

Map 24: MILTON CASTLE TO CARSE OF BAYFIELD

Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology: This unit of coastline is very sheltered and low-lying with a basal geology derived from Middle Old Red Sandstone. Raised marine deposits dominate the drift geology and these continue inland forming the lowland eastwards to Balintore. Fossil shorelines are discontinuous but are attributed to at least three marine incursions. Alluvial deposits underlie saltmarsh development in the region of Milton Castle. Floodbanks defend the carse clay which is intersected by drainage channels relating to reclamation in the last two centuries.

Erosion class: The sheltered position behind the land mass of the North Sutor and the low energy wave environment is controlling accretion of mud on the foreshore. Saltmarsh is well distributed and lends greater stability to the backshore.

Built Heritage and Archaeology: The extensive embankment and drainage system from Meddat to Carse of Bayfield was constructed to create large tracts of fertile farmland at the head of Nigg Bay. The construction included the cutting of small square quarry pits in front of the embankment.

Map 24: Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology

1. CAMPACK BURN to west of CARSE OF BRAYFIELD

NH 805 736

1.8km

Estuarine mud/saltmarsh

Low edge (<5m)

Carse clays overlying marine deposits

Head of Nigg Bay defended by flood banks and low lying. Saltmarsh and tidal flats with mud and sand flank the foreshore.

2. Head of NIGG BAY

NH 800736

0.5km

Saltmarsh

Low edge (<5m)

Carse clays overlying marine deposits

Head of Nigg Bay. A small alluvial fan overlies carse clays. The foreshore is dominated by saltmarsh.

