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Department of Commerce and Labor
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

W. F. Fittmann
Superintendent.

State: *Alaska*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

T Sheet No. *2853*

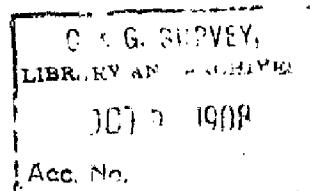
LOCALITY:

*Whale Island &
Eastern Part of
Kupreanof Strait*

1907

CHIEF OF PARTY:

W. C. Hodgkins



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Descriptive Report
to accompany Topographic Sheet No 2853

Scale 1:20,000

Whale Island and Eastern Part of Kupreanof Strait, Alaska.

Surveyed in 1907

by the party on the Steamer Patterson,

W. C. Hodgkins, Commanding.

This sheet includes the whole of Whale Island; the shore of Kodiak Island from the western point of Kizhuyak Bay to the western part of Dry Spruce Bay, including Dry Spruce Island and a small island southeast of the latter; Hog Island; the shore of Afognak Island from Afognak village to Raspberry, or Malina, Strait; Derenof and other low islands lying in the entrance to that strait; and the shore of Raspberry Island from Raspberry Strait to Mountain Point.

All of this country is mountainous, with the exception of the smaller islands, but in some places the immediate shores are low. This is especially the case on the northern side of Whale Island, where a considerable stretch of low, wooded, boggy country borders the foot of the mountain mass which forms the southern part of the island; and in the vicinity of Afognak village, where somewhat similar conditions exist, the village being built on a narrow strip of firm land between the sea and the marshy ground.

All of the lower land is generally well covered with a

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heavy growth of spruce timber, but the mountains are bare above an altitude of a few hundred feet, this elevation being very irregular. On Raspberry Island, the timber along the shore extends only two or three miles from the eastern end of the island to what the Russian charts call Last Timber Cape. On the southern shore, the timber extends to Dry Spruce Island, which is well wooded.

The village of Afognak is, next to Kodiak, the most important in the archipelago. It has a Russian church, a trading post of the Alaska Commercial Company and one or two other stores. There are also a post office and a government school.

The inhabitants are chiefly of mixed blood, but a number of white men, mostly Scandinavians, have settled here and have taken native wives. The place was of considerable importance while sea otters were plentiful, but is now of little account.

Aside from the village, there are only a few scattered cabins in the whole area covered by this sheet. These are located on the small islands in the entrance to Raspberry Strait and one (abandoned) on the western end of Whale Island.

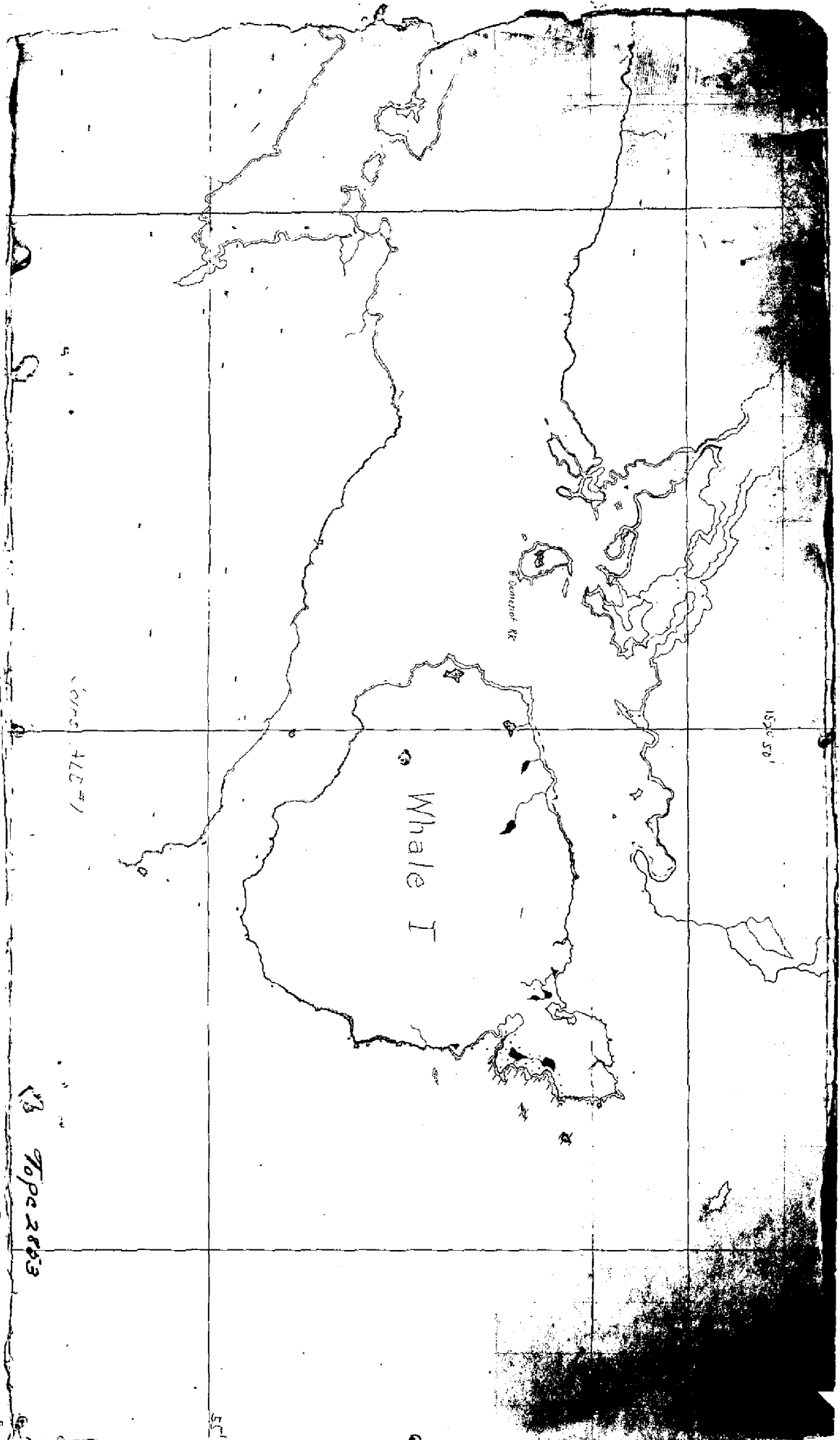
There are no wharves, roads, or bridges in this area and all communication is by water.

Respectfully submitted,

W. C. Hodgkins

Assistant Coast and Geodetic Survey,
Commanding.

September 8, 1908.



Whale I

B. George's Rk

CONS. ALT #1

1520 50'

18 7000 2000

50'

51'

Applied to Chart No. -

8534, by James W. McLeire (1935).