<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>LOCALITY</strong></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>Alaska</td>
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<tr>
<td>General locality</td>
<td>Northern</td>
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<tr>
<td>Locality</td>
<td>Line Being Sea</td>
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</table>

**Type of Survey:** Topographic

**Field No.:** Office No. 2515

**DATE:**

**CHIEF OF PARTY:**

**LIBRARY & ARCHIVES:**
U. S. COAST & GEODETIC SURVEY,
DR. HENRY S. PRITCHETT, SUPERINTENDENT.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT
OF THE
TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET, SCALE 1/40,000.

EMBRACING
THE
SHORE LINE AND CONTIGUOUS TOPOGRAPHY
FROM
ROCKY CAPE TO TOPKOK HEAD, INCLUSIVE.

NORTHERN SHORES
OF
BERING SEA,
ALASKA.

BY THE PARTY UNDER CHARGE OF J. F. PRATT, ASSISTANT.
JULY- 1900.

TOPOGRAPHY BY R. L. FARIS AND J. F. PRATT, ASSISTANTS.
TOPOGRAPHY ROCKY CAPE TO TOPKOK HEAD, INCLUSIVE.

SCALE, 1/40,000 DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

PLANE TABLE SURVEY BY R. L. FARIS AND J. F. PRATT,
ASSISTANTS.

JULY- 1900.

The first portion of the season of 1900 was an unusually dry
one, consequently the tundra became very much like and as
inflammable as dry punk. The entire country was overrun with
mining prospectors, whose camp fires spread to the tundra, so that
the entire stretch from Golofnin Bay to Nome City was enveloped most
of the time, for about five weeks, in the dense smoke from the
smouldering tundra.

In starting the season's work it was expected that the
triangulation would keep ahead of the topography and hydrography,
so that the positions of the signals could be computed and plotted
on sheets with projections in advance, but the tundra smoke made
this an impossibility, so that in order to keep the work progressing
as rapidly as the weather would permit, it became necessary to
execute the topography by forward telemeter distances on rough
field sheets, which naturally became exaggerated in scale, at the
same time determining topographically the triangulation signals.

Then after the triangulation had been computed and the points
plotted on the projections to transfer the work from the field
sheets, adjusting it at the same time, by making the work conform to the triangulation points common to both. This entails a very large amount of additional work, which should be taken into consideration.

Rocky Point is a high, bold promontory, about 500 feet high. Its seaward face is largely composed of irregular, rocky cliffs; while its summit and the high, back ridge is covered with tundra.

The yellow, high bluffs on the East side of Bluff City are conspicuous landmarks.

Tapkok Head, whose seaward face is composed of dark appearing rock, is the first landmark East of Cape Nome and is well known and very conspicuous.

Well back, on the tributary gulches of Tapkok River, in reality, a small creek, good placer prospects have been found, but no development has, as yet, been done.

During the busiest portion of the season, Bluff city, a canvas town, with only, at the time of the survey, three wooden buildings, had a population of something more than 300 souls. The limited, in area, beach diggings at this place were very rich, yielding about $750,000 in sixty days. On account of the extremely dry season, as there was no water in the creeks, only beach mining was done during the season.

There was also some beach mining between Square Rock and Seukuk.

The winter trail between St. Michael and Nome, after passing over the high promontory on the East side of Golofnin Bay, passes Chignick, or Dexter’s, then up and across Golofnin Sound to abreast
the native settlement "Seukuk", to which place it comes through a very low pass.

Where not indicated by either rock, bluff or water, all the country on the sheet is covered by tundra.

The contours are at intervals of every fifty feet.

Assistant C.& G. Survey,

Chief of Party.