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Department of Commerce and Labor
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

O. F. Tidman

Superintendent

State: *Alaska*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

T Sheet No. *2800*

LOCALITY:

*Khaz Bay and
Slocum Arm,
Chichagof Island*

1906

CHIEF OF PARTY:

E. F. Dickinson

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SLOCUM ARM, S.E. ALASKA.

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SLOCUM ARM- is the name applied to the long arm extending east from Khaz Bay for a distance of about 12 miles and having a width of from $1/2$ to $3/4$ of a mile.

The South Shore for a distance of about 3 miles from Khaz Bay is formed by the chain of islands extending westward from Khaz Head. These islands are heavily wooded, and have an average height of 100 feet. Their shores are bold and rocky with numerous closelylying rocks and reefs. From the west end of the long mountainous peninsula, which separates Slocum Arm from the Pacific Ocean, to the head of Slocum Arm a distance of about 9 miles, the South Shore is fairly regular with bold rocky bluffs, and boulder beaches the greater part.

There is a small cove with from 6 to 10 fathoms, soft bottom, about 5 miles from the west end of the peninsula on the south shore; a round conical wooded hill about 80 feet high marks the east entrance point to this cove.

A mid-channel course down Slocum Arm is clear of any dangers and is good to the head of the Arm, which ends in a large sand and gravel flat, extending out from shore about $3/16$ of a mile. A large stream empties into the Arm over this flat. A good anchorage is found a few hundred yards off the flat in from 12 to 16 fathoms water, soft bottom.

SLOCUM ARM (2)

The North Shore of Slocum Arm is not so regular, having two long arms and several smaller bights or coves.

Ford Arm - is the largest of these arms, about 3 miles east of Khaz Bay and directly north of the N.W. end of the long peninsula which forms the south shore of Slocum Arm.

The west entrance point of Ford Arm is somewhat low and has two small grass-covered gravel beaches, with an Indian shack on each beach. The east entrance point is formed by a group of small wooded islands with outlying rocks and reefs and should not be approached very closely. A mid-channel course through the entrance, which is about $1/2$ mile wide at this point, is safe and clear for a distance of 2 miles. The shores are rocky and bold.

About 2 miles from the entrance a low wooded point makes out from the east shore extending almost half way across the Arm. There is an outlying reef about 50 yards west of the point. The channel at this point is about 400 yards wide. Just behind this point is a small bight with a good anchorage in 12 fathoms water, soft bottom. On the west shore of Ford Arm, opposite this same point, is an open bight with a small sandy beach in the S.W. corner. The bottom is sand and gravel with about 25 fathoms water.

A group of islets and rocks lies about $3/8$ of a mile north of this point. The largest and most westerly is wooded and is about 220 yards off the west shore of Ford Arm. There is a clear though narrow channel between the island and shore also a clear channel to the eastward of the islands between

Slocum Arm (3)

(Ford Arm)

between them and the eastern shore.

A Pinnacle Rock which bares at half tide lies about $1/8$ of a mile south of the wooded island.

A Sunken Rock with 2 fathoms water over it, lies about $1/4$ of a mile north of this island, but has deep water all around it, with a 10 fathom channel between it and the west shore. 2/10/71

The Arm here widens out to a bay about $3/4$ of a mile wide with Arms extending both East and West. The one extending westward for about 2 miles is quite narrow, terminating in a small sandy beach at the head, which is only a short distance from the second lagoon of Klag Bay on the West, named Sister Lake. On the south shore of the arm about $1/4$ of a mile from the head, is a portage of about 200 yards across to the S.E. head of Sister Lake.

The south shore of this long West Arm is rocky with high precipitous cliffs, partly timbered, rising to an elevation of 700 to 1000 feet. A rock which bares 5 feet at low water is about 50 yards west of the inside south entrance point of this Arm.

Elf Cove is just north of the north entrance point of West Arm and affords an anchorage for small boats and launches in 5 fathoms water, soft bottom. A ledge bare at half tide is close to the north shore in Elf Cove.

Just north of Elf Cove is a large sand and gravel flat with a fair sized stream emptying into the bay. About 1 mile eastward is another small cove which runs dry at low water.

SLOCUM ARM (4)

(Ford Arm)

A fair sized stream empties into this cove also.

The North Shore or Head of Ford Arm is bold and rocky between these two coves.

The Eastern Arm of Ford Arm is about 1 mile long and ends in a small cove which almost dries at low water. A number of islets and rocks are in the entrance to this cove almost closing it. From this cove to the head of Hawkes Arm is about $1/4$ of a mile with a trail across. The ground is low and timbered.

