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1906

Department of Commerce and Labor
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

C. H. Tamm
Superintendent.

State: *Alaska*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Type C Sheet No. *2807*

LOCALITY:

*Western side of
Uluk Bay*

1906

CHIEF OF PARTY:

W. C. Hodgkins

U. S. C. & G. SURVEY,
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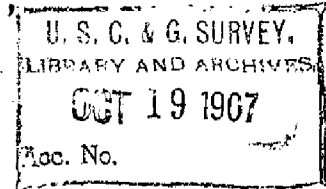
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Descriptive Report

to accompany Topographic Sheet No. 2807

Western Side of Alitak Bay

Alaska



COMPILED
BY J. H. HENRY

OCT 12 1 34 P. 1907

The shore line delineated on this sheet extends from a point on the western side of the shingle beach north of Cape Alitak down and around the cape, up Alitak Bay to Rodman Reach and up that passage to a point abreast of the point of beginning on the other side of the narrow strip of shingle. Then, jumping to the other side of the "reach" and going north, the survey includes Lazy Bay, Kempff Bay, the shore northward past the native village of Akhiok to Moser Bay, with Round-Hill Island, Miller Island, Turn Island, and other outlying islets and ledges, thence up Moser Bay, taking in Snug Harbor, Chips Cove, and the "narrows" leading to Lake Olga, or Olga Bay. Thence, from a point on the opposite side of the narrows, the shore southward to Point Fassett and thence eastward as far as High Rock was surveyed.

Within this not inconsiderable extent, the character of the topography varies quite widely. The beach north of Cape Alitak, on its western side, is a steep dike of heavy shingle beaten up by the sea between the broad outer waters of Trinity Sound and the shallow and narrow passage called Rodman Reach.

(Tanner Head) - 11/17/14.

The peninsula of which Cape Alitak is the southern extremity and which extends to the northward to form the southern side of the entrance to Lazy Bay and the eastern shore of Rodman Reach is a succession of rocky knobs bordered by a very irregular and rocky shore. In the hollows between the knobs are numerous little ponds some of which are drained by streams. On the eastern side of this peninsula and just to the southward of the entrance to Lazy Bay is quite an extensive area of sand beach covered with small dunes.

The country west of Rodman Reach and south of Lazy Bay and extending around to the head of Kempff Bay is rather low and rolling, while just north of Lazy Bay is a steep and rugged mountain mass of solid rock called by Moser the Twin Peaks, though there are really three summits. The western of these, however, is decidedly lower than the others. Each of the higher summits has upon it a rocky cairn.

North of Kempff Bay the hills begin again but are of a smooth, grassy type, with noticeably conical peaks. With some gaps, these hills extend as far as Olga Bay.

East of the upper part of Moser Bay is a high grassy ridge with a number of distinct summits which gradually diminish in height toward the south. The western face of this ridge flattens out into a sloping plain which is intersected by many small streams while its eastern side falls away more precipitously to the shore of Deadman Bay.

The islands lying on the eastern side of Akhiok Bay are low and rolling, the highest of them being Round Hill Island, which is a decidedly conspicuous landmark with its grassy surface and smoothly rounded profile which resembles a segment of a melon.

There is no evidence of any marked recession of the shores and the only place where there is any appearance of a building-out of the shore is just south of Lazy Bay, at the sand beach previously mentioned.

There are no trees in this section, the largest growth being scattered clumps of low alders. The surface, excepting the ledges of bare rock and the beaches, is covered with a thick carpet of mosses and grasses, which is generally pretty well saturated with water.

The native village of Akhiok, the only one within the limits of the sheet, is said to have a population exceeding one hundred. The inhabitants support themselves chiefly by fishing, with a little work in the summer at the Olga Bay cannery and sometimes a little gold mining on Tugidak Island.

The salmon fishery in Olga Bay, conducted by the Alaska Packers Association, is an important one but is far beyond the limits of this sheet. The cannery supply ship lies during the summer at moorings in the head of Moser Bay, near the entrance to Chips Cove. The cannery formerly existing at Snug Harbor has entirely disappeared.

Scarcely any firewood is to be obtained from the beaches in this area, in which respect it differs greatly from the opposite shores of the Trinity Islands.

There are numerous small streams, fed in the early part of the season by the melting snow and later by the frequent rains. The Patterson frequently got a supply of water from a stream which descends the southern slope of the Twin Peaks and falls into Lazy Bay just to the westward of the sandspit which projects from the north shore of the bay.

Salmon and ptarmigan are abundant during the summer and early fall and the portion of the party which lived in camp, first at Lazy Bay and afterward at Miller Island, had little trouble in obtaining a good supply of both, especially at the last camp.

W.C. Hodgkins

Chief of Party.