3. South of CARSE of BRAYFIELD to LOWER PITCALZINE

NH 794 716

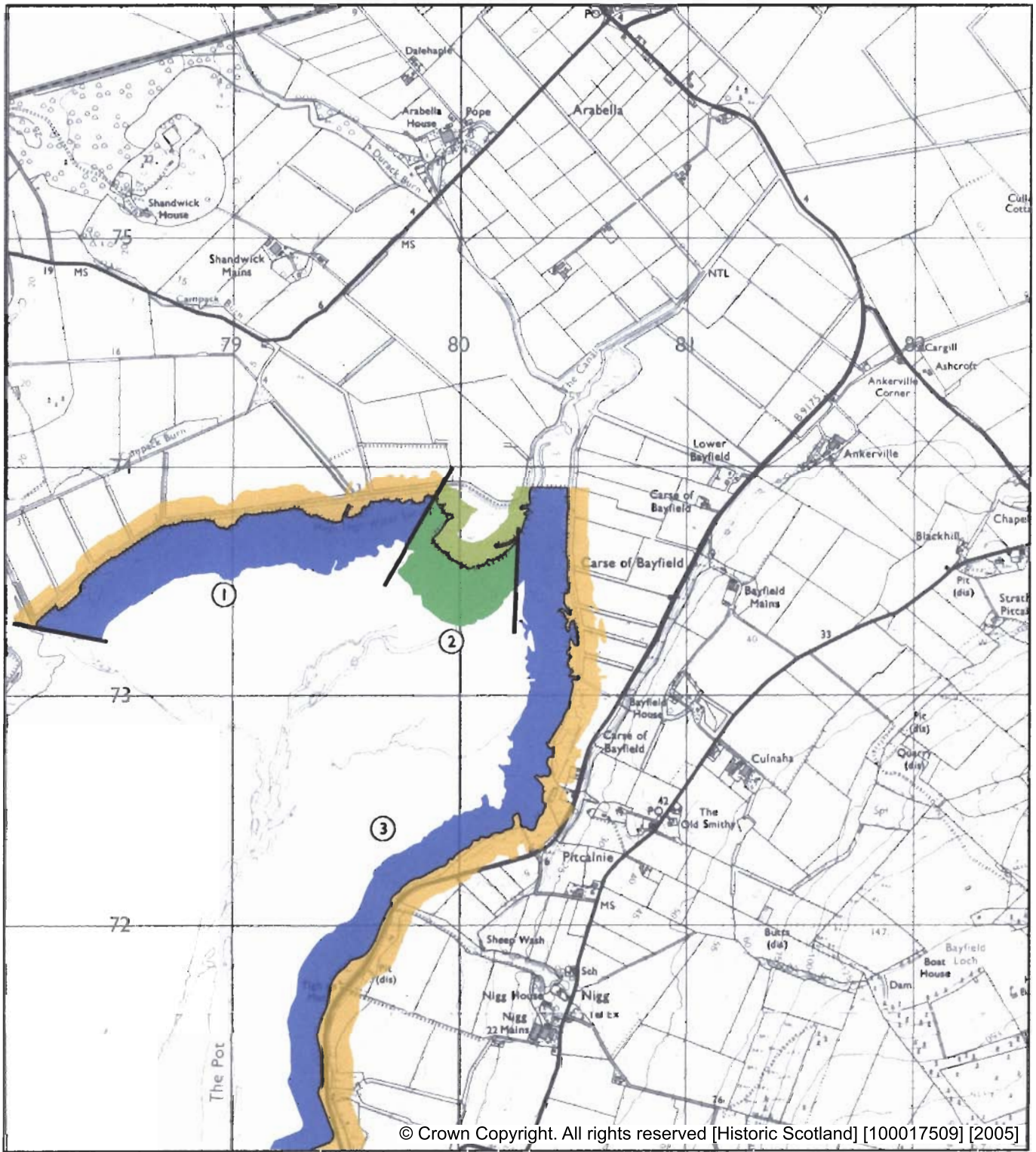
2.7km

Estuarine mud and sand

Low edge (<10m)

Raised beach and marine deposits

Irregular shoreline with carse clays overlying marine sand and gravel in a low-lying hinterland. The foreshore consists of tidal sand and mud flats.



MAP 24: MILTOWN CASTLE TO NIGG MAINS

MORAY FIRTH SURVEY Grid ref: NH 78-82/71-76

1:25 000

Basemap: O.S. Pathfinder Series Sheet 134

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HINTERLAND GEOLOGY AND FORESHORE GEOMORPHOLOGY

Assessment date: 18 September 1998

Hinterland:

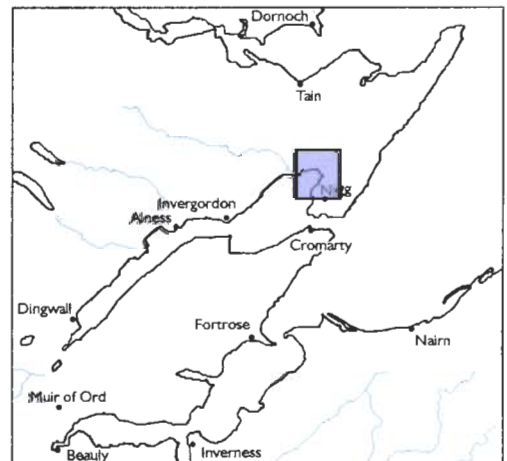
- Drift, boulder clay
- Drift, boulder clay over visible rock
- Raised beach and marine deposits
- Blown sand
- Glacial sand and gravel
- Alluvium

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 24: EROSION

1. East of MILTOWN CASTLE

NH 790 738

1.7

Accreting or stable

Gabbion basket sea defences protect part of this unit of coastline. Conditions are on the whole stable with mud accreting up to the HWM. The sheltered aspect of this stretch of coastline will be promoting sediment deposition. Erosion of the shore is due to the weak nature of the merge clays.

2. NIGG BAY

NH 800 738

3.5km

Accreting or stable

Modified by reclamation and flood banks the shoreline is stable. An additional factor leading to the stability of the foreshore is saltmarsh that extends down onto a muddy beach. Extensive mud flats are accreting in this sheltered bay.

