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Diag. Chf. No. 8252-1

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| Form 504  |                            |
| U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY<br>DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE |                            |
| DESCRIPTIVE REPORT  |                            |
| Type of Survey  | <i>Hydrographic</i>        |
| Field No.   | Office No. <i>2174-511</i> |
| LOCALITY  |                            |
| State   | <i>Alaska</i>              |
| General locality  | <i>Sitka Harbor</i>        |
| Locality  | <i>and Approaches</i>      |
|   | <u>1893</u>                |
|   | <u>194</u>                 |
| CHIEF OF PARTY  |                            |
| <i>N. F. Morse</i>  |                            |
| LIBRARY & ARCHIVES  |                            |
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Department of Commerce and Labor  
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

*J. C. Mendenhall*  
Superintendent.

State: *Alaska*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

*Hyd. C. Sheet No 2175*

LOCALITY:

*Siska Harbor and  
Approaches.*

*See SHA 2174*

*1893*  
*190*

CHIEF OF PARTY:

*W. J. Moore*

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Department of Commerce and Labor  
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

J. C. Mendenhall  
Superintendent.

State: Alaska

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

Hyd. Sheet No. 2176

LOCALITY:

Siska Harbor and  
Approaches

See SHA 2174

1893  
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CHIEF OF PARTY:

W. J. Moore

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Department of Commerce and Labor  
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

J C Mendenhall  
Superintendent.

State: *Alaska*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

*Hyd C* Sheet No. 2177

LOCALITY:

*Siska Harbor and*

*Approaches.*

*See SHA 2174*

~~1893~~  
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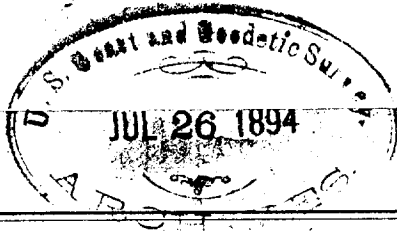
CHIEF OF PARTY:

*W. J. Moore*

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1893



U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

Dr. T. C. Mendenhall, Superintendent.

State: *Alaska*

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT.

*Hydrographic Sheet No 2174-5-6-7*

LOCALITY:

*Sitka Harbor and  
approaches.*

*Dr. Patterson*

1893

CHIEF OF PARTY:

*Lieut Comdr N. J. Moore, USN.*

2174-5-6-7

Report from Sir Patterson, Lieut Coe and  
W. J. Moore, U. S. N. Sledge Season 1893

Description of Sittka Sound and Harbor -  
Approaching Sittka Sound from seaward  
Mount Edgecumbe is the most prominent land  
mark standing at its Northern Entrance  
in Lat  $57^{\circ}02'40''$  N. Long  $135^{\circ}42'35''$  W. It has a well  
defined crater and near its summit shows  
radiating gorges which contain at all seasons  
more or less snow.

Kruzoff Island, on which Mount Edgecumbe  
is situated, extends four miles S.S.W. from  
the summit, at Cape Edgecumbe

Sittka Point is one mile E by N from Cape  
Edgecumbe and is the Northern Western  
limit of Sittka Sound -

The entrance to Sittka Sound is between Sittka  
Point and Biorha Island, Lanny E. by S.  
distant  $11\frac{1}{2}$  miles. From its entrance it ex-  
tends in a Northernly direction, for about four  
-ten miles, with a width of from seven to  
ten miles. Lying between Kruzoff and Baran-  
-off Islands.

From Sittka Point the shore of Kruzoff Island  
tends in a North Easterly direction for

six and one half miles with slight indentations  
to Point of Shoals

St. Lazaria Island lies four miles N E by E, 8 E  
from Sitta Point. It is small and wooded.  
Low Island is a collection of hummocks  
joined at low water. The passage between  
Low Island and the Krusoff shore is much  
encumbered with kelp.

From Low Island, the Krusoff shore trends  
North to Rocky Point. The shore rises into bluffs  
densely wooded. The shore line is rocky, of  
lava formation with numerous off-lying  
rocks

By the triangulation carried from Sitta the  
positions on Krusoff Island are carried about  
three miles to the Westward of those given in  
B. A. Chart 2337 (700)

Boorka Island which marks the Eastern  
limit of Sitta Sound is two miles long in  
a North and South direction and about the  
same in the direction East and West. It is  
nearly divided by Symonds Bay on the  
North side and an unnamed cove on the South side

It is low and presents a rocky appearance and is partially wooded.

The Eastern, or Baranov. shore has many deep bays and indentations with numerous off-lying rocks and reefs. Between these there are deep channels which by reason of their tortuous courses and detached rocks are unfit for navigation by any but the smallest vessels. Between Birka Island and the Baranov shore there are a number of islands which have only been partially surveyed.

At a distance of one mile S. by W. from the North point of Birka Island, lies a reef, which I have called Birka Reef, which has 12 feet on it and breaks in moderate weather. Between this reef and Birka Island is a channel practicable for vessels of any size.

Peiser Island, one mile long, low and wooded. lies two miles N E by N from Birka Island.

