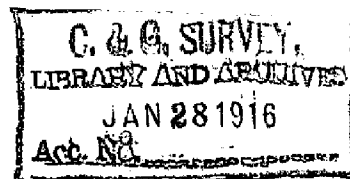




3551



Form 304

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

State: _____

11-5813

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Top Sheet No. *3551*

LOCALITY:

191

CHIEF OF PARTY:

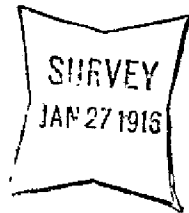
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Descriptive Report to accompany

Topographic Sheet 3551.

in the vicinity of Shakan Island, S. E. Alaska.



Limits and Extent of Sheet:- This sheet includes the shoreline of Kosciusko Island in the immediate vicinity of Shakan Island, S.E. Alaska, from the point at the south side of the entrance to Shakan Bay (in Lat. $66^{\circ}07.5'$, Long. $153^{\circ}37'$) to the point on the north side of the entrance to Shipley Bay, two miles distant. It also includes the offlying islands and reefs including Shakan Island and Station Island, which lie from one-quarter to one-half mile to the northwest of the northern point.

Mountains, streams, and islands:- The headlands at this point are low and inconspicuous. Most of the effect of height is due to the tall trees with which the country is covered. No attempt was made to draw contours. Because of the formation of the land hereby this being the end of a long narrow peninsula, there are no streams of any size. The rocks and islands are very numerous. On the north is Station Id., on which is located Station Island Light. The island is 110 meters in diameter, almost circular and about fifty feet high to the top of the highest ground. It is thickly wooded and the tops of the trees bring the total height to 150 feet.

A third of a mile to the west of Station Island is the so-called Shakan Island. On the original chart this was shown as a single large island. It was found to be an aggregation of six large rocks separated at high water. The five largest are grass covered and the small one, on which is located the triangulation station, has two medium sized trees and many very small seedlings just starting.

Between Shakan Island and the main shore is a chain of three wooded islands. The tops of the trees on these islands are about 100 feet above high water. To the east of this chain of islands the water is clear and deep, but along the western side it is foul. Several rocks rise 20 feet above high tide level and are covered with grass. Kelp is very heavy and undoubtedly there are many sunken rocks. Still further to the westward is another chain of rocks and kelp about three-quarters of a mile long. At all times between mean high and low water the smallest rock in this kelp patch, 200 meters north of an elongated rock, has the appearance of a sea-lion or walrus. At mean high water it is about six feet above the surface.

All the rocks are bare of vegetation as they receive the brunt of the seas coming into Sumner Straits. At low water during a swell of an only ordinary magnitude, there are breakers on the outer kelp reef one and a half miles southeast of Shakan Island.

The small island off the southern point is really a continuation of the point and it is only separated from it because of the erosion of the softer stratum of rock. It is low, level and bare. Heavy seas wash over it.

Bays, Channels and Anchorages:- The large bight to the south is unprotected and foul. The Arm stretching back from the northeast corner is entirely bare at low water. The other large arm which nearly joins it from the north is very shallow, almost drying at low water between the small rocks at the entrance.

It is safe at all tides for small vessels to pass up thru the channel between the islands south of Shakan Islands and the reef to the westward; and also between Shakan Island and the small kelp reef

to the north . The course taken by the cannery tenders running into Shakan Bay is shown on the sheet by a dotted line.

Between Station Island and the line of islands south of Shakan Island is a good anchorage for small craft. It is well protected with deep water free from obstructions. The entrance is quite narrow as it is but 100 meters between the kelp reefs just to the eastward of Shakan Island. In the outer end of the kelp patch making off from Station Island is a rock awash at low tide. The entrance channel has 10 fathoms of water and can be easily negotiated by a small steamer.

Methods of Survey:- The Plane table was set up at triangulation station Shakan and a line of orientation drawn to station Was. (Station Fly was not visible.) From here all points that could be seen were rodded in, including the end of the attached kelp patch. As it was raining, the readings were very short. The shoreline was rodded from stations on successive points and islands. The only check was that the orientation of the set up on the rocky island off the southern point was correct. The outer kelp reef was located by tangents at nearly right angles, from Shakan Island and from the southernmost point on the sheet. The direction to station Fly and the true north were put on with a protractor from triangulation data, using the direction to station Was as a base. No projection was made. The work was done on a scale of 1-20000.

The survey was made by Mr. P. S. Donnell.

L. O. Colburn.

Asst. C. & G. Survey,

Chief of Party.