

## Map 10: SCART CRAIG TO ETHIE FISHING STATION

**Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology:** Psammatic granulate and subordinate pelitic schist with hornblende with granite inclusions represent the basement rocks in this coastal unit. Some of these rock types are exposed at the surface but in general are mantled by a thin cover of boulder clay. The coastline is narrow with a discontinuous platform of Post-glacial raised beach. The cliffs are extremely precipitous with an indented cliff edge that overlook abrasion platform, sea caves and stacks. Towards Ethie Fishing Station multiple escarpments have been formed by boulder clay and marine land slips.

**Erosion class:** This unit of coastline is exposed to the impact of storms from the north easterly quadrant. Boulder clay is eroding from the crest of the cliff then wave impacted at the base. This imparts material which is then picked up and thrown back on the cliff base leading to abrasion. This loss from the cliff contributes to offshore sediment supply. In general the cliffs are eroding yet at an indeterminable slow rate and are therefore assigned to the classification of stable and eroding.

**Built Heritage and Archaeology:** The limited sites recorded in this area were Caird's cave, a rock shelter inhabited until the early 20<sup>th</sup> century which was excavated by Dr. Maclean in 1912 (Stevenson 1955). The other site is another cave near Learnie, where a low wall survived in front of the entrance. The limited archaeology recorded may in part be due to the inaccessibility of this shoreline and sites may be obscured due to heavy gorse growth on the cliff sections.

## Map 10: Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology

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### 1. THORN ROAN to east of BERRYHILL

NH 760 613

2.3km

Rock platform/boulders/shingle and sand

High cliff (25m)

*Terraced raised beach and marine deposits*

This unit consists of an exposed narrow discontinuous platform of postglacial raised beach. A series of terraces rise to over 25m above OD. The foreshore is mainly outcropping rock platform with boulder and shingle as a result of erosion processes.

### 2. East of BERRYHILL to north of ETHIE FISHING STATION

NH775 630

2.8km

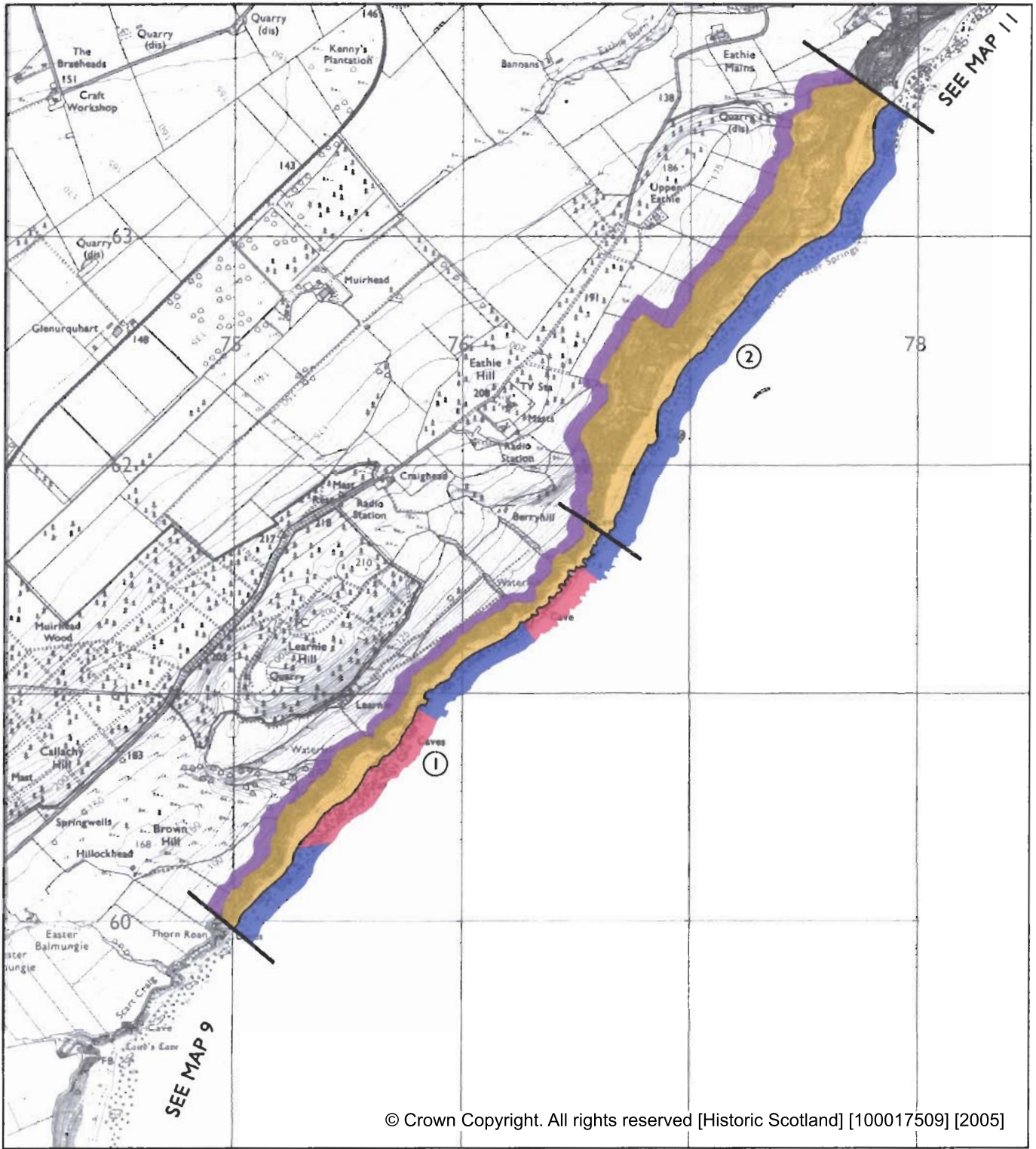
Some exposed rock platform with mainly boulders, sand and shingle

