

Map 16: EASTER TOBERCHURN TO ALCAIG

Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology: Middle Old Red Sandstone continues through this section of coastline. Boulder clay and morainic drift deposits form the main cover soils. At Toberchurn two raised beach terraces run parallel with the present shoreline. At Milton three raised beach platforms represent the Main Perth Shoreline, The Main Late-glacial and the Post-glacial marine incursion. These features continue along the Conon river valley. Extensive tidal flats dominate this coastline.

Erosion class: This unit of coastline comprises sections that show evidence of stability with only isolated patches of erosion. This is mainly coincident with exposures of raised beach deposits which have become unstable due to poor vegetation cover. The shoreline is boulder strewn with mud that is accreting on the foreshore as a result of shelter in this low energy wave environment.

Built Heritage and Archaeology: The hinterland archaeology consists of three relatively modern sites; one a ruined building associated with the second 19th century stone quarry. The third site is a possible cairn which was overgrown and difficult to distinguish when recorded. The foreshore archaeology includes the pier for the 19th century Wester Toberchurn to Foulis Ferry, which is in a poor condition, a number of other pier remains and twelve fish traps. These include a complex of four sites near Findon.

Map 16: Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology

1. EASTER TOBERCHURN to north of
BROOMTOWN WOOD

NH 610 622

km 2.5km

Mud and shingle

Low edge (<10m)

Raised beach and marine deposits

Raised beach deposits continue. Mud and shingle dominate the shoreline.

2. North of BROOMTOWN WOOD to north of
FINDON MAINS

NH 604 613

0.9km

Low edge (m)

Raised beach and marine deposits

Lower reach of the Cromarty Firth with a shoreline dominated by mud and sand. Hinterland geomorphology consists of raised beach deposits.

3. FINDON MAINS to BALCLADAICH WOOD

NH 596 664

Mud/boulders/gravel/tidal flats

2 km

Low edge (<10m)

Raised beach and marine deposits

Lower tidal reach of the Cromarty Firth with a foreshore dominated by mud, boulders and shingle. The hinterland comprises of raised beach deposits. The Cromarty Bridge traverses this coastal unit.

