

## Map 20: BALCONIE POINT TO ALNESS POINT

**Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology:** This stretch of coastline includes the Alness embayment which is sheltered behind a hinterland which is low-lying at below 10m OD. The basement geology is Old Red Sandstone overlain by raised beach sand and gravel.

**Erosion class:** The low-energy wave environment within the bay along with high sediment yields down the River Alness allows mud to accrete within the bay. Conditions along this unit of coastline are seen to be accreting with slight erosion noted in parts. Isolated patches of shingle showed evidence for scour on the foreshore.

**Built Heritage and Archaeology:** One fish trap and a series of fish trap mounds were recorded in this area of the survey. There were also stone piers and the modern pier at Evanton airfield, which is used for coiling steel cable for the oil industry. On the hinterland of the area the archaeological remains included the military complex of the Evanton airfield and associated buildings, such as the pillboxes and aircraft hangers.

## Map 20: Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology

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1. BALCONIE POINT to WESTER  
TEANININCH

NH 627

1.8km

Mud and sand/tidal flats

Low edge (5m)

*Alluvium*

Irregular coastal edge consisting of incised saltmarsh. This overlooks a foreshore dominated by mud and shingle.

2. WESTER TEANININCH to south of  
BALLACHRAGGAN

NH 634 679

1km

Mud and sand/tidal flats

Low edge (10m)

*Marine deposits*

Head of Alness Bay, linear stretch of estuarine coast backed by marine sands and gravel. The foreshore is consists of mud and sand.

