



Additional chart coverage may be found in CATP2, Catalog of Nautical Charts.

SECTOR 4 — CHART INFORMATION

SECTOR 4

SEA OF THE HEBRIDES TO LITTLE MINCH

Plan.—This sector describes the Passage of Tiree, the SW coast of Skye, and The Small Isles. The E coast of The Outer Hebrides from Berneray to the Sound of Harris is also described. The descriptive sequence is from S to N.

General Remarks

4.1 The Sea of the Hebrides, extending 85 miles NNE from the S extremity of the Outer Hebrides, separates the S part of the Outer Hebrides from the islands forming the Inner Hebrides. Depths are ample for deep-draft vessels. The islands of the Hebrides are rocky, bleak, low and indented by numerous bights. The climate is moist, but the soil is mostly non-arable and many of the islands are uninhabited. The few small harbors have only minor facilities. Local knowledge is required to enter the harbors or anchor in any of the coves or inlets, many of which are subjected to violent squalls and heavy swells. Rocky shoals fringing the Hebrides are contained within the 50m curve. Variable depths exist on detached banks and rocky extensions of shoals lying in the approaches to the islands.

Winds—Weather.—The islands of the Hebrides serve as a buffer against stormy NW weather buffeting the mainland of Scotland. Northwest gales raise long, heavy swells and cause breakers over off-lying rocks and shoals.

Tides—Currents.—Tide and tidal current information is shown and tabulated on charts of the area covered in this sector.

Off-lying Banks and Dangers

4.2 Skerryvore (56°19'N., 7°07'W.), one of a group of above and below-water rocks, is marked by a tower from which a light is shown. The tower is equipped with a racon.

MacKenzie's Rock (56°17'N., 7°10'W.), drying to 2.2m and marked by heavy breakers, is the outermost rock of the Skerryvore group. Numerous shoal patches with depths of less than 9m lie as far as 6 miles W and SW of Skerryvore.

Deep-draft vessels should not approach within 22 miles of Skerryvore.



SKERRYVORE LIGHT

Boinshly Rock (56°22'N., 7°02'W.), almost awash, lies in an area containing several rocky shoals of less than 9m. Long, heavy swells always prevail in the area, with breakers forming between Skerryvore and Tiree during NW gales. Banks, with detached patches of 16.8m or more, lie between 16 miles S and 11 miles SSW of Skerryvore. There are numerous shoal patches lying between Iona and the fairway leading through Passage of Tiree.

Stanton Banks (56°12'N., 7°53'W.), lying between 28 and 40 miles WSW of Tiree, has a least depth of 30m.

Hawes Bank (56°47'N., 6°41'W.) has a charted depth of 19.6m but there may be lesser depths. The sea breaks heavily over this bank in stormy weather.

Passage of Tiree

4.3 Passage of Tiree (56°33'N., 6°30'W.) is a navigable passage leading between Tiree and Coll on the W side and Mull on the E side. The passage, with a least width of 5.5 miles, has a least depth of 27.4m in the fairway, except for a wreck, with a least depth of 18m over it, lying approximately 2.5 miles WSW of Caliach Point (56°36'N., 6°19'W.). Depths are very irregular. Rocks and reefs fronting the islands, as far as 1.5 miles offshore, are contained within the 50m curve except in the area off the SE end of Tiree. The passage leads to Sound of Mull and Sound of Sleat, also E or W of Skye and the Small Isles.

Tidal currents begin earlier and attain greater velocities between and off the islands NE of Coll. These currents begin progressively later moving NE along the coasts of Tiree and Coll. A weak tidal current sets NNE and SSW in the vicinity of Hawes Bank.

Caution.—Submarines conduct exercises in the approaches and entrance to the Passage of Tiree and Sea of the Hebrides.

Local magnetic disturbances have been reported in the vicinity of the islands.

Without local knowledge the area around the islands should be avoided.

A submarine power cable crosses the N end of the Passage of Tiree, from Sorisdale (56°41'N., 6°27'W.), at the NE end of Coll, SE to Mull.

Tiree and Coll

4.4 Tiree (56°30'N., 6°54'W.) and **Coll** (56°38'N., 6°33'W.) are contiguous islands lying on a subterranean plateau which extends SW to include Skerryvore and adjacent rocky shoals. Tiree and Coll maintain communication with the mainland. Tiree, a low island with a plain near its center and a high promontory at its S end, is indented by bays fronted by rocky shoals.

Hynish Bay (56°28'N., 6°51'W.), indenting the coast adjacent to the S promontory, is fronted by above and below-water rocks and shoals. A prominent, square water tank stands near the head of the bay, and a stone pier used by small craft extends off the W shore.

Scarinish (56°30'N., 6°48'W.), a small inlet, leads to a drying pier which is available to vessels with a draft of 1.5m at HW. A heavy swell setting through the inlet entrance frequently prevents departure of vessels. Scarinish Light is shown from a point 0.5 mile SW of the entrance to Gott Bay. A tower stands close SW of the light.

4.5 Gott Bay (56°31'N., 6°48'W.), encumbered with rocks and reefs, has a T-head concrete pier close within its SW entrance point. There is a conspicuous chimney standing on the W side of the bay. The outer face of the pier has a length of 55m with a depth of 2.4m alongside. A drying rock marked by a beacon, lies close to the E head of the pier. Range lights, 286°30', shown from the pierheads, lead alongside. The ferry from Oban, Glasgow, and the Hebrides calls at the pier. Anchorage can be taken, with local knowledge, in a depth of 5m, sand, in the SW part of Gott Bay.

Rubha Chraiginis (56°30'N., 6°59'W.) is the W extremity of Tiree. Breaking seas are visible on banks and shoals lying as far as 7.5 miles W of the point.

Dubh Sgeir (56°32'N., 7°03'W.), a drying rock, and the Hough Skerries (56°31'N., 7°01'W.), above and below-water reefs, are among the dangers lying off the NW point of Tiree. A radio tower is prominent on a hill about 1 mile E of Rubha Chraiginis.

Gunna Sound (56°33'N., 6°42'W.), separating Tiree from the S side of Coll, is encumbered with rocks and shoals and should be avoided without local knowledge.

Placaid Bogha (56°33'N., 6°44'W.), a sunken rock, is marked close S by a lighted buoy.

Roan Bogha (56°32'N., 6°40'W.), rocks awash, lie 2 miles E of Rubha Dubh, the NE extremity of Tiree. Seas may break on the rocks during stormy weather. A lighted buoy marks the S side of the rocks.

Coll (56°38'N., 6°33'W.) is a sparsely populated island consisting of moorland which appears bleak and barren from the offing. Ben Hogh (56°38'N., 6°34'W.), an eminence, rises near the center of the island. The weather side (NW) of Coll affords little shelter. Crossapol Bay (56°34'N., 6°40'W.), indenting the S side of Coll, is foul.

