



2770

Department of Commerce and Labor

COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

*O. H. Tietzmann*

Superintendent.

State: *Alaska*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

*Top c* Sheet No. *2770*

LOCALITY:

*Latouche Passage,*  
*Prince William*  
*Sound*

*1906*

CHIEF OF PARTY:

*R. B. Derickson*

U. S. S. & G. SURVEY,  
AND ARCHIVES.  
DEC 19 1906  
No. 2770

2770

2770

U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES

DEC 19 1906

Doc. No.

Descriptive Report  
of  
Plane Table Sheet No. ....  
Latouche Passage, Prince William Sound  
Alaska

July to Sept. 1906

R. B. Henderson

Asst. C. & G. Survey

Chief of Party

Report to accompany Plane Table  
sheet of Latauche Passage, Prince William Sound,  
Alaska.

This Sheet scale 1/40000 shows the shore line on both sides of Latauche Passage. Beginning at the N.E. point of Latauche Id. The N. East of the Island is rocky with steep shores, the Bay at the North end has a small sand beach at its head with broken rocks projecting into the water, the N.W. point is from 50 to 75 ft. high of steep rocky bluffs. The slope of the mountains begins at the waters edge and the shore to an elevation of 300 to 500 ft as shown by the contours is covered with timber, bushes and deciduous growth. The general coast line on the West Side of Latauche Id. runs N. and S. It is generally rocky with broken sand and shingle beaches. The trees growing to the waters edge. There are low rocky headlands and shallow bays, and in general the slope begins at the waters edge rising to the summit of the mountain range which extends through the center of the Island parallel to the coast line, at an approximate height of 1700 ft. The highest peak near the center of the Id is 2250 ft. above the high water line, after reaching an elevation of approx. 500 ft the mountain range is barren. The highest peaks are bare rocks and moss and scattering bushes cover the crests of the

2  
lower hills. The South end of the Island has a long gentle slope to the base of the Southern peak, where the trees are scattering and interspersed with grass patches and deciduous growth extending to the water's edge.

The S.W. point is a bluff 50 ft. high with steep rocky sides. The beach between this point and the S.E. point is covered with gravel to the low water line and from the low water line seaward a series of ribbed ridges of rock extend.

From the S.E. point there extends several large rocks separated by small channels. These rocks are covered with grass on top; the summit being approx 30 ft. above the water.

The outermost rock is about 300 meters off the point.

The sea breaks heavily along the South end of the Island.

One mile South of the South end of Latauche Id. is a small Island  $\frac{1}{3}$  mile in diameter. Its S.E. corner is a bluff 60 ft high, on which is the Signal "Danger". The North and West sides of this Island are low, and the entire Island is surrounded with sunden rocks and kelp. Spruce trees and bushes cover the Island.

In Latauche Passage adjacent to the West shore of Latauche Id. are two small Islands. The North Island locally known as "Chicken Id." is about 400 meters long and 100 meters wide, 21 m<sup>3</sup> 30 ft high and covered with heavy growth of spruce trees.

The shores are steep and rocky with exception of a small sand spit on the East side, at this spit are three log houses where a chicken ranch was started but failed. The houses are now

used for powder store houses,

The South Id. is low. The South end is approximately 15 ft. high. The North end tapering in a Sand Spit. Like Chicken Id it extends North and South. The Island is covered with Spruce trees and bushes. It is 150 meters long and 100 meters wide. A small prominent rock 10 ft in diameter lies off its North end about 25 meters.

There are four mining camps on the West side of Katanche Id. The first, Katanche Post Office approximately  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the N.W. point, is the most important camp. There is a wharf from which is shipped about 700 tons of Copper ore each month. There is a Post Office & 10 or 15 scattered houses back from the beach. The bunk house store and wharf house are the only buildings visible from the bay. The mine is reached by a tram road  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile long. The cars run by gravity from the mine to the wharf bunkers. A small general merchandise store supplies the camp.

"Wilson's" is a small camp 3 miles South of Katanche P.O. It consists only of a Hotel and Saloon. ✓

The Reynolds Alaska Development Co. is at Horse Shoe Bay 3 miles South of Katanche P.O. Houses wharf and ore bunkers were under construction at the close of the season.