3. South of BALLACHRAGGAN to ALNESS  
POINT

NH646 680

1.9km

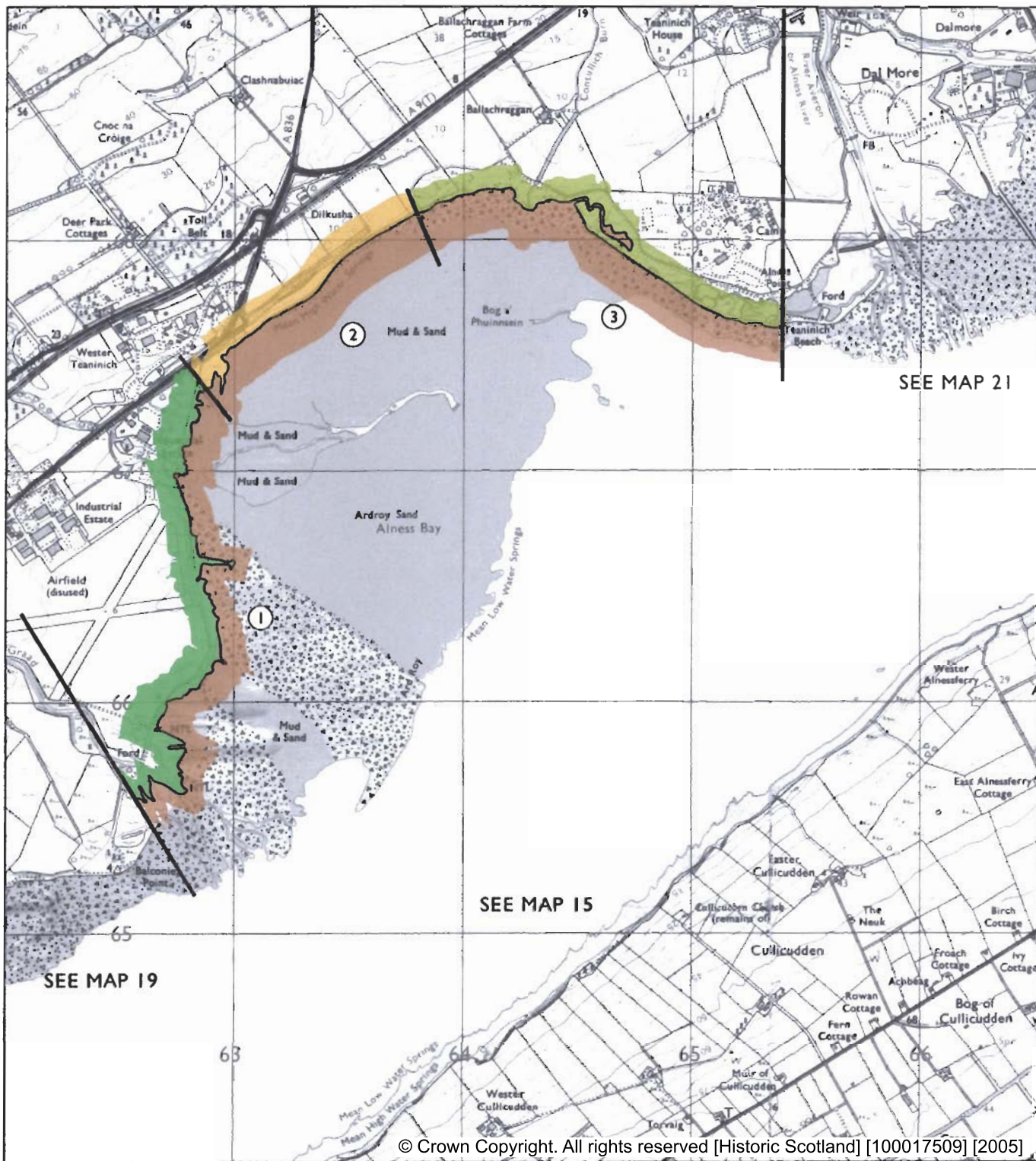
Mud/shingle

Low edge (<10m)

*Raised beach and marine deposits*

Small embayment with developing saltmarsh intersected by numerous drainage channels. The hinterland is low lying. The foreshore consists of mud and sand exposed over a wide area at low tide.

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Basemap: O.S. Pathfinder Series  
 Sheet 144  
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**HINTERLAND GEOLOGY AND FORESHORE GEOMORPHOLOGY**

Assessment date: 16 September 1998

**Hinterland:**

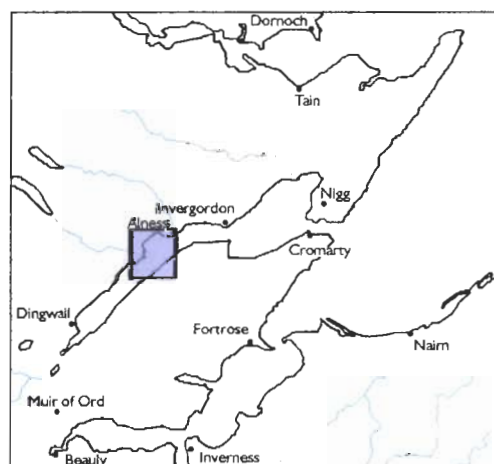
- Drift, boulder clay
- Drift, boulder clay over visible rock
- Raised beach and marine deposits
- Blown sand
- Glacial sand and gravel
- Alluvium

**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 20: EROSION

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### 1. BALCONIE POINT to WESTER TEANINCH

NH 630 660

1.8km

Accreting and eroding

Mud and sand has accreted at the MHWMS with salt marsh prone to erosion at the backshore.

Mud and shingle are exposed at low water; here shifting river channels are leading to both accretion and some erosion.

### 2. WESTER TEANINCH to west of TEANINCH BEACH

NH 635 680

1.8km

Eroding or stable

Scouring and sediment displacement is ongoing within Alness bay. The sheltered aspect of the bay favours sediment accumulation. Eroding parts may be delimited where channels are slowly migrating.