4.6 Loch Eatharna (56°37'N., 6°31'W.), an inlet, has its entrance divided by a small island. The W entrance is the preferred. Bogha Mor (56°36'N., 6°31'W.), a drying rock lying in the entrance, is marked close SW by a lighted buoy. A pier, 180m long, extends off the W side of the loch from close within the entrance. A light is shown from the head of the pier. There are berths on either side of the pier, 24m long, with alongside depths of 4m. A ro-ro facility is available at the S berth.

Arinagour (56°37'N., 6°31'W.), a village on the W side of the loch, has a ferry pier with a depth of 2.7m alongside at high tide.

Cairns of Coll (56°42'N., 6°26'W.), two drying rocks often marked by breakers, lie at the outer end of a group of islets and

rocks lying off the NE end of Coll. Suil Ghorm, a rock, lies 1 mile NE of Coll. Cairns of Coll Light is shown from this rock.

A channel, deep and free of dangers, leads between Cairns of Coll and Suil Ghorm. Local knowledge is required due to strong tidal streams. A depth of 18.5m was reported to lie 5 miles WNW of Cairns of Coll Light.

Isle of Skye—Southwest Coast

4.7 Skye (57°20'N., 6°15'W.), a large island, has a SW coast extending NW for 35 miles from Point of Sleat (57°01'N., 6°01'W.). This coast is rugged and indented by several lochs. Violent N wind squalls sweep down from the mountains backing the coast. The coastal waters are comparatively free of dangers with rocky shoals lying less than 0.5 mile offshore with the exception of An Dubh Sgeir (57°20'N., 6°40'W.).

Strathaird (57°08'N., 6°06'W.), a large promontory, divides two bays. Rubha na h-Easgainne (57°08'N., 6°05'W.) is the S point of the promontory.

Loch Eishort (57°09'N., 5°59'W.), deep and open to the W, is foul in its inner part and should be entered only with local knowledge. Anchorage, sheltered, can be taken in depths of up to 11m in the loch.

Loch Slapin (57°11'N., 6°01'W.) is entered W of Rubha Suisnish (57°10'N., 6°00'W.). The loch, opening N, is deep and clear of dangers in the fairway as far as 2 miles from its head wherein the inlet becomes shoal and foul. Anchorage can be taken in depths of up to 5.5m, mud, in the inner part of the loch.

Tarskavaig Bay (57°06'N., 6°00'W.), opposite and E of the point of Strathaird has depths of 3.7 to 7.3m, but is foul throughout.

4.8 Loch Scavaig (57°10'N., 6°09'W.), indenting the coast W of Strathaird promontory, is entered E of Rubha Gheodha Buidhe (57°11'N., 6°10'W.). Sgurr na Stri (57°12'N., 6°08'W.), a bare, dark mountain peak with a sharp cone, identifies the loch approaching from S. The sides of the loch are formed by steep mountain sides. Bogha Carrach (57°09'N., 6°08'W.), with a depth of 3.2m, lies in the S approach fairway to the loch. Above and below-water rocks and islets encumber the loch. Severe wind squalls off the mountains, or heavy swells rolling in with S winds, may cause dangerous conditions in the loch.

Rubh' an Dunain (57°10'N., 6°19'W.) is the outer extremity of a promontory on the NW side of the approach to Loch Scavaig. From the offing the promontory appears low and flat, with a twin-peaked hill at the point.

Soay (57°09'N., 6°14'W.), an island lying in the SW approach to Loch Scavaig, has a low, narrow isthmus connecting the NE and SW ends of the island. Camas nan Gall (57°09'N., 6°13'W.), an inlet on the S side of the isthmus, is open to S gales and seas.

Soay Harbor (57°09'N., 6°01'W.), a constricted creek on the N side of the isthmus, is fronted by a drying bar. Temporary anchorage, sheltered from S winds, can be taken off the harbor. Anchorage is available, clear of drying rocks, in Camas nan Gall. The preferred anchorage is in a depth of 27m off the SW entrance point of the inlet.

Soay Sound (57°10'N., 6°15'W.), the channel N of Soay, has a least depth of 16.5m and is free of dangers in the fairway. Tidal currents setting N along the W side of Straithaird promontory divide at Soay Island. Part of the current sets W in strength through Soay Sound meeting the current setting along the coast from Loch Scavaig and causing a confused, choppy sea in the entrance of the sound.

4.9 Loch Brittle (57°11'N., 6°19'W.) and Loch Eynort (57°14'N., 6°23'W.) are adjacent lochs indenting the coast NW of Rubh' an Dunain. Most of Loch Brittle has a least depth of 24m and it extends free of dangers to drying flats at the head. South winds raise a considerable swell making the loch unsafe. High cliffs, cut by a chasm, form the NW side of the loch. Loch Eynort is open to W gales which raise a heavy sea. Squalls are frequent in the loch. An Dubh Sgeir (57°13'N., 6°24'W.), a bare rock, lies off the entrance. Depths decrease from 18m in the entrance to the drying flat at the head. Sheltered anchorage can be taken in depths of 3.7 to 5.5m, within the bend of the loch. Vessels can anchor in depths of up to 11m, mud, at the bend.

Talisker Bay (57°17'N., 6°28'W.) is a small bight indenting a coast consisting of steep cliffs backed by conspicuous mountains. Caves in the cliffs and waterfalls are prominent landmarks. The bay is open to SW winds and has poor holding ground. A prominent rock rises about 1 mile NW of Rubha Cruinn (57°17'N., 6°29'W.), the steep N entrance point of the bay, over which flows a considerable waterfall. The coast N of the point consists of broken, ragged cliffs.

4.10 Loch Bracadale (57°20'N., 6°32'W.) is entered between Rubha nan Clach (57°19'N., 6°29'W.) and Idrigill Point (57°20'N., 6°34'W.). The former is a high, sheer cliff with a waterfall flowing down its N face; the latter point consists of high, craggy, steep cliffs. Within a deepwater entrance, the loch divides into three arms fronted by several islands. Local vessels maintain a shipping service between some of the villages, the mainland via Mallaig, and the Hebrides. The loch is open to the prevailing winds. Tidal currents are negligible.



S PART OF ENTRANCE TO LOCH BRACADALE

Entrance to Loch Bracadale

4.11 Wlay (57°20'N., 6°30'W.), a conspicuous island lying within the loch entrance, is ringed with coastal cliffs and fringed by drying reefs.

Oronsay (57°20'N., 6°28'W.), an island joined by a drying reef to Ullinish Point, close NE, forms the NW side of the entrance to Loch Harport. The SW end of Oronsay is a vertical cliff, fronted by a low point on which rises The Castle, a prominent rock column resembling castle turrets. Drying rocks and reefs, lying close S and SE of The Castle, are marked by breakers.

Loch Harport (57°20'N., 6°24'W.), entered between Ullinish Point and Ardtreck Point (57°20'N., 6°26'W.), has a least depth of 9m in the fairway as far as 2.5 miles from the head of the loch, which dries. The loch channel is free of dangers. The sides of the loch are steep-to and fringed by reefs. Ardtreck Point is low, steep-to and reef-fringed. A light is shown from a tower on Ardtreck Point. A parsonage standing 1.5 miles NE of Ullinish Point is a useful mark for vessels entering the loch. Anchorage can be taken in suitable depths, good holding ground, in the loch channel. Anchorage may also be taken in depths of 13 to 16m off the pier at Carbest (57°18'N., 6°21'W.).

