

MAP 31: TARBAT NESS

Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology: The rock bounded coast of Tarbat Ness rests on Old Red Sandstone which is mantled by a cover of boulder clay and morainic drift. Raised beach platform continues to the point of the Ness. At Wilkhaven a small fringing beach near the tip of the rock bounded peninsula is about 10m wide with banking shingle. The till capped cliffs behind the beach are about 20m high and capped by marine deposits.

Erosion class: Although the peninsula is exposed to the NE gales the cliff is resilient in terms of erosion and is considered to be stable at the present. Some rubble dumping was noted at the tip of the Ness but this is not connected with sea defence, rather tipping of demolition material.

Built Heritage and Archaeology: The hinterland archaeology in the southern part of this area comprises the possible hermitage site at Bindal Muir, consisting of a walled enclosure. In the north, the Tarbat Ness lighthouse, cottages and helipad are the built heritage. The foreshore archaeology in this area includes the possible promontory fort at Wilkhaven, which is a poor state of repair. Other sites include the ruined building and

Map 31: Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology

1. EASTER BINDELL to south of TIGH NA
CREIGE

NH 945 867

1km

Rock platform/boulders

High cliff (c.20m)

Raised beach deposits

Wide Post Glacial raised platform mantled by boulder clay. The shoreline consists of rock platform and boulders.

2. South of TIGH NA CREIGE to
WILKHAVEN

NH 945 866

0.1km

Rock platform

High cliff (20m)

Raised beach deposits

Wide Post Glacial raised platform mantled by boulder clay. The shoreline consists of rock platform and boulders.

3. WILKHAVEN PEIR

NH 945 871

0.2km

Rock platform

High cliff (c.20m)

Raised beach deposits

Small cliff girt beach with a sand component comprising fringing beach extending to the foot of the degrading cliff. Boulder clay mantles relict shore platform.

