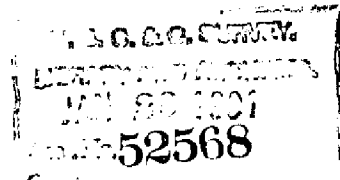
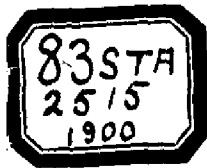


2515

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Form 504	
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY	
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE	
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT	
Type of Survey	<i>Topographic</i>
Field No.	Office No. <i>2515</i>
LOCALITY	
State	<i>Alaska</i>
General locality	<i>Northern</i>
Locality	<i>Line Being Sea</i>
<i>1900</i>	
<i>194</i>	
CHIEF OF PARTY	
<i>J. Pratt</i>	
LIBRARY & ARCHIVES	
DATE	



U. S. COAST & GEODETIC SURVEY,  
DR. HENRY S. PRITCHETT, SUPERINTENDENT.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT  
OF THE  
TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET, SCALE 1/40,000.

EMBRACING  
THE  
SHORE LINE AND CONTIGUOUS TOPOGRAPHY  
FROM  
ROCKY CAPE TO TOPKOK HEAD, INCLUSIVE.

NORTHERN SHORES  
OF  
BERING SEA,  
ALASKA.

BY THE PARTY UNDER CHARGE OF J. F. PRATT, ASSISTANT.  
JULY- 1900.

TOPOGRAPHY BY R. L. FARIS AND J. F. PRATT, ASSISTANTS.

TOPOGRAPHY ROCKY CAPE TO TOPKOK HEAD, INCLUSIVE.

SCALE, 1/40,000 DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

PLANE TABLE SURVEY BY R. L. FARIS AND J. F. PRATT,  
ASSISTANTS.

JULY- 1900.

The first portion of the season of 1900 was an unusually dry one, consequently the tundra became very much like and as inflammable as dry punk. The entire country was overrun with mining prospectors, whose camp fires spread to the tundra, so that the entire stretch from Golofnin Bay to Nome City was enveloped most of the time, for about five weeks, in the dense smoke from the smouldering tundra.

In starting the season's work it was expected that the triangulation would keep ahead of the topography and hydrography, so that the positions of the signals could be computed and plotted on sheets with projections in advance, but the tundra smoke made this an impossibility, so that in order to keep the work progressing as rapidly as the weather would permit, it became necessary to execute the topography by forward telemeter distances on rough field sheets, which naturally became exaggerated in scale, at the same time determining topographically the triangulation signals.

Then after the triangulation had been computed and the points plotted on the projections to transfer the work from the field

sheets, adjusting it at the same time, by making the work conform to the triangulation points common to both. This entails a very large amount of additional work, which should be taken into consideration.

Rocky Point is a high, bold promontory, about 500 feet high. Its seaward face is largely composed of irregular, rocky cliffs; while its summit and the high, back ridge is covered with tundra.

The yellow, high bluffs on the East side of Bluff City are conspicuous landmarks.

Tapkok Head, whose seaward face is composed of dark appearing rock, is the first landmark East of Cape Nome and is well known and very conspicuous.

Well back, on the tributary gulches of Tapkok River, in reality, a small creek, good placer prospects have been found, but no development has, as yet, been done.

During the busiest portion of the season, Bluff city, a canvas town, with only, at the time of the survey, three wooden buildings, had a population of something more than 300 souls. The limited, in area, beach diggings at this place were very rich, yielding about \$750,000 in sixty days. On account of the extremely dry season, as there was no water in the creeks, only beach mining was done during the season.

There was also some beach mining between Square Rock and Seukuk.

The winter trail between St. Michael and Nome, after passing over the high promontory on the East side of Golofnin Bay, passes Chignick, or Dexter's, then up and across Golofnin Sound to abreast

the native settlement "Seukuk", to which place it comes through a very low pass.

Where not indicated by either rock, bluff or water, all the country on the sheet is covered by tundra.

The contours are at intervals of every fifty feet.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. J. Madsen", is written over a horizontal line.

Assistant C. & G. Survey,

Chief of Party.