4. BALCLADAICH WOOD to URQUHART

NH 573 582

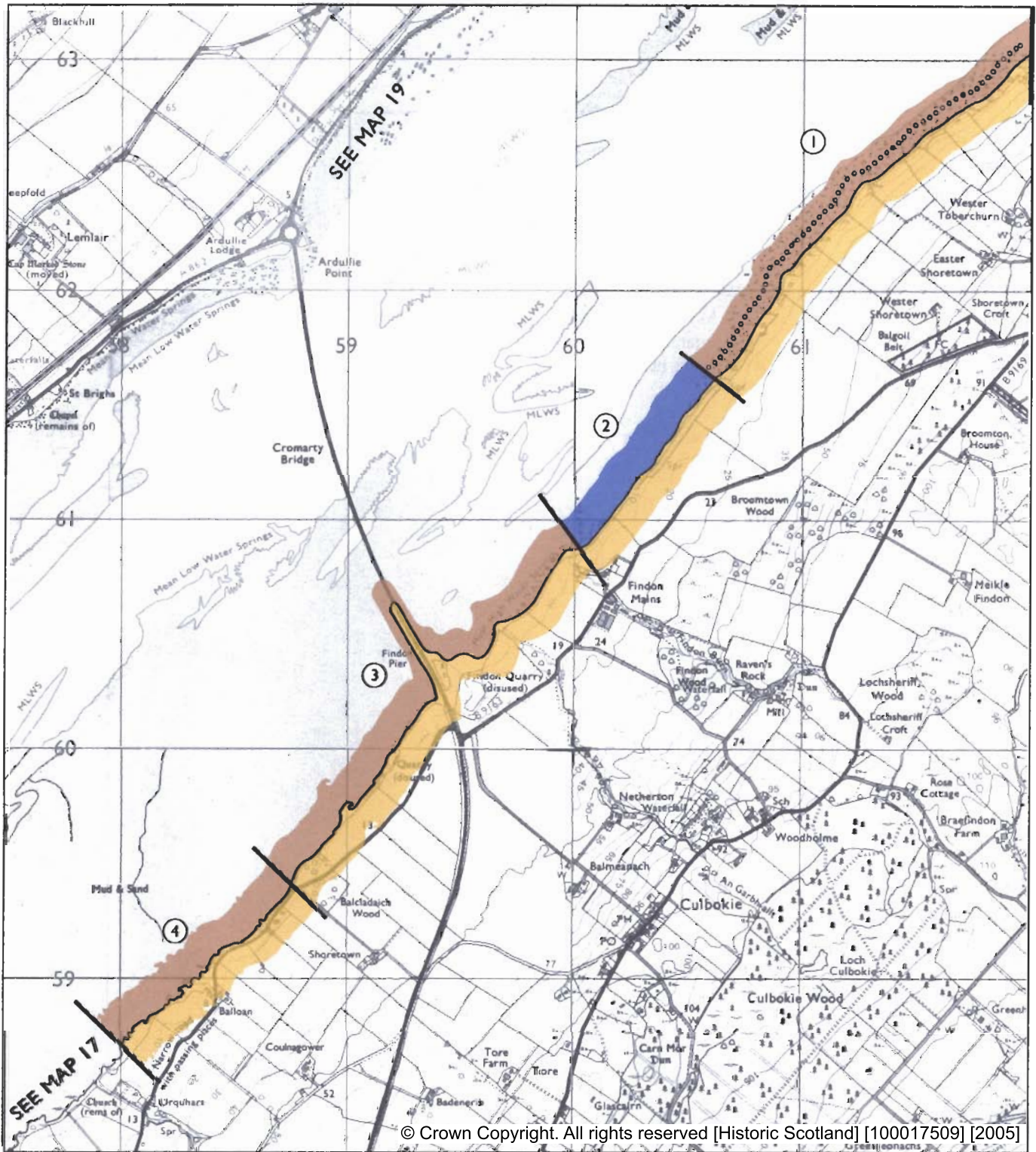
1 km

Mud/sand/shingle/tidal flats

Low edge (<10m)

Raised beach and marine deposits

This section forms the lower reach of the Cromarty Firth with an irregular shoreline. Estuarine mud and shingle dominate the foreshore.



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MAP 16: EASTER TOBERCHURN TO ALCAIG 1:25 000
 MORAY FIRTH SURVEY Grid ref: NH 58-62/59-63

Basemap: O.S. Pathfinder Series
 Sheets 143, 144, 159, 160
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HINTERLAND GEOLOGY AND FORESHORE GEOMORPHOLOGY

Assessment date: 14 September 1998

Hinterland:

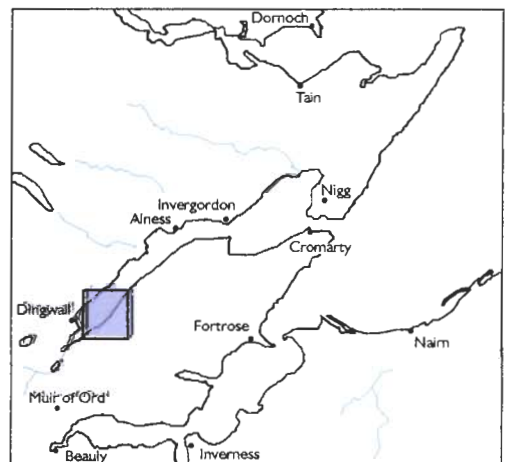
- Drift, boulder clay
- Drift, boulder clay over visible rock
- Raised beach and marine deposits
- Blown sand
- Glacial sand and gravel
- Alluvium

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 16: EROSION

**1. CRAIG CASTLE to WEST OF
BROOMTOWN WOOD**

NH 610 622

3.7 km

Stable or Eroding

This unit of coastline consists of cobbles and shingle banked at the HWM. Slight erosion is occurring along the MHWMS where marine gravel outcrops or where vegetation is poor. The beach becomes sandier offshore but there is no evidence for active erosion.