### 3. South of BALLACHRACHRAGGAN to TEANINICH BEACH

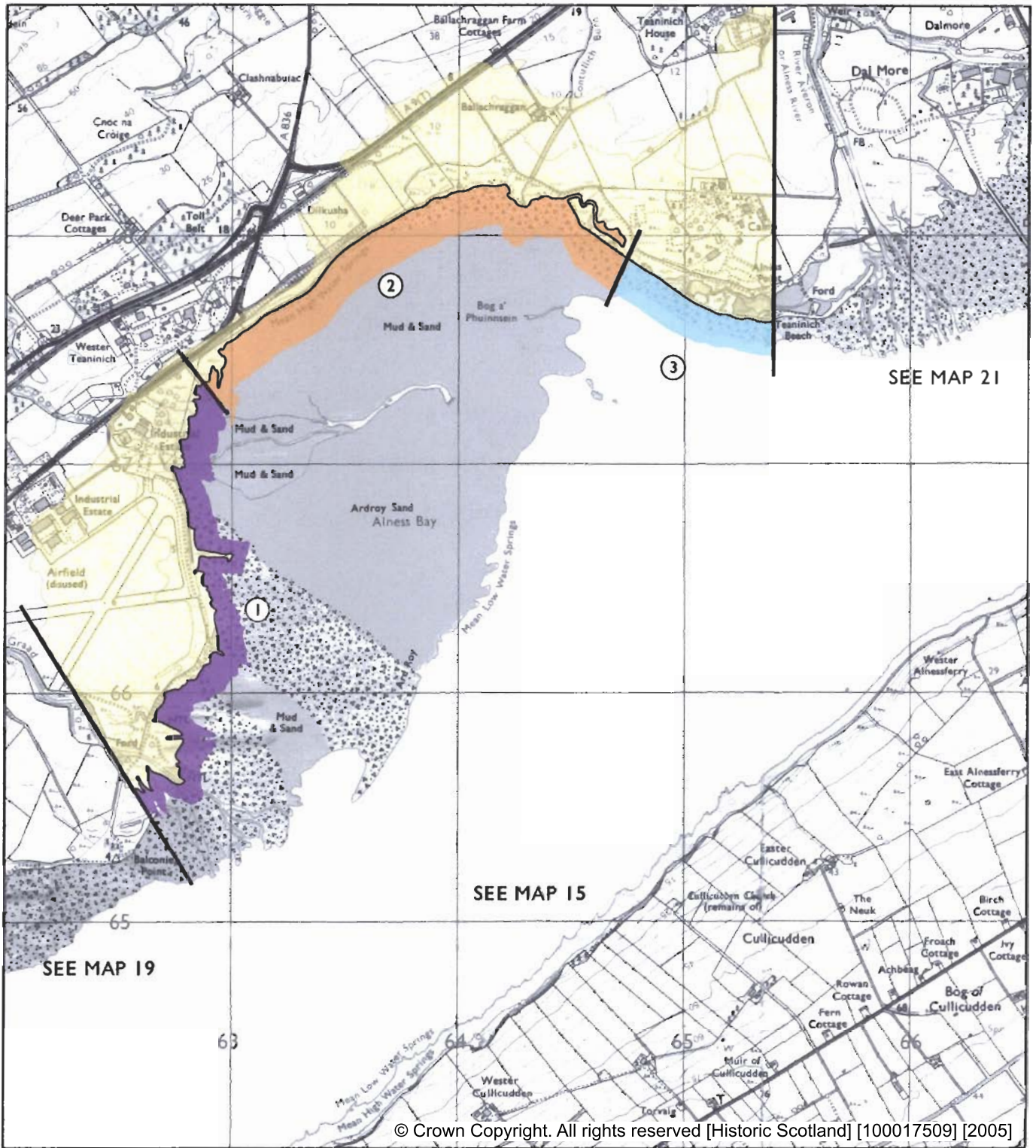
NH 650 677

0.7

Accreting or stable

Estuarine sediment is accreting at MHWS mark with shingle and marse colonised by saltmarsh. There is no indication to suggest that conditions here are not stable.

