

## **Introduction to Map 31: Ton Loisgte to Rubha Dearg**

This map section covers some 4.7km of coastline. It extends along the south eastern tip of the Rhinns. The coast edge is rugged and rocky but generally under 20m OD. The coast edge in this map section has been classified as stable. The hinterland comprises of rough grazing and moorland. There is no modern settlement within the coastal zone and the public road (A847) is set back from the coast. Access is by foot and there are no tracks or paths to follow.

A total of six sites were identified within this map section; three of these had been recorded previously. Only one site was identified as being of 18th-20th C date; this is a boat noost with surrounding land divisions at Port Gleann Na Gaoith (IY171).

Four sites of uncertain date were found. These include indeterminate structural remains at Port an Ladhair (IY211) where two or more rectangular buildings, reduced to footings, appear to have been abandoned for some considerable time. It is recommended that this site is monitored for the appearance of new exposures which may provide information on their nature and date. Two cave sites at Wester Ellister (IY210) and Port Ellister (IY209) may have been used in the past, although no evidence for this was found. It is recommended that both sites are monitored for future change and the appearance of new exposures.

At Cadh' Airighe (IY212) a group of five or more mounds are spread between two fields. Three of the mounds comprise of piles of loose stone heaped over natural outcrops, the remainder are covered over with grass. They most likely represent clearance cairns but, especially in the case of the turf covered mounds, should be kept under surveillance since they may be burial mounds.

The early chapel site at Gleann na Gaoith (IY170), surrounded by an enclosure, is situated on a terrace overlooking a bend in a stream. The chapel is ruinous, with loose stone strewn around the interior. Several large slabs laid against the interior wall face may be grave stones. The enclosure is defined by a stony bank and a stone built feature within it may mark a grave. Also within the enclosure, there is an upstanding slab, carved with a Celtic cross motif. A second cross slab, also bearing a Celtic cross motif, is laid against the wall of the chapel.

**IY170** (NR25SW 1)  
NR 21178 53623  
Glen Na Gaoith  
Chapel, enclosure, cross slabs  
1st Mill BC- 1st Mill AD  
Fair  
Monitor

**IY171**  
NR 21225 53534  
Port Gleann Na Gaoidh  
Boundary banks and walls, boat noost  
18-20th C  
Fair  
Nil

**IY209** (NR15SE 8)  
NR 1884 5208  
Port Ellister  
Sea cave  
???  
N/A  
N/A

**IY210**  
NR 1929 4220  
Wester Ellister  
Cave/rock shelter  
???  
Fair  
Monitor

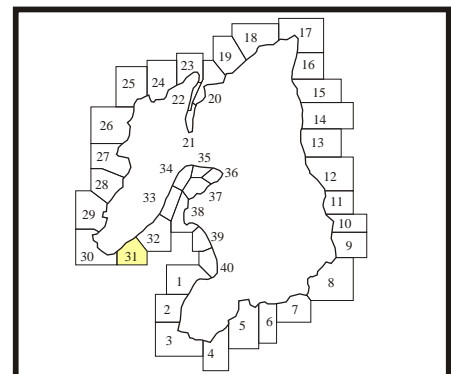
**IY211** (NR15SE 35)  
NR 19981 52799  
Port an Ladhair  
Structural remains  
???  
Poor  
Monitor

**IY212**  
NR 20168 52906  
Cadh' Airighe  
Mounds- possible clearance cairns  
???  
Fair  
Monitor



- 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

Built Heritage & Archaeology



**1. Cnoc Undail**

NR 187 517

0.7 Km

Rock platform

Coast edge >5m

Drift on visible rock.

A high, rocky coast edge. The hinterland is poorly drained rough grazing

**2. Port Ellister**

NR 188 521

0.3 Km

Mainly sand

Coast edge <5m

Raised beach etc.

A narrow, deep cove with a sandy beach at its head. Cobble cover on upper foreshore.

Raised beach in the hinterland, used as rough grazing.