**2. East of BROOMTOWN WOOD to FINDON
QUARRY**

NH 595604

1.7

Stable or Eroding

A stable foreshore of mud and cobbles. Slight erosion is occurring at the HWM. Rock armouring protects the base of the Cromarty Bridge.

**3. South of FINDON PIER to east of
SHORETOWN**

NH 588 579

0.9km

Definitely Accreting

Localised erosion of raised beach deposits is occurring towards the backshore. Accreting mud flats dominate the foreshore.

4. East of SHORETOWN to BALLOAN

NH 585 595

0.3km

Definitely Eroding

Rubble deposition at the coastal edge attempts to limit the damage from erosion behind the cobble MHW. Mud flats are extensive and show signs of accretion mid way from the shore.

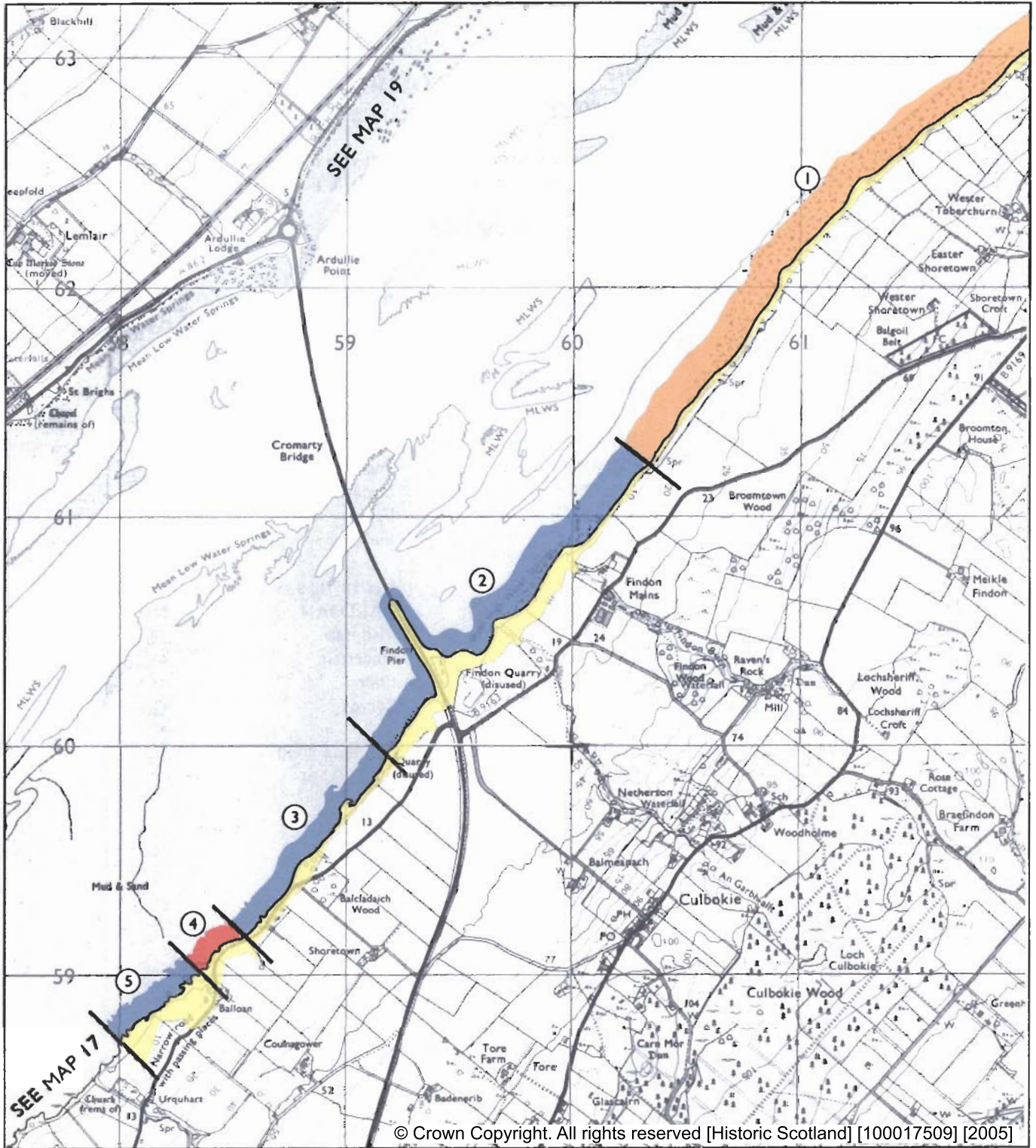
5. BALLOAN to north of URQUART

NH 582 589

0.4

Definitely Accreting

Accreting mud and sand on the foreshore with channels exposed at the LWM. Shingle build up suggests stable conditions.



