DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
U.S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

State: S.W. Alaska

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT
Topographic, Hydrographic

LOCALITY 4844
Kodiak Island
Narrow Strait to Long Island

1933

CHIEF OF PARTY
H. B. Campbell
Applied to Chart No.

8542 (1935), 1:80,000, by James W. McLine

8546 (1935), 1:20,000, by James W. McLine

8,546 (confidential) 1/10,000 by L.A. McKinnon 5/31/42.
The Topographic Sheet should be accompanied by this form, filled in as completely as possible, when the sheet is forwarded to the Office.

Field Letter: D

REGISTER NO. 4844

State: Southwest Alaska
General locality: Kodiak Island
Locality: Narrow Strait to Long Island
Scale: 1:20,000 Date of survey: July - August, 1933
Vessel: Ship DISCOVERER

Chief of Party: H. R. Campbell
Surveyed by: M. E. Wennemark
Inked by: M. E. Wennemark

Heights in feet above H. W. to ground to top of trees
Contour Approximate contour Form line interval 100 feet
Instructions dated: April 21, 1932 - March 26, 1933

Remarks:
DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

to accompany

TOPOGRAPHIC SHEET "D"

U.S.C. & G.S.S DISCOVERER  H. B. Campbell, Commanding

Season of 1933

AUTHORITY

This survey was made in compliance with the Director's Instructions dated April 21, 1932, Project HT 104 and March 25, 1933, Project HT 139.

LOCALITY

This sheet covers Popof Bay, Sycamore Bay and a portion of the south shore of Narrow Strait. It also includes Long Island in Chiniak Bay.

It joins sheet "C" on the north and sheet "E" at Spruce Cape. The form-lining joins sheet "G" to the southward.

DESCRIPTION OF COAST

The shoreline is quite rugged and broken and in general is skirted with kelp. It consists mainly of vertical cliffs, comparatively low a few points however, attaining an elevation of about 200 feet.

Long Island is about four miles long and one mile wide. Its highest elevation is 240 feet. It contains several lakes and is heavily wooded with spruces about 50 feet high.

A fox farmer has his residence at the south end of the cove at the northwest quarter of the island. This cove is well protected and furnishes a good anchorage for small craft. The entrance is quite narrow, however, and a reef separates the north and south arms. It therefore should be approached with caution.
Sycamore Bay, lying between Termination and Miller Points, is about two miles in width and three in depth. It is of little value to the navigator as it affords very little protection and limited anchoring grounds. There is a small fish saltery in a small bight on the east side of the bay.

Popof Bay, a small bight just east of Sycamore Bay, is also poorly protected and of little value. The entrance is fairly wide but is lined with reefs and kelp on either side. The head of the bay is a popular picnic grounds and small craft often anchor there in calm weather.

The background of this sheet is quite mountainous. The mountains are grass-covered to approximately 1500 feet, and break into rocky outcrops at higher elevations. Lower and flatter areas are, in general, thickly wooded and grass covered, as shown by accompanying notes on the sheet.

LANDMARKS

On approaching Kodiak Harbor from the north Hanin Rocks Light and a Bell Buoy to the eastward clearly mark the entrance at this point. Other aids to navigation are covered on sheet "E".

Also from this direction the Devil Prong range forms quite a conspicuous landmark. The north (2075 ft.) and south (2160 ft.) prongs are sharp and regular, the center prong being somewhat lower and having a flat top. These peaks, however, might be easily confused with others to the westward.

On approaching Kodiak Harbor from the east Pyramid Mountain (2403 ft.) stands out very prominently in the background. Its well defined summit and regular sloping sides afford it ready recognition. Barometer Mountain (2488 ft.) is quite a prominent peak in the fore-
ground and marks the south side of the Buskin River Valley.

**METHODS OF SURVEY**

Second and Third order triangulation stations located in 1907 and 1933.

The plane table and stadia rod were used. Standard methods of cuts, resections, three point fixes and short traverses were used. The east shore of Long Island between Triangulation Station SHEER and Triangulation Station REFUGE ROCK was traversed and closed well within the required limit. All adjustments were made in the field. Williams Reef was located by several cuts at the breakers and the position verified by cuts of the launch hydrography party.

**METHODS DEViating FROM STANDARD PRACTICE**

A small dog-ear was used off the south end of Long Island for the charting of a rock. The azimuth and distance was determined in the field and the position plotted in the office.

The four lakes southwest of Popof Bay are just approximate in extent and location. They were visited and sketched in, approximating their size and shape, with their relative position to the adjoining range of hills.

