

Map 25: NIGG BAY

Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology: This section of coastline comprises the eastern side of Nigg Bay. The head of the bay lies below 10m OD. Underlying Old Red Sandstone continues with an extensive cover of marine sand and gravel. The development of the artificial land mass of the Nigg Fabrication Terminal dominates this area of the coastline.

Erosion class: The coastal edge towards the east of the bay is sheltered and accreting with extensive saltmarsh developed at the backshore. Here conditions are stable. Extensive mud flats are exposed for several kilometres down to the LWMS tide mark.

Built Heritage and Archaeology: The remnants of a trackway or route across Nigg Bay was re-located on both the northern shoreline and eastern edge of the bay. The northern point was not marked, however, the eastern side was marked by a large concrete block in the intertidal zone and a trackway leading from above HWM towards the northern shoreline. The oil industries fabrication yard at Nigg is a huge modern complex built partially on reclaimed intertidal zone. The remains of a sandstone quay at Nigg ferry has been used as the setting for a military pillbox. The hinterland sites at Nigg ferry village includes the 17th century giral which is now a hotel.

Map 25: Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology

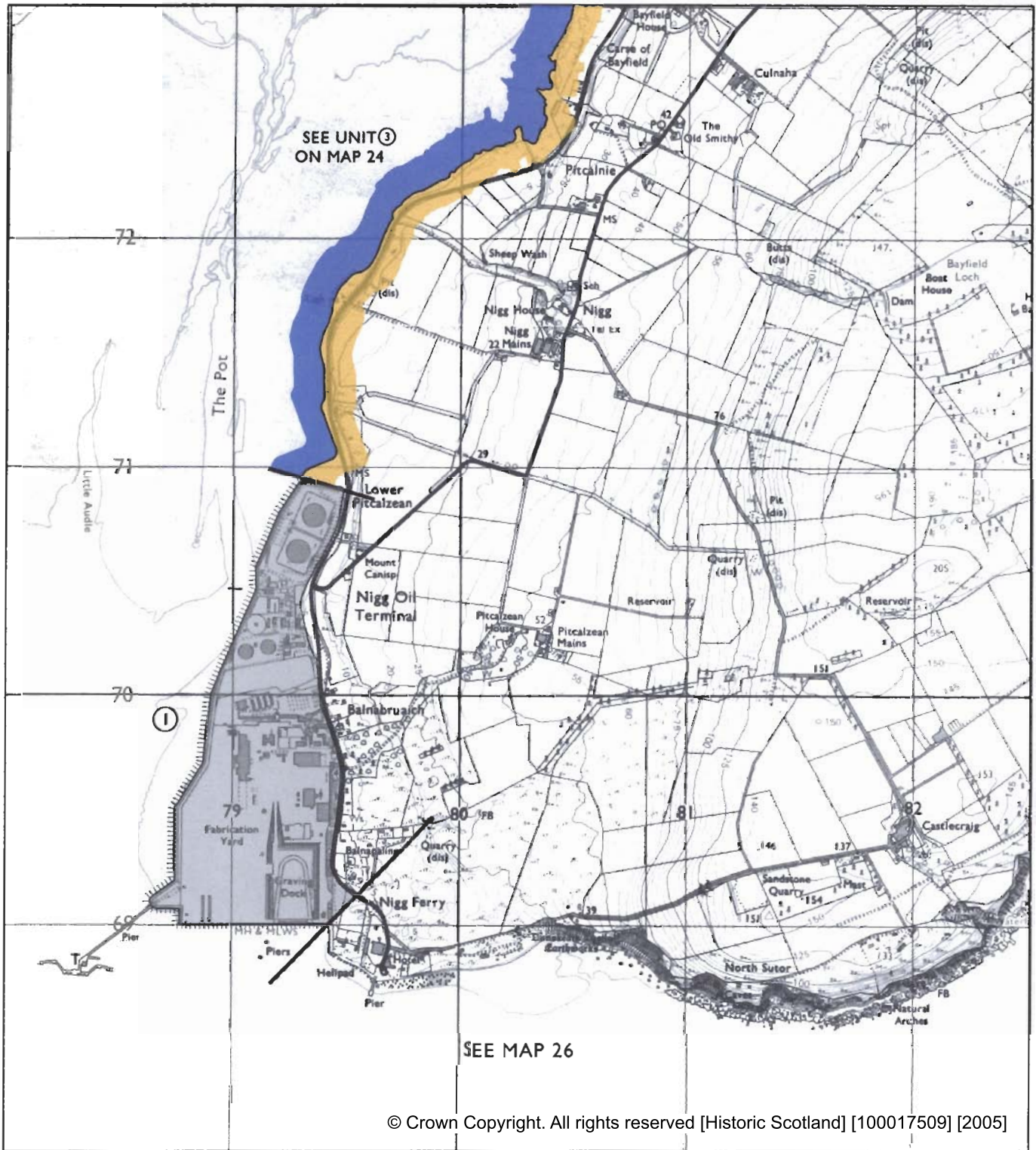
1. NIGG OIL TERMINAL AND OFF SHORE FABRICATION YARD

NH 710 700

2.5km

Artificial land form

A full account is given on its construction in Smith and Mather 1973. Shows plate under construction. Major effect is the impact on longshore drift.