"Andersons" two miles from the South end of the Island at a place locally known as Montgomery Bay, consists of a house and a few tents. The mines are approx 1300 ft above the beach and were being developed at the close of the season. ✓

4  
18  
The East Shore of "Hoodo Island" (so called by all names in Prince William Sound) is of the same character as Latouche Id. The coast along the N.E. point is rocky with low bluffs and covered with trees. The Mountains on the N.E. point are low and covered with trees from the western edge to the Summit  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from the N.E. point the shore line turns to the West and a series of small bays indent the coast which forms the North side of the large Bay at the North End of the West Channel. The Id. at the S.E. point of this large Bay is high and wooded. It is 200 meters in diameter and has steep rocky sides.

There are several small Islands between this Id. and Hoodo Island.

At the West end of the Bay directly North of these Islands is a prominent Cascade, which can be seen from Latouche Passage. A saw mill was under course of construction at the cascade, at the close of the Survey. V

All the Islands at the head of the West Channel are high and covered with trees and bushes.

From these Islands the shore line of Hoodo Id. runs nearly straight to the South end, a distance of 3 miles, and makes a sharp turn to the West. The shore is steep. The mountains have a steep slope directly from the western edge and are covered with trees and grass to an elevation of about 600 ft. The mountains are broken, the highest is about 1700 ft. The summits are barren rocks and are precipitous.

42  
Cilerington Id. which divides Latouche passage is 11 miles long

and  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  miles wide, Its shores are irregular and rocky. The East shore having but one short sand spit 4 miles from the North end.

The Mountain slope begins at the waters edge and raises to an elevation of 1700 to 1900 ft. The Island is covered with trees and bushes from the waters edge to the Summit on the North end, the general tree line extending to an elevation of 500 ft. when the bushes become scattering, and the higher peaks are barren and precipitous.

The North end has a gentle slope compared to the other sides.

The South end of the Island terminates in three points. The most southern point is about 500 ft. high and covered with trees from the waters edge to the top. It is surrounded by rocks awash, and there are high cliffs on the East & West sides. It is connected to the Island with a sand and gravel neck which is awash at storm water.

The two points to the Westward are high rocky headlands. Bushes and trees extend to the summits from the waters edge. These headlands are 1200 and 1800 ft. high with precipitous sides and large boulders at the base.

The western headland is connected to Ellerington Id. by a broad low sand neck covered with small fir trees and grass.

The Island at the South end of West Channel which lies close to Ellerington Id. is separated from it by a shallow channel at the N.E. point. This small Island is nearly circular,  $\frac{1}{3}$  mile in diameter.

and 500 ft high. This covered with trees bushes and grass from the waters edge to the top. It has rocky shores on all but the N.E. side where a short sand beach extends adjacent to the opposite shore. From the point just East of this Small Id. the shore line curves to the E. & N. making a large bay with rocky shores. One mile North of the bay there is a rock, Islet 50 meters long, 20 meters wide, and 30 ft high. It is covered with grass and is separated from Ellerington Id. by a narrow channel 100 meters wide.

Numerous fresh water streams are on both sides of this Id. There is but one house on it, at the South end of that channel.

Intersecting cuts were taken on some prominent objects along the beach on the South end of Ellering Id. and the shore line sketched in.

The "Procession Rocks", so called by the resemblance to a procession as viewed from the North and East, were determined by intersecting cuts from the South end of Hoodo and Ellerington Islands. These rocks are very prominent. They are about 40 ft high and 40 ft in diameter above water.

There are 84.5 miles of shore line on this sheet covering an approximate area of 78.3 sq miles. Covered with contour lines for every hundred feet elevation. All prominent peaks were determined by the Plane Table, and elevations determined at various intervals in order to properly sketch in the contours while the work of running the shore line was in

progress.

The Topography is controlled by 11 Triangulation Stations and 5 Hydrographic stations determined by Triangulation.

These points were plotted and carefully checked, by intersecting distances from the triangle sides.

Advantage was taken of a few days in which signals of the Triangulation were visible from a few salient points at the waters edge, and locations were made from which a Plane Table Triangulation was carried through the passes.

It was with much difficulty that this amount of Topography was accomplished, owing to the continuous rain.

The sheet was worked each day until it became too soft to take pencil lines. Every care was exercised to keep the sheet dry, but with the continuous rain it was impossible to work more than a few hours each day, and the distortion of the sheet is very apparent. I therefore, recommend that in order to facilitate the progress of future work in this vicinity, that some kind of a sheet with an insaluble surface be supplied for the Topographic work.

Owing to the lack of facilities in the field and according to verbal instructions there was no projection placed on this sheet.

Respectfully submitted

R. B. Harrison

Asst. C. & S. Survey, Chief of Party