

Introduction to Map 30: Sgeir Alt Mhic Eoghainn to Ton Loisgte

This map section covers some 7.8km of coastline. This section takes in the south western facing butt of the Rhinns and includes the villages of Portnahaven and Port Wemyss. The coastline within this area is generally low-lying and the hinterland is mainly composed of enclosed grazing land, with occasional areas of unenclosed rough grazing and moorland. The coast edge in this map section has been classified as stable. Modern settlement is concentrated around the village of Portnahaven and the smaller settlement of Port Wemyss. The public road (A847) extends down to the coast in Portnahaven and its extension to Claddach lies behind the coast edge. Beyond these points, access to the coast is by foot, with occasional rough tracks and paths.

A total of eight sites were identified within this map section; five of these had been recorded previously. The majority of the sites are of 18th -20th C date. They include Portnahaven (IY203) and Port Wemyss (IY205) settlements and their piers (IY204), a boat noost (IY213) and cultivations (IY206). Portnahaven began as a poor fishing hamlet, in the mid-late 19th C the present village was designed and built, together with the planned village of Port Wemyss, under the encouragement of Captain Walter Campbell of Sunderland. Built on steep slopes surrounding the harbour, the houses comprise of both single storied and lofted cottages with slate roofs; many have been modernised in more recent times. Port Wemyss, also a fishing village, lies to the south east of Portnahaven and has terraced houses built on high ground overlooking the small port. The houses are mainly single storied and were set out with strips of garden ground. There is a jetty and a pier and several landing places for boats on the rocky coast below the village.

Of uncertain date are a dun at Rhinn's Point (IY208), clearance cairns (IY207) and stray finds of flint from close to the shore at Claddach (IY293). The dun sits on a sheer rock which is surrounded on all sides by the sea and is now inaccessible. There are signs of banks, the most visible of which lies on the landward side. The summit of the rock is undulating and has a hollow which may indicate the presence of structural remains.

IY203 (NR15SE 14 & 38)
NR 16 52
Portnahaven
Portnahaven Village and pier
18-20th C
Good
Monitor

IY207
NR 17679 51454
Cnoc na Buaile
Clearance cairns
???
Fair
Monitor

IY204 (NR15SE 37)
NR 1659 5195
Port Wemyss
Pier
18-20th C
Good
Nil

IY208 (NR15SE 2)
NR 17963 51219
An Dun, Rhinn's Point
Dun
???
Fair
Monitor

IY205 (NR15SE 13, 31)
NR 16755 51776
Port Wemyss
Port Wemyss village
18-20th C
Fair
Nil

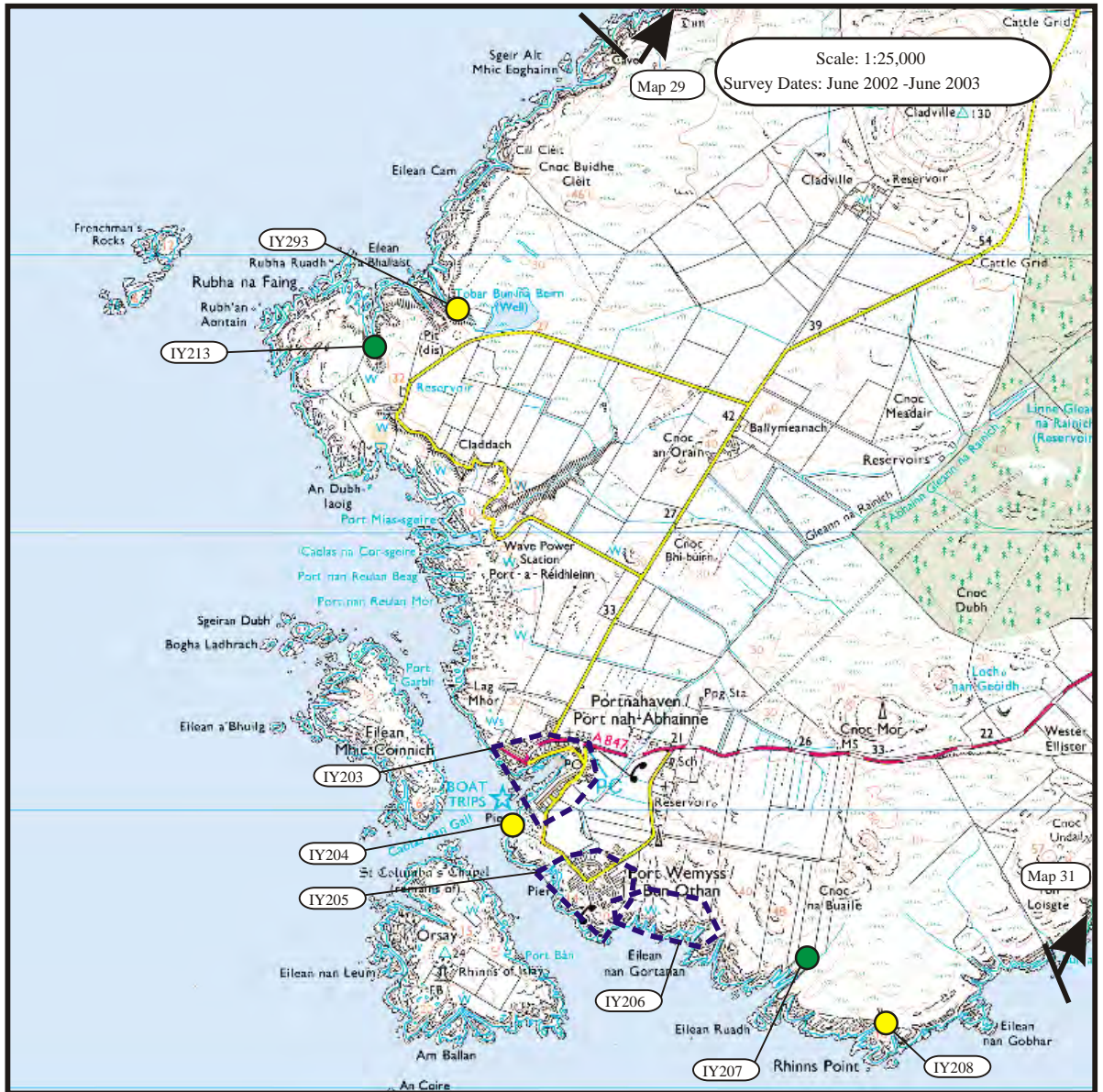
IY213
NR 16095 53686
Rubha na Faing
Boat noost
18-20th C
Fair
Nil

IY206
NR 17094 51631
Port Wemyss
Walls and grazing land
18-20th C
Fair-Poor
Nil

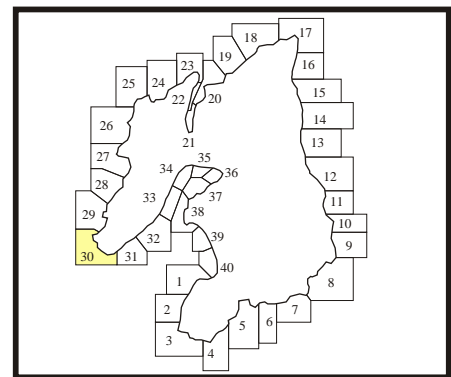
IY293 (NR15SE 31)
NR 163 538
Claddach
Stray finds: flint
???
N/A
Monitor

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- 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. Portnahaven