**3. Cadh Airighe**

NR 202 528

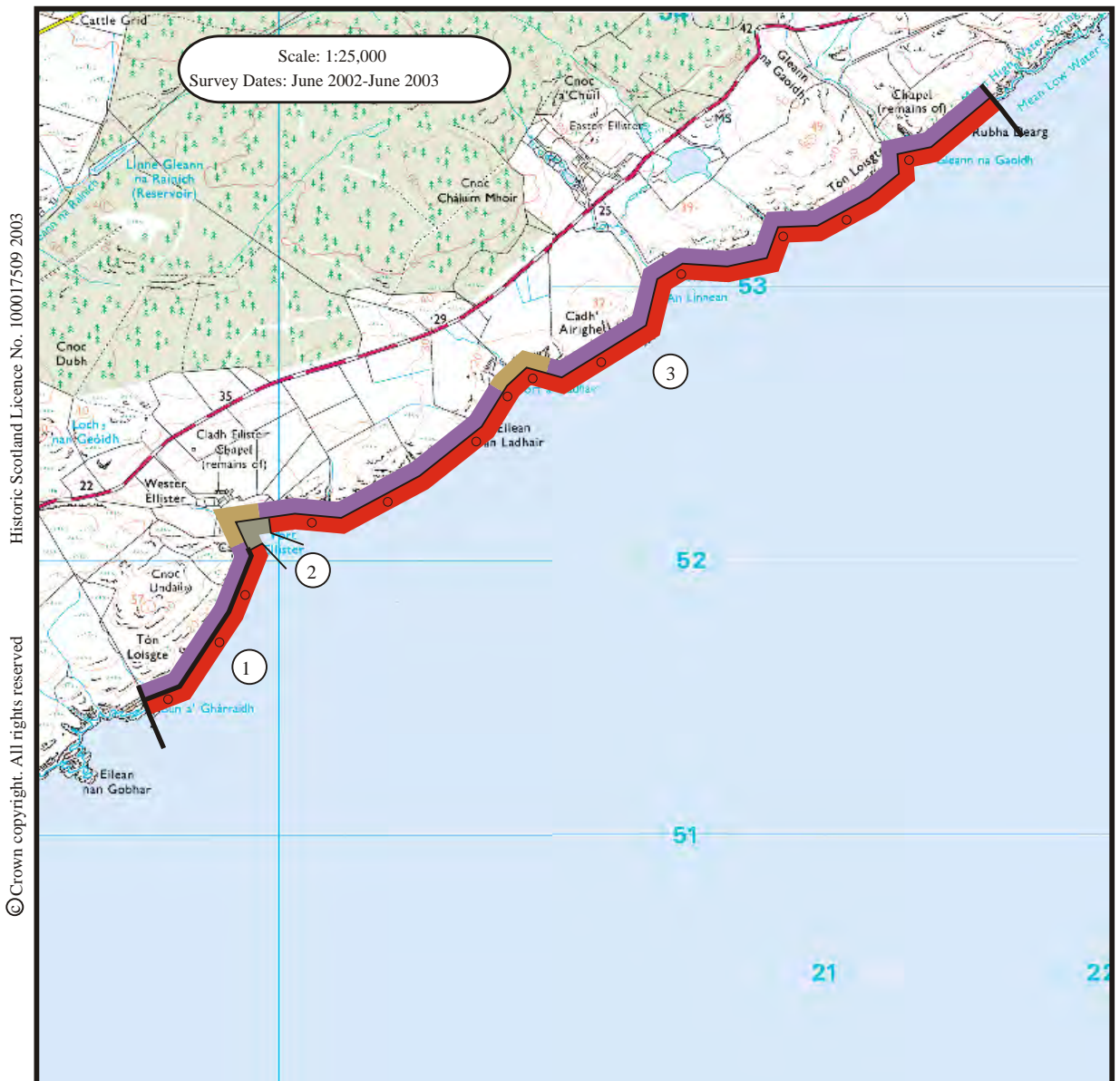
3.7 Km

Rock platform

Coast edge <5m

Drift on visible rock.

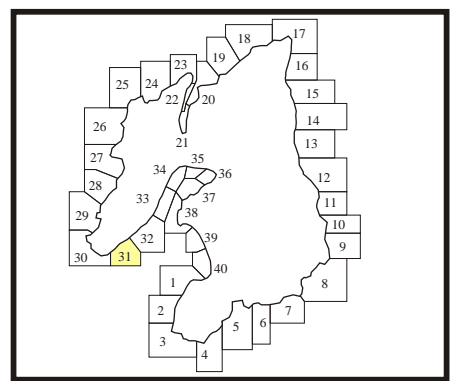
Rocky coast edge with some cobble cover in coves. The hinterland is overgrown, poorly drained, rough grazing.