4. WILKHAVEN PEIR to TARBAT NESS

NH 948 876

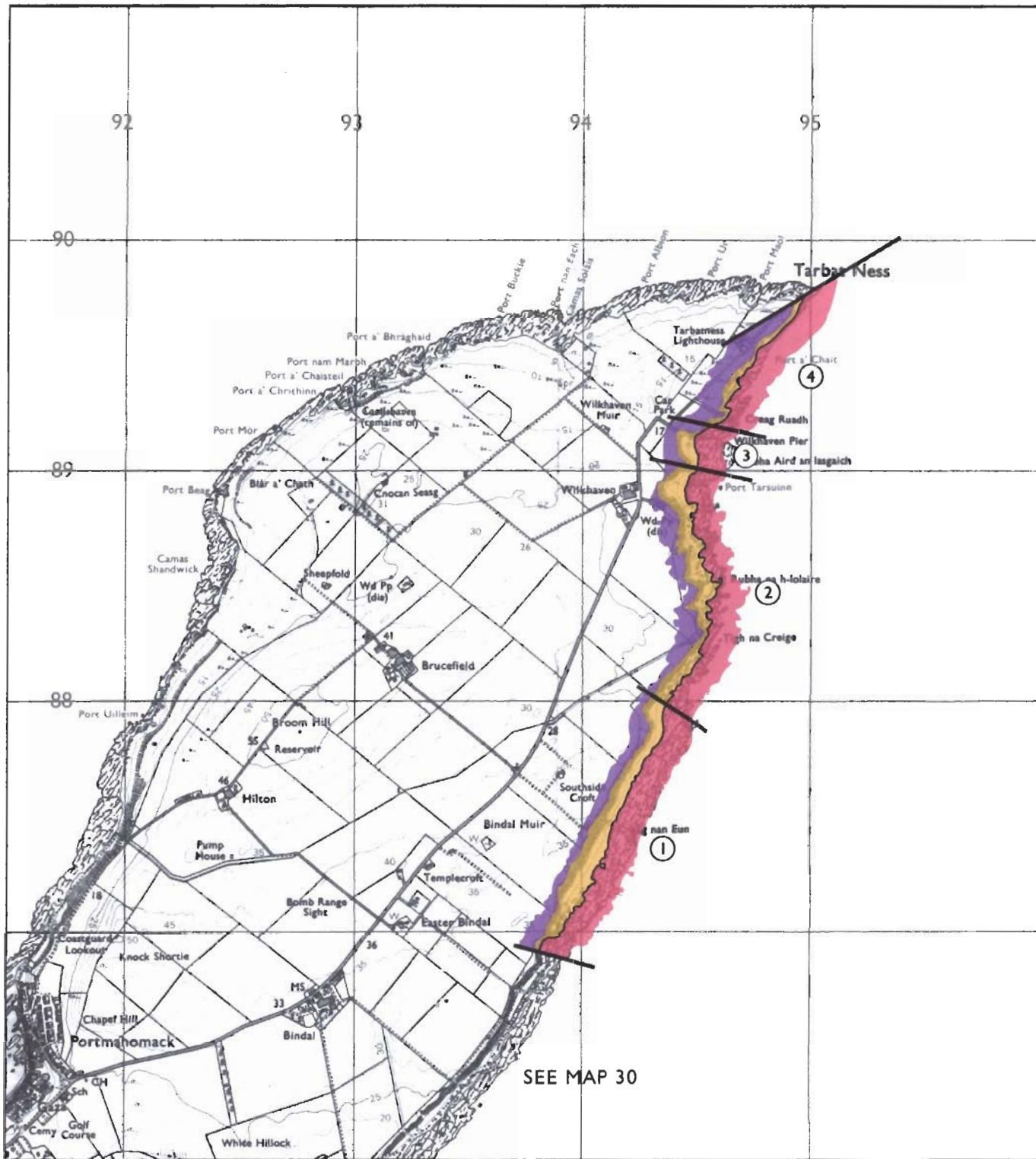
0.8km

Rock platform

High cliff (>10m)

Raised beach deposits

Peninsula with raised beach deposits overlying exposed rock platforms. The foreshore is exposed comprising of rock platform and boulders.



MAP 31: TARBAT NESS
 MORAY FIRTH SURVEY Grid ref: NH 92-96/86-91

1:25 000

Basemap: O.S. Pathfinder Series
 Sheet 124
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**HINTERLAND GEOLOGY
 AND FORESHORE
 GEOMORPHOLOGY**

Assessment date: 24 September 1998

Hinterland:

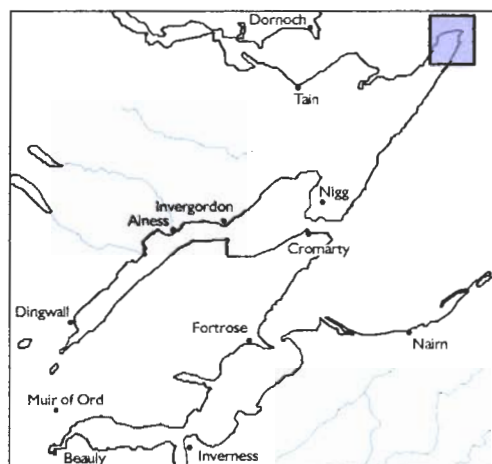
- Drift, boulder clay
- Drift, boulder clay over visible rock
- Raised beach and marine deposits
- Blown sand
- Glacial sand and gravel
- Alluvium

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 31: EROSION

1. EASTER BINDAL to south of TIGH NA CREIGE

NH 942 945

1.1km

Stable or eroding

Wide wave cut platform overlooking exposed rock platform scoured into a deep gullies scoured by wave action. Attrition at the base of the cliff is constant owing to exposure to easterly gales. Erosion considered to be slow owing to the fairly resilient nature of the Old Red Sandstone.

2. WILKHAVEN

NH 945 869

1.2km

Stable or eroding

Irregular coastal edge modified by wave action overlooking gullies and rock platforms. The beach at Wilkhaven is receiving sufficient sand supply and is classified as stable.

