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Department of Commerce and Labor
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

O. H. Tushman

Superintendent.

State *Alaska*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

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LOCALITY:

Khay Bay,
Chicago Island

1906

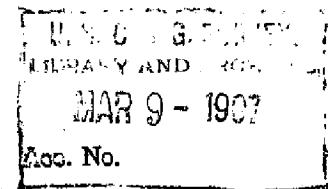
CHIEF OF PARTY:

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KHAZ BAY, CHICHAGOF ISLAND,
S. E. ALASKA.

July to October, 1906.

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KHAZ BAY is an indentation of the West Coast of Chichagof Island about 13 miles North of the entrance to Salisbury Sound. The name seems to have been given by "Tebenkof" in 1849, and the definition given is "fag-end" although an old Indian, who told me that his ancestors have always lived in and claimed this section of the country for hunting and fishing and whose old home is situated on the eastern shore of Klag or Klagh Bay consisting of two cabins built of logs and surrounded by a stockade about 15 feet high, which he says was built for protection against the inroads of other tribes or families, says the word "KHAZ" means "bad" or "dangerous"

The extent of this bay seems to be in doubt. As the long arm extending to the Eastward has been named Slocum Arm by the Navy party on the Steamer Patterson under command of Capt. E. K. Moore, U.S.N., in 1897, I therefore suppose Khaz Bay can only be applied to the indentation or opening lying between the Western end of the rocky islets and reefs making out from Khaz Head and a similar line of rocky islets extending to the Northward and Westward from Outer Rocks to the main shore of Chichagof Island.

KHAZ BAY (2)

The main entrance to Slocum Arm, Klag Bay and Ogden Passage is through this Bay. It is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles in width between Outer Rocks and Ramp Island and about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles in width between Quit Point and Bald Head.

Outer Rocks, which form the western point of the approach to Khaz Bay, lying $5\frac{3}{4}$ miles W $\frac{3}{4}$ N from Khaz Point consist of two bare rocks, the larger one being about 30 feet in height, the smaller one lying about 200 yards to the southward is about 15 feet in height. About 400 yards to the southward of the smaller rock there is a rock awash at low water on which there is almost always a heavy breaker.

Black Rock, lying about one mile N N E $\frac{1}{4}$ E from Outer Rocks, covers at high tide and is generally marked by a heavy breaker.

Gray Rock is awash at high tide and lies about half a mile off Quit Point, almost on range between the Point and Black Rock. The ground between Gray Rock and a high bare rocky islet lying about $\frac{3}{8}$ of a mile to the Northwest is foul and generally marked by breakers.

Quit Point is the southern extremity of the timbered island which forms the western side of the entrance to the inner arms of Khaz Bay. The outer end of the point is bare and at the timber line is about 90 feet in elevation.

KHAZ BAY (3)

Bald Head is the western extremity of the timbered island which forms the eastern side of the entrance above referred to; on the outer end of the point there is a round bald knob about 100 feet in height, hence the name.

Ramp Island lying about $3/4$ of a mile to the southward of Bald Head is about 100 feet in elevation and covered with scattering timber. In coming up the coast from the southward and eastward it serves as a good mark for making the entrance.

The Channel between Quit Point and Bald Head, which is the main entrance to the several Arms and Bays before mentioned, is about $1-1/4$ miles in width and free of dangers except a shoal spot over which the least water found was 9 feet, and which is marked by a breaker in a heavy swell, and generally by kelp. It lies between the two points about half a mile N.W. from the western extremity of Bald Head.

Crook Channel is the name we have applied to the outer or western channel connecting Khaz Bay with Ogden Passage. It is about a mile in width at its eastern entrance between Black and Gray Rocks and narrows down to about 400 yards abreast of Copper Point and is not over 250 yards wide where it enters Ogden Passage between Shale Rock and the group of small rocks lying in the entrance, but the water is deep, from 10 to 12 fathoms, in mid-channel. There is also a channel about 200 yards in width to the East of Copper Point leading into Mills Pass, through which 9 fathoms was the least water found in mid-channel.

KHAZ BAY (4)

The bottom in Crook Channel is very irregular and there is generally a heavy swell rolling in.

Guide Rock a bare rock about 15 feet in height just inside the entrance, is a good guide in entering either of the above named Arms. It lies about $3/8$ of a mile N E x N from Quit Point and about $1-1/4$ miles N W from Bald Head.

Twin Island is a timbered island about $3/8$ of a mile in length by $1/8$ in width, lying on the northern side of the Arm or Channel leading from Khaz Bay to Ogden Passage and Klag Bay. Its southern face is bold and there seem to be no outlying dangers.

Mills Pass is the channel or passage connecting Khaz Bay with Ogden Passage. It is about 200 yards in width and is protected from the Ocean swell by a chain of timbered islands and rocky ledges which form its southern shore. It seems to be free of dangers with depths ranging from 7 to 15 fathoms in mid-channel.

The Gate is the name we have applied to the southern entrance into Klag or Klagh Bay. It is about 600 yards in length and not over 100 yards in width at its narrowest part. The depths range from 6 to 10 fathoms in mid-channel. About midway through and 40 yards off the round timbered island on the eastern side of the Gate there is a rock with 6 feet water over it at low water. It is generally marked with kelp. The tidal currents are very strong and the passage should not be attempted except at or near slack water.

KHAZ BAY (5)

A temporary anchorage can be found in from 15 to 20 fathoms about 250 yards south of the small sparsely timbered islet which forms the Southeastern point of entrance to the Gate.

Coleman Passage is the passage just inside The Gate and running at right angles with it, connecting Ogden Passage with Klag Bay. About 500 yards to the eastward of The Gate the channel turns abruptly to the northward for about $3/4$ of a mile where it widens out into Klag Bay, from where a narrow passage to the eastward connects with Lake Anna. It also extends to the westward from The Gate for about a mile where it opens out into Ogden Passage. About 125 yards N.N.W. from The Gate is a rock which bares about 2 feet at low water. It is marked by a moderate sized kelp patch. About 200 yards West of this rock and 75 yards off-shore is another rock which bares at half tide. The channel between this rock and the south shore of Coleman Passage is about 150 yards wide, then widens out to about 400 yards with a bight on either side of the channel, then again narrows down to 100 yards at Mass Point $1/4$ of a mile west, where it again widens out to a bay about $3/8$ of a mile wide and $1/2$ mile long. In the middle of this bay about 125 yards West of the west point of the south shore and about 350 yards W S W of Mass Point is a long rocky ledge which covers about 2 feet at extreme high water, and is surrounded with kelp.

$3/8$ of a mile west of this ledge is a sharp pinnacle rock which shows one foot above high water and marks the outer edge of a large sunken reef extending to the North shore and

KHAZ BAY (6)

covered with kelp. The channel is between this rock and the islands forming the south shore of Coleman Passage and the east shore of Odgen Passage. It is less than 100 yards wide at this point, but is deep, having a least depth in mid-channel of 5 fathoms. The last of the ebb-tide runs out very strong into Ogden Passage and sets to the southwest, usually forming heavy swirls at the point of the island.

Foul Pass so named on account of the rocks and reefs in the northern part of the pass and which almost close it, extends in a N N W direction from The Gate for a distance of about a mile, connecting Coleman Passage with Klag Bay. It can be used by small boats and launches only.

De Groff Island is a low timbered island lying between Coleman Passage, Foul Pass and Klag Bay. It is about $3/8$ of a mile in width and $3/4$ of a mile in length, North and South. There is a narrow Inlet extending into the island from its northern shore about half a mile in length and it nearly divides the island. It could be used for a boat anchorage.

KLAG BAY (7)

Klag or Klagh Bay (Indian word, meaning the noise or flutter made by the salmon when they are crowding up stream to deposit their eggs) extends in a northerly direction from De Groff Island for about 2 miles and is about $3/4$ of a mile at its greatest width. There are a number of small timbered islands scattered around the bay. At the head of the bay on its western shore is a mining camp and considerable development has been made in the mountain back of the camp and some very rich gold ore taken out.

Leo Island is the name we have applied to a small wooded island about $1/2$ mile N W from Rose Point in Klag Bay.

Rowe Island is another small wooded island about $1/4$ of a mile N W from Leo Island. These two islands are in the widest part of Klag Bay and there is a clear safe channel on either side. The most direct channel is on the northeast side of Leo Island and is about $1/8$ of a mile wide at this point. A mid-channel course from off Rose Point to Rowe Id. is clear of dangers. From Rowe Island to the mining camp is about $1-1/2$ miles.

