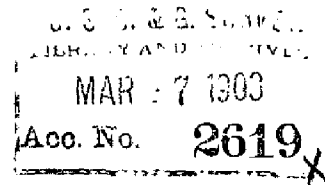
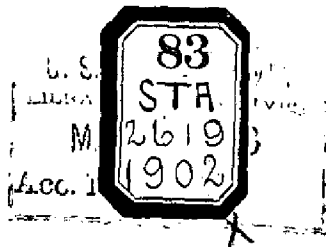


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Form 504	
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY	
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE	
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT	
Type of Survey	<i>Topographic</i>
Field No.	Office No. <i>2619</i>
LOCALITY	
State	<i>Alaska</i>
General locality	<i>Sey Bay</i>
Locality	<i>Strait</i>
<u>1902</u>	
CHIEF OF PARTY	
<i>E. F. Jenkins</i>	
LIBRARY & ARCHIVES	
DATE	

2619



DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

TOPOGRAPHY

of

ICY STRAIT, S.E. ALASKA

from

POINT ADOLPHUS to the INIAN ISLANDS

Scale 40,000

Surveyed by Party on Steamer "Gedney"

E.F. Dickins, Assistant C. & G. Survey

Commanding

Begun August 7th 1902

Ended October 4th 1902

The portion of Icy Strait covered by this survey extends from Point Adolphus to the Inian Islands, a distance of about 18 miles in a Westerly direction, The Strait varies in width from 3 to 7 miles, being divided into two channels by Lemesurier Island, This survey also includes Idaho Inlet and Dundas Bay.

The shore line was run in as carefully as possible with the telemeter rod, the peaks were cut in and their heights determined by vertical angles, with the plane table, the contours however are only approximate for the whole country is densely timbered and the ridges rise so abruptly from the shore that the topography can only be generally sketched in, from a boat some distance off shore or from the opposite side of the Strait.

Point Adolphus, at the Eastern end of our seasons work is the Northern-most point of Chichagof Island, it is a bold prominent point covered with timber and rises to a rounded top about 1670 feet in height within half a mile of its Northern extremity and about a mile to the Southard there is another round top hill of 1900 feet elevation within a mile of the shore, The water is deep close up to the point the 10 fathom curve being less than a quarter of a mile off the beach.

Mud Bay, lies about 8 miles S.S.W. of Point Adolphus and the shore line between the two is fairly regular there being only a few very slight indentations, in one of which about 6 miles from the Point there are two Indian shacks, The hills and ridges along shore are heavily timbered and rise to an elevation of from 1300 to 1900 feet within a mile of the beach. The Bay itself is semi-circular in shape being about 2-1/2 miles wide by 2 miles deep and is comparatively shoal varying from 3 to 10 fathoms but it is not recommended as an anchorage it being open to the Northard and Eastward and the ice

floes from Glacier Bay often pack in here very thick. We established a tide gauge in the little cove just East of the first bluff point on the Eastern side of the Bay and anchored in about 4 fathoms just outside the kelp, the floating ice came very close at times but during our stay of 20 days it never disturbed us but once. A large stream empties into the head of the Bay where they are extensive mud flats which bare at low water. On the Eastern side of the Bay near its head there are several Indian shacks. On the Western side of the Bay there are three low timbered islands, which are separated from the mainland by a narrow channel which bares at low water, the largest of these islands is known as "Goose Island" and about $3/8$ of a mile off its Northern shore there is a reef, well marked by kelp, which bares at low water. Along shore between Mud Bay and Idaho Inlet the land is low and heavily timbered.

Idaho Inlet, is said to have been named after the Steamer "Idaho" which is supposed to have been the first steam vessel to navigate its waters, its entrance is immediately to the Eastward of Point Lavinia and about 15 miles to the Westward of Point Adolphus, it is about 4 miles wide at its entrance and extends in a Southerly direction for about 13 miles narrowing down to about half a mile in width at its head where two large streams enter into it and have formed a mud bank about $1-1/2$ miles in extent, which bares at low water.

About $2-1/2$ miles in an E. by S. direction from the Northern extremity of Point Lavinia and about $3/4$ of a mile off the Western shore of the Inlet there are two small timbered islands, which we have named the "Shaw Islands", the largest one is about a half a mile long by a quarter of a mile wide and rises to an elevation of about 300 feet, the smaller island is about an eighth of a mile in extent and 100 feet high, the channel between them is about a quarter

of a mile in width but is unsafe on account of sunken rocks.

On the Eastern side of the Inlet, just inside its entrance, there is quite an indentation, which we have named "Gull Cove", there are two Indian shacks near the head of this cove and our tide gauge was located on the low rocky point about 200 yards N.W. of the shacks, There is quite an extensive reef, which bares at low water, about a quarter of a mile N.W. of the tide gauge point, we found a good anchorage for the "Gedney" about half way between the reef and the tide gauge in about 7 fathoms sticky bottom, but larger vessels better anchor out-side the reef in from 10 to 12 fathoms. The floating ice very seldom enters this cove and it makes a good anchorage being pretty well protected from all winds except Westerly. There is a small stream enters the cove near the shacks from which we obtained water for the vessel. These shacks were the only habitations we found on the Inlet and they belong to some of the Hooniah Indians who only reside here a portion of the time. The ridges on both sides of the Inlet are timbered to an elevation of from 1500 to 2000 feet above which they seem to be bare and rocky. The highest ridges are on the Eastern side where they reach an elevation of 3000 feet within a mile and a half of the shore. About 6 miles up the Inlet on the Eastern side there is quite a large landslide which makes quite a prominent land mark.

