

2902

Department of Commerce and Labor
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

O. H. Tittmann
Superintendent.

State: *Washington*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. *2902*

LOCALITY:

Commencement Bay-
Northeast shore

1909

CHIEF OF PARTY:

R. B. Lurickson

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Descriptive Report to accompany

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Topographic Sheet of North shore of Commencement Bay.

The coast line east and north east of Brown Point is regular and concave for $3/4$ of a mile, and has a broad even shingle beach below the extreme high water line. At the point about $3/4$ of a mile north of Browns Point, there is a bluff about 140 feet high which ends abruptly to the northward, and to the southward it decreases gradually in height to about 10 feet, at a point $1/4$ of a mile N. of the village of Caledonia. From this point to Browns Point, this small bluff extends broken only in one or two places.

The village of Caledonia is a small summer resort, consisting of four houses, several barns and outhouses, one dance hall and a general store. A small wharf runs out normal to the shore, which is used by local steamers for suburban traffic. From the end of this wharf a wagon road extends back inland; there are three fields enclosed by fences, on the side of this road, which has been cleared of timber and stumps, but no other signs of cultivation exist. Two of the houses are in plain view from the water; they are frame buildings, painted white, the other buildings are unpainted. At the inner end of the wharf there is a flagstaff about 60 feet high. Between Brown's Point and Caledonia there are several shacks not painted.

At Browns Point there is a small flat shingle spit upon which the Light House is built, just above the high water line.

the spit extends about 150 meters S. and 100 meters E. of the light House. The Light House is a square structure about 10 by 15 feet long and 15 feet high. On the sand spit at high water line about 25 meters E. of the light, is a flagstaff about 70 feet high. Another small structure about 10 feet square and 18 feet high, stands about 25 meters S. of light. Back of the Light House the ground slopes up gradually, the shingle beach bordering on a grassy land with sparse growth of small trees. The residence of the light house keeper is situated on this grassy slope, it is a frame structure surrounded by a fence. A boat house with small railway for launching, stands about 100 meters east of the Light. About 150 meters south of light, there is a float secured by piles used for small boat landing.

The coast from Brown's Point runs about due south for about 500 meters and then curves regularly through 90° , it consists of a shingle beach below high water line and bluff varying from 20 to 60 feet high above. East of this rounded point there is a slight concavity in the shoreline where the bluff discontinues, and the ground slopes up gradually from the shore. From this place a line to Caledonia marks the inshore boundary of land on Point Brown, from which nearly all the timber has been cut, ^{AND} excepting for a few small fields it is as yet uncleared of stumps. The cleared land has an elevation not exceeding 80 feet, and has been plotted into lots for suburban homes. At signal "First" there is a steep bluff about 180 feet high, it ends about 200 meters E. of the

signal.

The principal improvements on the N. shore of the Bay is the Gawley Lumber Mill. The buildings of the mill are frame and are whitewashed. Over the engine room are two tall stacks, one about ten feet taller than the other, whose position have been marked on the sheet. The wharf is quite new and in good condition, dolphins for coralling logs extend either side of it. There is another small wharf inshore in line with the eastern edge of the large wharf.

At signal "Bot" is a small boat house, and on the side of the hill above it, stands a residence and some sheds fenced in, the fence enclosing a small area of cultivated land on the side of the hill. The house which is painted white, is plainly visible from the opposite shore. About due W. of "Bot" and $1/4$ of a mile offshore a mooring buoy is anchored in about 4 fathoms. This buoy is made of two stout logs firmly secured to each other and to the cable. It is used by lumber vessels which load at the mills on this side of the bay. It was cut in from the shore by plane table at slack tide, the cuts intersecting well. The mud flats bare at low water, extend out half way from the shore to the buoy, according to local information. At the mouth of Hylebos Creek, there is a large collection of piles for coralling logs, as shown on the sheet, these piles are owned by the lumber mills which operate on Hylebos Creek. The corner piles have been roded in by telemeter, the other piles sketched. The channel of the creek lies between the piles and the shore, being quite narrow in places and winding about

shoals which bare at low water. The houses shown just outside the high water line, abreast of the lower chain of piles, are all built on rafts which are afloat at high water, and which rest on the banks at other stages of the tide, they are securely moored and used as residences by fishermen.

