

Map 4: TARRADALE HOUSE TO CORGRAIN POINT

Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology: Old Red sandstone underlies this unit of coastline which forms the head of the Beaulay Firth. In the vicinity of Tarradale House carse clay continue landward and were formed by a marine incursion. Earlier marine incursions are also represented by two eroded raised beach terraces immediately north of Tarradale house. Eastwards towards Redcastle, the coastal edge is narrow forming a coastal plateau which is bounded by land that rises steeply cut by a higher Post-glacial raised sea beach. Floodbanks and saltmarsh protect the head of the firth and the hinterland is low lying at below 10m Ordnance Datum. The foreshore consists of extensive intertidal mudflats.

Erosion class: Owing to the sheltered position of this section of estuarine coastline the condition of the low shore is stable and accreting. Estuarine mud is the dominant feature of the foreshore with isolated patches of shingle in parts. Some slight degradation of the carse clay platform is ongoing but recession of this low cliff is at the present only slight. Undercutting is leading to collapse but the fallen material is not being transported and appears to form a lower step of vegetation. It is the vegetation that is rendering stability in what is considered to be a fairly low wave energy environment.

Built Heritage and Archaeology: The western part of this area consists of two separate archaeological site types on the foreshore; an embankment system, built in the 18th century AD, to prevent flooding of the adjacent land and two fish yairs. In the western part the hinterland archaeology consists of three 18th/19th century ruined buildings at Spital Shore. The Milton Pier was built to transport quarry stone from the shoreline quarry along a light railway, during the building of the Caledonian Canal. It was constructed to service the low water channel which has subsequently migrated south, leaving the pier approximately 500 m above low water mark (LWM). It was later used as a rifle range and remains in a poor state of repair. Milton village in the eastern part of the area is a small village with 19th century cottages, still inhabited and a smithy building in poor condition.

In the hinterland archaeology the Redcastle, a 17th/18th century tower house and designed landscape, is reputed to stand on the site of Ederdour erected by William the Lion in the 12th century AD. Today the castle is part of a large working estate and is in a poor state of repair. Off shore from the castle is the Redcastle intertidal crannog. The site is a complex Iron Age structure with at least two phases of construction and appears to have been constructed during a period of lower water level. A series of piles at low water mark near Corgrain Point are the remnants of a wooden fish trap, which requires survey and monitoring.

Map 4: Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology

1. South of TARRADALE HOUSE to MILTON
PIER

NH 560 488

2.8km

Mud with shingle

Low edge (<10m)

Carse clays overlying marine sand and gravel

Flood defended head of the Beulay Firth.

Intertidal mud flats backed by saltmarsh. The hinterland is predominantly carse clay overlying marine sand and gravel.