Point Lavinia is the Northern extremity of the peninsular which separates Port Althorp from Idaho Inlet, the point is bold and well timbered rising to an elevation of 1200 feet within $3/4$ of a mile of the point.

Earl Cove, is situated on the Eastern side of the Inian Islands it is about a half mile wide at its entrance and extends about $7/8$ of a mile in a Westerly direction towards Inian Cove, with which it

is connected by a very narrow channel which is full of rocks and bares at low water. An anchorage can be obtained near the center of the cove in from 10 to 12 fathoms, sticky bottom, but it is not recommended as the cove is generally filled with floating ice.

Dundas Bay, has its entrance on the N. W. side of Icy Strait opposite the Inian Islands and between Points Dundas and Wimbledon it is about 3 miles wide at its entrance and extends about 4 miles in a Northerly direction, with an average width of 2 miles, above which it is a narrow crooked inlet, extending in a general N.W. direction for about 5 miles then turning abruptly to the Southward and extending in that direction for about 5 miles to its head from where there is said to be a portage of about a mile accross to Taylor Bay, There are several minor arms and branches extending in a Northwest direction and a number of small timbered islets scattered though the inlet.

On the Northern side of the Bay there is quite an indentation, into which a large stream empties, this stream is said to be the outlet of quite a large lake lying about 10 or 12 miles to the Northward, the valley seems to be quite broad and flat consisting of loose gravel and sand, through which the stream cuts numerous channels, and interspersed with small mud islands covered with alder and other brush, Along the Northern shore of the Bay there are extensive mud flats which bare at low water for about a half mile off shore.

On the Western side of the Bay about 3-1/2 miles above Point Wimbledon, there is a small wooded island lying about 150 yards off shore, just above which on the main land is the wharf and buildings of the Dundas Bay Salmon Cannery, which is said to have a capacity of 500 cases per day.

The usual anchorage is about a quarter of a mile off the Cannery in from 8 to 12 fathoms, sticky bottom, the anchorage is exposed to the Southward and Eastward and you are apt to be disturbed by floating ice.

The ridges and mountains on both sides of the Bay are generally well wooded with spruce and hemlock to an elevation of from 1500 to 2000 feet above which they appear to be bare and rocky and generally snow capped.

The shore of Icy Strait between Dundas Bay and the Entrance to Glacier Bay is generally bold and free of dangers, the ridges are steep and well timbered to the usual height. About 3-1/2 miles to the Eastward of Point Dundas there is a small indendation into which a good sized stream empties, this cove is not recommended as an anchorage on account of sunken rocks.

Point Carolus, is the Western point of the entrance to Glacier Bay, the outer end of the point is low and bare, consisting of gravel and boulders, back of which it is timbered. About a mile to the Westward of the point there is quite an indentation in the high water shore line, into which a small stream empties, but the whole cove bares at low tide and the low water flats extend for about a quarter of a mile off shore all the way round to the point. About a half mile to the S.E. of the point there is quite an extensive reef which bares at low water.

Point Gustavus, is the Eastern point of the entrance to Glacier Bay, the land back of the point is timbered and does not seem to rise over 150 or 200 feet in elevation, To the Southward of the point the bottom is rocky and irregular for some distance off shore. Ancon Rock with a reported depth of 6 feet over it is said to lie about a mile to the Southward of the point but we did not locate it

there being so many large ice-bergs aground off the point, during the time we were there, that it was impossible to make a thorough examination of the locality.

Lemesurier Island, lies in the middle of Icy Strait, about 12 miles to the Westward of Pleasant Island, the ridges are steep, bold and heavily timbered, but the tops are smooth and rounded, there are three prominent summits the center and highest one reaching an elevation of 2225 feet. A small wooded island, about a quarter of a mile in extent and about 200 feet high, lies about 200 yards off the North-west shore, the channel between them is deep but generally filled with ice. In case of emergency an anchorage can be obtained in the little bight to the South of the small island, in from 15 to 20 fathoms, but it is not recommended on account of the strong currents and floating ice.

Willoughby Cove, is situated on the South-east side of Lemesurier Island, it is only a slight indentation being about 1-1/2 miles in width between the extreme points and only a half mile in depth, anchorage can be obtained in the Eastern part of the cove about a quarter of a mile off the beach in from 8 to 10 fathoms, but like most of the other coves in this vicinity it is often filled with floating ice and not recommended on that account.

There is a rocky reef or ledge extending about a quarter of a mile off the South-east point of the island.

The passages North and South of the island are both about 2-1/2 miles in width and free of dangers, the Northern passage is more generally used it being more direct for vessels proceeding to and from sea.

The portion of Icy Strait to the Westward of Pleasant Island always contains more or less floating ice which often extends all

the way accross making navigation dangerous in thick or dark weather.

Pleasant Island Reef; It being discovered that quite a portion of this reef bares at extreme low tides, a fact not developed by our survey of 1901, we attempted to make a re-examination of the of the locality at the close of the season but the weather and tides were unfavorable and although we found much shoaler water than last year I am still unsatisfied with the work around the reef.

Respectfully submitted
E. J. Dickins
Assistant U. S. Surveyor
Chief of Party