



# 2500

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U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

*Henry S. Pritchett*, Superintendent.

State: *Alaska*

52376

## DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

*Topographic* Sheet No. *2500*

### LOCALITY:

*Norton Sound - Cascade  
Creek to Junction Creek*

*1900*

### CHIEF OF PARTY:

*J. J. Gilbert*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

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Topography of Norton Sound,

Sheet Number 2.

Scale==1/40,000.

Beginning at Station Waterfall, this sheet extends Northward thirty-three miles, to a point eight miles North of Egowik river, and to about the latitude of Besboro Island:

Beginning at Waterfall, the first five miles is high bluff at the H.W.MK. pierced with frequent ravines through which flow streams of icy water, and varying in width, from one to fifteen metres. There is a broad sand and gravel beach from the South limit of sheet to the high bluffs near Ikvoia.

About five miles North of Waterfall the bluffs decrease in height and the line of high hills trends away from the beach, toward the N.E. skirting the broad valley of the Unalaklik.

The Unalaklik is the first river North of St. Michael, and is a stream of considerable size, with water enough near its mouth to float a large vessel. The entrance is quite shallow, and the approach is further<sup>ther</sup> obstructed by extensive shoals, - we had difficulty in entering or getting out of the river, in a dinghy, at low tide; - while at high water the Saidie, a large A.C. Co's boat, drawing about five feet, has successfully entered, and departed.

I did not take the time to explore this river, but I understood that it is navigable for small boats for a distance of twenty miles above the mouth; - and it is probable that small steamers might ascend some distance.

There are three streams which unite just at the entrance,-the middle one of which is the main river,the others being merely sloughs draining the marshes and lakes.

On the North side of the entrance is the village of Unalaklik, consisting of fifteen or twenty native huts,and a large Mission house,Moravian as I understood.

Unalaklik is one of the Reindeer stations established by the Government,for the benefit of the Eskimos.

About four miles North of the village the valley ends and the hills again approach the beach:- the bluff becomes bold and lofty,and the whole region mountainous.

At Ikvoia I would estimate the height at about 800 feet.

About four miles North of Ikvoia is the native village of Egowik, at the mouth of a river of the same name. A limited number of huts compose the village,and the stream is navigable for small boats.

High bluffs,backed by mountains characterize the coast from Egowik to yhe limits of the sheet.

There is a good beach most of the way from Ikvoia to the limit of the sheet,but it is frequently interrupted by bold points,around which it is not possible to pass,and it was necessary to climb over these points in making the survey.

There were a large number of carcasses of walrus and other sea animals,stranded along this stretch of beach,-in various stages of decay,-the natives had visited most of these and removed the tusks, which have a commercial value.

Large quantities of drift wood line this beach,especially along

the beach in front of the valley of the Unalaklik.

The timber is of the same kind as found on Sheet No.1. and is found in the ravines, among the hills at both ends of the sheet.

There is abundance of fresh water along this stretch of country.

*J. J. Gilbert*  
Assist: C. & G. Survey, Chief of Party.