Hawkes Arm is $1-1/4$ miles east of Ford Arm on the north shore of Slocum Arm, and is about 2 miles long and from $1/4$ to $1/2$ mile wide. Just in the entrance and about 200 yards off the eastern shore is a sunken pinnacle rock with $1-1/2$ feet over it at low water.

Another rock which bares 3 feet at low water lies about 250 yards north of this rock and about 100 yards off the eastern shore.

About $1/4$ of a mile north of the inside east entrance point (Ross Point) and in mid-channel is another sunken rock which is covered 1 foot at low water. From this rock to Lass Point, a distance of about 1 mile the channel is clear.

A good anchorage is found behind Lass Point in 11 to 13 fathoms water, soft bottom.

From Lass Point to the head of Hawkes Arm is about $3/4$ of a mile and is from 150 to 400 yards wide, with a varying depth of from 3 to 10 fathoms water, soft bottom. The shores are

SLOCUM ARM (5)

(Hawkes Arm)

rocky, except at the Head where there is a small sand and gravel flat.

Waterfall Cove is about 1-1/2 miles east of Hawkes Arm. It is a large open bight or cove, so named from a large waterfall about a mile back by which it can be readily identified. A small point of land, partly wooded and having the appearance of an island, divides the bight into two coves. The Eastern Cove is shoal and almost dries at low water. The Western Cove has 7 to 8 fathoms water, soft bottom, and affords a good anchorage for small boats and launches. An Indian shack is back on the beach of this cove.

Island Cove- About 2 miles east of Waterfall Cove is another large open bight with some small islands in about the center, hence the name.

Dab Point is a high wooded point on the North Shore of Slocum Arm about 6 miles east of Ford Arm. A fair anchorage in from 10 to 13 fathoms, soft bottom, is found inside Dab Pt.

Shoal Cove About one mile east of Dab Point on the North Shore is another large bight with a fair sized stream emptying into it. The upper half of this bight is a sand and gravel flat which bares at low water. The peninsula forming the east shore of this bight has the appearance of a rounded heavily timbered island about 200 feet high.

Hidden Cove On the east side of this peninsula is a very narrow cove with 4 to 5 fathoms water, soft bottom, which we named Hidden Cove. From this cove to the flat at the head of Slocum Arm is about 3/4 of a mile.

SLOCUM ARM (6)

Phiel Pass* This pass is a narrow, rocky and full of *Piehle P. dangers, and can be used by small vessels only, and then should not be attempted by anyone not having a local knowledge.

Off the entrance about $3/4$ of a mile S.W. from Khaz Point is a sunken rock which shows as a breaker in a moderate swell. Just inside of Khaz Point and about 100 yards off-shore is a rocky island or ledge about 10 feet high. West of this ledge about $1/4$ of a mile is a rock awash at low water which shows as a breaker in almost all weather. A small bare rock shows about 200 yards N.W. from this breaker.

The channel runs between this breaker on the west and Khaz Point on the east, about $1/4$ of a mile off the Point and outside the edge of the kelp surrounding it, in a N.W. direction to the west side of and close to a round steep bare rocky island about 20 feet high lying in mid-channel about $1/2$ mile N.W. from Khaz Point. From this rock the channel runs $1/2$ mile N.W. around the east side of a small wooded island named "It" then west $3/8$ of a mile close to Ris and Let Points, and around the west side of Sentinel Rock, then north about $1/4$ of a mile, close to the west side of Go Island, which can be recognized by a large dead tree trunk leaning outward on the west shore, about 20 feet above high water, then N.W. for about $3/8$ of a mile to Divide Island, which is a small wooded island with a bold rocky shore, continuing N.W. for one mile passing close to Rack Island, Bled and Sag Rocks, with a mid-channel course out into Slocum Arm.

SLOCUM ARM (7)

(Phiel Pass)

If bound to Ford or Hawkes Arm, there is a straight channel north from Divide Island, passing close to the east side of Had Island into Slocum Arm, a distance of half a mile.

After entering from Khaz Point care should be taken to avoid the rocks covered at high water.

The first of these lies about 200 yards east of It Island and bares 3 feet at low water; the next one lies about 25 yards off the north shore of It Id. is bare at low water and marked by kelp. The 3rd rock lies about 125 yards off Ris Point and bares 5 feet at low water. The rock off Let Point, also Sentinel Rock, are both about 8 feet above high water. Go Island is about 30 feet high and has some trees and brush on the top. Ear Rock is bare and about 12 feet high. Divide, Had and Rack, Islands are round and wooded.

Care should be taken in passing Bled Rock as there is a shoal spot with 2 fathoms water about 50 yards off-shore. A large rocky ledge lies in this entrance from Slocum Arm the sunken part of the ledge extending some distance around it. A shoal spot with 3 fathoms over it was found between Divide and Grass Islands.