

6764

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PURSUANT TO DOC SYSTEMATIC REVIEW  
GUIDELINES AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION  
3.3(a), EXECUTIVE ORDER 12356.

Diag. Cht. No. 8252-2

Form 504

U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

DESCRIPTIVE REPORT

Type of Survey ..... HYDROGRAPHIC

Field No. N-1-42 ..... Office No. H-6764

LOCALITY

State ..... ALASKA

General locality ..... SITKA SOUND

Locality ..... STARRIGAVAN BAY

1942

CHIEF OF PARTY

C. Pierce

LIBRARY & ARCHIVES

DATE ..... MAY 10, 1943

B-1870-1 (1)

6764

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
U. S. COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY

HYDROGRAPHIC TITLE SHEET

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The Hydrographic Sheet should be accompanied by this form, filled in as completely as possible, when the sheet is forwarded to the Office.

Field No. H-1-42

REGISTER NO. H-6764

State Alaska

General locality Sitka Sound

Locality ~~Old Sitka Harbor~~ Starrigavan Bay

Scale 1:15,000 Date of survey Aug. 13-24, 19 42

Vessel WESTDAHL

Chief of Party Charles Pierce

Surveyed by Charles Pierce and C. F. Chanworth

Protracted by H. M. Sylar

Soundings penciled by H. M. Sylar

Soundings in fathoms ~~xxxx~~ Fathoms

Plane of reference MLW

Subdivision of wire dragged areas by

Inked by P. H. Andres

Verified by do

Instructions dated 2/14/40, 2/5/42 and telegram of 8/12/42

Remarks: Smooth Sheet and Plotting by

Seattle Processing Office.

REG. NO.

H 6764



[REDACTED] BY NOAA [REDACTED]  
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 3 (A), EXECUTIVE ORDER 12858

DATE OF INSTRUCTIONS  
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This survey was accomplished in general under original instructions dated Feb. 14, 1940, and supplemental instructions dated Feb. 5, 1942 covering the project in Sitka Sound, but specifically under request for special survey by the Commanding Officer, Naval Air Station, Sitka, Alaska, dated August 10, 1942, and Director's authority to proceed by telegram dated ~~date~~ August 12, 1942. Work was actually started prior to official authorization, after verbal request from the Commanding Officer of the Sitka Naval Air Station.

SURVEY METHODS  
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Triangulation was extended to provide plentiful control, and the topographic signals, shoreline, low water line and other topographic features were located by plane table survey on a scale of 1:5000. Standard hydrographic methods were used throughout, using both the WESTDAHL with the Dorsey No. 3 fathometer, and the launch with the 808-A depth recorder. All fathometer comparisons were taken with the sounding machine, and all bottom samples were obtained with the snapper.

DISCREPANCIES  
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No discrepancies were noted that could not be brought into agreement by a slight shift in position of lines or of tide reducers and it is thought that the smooth plotting will bring these into agreement. In the shoal area off of signal "UVA", and in the shoal area off of signal "TAN" there are soundings differing from those in the immediate vicinity; these however are not discrepancies but are due to rough and irregular bottom.

DANGERS  
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The shoal area off of signal "UVA" is considered as a dangerous area. A considerable amount of time was spent both in running closely spaced splits and in drifting over this area in order to find the least depth. A least depth of ~~1 1/2~~ <sup>3 1/2</sup> fathoms was located 170 meters West of UVA, a least depth of ~~1 1/2~~ <sup>1 1/2</sup> fathoms 110 meters N.S.W. of UVA and a least depth of ~~5~~ <sup>5</sup> ft. 225 meters S.W. of UVA, this last being in general depths of 7 to 8 fathoms. This area is rocky and quite bumpy and it is possible that dragging might disclose shallower depths.

It will be noted that the shoal depth curves extend out into relatively deeper water West of signal TAN. A considerable amount of developing was accomplished in this area, both the running of closely spaced splits and in drift sounding for the shallowest depths, with results as shown on the sheet. The bottom was rather irregular in this area also.

No other dangerous areas were noted on the sheet.

ANCHORAGES  
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A good ship anchorage lies within ~~Old Sitka Harbor~~ <sup>Starrigavan Bay</sup> between the 20 and the 30 fathom curves. This is mud bottom and is protected from heavy seas. It was not used by the WESTDAHL during the course of the survey, as there was a float available at the dock.

COMPARISONS WITH PREVIOUS SURVEYS

In general the soundings obtained from this survey are in fairly close agreement with those obtained from the survey of 1941, register Nos. H-6666 and H-6667, and with the charted soundings; however in view of the larger scale used and the close spacing of the lines on this survey, it is recommended that this survey supercede all older ones.