- 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



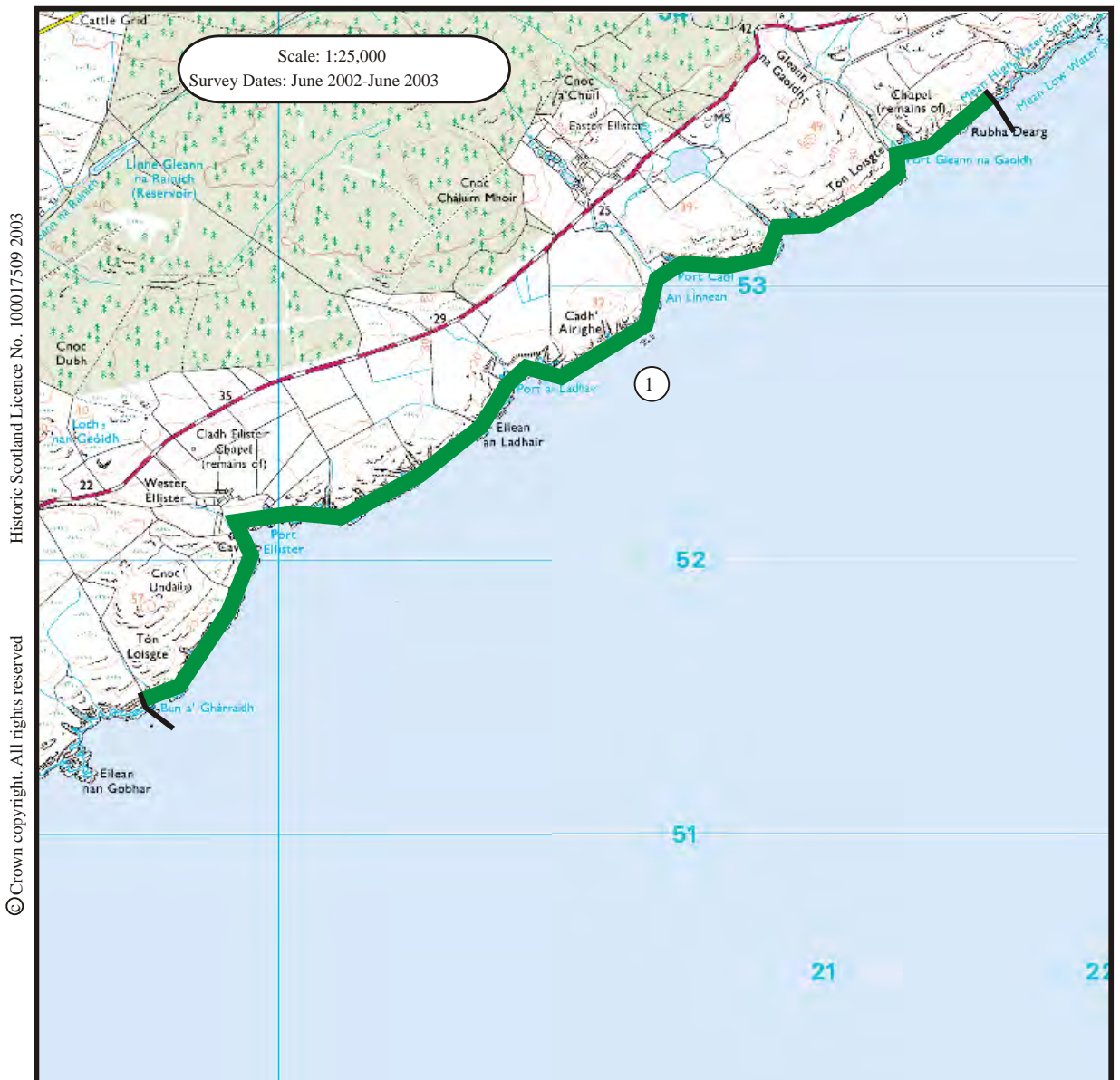
**1. Ellister**

NR 201 527

4.7 Km

Stable

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



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