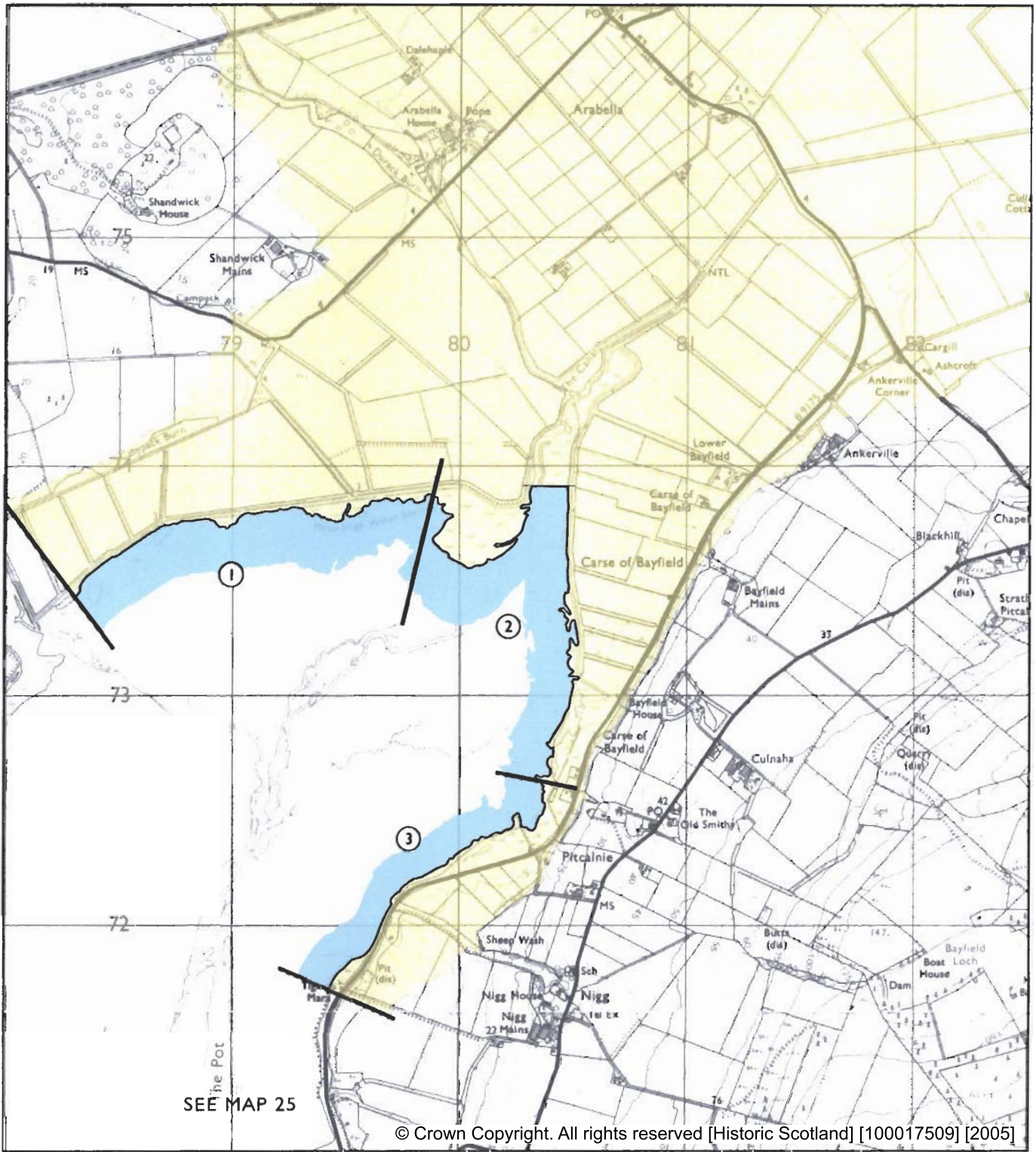
3. East of NIGG

NH 800 723

1.5km

Accreting or stable

Hard sea defences protect the coastal road. Saltmarsh vegetation is lending stability to the softer carse clays that outcrop along the foreshore. Further offshore mudflats are accreting.



MAP 24: MILTOWN CASTLE TO NIGG MAINS 1:25 000
 MORAY FIRTH SURVEY Grid ref: NH 78-82/71-76

Basemap: O.S. Pathfinder Series
 Sheet 134
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EROSION CLASS

Assessment date: 18 September 1998

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



MAP 24: BUILT HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Sites on the Coastal Edge & Foreshore