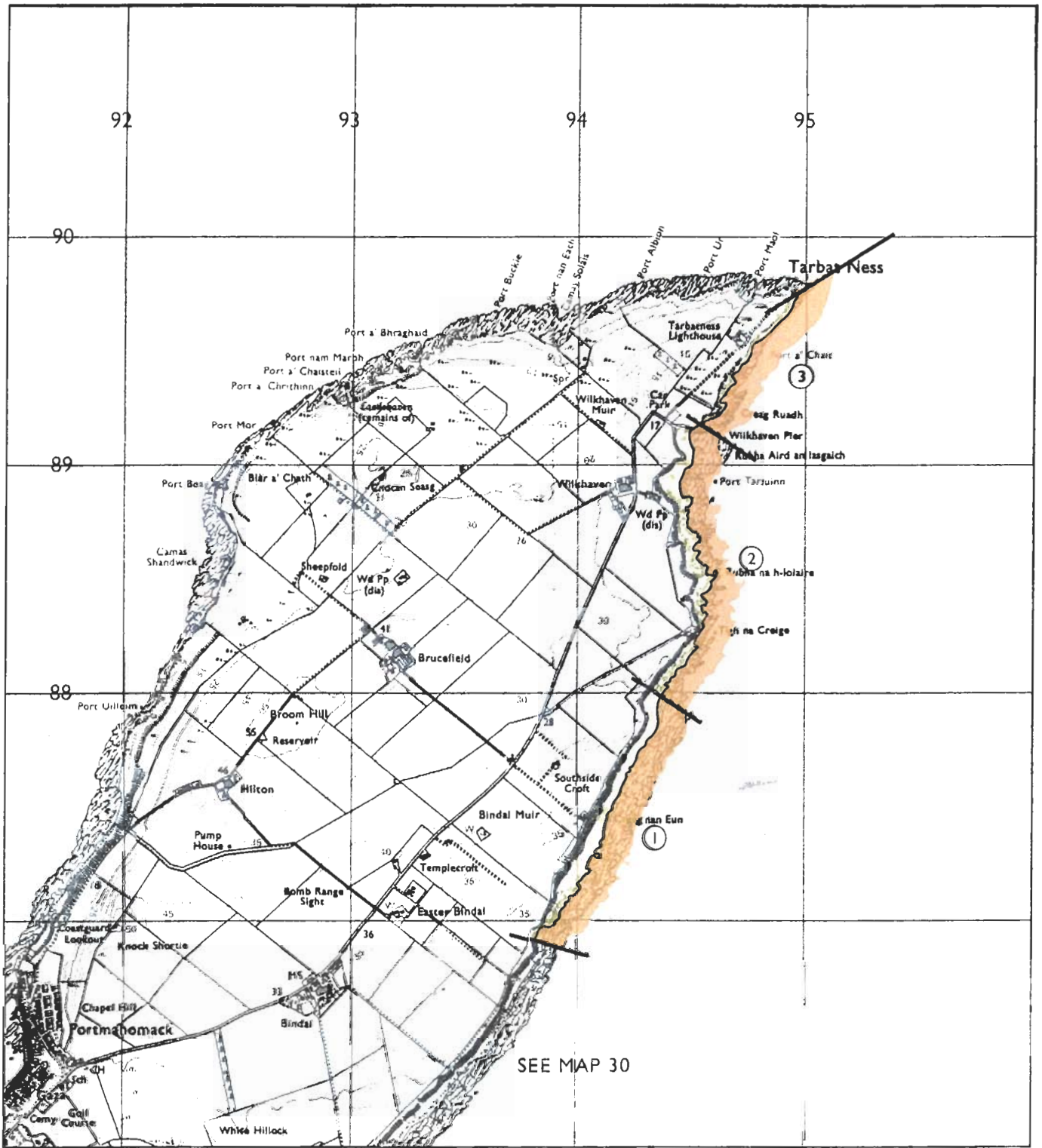
3. TARBAT NESS

NH 947 875

0.8km

Stable or eroding

Exposed peninsula consisting of irregular cliff face overlooking exposed rock platforms. As described in the previous units the coastal edge is undergoing constant erosion but at a considerably slow rate.



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1:25 000

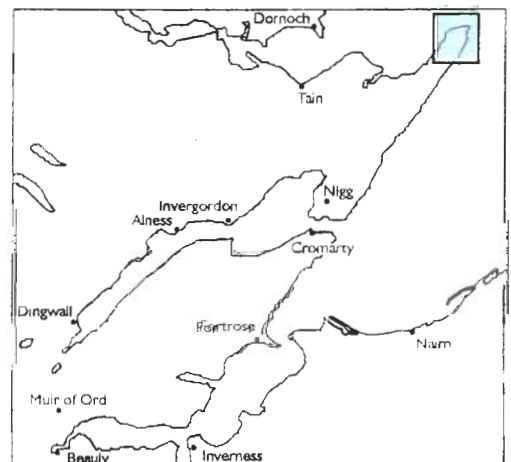
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EROSION CLASS

Assessment date: 24 September 1998

Key:

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



MAP 31: BUILT HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Sites on the Coastal Edge & Foreshore

NH98NW 9

NH 9443 8662

WILKHAVEN

Promontory fort (possible)