Port nan Long (57°20'N., 6°25'W.), a small bight close E of Ardtreck Point, has a drying head. A concrete pier about 23m long can accommodate a vessel 60m in length with a maximum draft of 4.6m. Sheltered anchorage can be taken between Ardtreck Point and a point about 0.5 mile ESE. Small vessels can obtain anchorage farther in, close inshore off a ruined slip on the E side of the bay, in a depth of 7m.

Tarner Island (57°22'N., 6°30'W.), rocky with cliffs, is reef-fringed with a chain of drying rocks extending NNE from the N end of the island. A 5.5m deep channel leads between the island and rocks. Anchorage, open to S winds, can be taken in a depth of 11m, clay, about 150m off the NE side of the island.

4.12 Loch Caroy (57°22'N., 6°31'W.), and **Loch Vatten** (57°23'N., 6°33'W.), both leading N from the entrance of Loch Bracadale, are separated by Harlosh Island (57°22'N., 6°32'W.). Although both lochs are deep, they provide very little shelter.

Rubha Ruadh (57°22'N., 6°40'W.), a promontory backing the shore, is the end of a stretch of coast consisting of remarkable, high cliffs broken into unusual formations. Above and below-water rocks extending 1.5 miles S of Rubha Ruadh, terminate at An Dubh Sgeir, a black rock steep-to on its S side. The coast NW of Rubha Ruadh consists of high, steep cliffs pierced by many caves. Tidal currents are strong in this area.

Hoe Point (57°23'N., 6°43'W.), a steep, rocky headland, extends NW from Lorgill Bay to Hoe Rape (57°23'N., 6°44'W.). The Hoe has a black vertical cliffy face intersected with red streaks.

Moonen Bay (57°24'N., 6°45'W.) is an open bight between Hoe Rape and Neist Point (57°25'N., 6°47'W.). Waterstein Head (57°25'N., 6°46'W.), a precipitous headland E of the point, is an excellent landmark. Temporary anchorage can be taken in depths of 15 to 20m in the NW part of Moonen Bay.

Caution.—Tidal currents around Neist Point are rather strong and complicated by the currents setting NE and SW through Little Minch, which raise a choppy confused sea.

The Small Isles

4.13 The Small Isles (57°00'N., 6°20'W.) are sparsely populated and lie between Point of Ardamurchan and the SW coast of Skye. Shipping is carried on between Mallaig and the three largest isles of the group. Tidal currents in the vicinity of the area are shown on the charts.

Muck (56°50'N., 6°15'W.), the S isle, has terrain rising to over 120m in the W part where there are several cliffs. There is good spring water and arable land in the interior. Muck has a

rocky coast, no harbors, and affords little shelter. Above and below-water rocks and reefs fringe the coast and there are detached, partly drying rocks and reefs lying offshore, some of which are uncharted as evidenced by breaking seas. Mariners without local knowledge are advised to give the area a wide berth.

Eigg (56°54'N., 6°10'W.), the E isle of the group, has a high and rocky coast indented by small bays and inlets. A conspicuous hill, the upper part a steep cliff, rises near the S end of Eigg. Although the N end of the isle is low, cliffs rise to prominent heights about 0.3 mile inland and nearly encircle the isle.

Eilean Chathastail (Eilean Castle) (56°52'N., 6°07'W.) is an islet lying close off the SE side of Eigg. A light is shown from a beacon standing on the E end of the islet. Rubha na Crannaig (56°53'N., 6°07'W.) is the low E end of Eigg. The coast N of the point is free of offshore dangers, but the N and W shores of the isle are reef-fringed, as is the S shore where a bare rock lies 0.4 mile offshore. Tidal currents in the channel S of the rock set NW and N along the E coast of Rhum.

Bay of Laig (56°55'N., 6°10'W.), open, and indenting the NW coast of Eigg, is reef-fringed. Most of the inhabitants of the isle live near the bay.

4.14 Maxwell Bank (56°51'N., 6°06'W.), a rocky bank with a least depth of 14.1m on which the sea breaks in heavy weather, and Oberon Bank (56°52'N., 6°02'W.), with depths of 15.5 to 20.1m, about 3 miles E of Eilean Chathastail, are to be avoided enroute to Sound of Sleat.

Anchorage can be taken, sheltered from W gales, about 0.3 mile offshore and N of Rubha na Crannaig and also in depths of up to 14.6m about 0.3 mile S of the point, near Flod Sgeir, a drying rock. Anchorage is available in the bay between the W side of Eilean Chathastail and Eigg. A course of 021°, tangent to the W side of the N entrance, leads to the anchorage in depths of 5.5 to 12.8m, sand.

Caution.—Depths increase suddenly to 55m at a distance of 0.3 mile from Flod Sgeir.

Rhum (57°00'N., 6°20'W.), the largest isle, is very mountainous. Several of the highest mountain peaks are seldom seen, as they are enshrouded constantly in mist and clouds. Rhum is a Scottish Nature Reserve and has a very sparse population. The coasts of the island are generally steep-to and generally free of dangers beyond 0.3 mile offshore. Lesser depths than charted were reported (1977) along the 50m curve between the S tip of Rhum and a point 1.8 miles NW. Reefs, rocks and shoals fringe this coast.

Loch Scresort (57°01'N., 6°15'W.), the only sizable bight indenting the coast of Rhum, affords anchorage in a depth of 6.4m, about 0.5 mile from the drying pier, with Kinloch House (57°01'N., 6°17'W.) bearing 270°. Small craft can anchor in a depth of 3.7m, mud, with the pier bearing 250°, about 0.2 mile distant. Although the shores of the loch are reef-fringed, the loch proper is clear of dangers. Vessels enter the loch with Kinloch House bearing 270°.

4.15 Canna (57°04'N., 6°32'W.), the NW isle of the group, is grass-covered and hilly, with elevated extremities and a depressed middle.

Sanday (57°03'N., 6°30'W.) is an isle connected SE to Canna by a drying reef. A high, steep-to cliff forms the E end of Sanday. Isolated, high rocks of remarkable appearance rise close E of the cliff. Canna Light is shown from a tower at the E end of Sanday.

The S side of Canna is indented by a broad bay divided by a reef into two parts. Tarbert Bay (57°03'N., 6°33'W.) is the W part, Boat Harbor (57°03'N., 6°01'W.), the E part, is encumbered with rocks. An islet lying at the SE side of the harbor, aligned 040° with Compass Hill (57°04'N., 6°29'W.), leads to an anchorage in a depth of 3.7m, sand, N of the islet. The hill is the center of strong magnetic disturbances.

Tarbert Bay affords anchorage in a depth of 16.5m, but is not recommended.

4.16 Canna Harbor (57°03'N., 6°29'W.) is entered S of a point at the SE extremity of Canna which is a black, steep-to cliff. A drying rock lies 0.1 mile NW of the point and another drying rock lies in the entrance fairway about 0.5 mile NW of Canna Light. The preferred entrance, N of the latter rock, leads in a depth of 3.7m to a very small harbor of similar depth. Anchorage, sheltered from SW gales, can be taken in a depth of 3.7m, mud, close NW of a rock lying 0.1 mile WNW of the entrance point.

