

## **Introduction to Map 24: Port Bhiorgadaidh to Ton Mhor**

This map section covers some 6.2km of coastline. The coast edge for much of the area is rocky and rugged but low-lying: this coast edge is stable. A sandy beach extends around the shore of Sanaigmore Bay which is definitely eroding, both on the coast edge and in the hinterland. The hinterland is made up of open grazing land and moorland. There is no modern settlement within the coastal zone and only one road which leads up to Sanaigmore. Access along the coastline is by foot and there are no tracks or paths.

A total of six sites were identified within this map section; four of these had been recorded previously. Only one site lies within the 18th-20th C date range; this comprises of cultivation remains (IY107) at Port Bhreac-achaidh.

At Sanaigmore Bay this survey identified several new scatters of shell, burnt stone, animal bone and unworked flint. A single pot sherd and a single struck flint flake were also noted in an eroding exposure. This area has previously yielded numerous stray artefacts of prehistoric type (IY256, IY262) and, nearby, two cists have been excavated in the past (IY292). It is recommended that the entire area should be kept under regular surveillance for the appearance of new exposures.

At Port Na Caillich (IY263) there are traces of ruinous walling on a low rocky knoll and a small natural chasm between two rock outcrops has been covered with a lintelled roof to form an enclosed passage. This site has been previously described as a dun, but as it lacks both a defensible location and substantial defensive walls and it is not possible to confirm this classification or to suggest a date for the remains. Nearby, a second low rocky rise also has structural remains (IY264). The function and date of this structure is also uncertain.

**IY107**

NR 26645 72753  
Port Bhreac-achaidh  
Cultivation remains  
18-20th C  
Fair  
Nil

**IY256** (NR27SW 4)

NR 23578 70992  
Sanaigmore Bay  
Deflation hollow with artefact scatters  
1st mill BC- 1st Mill AD  
Poor  
Monitor

**IY262**

NR 24084 70923  
Sanaigmore  
Deflation hollow with artefact scatters  
???  
Fair  
Survey

**IY263** (NR27SE 21)

NR 25311 71525  
Port Na Caillich  
Alleged dun  
???  
Fair  
Monitor

**IY264**

NR 25342 71520  
Port Na Caillich  
Structural remains  
???  
Fair  
Monitor

**IY292** (NR27SW 26)

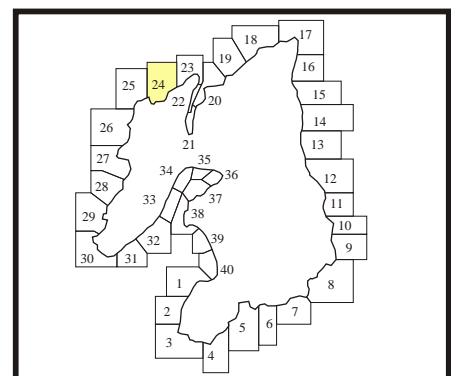
NR 2362 7116  
Sanaigmore Bay  
Cists  
3rd-1st Mill BC  
N/A  
N/A



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- Built Heritage & Archaeology**
- Protected Ancient Monument or area of Designated Wreck
  - Monument formally proposed by Historic Scotland for scheduling or wreck for designation
  - + Listed Historic Building
  - Undesignated wreck
  - Known ancient monument
  - Site found by this survey
  - Site complex



**1. Creag Loisgte**

NR 250 714

3.9 Km

Rock platform

Coast edge mostly <5m

Drift on visible rock/ Raised beach etc.

The coast edge is an extensive rock platform, which is up to 50m - 100m wide at the northern end of the unit and devoid of vegetation. The hinterland, in general, is rough unfenced land. There is some raised beach near Cladach Fionn: here old storm beach deposits can be seen over a wide area, in front of low cliffs.

**2. Am Miadar**

NR 234 712

1.7 Km

Rock platform/mainly sand

Coast edge <5m

Blown sand/ Drift on visible rock.

This unit encompasses two sandy beaches separated by a length of rocky coastline. The hinterland behind Sanaigmore Bay is dunes, elsewhere it is poorly drained rough grazing. There is limited dumping of farm waste/machinery at NR 24085 70923. This dumping not extensive enough to warrant showing on the map.

**3. Ton Mhor**

NR 233 717

0.6 Km

Rock platform

Coast edge >5m

Drift on visible rock.

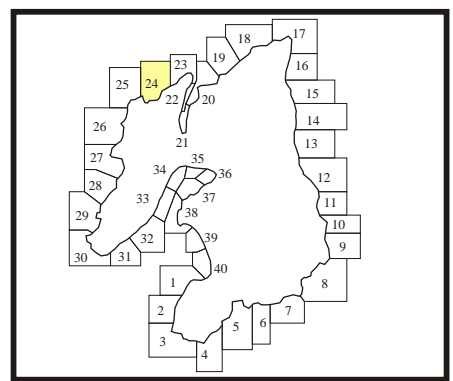
The coast edge in this unit is high and rocky. The hinterland is poorly drained rough grazing.



