

1952

1952
1951

Form 504

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey *Topographic*

Field No. _____ Office No. *1952*

LOCALITY

State *Washington*

General locality *Washington*

Locality *Sound*

1889

~~194~~

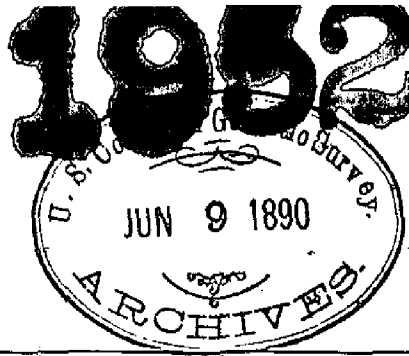
CHIEF OF PARTY

J. J. Gilbert

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DATE _____

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1952



U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

F. C. Meadenhall, Superintendent.

State: *Washington.*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. 1952.

LOCALITY:

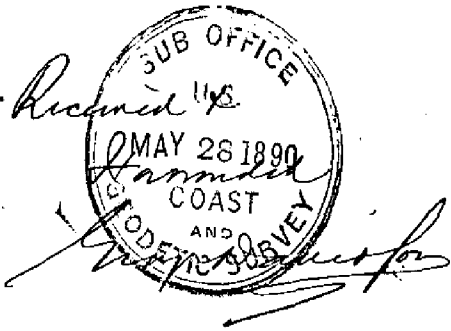
Washington Sound.

1889.

CHIEF OF PARTY:

J. J. Gilbert.

1952
report



Descriptive Report

Sheet No 1 1052

Washington Sound, Wash

1889.

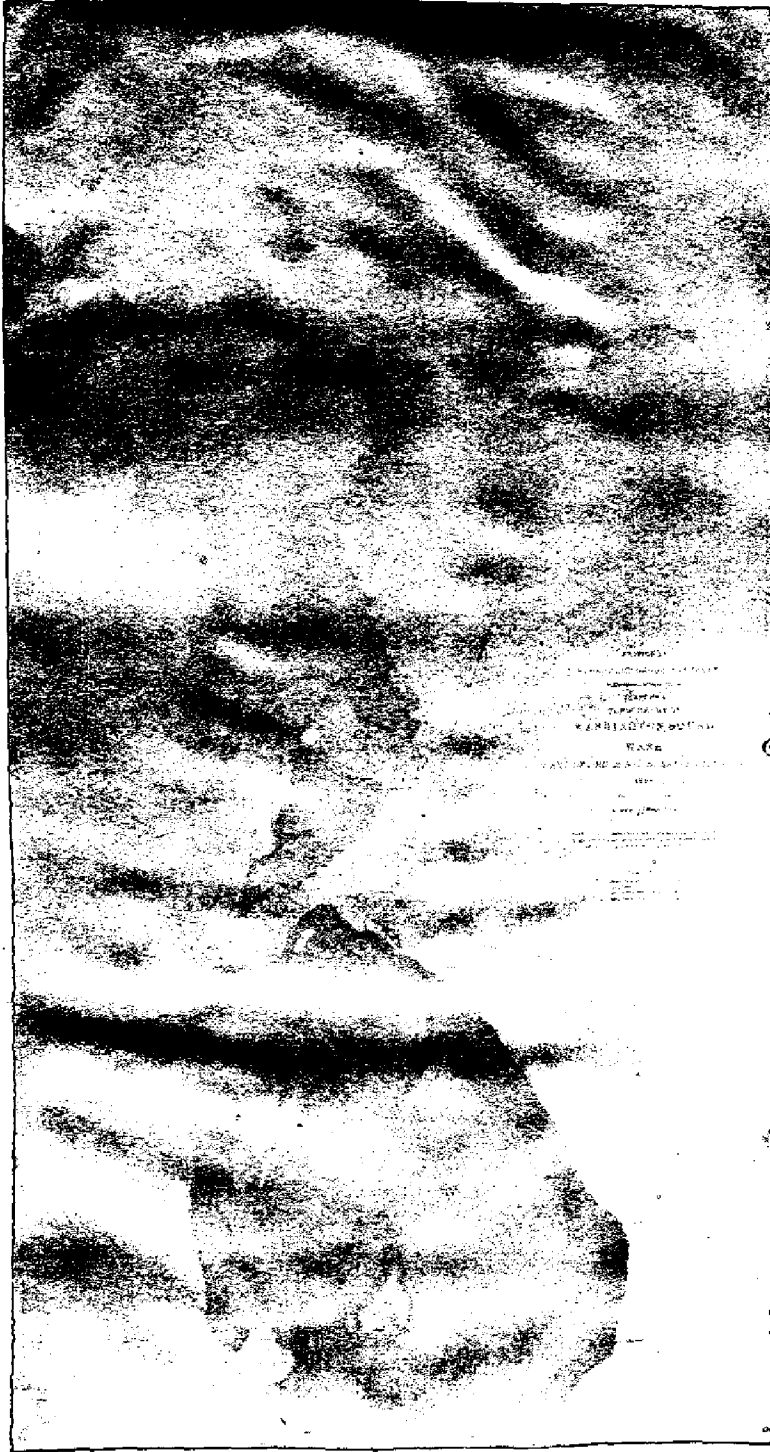
J. J. Gilbert

Descriptive Report
Sheet No 1.
Washington Sound, Wash
1889.

This sheet embraces the shores of Orcas Island from a point abreast of St. Peapod Rocks, around through Obstruction Pass, to the Entrance to East Sound, near Δ Range, and also Obstruction Island complete, and the larger portion of Blakeley Island.

By an error of memory, the tracing of the sheet of 1888, of the N. E. part of Orcas Island, not being at hand, there is a gap of about 100 metres between the two sheets, as indicated by a broken line, this it was intended to fill next Season. - The shore omitted is of the same irregular character as that contiguous to it, and is generally straight between the points.

Probably the hydrography may fix it quite closely. The eastern shore of Orcas is principally rock, with reefs extending a short distance from the shore-line, it is broken frequently by small bays or lights, with gravel beaches. - None of



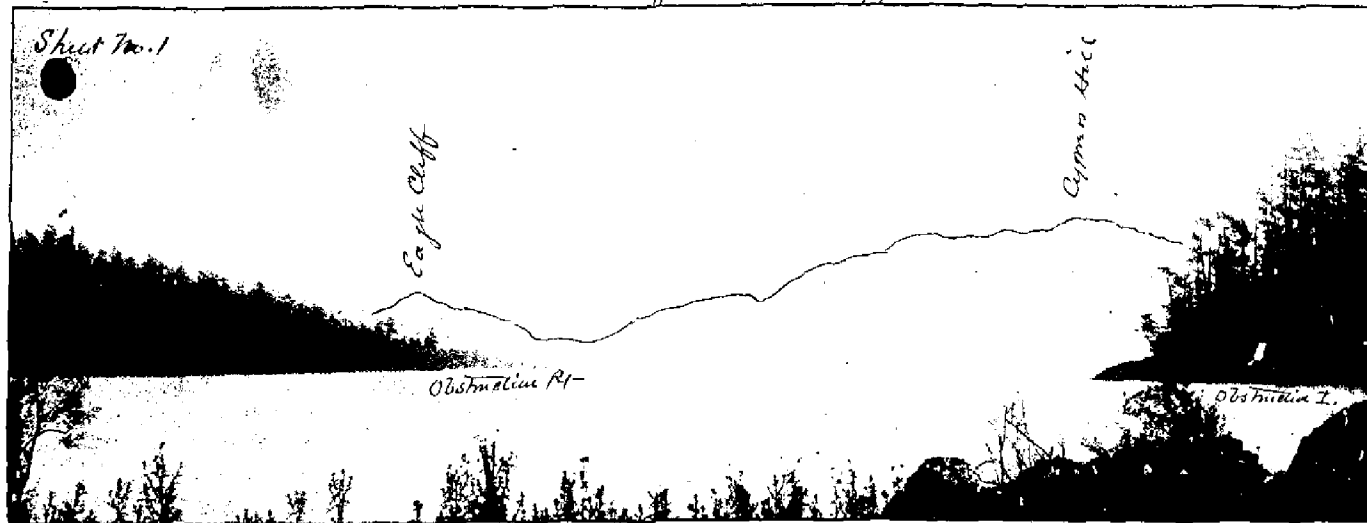
them of any great
Extent. On the
^{West}
East Side of Orcus
there is mostly a
narrow gravel +
boulder beach, often
broken by rocky
points.

