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Form 504

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

State *S. E. Alaska*

11-5013

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Top Sheet No. **3691**

LOCALITY:

1917

CHIEF OF PARTY:

A. J. ...

Sheet

"C1"

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

E. Lester Jones, Superintendent.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

of

Topographic Survey 3691

Of Five Finger Islands

and vicinity.

Frederick Sound, S.E. Alaska.

Compiled by

George L. Bean, Aid

Oct. 24-25, 1917

WIRE DRAG PARTY No. 3

A. Joachims, Chief of Party.
***** *

Plane Table Survey of Five Finger Islands and Vicinity.

Sheet G S.E. Alaska.

Wire Drag Party No.3 September 1917. A.Joachims, Chief of Party.

Survey by George L.Bean, Aid.

Introductory notes.

This survey which was on a 20,000 scale, was started in September, and it was intended to first complete the Five Finger Islands after which as much work as practical would be done toward extending the shoreline north from Cleveland Passage on the east and the Brothers Islands on the west.

Weather conditions were very poor and the work accomplished was done under difficulties, since it was raining most of the time.

Limits of the sheet.

This sheet connects with sheet F at Mc Nairy Point on the east and continues north as far as Point Walpole and takes in a part of Robert Islands.

On the west it includes all of the Brothers Islands except a small portion on the west end of the large westernmost island, and about three miles of shoreline in the vicinity of False Point Pybus. The Five Finger group are also included.

Control of sheet.

The control of this sheet is based upon the triangulation stations Bill Point, Five Finger Light, Southwest, Chance and Pybus. The triangulation stations Sail, Blu, Wal, and Fort were plotted by triangulation cuts and were checked in the field by plane table cuts..

Due to the inability of getting a good three point fix, and previous to the location of triangulation station Blu and signal Mac by triangulation, a discrepancy of 100 meters in orientation was afterwards discovered in the shore line of the Brothers when the survey was tied onto triangulation station Chance. This work was swung into proper orientation after Blu and Mac were located and cuts were taken from triangulation station Chance..

Method.

In surveying the Five Finger Islands, at least one three point fix, and in most cases additional checks were gotten on each island and the remainder run by traversing.

Beginning at Mc Nairy Point on the eastern side of the sheet a three point fix was obtained and a traverse run north from here, being checked by a three point fix whenever possible. A three point fix was obtained at Wal and Fort.

The Brothers Islands were run principally by traversing since a three point fix was nearly impossible due to practically all of the reliable signals being off the table and almost in line. Triangulation station Chance was recovered and the traverse checked from here.

The shore line on Admiralty Island near False Point Pybus was surveyed at Triangulation station Pybus, and running a traverse north and south from this point.

Nature of shore line.

The shore line between Mc Nairy Point and Robert Islands is of a very ragged, broken nature. The rocks are composed principally of hard slate and granite, intermixed with small patches of quartz. A fine sand beach extends along the whole eastern side of Steamboat Bay. The tree line extends down almost to the high water line all the way except in places where the high water line is at the foot of high bluffs with a comparatively flat beach, strewn with large boulders and outcropping ledges.

The shores of the Five Finger Islands are very precipitous, composed of slate and granite cliffs and strewn with boulders. The Brothers Islands in most cases have steep shores composed of slate and granite ledges. In some of the bays small sand beaches are found. The tree line comes to the high water line practically all the way.

In the vicinity of False Point Pybus the shore line is cut up by small bays and peninsulas. In the bays are small sand beaches dotted by outcropping ledges and boulders. The stone is principally slate and granite. Small quantities of quartz were observed and in one place a large limestone cliff jutted out to the water's edge. Above False Point Pybus, about one-half mile on the side of an abrupt costal hill is a large landslide in the form of a figure 7.

Flora.

