

MAP13 - MACDUFF'S CASTLE TO METHIL

- **Built heritage and archaeology** - The gasworks at East Wemyss (NT39NW20) have been documented in more detail in site description 4. Nearby to this interesting industrial site a sandstone cave (NT39NW13) showing signs of habitation, and a midden (NT39NW21) have been recorded but these were not seen during the survey. The remainder of the sites in this sector comprise aspects of Buckhaven Oil Rig Construction Yard and Methil Dockyard. The yards themselves were not surveyed by the team because of prohibited access and because Methil Dockyard (NT37509950) may contain aspects of interest, a further survey is recommended of this area.
- **Hinterland geology and coastal geomorphology; Erosion class** - To the north east of Macduff's Castle there is a sloping hill of boulder clay which appears to be experiencing substantial landslip and erosion along its edge (Erosion unit 1). Land-fill along much of the coast-edge of Buckhaven promontory has covered up the natural geological base but has been deployed to stabilise erosion rates along the sea-front of the town. As the coastline progresses north-east, much of the coastal edge is protected by a sea-wall deployed to protect Buckhaven Oil Rig Construction Yard and Methil Dockyard which have mostly been constructed on reclaimed land.

**MAP 13: MACDUFF'S CASTLE TO
METHIL**

EROSION UNITS.

1
NT349975
0.5 km
Definitely eroding
*Unprotected shoreline eroding fairly rapidly
with land-slip of steep clay slope behind.*

2
NT354977
0.3 km
Accreting or stable
*Land-fill along the shore and accretion of sand,
coal dust and shingle along a sheltered fore-
shore.*

3
NT356976
0.2 km
Both accreting and eroding
*Coastal edge comprising land-fill may be erod-
ing with deposition of sand, coal dust and shin-
gle along a sheltered
foreshore.*

4
NT357975
0.2 km
Accreting or stable
*Sea-wall protects the coastal edge while sand,
coal dust and shingle may be
accreting on the foreshore.*

5
NT359976
0.3 km
Stable
Coastal defence sea-wall.

6
NT361979
1.0 km
Accreting or stable
*Sea-wall protects the coastal edge and sediment
may be building up on the foreshore.*

