

2230

Descriptive Report

Sheet No. ~~7~~ 2230.

*Topography of
Washington Sound*

Wash

1895

2230

Descriptive Report

Sheet No ~~9~~. 2230.

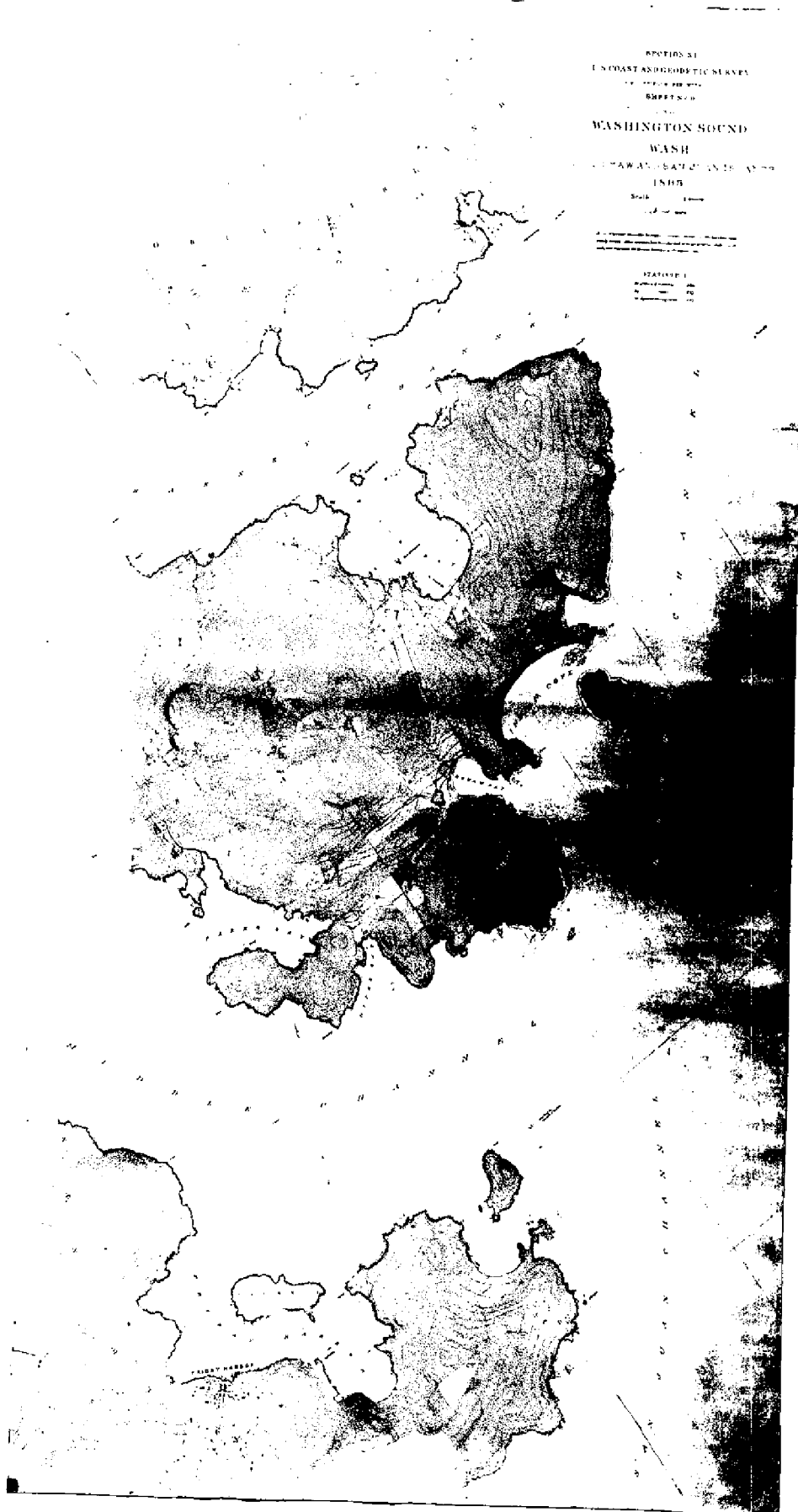
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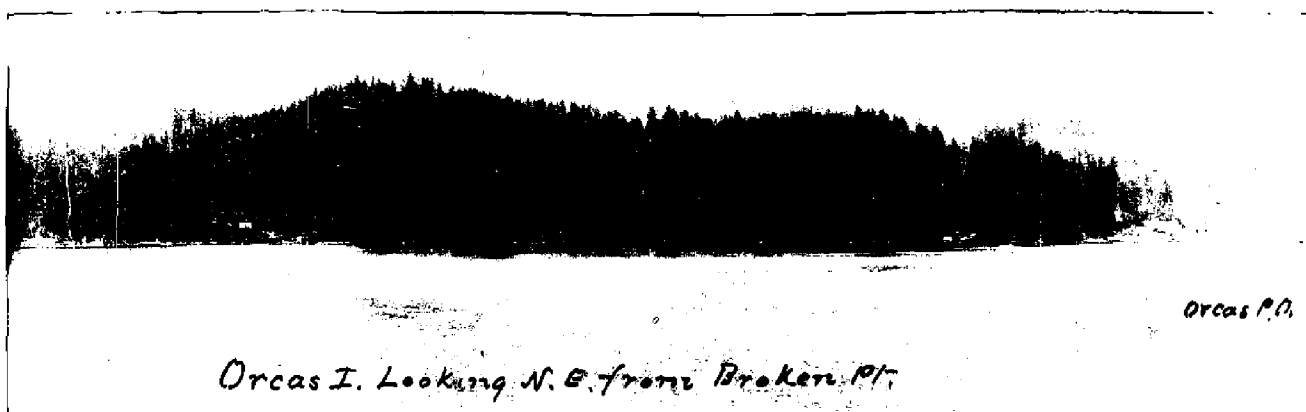
1895