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**MAP 20: BALCONIE POINT TO ALNESS POINT 1:25 000**

MORAY FIRTH SURVEY Grid ref: NH 62-66/64-69

Basemap: O.S. Pathfinder Series

Sheet 144

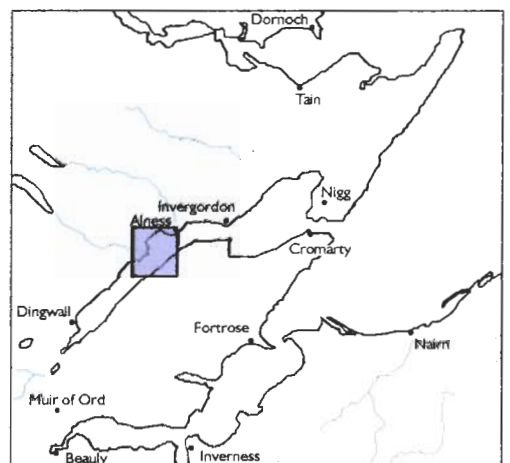
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**EROSION CLASS**

Assessment date: 16 September 1998

**Key:**

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



## MAP 20: BUILT HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

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### Sites on the Coastal Edge & Foreshore

NH 6288 6571  
 EVANTON AIRFIELD  
 Fish trap stone mounds  
 Uncertain  
 Poor  
 Survey

NH 6292 6619  
 EVANTON AIRFIELD  
 Two linear stone quays  
 20<sup>th</sup> century AD  
 Fair  
 Nil

NH 6295 6628  
 EVANTON AIRFIELD  
 Industrial pier  
 20<sup>th</sup> century AD  
 Good  
 Nil

NH 6295 6662  
 EVANTON AIRFIELD  
 Stone pier  
 Uncertain  
**Fair**  
 Nil

NH 6395 6810  
 BALLACHRAGGAN  
 Possible fish trap  
 Uncertain  
 Poor  
 Survey

NH 6517 6763  
 ALNESS POINT  
 Ruined building  
 Uncertain  
 Poor  
 Monitor

NH 6537 6752  
 TEANINICH BEACH  
 Pier  
 Uncertain  
 Fair  
 Monitor

### Sites in the Hinterland

NH66NW 34.00  
 NH 625 665 centre  
 EVANTON AIRFIELD  
 Airfield; Novar camp  
 20<sup>th</sup> century AD; WWII  
 Fair  
 Nil