Garrisdale Point (57°03'N., 6°37'W.), the W end of Canna, is fringed by reefs which extend along the N coast of the isle. An Steidh, an islet, lies SE of the point and sunken rocks lie 0.2 mile apart and 1.5 miles S of the point.

Humla (57°01'N., 6°37'W.), a bare rock, is marked on its SW side by a lighted buoy. Rocks awash lie 0.1 mile NNE and 0.2 mile WSW of Humla Rock. It should be noted that Sanday Light is obscured over this rock. Tide rips and eddies occur in strength over the rocks and banks lying SW of Canna.

Mill Rocks (56°57'N., 6°44'W.) are two detached heads with a least depth of 1.8m. Breaking seas occur over the rocks and the irregular bank lying SW during stormy weather. Although the least known depth on the bank lying SW of Mill Rocks is 19.3m, vessels should not approach the vicinity of Mills Rocks, particularly when the visibility is poor, in depths of less than 55m. The N extremity of Eigg, bearing 085°, open S of the S end of Rhum, leads 1.5 miles S of Mill Rocks. Due to breakers, passage between Mill Rocks and Oigh Sgeir is not recommended.

Oigh Sgeir (56°58'N., 6°41'W.), an isolated group of islets, lies 5 miles SSW of Garrisdale Point. The SW islets are low-lying and the E islets are steep-to. Hyskeir Light is shown from a tower located 0.4 mile SW of the group of islets. A racon is located at the light.

East Coast of the Outer Hebrides—Berneray to the Sound of Harris

4.17 The Outer Hebrides (57°46'N., 6°58'W.), islands, islets and rocks, are separated from the mainland of North Scotland by the Sea of the Hebrides and The Minch. The Sound of Harris, the Sound of Barra, and several of the channels between the S group of islands are the only navigable passages through them.

Depths in the Sea of the Hebrides are ample for most ocean-going vessels and the channel through this seaway is clear of dangers.

Caution.—A submarine ridge, as determined by a 90m curve, extends SSW for about 15 miles from Barra Head (56°47'N., 7°38'W.).

Sgriobh Bhan (White Strip) (56°38'N., 7°41'W.), rocky fishing grounds with a least depth of 30m, lies on the ridge about 8.5 miles SSW from Barra Head. The depths in this vicinity are irregular, and a number of isolated patches, with depths between 22 and 36m lie between the 30m and 100m curves, SW and NW of Barra Head.

Caution.—Many depths, significantly less than those charted, are reported to exist up to 15 miles SW to W from Barra Head Light and up to 10 miles NW from the NW extremity of Barra. The depths lie E of the E limit of the Route for Deep Draft Ships.

Along the E side of the Outer Hebrides the tidal currents of the S islands change direction about 4 hours before those off Lewis, the N island of the group. West currents prevail in the sounds when the coastal current sets SW.

Northeast coastal currents set into the sounds. South of Berneray, the current sets SE on the change before shifting to NE. Tide rips can be seen. Tide and tidal current information is shown on the charts covering the Outer Hebrides.

4.18 Barra Head (56°47'N., 7°38'W.) is the S extremity of Berneray Island. Between the head and the N end of Barra are grouped several islands, islets and numerous rocks. Several channels separate these various islands and islets.

Berneray (56°47'N., 7°38'W.), an uninhabited island, is marked by a light.

For a description of Berneray and the waters lying to the W of it, see Sector 6.

Mingulay (56°49'N., 7°38'W.), an uninhabited island, appears as three or four rounded eminences depending on direction of approach. Precipitous cliffs forming the W side of the island taper off to the E side where they are less steep. Mingulay Bay, indenting the E side of the island, affords landing in moderate weather at the ends of a sandy beach, but the best landing place is at Skipisdale, 0.5 mile SW of the bay entrance.

Geirum Mor (56°48'N., 7°39'W.), a high islet formed of dark cliffs, lies 0.1 mile off the S end of Mingulay. Above and below-water rocks lie NE and NW of the islet. The Red Boy is a conspicuous detached rock lying close W of the N end of Mingulay. Anchorage, exposed to a SW swell, can be taken in depths of 16 to 18m off the E entrance of Mingulay Bay.

4.19 Sound of Berneray (56°48'N., 7°38'W.), a navigable passage between Berneray and Mingulay, has a least depth of 12.8m and is clear of dangers in the fairway. Shelter Rock, which dries, lies close off the N side of Berneray. The channel between the rock and Berneray has a least depth of 1.8m. An E wind opposing the current raises a sea in the E part of the sound, where tide rips occur when a NE coastal current meets the SW eddy leaving the sound. An E transit of the sound is usually smooth.

Pabbay (56°51'N., 7°35'W.), an uninhabited island, is steep-to, with cliffs on the SW side marked by vertical fissures. Above and below-water rocks lie as far as 0.1 mile offshore. Rosinish (56°51'N., 7°33'W.), a high projection extending 0.5

mile SE from the vicinity of Pabbay, has a connecting ridge, covered at HW.

Sound of Mingulay (56°50'N., 7°36'W.), a navigable passage, has a least charted depth of 22.5m and a width of 0.7 mile. Outer Heisker (56°51'N., 7°37'W.), an islet, lies in the W entrance of the sound. Inner Heisker (56°51'N., 7°36'W.) is a group of islets lying N of the channel within the sound and off the SW end of Pabbay. If seas break between the outer and inner islets during stormy weather, vessels should pass S of both Outer and Inner Heisker islets. Tidal currents cause a race at springs when the E current clears the NE entrance of the sound. The tidal current from Sound of Berneray meets the current setting S from the Sound of Mingulay, resulting in overfalls.

4.20 Sandray (56°53'N., 7°30'W.), an uninhabited island, has a large, sandy beach on its E side which is a good landmark. A bare, rocky islet lies close SE of the E end of Sandray. Numerous rocks lie W of the island as far as Flodday (56°54'N., 7°35'W.), an islet formed by dark cliffs along its W side. A bank, with a least depth of 13.2m, lies 2 miles E of Sandray. Southeast gales raise a rough sea over the bank.

Sound of Pabbay (56°52'N., 7°33'W.), a navigable passage, has a least depth of about 14m in the fairway. Lingay (56°52'N., 7°35'W.), an island lying in the middle of the W entrance of the sound, consists of bold cliffs tapering from N to S. Greanamul, an islet, lies 0.7 mile E of Lingay. A rock, with a depth of less than 1.3m over it, lies 275m NW of the islet. The preferred fairway leads 0.3 mile N of Pabbay and close S of a 13.7m bank lying W of Lingay.

Caution.—Less water than charted has been reported (1996) between Flodday and Lingay.

4.21 Sound of Sandray (56°54'N., 7°31'W.), a navigable passage, requires local knowledge, as rocks and shoals lying in or near the passage restrict the fairway to a width of about 300m and a depth of 10.9m. The W entrance of the sound is constricted by shoals over which the sea breaks. Foul ground lies off the NW and SE ends of Sandray and Vatersay.

