighted with crabs, fish, fertalizer, farm products and especially with a large freightage of potatoes in seasons.

O. W. Ferguson

*Upper Sheet - B -*  
 Cape Charles City to Naswaddox Creek.

Station	Latitude	Longitude	Station	Latitude	Longitude
<i>on red bar</i> Bar $\odot$	37 22 1786	75 59 807	Gulf $\odot$	<i>signal refinesd.</i> 37 22 14	75 59 529
Beach $\Delta$ <i>fy, marked, 1913</i>	37 15 5682	76 01 594.8	Head $\odot$	<i>a post head</i> 37 25 1214	75 57 152
Bell, buoy	37 14 1805	76 02 266	Hungen $\Delta$ <i>1878</i>	<i>a fy sta marked &amp; refinesd added 1913</i> 37 24 11850	75 58 13678
Black, beacon	37 15 6957	76 01 1432.2	Hi $\odot$	<i>flag</i> 37 26 207	75 58 1182
<i>fy sta refinesd</i> Blow $\odot$	37 24 341	75 58 1252	Ho $\odot$	<i>small</i> 37 19 764	75 59 1127
<i>Pote Signal</i> Buck $\odot$	37 24 592	75 58 730	Inner Break	37 15 18068	76 01 6955
Bun $\odot$	37 19 27	75 59 1396	Isle $\odot$	<i>house</i> 37 23 1813	75 58 879
<i>fy sta</i> Buck $\Delta$	37 16 1164	76 01 840	It $\odot$	<i>small</i> 37 18 1218	75 59 824
Big $\odot$	37 23 1772	75 58 964	Lonkford $\Delta$	<i>located by trans. &amp; station refinesd.</i> 37 28 1585	75 57 1215
Burt $\odot$	37 27 573	75 58 286	Log $\odot$	<i>pole and flag</i> 37 24 1007	75 58 303
Call $\odot$	37 18 1232	76 01 404	Lome $\odot$	<i>chimney</i> 37 25 1523	75 58 724
Cedar $\odot$	37 25 1103	75 58 1234	Lost $\odot$	<i>flag on fish stake</i> 37 20 740	76 01 179
C. C. Water Tank Char $\odot$	37 16 150.4	76 00 764.5	Matta $\Delta$	<i>anchored &amp; marked added 1913</i> 37 22 1558.1	75 59 2133
Cherry $\Delta$	37 15 1177.5	76 02 1149	Mid $\odot$	<i>pole on island</i> 37 23 1363	75 58 1229
Chip $\odot$	37 19 1188	75 59 934	Move $\odot$	<i>of fish pole</i> 37 23 798	75 58 1385
Chimney $\odot$	37 24 385	75 58 556	Mud $\odot$	<i>pole</i> 37 21 1679	75 58 1413
Cot $\odot$	37 19 1565	75 59 712	Nem $\odot$	<i>small</i> 37 19 1454	75 59 364
Crook $\odot$	37 22 410	75 59 1186	New $\odot$	<i>gaberd of new building</i> 37 25 1156	75 57 816
Cup, Fish factory Down $\odot$	37 17 00	76 01 744	N.M. Spire	37 16 1735	76 00 14602
Duck $\odot$	37 25 1613	75 57 29	No $\odot$	<i>small</i> 37 18 1556	75 59 310
Fan $\odot$	37 28 437	75 57 887	Old $\odot$	<i>in sta. - trans. refinesd. mark set</i> 37 25 344	75 58 1393
Fer (Cherry)	37 26 16	75 56 1157	Outchim	37 28 1257	75 57 932
Fer (Lunger)	37 18 1313	76 00 770	Out. Break	37 15 17934	76 01 10225
Fer (Lunger)	37 25 991	75 57 187			
Flag $\odot$	37 17 595	76 00 1478			
Fogo $\odot$	37 19 1245	76 00 1361			



U. S. Schr. Matchless.

1:20,000

1913-1914

Upper Sheet - B

Cape Charles City to Naswaddox Creek.

Station	Latitude	Longitude	Station	Latitude	Longitude
<i>by signal</i> Paulo	<i>red tin</i> 37 26 1716	<i>m</i> 75 58 662	<i>small pale signal</i> Woodo	37 19 923	75 59 581
<i>by signal</i> Perko	<i>refracted mark set</i> 37 28 49	75 57 1044	Yes	37 19 596	75 59 607
Pit	<i>red tin</i> 37 18 557	76 01 00			
Pole	<i>fall at west</i> 37 24 1433	75 58 683			
Posto	<i>fall at west</i> 37 21 1175	76 00 117			
Pri	<i>little house</i> 37 25 714	75 57 1186			
Rap	<i>by station signal marked</i> 37 15 1537	76 01 6794			
<i>High (HOUSE) 1<sup>st</sup> range</i> Bear Range	37 15 1353	76 01 5746			
<i>Range white light - Channel Range</i> Red Beacon	37 15 1589	76 01 9911			
Red Chim.	37 25 15	75 58 28			
Rose	<i>by signal marked</i> 37 19 3342	76 01 687			
Ruffo	<i>on fish stake</i> 37 24 758	76 00 102			
Sand	<i>by signal refracted</i> 37 20 467	76 00 1017			
Sig	<i>small</i> 37 17 1659	76 00 1065			
Snaqo	<i>high stump</i> 37 25 361	75 57 733			
S.M.E. SPIRE	37 16 7483	76 00 13895			
Starto	<i>small</i> 37 18 795	76 00 303			
Stumpo	<i>fall in stump</i> 37 20 1162	76 00 635			
Talko	<i>pole of wharf</i> 37 25 32	75 57 898			
Theo	<i>small signal</i> 37 22 525	75 59 140			
Tree	<i>small signal</i> 37 23 68	75 58 1440			
<i>located by Sigs angles 1911 by Wainwright by Stadler 1914</i> Tongue	37 26 544	75 58 1116			
Wano	<i>wharf end of wharf</i> 37 24 1186	75 57 1457			
Westcoat	<i>by signal marked</i> 37 18 484	76 01 3088			
Wilkins	<i>refracted mark set</i> 37 21 259	75 59 1336			