High cliff (c.70-90m)

*Terraced raised beach and marine deposits/glacial drift*

Exposed rock platforms with boulders and shingle. The coastal edge is very irregular rising in parts to in excess of c.90m OD. The high cliff is terraced down to the MHWS line.

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**MAP 10: SCART CRAIG TO EATHIE FISHING STATION 1:25 000**  
 MORAY FIRTH SURVEY Grid ref: NH 74-78/59-64

Basemap: O.S. *Pathfinder* Series  
 Sheets 144 & 160  
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**HINTERLAND GEOLOGY  
 AND FORESHORE  
 GEOMORPHOLOGY**

Assessment date: 10 September 1998

**Hinterland:**

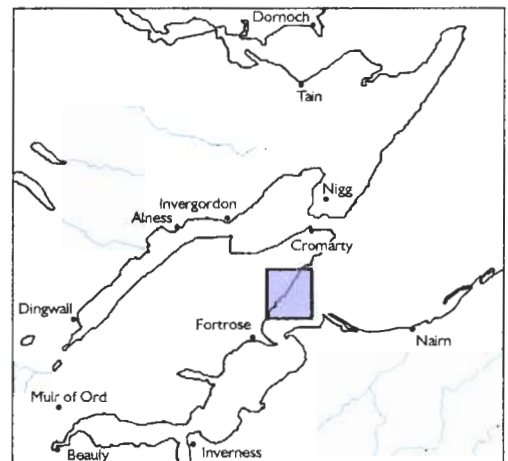
- Drift, boulder clay
- Drift, boulder clay over visible rock
- Raised beach and marine deposits
- Blown sand
- Glacial sand and gravel
- Alluvium

**Coast edge:**

- Low edge (< 5m tall)
- Cliff over 5m tall
- Man made barrier
- Shingle/storm bank
- Human disturbance

**Foreshore:**

- Mainly rock platform
- Mainly sand
- Mainly alluvial/marine mud
- Marsh



## MAP 10: EROSION

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### 1. THORN ROAN to south of BERRYHILL

NH 758 610

2km

Eroding or Stable

Indented cliff edge with steep slopes. This unit is exposed to north-easterly gales. Beach boulders scour the rock platform. Attrition of the foreshore is likely to be slow owing to the resilient nature of the local sandstone.