Vatersay (56°56'N., 7°32'W.), an uninhabited island, is divided into two parts by a low, sandy isthmus forming a W and E bay. Vessels should avoid the tide rips off the W side of the N part of Vatersay. The W bay is untenable. Vatersay Bay, the E bay, is entered between Creag Mor, and Am Meall, a steep point about 0.5 mile SW. The bay has a least depth of 10.5m in the fairway leading to a low, sandy beach.

Muldoanich (56°55'N., 7°27'W.), an island SE of Vatersay, is sheer and steep-to except on its W side. A chain of islets and rocks extends from the island to Creag Mor, and provides shelter from E weather to Vatersay Bay.

Sgeir Vichalea (56°55'N., 7°31'W.), a drying rock lying 0.5 mile WNW of Am Meall, is marked by a beacon. Sheltered anchorage can be taken in depths of 13 to 15m, sand, about 0.2 mile NW of Sgeir Vichalea.

Barra Island (56°59'N., 7°28'W.), an inhabited island, is formed of high hills and peaked mountains, with the terrain rising from N to S. Ben Heaval, 381m high, forms the summit of this island. The E coast of Barra is indented by numerous, small and rocky bights fronted by foul ground and above and below-water rocks lying as far as 1.5 miles offshore.

4.22 Bo Vich Chuan (56°56'N., 7°24'W.), a steep-to sunken rock, is marked close S by a lighted buoy equipped with a racon. The S end of Muldoanich, aligned 238° with a conspicuous sandy patch on the E side of Sandray, leads SE of the sunken rock. Above and below-water rocks lie at least 1 mile E of Rubha Mor (56°57'N., 7°26'W.), the SE extremity of Barra.

Sgeir a Scape (56°56'N., 7°27'W.), a drying rock marked by a ruined beacon, and a 1.6m shoal, marked by a lighted buoy equipped with a racon, lie 0.7 mile and 1 mile S of Rubha Mor.

Dubh Sgeir (56°56'N., 7°28'W.), a drying rock, is the outermost of a chain of rocks extending 0.2 mile S of the SE end of Orosay (56°57'N., 7°29'W.). The fairway leading to Castle Bay is about 0.2 mile in width between Dubh Sgeir and the above and below-water rocky shoals extending N from Watersay. A light is shown from a column on Dubh Sgeir.

Sgeir Liath (56°57'N., 7°31'W.), a low, rocky islet lies nearly 0.5 mile SW of Rubha Glas, the W entrance point of Castle Bay. A light is shown from a column on the islet. Rocky foul ground lies off Rubha Glas (56°57'N., 7°30'W.), and off Orosay, the islet close off the E entrance point.

4.23 Castle Bay (56°57'N., 7°29'W.) ([World Port Index No. 32980](#)) indents the S coast of Barra and is the local harbor serving the area. Tidal currents are weak in Castle Bay and approaches. The flood current sets E through Watersay Sound and into the bay; the ebb current sets W and out of the bay. There are depths of 5.5 to 12.8m, mud and sand, in the harbor which is entered between Orosay and Rubha Glas in a least depth of 6.5m. The E part of the harbor is fronted by rocky shoals. Kiessimul Castle stands on an islet near the N end of these shoals. A church at the head of the bay, close N of the castle, has a conspicuous clock-faced tower. Submarine cables marked by beacons, lie between the castle and the N shore. Range lights, shown from towers 0.3 mile apart and aligned 295°, are located NNE of Sgeir Liath. This range leads close S of Dubh Sgeir on approaching the bay.

Vessels entering the bay should keep in the deeper water in its W part. There is a main pier on the N side of the bay, where vessels call from Glasgow and local mainland ports. Anchorage can be taken in depths of 9 to 11m with Kiessimul Castle bearing 046°. Smaller vessels can anchor in a depth of 7.3m, close W of the castle.

Sound of Barra—Southeast Side

4.24 Sound of Barra (57°04'N., 7°22'W.) is the navigable passage between Barra and the island of South Uist lying 3.5 miles NE. Numerous islands, islets, rocks and shoals encumber the sound which is at least 3.5 miles wide. The bottom of the sound in its middle and S parts is clear, composed of sand and shells partly covered by weeds. A rocky, uneven bottom, with breakers denoting the presence of shoals, prevails throughout the N part of the sound.

The tidal currents set in and out of the Sound of Barra simultaneously at both ends on the flood and ebb. The current sets NW from the E entrance and SE from the W entrance. Both currents meet near the center of the sound (Oitir Mhor) and W of Eriskay, where they become weak and variable. In Drover Channel (57°04'N., 7°22'W.), the SE current has a strong set toward Fuday (57°03'N., 7°23'W.) and adjacent

shoals, whereas the NW current sets strongly toward Drover Rocks (57°04'N., 7°24'W.).

The principal channel through the sound, consisting of several reaches designated by name, is intricate and in places less than 0.1 mile in width with a least depth of 6.7m. Local knowledge is necessary to transit the sound, but pilots are not available. Natural ranges are often used to navigate within the sound and they are rather difficult to identify when approaching from the W.

The E side of the sound is bound S by **Bruernish Point** (56°59'N., 7°23'W.) and N by **Ru Melvick** (57°06'N., 7°14'W.). **Curachan** (56°58'N., 7°21'W.), a rocky islet, is a prominent landmark when approaching North Bay (57°00'N., 7°23'W.) and Sound of Barra. Above and below-water rocks lie near the islet. **Fuiay Island** (57°00'N., 7°22'W.) forms the E side of North Bay, with Flodday (57°00'N., 7°21'W.) lying close E of Fuiay.

Anchorage in North Bay can be taken in a depth of nearly 11m about 0.2 mile from the NW end of Fuiay. Hellisay (57°01'N., 7°21'W.), with Fuiay and Flodday, form the Sound of Hellisay (57°00'N., 7°21'W.), wherein shelter can be found amongst the various islets with local knowledge. Anchorage can be taken in the Sound of Hellisay about 0.2 mile W of Flodday in a depth of 16.5m.

4.25 Gighay (57°01'N., 7°20'W.) is the NE of a group of islands forming the SW side of the Sound of Barra. The NE side of this island is steep-to and from SE appears as a high point ending in a hummock.

Fuday (57°03'N., 7°23'W.) is a grass-covered island featuring three flat-topped hills. The inner area between Fuday and Gighay is encumbered with islets and foul, rocky ground. The outer shoals are cleared by keeping Ben Scrien (57°05'N., 7°18'W.), bearing not more than 014° and open E of Gighay.

Outer Oitir Mhor (57°02'N., 7°22'W.) and **Inner Oitir Mhor** (57°01'N., 7°24'W.) are areas cluttered with reefs and shoals wherein shelter and anchorage is available. Anchorage can be taken in Outer Oitir Mhor in depths of 9 to 18m, good holding ground, about 0.5 mile NNW of the W extremity of Gighay. Anchorage is also taken in depths up to 12m, clay and sand, about 0.5 mile W of Greanamul (57°02'N., 7°23'W.), an islet. With strong E and SE winds, vessels should anchor about 0.5 mile SW of the islet.

