Form 304
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

State: S.E. Alaska

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Locality:
Prince of Wales Island - E. Coast

Adams Point

Skin Island

Original
1981

Chief of Party:
J.H. Hawley
The topography on this sheet was executed under orders dated Feb. 11, 1921.

LIMITS: The southern limit of the topography is triangulation station Nest, on Adams Pt. From here the finished topography is continuous to the northward along the East coast of the Prince of Wales Island, including Port Johnson, Wedge Island and all bays and offlying islands, to a point at the South entrance of Cholmondeley Sound, 2 miles west of Chasina Pt. The topography of Skin Island is included on this sheet and about a mile of shoreline at the N. Entrance to Cholmondeley Sound. All mountains visible from the beach were located and form lines cover a large area back from the shore.

CONTROL: The control on this sheet was furnished by triangulation stations Nest, Wedge, Dol, Hal, Chasina S., Chasina N., Skin and Clover. Several re-sections were used in Port Johnson and a few three point fixes used in different places; but the control was carried, as a whole, by traverse.

METHOD: A 1:20,000 scale was used. The topography was commenced at triangulation station Nest, table oriented on triangulation stations Sun, Moira Rk. and Dall, by lines drawn on sheet. From here a traverse was run around N. side of Adams Pt. and across the islands in Port Johnson. Then a whitewash (hydrographic station Hee) was made on one of the offlying islands between Wedge Island and Prince of Wales Island; at triangulation station Wedge a cut taken to hydrographic station Hee and the Wedge Isl. were traversed. The table was set up at hydrographic station Hee oriented by means of cut from triangulation station Wedge and a re-section taken on triangulation station Nest, giving a strong location of hydrographic station Hee. Fromhere a traverse was carried to hydrographic station Bus, north of Dutch Harbor and joined in with the triangulation station Nest traverse, an error of 14 meters, distance 6 miles. From hydrographic station Hee a traverse was carried to triangulation station Dol with a closing error of 28 meters, distance 4½1/2 miles. From triangulation station Dol to station Hal a traverse was run with error of 20 meters in 2-1/2 miles of distance. From triangulation station Hal to station Chasina S. a traverse of 2-1/2 miles, closing error 17 meters. Triangulation stations Chasina S. to Chasina N.
a traverse of 2 miles, closing error 10 meters. From triangulation station Chasina N. a traverse was carried around Chasina Pt. Short sights were necessary to get around but triangulation Skin was always visible and table was oriented on it. During this traverse hydrographic stations Sec, Ley and Mat, were located. This traverse was concluded 1/2 mile west of hydrographic station Chom. The table was set up at hydrographic station Sec and a traverse run around Skin In to triangulation Skin closing by 12 meters. The shoreline from hydrographic station Mat to hydrographic station Ley was traversed from hydrographic station Mat as a starting point. Cuts to the light on Hump Island, Cholmondeley Sound, were taken at hydrographic station Chom and hyd. station Ley, giving a weak location of the light.

Elevations of all mountains visible from the shore were taken during the course of the topography and form lines drawn in as elevations were determined. Elevations were taken to tops of trees and referred to mean sea level. Signals for control of hydrography were established.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION: The entire coast line is rocky and for the greater part there are ledges extending offshore. From Wedge Island to Windy Pt. there are dangerous ledges extending for a 1/4 to 1/3 mile offshore, some covered at high water. From Windy Pt. to Skin Island the ledges do not extend for more than 100 meters offshore. The land is thickly wooded and slopes gently for 1/4 mile back of shore then rises quickly in most places to elevations rarely exceeding 1200 feet. From Wedge Islands to Chasina Pt. there is a ridge of mountains about 1000 feet high 3/4 mile back of the shoreline.

All bearings are given as true; distance in nautical miles.

Adams Pt. lying between Moira Sound and Port Johnson is a round point rising to an elevation of 1210 feet in a distance one mile from the pt. On the north side of the point there is a hummock 550 feet high 1/3 mile from shore. This hummock shows plainly when approaching the pt. from the Southeast. There is a small rocky islet (Lita ga) (triangulation station West) about 100 meters off the W. E. end of point. This islet is connected with the shore at low water. Moderate tide rips occur off Adams E Pt. during ebb tide and S. E. ly winds.

Port Johnson, on the north side of Adams Pt. extends 4 miles inland from Adams Pt. For a mile inside the point
it is a wide bay and then narrows very appreciably. For about 2-1/2 miles from the head the bay varies in width from 200 meters to 1/2 mile. The shoreline is rocky and abrupt and the sides rise quickly to elevations of 1500 feet. At the head of the bay there is a divide and a trail about 1/4 mile long probably not higher than 400 feet, leading to the North Arm of Moira Sound. The north side of the wide entrance to Port Johnson, vicinity of French and Dutch Harbors is interspersed with islands, reefs and rocks and is dangerous for 1/2 mile offshore of main land.

Dolomi Bay is on the North side of Port Johnson 2 miles west of Adams Pt. and is a bottle-neck bay 1/2 mile long, 120 meters wide at the narrowest part. In Dolomi Bay is the gold mining camp of Dolomi. There is a P.O. with mail service weekly, at present; a store and a few dwelling houses. The majority of houses are ruins as the mines have not been worked since 1916. The population at present consists of about 20, all whites. There is one wharf, at the head of the bay and a grid iron alongside. The wharf has depths from 6 - 10 feet at high water, and goes dry at low water. Fishing boats anchor in the bay eastward of midchannel in about 5 fathoms. The bay is landlocked but williwaws are said to be violent in S.E.'ly weather. Launches may obtain fresh water from the creek in Dolomi Bay.

The Dolomi Mines are 2 miles N.W. from the town and are on the N. shore of Paul Lake. There is a tramway leading up to the mines.

French and (Dutch) Harbors are locally known small boat anchorages behind the outlying islands at the N. entrance to Port Johnson. They do not furnish protected anchorage and their approach is rocky.

Wedge Islands are a group of low islands and rocks lying 2 miles, 20° (true) from Adams Pt. and on the north side of the entrance to Port Johnson. The highest point on any of the islands is 190 feet to the tops of trees. Rocks, bare and submerged extend for 1/2 mile from S. around to S.W. off the southern shores of the big island.

The shoreline from Wedge Islands to Windy Pt. has rocky ledges extending offshore 1/4 mile for half the distance. From Windy Pt. to Chasina Pt. the shore line is less treacherous. There are no prominent bays or points.

Windy Pt. is a local name for a neck of land between two small bays 4 miles south of Chasina Pt.
Chasina Pt. at the South entrance to Cholmondeley Sound is a wooded, low, rounded Pt. 8 miles, 350° (true) from Wedge Islands. There are no prominent features rendering this point easily distinguishable. One mile inside (S.W.) of Chasina Pt. in Cholmondeley Sound lies Chasina Anchorage. This anchorage affords protection from S.E.'ly only.

Chasina Island is a low, wooded islet, 300 meters long 200 meters wide lying 3/4 mile, 240° (true) from Chasina Pt. It is about 200 meters offshore - the passage is foul. On the S.E.'ly end of the island are several small islets. Chasina Anchorage lies close to the S.W. of the island.

Skin Island is a low, wooded island, 3/4 mile long and about 1/2 mile wide, lying 2 miles, 300° (true) from Chasina Pt. and 1/2 mile offshore. There is a reef bare at 1/2 tide extending 200 meters off the S.W. end of the island. Reef extends toward nearest point on Prince of Wales Island to the S.W. There is an unattended light on the N.E. shore of Skin Island. In general the shoreline of the island is abrupt and most places precipitous. On the S.W. end of the island there are several islets, connected at L.W.

DANGERS TO NAVIGATION:

The following are the dangers which are bare at some stage of the tide.

There is a detached ledge extending about 1/4 mile offshore, a mile inside, 340° (true) from Adams Pt. The ledge bares at 1/2 tide and is marked around its edges by kelp in the summer months. Small boats pass between the ledge and shore.

The reef extending S. of Wedge Islands as previously described.

The entire shoreline from Wedge Islands to Windy Pt. should not be approached closer than 1/4 mile unless by aid of local knowledge.

The reef, as described off S. end off Skin Island.

The passage to the northward of Wedge Islands, between Wedge Islands and Prince of Wales Island is considered foul. The passage to the southward of Wedge Islands is most used.

AIDS TO NAVIGATION:
Skin Island Lt. Lat. 55° 18' 65 m. L. 132° 04' 308m.
Hump Island Lt., Cholmondeley Sd. (location weak)
Lat. 55° 13' 1273 m.  Long. 132° 07' 117 m.

LANDMARKS: The high mountain at the head of Paul Lake is quite prominent. The summit is covered with grass, and the slopes are uniform on each side. It is not often clouded. Elevation 2280 feet.
Lat. 55° 09' 500 m.  Long. 132° 07' 150 m.

NAMES:
Well known local names.
- Paul Lake and Beauty Creek are well known local names for the lake in back of Dolomi and the creek emptying the lake.
- French and Dutch Harbors are local names for the harbors outside Port Johnson.
- Windy Pt. is a local name for the point 4 miles S. of Chasina Pt.

Names Assigned by Topographer.
- Dolomi Bay is the name assigned by the topographer for the arm on the N. shore of Port Johnson. Dolomi P.O. is in the head of the bay.

REMARKS: The traffic along this coast is confined mostly to fishing boats and cannery tenders. When the Dolomi Mines were in operation the large Alaska Freighters and passenger boats called in at Dolomi occasionally. If the mines at Dolomi are operated again the large steamers will probably resume their service.

Paul Lake was scaled off from the latest published chart of this area. Beauty Creek and the tramway were drawn in by the topographer by memory.

Approved,

J. H. HAWLEY,
H. & G. E.,
Chief of Party.

Respectfully Submitted,

E. F. LEWIS,
Jr. H. & G. E.
SECTION OF FIELD RECORDS

Report on Topographic Sheet No. 3856.

Surveyed in 1921.

Instructions dated Feb. 11, 1921.

Chief of Party, J. H. Hawley.

Surveyed by E. F. Lewis.

Inked by E. F. Lewis.

1. The records conform to the requirements of the General Instructions, the descriptive report being unusually complete.

2. The plan and character of the survey fulfill the requirements of the General Instructions except that there are only about one-half as many determined elevations as directed.

3. The plan and extent of the work satisfy the specific instructions.

4. The junctions with adjacent sheets are satisfactory.

5. The field drafting was completed to the extent prescribed in the General Instructions.

6. No further surveying is required within the limits of the sheet.

7. The character of the survey of the shoreline details is good. That of the relief and interior details may be considered a reconnaissance sufficient for present needs.

8. The field drafting is good.

Reviewed by E. P. Ellis, November, 1922.
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. 2856

State: S.E. Alaska

General Locality: Clarence, Str., East. Coast, Prince of Wales Isl.

Locality: Adams Point to Ski Island

Chief of Party: J.H. Hawley

Surveyed by: E.F. Lewis

Date of Survey: June and September/1921

Scale: 1:20,000

Heights in feet above Mean sea level.

Contour interval: 100 feet

Inked by: E.F. Lewis. Lettered by: E.F. Lewis

Records accompanying sheet (check those forwarded): Photographs, Descriptive Report, Horizontal-angle Books, Field Computations, Description of Station

Data from other sources affecting sheet

Triangulation of 1912 and 1921

Remarks: