

harbour, which would, in consequence, be exposed to easterly winds, if it were not for a sandy shoal, dry at low water, which extends 700 fathoms out from the entrance of the Mingan River. This river is only capable of admitting boats at high-water, and its mouth is opposite the east end of the island. The eastern entrance of the harbour, between the above sandy shoal and the island, is 200 fathoms wide, the western entrance between the mainland and the island is 170 fathoms wide, the whole breadth in both entrances being in deep water. The space within, in which vessels may anchor in safety, is about a mile long by 270 fathoms wide, with plenty of water for the largest ships, over a bottom of fine sand.

Although these entrances are so narrow, there is little difficulty in taking a vessel in of the size of a sloop of war, and large frigates have occasionally visited the harbour.

To enter Mingan Harbour observe the following directions. *Directions for entering.*

In approaching it from the eastward, bring the north or inner side of Harbour Island to bear N.W., and the houses of the Hudson Bay Company's post ought then to appear open fully their own breadth to the northward of the island. Steer for those houses so open, leaving the east end of the island 150 fathoms to the southward, or on your left, and taking care to keep the south side of the sandy point of the main, which forms the western entrance of the harbour, shut in behind the north side of the island, for when they are in one, you will be on shore on the sandy shoal off Mingan River. After you have passed the east end of the island, run along its north side at the distance of a cable, and choose your berth anywhere near the centre of the harbour in from 9 to 13 fathoms sand bottom.

When running for the harbour from the westward; run in towards the sandy beach of the mainland at the distance of three-quarters of a mile to the westward of the island, until the sandy point of the mainland, which forms the west end of the harbour, comes in one with the face of the clay cliffs, to the eastward of the Hudson Bay Company's houses, bearing E. by S., or until you are in 11 fathoms water. Run upon this mark, or course, along the beach, and give the above sandy point of the mainland a berth of half a cable, as you pass into the harbour, and choose your berth as before directed.