

2483

52088

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

Henry S. Pritchett, Superintendent.

State: *Cal.*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. 2483.

LOCALITY:

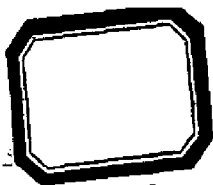
*Pacific Coast Resurvey
of San Francisco Bay,
False Cattle Hill to Laguna
de la Merced*

1899.

CHIEF OF PARTY:

Fremont Morse

2483



Descriptive Report to accompany topographic
sheet entitled:

Treasury Department 52088
U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey
Henry A. Pritchett, Superintendent
Pacific Coast

Resurvey of San Francisco Bay
False Cattle Hill to Laguna de la Merced

Surveyed June 28 - Oct. 10, 1899

By Fremont Moore, Assistant,

Scale $\frac{1}{1000}$

This sheet takes in the ocean shore approaches to the City of San Francisco from the south, and some of its outskirts including Oceanview, Lakeview and Ingleside.

The shore line was not resurveyed but was transferred from the original work. At the south end of the sheet are the bold bluffs of False Cattle Hill with outlying rocks. From the south end of Laguna Salada northward for about two miles the immediate shore line is low and sandy, backed by steep hills rising

to a height of from 600 to 1200 feet. Then the hills come close down to the shore and though there is still a sandy strip of beach between high and low water for nearly the whole of the remaining extent of the sheet, being interrupted at the Mussel Rocks only, a high bluff forms the distinguishing feature of this part of the coast. Opposite the Mussel Rocks and directly at Fog Cap Δ this bluff rises to a culminating height of about 720 feet. Its height diminishes both North and South. As we go Northward it decreases rather slowly till Colma Δ is reached, when it decreases rapidly till, at a distance of about half a mile North of the station it reaches a height of about 200 ft. This height it practically maintains to the point of the shore line shown on the sheet.

On the edge of this bluff opposite the upper end of Laguna de la Merced is the Southside Life Saving Lookout. It is a small white house, surrounded by a white fence that serves as a windbreak, and with a tall

Flagstaff standing about ten meters south of it.

Laguna de la Merced, shown near the north end of the sheet consisted originally of two arms, the larger extending in a direction approximately parallel with the shore line for a distance of about two miles, and joined at its northern end by the other arm which extended inland about a mile. A narrow tongue of land almost separated the two branches. At present this strip of land has been extended by the Spring Valley Water Co., which crosses the lake, and the two branches entirely divided, making two lakes instead of one. Lake Merced was formerly one of the principal sources of the San Francisco water supply, and is still drawn upon to furnish a portion of it. With the settling up of the

slopes draining into the lake it has
 become a problem to maintain the purity
 of its waters. As may be seen from
 the sheet there are three main valleys
 opening into the lake basin on the
 East. The northern one takes the
 drainage of Lakeside and Ingleside into
 the upper arm, which is now cut off
 from the main part of the lake. The
 middle one receives the drainage of
 Oceanview, and would, if not interrupted,
 carry it into the main part of the lake.
 But at a point just below the town the
 valley is filled up by a railroad embank-
 ment. This is pierced by a large iron
 pipe which empties the drainage into
 a wooden flume. This flume circles
 around on the south side of the
 valley, turns south and finally into

in the next small valley where it discharges and allows its contents to flow down the valley and empty into a small pond formed by damming off the south end of the main lake. This pond also receives the drainage brought down from the town of Colma through the third valley mentioned above. Finally an intercepting open brick drain takes all the accumulated drainage from this pond along inside the West shore of the lake for a distance of nearly three quarters of a mile and then discharges it through a tunnel into the ocean. By this means the waters of the main body of the lake are kept from pollution. How long this method will prove effective is a question. It will probably be only a short time before the lake will have to be abandoned.

as a source of water supply.

About the middle of the sheet under the Western slopes of the San Bruno Mountain are located some of the cemeteries of San Francisco. Of these Mt. Olivet and Holy Cross are the largest. Cypress Lawn Spring next to Holy Cross is the most beautiful of them all. Being on the lines of both the Southern Pacific and the San Mateo Electric cars the cemeteries are reached by funeral trains over both routes as well as by carriages from San Francisco.

Near the South end of the sheet the hills are devoted to dairying, the fresh milk being shipped to San Francisco daily. The region about Colma is given up to vegetable gardens and hog ranches.

The farmers occupy the valleys and hills to the Westward of the town. Cabbages are the principal product. During the summer season this stretch of coast is visited by frequent and heavy fogs - so heavy that in spite of the fact that hardly a drop of rain falls from May to October the ground is kept watered sufficiently to permit of cabbages being grown without irrigation at all seasons of the year. They are planted at any time. The young plants receive a dipperful of water apiece when transplanted, and the fogs furnish sufficient moisture to cause them to grow with astonishing rapidity even in the midst of the dry season. The soil is a light sandy loam, and in some places almost pure sand. A great deal of fertilizing material is used.

consisting mainly of stable manure from San Francisco. For every load of vegetables taken from the land a load of manure is returned to it, thus keeping up its productive power.

The hog ranches lie to the North and East of Colma along the foot-hills of the San Bruno Mountain. The animals are fed on corn carted out from San Francisco. The odor of one of these ranches on a warm day is anything but agreeable.

Oceanview and Lakeview are parts of San Francisco and are settling up quite rapidly since the extension of electric lines has made them easy of access.

At Ingleside is the racetrack of the Pacific Jockey Club. It lies within the city limits of San Francisco, and recent ordinances of the Board of Supervisors prohibiting foot

selling on the track have stopped much
of its racing.