The lakes on Long Island were taken from the chart. The fox farmer on the island believes that to be a fairly accurate picture of their size and position.

Buskin Lake was taken from the U.S. Geological map to aid in form lining the area.

**DISCREPANCIES**

This sheet is a revision survey of portions of sheets T-2840 and T-2854, 1907. The two surveys were in close agreement except
as noted below.

Very little form lining was done in the 1907 survey. That on Long Island was changed somewhat, more elevations being determined for control. The 242 foot elevation at Lat. 57°46', Long. 152°16' was not verified. It was evidently an elevation to tree tops.

The 1700 foot elevation at Lat. 57°50', Long. 152°27.3' was redetermined and checked to be 1812 feet. The form lining in the valley, one mile south of this point was changed considerably. The topographic party was camped in this area and the revised survey is believed to be a more accurate picture of the area.

The shoreline of the revised survey agreed fairly well with the original shoreline of the original. In places, however, it appeared to be rather sketchily done. The same was true of rocks and reefs. All rocks in the original survey, that might be considered dangers, were verified.

**MAGNETIC MERIDIAN**

Two magnetic meridians were determined, as shown. They agreed very well.

**GEOGRAPHIC NAMES**

Sycamore Bay is designated as Monashka Bay by the U.S. Geological Survey and is locally known as Matanuska Bay.

Popof Bay is known locally and by the U.S. Geological Survey as Hill Bay. In former years this bay harbored a saw mill which suggested the name.

The Devils Prongs are locally known as the Three Sisters. Pyramid Mountain is charted by the C. & G. Survey as Cone Mountain. But its triangulation name is Pyramid Mountain and is charted as such by the U.S.G. Survey.
Island Lake is a well established local name. It is a popular picnic and fishing grounds. It is so named because of a small island in its center. The other lakes in this series have various local names.

STATISTICS

Scale 1:20,000

Shoreline in statute miles —— 36

Area, in square statute miles —— 54

Respectfully submitted,

M. E. Wennermark
M. E. Wennermark,
Jr. H. & G. E.
Topographer

Approved and forwarded:

H. B. Campbell,
H. & G. Engineer,
Chief of Party.
Section of Field Records

REVIEW OF TOPOGRAPHIC SURVEY NO. 4844 (1933)

Narrow Strait to Long Island, Kodiak Island, S. W. Alaska
Surveyed July - August 1933
Instructions dated April 21, 1932 - March 25, 1933 (DISCOVERER)

Plane Table Survey                      Cloth Mounted.

Chief of Party - H. B. Campbell.
Surveyed by - M. E. Wennemark.
Inked by - M. E. Wennemark.


The Descriptive Report is clear and comprehensive and satisfactorily covers all matters of importance.

The records conform to the requirements of the Topographic Manual with the following exceptions:

a. Landmarks for Charts, although described in the Descriptive Report, were not submitted on Form 557.

b. Scaled one-half meter distances were not laid off for distortion checking.

c. Vertical lettering was used for notes regarding rocks awash.

2. Compliance with Instructions for the Project.

The survey complies with the instructions.


Satisfactory junctions were made with T-4845 (1933) on the south and with T-6048 (1933) on the north.


a. T-2137 (1867).

This survey is a very rough reconnaissance survey on 1:40,000 scale. No detailed comparison was made but the inadequacy of the old survey is apparent. There are differences in the location of many of the offlying rocks.

b. T-2854 (1907).

The shoreline of this survey is in fair agreement with the present survey except that this survey is somewhat sketchy.
This is particularly true in regard to the offlying rocks. The new survey shows numerous rocks which were not formerly located. However, all of the rocks which were formerly shown, are verified, except a group of 4 rocks awash in latitude 57°51.3', longitude 162°24.1'. These are carried forward in red on the present survey.

c. **T-2840 (1907).**

The area embracing Long Island is common to this and the present survey. There is some disagreement in the location and character of rocks but the new survey is considered correct as shown. The discrepancy in form lines is specifically mentioned and explained in the Descriptive Report.

5. **Field Drafting.**

The field inking is good.

6. **Additional Field Work Recommended.**

No additional field work is required.

7. **Superseding Old Surveys.**

Insofar as the topography actually included on the present survey is concerned, it supersedes the following surveys for charting purposes:

- T-2137 (1867) in part
- T-2940 (1907) " "
- T-2854 (1907) " "


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_C. K. Green_
Chief, Section of Field Records.

_L. O. Robbet_
Chief, Division of Charts.

_Fred. L. Peacock_
Chief, Section of Field Work.

_Weide_
Chief, Division of H. & T.