

4034

Form 504

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

State: Alaska.

11-5613

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. K-1 4034

LOCALITY:

S.W. Alaska

Cook Inlet

Kachemak Bay-Ent. to Halibut Cove

XXXX
1923

CHIEF OF PARTY:

H.A. Seran, H.&G. Eng.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

(To accompany Topographic Sheet No. K-1, Kachemak Bay)

1. Limits & Connections.

This sheet covers the area between the following limits:

Lat. 59-29 Lat. 59-41 Lat. 59-33 Lat. 59-45
Long.151-22 ; Long.151-37; Long.151-09; Long.151-24,

on scale 1:20,000, and comprises the first of three sheets covering Kachemak Bay. Connections were made to previous surveys, shown on Topographic Sheet No. 3106 and the approximate location of signal Clear on Topographic Sheet No. 3108, in execution of Instructions dated February 21, 1923.

2. General Characteristics.

The shore line on the south side is generally rocky, except in the vicinity of Spit, where there are ~~sandy~~ gravel-bars, and at low water a large mud-flat. The land is heavily wooded, up to an elevation of about 1500 ft., whence it thins out to grass, up to about 1800 ft., and then is generally bare. The highest peak is 4315 ft. high (which comes off the sheet) and cuts are shown thereto at the southern end of the sheet, called snow pinnacle.

The north shore is practically a continuous rocky bluff, which is continually weathering off, leaving rocks along the water line, several of which are as much as $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from the high water mark, and all are covered at high water. There is only one ridge which runs parallel to the shore, the height of which is between 1400 and 1500 ft. The land is sparsely wooded, and is well covered with grass. From Peat, eastward to the end of the sheet there is an occasional coal outcrop.

3. Currents.

The most marked current is noticeable at the entrance to "The Lagoon" in Halibut Cove (referred to later) which is due to the narrow channel that the water has to pass through. This current is entirely tidal, and flood and ebb run about 2 hours after high and low water respectively. This passage can only be used by small boats at present, and whenever used a favorable tide is waited for either in entering or leaving.

4. Anchorages.

Good anchorages are available at either Halibut Cove, Coal Bay or the cove immediately east of China Poot Bay. The bottom at these places is soft and makes very good holding ground. Conditions which cause rough sea in Cook Inlet don't seem to have as much effect in Kachemak Bay and the water is always comparatively calm, although Halibut Cove has more protection due to the ridges in the immediate vicinity.

5. Survey Methods.

The main shore line in the Bay was run by occupying either a previously located station or from positions determined by three point fixes. The shore line in the coves as China Poot Bay, the cove immediately east of same and the cove at the southwest end of Halibut Cove (generally referred to as The Lagoon in the vicinity) were run by magnetic traverses. A traverse was run from a Ring to A Lof and as the discrepancy was practically negligible it was thrown into the last length.

6. Form Lines.

No form lines are shown on Homer Spit, as the land is practically level and the highest point is about 15 ft. above mean sea level.

Form lines are also omitted between latitudes 59-32 to 34 and longitudes 151-13 to 15, as commanding views could not be obtained of this section.

7. Industries.

There is a small settlement on the inside passage between Halibut Cove and Kachemak Bay, situated on Ismailof Island, whose chief occupation is fishing. There are a few canneries in this vicinity, and the main fish are herring. Shell fish are also canned as a side product.

Topographic Sheet No. 3108 shows a railroad on Homer Spit, which was chiefly used to transport coal from a mine located on Cook Inlet. This railroad has been torn up, but several of the buildings belonging to the company that operated the railroad are still at the end of the Spit, although they are not occupied.

A little coal is mined at the outlet of Fritz Creek, but this is probably only for local consumption at the present time.

8. Game.

The local game consists of moose, sheep and duck.

9. Weather Conditions.

Freezing weather prevails from the early part of October through the middle of March. The Bay, however, doesn't freeze over, although thin cakes of ice may be seen floating around, which are formed from the fresh water streams entering the Bay at low water on the north shore.

The Spring and Summer are mild enough that crops may be raised. There is very little rain between April and June, as the rainy season starts about the middle of July and lasts through September.

10. New Place Names.

China Poot Bay is named after an Indian who dwelled in the cove for many years. The settlers around the vicinity always refer to it as China Pot Bay. The cove immediately to the east of China Poot Bay has no local name.

Approved and forwarded:

H.A. Seran, H.&G. Eng.

Respectfully submitted,

J.M. Smook,
J.M. Smook,
Jr. H.&G. Eng.

To accompany Topographic Sheet No. K-1, Kachemak Bay

Following is a list of plane table positions:

Object & Description	Lat.	D.M. meters	Long.	D.P. meters	Approx. Height	Remarks
Pinnacle Rock (o Pin)	59 35	1634	151 15	5	15 ft.	Top
Highest pt. rock ledge (o Jo)	59 35	243	151 16	915	25 ft.	Whitewash. Is an island at high water
Smoke shed, east end. (o Shed)	59 34	371	151 19	165	20 ft.	Top
South gable, Harrington's house (o Har)	59 37	382	151 28	206	----	Top
South gable, wharf (o Doc)	59 35	919	151 13	791	25 ft.	Top.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

WASHINGTON

November 17, 1923.

SECTION OF FIELD RECORDS

Report on Topographic Sheet No. 4034

Kachemak Bay, Alaska

Surveyed in 1923

Instructions dated February 21, 1923

Chief of Party, H. A. Seran.

Surveyed and inked by J. M. Smook.

1. The records conform to the requirements of the General Instructions.
2. The plan and extent of the survey fulfill the requirements of the General Instructions and satisfy the specific instructions.
3. The field drafting was completed to the extent prescribed by the General Instructions.
4. The junctions with the adjoining sheets are satisfactory.
5. The descriptive report states that there are rocks awash one-half mile offshore, but they are not shown on the sheet.
6. There are two areas in the southern part of the sheet where the form lines are lacking. The omissions are not important.
7. No further surveying is required within the area covered by the sheet, except that if opportunity offers in the future the deficient form lines may be supplied.
8. The character and scope of the surveying and field drafting are excellent.
9. Reviewed by E. P. Ellis, November, 1923.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

TOPOGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

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. 4034 *KI*

State . . . Alaska

General locality S.W. Alaska
Cook Inlet

Locality Kachemak Bay - Entrance to Halibut Cove

Chief of party . . . H.A. Seran

Surveyed by J.M. Smook

Date of survey . . . June 1923

Scale 1:20,000

Heights in feet above ^{*1426*} Mean Sea-level

Contour interval . 100 . feet

Inked by J.M. Smook . . . Lettered by J.M. Smook

Records accompanying sheet (check those forwarded): Photographs,

Descriptive report, Horizontal angle books, Field computations,

Data from other sources affecting sheet

Connections to Topographic Sheet No. 3106
" " " 3108

Remarks: