DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

State: Alaska

DESCRIPITIVE REPORT

Topo. Sheet No. 4145 G

LOCALITY:
Alaska Pen.
King: Cove

1925

CHIEF OF PARTY:
R.F. Luce
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

KING'S COVE

To accompany Topo. sheet G-1:10,000

Survey made under Directors orders, March 20, 1925.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Starting at triangulation signal King and extending east and north
to signal Hit the beach is backed by a broken vertical rock bluff averaging
thirty feet in height, except in the vicinity of signal Hit, where it falls
away to the high water line.

Running parallel to and sloping steeply back from the bluff is a
high sharp ridge, the lower portion is grass covered with an occasional clump
of alders, the upper a bare slide of splintered volcanic rock.

The area between the high and low water line is a jumble of water-
worn boulders and rough blocks of rock with occasional patches of coarse gravel.
The soil area extends a considerable distance beyond the low water line
and is definitely marked by kelp.

The section from signal Hit to signal Fin is a low gravel and shingle
spit covered with coarse marsh grass and extending only a few feet above
high water.

The narrow point of land on which the cannery buildings are located
is very flat and has an average elevation of ten feet above high water.
It has a thin coating of soil on a gravel foundation and is covered with
coarse grass.

The beach from the cannery to the cove along the east side of the
cove is composed of coarse gravel with occasional patches of bowlders and a
thin fringe of kelp, a few meters beyond the low water line. The high
water line is marked by a ten foot eroded bank sloping back to a grass and
alder covered ridge extending parallel to the beach and ending at the
stream bed near hydro. signal Fish.

The stream is marked by a narrow flat grassy vally extending back
normal to the beach line.

From signal Log extending as far as signal Bloc the high water
line is marked by a low earth bank, generally vegetated, except in a
few spots where there are short stretches of rock bluff.

Except in the vicinity of signal Lone where there is a stretch
of fine sand beach, the general characteristics of the high to low water
area are the same as the section further north and the entire stretch is
marked by intermittent beds of kelp close inshore.

THE LAGOON

Beginning at signal Fin the character of the beach line along the
western side, around the northern end, and as far down the eastern shore
as signal Rain, is very uniform. The high water line is definitely marked
by vegetation. The high to low water area is a mixture of sand and very coarse
gravel.
From signal Rain to signal Wind a steep rocky mountain slope extends directly down to the high water line. It is unvegetated except for small patches of grass and alder on the lower slopes. The high to low water area is composed mostly of splintered fragments of rock from the slope above.

The beach on the north side of the cannery peninsula is of sand and gravel and is very flat.

The boundaries of the four gravel banks shown between the outer and inner lagoon were carefully rodded in with a plane table at the time of the lowest low water in July.

The blue line on the sheet marks the only channel to the inner lagoon.

OUTLYING DANGERS

None

CURRENTS

The only points where the current is of particular importance are along the blue channel line. The current is purely tidal. During either direction of the flow boats entering or leaving the outer lagoon should hug closely the point marked by signal Fin.

It is inadvisable to attempt the passage to the inner lagoon even with small launches except at high water slack because of the shallow and restricted channel and the cross currents due to the bars. The maximum current is found at signal Fin and is as great as five knots during spring tides. The period of slack water is approximately thirty minutes and in the inner channel lags the tide by approximately the same time.

LANDMARKS

The only distinctive landmark, with the exception of the cannery buildings, near the cove is a 700 ft. peak at the extremity of Morgan Point. This peak is especially notable from the westward because of its regular cone formation and a mushroom shaped rock cap at the top. There is a single black stack at the main cannery building and two radio poles, one marked by station Radio.

INSHORE DANGERS

Morgan Point as far north as signal Sea is marked by off lying patches of boulders which are awash at low water and plainly marked by kelp. They are too close inshore however to be considered a menace to navigation.

ANCHORAGES

See hydrographic sheet report.

SURVEY METHODS

Plane table traverse with tertiary order triangulation control. The maximum error of closure at any triangulation station was 6 meters. This error was always proportionately distributed between the last two control stations.
WELL ESTABLISHED LOCAL NAMES

MORGAN POINT; The rocky point at the western entrance of the cove.
HEART LAKE; The fresh water lake near station Radio.

Sheet inspected by Commanding Officer on July 31, 1925
Approved Oct. 23, 1925.
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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. 4145 G

State . . . Alaska

General locality . . Alaska Peninsula

Locality . . King Cove

Chief of party . . R. F. Luce

Surveyed by . . S. B. Greenell

Date of survey . . July 16-25, 1925

Scale . . 1:10,000

Heights in feet above . .

Contour interval . . feet.


Records accompanying sheet (check those forwarded): Photographs, Descriptive report, Horizontal angle books, Field computations, Data from other sources affecting sheet . .

Remarks: approved Oct. 23, 1925

RF Rice

County . . St. Pioneer