NR 164 525

7.8 Km

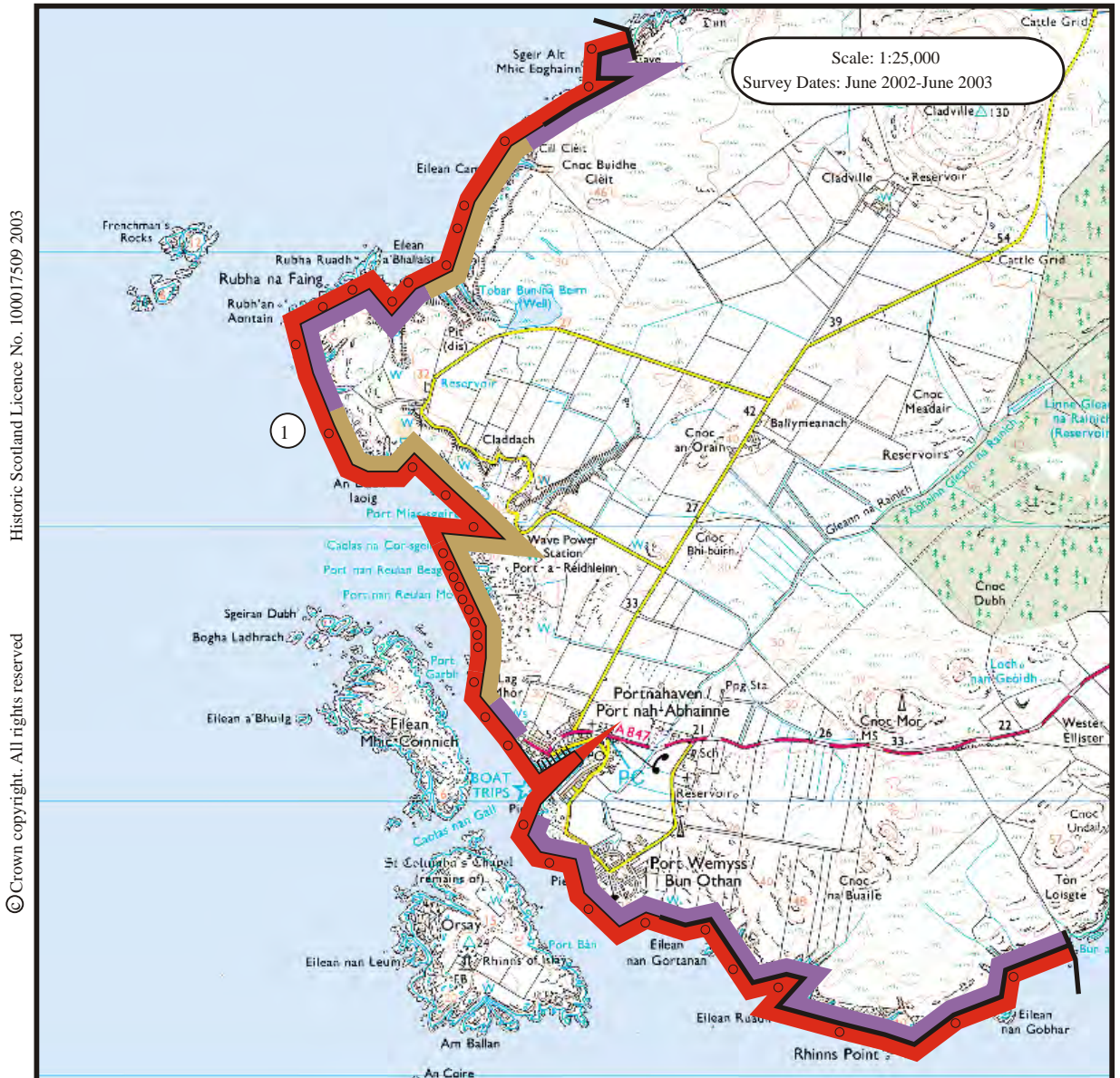
Rock platform

Coast edge mostly <5m

Drift on visible rock/ Raised beach etc.

A rocky coast edge with cobble cover, and some sand in coves. There are large areas of raised beach behind the coast edge at Claddach and south of Cnoc Buidhe Cleit.

The hinterland is poorly drained rough grazing, except at Portnahaven, which is built on. The coast edge is protected by sea walling in Portnahaven.

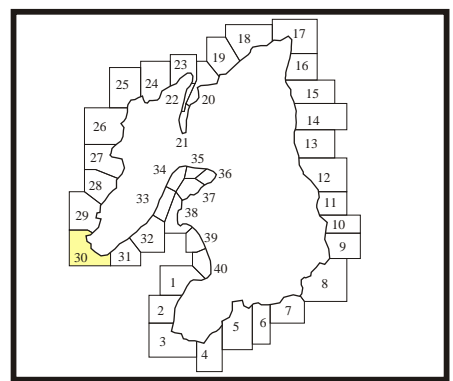


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- Foreshore**
- Rock platform
 - Mainly sand
 - Mainly alluvial/marine mud
 - Marsh

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

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



1. Portnahaven

NR 164 525

7.8 Km

Stable

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

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