The shores of Abstruetan
Island are rocky
except on the west
side, where there is
a gravel + boulder
beach.

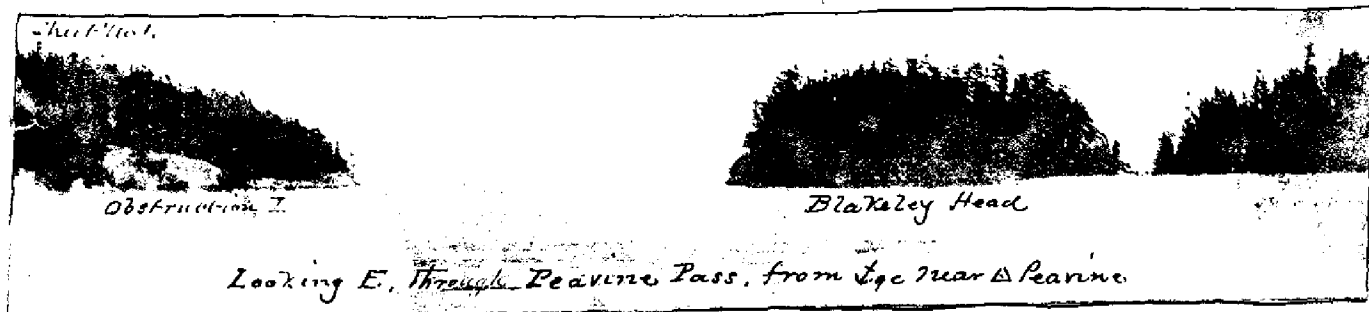
The N.E. + East Sides
of Blakely Island
are mostly rocky,
while on the west
shore the banks

are clay and the beach gravel and boulder
as far south as Flat Rock. South of Flat Rock
the shores are again rocky, only broken by the
small, unnamed bay where there is a small
Saw mill, driven by water power from the lakes

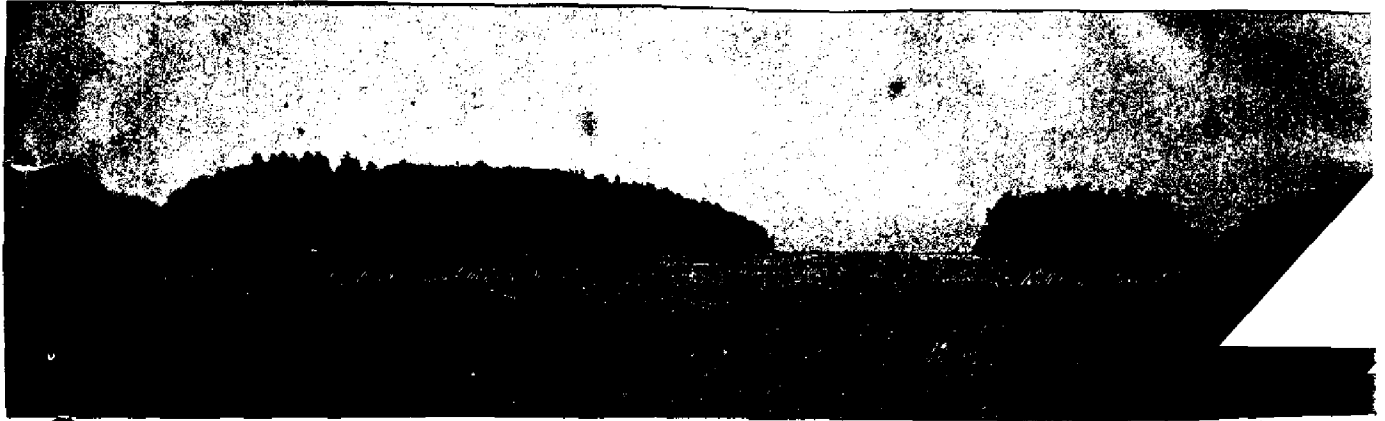
above it. The land is generally covered with trees, fir, except where the rock crops out, or comes too near the surface for vegetation to thrive. These rock Croppings are every where on the back bone of the ridges and hills.