2. MILTON PIER to south west of COULMORE

NH 590 492

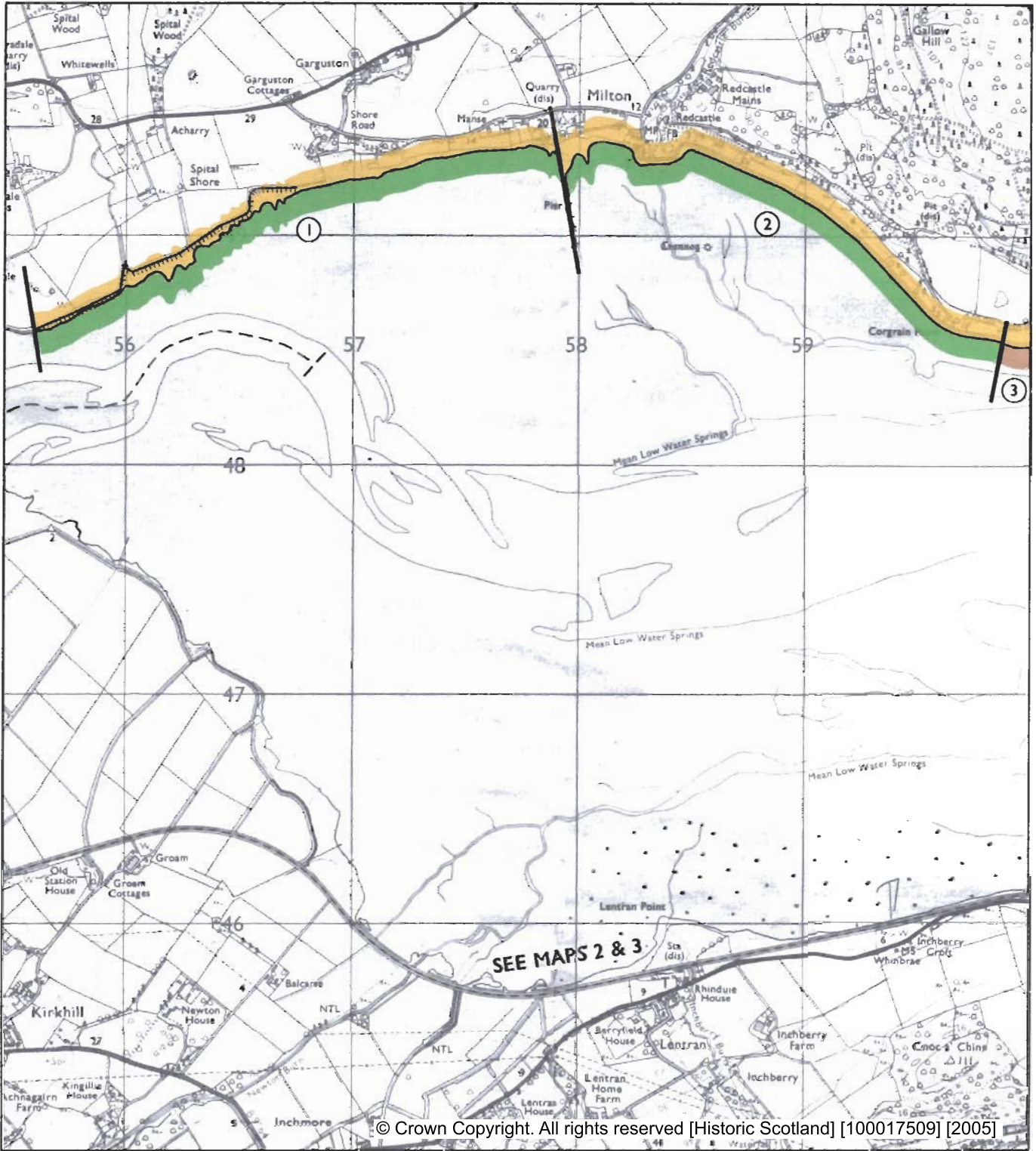
2.4km

Mud flats

Low edge (10m)

Carse clays overlying marine sand and gravel

Extensive tidal mud flats meet saltmarsh at the coastal edge. Hinterland wooded. This unit incorporates the site of the crannog at Redcastle.



MAP 4: TARRADALE HOUSE TO CORGRAIN POINT 1:25 000
 MORAY FIRTH SURVEY Grid ref: NH 56-60/45-50

Basemap: O.S. Pathfinder Series
 Sheet 176
 © Crown Copyright Reserved

**HINTERLAND GEOLOGY
 AND FORESHORE
 GEOMORPHOLOGY**

Assessment date: 08 September 1998

Hinterland:

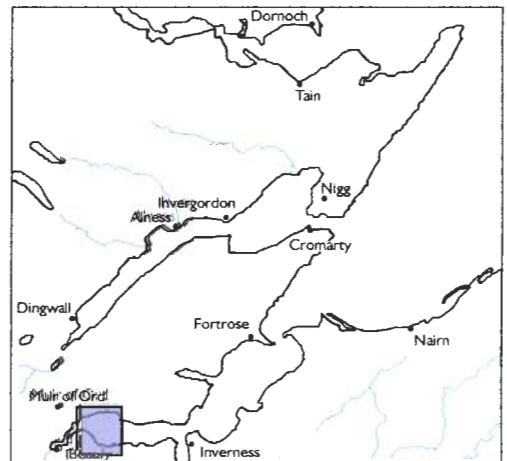
- Drift, boulder clay
- Drift, boulder clay over visible rock
- Raised beach and marine deposits
- Blown sand
- Glacial sand and gravel
- Alluvium

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

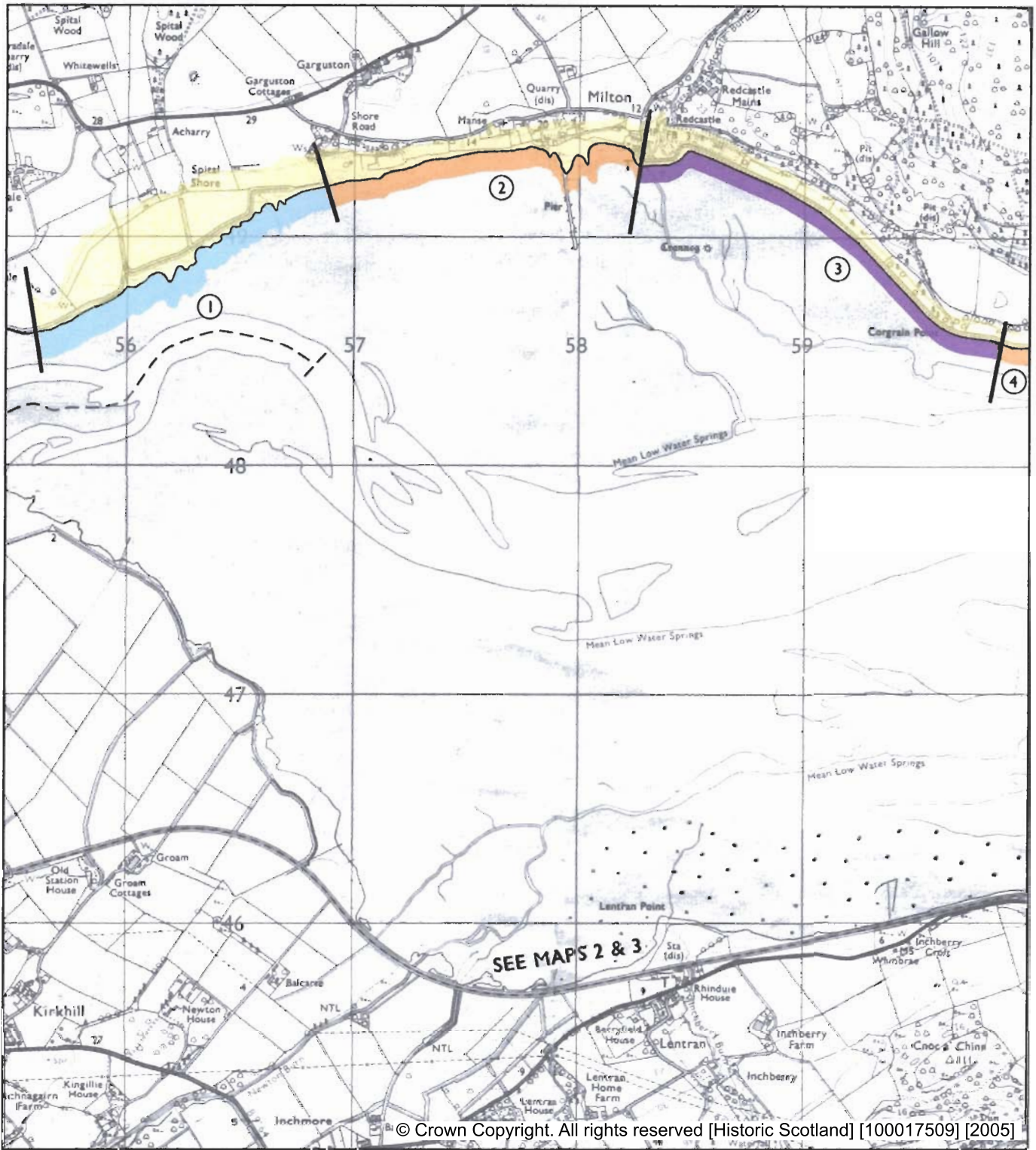


MAP 4: EROSION

1. East of TARRADALE HOUSE to south of SHORE ROAD
NH 565 490
1.4km
Accreting or Stable
High earthwork floodbanks defend the hinterland and saltmarsh is well established on the backshore. Conditions are stable with mud accreting on foreshore.

2. South of SHORE ROAD to REDCASTLE
NH 576 494
1.4km
Stable or Eroding
Head of the Beauy Firth with accreting mudflats owing to its sheltered aspect and constant sediment supply. At the HWM some local erosion of the saltmarsh vegetation and underlying clay is occurring. At Redcastle the clay is eroding forming a step as the material that has fallen from the low edge continues to grow.

3. REDCASTLE east to CORGRAIN POINT
NH 592 490
1.9km
Both Accreting and Eroding
A fairly stable stretch of coastline with some local erosion at HWM. The foreshore is wide with accreting mud and shingle



MAP 4: TARRADALE HOUSE TO CORGRAIN POINT 1:25 000

MORAY FIRTH SURVEY Grid ref: NH 56-60/45-50

Basemap: O.S. Pathfinder Series

Sheet 176

© Crown Copyright Reserved

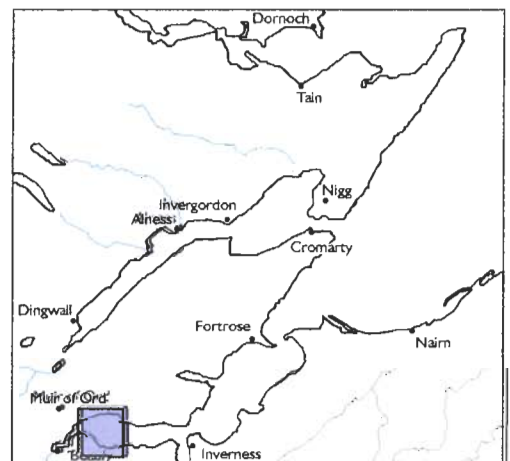
EROSION CLASS

Assessment date: 08 September 1998

Key:

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

N.B. The O.S. base map uses an imperial contour interval. Therefore on this sheet, the position of the land below 10m is an estimate.



MAP 4: BUILT HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Sites on the Coastal Edge & Foreshore

NH 5542 4861 to 5673 4920
TARRADALE TO SPITAL
SHORE
Embankment
18th century AD
Good
Nil