**NH66NW 34.07**  
 NH 6279 6683  
 EVANTON AIRFIELD  
 Pillbox  
 20<sup>th</sup> century AD; WWII  
 Fair  
 Nil

**NH66NW 34.08**  
 NH 6283 6655  
 EVANTON AIRFIELD  
 Pillbox  
 20<sup>th</sup> century AD; WWII  
 Fair  
 Nil

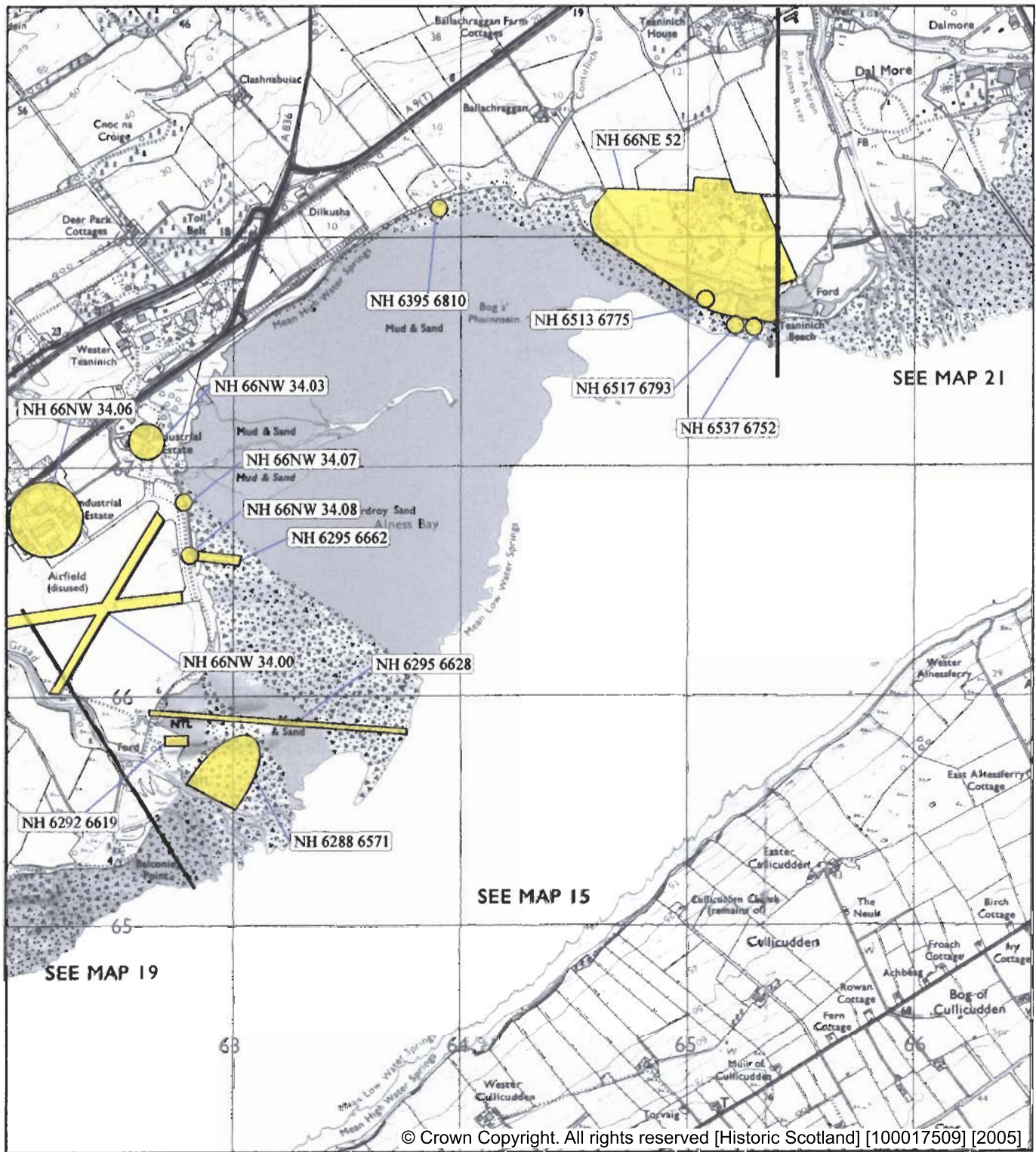
NH66NW 34.06  
 NH 6261 6708 centre  
 EVANTON AIRFIELD  
 Aircraft hangars; buildings;  
 huts  
 20<sup>th</sup> century AD; WWII  
 Good  
 Nil

**NH66NW 34.03**  
 NH 6263 6755 centre  
 EVANTON AIRFIELD  
 Aircraft hangars; buildings;  
 huts  
 20<sup>th</sup> century AD; WWII  
 Good  
 Nil

### Sites in the Hinterland

NH 6568 6815  
 ALNESS POINT  
 Icehouse  
 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> century AD  
 Good  
 Nil

NH 6624 6823  
 ALNESS POINT  
 Military camp, WWII  
 20<sup>th</sup> century AD  
 Fair  
 Nil



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## MAP 20: BALCONIE POINT TO ALNESS POINT 1:25 000

MORAY FIRTH SURVEY Grid ref: NH 62-66/64-69

Basemap: O.S. Pathfinder Series Sheet 144

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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