Uncertain

Poor

Monitor

NH 9437 8683

WILKHAVEN

Roofed terrace above scarp

18th/19th century AD

Fair

Nil

NH 9447 8704

WILKHAVEN

Ruined building

Uncertain

Poor

Monitor

NH 9453 8716

WILKHAVEN

Pier and buildings

19th century AD

Fair

Nil

Sites in the Hinterland

NH98NW 1

NH 9387 8502

BINDAL MUIR

Hermitage (site of); walled enclosure

18th/19th century AD

Good

Monitor

NH98NW 11

NH 9469 8756

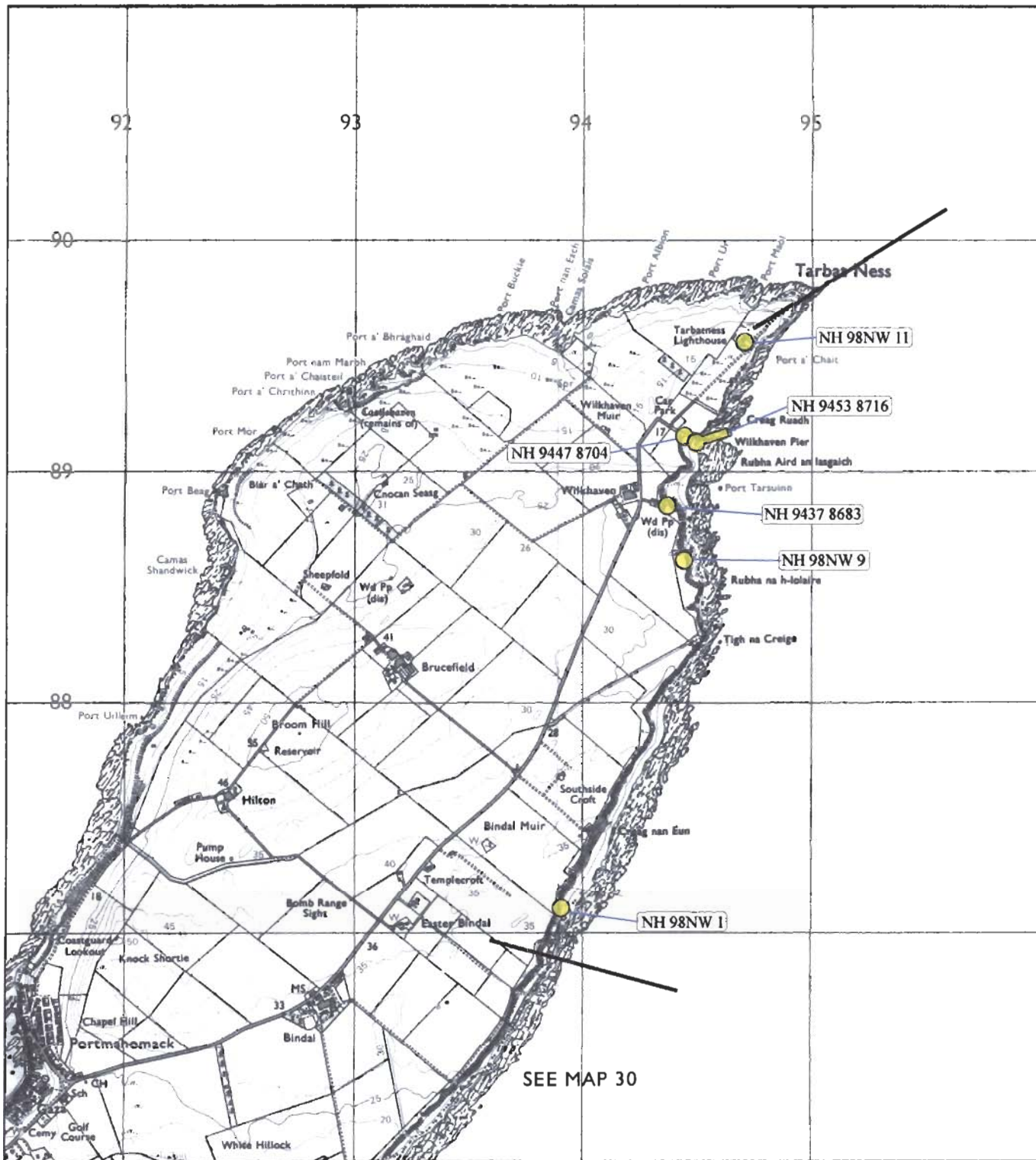
TARBAT NESS

Lighthouse, keeper's cottages and helipad

19th century AD

Good

Nil



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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