NH54NE 34
NH 5604 4855
SPITAL SHORE
Tidal fish trap
Uncertain
Poor
Survey

NH54NE 33
NH 5693 4903
SPITAL SHORE
Uncertain
Possible fish trap
Poor
Survey

NH 5797 4906
MILTON
Pier
18th/19th century AD
Poor
Monitor

NH 5841 4932
MILTON
Wooden piles
Uncertain
Poor
Nil

NH54NE 2
NH 5858 4895
REDCASTLE
Intertidal crannog
3rd century BC
Poor
Monitor

Sites on the Coastal Edge & Foreshore

NH54NE 31
NH 5965 4860
CORGRAIN POINT
Tidal fish trap
Uncertain
Poor
Survey

NH 6012 4848
CORGRAIN POINT
Wooden piles of linear pier
Uncertain
Poor
Monitor

Sites in the Hinterland

NH 5698 4928
SPITAL SHORE
Ruined building
18th/19th century AD
Poor
Nil

NH 5723 4933
SPITAL SHORE
Ruined building
18th/19th century AD
Poor
Nil

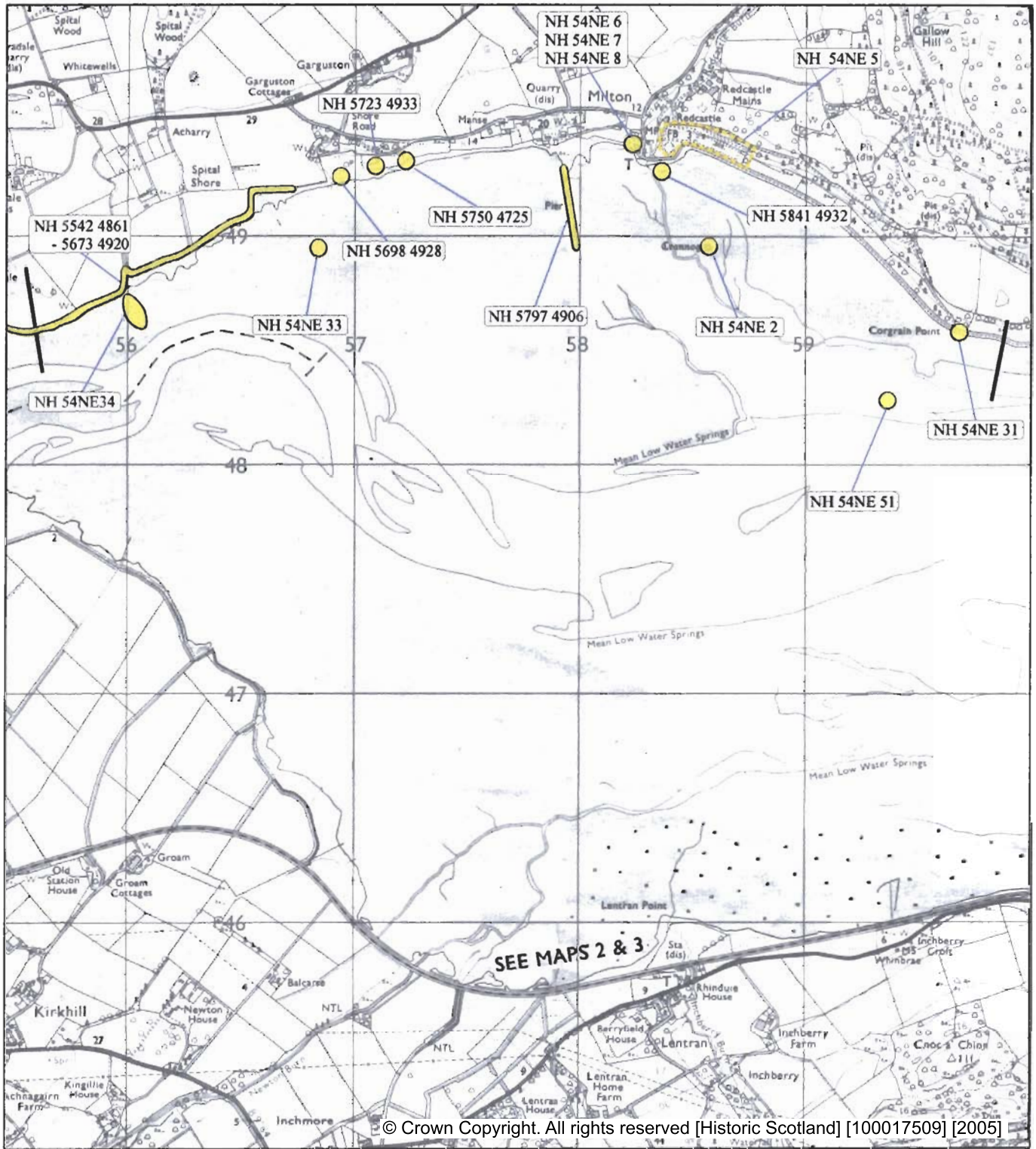
NH 5705 4725
SPITAL SHORE
Ruined building
18th/19th century AD
Poor
Nil

NH54NE 6
NH 5824 4943 & 5826 4942
MILTON
Cottages
18th/19th century AD
Good
Nil

NH54NE 7
NE 5825 4940
MILTON
Cottages
19th century AD
Good
Nil

NH54NE 8
NH 5826 4937
MILTON
Smithy
19th century AD
Poor
Monitor

NH 54 NE 5
NH 5838 4951
REDCASTLE
Castle and designed landscape
17th century AD
Poor
Monitor










MAP 4: TARRADALE HOUSE TO CORGRAIN POINT 1:25 000
 MORAY FIRTH SURVEY Grid ref: NH 56-60/45-50 Basemap: O.S. Pathfinder Series Sheet 176

BUILT HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Assessment period: September 1998

Key:

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