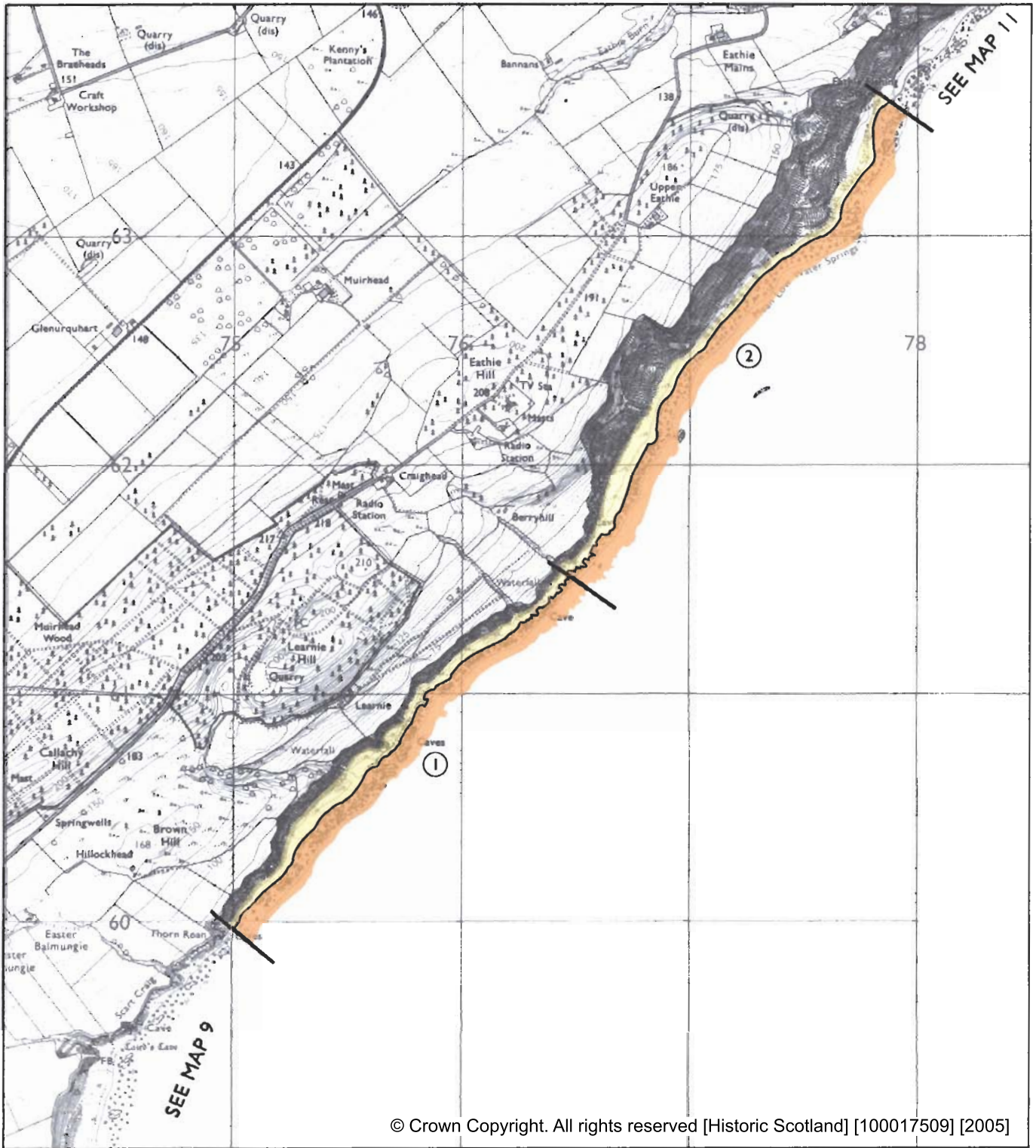
### 2. South of BERRYHILL to EARHIE FISHING STATION

NH 773 630

2.3km

Eroding or stable

The coastline is irregular and incised at the base by scouring of boulders at the base of the cliff. Exposed to easterly gales erosion is constant on the foreshore albeit slow.



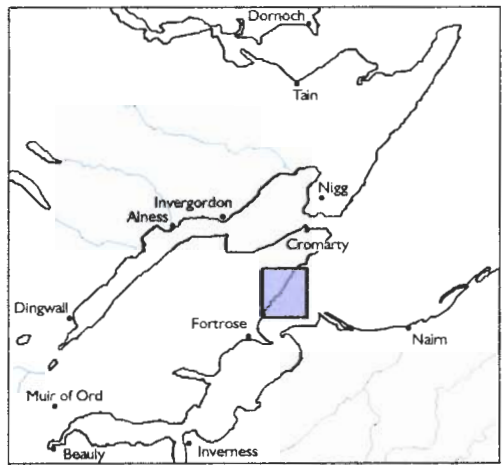
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**EROSION CLASS**

Assessment date: 10 September 1998

- Key:
- Definitely accreting
  - Accreting or stable
  - Stable
  - Eroding or stable
  - Definitely eroding
  - Both accreting and eroding
  - No access
  - Land below 10m



## MAP 10: BUILT HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

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### Sites on the Coastal Edge & Foreshore