- Foreshore**
- Rock platform
  - Mainly sand
  - Mainly alluvial/marine mud
  - Marsh

- Modifiers**
- Low edge <5m
  - Cliff >5m
  - Man made barrier
  - Shingle/storm bank
  - Human disturbance

- Hinterland**
- Drift
  - Drift on visible rock
  - Raised beach etc.
  - Blown sand
  - Glacial sand/gravel
  - Alluvium



**1. Creag Loisgte**

NR 250 714

4.0 Km

Stable

The coast edge in this unit is rocky and stable. No signs of erosion.

**3. Am Miadar**

NR 233 714

1.7 Km

Stable

The coast edge in this unit is rocky and stable. No signs of erosion.

**2. Sanaigmore Bay**

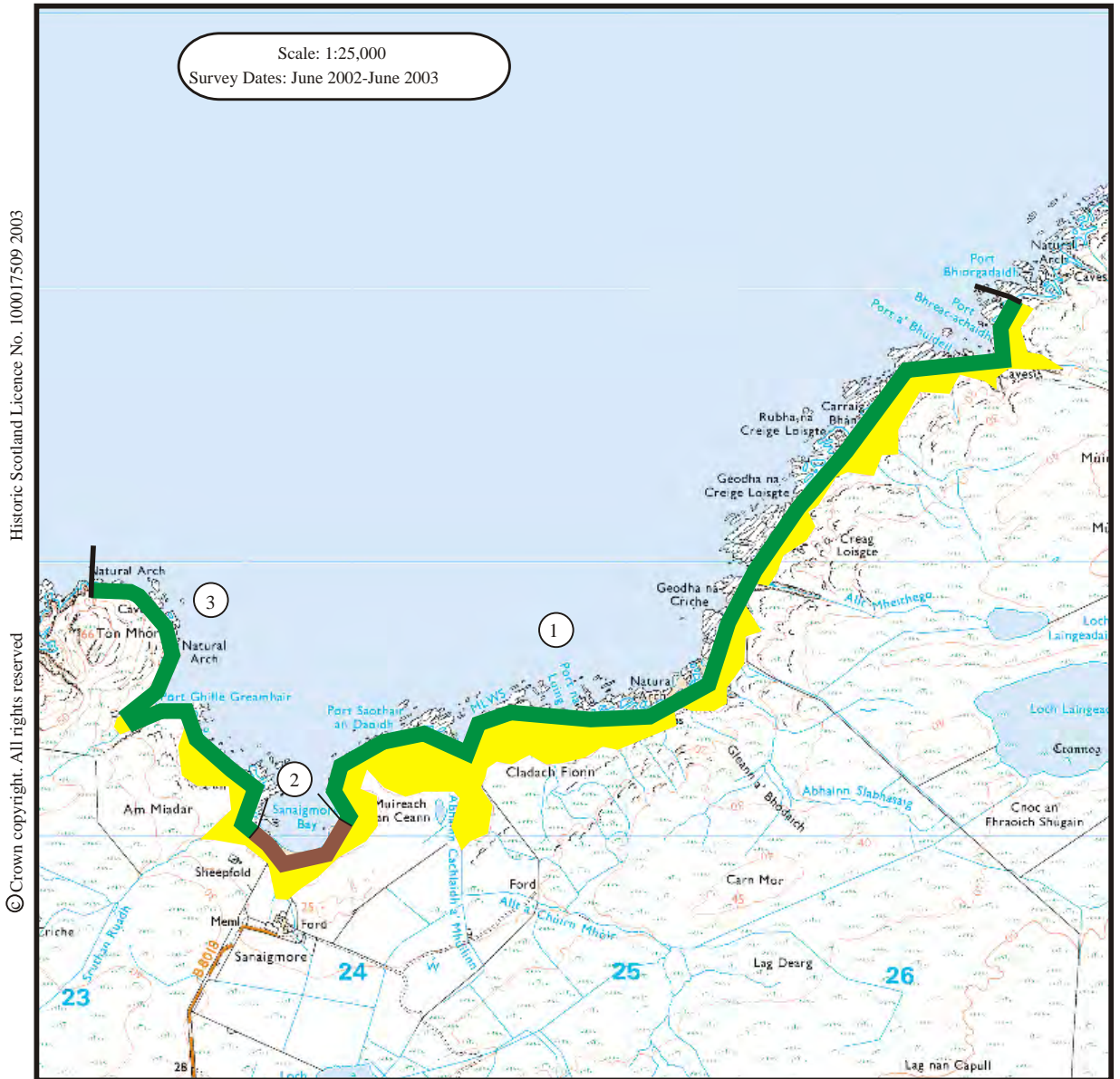
NR 237 709

0.5 Km

Definitely Eroding

This unit encompasses a medium sized bay which appears to be fairly sheltered. The coast edge and the hinterland is clearly eroding. There are many blowouts in the dunes behind the coast edge, and erosion of the coast edge itself. There are several long sandy gullies which lead to wider areas of sand devoid of vegetation. Erosion appears to be caused by a combination of animal disturbance and wind action. There are also some - limited - signs of regeneration of vegetation on some deflation surfaces.





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- Erosion Class**
- Definitely Accreting
  - Accreting or Stable
  - Stable
  - Eroding or Stable
  - Definitely Eroding
  - Accreting and Eroding
  - No access
  - Land below 10m