OK.

**U. S. Schr. Matchless.**  
1913 - 1914

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STATISTICS FOR SHEET B. CAPE CHARLES, VA.

*Cape Charles City, Va*

-----*to*-----

*Nasawaddox Creek, Va.*

DATE	1913	LETTERS	VOL'S	POSITIONS	SOUNDINGS	MILES STATUTE	VESSEL LAUNCH	
Dec	13	"	a	1	28	215	6.25	"
"	18	"	b	1	110	799	22.50	"
"	19	"	c	1	12	99	2.38	"
Jan	8	1914	d	1	103	827	20.65	"
"	16	"	e	2	74	585	15.18	"
"	17	"	f	2	275	113	2.75	"
"	19	"	g	2	79	559	16.75	"
"	21	"	h	2	6	43	1.00	"
"	29	"	i	2-3	125	913	30.50	"
Feb	2	"	k	3	146	1077	30.75	"
"	3	"	l	3	153	1054	38.25	"
"	4	"	m	4	94	578	21.00	"
"	5	"	n	4	72	590	16.25	"
Mar.	4	"	o	4	61	399	14.25	"
"	10	"	p	4-5	133	1066	33.10	"
"	11	"	r	5	39	329	9.50	"
"	14	"	s	5	20	150	1.47	"
"	16	"	t	5	153	1238	37.00	"
"	23	"	u	6	73	574	15.40	"
"	24	"	w	6	122	865	29.00	"
"	25	"	x	6	74	569	19.10	"
"	26	"	y	7	150	1166	37.00	"
"	27	"	z	7	111	915	27.75	"
Apr.	2	"	a'	7-8	55	428	12.90	"
"	6	"	b'	8	115	808	28.25	"
"	13	"	c'	8	113	819	27.25	"
"	14	"	d'	8-9	109	741	23.33	"
"	16	"	e'	9	34	202	7.50	"
"	17	"	f'	9	75	684	15.25	"
"	18	"	g'	9	72	515	16.50	"
May	-	"	a	1	29	197	3.00	Whaleboat
"	12	"	b	1	34	285	4.75	"
"	13	"	c	1	16	117	3.25	"
			33	10	2,865	19,519	589.76	

C. W. H.

VEU  
July 7, 1914

HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET 3659.

Vicinity of Cape Charles, Chesapeake Bay, Virginia, by  
Assistant O. W. Ferguson in 1913-14.

TIDES.

	Cape Charles City ft.
Mean low water, or plane of reference on staff	3.9
Lowest tide observed " "	1.6
Highest " " " "	7.9
Mean range of tide	2.3

Hydrographic Sheet # 3657  
Chesapeake Bay. Cape Charles City North.

The positions for the work covered by this sheet were protracted by the field party and have been generally taken as correct being verified only when it was thought errors were possible but verification failed to develop numerous errors. Later on however when verification of sheet # 3660 a 1-5000 scale sheet at Cape Charles City was being made it developed that signal "Cup" is on this sheet plotted out of place, but the error is slight and although a large number of positions would be affected to a greater or lesser degree, as signal "Cup" is largely used on this sheet, no attempt has been made to correct the error in positions + line. Again later on when verification of sheet # 3702 the adjoining sheet to the north was being made it developed that signals "Fork and Lank" (Lankford) have two distinct positions given in the descriptive reports for both sheets and are plotted on the respective sheets to those positions. It would also appear that other errors in signals <sup>in</sup> at this locality have been made and the shore line does not agree on both sheets. It would therefore appear that owing to these discrepancies that line positions 54<sup>2</sup> to 57<sup>2</sup> is out of place as soundings plotted to this line cannot be reconciled with lines and soundings on sheet 3702. This line shows soundings from 8 ft to 18 ft and if applied to sheet 3702 crosses the sand flat where 0 ft soundings show. This line is therefore ~~is~~ rejected by note but not erased. Signal "Bell" is also found to be slightly out of position but as this signal is but little used and when used would change position but

a little the error has not been corrected.

The soundings were pencil plotted by the field party but as fraction reductions were not in accordance with "General Instructions" and as time spacing, especially on brass lines were not good this part of the work might be criticised.

The work so far as it pertains to the survey proper can be considered good as lines and soundings are sufficiently close to depth of shoals + channels closely.

Records are in fairly good shape but there is a sounding of 2 ft at North end of Sand Id (cup) which is in doubt and is so indicated in the records. It is plotted as recorded - Line 62-3 <sup>e day</sup>

John D. Torrey  
7/16/16