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Department of Commerce and Labor

COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

O. H. Littmann

Superintendent.

State: *Washington*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. *3053*

LOCALITY:

*United States and
Canada Boundary
Survey, San Juan Island,
Pile Pt. Boundary Ref.
Monument*

1909

CHIEF OF PARTY:

Fremont Moroz

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Descriptive Report to accompany Topographic Sheet entitled,
"Topography in the Vicinity of the Pile Pt. Boundary Reference
Monument, San Juan Island, Washington."

Pile Pt. lies on the Southwest side of San Juan Island, just West of Kanaka Bay. By the terms of the protocol of March 10, 1873, the Boundary Line turns at a point "midway between Sea Bird Point on Discovery Island, and Pile Point on San Juan Island." Hence it was that a reference monument was erected at this place, and this topographic sheet was surveyed to show the surroundings of the monument and its relation to the high water line towards Sea Bird Point.

Pile Pt. is bare of trees and brush, and where the bare ledges of rock do not out-crop, is grass grown.

The monument stands on one of the bare ledges at a height of about 34 feet above high water and about 41 meters from the shore line. It is 23.62 meters distant from the Coast and Geodetic Survey triangulation station "Pile Pt.", and in the direction North $10^{\circ} 42' 38''$ East from it.

The ground on which the monument stands is owned by Mr. J. M. Flemming, whose ranch house stands about half a mile Eastward from the point, at the head of the little bight known as Kanaka Bay. The cultivated field shown on the sheet is part of his farm and was devoted in 1909 to wheat raising. Kanaka Bay and the immediate vicinity is an exceedingly lively place during the fishing season, there being at times as many as three hundred fishermen

camped around its shores, and a large fleet of boats and launches making the bay their harbor. There are two classes of fishermen who come to the island at different times. During the first run of salmon, from June to August they are sein fishers, and during favorable seasons make large wages. During the season of 1909 individual fishermen made as high as \$3000 in six weeks, and at the time we reached the place the seiners had just left because the run was slacking up and they were making only \$20 per day per man! Later when the silver salmon begin to run a different crowd of fishermen come to troll for them, individual fishermen who work independently and pull around hour after hour in small boats with two lines trolling astern. Just off Pile Pt. is a favorite trolling ground. There is a strong tide rip off the point, and an eddy along the West shore, in which the fishermen circle around and keep within reaching distance of camp without excessive exertion.

The nearest steamboat landing is Friday Harbor on the East side of San Juan Island, and about seven miles distant by road. Friday Harbor is the County seat of San Juan County, and can be reached daily by steamers from the Sound.

Fremont Morse,

Assistant, C. & G. Survey,

Chief of Party, U.S. & C.B.S.