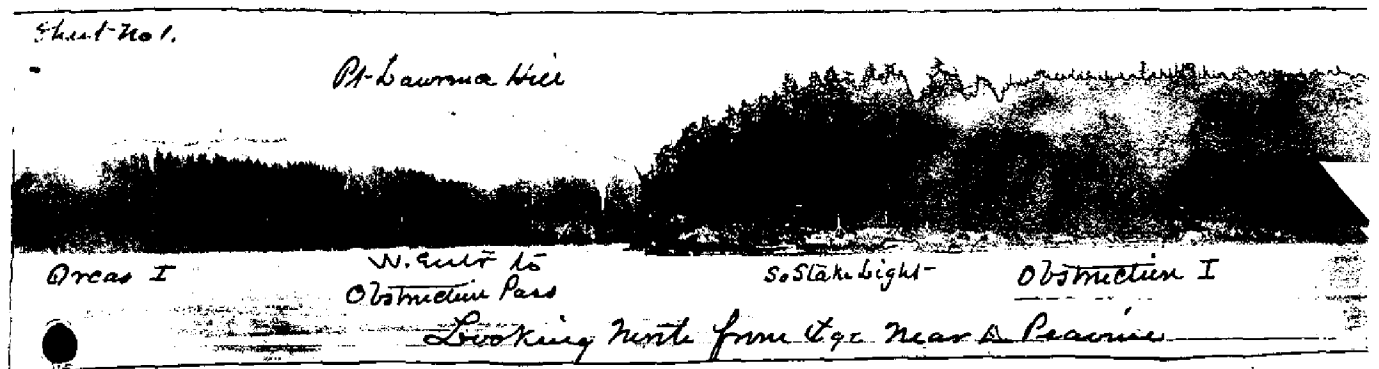
The sheet embraces Obstruction Pass, on the North and Peavine Pass on the South of Obstruction Id. Both Passes are good, and free from dangers. The former is used by Steamers coming down the Strait & bound for East Sound, while the latter



is used by all others. Peavine Pass is straight while there is a turn to make going through



Obstruction, There is a stake light at each end of Obstruction Island. - That on the North serving to enter Corte Passos. - That on the South west, more especially designed to enter Pearne Pass.

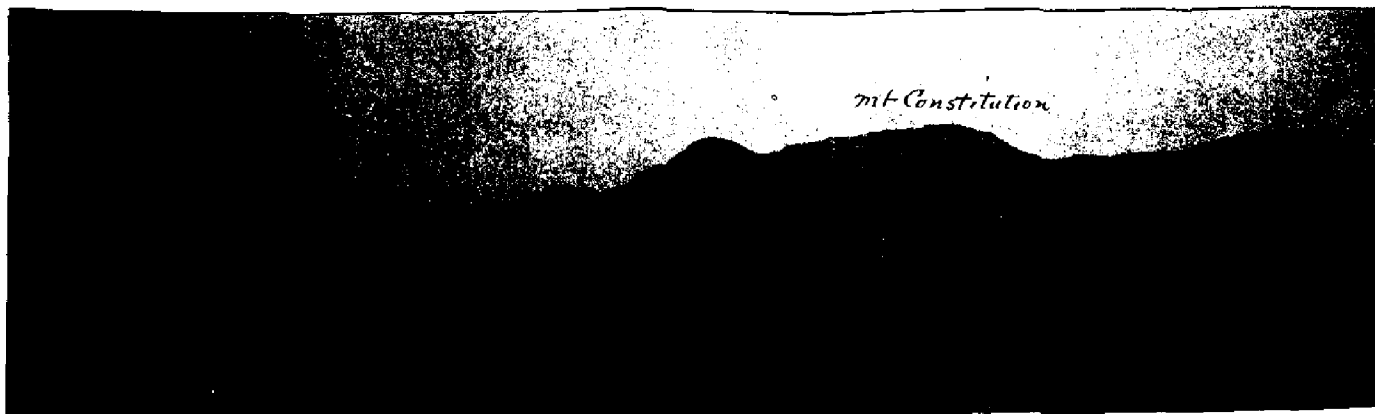


There is a very strong current through these Passes running from Lopez Sound into Rosario Strait on a flood, and in the opposite direction on an ebb tide. During the summer season all dangers are marked by keeps - which however the strong currents frequently carry under.