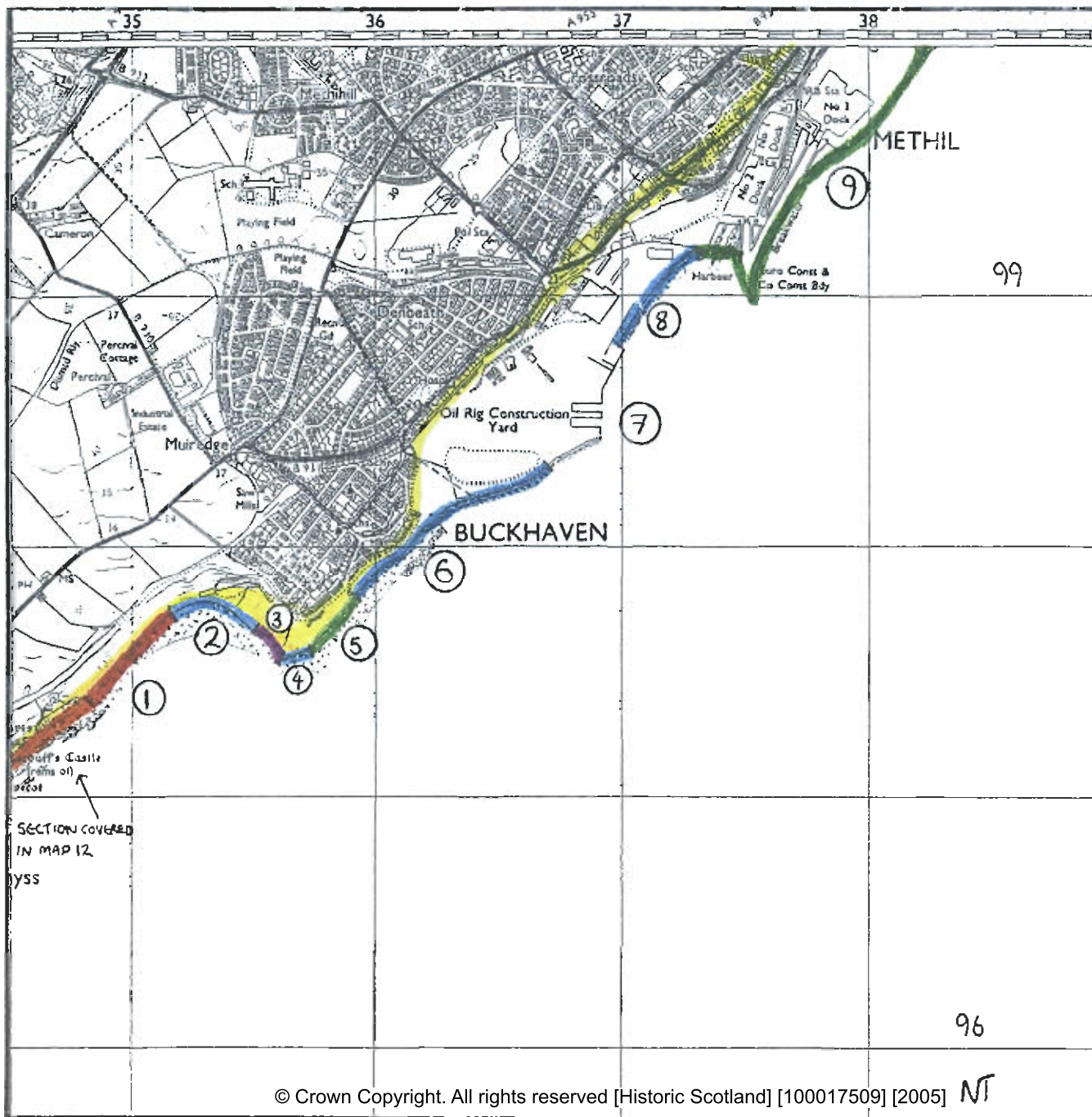
7
NT329985
0.6 km
Not seen
Sea-walls at entrance to Buckhaven Harbour

8
NT371990
0.5 km
Accreting or stable
*Sea-wall protects the coastal edge and sediment
may be building up on the foreshore.*

9
NT379995
1.5 km
Stable
Methil Harbour breakwater

MAP CLASS: EROSION
 (Assessment date: 23 January 1996)
 NT29/39, Scale 1: 25 000

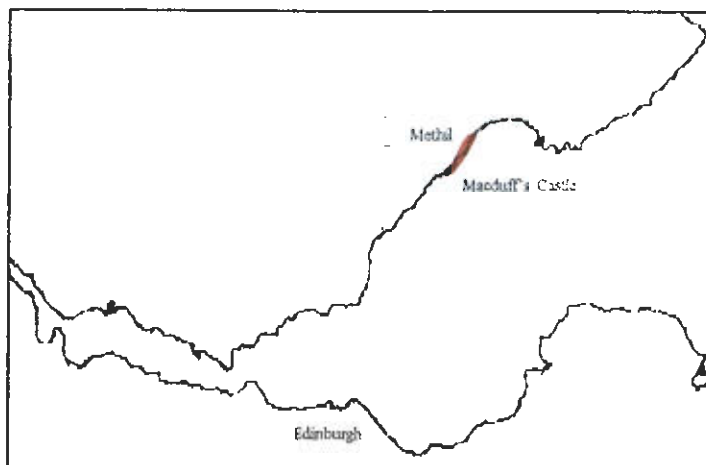
MACDUFF'S CASTLE TO METHIL



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KEY

Erosion class	Staedtler colour	colour
Definitely Accreting	ultramarine blue	
Accreting or stable	light blue	
Stable	light green	
Eroding or stable	orange	
Definitely Eroding	scarlet	
Both accreting and eroding	purple	
No access	blank	
Land below 10m	canary yellow	



MAP 13: EAST WEMYSS TO METHIL

GEOLOGY UNITS

1

NT351977

0.5 km

Mainly sand

Low edge (< 5 metres)

Drift, boulder clay

Boulder clay forms a steep slope to a sand and shingle foreshore.