On the largest of the Five Finger Islands and the Brothers, the vegetation consists of fir trees with an undergrowth of berry bushes, ferns and grasses. Very few deciduous trees are found. The undergrowth is not so thick as generally found on the mainland.

and On the mainland and Admiralty Island the trees are mainly fir, yellow cedar, very few deciduous trees being found. A dense undergrowth of berry bushes and fernlike plants is generally encountered. Here and there a swampy meadow is found, covered with marsh grass and a few stunted trees. Flowers are often found along the shore. Devil's Club is a common nuisance.

General resources.

The waters covered by this sheet are very good fishing grounds. In the vicinity of Port Houghton and False Point Pybus large runs of salmon occur, while good halibut fishing is found northwest of the Brothers.

Although there are no large streams on the sheet, many small streams provide good water in abundance.

A large cliff near Point Pybus is of a very pure white and massive stone, perhaps marble, and appears to be of value because it is easily accessible..

Coast pilot.

To the north and a little to the west of the Five Finger Islands are three large rocks awash at half tide. These are marked on the sheet. Several bad rocks are located among these islands. Kelp

grows in abundance close to the shore and outlying rocks.

At Mc Nairy Point are two reefs extending about 150 meters off shore. They are awash at half tide and surrounded by kelp. Steamboat Bay is a good anchorage for small steamers and gas boats. A fine sand beach provides excellent opportunity to beach a small craft. East of Fort Point is a group of rocks awash at half tide. Kelp is found in large quantities. North of Robert Islands and Point Walpole are some outlying rocks most of which are awash at half tide. These rocks are marked by kelp patches.

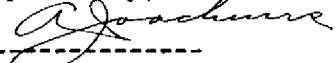
North and east of Chance Island are some offshore rocks and reefs of a dangerous character. Tide rips are strong in this locality. In the small bay west of the Brothers, inside the smallest island is a good anchorage for boats up to 100 tons. This anchorage is not good during a southeast storm as very little protection is afforded in that direction.

Some dangerous rocks and reefs are located off False Point Pybus. These are marked by kelp.

Conclusion.

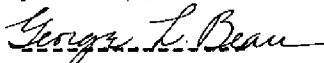
A small portion of the Brothers Islands, Sail Island, and a portion of Robert Islands had to be left unfinished, due to bad weather and the close of the season.

Approved by,



Junior Hyd. & Geodetic Engr.
Chief of Wire Drag Party No.3

Compiled by,



Aid, C. & G. Survey

STATIONS ON SHEET "G" 3691

Object	Latitude		D.M.	Longitude		D.P.
	°	'	meters	°	'	meters
Tree	57	20	1606	133	52	942
Mil	57	15	1601	133	30	541
Pi	57	15	1110	133	28	538
Cop	57	17	1663	133	28	239
Wal +	57	18	389	133	31	223
Fort+	57	16	1178	133	31	464
Blu+	57	17	1378	133	47	543
Sail+	57	20	793	133	42	75
Chance	57	16	5.3	133	52	332.2
Green	57	17	251	133	49	232
Mac	57	18	1417	133	49	345
Big	57	16	1305	133	50	972
Chance 2	57	16	242	133	52	257
Bean	57	18	496	133	42	179

+ Triangulation cut location, checked by plane table. G.P.s not computed.

STATISTICS

Miles of shore line - 36

Area - 0

Miles of creeks - 0

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

Wire Drag Party No. 3

TOPOGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

Sheet No. "G"

The finished Topographic Sheet is to be accompanied by the following title sheet, filled in as completely as possible, when the sheet is forwarded to the Office.

U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Register No. **3691**

State . . . **SE Alaska**
General locality . . **Vivinity of Five Finger Group of Islands**
Locality **Cape Fanshaw to The Brothers**
Chief of party . . . **A. Joschims**
Surveyed by **George L. Bean.**
Date of survey . . . **September.**
Scale **1/20,000**
Heights in feet above **Mean high water mark**
Contour interval **100** . . feet.
Inked by **G.L.B.** . . . Lettered by **G.L.B.**
Records accompanying sheet (check those forwarded): Photographs,
Descriptive report, Horizontal angle books, Field computations,
Data from other sources affecting sheet

Remarks:

Descriptive report forwarded on separate mail