DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

State: Alaska

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT
Topographic | Sheet No. 4370

Locality
Kenai Peninsula
Day Harbor - North Part

1980

Chief of Party
R. R. Lukens
1928

Topography - Day Harbor

Descriptive Report

Title Sheet
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

To accompany Hydrographic Sheet 4370

Day Harbor, S.W. Alaska.

Executed under Directors Orders of Feb. 18, 1928

General description:

The coast line of the west side of Day Harbor is rocky and very precipitous. Except in the small bays which are backed by valleys the cliffs drop sheer into deep water making no horizontal differentiation between the high and low water line. These cliffs are mostly of hard volcanic or metamorphic rock and show little erosion. However there are stretches of soft rock which has disintegrated forming long slides. These are shown on the sheet and are generally marked by a boulder pile at the foot.

The higher peaks are rugged and barren crags supporting no form of vegetation. Some of the lower hills and the valley floors have a sufficient soil covering to support a growth of scattering alder and evergreen, mostly spruce and hemlock.

The small lagoon shown north of Signal Bin is shallow with a mud bottom and is flooded at high water but the entrance is too shallow for navigation in anything but a skiff. The beach here is coarse water-worn gravel.

The beach shown at Signal Bat is fine yellow sand and gravel. A heavy growth of spruce marks the extreme high water line.

The beach at the head of the bay between East and West Base is a sand gravel mixture with a dike of small boulders forming the high water line. This beach is very steep-to except at the stream mouths at either end where gravel bars make out. Back of the high water line to the tree line extends a boulder and gravel flat of glacial moraine barren of vegetation. The glacier though active has receded about one mile from the beach.

The east side of Day Harbor as far south as Lat. 59-59 is less precipitous than the west and more densely covered with forest; especially in the region of Bowen Anchorage and the bight to the south. Bowen Anchorage is shown in detail in the insert on a scale of 1:10,000.

From Station Gos to the eastern limit of the sheet the general characteristic of the coast line becomes steep and rocky with very narrow beaches or none at all. The two rock slides shown just north and south of Signal Hook are very steep and active most of the time. The headland at Station Cliff is a sharp rudge of solid rock with vertical sides and a thin row of trees on the crest. As seen from the Nw or SE it has a saw tooth appearance because of two large faults which notch the crest.

The headland north of Station Pyramid is steep and rocky and
scarred by numerous rock slides. The accompanying photographs furnish the best description that can be given.

The lagoon shown in Lat. 59-58 Long. 149-02 is brackish and flooded at high water. The inlet is only a narrow shifting channel through the gravel beach kept open by the out-flow of fresh water from the drainage.

Survey Methods:

The shore line was rod in by stadia traverse with the regulation planetable equipment on third order triangulation control.

The mountain peaks were located by a combination of alidade cuts, and theodolite cuts plotted with steel protractor. Elevations were figured with a hypsograph and are in feet above mean high water.

Note:

The excessive distortion of this sheet made it very difficult to estimate the adjustment necessary when transferring signals to the smooth hydrographic sheet. This should be considered when checking the transfer.

Offlying Dangers:

The only ones of note are from Signal Fil to the eastward. The two rocks 80m. South of signal Fil; the outermost rock 150m S.W. of signal Ral; and the sunken rock 310 m. E by S. from signal Ral were located by three or more plane table cuts. The various rocks from Anx to Pyramid were either rod in or cut in by three or more cuts. The outermost rock of each group between Toe and Hip was carefully cut in and checked. Those lying close to the shore were located by one or two cuts. Signal Black is on a rock which is never submerged but which is swept in heavy weather. The two rocks in long. 149-02 were rod in. The lone rock awash farthest from the beach on the eastern extremity of the sheet was located by cuts on two sheets and found to check exactly.

New Place Names:

Bowen Anchorage: Name assigned by the field party in memory of Wm. H. Bowen, officer drowned from the Surveyor at Seward in 1927. Recommended for submission to U.S. - H.B.

Timber Cove

The first cove south of Bowen Anchorage on the east side of Day Harbor. Recommended for submission to H.B.

Fault Point:

Recommended for submission to H.B.

The high rocky point marking the entrance to Day Harbor on the east. It is so named because of two prominent faults in the cliff line which give the crest a saw-tooth appearance.
New Place Names - continued:

**Tatus Bay:** Name assigned by field party to northermost bay on the west side of Day Harbor. Name suggested by the tatus formation in this vicinity. Recommended for submission to Long. HB.

**Horshead Bay:** Name assigned by the field party to the bay in Lat. 59 - 57.5 Long. 149 - 03 because of its resemblance to the front half of a horses head. Submit to Long. HB.

Signed S.B. Greene.

This report was prepared by Mr. Greene, but he failed to sign it and as he is now on leave, his signature is not available. He called attention to some photographs, but failed to include them. I have included 4 photos taken in Day Harbor during the season.

The control on this sheet depends on the base line at the head of Day Harbor measured in 1928, and the position of Cape Island, 1905.

The sheet has been inspected by the chief of party and is approved.

R.R. Lukens,

Chief of Party.
The headland north of a pyramid viewed from L 69-57.3; L 199.021.

Δ Goss.
From head of Bowen Anchorage

SURVEYOR in Bowen Anchorage.
Complete view of the East side of Dry Harbor from a Lion

Glacier flat where base line was measured.

Looking East True from a point about 2000 South of Furst Point.

Looking along the magnetic meridian toward A Pyramid.
Showing the Peaks on the East side of Horsehead Bay

East side of Horsehead Bay from near the entrance on the west side.

Horsehead Bay viewed from the entrance near the east side.

cape recollection from the cliff at a chimney looking south.
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TOPOGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

The Topographic Sheet should be accompanied by this form, filled in as completely as possible, when the sheet is forwarded to the Office.

Field No. 4370

REGISTER NO. 4370

State  Alaska

General locality  Kenai Peninsula

Locality  Day Harbor - North Part

Scale  1:20,000  Date of survey  May, 1928

Vessel  Ste. Surveyor

Chief of Party  T. E. Lukens

Surveyed by  S.B. Grenell  J. C. Partington

Inked by  S.B. Grenell

Heights in feet above M.H.W. to ground to tops of trees

Contour, Approximate contour, Form line interval .02 feet

Instructions dated  Feb. 18, 1928.

Remarks: Shoreline, location and part of elevations to peaks by S.B. Grenell; remainder of peaks & form lines by J. C. Partington.

Statistics:

22.8 mi (stat) shoreline
48.60 mi² (stat) area.