Kita (Whale) Island, small and wooded



lies N N W of Peisar Island distant two  
and one quarter miles. Betman Citad Island  
and Bourvor Point, Hamu North distant  
two and three quarters miles, are several outlying  
islets

Betman Bourvor Point, on Baranor Island  
and Low Island are two islands or rocks  
which form the chief obstructions to the  
Channel of Sitka Sound. The Easternmost,  
Kulitch or Kulitch of Rock lies one and  
three quarters miles from Bourvor Point  
having N. S. W. 4 W. It is low and 20 feet high  
two miles from Kulitch Rock and on the  
same bearing from Bourvor Point lies  
Vitskari Island. This is about 10 ft high  
and surrounded by a reef marked with  
kelps. A Lagoon 4 ft high, full of stone  
stands on Vitskari Island

The description of islands and rocks to the  
northward of Bourvor Point, as given in the  
Alaska Coast Pilot of 1871 is substantially  
correct. Small differences will be noted in  
the directions for entering Sitka Harbor

The government buildings at Sitta were thoroughly repaired in 1893 and now present much better landmarks than when in their ruinous condition of one year ago.

The soundings are very irregular. The depths at the southern limit of the 4000 sheet vary 106-109 fathoms, on the line joining Biorka Island and San Lazaria Island 56-63 fathoms between Kilsten Island and Guided Rock 14-27 fms. The channels leading to the anchorage from the southward 10-14 fathoms, except the northern or Japanese Channel which has 8-9-fath south of Harbor Rock and 13-14-fath to the northward.

The extension of "Rocky Patch" in Eastern Channel to the Sd + Ed. is noted on the hydrographic sheet scale 1,0000, a rock under water in mid-channel to westward of Ball Island, a small shoal in the northern Channel 200 meters west of Indian Rock and nearly in range with it and the end of Custom House Wharf are also noted.

There is a great confusion of names in this vicinity Russian and English names. Having the same

significance has been used, i.e. Kitta Island  
and Whale Island. Two Atmeloi Points are  
given, one as "Shoal" and one as "Rocky".  
Serbrinikov Cor. of the British Admiralty Chart  
is known as Silver Bay. The name Goloii  
Island appears three times on the B.A. Chart.

*Patterson*

*Report*

*1893.*

Report from the Pattern Light Cutter  
W. J. Moore U. S. N. Comdg. Vessel 1893

Directions for entering Sitka Harbor  
from Seaward -

When entering Sitka Sound from the Northward - after rounding Sitka Point at a distance of one mile, the course N. E. by E  $\frac{1}{8}$  E four miles, will clear San Lazaria Island by one half mile.

When the East point of San Lazaria Island bears N. W. by W. the course N. E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  E. leads clear of all dangers between Nititari Rocks and Kichik Islands and passes Lenobia Rocks to the Southward and Eastward. When East Beacon on Eckholm Island and West Beacon on Mathuati Island are on range, N. W. by W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  W. the course N.  $\frac{5}{8}$  E. carries up the Middle Channel leaving Passage Island one eighth mile on Port hand and Kayak Island on Starboard hand and passing between Beardstee and Volga Islands in midchannel.

When in midchannel, between Volga Island and Mitchell Rocks (Red buoy No 2), the course N. E.  $\frac{1}{2}$  E. clears Turning Island and leads to the anchorage abreast the Mission.

Mission Bell Tower bearing N. by W.  $\frac{1}{2}$  W.

York Church Spire bearing W. N. W.

If the Eastern Channel is to be taken, with the Eastern and Western beacons on the range N. W. by W.  $\frac{1}{4}$  W. as before, a course E by N.  $\frac{3}{8}$  N. leads clear of Simpson Rock, (Black Caulbury) distant 200 yards. With Simpson Rock abeam the course N. E.  $\frac{3}{4}$  E. leads clear of Isaritza Rock. From Isaritza Rock abeam a course N.  $\frac{1}{4}$  E. leads clear of all dangers until the end of the Custom House Wharf bears W.  $\frac{3}{4}$  S. which course leads to the anchorage as before.

If the Western Channel is to be taken.

Proceed in the same manner on entering Dittus Sound until the East beacon on Eckholm Island bears N. E. by E.  $\frac{1}{4}$  E. and the West Beacon, on Mathratni Island bears N.  $\frac{3}{4}$  E. when the course N.  $\frac{1}{4}$  W. leads clear of all dangers and passes Battery Island on the starboard hand distant one-eighth mile. There is foul ground S. E. of Sentinel Rock, a number of detached rocks extend three-quarters miles.

When the north end of Battery Island is

on range with the spindle on Channel Rocks, the course for the harbor by the channel north of Japoniki Island will be between the spar buoys, red and black lying to Northward of Channel Rocks. From these buoys the spindle on Harbor Rocks is visible. The course E by S  $3/8$  S. leads to end of Custom House Wharf. Harbor Rocks, spindle, may be passed on either side at high water. After passing the end of Custom House Wharf in midchannel, anchor on bearings given before.

Vessels approaching from the Southward. To Eastern Channel -

In rounding Biorka Island from the Southward, steamers may take the passage inside the reef giving Biorka Island a berth of one half mile. If this passage is not taken, give Biorka Island a berth of two miles.

When the North point of the small island lying N. W. of Biorka Island bears E. by N.  $5/8$  N., (line tangent with N. W. end of Biorka Island) the course N. by E. leads clear of all dangers and passes Ketch Rocks  $3/8$  mile. This course may

be carried until up with the beacons, East Beacon bearing E. by N., West beacon bearing N. N. W., when the course N. E.  $\frac{3}{4}$  E. leads clear of Simpson and Tharitzja Rocks. When up with Tharitzja Rocks the course N.  $\frac{1}{4}$  E. leads clear until the ends of Custom House Wharf bears W.  $\frac{3}{4}$  S. when stands for it and anchor as before directed.

### Entering the Middle Channel

Observe foregoing instructions for entering from the Southward, - when East Beacon bears E. by N. and West Beacon N. N. W. the course N. N. E.  $\frac{7}{8}$  E. leads to middle of channel between Passage and Kayak Islands, when former directions are to be observed.