BOAT SHEET

Because of the request of the Navy for a large scale and accurate survey upon which planning could be done, it was decided to use the aluminum mounted sheet, upon which the full accuracy of the survey could be preserved. The sheet was turned over to the Navy upon its completion to be photographed.

The soundings on this sheet have been reduced from predicted tides combined with fathometer corrections.

It was called to the attention of the Navy personnel interested that this is a preliminary field sheet subject to office verification and that the soundings were reduced from predicted tides.

STATISTICS

## WESTDAHL

Soundings	2720
positions	325
Mileage	39.7 (Sta.)

Area 1.5 square miles

Launch	
soundings	3152
Positions	427
Mileage	31.6 (Sta.)

Submitted by:-

*C. F. Chenworth*  
C. F. Chenworth, H. & G. Engr.

Approved by:-

Charles Pierce, H. & G. Engr.  
Comdg. M. V. WESTDAHL

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SEATTLE PROCESSING OFFICE NOTES

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COMPARISON WITH CHART 8281:

We note the chart indication of a rock awash at  
Latitude 57° 08'28" Longitude 135° 22'40". This survey shows a reef of  
1 1/6 fathoms at this place. A sounding of one fathom is a hundred meters  
to northwest. No rock awash is shown in this vicinity by the new survey.

See  
Review

The older hydrographic and topographic surveys are not available  
at the Processing Office.

Large red circles in water areas of the boat sheet indicate  
positions of vertical casts and bottom samples.

H-6764 (N-1-42)

H6764

TIDAL NOTE

Old Sitka, Alaska

Latitude ..... 57° 07.72

Longitude ..... 135 23.02

Staff reading of MLW .....

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292  
JHC

### TIDE NOTE FOR HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET

June 2, 1943

~~Division of Hydrography and Topography:~~

Division of Charts: Attention: H. R. EDMONSTON

Tide Reducers are approved in  
4 volumes of sounding records for

HYDROGRAPHIC SHEET 6764

Locality <sup>i a</sup> Starragaven Bay, Sitka Sound, S. E. Alaska

Chief of Party: Chas. Pierce in 1942  
Plane of reference is mean lower low water reading  
1.8 ft. on tide staff at Old Sitka Harbor  
13.1 ft. below B.M. 1 <sup>Starrigavan Bay</sup>

Height of mean high water above plane of reference is 9.1 feet.

Condition of records satisfactory except as noted below:

Chief, Division of Tides and Currents.

GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
 Survey No. **H6764**



Name on Survey

On Chart No. A,  
 On previous survey No. B,  
 On U. S. quadrangle Maps C,  
 From local information D,  
 On local Maps E,  
 P. O. Guide or Map F,  
 Rand McNally Atlas G,  
 U. S. Light List H, K

Name on Survey	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	K
<u>Alaska</u>									1
<u>Sitka Sound</u>									2
<del>Old Sitka Harbor to</del>									3
<u>Starrigavan Bay</u>									4
<u>Baranof Island</u>									5
<u>Harbor Pt.</u>									6
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Names underlined in red approved  
 by L. Heck on 6/21/43



H6764

Remarks

Decisions

	Remarks	Decisions
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4		571 253 U.S.G.B
5		570 350 "
6		571 353
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**MEMORANDUM**

**IMMEDIATE ATTENTION**

SURVEY }  
 DESCRIPTIVE REPORT } No. **H6764**  
 PHOTOSTAT OF } No. **[REDACTED]**

{ received May 28, 1943  
 { registered June 1, 1943  
 { verified  
 { reviewed  
 { approved

This is forwarded in order that your attention may be directed to the matters as indicated below. Please initial in column 3 as an acknowledgement that your attention has been thus directed. The complete original records are available if desired. If you cannot give this your immediate attention, please initial, note, and forward to the next section marked, calling for the records at your convenience.

ROUTE		Initial	Attention called to
20			
22			
24			
✓ 25	Pg 1	<i>[initials]</i>	
26			
30			
40			
62			
63			
↓ 82			
↓ 83	Pg 1	<i>[initials]</i>	<i>[note]</i>
88			
90			

**RETURN TO**

82	R.W.Knox
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H6764

Surveys Section (Chart Division)

HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY NO. ....