NH783 796 738

MEDDAT

Embankment and quarry pits

20th century AD

Fair Nil

NH 8028 7245 - 7951 7389

NIGG BAY

Site of track across bay

19th century AD or earlier

Poor

Nil

NH 7922 7210

TIGH NA MARA

Fish traps

Uncertain

Poor

Survey

NH 7951 7186

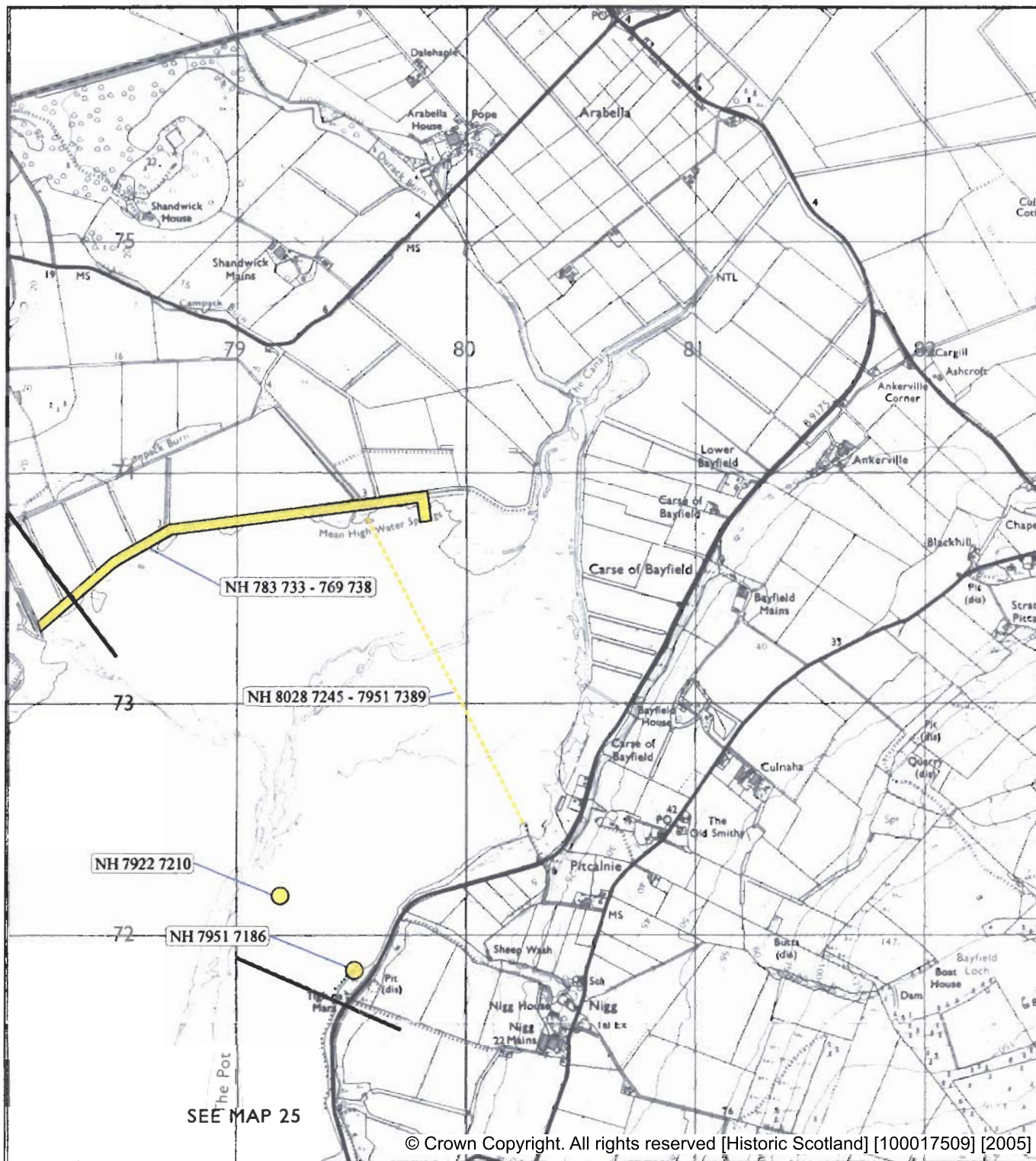
TIGH NA MARA

Hulk

20th century AD

Poor

Nil



MAP 24: MILTOWN CASTLE TO NIGG MAINS

1:25 000

MORAY FIRTH SURVEY Grid ref: NH 78-82/71-76


Basemap: O.S. Pathfinder Series Sheet 134

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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