Evidence of land-slip and slumping of the clay onto the foreshore.

2

NT359977

1.1 km

Mainly sand

Human disturbance

Reclaimed land and boulder clay behind.

Land-fill along the coastal edge to prevent ongoing erosion of the southern promontory and original entrance to old Buckhaven Harbour.

3

NT372990

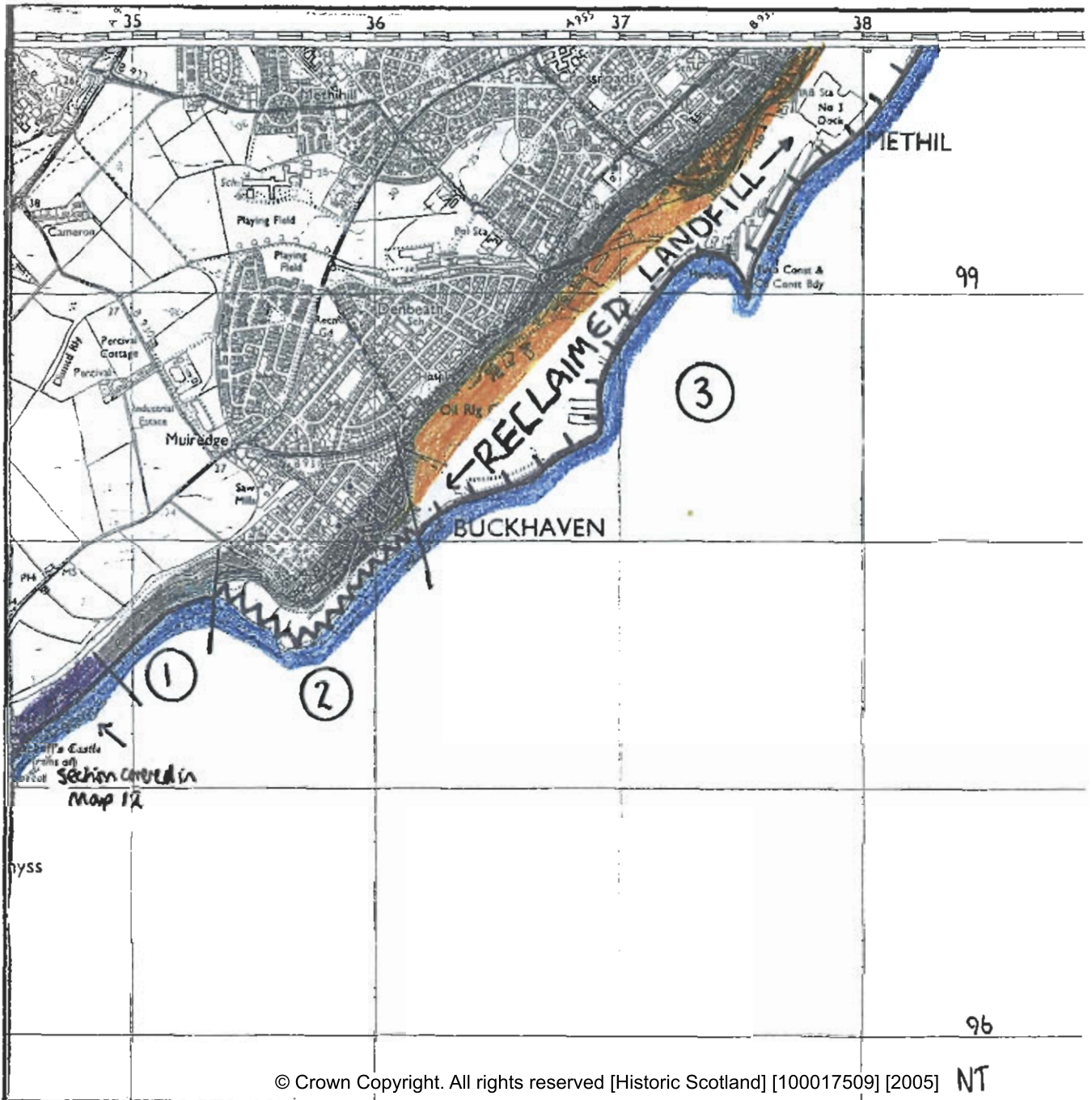
3.0 km

Mainly sand

Man made barrier

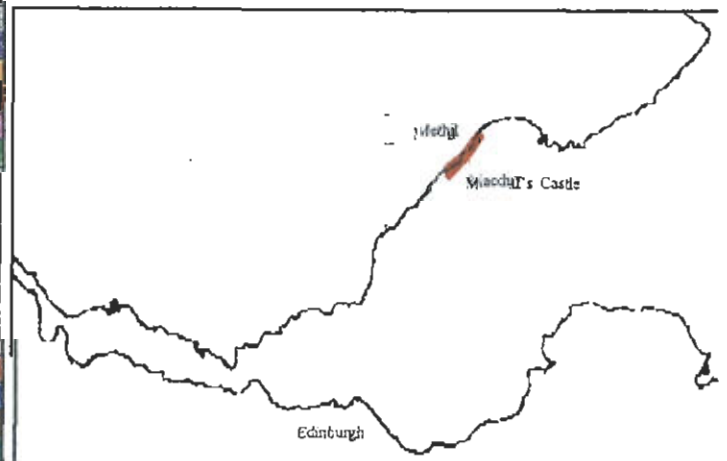
Reclaimed land with raised beach and marine deposits, and boulder clay deposits in the hinterland behind.

Long concrete sea-wall forms outer boundary to Buckhaven Oil Rig Construction facility and Methil Dockyard. Both these facilities have been built on reclaimed land which lies in front of a raised beach.



KEY

Hinterland Geology	Staedtler colour	
Drift, boulder clay	light grey	
Drift, boulder clay over visible rock	Coran D'acke-violet	
Raised beach and marine deposits	golden brown	
Blown sand	peach	
Glacial sand and gravel	magenta	
Alluvium	grass green	
Coast Edge		
Low edge (<5m)	thin black line	
Cliff (>5m)	solid black line	
Man made barrier	black line with spines	
Shingle beach	small circles	
Human disturbance	black carats	
Coastal Geomorphology		
Mainly rock platform	vermilion	
Mainly sand	indigo	
Mainly alluvial/marine mud	sienna brown	
Marsh	true green	



MAP 13: MACDUFF'S CASTLE TO METHIL.

**BUILT HERITAGE AND
ARCHAEOLOGY UNITS**

Sites along the coastal edge

NT39NW13

EAST WEMYSS: GASWORKS CAVE
CAVE: STONE ; MORTAR,
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE OF REGIONAL
IMPORTANCE

