



U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

*F. M. Thorn*, Superintendent.

State: *Wash. Terr.*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

*Topographic* Sheet No. *1795.*

LOCALITY:

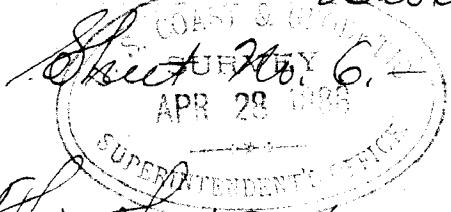
*Rosario Strait:*  
*Sarrish*  
*Bay.*

*1887.*

CHIEF OF PARTY:

*J. J. Gilbert.*

Descriptive Report.



Sheet No. 6. - Samish Bay Marshes. W. T.

This sheet embraces all of Samish tide lands, and extends from sheets 4 + 5 on the south, to  $\Delta$  White, on N.E. shore of Samish Bay.

The shoreline N.E. from  $\Delta$  White to within  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile of McElroy Slough, is rocky, and the ledges of rock, bare and precipitous, appear here + there very frequent, all over the hills. It is sandstone, much of it mixed with gravel and pebble stones.

The only ravine is an Oyster Creek, a fine stream of water. There are some Oyster beds off the mouth of the creek.

From McElroy Slough, southward the land is low, that along shore being tide lands, mostly diked and reclaimed. All these lands are under cultivation. The general plan is to run the dikes across sloughs, leaving the larger sloughs to serve for drainage, while the smaller ones are gradually filled up. - When the sloughs are represented inside the dikes, there is some water in them. dry sloughs are not represented.

The only settlement adjoining to be called a

town or village, is Edison, on the slough of the same name; it is four or five years old, has two hotels, two or three stores and eight or ten dwellings. It is the post office, and trade center for the surrounding country.

Edison Slough runs dry at low tides, and the channel is dry for a long distance across the mud flats. The tide extends a mile or two above Edison, beyond which the slough might more appropriately be called a creek.

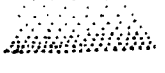

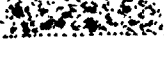
Samiak River, can be ascended by small steamers to the bridge at the limit of sheet, when the tide is high enough to enter it at all. It is quite deep above the bend at the bridge near its mouth, - below the bridge the channel is shallow, + cannot float a row boat at low tides, - The entrance to the channel, at edge of tide flats, to N<sup>4</sup> of 1 1/2 story house, has about three feet, at low tides, once inside there is from four to six ft water until a little past Diego's Spit, beyond which it is very shallow.

The principal crops are oats and barley, and hay. Fruit does not do well on the marsh lands. Good water is not to be had, and all


farmers depend upon rain water. This is true of all tide lands, and even throughout the river bottoms, until high land is reached.

At McCloy Slough is Blanchards logging Camp: one of the largest on the Sound, it is operated over a rail road, - the cars being hauled up to the end of the track by horses, and running down by gravity; this Spring, 1888, a locomotive has been placed on the road.

Logging has been extensively carried on in this vicinity for years.

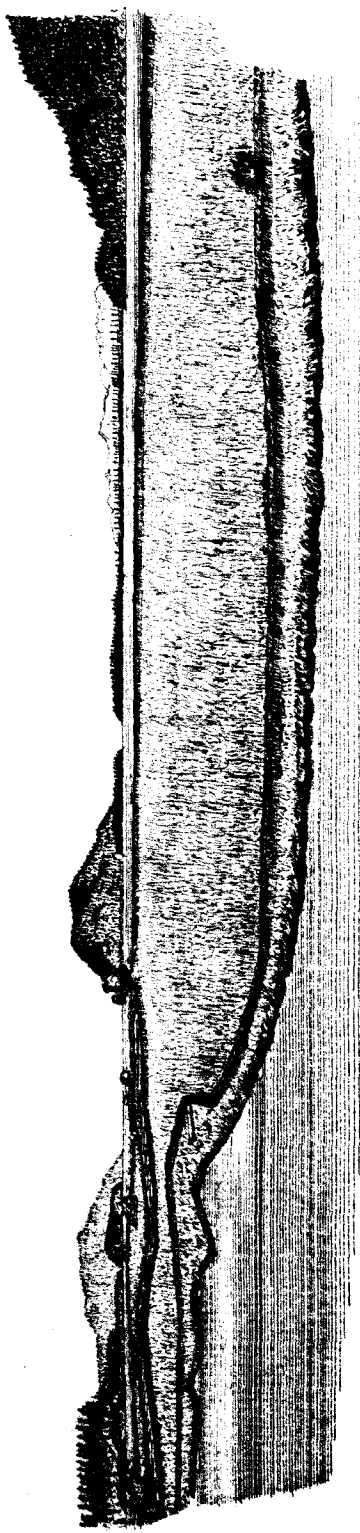
Low water mark in this, and all sheets is represented by a dotted line, thus .....  
 Sand beaches are represented thus  and  
 Gravel beaches are represented thus , beaches  
 of Cobble stones and boulders thus ,  
 Mud flats are not filled in, only represented in outline by the L. W. mark.

Two sketches accompany this report, one of the village of Edison, from a point on the Slough below it; and one looking N.W. from Edison, - it has the opposite bank of the slough, with the dike in the foreground, and Cummins other islands in the distance.

The dikes are uniformly of one pattern, of which this  is a profile. - a dike between two ditches, the ditches are from four to eight feet wide, and about four feet deep. - (Some deeper.)

The base of dike is six to eight ft. and its height from four to six. On the sheets it was necessary to exaggerate the ditches & dikes, in order to represent them.

J. J. Gilbert  
Assist. C. & G. Survey



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OUTLOOK FROM THE TOWN OF EDISON ON BELLINGHAM BAY

Edison Steep in the foreground. Distance Mount Baker on the

British Columbia.