Sound of Barra—Northeast Side

4.26 Ru Melvick (57°06'N., 7°14'W.), the SE extremity of South Uist, is a bold, rocky headland ending seaward in a steep-to, bare rock. Easaval (56°07'N., 7°20'W.), a long, flat-topped hill, and Artople (56°07'N., 7°17'W.), another eminence, are conspicuous landmarks in transit of the sound. The N shoulder of Easaval has a remarkable spur ending in a steep face. It was reported (1971) that a rock, with a least depth of 2m, lies approximately 0.6 mile SSW of Ru Melvick.

Eriskay (57°04'N., 7°17'W.), the largest island in the sound, has two conspicuous mountain peaks named Ben Scrien (57°05'N., 7°17'W.) and Ben Stack (57°04'N., 7°17'W.).

Sound of Eriskay (57°06'N., 7°17'W.), N of Eriskay, is foul and used only with local knowledge. Hartamul (57°05'N.,

7°14'W.), a grassy islet, lies in the E approach to the sound. Above and below-water rocks encircle the islet.

Stack Islands (57°03'N., 7°18'W.), include Eilean Leathan, a steep-to island on which stands the ruins of Weaver's Castle, a prominent landmark when approaching the Sound of Barra.

Binch Rock (57°02'N., 7°17'W.), marked by a buoy, has a depth of 3.1m and lies near the entrance fairway to the Sound of Barra.

Bo Tanna (57°03'N., 7°20'W.), a two-headed drying rock, and a patch with a least depth of 2.3m over rock lying close N of Bo Tanna, are dangers close to the fairway.

Lingay (57°05'N., 7°22'W.), a grass-covered island, is encircled by foul ground which extends N and E to South Uist and Eriskay.

Drover Rocks (57°04'N., 7°24'W.), awash, lie close N of the fairway through the sound. Other shoals lie very close to the fairway NNW of Fuday.

Fiaray (57°04'N., 7°26'W.), a rocky island, rises to two flat summits. Kate Beacons, consisting of front and rear stone markers, stand on the NE side of the island and, when in alignment 273°, lead through Drover Channel (57°04'N., 7°22'W.).

Sound of Barra to Benbecula Sound

4.27 South Uist (57°17'N., 7°20'W.) has a mountainous and barren E side formed by three mountain ranges, of which Easaval is a part. Roneval (57°06'N., 7°16'W.) is a conspicuous eminence located 1.2 miles WNW of Ru Melvick. Boisdale Hills (57°11'N., 7°17'W.), a range extending between Loch Boisdale and Loch Eynort, has three rounded, prominent peaks of which Stulaval (57°12'N., 7°18'W.) is the highest. Benmore (57°20'N., 7°18'W.), the highest range on the island, rises steeply from the sea N of Loch Eynort. Beinn Mhor (57°16'N., 7°18'W.) is the highest peak on South Uist. The E coast of this populated island is broken by many inlets and bays fronted by rocks and detached shoals extending as far as the 50m curve.

Rubha na h-Ordaig (57°07'N., 7°13'W.), the E point of the S end of the island, has several peaks. The highest peak, with a vertical N face, falls abruptly to low ground W. A reef extends about 250m E of the point. The sea breaks heavily on the reef, which should not be approached within 0.5 mile.

Rubha Meall na Hoe (57°08'N., 7°15'W.), the S entrance point of Loch Boisdale, is fronted for 0.5 mile by above and below-water rocks.

McKenzie Rock (57°08'N., 7°14'W.), with a depth of 2.4m, is marked close N by a lighted buoy. Tidal currents set N along the coast and into Loch Boisdale, where they become weak and variable.

4.28 Loch Boisdale (57°09'N., 7°16'W.) is approached between Rubha Meall na Hoe and Rubha na Creige Moire (57°10'N., 7°15'W.). The terrain on the sides of the loch is rocky and backed by steep hills while the head of the loch is so low as to be invisible from a few miles offshore. The entrance of the loch lies between **Calvay** (57°09'N., 7°15'W.), a small, grassy island lying close offshore and the N side of the loch, about 0.4 mile distant. The loch is clear of dangers, except during October and November when fishnets are stretched across the entrance, as far as **Gasay** (57°09'N., 7°17'W.), an

island lying 1.2 miles within the entrance. A conspicuous tower, from which a light is shown, stands at the E end of Calvay.

Rubha Bhuaill, a promontory 0.1 mile W of Gasay, with Gasay, divide the loch into two arms. Both arms are encumbered with shoals, but the S arm has the deeper channel with a depth of 9.6m. Gasay Rock, drying, and covered by seaweed in calm weather, lies 0.1 mile E of Gasay. Sgeir Rock, 275m N of Gasay, has a depth of 1.2m and is marked close S by a buoy. To keep the fairway to the pier at Lochboisdale clear, vessels should avoid anchoring between Gasay and Sgeir Rock.

4.29 Lochboisdale (57°09'N., 7°18'W.) ([World Port Index No. 32990](#)) is a fishing village built on a triangular neck of land. A hotel, with gables, is prominent in the village as is the local police station. The fairway leading N of Calvay and Gasay to the entrance channel at Lochboisdale has a least depth of 7.8m. Several detached shoal patches of less than 5.5m lie close N of the fairway. The pier at Lochboisdale is about 82m long with depths of 3.7 to 4.6m alongside. There are ro-ro facilities. Vessels of up to 73m in length can be accommodated.

Anchorage can be taken in depths of 20 to 24m, mud, 0.5 mile E of Gasay. Additional anchorage can be taken in depths of up to 16.5m, mud and shells, close S of the W end of Gasay, but this anchorage is open to W and SW gales.

Loch Eynort (57°13'N., 7°17'W.) indents the coast 4 miles N of Loch Boisdale. The intervening coast, backed by the Boisdale Hills, should not be approached within 1 mile. There is a conspicuous dark, sheer cliff about 0.2 mile N of Rubha na Cruibe (57°09'N., 7°15'W.).

4.30 Stuley (57°11'N., 7°15'W.), a grass-covered island lying close offshore, has foul ground E and SE, but a sound on the W side has a least depth of 2.5m in it. A group of islets and rocks lies as far as 0.8 mile SSE of the S entrance point of Loch Eynort. The entrance is 0.5 mile wide S of Creag Mor (57°14'N., 7°16'W.), the N entrance point. The loch leads W for 1.2 miles to Rubha Lailum (57°13'N., 7°18'W.), where it becomes constricted and shallow with a narrow channel leading into Upper Loch Eynort (57°14'N., 7°20'W.). Loch Eynort has often been mistaken for Loch Boisdale, as the heads of both lochs are backed by very low terrain. However, the shores of Loch Eynort are much steeper, with dark, vertical cliffs on the N side.