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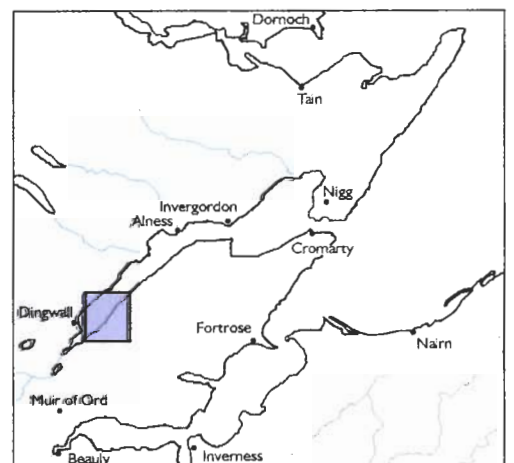
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EROSION CLASS

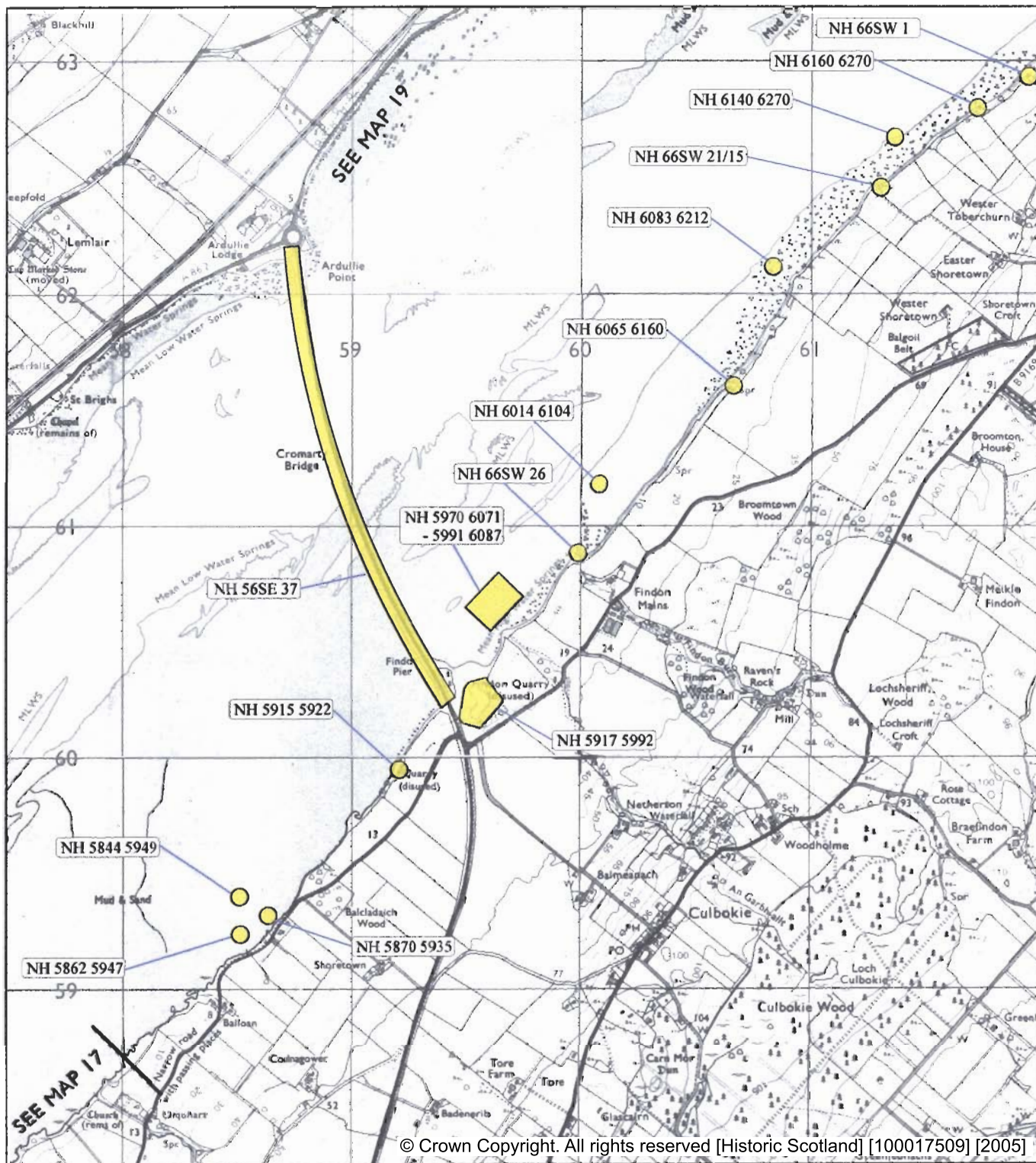
Assessment date: 14 September 1998

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



MAP 16: BUILT HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

| Sites on the Coastal Edge & Foreshore | Sites on the Coastal Edge & Foreshore | Sites on the Coastal Edge & Foreshore | Sites in the Hinterland |
|---|---|---|---|
| NH 6160 6270 WESTER TOBERCHURN Stone pier Uncertain Poor Monitor | NH 5970 6071 to 5991 6087 FINDON 4 fish traps Uncertain Poor Survey | NH56SE 37 NH 5921 6063 CROMARTY BRIDGE Road bridge 20 th century Good Nil | NH66SW 1 NH 6195 6292 TOBERCHURN Cairn (possible) Uncertain Poor Monitor |
| NH 6140 6270 WESTER TOBERCHURN Fish trap Uncertain Poor Survey | NH56SE 37 NH 5921 6063 CROMARTY BRIDGE Road bridge 20 th century Good Nil | NH 5915 5922 BALCLADAICH Possible fish trap Uncertain Fair Survey | NH6065 6160 BROOMTOWN WOOD Ruined building associated with a quarry Uncertain Poor Monitor |
| NH64NW 28 - Scheduled & Listed C NH 6447 4673 CLACHNAHARRY Caledonian Canal: sea lock & lock keeper's cottage 19 th century AD Good Nil | NH 5915 5922 BALCLADAICH Possible fish trap Uncertain Fair Survey | NH 5870 5935 BALLOAN Fish trap Uncertain Poor Survey | NH 5917 5992 FINDON Quarry 19 th century AD Good Nil |
