Department of Commerce and Labor
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

O.H. Fittman
Superintendent.

State: Wash.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Locality:

United States and Canada Boundary Survey, Strait of Juan de Fuca, Angeles Oil Boundary Ref. Monument

1909

Chief of Party:

Fremont Moore

According to the terms of the protocol of March 10th, 1873, one of the turning points of the water boundary between the United States and Canada in the Strait of Fuca is midway between the lighthouse on Race Island (Race Rocks) and Angeles Point (Angeles Pt.) and hence a Reference Monument was established on Angeles Pt. and connected with the triangulation of the Strait. The topographic sheet to which this report refers was surveyed in August, 1909, for the purpose of showing the surroundings of the monument, and in particular the high water line of the point, as the intersection of this line by a line drawn from the monument to Race Rock L.H. will help determine the point midway of the Strait where the Boundary Line changes its direction.

Angeles Pt. is at the mouth of the Elwha River, and has been apparently built up by the opposing action of the river and the waves and currents of the Strait of Fuca. The land in the vicinity is low, and back from the point consists of alluvial wash from the river. It is a rich soil, light and easily worked, and bearing fine crops. The point itself is made up of a narrow raised beach of cobble and larger water worn rocks, and sand. Inside of this beach, in front of the monument, is a slough of practically still water which drains to the Westward into the Elwha. Its waters are clear and fresh. The river itself is a bright sparkling stream of
clear water with a swift current. It is not confined to one channel but meanders through its delta to its mouth in several branches, which, however, all unite at one outlet. A gravel spit has formed outside the mouth of the river and this turns the river current to the Eastward. This spit breaks the swell of the Strait in such a way that it is sometimes possible to enter the mouth of the river with a boat or canoe, without running the breakers which would make a landing on the beach hazardous. In smooth weather there is no difficulty in landing with a skiff on the beach at the point, but when a strong West wind is blowing and a Westerly swell is running in the Strait there is a heavy surf on the point, and in fact all along the shore line.

The monument stands on a little tongue of land inside of the slough above mentioned and between it and a marshy swale that opens into it. The ground is slightly elevated above the surrounding surface. The few fir trees back from the monument are the only conifers in the immediate neighborhood, and will serve to indicate the general location to one approaching either from the Strait side by boat, or from the land side.

The site of the monument can be reached from Puget Sound by taking steamer to Port Angeles. From there the farm house of Mr. Hjorth can be reached by team, after a drive of about eight miles. Mr. Hjorth owns the ground upon which the monument stands.

Fremont More,
Assistant, C.& G.Survey,
Chief of Party, U.S.& C.B.S.