Beinn Mhor (57°16'N., 7°18'W.) and **Meall Mor** (57°14'N., 7°17'W.) help identify Loch Eynort. Meall Mor, a hill with deep notches, terminates in Coilenish, a point projecting offshore about 0.5 mile SE of the summit. Both shores of the loch are fronted by foul ground for 0.2 mile. A mid-channel course should be steered from the loch entrance. Anchorage, open to E weather, can be taken in a depth of 15m, mud, close N of islets lying 0.7 mile W of the S entrance point. Smaller vessels can anchor 100m offshore and 0.5 mile W of Coilenish (57°13'N., 7°16'W.), in a depth of 11m, mud.

4.31 Rubha Bhilidh (57°17'N., 7°13'W.) is a point on the coastal headland forming the outer end of Usinish Bay (57°17'N., 7°14'W.), a small, open bight with a gravel beach

fronted by a drying rock lying 250m offshore. The steep-to coast between Creag Mor and Rubha Bhilidh is formed of steep cliffs cut by sheer ravines with numerous dark caves along their sides. Violent squalls roar down the ravines with W winds.

Usinish (57°18'N., 7°12'W.) is a steep-to, bold headland with three peaks. A light is shown from a tower standing at the SE end of the promontory. A rock, with a depth of 1.8m, lies 0.7 mile S of the light tower.



USINISH LIGHT

Mol a' Tuath (57°18'N., 7°13'W.), an inlet on the NW side of Usinish, has depths of 18 to 22m. A rock, partly awash, lies close off the NE end of Usinish. Anchorage can be taken in depths of up to 22m, good holding ground, in the middle of the inlet.

Ornish (57°19'N., 7°14'W.), a high headland, is fronted N by Ornish Island which is faced with steep, dark cliffs. The area between is foul.

4.32 Loch Skiport (57°20'N., 7°14'W.) is entered between Ornish Island (57°20'N., 7°13'W.) and Rubha fo Dheas, a point 0.5 mile NNW. The shores of the loch are heavily indented, with several islets restricting the fairway to less than 0.1 mile over a depth of about 5.5m. The terrain is low on the N side of the loch and the S side is backed by hills. The conspicuous ruins of a building with two high gables stand N of the point.

Ben Tarbert (57°20'N., 7°18'W.), a prominent mountain, has a summit with a notch on each side.

Shillay Mor (57°20'N., 7°15'W.), an island with three peaks, is steep-to on its N side. Bagh Charmaig, a bay, lies close W of a promontory located 0.7 mile WSW of Rubha fo Dheas. Drying rocks lie off the bay entrance. Vessels proceeding to an anchorage in Loch Skiport should pass 0.2 mile N and W of Ornish Island. The W part of the loch is reached by steering midway between Shillay Mor and the N shore.

Anchorage can be taken in a depth of 24m between Ornish Island and the E side of Shillay Mor. Anchorage can also be taken in depths of 7 to 11m, mud, in the strait between the island of Lairsay Dubh (57°21'N., 7°13'W.) and the mainland. Anchorage is available in a depth of 11m in Bagh Charmaig, about 0.1 mile NNE of the W entrance point, however, the holding ground is poor and the bay is subject to severe squalls in S winds. A cottage, with a red roof that is easily identifiable, lies 0.4 mile WSW of Aird Choraidh. When bearing 250°, it leads in the fairway to the anchorage off Bagh Charmaig.

Loch Sheilavaig (57°21'N., 7°14'W.) indents the coast of South Uist about 0.5 mile NW of Lairsay Dubh. Several islets

front this landlocked inlet which is reached through unmarked, deepwater channels.

Benbecula Sound to Sound of Harris

4.33 Benbecula Sound (57°22'N., 7°13'W.) is the navigable, E part of a passage leading to South Ford (57°24'N., 7°19'W.) and separating South Uist from Benbecula. The shores of the sound are extremely irregular, with numerous islands, islets and foul ground encumbering the passage. Tidal currents set into each end of the sound and South Ford on a rising tide and out each end on a falling tide.

Loch Carnan (57°22'N., 7°16'W.) is fronted by many shoals and islands, of which Gasay (57°22'N., 7°15'W.) is the most conspicuous. A quay, 55m long with a depth of 3.7m alongside, is situated close W of the leading marks. In places in the approach to the quay, there are depths of only 3m. Vessels of up to 1,000 tons can be berthed. The range lights on the mainland are shown from masts located 0.5 mile WSW of Gasay. Aligned, 222°, the masts lead through an entrance channel marked by lighted buoys. A lighted buoy is moored in the entrance of Benbecula Sound, about 1.2 miles E of Grey Island Rocks (57°22'N., 7°14'W.). Other lighted buoys mark the channel N of the rocks and through the sound to Loch Carnan. There are no pilots, but local pilotage assistance is available through application to the Royal Artillery Range, Isle of Benbecula. The pilot boards N of Grey Island Rocks.

Bagh nam Faoileann (57°23'N., 7°14'W.) is an area lying E of the drying sands of South Ford and between the numerous dangers that lie off the S and N sides of the sound. Entrance to this area lies between the island of Steisay (57°23'N., 7°14'W.) and Gashernish (57°22'N., 7°16'W.), a peninsula.

Lighted buoys and floats, moored W and WNW of Steisay, mark the fairway through Bagh nam Faoileann. Army landing craft operating from South Ford transit Bagh nam Faoileann. The causeway crossing South Ford contains a bridge in the section N of Creagorry Island which has a horizontal clearance of 15m and a vertical clearance of 2.9m.

4.34 Wiay (57°24'N., 7°12'W.), the outer island on the N side of Benbecula Sound, has sloping terrain rising to a center eminence. The area between the island and Benbecula is foul.

Peter's Port (57°24'N., 7°15'W.) is an area affording shelter to small vessels between the islands W of Wiay. The island is uninhabited, but supplies are landed occasionally for South Benbecula.

Benbecula (57°26'N., 7°18'W.), a low, flat island, is connected at low tide to South Uist and North Uist by drying, sandy fords. Most of the inhabitants of Benbecula live along the sandy W coast of the island which is described in Sector 6. The E coast is very rocky and indented.

Rueval (57°28'N., 7°18'W.) is the only prominent eminence.

Rarnish (57°25'N., 7°12'W.) is a promontory forming the SE end of Benbecula.

Bo Greanamul (57°25'N., 7°11'W.), a detached rock with a depth of 2.1m, is the outermost danger off the E coast of Benbecula. The rock is usually marked by tide rips.

Loch Uskavagh (57°27'N., 7°12'W.), a rocky inlet, is encumbered with islets and reefs which at low tide presents an almost continuous vista of bare rocks. Above and below-water

rocks lie less than 0.1 mile N and S of the entrance fairway which becomes very constricted about 1.5 miles within the entrance N of Maaey Glas (57°26'N., 7°11'W.).

The navigable channel is about 100m in width between the islands of Orosay Uskavagh (57°26'N., 7°13'W.), and a group of islets lying close N of the island. The fairway has a least depth of 11m.