SECTION 21
U.S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
SOUNDING SURVEY
WASHINGTON SOUND
WASH
TAWAN - BATHYMETRIC SURVEY
1880
Scale 1:50,000
Published by the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey
Washington, D.C.

STATUTE MILES
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
NAUTICAL MILES
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10



Sheet No 9 comprises that portion of Orcas Island bordering on Narney Channel, all of Shaw Island except that contained in Sheet No. 8. and a part of San Juan Island including Friday Harbor, together with the small islands falling within the limits of the Sheet:—they are Blind, Cawor, Turn and Brown Islands. On this sheet the shore line of Orcas and Shaw Islands is completed.



Orcas I. Looking N. E. from Broken Pt.

This view taken from Broken Point, embraces the shore line of Orcas Id. from near Signal "Rag" which is just off the view to the left, to Orcas P.O. — the wharf and ware-house at Orcas show up at the right, Signal "Post" is seen projected against the inshore end of the ware house. This piece of shoreline is mostly rocky and very irregular. At Orcas is a large store of general merchandise

and this season a large "Dryer" was built, and considerable quantities of prunes and other fruits prepared for market. Mr. W. E. Southerland, the Postmaster is also the enterprising proprietor of the store and the dryer.

From the wharf to the head of the small bay to Eastward the shores are clay with a gravel beach, beyond the head of the bay the shores are rocky. Near the head of the bay there is a blacksmith shop. The head of the bay is shallow, but there is good anchorage inside the line from the wharf to Signal "Cotton."

From signal "Cotton" to Grindstone Harbor the shores are mostly rocky and irregular.

Signal "Snake" is on a conspicuous point, or headland. - This head is only connected with the main island by a low gravel spit; and has at some time been a separate island. It has no name, and I would suggest "Head Point."

Grindstone Harbor is a snug and safe harbor for small craft, and is a favorite rendezvous for fishing sloops. There are two reefs at the Entrance, covered at half tide and marked by

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Kelp, the outer reef which only shows at low tide should be buoyed, as it is a menace to vessels following the shore to avoid the stronger current in mid channel.

There is a small lake in the hills, half a mile or more back of Grindstone Harbor the outlet of which empties into the harbor. This lake has no name, and the settlers requested me to name it. I have not done so, but would suggest that it be called "Oroas Lake".

I found it necessary to change some of the contours sketched by me in 1889, from the hills East of this lake, the location of which I did not then know. I also found a slight error in the shore-line of the sheet of 1889, where it joins this, evidently due to picking up wrong lines to orient the plane-table, where no signals were in sight, it only affected a few metres of shore-line and is corrected on this sheet.

The portion of Shaw Island on this sheet is pretty well settled and so well supplied with roads that much less contouring had to be sketched than usual.

Signal "Tower" is the tower of a house built by Dean Applegate, an Episcopalian Minister, who planned during the "boom" times to build a church and a school here as the nucleus of a settlement, but hard times coming on compelled him to stop with the dwelling. Much of the lumber for other structures is still on the ground.

