

NAVY ISLAND REEL

Source: John Chapman, Bolton, Ontario

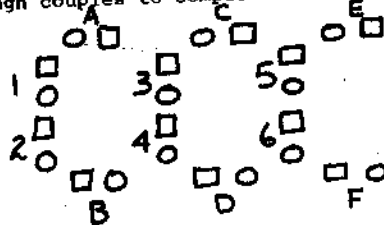
Region: This is a dance from the Niagara region. Navy Island is an island in the Niagara River.

Music: Pete Couture's Reel

Record: Ontario Dances! Dancecraft LP 123322 Side 2, Band 3.

Basic Steps: Balance, walk

Formation: Two lines of couples lengthwise down the hall. Sets of two couples crosswise between each pair of couples in the line. (Originally there were only 6 couples, two couples on each side of a square. This was called a string dance and was usually done when there were not enough couples to complete two squares).



Couple 1 dances with couple A, couple 2 with B, 3 with C, 4 with D, etc.

<u>Measures</u>	<u>Counts</u>	<u>Pattern</u>
		<u>Part 1 Down the Centre and Back</u>
1 - 4	1 - 8	Couples 1 and 2, 3 and 4, etc. go down the centre. Each person turns in place at the bottom and retains the same position in relation to the other dancers.
5 - 8	9 - 16	All the same couples come back up the set and turn to end in their starting positions.
		<u>Part 2 Pass Through Right and Left and Back</u>
1 - 4	1 - 8	Couple 1 with A, 2 with B etc. Pass through to the opposite couple's place by passing the opposite person by the R shoulder. Courtesy turn with partner.
5 - 8	9 - 16	Right and Left back to place.
		<u>Part 3 Ladies Chain</u>
1 - 4	1 - 8	Couple 1 with A, 2 with B etc. Ladies Chain

Navy Island Reel (cont'd)

5 - 8      9 - 16      Ladies chain back to place.

Part 4    Four Hand Round

1- 8      1 - 16      Cpl. 1 with A, cpl. 2 with B, etc. join hands in a circle of 4 and circle once around to the Left.

Repeat the dance beginning with Part 1. This time when couples 1 and 2 go down the centre, they come back to do the Right and Left Through with couples C and D. Couples 3 and 4 will dance with E and F etc. Couples A and B then become "active" and move into the centre. The last couples in the centre become "inactive" and take their places on respective sides of the two lines. The dance continues indefinitely in this manner.

For another version of the Navy Island Reel, refer to p.44 of TRADITIONAL CANADIAN DANCES by Bert Everett, published by Canadian F.D.S. Publications.

*Sale Hyde*