Anchorage can be taken in depths of 15m, mud, in the middle of the loch and about 2 miles W of the entrance. Preferred anchorage is taken 0.4 mile WNW of the W end of Orosay Uskavagh, in a depth of 15m, mud. Lidistrom (57°26'N., 7°16'W.), a conspicuous white house at the head of the loch, when bearing 264°, leads through the fairway to an anchorage N of the E end of Orosay Uskavagh.

Caution.—Vessels without local knowledge should not proceed W of Orosay Uskavagh.

4.35 Grimsay (57°28'N., 7°12'W.) and **Ronay** (57°29'N., 7°11'W.) are islands, rocks and islets, lying in a partly drying and almost prohibitive waterway separating Benbecula from North Uist. The two islands divide the E part of the waterway into two partly navigable arms. The S arm (Loch nan Ceall) is entered between Rubha na Rodagrich (57°28'N., 7°11'W.) and Maragay Islands (57°27'N., 7°11'W.). Only small vessels can enter this channel leading to North Ford (See Sector 6.).

Kallin (57°29'N., 7°12'W.), the local village and supply center for the region, is located close N of the SE end of Grimsay. The village is approached through the S arm, passing 0.1 mile off the S and SW ends of Ronay. The passage leading NW to Kallin and the anchorages off the village require local knowledge and are reported to have depths of 5m or less. A chapel in ruins at the SE extremity of the island is conspicuous.

Anchorage, open SE, can be taken in depths of up to 7.3m about 0.2 mile W of the SW extremity of Ronay. Vessels can approach this anchorage by keeping the S extremity of Ronay bearing 313° and passing N of Morrison's Rock (57°28'N., 7°10'W.).

4.36 Flodday Beag (57°31'N., 7°09'W.) and Flodday Mor, lying close NE, are both steep-to, but fronted by foul ground on their inner side which occupies the N arm leading N of Ronay and Grimsay. Flodday Sound (57°30'N., 7°10'W.), with a depth of 5.5m, leads from sea W of the islands. Anchorage in the sound can be taken in depths up to 22m about 0.3 mile W of the N end of Flodday Mor. There is also anchorage in a depth of 13m about 0.1 mile NW of Flodday Beag.

North Uist (57°35'N., 7°15'W.), is an inhabited island with a hilly, E side partly consisting of cliffs and indented by many bays and inlets. Two ridges of hills extend along the E side of the island.

Beinn Eaval (57°32'N., 7°11'W.), a high mountain, is wedge-shaped when viewed from E or W. A distinctive double-peaked hill rises on the S slope of the mountain.

Loch Eport (57°33'N., 7°08'W.), a very constricted inlet, has an entrance clear of dangers, but only 100m in width. There is a depth of 12.8m in the fairway for about 1 mile within the entrance, then depths decrease to 5.5m to within 1.5 miles of the loch head. Much of the loch is encumbered with rocks and rocky shoals. Bo Lea, a drying rock, lies 300m off the S

entrance point. A drying reef flat extends 100m N and S of the rock. Tidal currents are weak.

4.37 South Lee (57°34'N., 7°10'W.), a prominent mountain at the N entrance of the loch, has a sheer N face and is the highest peak of a rugged range extending N to Loch Maddy. Bogs form the S side of Loch Eport. Pilotage assistance can be obtained from Loch Maddy.

Anchorage can be taken in a depth of 22m, mud, about 0.2 mile E of Skart Rocks, which lie above water 1.5 miles within the entrance and with Burrival (57°33'N., 7°10'W.) bearing 161°. There is also an anchorage with a depth of 16m at the entrance of Acairseid Lee, an inlet indenting the N shore within the entrance.

Loch Maddy (57°36'N., 7°07'W.) is entered between Leac nam Madadh (57°35'N., 7°06'W.) and Weaver's Point (57°36'N., 7°06'W.). The S entrance promontory is the NE extremity of a range of high hills. The coast between Loch Maddy and Loch Eport is bold, steep-to, and free of off-lying dangers. Weaver's Point ends in a cliff, steep-to and backed by rounded hills in the interior. Maddy More (Madadh Mor) (57°36'N., 7°06'W.) lies 250m offshore E of Leac nam Madadh. Loch Maddy, easily recognized from offshore, has an open entrance. The inner part of the loch is obstructed by islets, rocks and shoals. The loch bottom is rock covered with mud or sand and affords unreliable holding ground.

Maddy Beg (Madadh Beag) (57°36'N., 7°06'W.) is a detached, steep-to rock lying 300m SSE of Weaver's Point. The entrance channel between the point and the rock has a least depth of 11m and is clear of dangers.

Flodday (57°37'N., 7°07'W.) is the largest of the islands within the loch. Little Glas, a rock, lies 0.1 mile SW of Flodday.

4.38 Spanish Harbor (57°37'N., 7°08'W.), with depths of 6.9 to 13.2m, extends about 1 mile NW from Little Glas. Spanish House (57°37'N., 7°09'W.) is a conspicuous landmark about 0.5 mile N of the village.

South Basin (57°36'N., 7°09'W.) indents the S shore of Loch Maddy about 0.3 mile SW of Ruigh Liath islets, marked at their E and W extremities by a light and beacon, respectively. The basin is approached N and S of Faihore (57°36'N., 7°08'W.); there is a least depth of 5.9m in the N approach and of 9.1m in the S approach.

Pilotage.—Pilotage is not compulsory, but can be arranged, if required, on request 24 hours in advance to the Port Manager. Large vessels can proceed without a pilot as far as Faihore by passing close S of Maddy Beg and about 275m N of Glas Eilean Mor (57°36'N., 7°07'W.).

Caution.—Between Weaver's Point and Maddy Beg, the flood tidal current is strong, setting NE. The ebb tidal current is strong along the S side of the loch entrance, setting toward Maddy Mor. A considerable sea is raised close seaward of Loch Maddy when a strong SW wind prevails during the ebb tidal current.

4.39 Lochmaddy Harbor (57°36'N., 7°10'W.) ([World Port Index No. 32955](#)), a village, is located on the W shore of the loch at South Basin. The Ferry Terminal, a pier with berthing faces on both sides dredged to a depth of 4m, is situated on the

W side of South Basin. A ro-ro berth lies on the S side of the pier. Range lights, aligned approximately 298°, lead to the pier from SW of Ruigh Liath. There is a private pier about 0.5 mile N of the main pier. A conspicuous radiomast at the head of the loch provides a useful mark.

Anchorage can be taken in depths of up to 13m, mud, about 0.3 mile E of Faihore (57°36'N., 7°08'W.) and in a depth of 12m off the cove 0.5 mile SE of Faihore. Swell is absent at the anchorages, but SW squalls may cause the anchor to drag.

Sponish Harbor affords anchorage in a depth of 13m, mud, with Little Glas bearing 125° and the NW end of Flodday bearing 023°. South Basin offers anchorage in depths of 7 to 11m, subject to violent S squalls.

Leac na Hoe (57°38'N., 7°04'W.), a bold, black headland, with steep-to cliffs facing the sea, is the E extremity of North Uist. The coast between Weaver's Point and the headland is bold and steep-to. Leac na Hoe rises to Crogary na Hoe (57°39'N., 7°04'W.), a very high hill located 0.2 mile W of the headland.