From Signal "Tower" to Blind Bay the shore is mostly rocky, and there are no improvements.

Blind Bay is a large, well sheltered harbor.

Blind Island, a rocky island 40 ft high and sparsely covered with brush, lies in the entrance.

To the westward of Blind Island is a large field of reefs, all but one covered at high tide, and that only shows a small spot awash. - A buoy at the outer edge of these reefs would be a safeguard to navigation, especially after the winter storms have removed the kelp. Between these reefs and the point of Shaw Id the water is shallow and the bottom grassy.

To the eastward of Blind Id is a single reef, covered two or three feet at high tide.

There was a beacon on this reef in 1894, which

was located by the triangulation, but during the following winter it was destroyed, and had not been renewed at the end of 1895.

Mail + other Steamers enter Blind Bay between Blind Id and this reef:—This is the wider and better entrance, although there appears to be no obstruction between Blind Id. and the reefs to the westward.

Griswold P.O. is at the head of the bay. The steamer landing being at the rocky point about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile N.W. from the office.

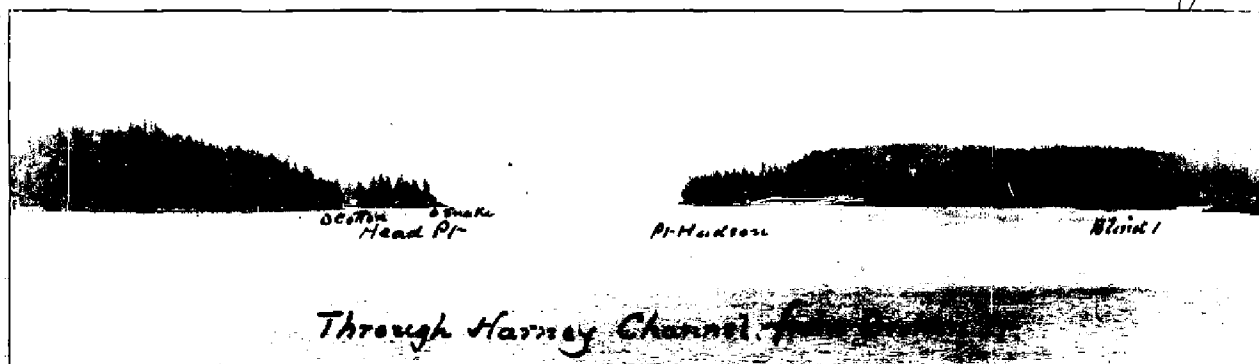
The shores of Blind Bay are largely clay with gravel beaches. They are pretty well lined with settlers, and there are some fine orchards.

At Mr. Griswold's house, he had, a few years ago, a well some 10 or 12 feet deep, which running dry, he decided to deepen.

After going down a few feet a subterranean stream was tapped which filled the well so rapidly that the man digging hastily escaped, leaving his tools. The well filled to the brim and overflowed, and

has run a good stream ever since. The water has a mineral taste but is quite healthful. This well is on low ground; - it is 16 ft. deep, which would bring the bottom about to the level of high tide, and it is only about 80 feet back from the beach.

The first point to eastward of Blind Bay is not named, and I would suggest "Pt Hudson" for Mr. Hudson who lives on the little bay to the S.W. of the point. In the view looking through



Harney Channel from Broken Point. Mr. Hudson's house and improvements show up conspicuously. and the point referred to is that to the left of his farm. - On the left side of Harney Channel is the point for which I have suggested the name "Head Pt." and at the left of the neck behind it. "Signal Cotton" can be seen. On the right of the view, projected against the higher land, is Blind Island.

Between "Pt Hudson" and the N.E. point of Shaw Island the shores are rocky and precipitous, and the water bold.

The N.E. point of Shaw Idl is named, on the English chart, "Point-Hawkin". This name was overlooked in inking the sheet.

From Pt. Hawkin the shore trends S.W. for more than a mile - and is, generally, rocky and bold - to a very pretty and snug little harbor, with good anchorage, and no dangers - it is shallow at the head, with a gravel beach. As it is not named, I suggest "Picnic Bay" as appropriate.

The low point on S.W. side of the bay, has been improved by cutting away much of the underbrush, and clearing walks, and is used for a picnic ground. - where the people, for miles around, meet and camp, for a few days at a time, each season. This point may well be known as "Picnic Point."

Around the extremity of this point it is quite reefy, and to the S.W. are more reefs, only one or two points of which show at

high tide. The kelp around these reefs extends more than half way to Canoe Island: Between the kelp and the island, however, there is a very narrow, clear channel, with plenty of water for any ordinary vessel.

Indian Cove has a fine gravel beach, - toward the western end of the beach it is somewhat muddy under thin gravel. - In this (S.W.) part, at extreme low water mark is a single great boulder, - it is covered at high tide, and might be a danger to small craft running along shore at high tide. Otherwise Indian Cove appears to be free from dangers of any kind.

Canoe Island has rocky shores, and is wooded except near the south point where a squatter has cleared a little ground. This island is a military reserve, from which the squatter has been driven, and it is now unoccupied.

Off the south end of the island the English charts indicate a sunken rock. I found here two patches of kelp, which were located, and searched through and around them for a reef, but could find none: - I am of the

opinion that there is no rock here, and that the Kelp merely indicates a shoal with so much water over it. That there is no danger to any vessels likely to visit these waters.



Canow I. Looking N. E

The view of Canow Island is looking North East. Signal Canow is on the rock at the right, but for some reason does not show in the picture.

Squaw Bay is landlocked, it is quite shallow except at and near the entrance.

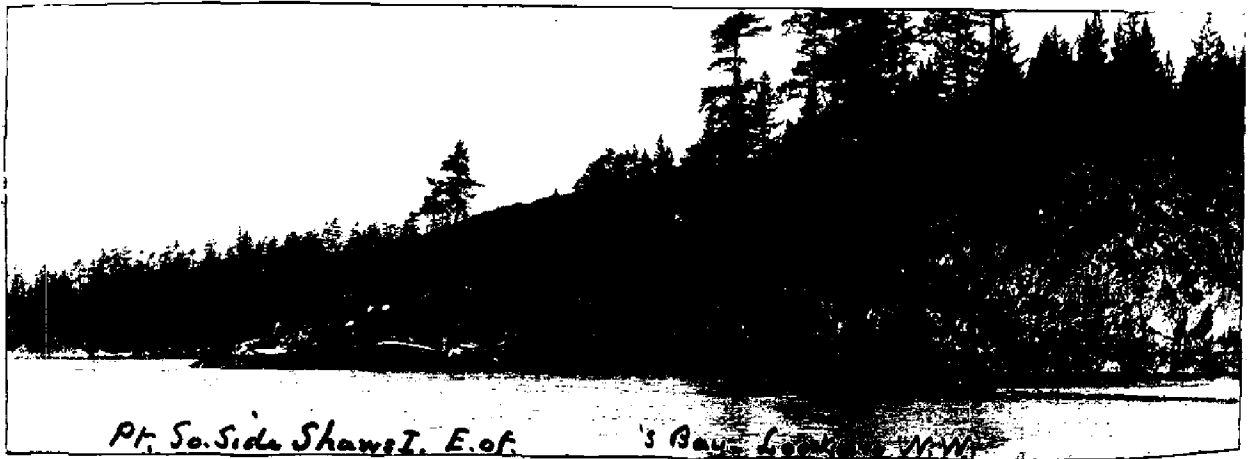
On the right as you enter, are several reefs which are dangerous, as they only show at low tide, and there is no kelp to indicate their presence.

From Squaw Bay to the south point of Shaw Island the shores are rocky, and the few reefs marked with kelp.

The south point of Shaw Id should be named. I find none on the charts, and would suggest "Reef Point" as appropriate, for there is a large field of kelp extending for $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to S.W. of the point, and another large patch some three hundred yards off shore. The point is fringed with reefs.

Westward from Reef Point the shore is rocky, and there are some reefs, all marked with kelp, and none very far off shore.

The first little bay is not named, and might be called "Hoffman Bay" from the settler who lives there.



This view, taken from off Hoffman Bay, is of the point between that bay and Nick's Bay - it is a characteristic picture, and representative of many of the bare rocky points in this region.

In the entrance to Hicks Bay is a large reef, bare at low tide, and marked with kelp. - There is no other danger in this bay.

From Hicks Bay to Parks Bay the shore-line is rocky, and bold. The tidal currents along this shore are very swift.

I find that in making I have omitted the name of "Point George":—The point south of Parks Bay. A name for the point at Station Strong is also desirable.

Parks Bay, named for Mr. Parks, the original settler near the bay, is a good harbor, with good anchorage, and without dangers:—The shores are mostly rocky, fringed with kelp. At the N. W. Entrance is a small rocky island, wooded, and connected with the main island at low tide. - To the west of this island is a reef, bare at low tide and marked by kelp.