The outer line of marsh land was obtained by taking sextant angles between located signals on shore at bends and points, moving from place to place in a skiff. A long trestle road for wagons crosses the marsh lands to the Raze Lumber Mill and the Hague Lumber Mill. It is built on piling, and the surface is planked and designed to carry heavy trucking. The ~~railroad~~^{roadway} is elevated about 6 feet above the marsh, and has a hand rail on either side. This trestle crosses the N. arm of Hylebos Creek on a draw bridge, which is turned about its center by hand power, applied to a windlass on the center of the bridge. Approaching the bridge the roadway is elevated to a height of twenty feet above the marsh. At the N. end of the marsh land the road turns to the eastward and continues on fast land along the shore. A telegraph line crosses the marsh close to the trestle.

The Raze Lumber Company has a mill and box factory on the S. arm of Hylebos Creek, just at the fork and W. of the trestle. The main buildings and storerooms although not new are in good condition. There are two tall chimneys over the engine room, the taller being cut in and used as signal "Raze" on the sheet. The ground around the mill has been filled in to a level with the trestle, with waste lumber. At the N. corner of the mill

there is a wharf for light draft vessels and barges.

The Hague Lumber Co. has its mill and box factory on the N. arm of Hylebos Creek and E. of the trestle. A wharf runs out to the creek, W. of the mill. To the Eastward of the trestle, no other improvements have been made within the limits of this sheet.

The work was started without having any projection or triangulation points on the sheet. An assumed position was taken as an initial point, and a base was measured on the N. shore of Commencement Bay, E. of signal "First". 500 meters was measured by tape and signals on the opposite shore cut in on the sheet. From the ends of the base a traverse was run from signal "First" to Browns Point. A signal was recovered on the marsh, still standing, which appears to mark the Coast Survey triangulation station "Slough" and was so called on the sheet. The cuts to the City Hall tower, School House flagstaff, St. Lukes Church, and the Court House are acute. Cuts were taken to the Smelter Chimney, but owing to the distance, they are of little use. The contours were sketched in without obtaining elevations, and are approximate, They have not been inked in on the sheet.

F. G. Engle

Aid, C. & G. Survey,

Topographer.

Approved,

R. B. Anderson

Chief of Party, C. & G. Survey.

Plane-table Positions

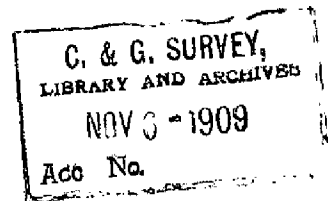
Object and Description	Lat.	D.M.	Long.	D.R.	Height	Remarks
Court house Tower						
Chimney						
High School Flagstaff						
Chimney, Raze Lumber Co						This is the taller + larger of two black chimneys of mill
Chimney, The Gawley Mill						This is the taller + larger of two black chimneys of the Gawley Mill
Flagstaff, Brown Pt. Lt.						The flagstaff is a few meters N.E. of light.
Flagstaff Caledonia Wharf						The flagstaff is at inner end of a long narrow wharf at small village of Caledonia.

(Copy)

2402

Seattle, Wash.

October 30, 1909.



To the Superintendent,

Coast and Geodetic Survey,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:-

In reply to your letter of October 23rd, in regard to the list of plane table positions on the two sheets of Commencement Bay, I have to report that no lists were submitted as the survey shown was a revision of previous work and I presumed the prominent points had previously been submitted with the original sheets.

Very Respectfully,

R. B. Derickson,

Asst., Comdg.