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Department of Commerce and Labor

COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

Superintendent.

State: S.E. Alaska

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Sheet No. 3402
3403

LOCALITY: 3409

Prince of Wales Is

1913

CHIEF OF PARTY:

R. B. Merickson

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Chart #8155 New Inset Applied 7/21/70 O.W.

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Topographic Sheet No.4.

West Coast of Prince of Wales Island,

S. E. Alaska.

Season: April to October 1913.

Scale 1:10,000

U.S.S.GEDNEY.

R.B.Derickson, Asst.,Comdg. John W.Maupin, Assistant,

Chief of Party. Topographer.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT TO ACCOMPANY TOPOGRAPHIC SHEETS NO'S 1, 3 & 4, VICINITY OF GULF OF ESQUIBEL, SAN CHRISTOVAL CHANNEL AND SAN ALBERTO BAY, S.E.ALASKA.

SEASON APRIL TO OCTOBER 1913.

LIMITS AND CONTROL The area, as described in this report, comprises three topographic sheets on a scale of 1:10000. The work begins at Cape Suspiro on the south, and extends in a north westerly direction, through San Alberto Bay, San Christoval Channel, part of the Gulf of Esquibel, and Tonowek Bay, to the S.E. end of Heceta Id. The control of the topography is based upon the triangulation of the West Coast of Prince of Wales Id, executed in 1907, by the party of Asst., E.F.Dickins.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION. In general, the topographic features are varied and irregular. The land area varies from flat wooded marshes to abrupt hills and precipitous mountains. The shoreline is broken and indented by many bays, bights, and shoals; and the water area is dotted with numerous islands, rocks, and reefs. The hard lines of abrupt cliffs, crevices and ravines, are softened by a dense growth of spruce, hemlock, and cedar trees which cover most of the area. A thick undergrowth and heavy windfall with a covering of course moss is characteristic of most all the forests. Fresh water is abundant. The bed rock is mostly igneous, and, in places, marble of an inferior quality, is found.

ISLANDS, ROCKS, AND REEFS. These are all shown on the topographic sheets, and they are so numerous, a detailed description of all will not be attempted. At high water, apparently, the area is reasonably free of rocks, but as the tide falls, numerous rocks and shoals appear on most every hand, rendering navigation tortuous and difficult. Fish Egg Id., which is about the largest island within the limits of this work, is irregular in shape and

about two miles long and one mile wide. There are a number of shoals and bays around this island, also several small islands. A prominent spit projects off the N.W. end where a (1907) base line was measured, and a deserted indian village of about 15 shacks is located at its inner end. Klawak Reef extends nearly all way across from Clam Id. to Fish Egg Id., and the ship channel through this reef is marked by a spindle. There is a group of small islands near and to the northward of Entrance Pt. They are covered with trees and are of no particular importance. The bottom around these islands is very foul. To the northward, Parida and the Witness Islands are prominent land marks. The Witness Rocks are treeless, and are nearly covered at high water. The large group of islands in San Christoval Channel are important as guides to navigation. The largest one of these islands, which is shown on the old chart (#8150) as Cruz Id., is in reality a group of small islands, rocks, etc. The group of islands, extending from the Blanquizal Ids., to Culebra Id. is known principally as the locality of several dangerous shoals. The shoal on which the S.S.CURACAO was wrecked, is $\frac{3}{4}$ of a (naut) mile in a direction W.10°S. (true) from the S.W. end of Culebra Id. St.Philip shoal is 8/10 of a mile (naut) S.6° E. from the most westerly extension of St. Philip Island. For a description of other shoals, reefs, etc., see "Descriptions to accompany hydrographic sheets".