There are several Reeps, indicated on the Sheet in the deep light North of Obstruction Point, they

only affect vessels seeking an anchorage or landing on the shores for produce.

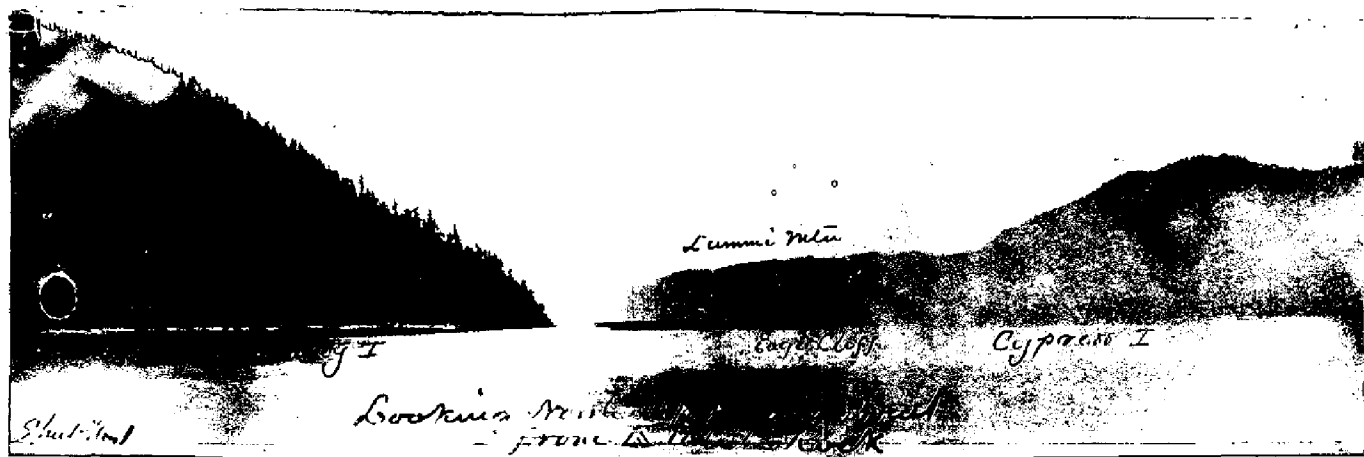
A large reef just off the entrance to Peavine from the East, is awash at extreme high tides, it has been marked by the L. H. Board, with a barrel beacon, - Buck Bay, on the East Shore of Areas is very shallow, and has one or two reefs well in, - indicated on the sheet.



The contours of Entrance Mountain are elevated on this sheet, because it was only accessible from the South. A good photograph of the Mountain accompanies the report upon Sheet No 3.

Black Rock - near the entrance to Thaletus Pass, in Rosario Strait is only two or three feet above high tides. The tidal currents are very swift. Estimated at about seven miles an hour in strong tides. The tides generally, through Rosario Strait, between Blakely & Cypress Islands

are unusually strong, and in a strong wind
the sea is very rough.



All the hills are of Rock.- Sandstone of a dark hue
and sometimes very hard & brittle. The valleys
are generally fertile, and settlers have commenced
making homes there. The timber is mostly fir, and
generally smaller than on the main land.

There is a lake, partly represented on sheet No. 1
and partly on sheet No. 3, which furnishes the water
power for the Saw Mill in Cascade Bay. - This is
another and larger lake which I was not able
to reach, it lies between Mt Constitution & Pt Lawrence
hill, and to the Southward, its natural outlet
is at Buck Bay. But a ditch turns some of
the overflow into the other lake, in order to
increase the water supply for the Saw Mill.

There are two lakes on Palakely Island, both

very deep. The upper lake discharges into the lower, and both furnish water for the Saw mill.

The contours are largely sketched. Heights were determined by cuts, and slopes sketched in by the eye, the appearance changing from every point of view - it is not claimed that these curves are exactly approximately correct, but they give a general idea of the way the land lies. To attempt to run curves with even approximate accuracy, would require one whole season for each sheet. All roads were run out, and contours carried into the hills where a practicable route could be found.

J. J. Gilbert
Assist. —

S. C. Los Angeles Base
May 22, 1890.

