Form 504
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey Topographic
Field No. Office No. 1953

LOCALITY
State Washington
General locality
Locality 1889

CHIEF OF PARTY
O. Gilbert

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DATE

1953
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

J. C. Mendenhall, Superintendent.

State: Washington.

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Topographic Sheet No. 1953.

Locality:
Washington Sound.

1889.

Chief of Party:
J. J. Gilbert.
Descriptive Report
Sheet No. 2
Washington Sound, Wash
1889
J. J. Gilbert
This sheet illustrates the small end of Blakeley Island, All of Deception, Horse Island, and Horse Island, and also a number of other islands. First visited in October 19th, 1878, and from the head of the Channel, one proceeds west, around the point of Horse Island, and then north and west, passing Great and Little Bluff, until reaching Horse Island. From there, the course is then due south to the heads of the Channel.
Small rocky islets, in all nearly 50 miles of shore line. The general characteristic of the shore line is rock, and of the land, timber. The rock is sandstone, and shows many marks of the planing process of icebergs or glaciers.

This photograph is of the rocks on the NE. part of Flower Island. But the same markings are seen very nowhere, from Esquig Pass to Boulder. On all the small islands + rocks, and along the west shore of Esquig Sound, probably the most conspicuous are + at a distance, where the grooves
are cut 175 yd deep, as much as 10 feet. Another characteristic of these markings is that they appear most conspicuously on the East and W. N. W. faces of all the shores.

Another evidence of glacial action is the very frequent occurrence of erratic boulders, of hard light-gray or white granite, of all sizes from a house down to a cobble stone.

These are not confined to the shore-line, but are found inland, on the lower portions of the islands.

In this view from Decker Wt., the markings are seen on the rocks in the fore-ground.
The shoreline of Blakeley is rocky generally, but there are several gravel & boulder beaches, as represented. There are no shoals or dangers near the shore as far as discovered.

The S. W. end of the Island as seen from White Rock, in Thatcher Pass is represented in the two prints on this page, - the second taking the N.W. point of Decatur Island.

Decatur Island is rocky from the Bay W. of Decatur Strand, around through Thatcher Pass to Roads Bay - Except in the deep lagoon S.W.
to Prof. George Davidson,

Trump Island has bold shores, and is covered
not densely, with timber; it is also of sandstone
formation. Club Island is rocky on west side
and has a beach partly gravel and partly mud on
the east. The water is quite shallows between
Club Island and Dicatur. About 6 ft. at low
tide, and the bottom covered with grass.

The chain of small islands at Lopez Pass is
all rock, cafes rises on the two larger,
The N.E. Point of Lopez is rock, south toward
the neck. The neck is gravel, quite narrow.
Evidently a channel formed a separate island
of the portion north of it at some time.

There is a deep gulf or bay in the Rosario
Strait. Here at this point, with good anchorage
near the shore, and no dangers were discovered
from this bay south to limit of chart the shores
are rocky. Boulder Island is bare, it was
Dreamer Bay is shallower, and there are several large boulders. Covered at high tide, in the deepest part of the bay, there may be others submerged at all tides. There is good anchorage in any part of the bay.

Willow Island is a bold rock, with a few Willow trees in one day, and a few scattering firs. There is no beach.

First Island is rocky, it lies only 60 or 80 Metres off the End of Speeens Point, but the Channel through between the Spit and island is deep. Not less than 8 fms. - The shores opposite.

Flower Island, with bold rocky shores, is almost bare rock. A few firs on the low point at NW part. Near the top in a glacial grove filled with soil are some scrub Oaks, having a tendency to trail along the ground like Vine Maple. It appears to be a new Variety not hitherto described in any of the books. Specimens were sent
A cliff, where there is a beach. In Reeds Bay, the water is shallow, and there is a wide gravel beach. The land between Reeds Bay and the Strait is low, and much of it is wooded. On the east side of Decatur, except Decatur Head, which is rock, the land is clay and loam, from the Bay north of Decatur Head, (which may be named Decatur Bay,) to the Narrows near south end of Island. About half way along, is a high broken bluff; from this bluff south, the beach is sandy; northward it is boulder gravel.

The south end of the Island is rocky, both shores, James Isl is a mass of rock with two principal bays, which cut it nearly in two. There is anchorage in the bay on the north side. The water is very bold all around James Island, and the currents very strong. Decatur Head is rocky and connects with the main island by a low gravel spit.
Named by Captain L.C.Darke in 1854, from a number of Erratic boulders on its slope, it is a mass of Sandstone.

Walmough Bay, is shallow near the head, it affords good anchorage at all times in 4 to 8 furs. Walmough Head is very steep toward the night, is 460 ft. high, and its character is well represented in the print.

Mud Bay, at the head of Coaby Sound is very shallow, and the steam launch could never get within less than a mile of the head at low tide.
A wagon road from the south end of the island to Lopez A. P. O. passes close by the head of Mud Bay.

Lopez Pass is free from danger, and the water deep. Vessels can go either side of the chain of islands inside entrance, only keeping clear of the kelp. There is a dangerous reef off the S.W. part of Quilte Island, only bare at extreme low tides. It is quite near the island, but vessels in these bold waters would naturally be very near to it—entering Lopez Sound through Lopez Pass. — One fleur-de-lis Phantom
There is a rock covered at 3/4 tide off the Bluff on Drespect Island. It is indicated on the Chart.

It is not marked by Keps, and is a danger to small vessels running along there at high tide. I found a few or more inside of it. It is not improbable that other similar rocks are near.

Lawrence Reef, in Thetis Bay, is known.
It is visible only at extreme low tides, and during the season is surrounded by a dense mass of kelp. It is a serious danger at night, but a careful navigator will always give it plenty of room.

West through Thatcher Pass from B Deakins N.E.,

Off the north end of Flower Island are a number of rocks covered at high tide. There is a deep Channel west of Flower Island. I could find no anchorage in 12 fathoms on the west side of the island.

There is much good land on Bofeg Island between the Neck and Waliwugh Head, some of which is unproductive. Best part of that portion of the island represented on Sheet No. 2, is rocky and covered with fir timber.

The curves are nearly accurate where they cross the roads, and on Waliwugh Head, and a few other hills where it was feasible to run the table. But the greater portion are sketched and do
Not intended to convey approximate accuracy, they merely indicate the general appearance and direction as well as height of the hills and valleys. The tides run swiftly through the Passes; flood tides coming from Rosario Strait and Vice Versa. These conditions are reversed at Deception Pass, Sheet No. 1.

J. J. Gilbert

Assist