

PORT GAMBLE.

This is the second harbor inside the entrance to Hood's Canal. It is on the east side of the Canal, and the mills, ships, and buildings are seen from mid-channel west of Foulweather Bluff, five and one-half miles to the southeast. In clear weather it is seen as a depression in the forest line.

Port Gamble is a land-locked bay two and one-third miles long north-northwest and south-southeast, with a nearly uniform width of five-eighths of a mile. It narrows at the entrance between two low, grassy sand spits only three hundred yards apart, and with a channel-way of one hundred and twenty yards width between the three-fathom lines. The deepest water in the bay is nine fathoms, and it may be said to have a nearly uniform depth of five fathoms. On the eastern point there is an Indian village. On the western point of the entrance is situated the great saw-mill; and the buildings reach to the rise of the bluff to the westward. The wharves on the western point are built out so that vessels have deep water between them and East Point.

At the saw mill the escaping steam and smoke is a good mark for the place; there is also a constant smoke going up from the burning "slab pile," even if the mill be not running. The steam and smoke are distinctly visible from part of Port Townsend, over the low isthmus between that bay and Oak Cove.

Outside of the entrance to the bay there is a hard sand flat on either side; that from the east shore reaches westward three hundred yards; that on the west stretches out north by west from the mill parallel with the east shore. Between these two flats is the channel-way, ninety yards wide between the three-fathom curves.

Westward of the entrance for one and one-eighth of a mile there is a remarkably straight shore-line, partly cliff and partly low ground, towards the west, where Salisbury Point marks the turn of the shore-line to the southward.

Vessels from the northward after leaving Marrowstone Point pass Nodule Point, six miles from Foulweather Bluff, on a southwest by south one-fourth south course (SW. by S. $\frac{1}{4}$ S.), steering for Hood's Head if it is recognized. This course passes more than a mile to the westward of Foulweather Bluff, and nearly half way between Foulweather Bluff buoy and Colvos Rock buoy.

After passing Foulweather Bluff keep closer to the eastern shore than to the western to avoid the strong and irregular current passing around the low point, which makes out two hundred and seventy-five yards eastward from Hood's Head. Then run for the saw-mill plainly in sight on the west side of the entrance, and when within a mile of it approach the eastern shore within one third of a mile. When it is foggy or smoky steam-boats get their distance from the shore by the echo of their whistles.

Outside of this entrance the bottom is sticky out to fifteen fathoms; beyond that it falls off rapidly. A vessel may anchor in eight fathoms, with the mill bearing south-southeast, distant three-quarters of a mile, and the eastern shore distant three-eighths of a mile.

When a small vessel is going in she must have either good local knowledge of the channel and natural ranges or must keep the lead going smartly.

In summer the wind generally blows into the harbor lightly; in winter the southeast gales prevail and draw directly out. When entering under sail a vessel must drop in with the early flood. Loaded vessels are towed in and out by the tug; when without the tug, they must warp out in summer with the last of the ebb or trust to a light southerly air in the morning, with an ebb current. None but small smartly-working vessels can beat out, and very few of them have done so within channel limits. When a small vessel is beating out she should go out on the ebb.

Inside the saw-mill and Indian village points there is good water in the mid-channel for anchorage. On the western side there was formerly a crib in three and a half fathoms of water, from which a shoal has formed, with only ten to fifteen feet of water; between this crib and the lumber wharf there is from seventeen to twenty-two feet of water; if a vessel has to anchor, she can do so just beyond this crib in five fathoms of water over soft, muddy bottom.

On the east side of the steam-boat wharf, which lies nearly north and south, there is a depth of five to twenty-two feet, the shoaler water being at the north end. On the south side of the wharf, where the lumber vessels lie to receive their cargoes, there is a depth of twenty-one to twenty-four feet at twenty feet from the wharf.

Inside of the steam-boat wharf, with an opening to the northward, there is a "Gridiron," upon which small vessels are taken out at high water for repair or examination. It has twelve feet of water on it at high water.