There is a sunken rock with 5 feet over it at low water about $1-1/8$ miles N N W from Rowe Island in the narrow part of channel leading into the anchorage off the mining camp. The rock is about 120 yards off the west shore. The navigable channel is between this rock and the west shore and is less than 100 yards wide at this point and has a depth of 4 fathoms at low water. Another rock awash at low water lies about

~~KLAC-BAY~~ (83)

30 yards south of Duxy Point and about 35 yards off-shore.

There is a good anchorage in the middle of the cove off the mining camp in 4 to 5 fathoms water, soft bottom. The gravel flat off the camp extends out about 125 yards.

About 1/2 mile N.E. from Rowe Island there is a fishing stream of fair size upon the banks of which are some Indian shacks protected by a stockade. There is a clear channel leading to it around the N.E. end of Paulina Island (the large wooded island lying 1/4 of a mile N.E. of Rowe Island) to the mouth of the stream and an anchorage is found about 100 yards off-shore.

Doolthk Mt. (Indian name meaning everything good and plentiful, a kind of paradise, referring to the abundance of game, fish, berries, etc. found in this vicinity) is about 2120 feet in elevation, and lying between the head of Klag Bay and the head of Ogden Passage. About one year ago some gold bearing quartz was found on the beach at the head of Klag Bay by some Indians who told of their discovery in Sitka. Prospectors soon reached the ground and staked out claims and since then considerable development work has been done on both sides of the mountain and some of the tunnels are in over 200 feet on the ledge. The ore shipped out so far has averaged about \$150.00 to the ton and it is expected that a stamp mill will be erected in the Spring.

KLAG BAY ((9))

Lake Anna is the name we have applied to a large arm or basin about 2-1/2 miles long and from 1/4 to 1/2 mile wide east of Klag Bay and connected with it by a narrow channel from Coleman Passage.

About 1/4 of a mile east of the entrance is a large reef bare at half tide and surrounded by kelp. It is about in mid-channel. The southern end of this lake has a low rocky shore with small sandy beaches in the S.E. and S.W. corners of the bight and an anchorage in from 12 to 14 fathoms.

A rocky ledge or reef about 100 yards off the west shore lies about 3/16 of a mile N x E from the entrance.

A small wooded island lies about 3/8 of a mile N N E from the entrance close to the west shore. It is bold and deep up to the island, but the channel behind the island is closed at L.W. About 5/8 of a mile north of this island is a large rocky ledge in mid-channel, the highest part of which is about 10 feet above high water. There is a good channel to the west of the reef.

From this reef to the head of the lake, where there is a fishing stream of fair size and an Indian shack, is 3/4 of a mile North.

Sister Lake about 1/2 mile N.E. from this reef is the narrow passage about 1/2 mile long to the second lake or basin which we have called Sister Lake, which is around the foot of Flat Top Mountain and goes to within 200 to 250 yards of the West Arm of Ford Arm.

KLAG BAY (10)

The tidal current through here is very strong and boats can only get through at or near slack water.

In the middle of Sister Lake about $1/2$ mile East of the entrance is a small pinnacle rock which bares 2 feet at low water, and is $1/8$ of a mile off the rocky point under Flat Top Mountain. The mid-channel to the Northern and Northeastern Bights of Sister Lake seems otherwise free of dangers.

About $1/2$ mile southeast from the entrance and about $1/4$ mile southwest from the rocky point under Flat Top Mountain is a long rocky ledge, awash at high water, showing as two single rocks. There is deep water all around this ledge.

The Lake extends South from the entrance for a distance of 2 miles, with a width of over half a mile, where it narrows down to $1/4$ of a mile, and again widening out into an East & West Arm almost 2 miles long, and half a mile wide. From the N.E. corner of this part of the Arm is a low trail and portage of about 250 yards across to the western extension of Ford Arm. On the South Shore of this same part of the Arm near the S.W. corner of the Arm is a low trail and portage of about 250 yards across to a small cove in Khaz Bay opposite the entrance from the Ocean.

We had no time to make more than a rapid plane-table reconnaissance of this lake.

Respectfully submitted
E. F. Dickens
Assistant to E. L. Sumner
Chief of Party