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Records accompanying survey:

Boat sheets <sup>1</sup>....; sounding vols. <sup>4</sup>....  
bomb vols. <sup>0</sup>....; graphic recorder rolls <sup>6765</sup>....;  
special reports, etc. <sup>Joint</sup> Fathometer record with 6765.....

The following statistics will be submitted with the cartographer's report on the sheet:

Number of positions on sheet	761..
Number of positions checked	..45..
Number of positions revised	..5..
Number of soundings recorded	5875.
Number of soundings revised (refers to depth only)	..35.
Number of soundings erroneously spaced	..24..
Number of signals erroneously plotted or transferred	..0..
Topographic details	Time ..1. hrs.
Junctions	Time ..15..
Verification of soundings from graphic record	Time ..3..

77  
14  
46

Verification by *P.H. Andros*..... Total time ..77 hrs Date 6-14-43.

Review by *J.A. McCormick*..... Time 6 hrs Date 6-18-43.

DIVISION OF CHARTS

REVIEW SECTION - SURVEYS BRANCH

REVIEW OF HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY

REGISTRY NO. 6764 (1942)

Field No. N-1-42

Alaska, Sitka Sound, Starrigavan Bay  
Surveyed in August 1942, Scale 1:5,000  
Instructions dated Aug. 12, 1942 (Director's telegram to Westdahl)

Soundings:

808 Fathometer  
Dorsey Fathometer III

Control:

Three-point fix on shore signals

Chief of Party - C. Pierce  
Surveyed by - C. Pierce; C.F. Chemworth  
Protracted by - R. M. Sylar  
Soundings plotted by - R. M. Sylar  
Verified and inked by - P. H. Andros  
Reviewed by - J. A. McCormick  
Inspected by - H. R. Edmonston      Date - June 18, 1943.

1. Shoreline and Signals

Shoreline and topographic signals are from T-6890 (1942)

2. Sounding Line Crossings

Agreement at crossings is satisfactory.

3. Depth Curves

Satisfactory.

4. Adjoining Surveys

Satisfactory junctions were effected with H-6666 and H-6667 of 1941 on the west and south.

5. Previous Surveys.

H-2302 (1897), 1-20,000.

The older survey appears to be well controlled, but is not closely developed. Depths agree quite well with those on the present survey. A depth of 2/6 fathom in lat. 57° 08.26', long. 135° 22.45' on H-2302 falls in 3 fathoms on the present survey, but close to depths ranging from 5/6 fathom to 2 fathoms. The old survey shows a rock awash (charted) in addition to the depth, but it was not uncommon in those days

to use rock symbols as bottom characteristics. The rock was struck by the sounding launch on the old survey and a position obtained directly over it. Under such circumstances, it is deemed best to carry it forward particularly as the 808 fathogram shows a depth of 4 ft. between the end of one line and the beginning of another in this vicinity.

6. Comparison with Chart 8281 (Print of June 1, 1943)

Charted depths are from H-2302 (1897), discussed in the preceding paragraph. The name "Old Sitka Harbor" was replaced by "Starrigavan Bay" on the chart some years ago as the result of a Geographic Board decision. Through some error in reproduction, the old name is again being printed.

7. Condition of Survey.

Satisfactory.

8. Compliance with Project Instructions

Satisfactory.

9. Additional Field Work Recommended


None.

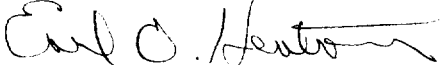
10. Superseded Surveys


H-2302 in part.

Examined and approved:

  
Chief, Surveys Branch

  
Chief, Division of Charts

  
Chief, Section of Hydrography

  
Chief, Division of Coastal  
Surveys

80  
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1995 WE 4

August 3, 1943.

To: Commanding Officer,  
U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey  
Motor Vessel WESTDAHL,  
400 Insurance Building,  
Seattle-4, Washington.

Through: Supervisor, Northwestern District.

From: The Director,  
U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Subject: Geographic name Starrigavan Bay.

Some years ago the name Old Sitka Harbor was replaced by Starrigavan Bay on the chart as a result of the Geographic Board's decision. It is believed that the name Old Sitka Harbor is generally used in the Sitka area and the question arises whether this name should be re-submitted to the Geographic Board for further consideration.

Upon your return to the Sitka project, you will please make inquiries and obtain any information which may be useful in determining which name should be used in charting.

Acting Director.

cc. Supervisor, Northwestern District  
Division of Charts  
Descriptive Report H-6764 ✓

Applied to chart 8281 January 11, 1944

" " " 8252 4/19/44

" " " 8281 Recm. Mar 59 C/W.

L.A.M.  
R

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