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Department of Commerce and Labor
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

O. H. Pittman
Superintendent.

State: *Washington*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. *1452*

LOCALITY:

*Improvements in Colvos
Passage, Puget Sound*

1909

CHIEF OF PARTY:

R. B. Derickson

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Assistant in Charge.

Sheet "M" *Trp^c 1452^c*
Descriptive Report to accompany
Revised Topographic Survey
of
Settlements along the shore of Colvos
Passage, Washington.
U.S.S. "GEDNEY" 1910.
scale 1:20000
R.B. Derickson,
Asst., Comdg.

Description to accompany Plane Table Survey of the settlements along the shore of Colvos Passage, Washington.

Spring Beach.

One mile from Point Dalco northward, is a wharf extending 58 meters from shore, at its outer edge and has 13 feet of water above the Puget Sound datum plane. The station on the wharf was located by tangents to Point Defiance, Point Richmond and the shoreline to the northward. From this place seven houses in the immediate vicinity were visible, the group being known as Spring Beach. All but one were unoccupied being merely summer cottages. A house across Colvos Passage on the mainland approximately 75 meters from shore, north of Gig Harbor, was cut in from here.

Across the Passage from Spring Beach a group of houses were located from the station established in their vicinity. From the station tangents were taken to the south end of Vashon Island, Point Defiance and Point Evans. Four houses and two shacks were located here and six cuts were taken to scattered houses along the beach of Vashon Island, opposite.

Nearly a mile north of this last station another station was located by tangents to Point Defiance to the south end of Vashon Island and to Point Richmond. Here a string of 19 houses and shacks were located. Further cuts to scattered houses on the opposite side of the Passage were taken from here.

Just north of Point Richmond a house near the beach was located by sextant angles. The angles were 10 40' from tangent at Point Richmond to prominent bluff 300 feet high on Vashon Island and south of Point Richmond; and 120 55' between afore-

mentioned bluff and tangent to west side of Vashon.

Lisabeula.

Just above Point Samford is a wharf and post-office of Lisabeula. Two stations were used here. The one on the wharf was located by tangents to the nearest point on the shore of the island to the northward, to the more distant north shore of the island and to Point Richmond. The wharf here has a long narrow approach and has 20 feet water at its outer end. There is a store and post-office here supplying the immediate vicinity. The main part of the town is up on the bluff and so a second station 237 meters inshore was made. One Church, a large group of houses as well as the road to Burton was located from here. The west side of Vashon Island is very good agricultural region, and description of this place will explain the occupation and soil conditions of the other settlement on the same side of the island.

Vashon is connected with Tacoma and Seattle by telephone and the "Sentinel" a small steamer calls twice a day at all the post-offices along the Passage. It starts from Tacoma in the morning and calls at any wharf in the passage where signals are up, and reaches Seattle before noon. In the afternoon she runs back thru the Passage stopping only at the post-offices and runs into Tacoma for the night. The island is noted for its fruit production, particularly small fruits as strawberries. The west side is not as favored as the eastern in soil but is certainly more fortunate in its water supply; some wells having to be drilled on the eastern side.

From the first station at this place, Cross Landing 734 meters to the southward was located, this is a wharf with a 50 meter approach and 8 feet water at its end.

Olalla.

On the west side of Colvos Passage, five and one half miles south of Point Southworth is a narrow bight is the post-office and town of Olalla. The wharf is at the southern side of the bight, 87 meters from shore to its end and has eleven and half feet of water. It is built out from a bluff and from its entrance a road follows the bluff around to the northward and over a sand spit which nearly covers the entrance. The road runs on a piling over the spit and a bridge 48 meters long connects with the point on the opposite side. At high water the bight runs half a mile inland but at low water is bare with the exception of a creek and its channel to 50 meters outside of the bridge. A second station was made on the bluff at the north side of the bight and from here a road runs northward over the hill. Several houses with their surrounding clearings were located along this road. A road from the bridge branches and runs along the north side of this bight to the northwestward. A mile out on this road lies the main part of the settlement and such of the houses as were visible from a third station on the bluff were located. This includes a church and school-house. The church shows prominently from the middle of Colvos Passage. Across from the third station is a small cemetery.

Cove.

The next wharf above Lisabeula on Vashon Island is in a prominent bight north of Point Sanford and opposite Point Command, known as Cove. Here three stations were used, the first one on the wharf being located by tangents to the adjacent shoreline on either side and the east side of Blake Island. Soundings at the wharf gave 14 feet reduced to the Puget Sound datum plane. The bottom slopes abruptly on this point so the entrance to the wharf is short and very substantial. The post-office is situated just inshore from the wharf and 60 families get mail here. The "Sentinel" which plies up and down this Passage stops twice daily here with mail.

576 meters inshore from the first station upon 100 ft. bluff the second one was made. A road was visible here and 1200 meters to the south the third station was made. From this last station the main part of the settlement of Cove is visible. The road to the southward and turning inshore shown, goes to Burton via Center. This whole settlement with the exception of a house or two has been built up within the last six years. The remains of Pages Landing, named after the first homesteader on this part of the island, is just at the foot of the bluff from the last station. In 1895 there was a float at this place and with the two or three houses was one on the first settlement on Vashon.

From the first station at Cove cuts were taken to all the scattered houses along the opposite shore. Some of the houses inshore and a substantial wharf just opposite, were visible from all three stations, and so were accurately located from

this place.

The wharf mentioned is used as a landing and departing point for all the inhabitation within a mile or two north and south along the west side of the Passage. Soundings gave 16 ft. of water at its outer end. The wharf has an end frontage of 50!

Colvos.

At Peter Point is a wharf and surrounding scattered settlement of Colvos. There is no post-office here but a store on the flat sandy beach just inshore from the wharf. One station was made here, located by tangents to Point Vashon, Point Southworth and Vashon Island to the southward. From here second cuts were taken to all houses along the beach on the opposite side of the Passage. Seventeen feet of water was found at the end of the wharf at Peter Point. The three houses north of Peter Point were visible from the station. North of this is a large gravel pit and wharf; they were not located.

More work will be necessary to complete all the improvements between Peter Point and the north end of the Passage. This was not done owing to close of season.

The dotted shoreline of this tracing was copied from tracings Nos. 1452a 1452b and 1671.

Everett E. Mumaw

Aid, C. & G. Survey,

Revised and approved,

R. B. Anderson

Asst., Comdg.