<u>LANDMARKS, ANCHORAGES, ETC</u>. With the exception of the many islands and rocks, there are very few land marks. The cannery buildings at the village of Craig, are prominent, and can be seen from Cape Flores. In coming down towards Craig, from San Christoval Channel, the Indian village, on the N.W. end of Fish Egg Id, shows up well. At the beginning of the season, the spindle on Klawak Reef, just north of Fish Egg Id., was the only aid to navigation, with-

in the area of this work. While the work was in progress, this party established two sets of range (day) beacons at San Christoval Channel;(see hydrographic description) and two piles were driven by Lindenberger Cannery employees, to mark the channel between Fish Egg Island and the village of Craig. There is a good anchorage just north of the village of Craig between Fish Egg Island and the mainland, where there is fairly good holding ground in moderate depths and good protection from southerly weather. Cruz Bay also affords a fairly good anchorage. There is also a moderately good anchorage for medium sized vessels, back of St. Philip Island, in mid channel, just off the old indian village locally known as Bobs Place.

THE VILLAGE OF CRAIG. This is a growing village of about 200 inhabitants, mostly fishermen (including whites and indians) The Lindenberger Cannery which is located here is a four line, up to date establishment, and employs 200 persons during the salmon run. This company also runs a general merchandise store. The Sawmill, operated by the West Coast Milling Company, is also a very important factor in the upbuilding of the town. There is a wharf at the sawmill where vessels of moderate draught can dock. Fresh water can be obtained by vessels at both the cannery and sawmill docks. There are about a dozen stores in Craig, also bakery, cafe, etc. Some of the homes have garden patches and raise potatoes, lettuce, onions, radishes, etc. Craig is a sub forestry headquarters, and is also a port of call for all steamship lines operating on this coast.

RESOURCES, ETC. Fish, of course, is the principal resource, and there are many different kinds, including Salmon, Herring, Cod, Halibut, Snapper, Etc. The streams are also stocked with fresh water trout. Deer, Geese, Ducks, and Grouse are plentiful. Salmon berries, red Wortleberries, and blue berries are found. Clams and Crabs are abundant. There are many bald eagles in this

section. Large timber wolves and black bear are also found.

SURVEY METHODS. The ordinary plane table method was used throughout this survey. The triangulation stations (Dickins 1907) were used as primary points in the control. Other signals were built and located by intersections from the triangulation stations. In bays and bights, not reached by the triangulation, signals were built and located by plane table cuts. A list of these plane table stations, with geographic location etc., is attached hereto. The work back of St. Philip Id. was run by traverse from triangulation station Bobs Pt. where a traverse was brought over from signals Cull and Philip. This work was found to be about 60 meters out in azimuth to the eastward. This work was therefore swung in toward signal Cull using signal Bobs Pt. as a pivot. The contours are approximate but are helpful in that they represent the general topography of the land. Elevations were obtained of all the prominent hill tops and the contours were sketched in from these. The elevations include the trees in all cases, except the island on which Craig is located, and here the ground was taken as the highest point, owing to the fact that the trees are being rapidly cleared away.

Respectfully submitted,

John W. Mayson,

Assistant, C.& G.Survey,

Topographer.

Respectfully approved and forwarded,

Asst., Comdg.

Object and description	Lat.	D.M.	Long.	D.P.	Height.	Remarks

There were no natural objects determined on this sheet.

TO ACCOMPANY TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET NO.1.

U. S. S. GEDNEY,

R.B.Derickson, Asst.,Comdg.

Chief of Party.

Season: April to October 1913.

Object and Description	Lat.	D.M.	Long.	D.P.	Height	Remarks

There were no natural objects determined on this sheet.

TO ACCOMPANY TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET NO.3.

U. S. S. GEDNEY,

R.B.Derickson, Asst.,Comdg.

Chief of Party.

Season: April to October 1913.

Object & Description	Lat.	D.M.	Long.	D.P.	Height	Remarks
		meters		meters	feet	
Tank	55°28'	924	133° 09'	300	30	Round wooden building, painted red.
Dot	55 28	1782	133 09	626	10	Small shack over indian grave.

TO ACCOMPANY TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET NO. 4.

U. S. S. GEDNEY

R.B.Derickson, Asst., Comdg.

Chief of Party.

Season: April to October 1913.