| NH 6131 6247 WESTER TOBERCHURN Pier of Foulis Ferry 19 th century AD or earlier Poor Monitor | NH 5870 5935 BALLOAN Fish trap Uncertain Poor Survey | NH 5844 5949 BALLOAN Fish trap Uncertain Poor Survey | |
| NH 6083 6212 WESTER SHORETOWN Fish trap Uncertain Poor Survey | NH 5862 5947 BALLOAN Fish trap Uncertain Poor Survey | NH 5862 5947 BALLOAN Fish trap Uncertain Poor Survey | |
| NH 6014 6104 FINDON MAINS Pier Uncertain Poor Monitor | NH 5844 5949 BALLOAN Fish trap Uncertain Poor Survey | | |
| NH66SW 26 NH 6000 6083 FINDON MAINS Boathouse foundations Uncertain Poor Monitor | NH 5722 5859 OLD FERINTOSH Fish trap Uncertain Poor Survey | | |



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BUILT HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Assessment period: September 1998

Key:

Protected Ancient Monument, or area of designated wreck

Listed Historic Building

Monument formally proposed by Historic Scotland for scheduling, or wreck for designation

Other known Ancient Monuments, or Undesignated wreck

Designated Landscape

Insufficient information; more work needed

Probably archaeologically sterile