NH 7575 6082

LEARNIE

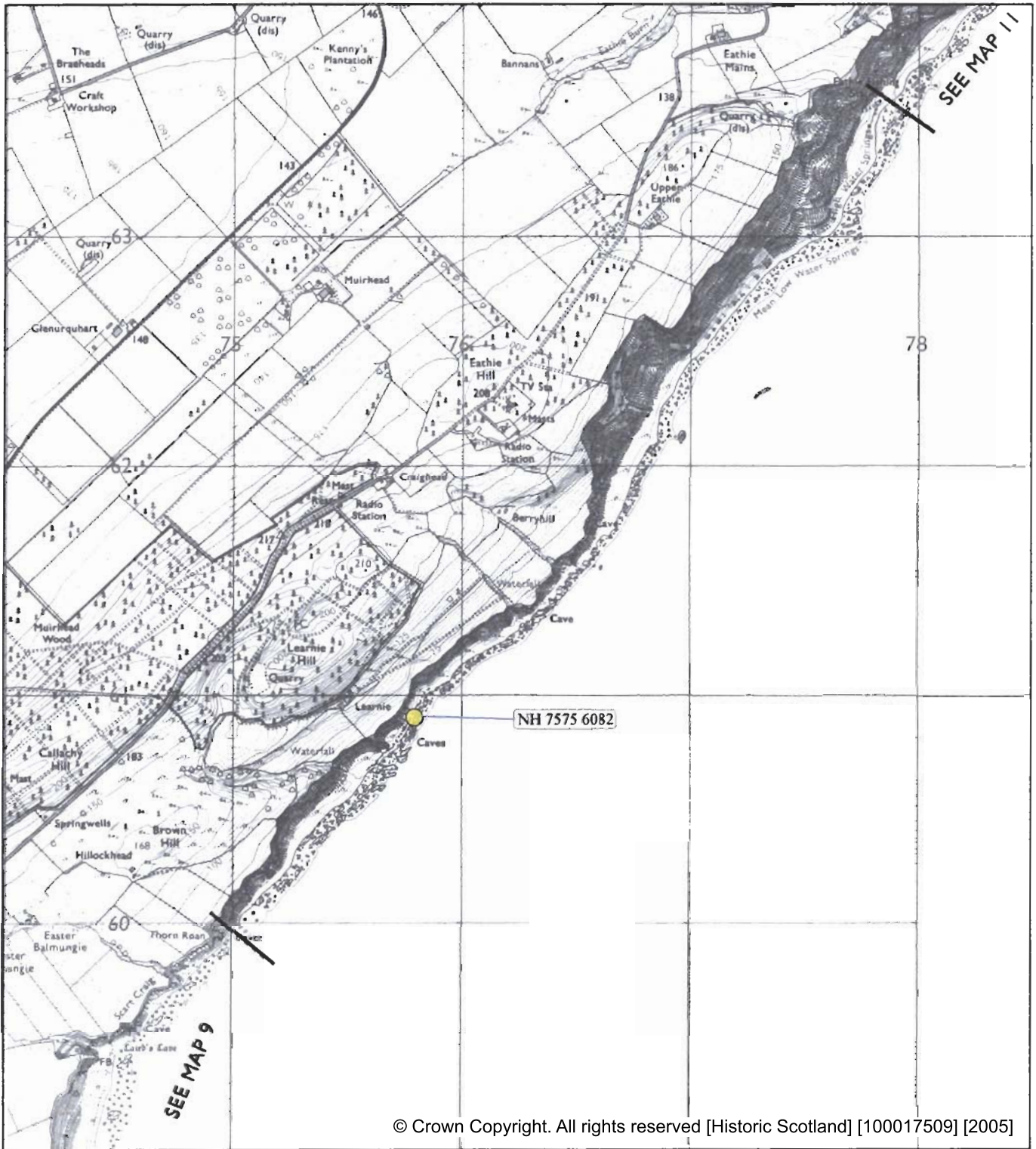
Cave and walled entrance

Uncertain

Good

Nil

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**BUILT HERITAGE AND  
 ARCHAEOLOGY**

Assessment period: September 1998

Key:

- |  |  |   |   |
|--|--|---|---|
|  | Protected Ancient Monument,  |  | Other known Ancient Monuments,                |
|  | or area of designated wreck  |  | or Undesignated wreck                         |
|  | Listed Historic Building   |  | Designated Landscape                          |
|  | Monument formally proposed by<br>Historic Scotland for scheduling,<br>or wreck for designation |  | Insufficient information;<br>more work needed |
|  |  |  | Probably archaeologically sterile             |