MAP 25: NIGG BAY

MORAY FIRTH SURVEY Grid ref: NH 78-82/68-73

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:

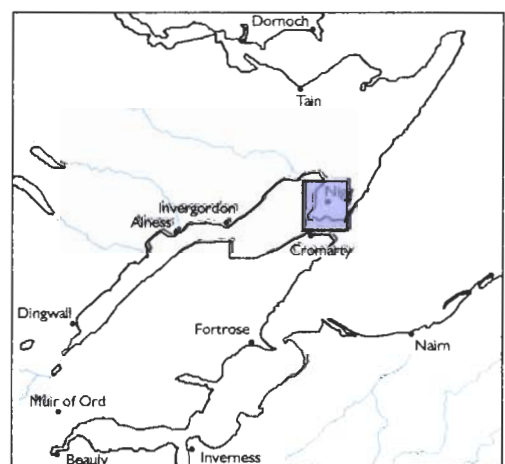
- Drift, boulder clay
- Drift, boulder clay over visible rock
- Raised beach and marine deposits
- Blown sand
- Glacial sand and gravel
- Alluvium

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 25: EROSION

1. East of NIGG to LOWER PITCAIRN

NH 794 714

0.8km

Accreting or stable

Conditions remain stable with well-developed saltmarsh over carse clay. The foreshore is mainly mud that is accreting.

2. NIGG OIL TERMINAL AND
FABRICATION YARD

NH 790 870

2.7km

Not surveyed

This unit was not surveyed on the grounds that any archaeology associated with the former land surface was destroyed when the yard was constructed.



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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

1:25 000

Basemap: O.S. Pathfinder Series
Sheet 134
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MAP 25: BUILT HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Sites in the Hinterland

NH76NE 52

NH 79 69 area

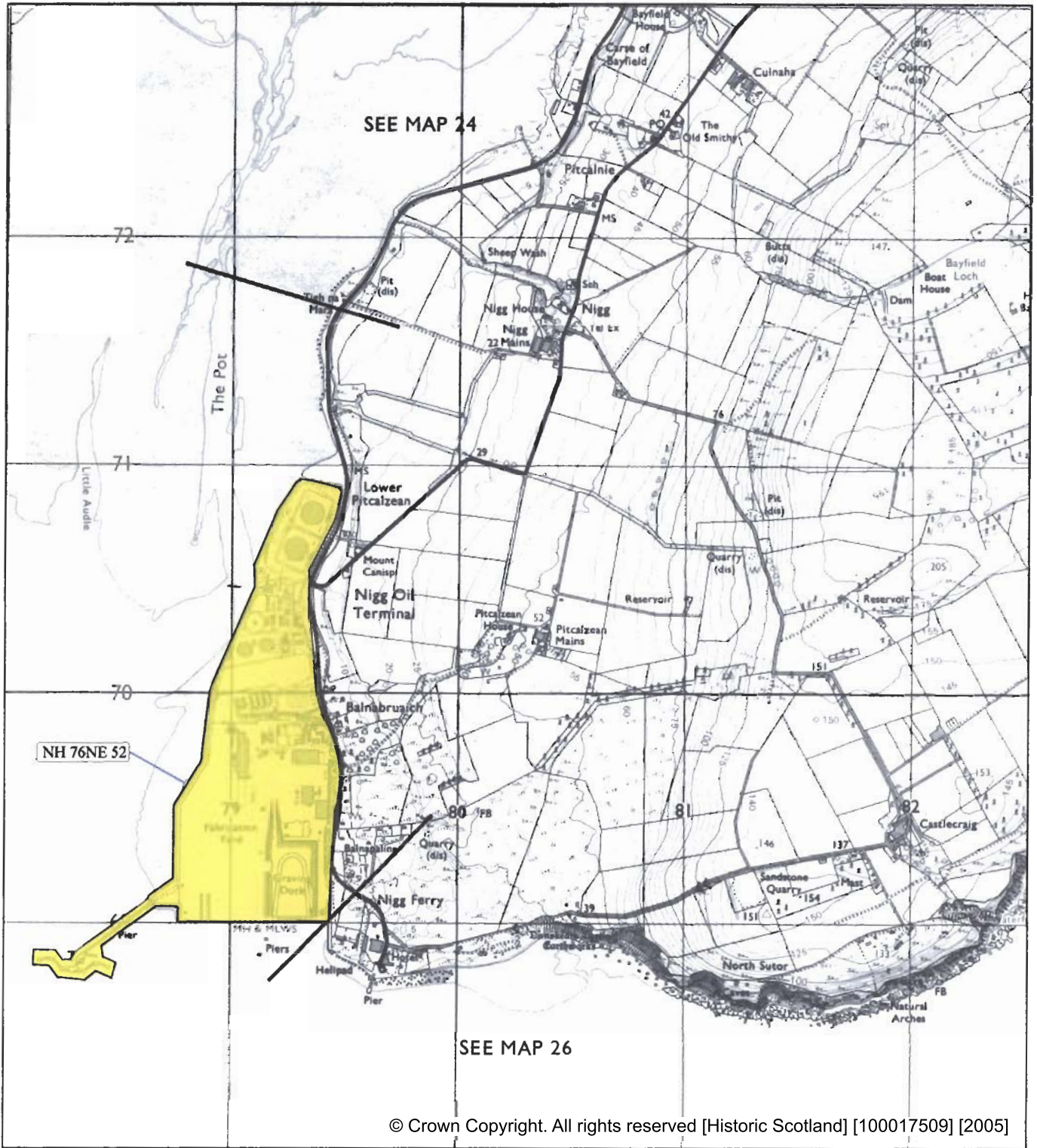
NIGG

Fabrication yard; oil industry

20th century AD

Good

Nil



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BUILT HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Assessment period: September 1998

1:25 000

Basemap: O.S. Pathfinder Series Sheet 134

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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