From the little island to limit of Sheet, the shores are rocky and bold, and there are no reefs except close to shore.

The N. E. head of Shaw Is. between Blind Bay and Upright Channel is high, densely

Covered with forest, and unoccupied: - From Blind Bay through to Indian Cove the land is low. The highest hill on the island is about half-way between Broken Point and Parks Bay, is 400 feet high: it is precipitous toward N.W. and is conspicuous from Harney Channel, West Sound and Middle Channel. - It is known by the inhabitants of the island as "Ben Nivis".

I did not examine Reid Rock, having no sextant with which to determine position, but I located the buoy, and sketched in the kelp patch from it.

The hydrographic party has, doubtless, already examined and located the rock shown on the English charts.

The shore line of San Juan Island, between Pt. Caution and Friday Harbor, is rocky and bold, with no dangers except close to shore, and few of these.

Friday Harbor is a sheltered and safe harbor in any weather, and will accommodate the largest vessels. The shores are all rocky, except in the two bays, one at each angle of the harbor where there are gravel beaches.

Here is the largest town in the county, which comprises all the islands of Washington Sound.

- The town has the same name as the harbor.

Friday Harbor is a town of 300 or 400 inhabitants, and the county seat. The principal local industry is the Salmon Cannery at the water front.

There are three hotels, a fine school house, Methodist Church, Court house, and several stores and saloons.



Friday Har from Brown I. Through fog

This view of Friday Harbor was the best I could obtain. it was taken from Brown Island through a fog. The foggy weather which prevailed for days at the close of the season frustrated my plans, which were to spend a day or two taking views, which would have enabled me to illustrate all these reports fully.

East of the town, near Warbas Point, is a

16
wharf and water tank where vessels can
water. This view is taken from the bluff



near the water tank, and is a picture of Pt. Warian
the view is looking east. The revenue launch "Scout"
patrolling these waters is lying at the floating
wharf before Mr. Warbas' house.

Brown Island lies across the harbor, and
renders the protection more complete. - This is
another instance of the duplication of names on
the English charts; - The other Brown Id. is one of
the Wasp Islands on Sheet No. 8. and only a
few miles from this. It would seem desirable
to change the name of the island in the Wasp

group. to "Wasp Id." as it is locally called, and retain the name here, Brown Id. is not inhabited.

The main entrance to Friday Harbor is to the west of Brown Id. - The entrance east of the island is ^{good}, but a shoal making off from the end of the island is to be avoided. - The point of the shoal is nearly half way from Sig. Swine to Sig. Crest.

The shore-line from east-entrance to Friday Harbor, to the bay under Jura Id. is rocky and bordered by reefs.

Jura Island is rocky and bold, except at the S.W. end. - and covered with forest, it is not inhabited.

Jura Reef lies $\frac{1}{4}$ mile east of Jura Id. it is a dangerous reef, bare at low tide, and more than one vessel has struck there, notwithstanding it is marked with a Barrel on Spindle Beacon.

There is deep water between the reef and Jura Island.

There is a pretty little bay behind Jura Id. which it would be well to name, There is

a gravel beach almost entirely around this bay, and "Beach Bay". would be an appropriate name.

There is a clear entrance on either side of Luru Id. That on the east side is quite narrow, but deep, and well defined by kelp. There is an abandoned settlement on this bay.

The low point at east side of this bay is surrounded by a great number of reefs and rocks, of which only two or three points show, awash, at high water, if a name is desirable Reef Point would be descriptive and appropriate.

The shore-line from this point to the limit of sheet is rocky, and lined with reefs.

There is a cluster of reefs about the rock on which signal danger was built, and another about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile further along.

The point $\frac{3}{4}$ mile S.W. from signal danger it would be well to name, as at this point vessels bound to Argyle change course, ^(Per P.C. J.M.)

The tidal currents through San Juan, Upright and middle channels are very strong, less so in Harney Channel.

In San Juan and upright channels,

the sea frequently gets very rough. — dangerous for a small launch. — as the waves sweep in from the Strait of Tucea, only slightly subdued by the narrow entrance.

The contouring on this sheet was greatly facilitated by the numerous roads.

In describing Grindstone Harbor, I might have added that the name was due to the circumstance that in early days the only grindstone among the islands was owned by a man living there, and men came here from all points to sharpen their tools.

J. J. Gilbert
Assist. Cr. S. Survey.