Uncertain

Not seen

Nil

NT39NW20

EAST WEMYSS GASWORKS
GASWORKS, Noted as Brick and stone in the section

*** See site description 4**

Uncertain

Poor

Survey

NT39NW21

EAST WEMYSS CAVES
MIDDEN,

Uncertain

Not seen

Nil

NT35749765

Buckhaven

Sea-wall

Uncertain

Fair

Nil

NT35809770

Buckhaven

Concrete pier

19th-20th Century

Fair

Nil

NT36209810

Buckhaven

Tank traps, concrete

Mid 20th century

Fair

Nil

NT36509830

Buckhaven

Coal mine and bing, disused

19th Century

Fair

Nil

NT36709870

Methil

Shipyard

20th Century

Fair

Survey

NT37509950

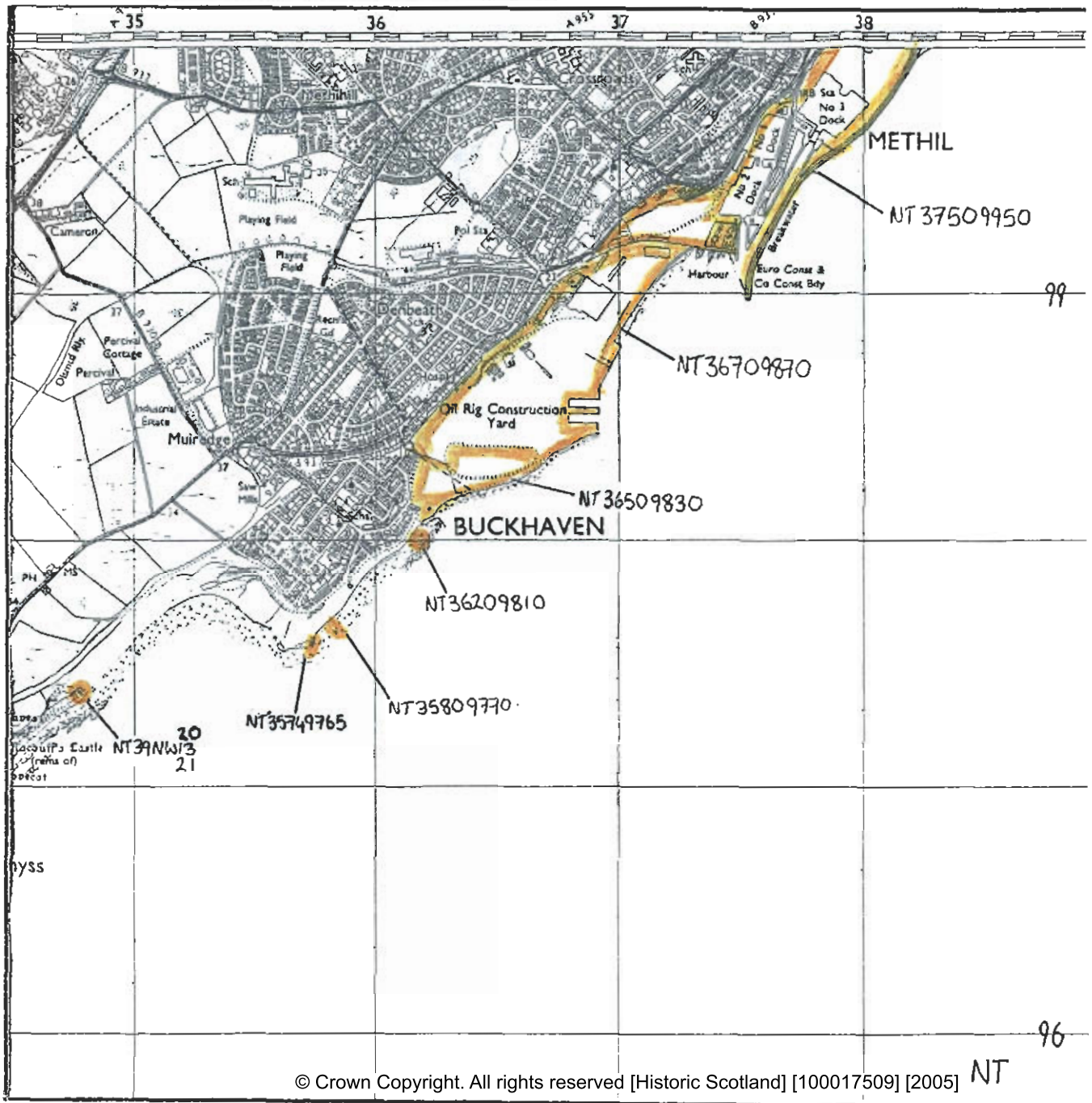
Methil

Harbour, Docks, owned by Forth Harbour Co.

17th - 19th Century

Fair

Survey



KEY

Site location	Symbol	Staedtler colour	Significance
NQR e.g. NO12345678	solid roundel	carmine	Protected Ancient Monument
	cross	carmine	Listed Historic Building
	open roundel	carmine	Monument formally proposed by Historic Scotland for designation
	solid roundel	yellow ochre	Other known Ancient Monument
NMRS e.g. NT28NE13	dashed outline	yellow ochre	Designed Landscape
	roundel open	yellow ochre	Undesignated Wreck
	area	green	Insufficient information, more work needed (no access, or not walked)
	area	blue	Probably archaeologically sterile

