

## MAP 8: KILFILLAN POINT TO CRAIG LODGE

**Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology:** This region of the coastline is very exposed forming the eastern side of Luce Bay. The coast is composed of noticeably harder rocks with a steeply incised cliff-edge. From Killfillan Point to Slackmore point the hinterland is mostly till over visible rock. However, a small parcel of fluvioglacial sands and gravels outcrop at Stairhaven Bay. The shoreline is wide at Stair Haven and becoming irregular towards the east which is backed by precipitous cliffs and exposed rock platform. Deep gullies are common and sea caves also occur.

**Erosion Class:** From Kilfillan Point to Craig Lodge the coastline is considered to be eroding owing to the basal scouring along the softer siltstone folds within the cliff. Cliff-retreat is occurring at an unknown rate caused by weathering of the overlying till which is exposed to wind, rain and spray. The foreshore at Stairhaven Bay is eroding badly, especially alongside a concrete sea wall where boulders and gravel are falling out of the section. The low intertidal area is scoured in parts resulting in bare patches where smaller boulders have been removed.

**Built Heritage & Archaeology:** This section has a high site density clustered around Stairhaven Bay. Most of the sites relate to the nineteenth century when the bay served as a small working port (Graham, 1979, 64-65). Two sites belong to the later prehistoric period however; Laigh Sinniness promontory fort and Stairhaven Broch. Stairhaven broch, one of only three recognised brochs in Galloway, was 'excavated' in the 1970's; an event which removed many of the tumbled stones protecting the surviving structure from erosion (Yates, 1983, 95). Consequently the structure of Stairhaven broch is more vulnerable now, particularly from storm damage. All the sites situated on the coastal edge are suffering from severe to fair coastal erosion and storm damage, particularly in Stairhaven Bay, and monitoring is recommended. In relation to the promontory fort of Laigh Sinniness, a more significant threat from animal and farming activity exists.

## Map 8: Hinterland Geology and Coastal Geomorphology

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### 1. South of No1 HOLDING to STAIR HAVEN

BAY

NX 205 544

2km

Cliff (> 10m) and low edge (< 5m) at Stairhaven

Bay

*Mainly shallow till and drift overlying rock*

Broken rocky coastal edge overlain by *till* and drift deposits. Glacial sands and gravels outcrop at Stairhaven Bay. The intertidal area is wide (c.80m) and consists on boulder and shingle beds intermixed with sand bars.

### 2. STAIRHAVEN to SLACKMORE POINT

NX 213 525

3km

Cliff (> 10m)

*Mainly shallow till and drift overlying rock*

The hinterland consists of precipitous greywackee cliffs with a shallow *till* cover. The foreshore is outcropping rock platform.

### 3. STACKMORE POINT to east of

CRAIGNARGET

NX 245 515

3km

Low edge (< 10m)

*Marine sands and gravels with till east of*

*Craignarget*

The exposed hinterland consists of marine sands and gravels. The foreshore is wide with an admixture of poorly sorted boulders and sandy spits.

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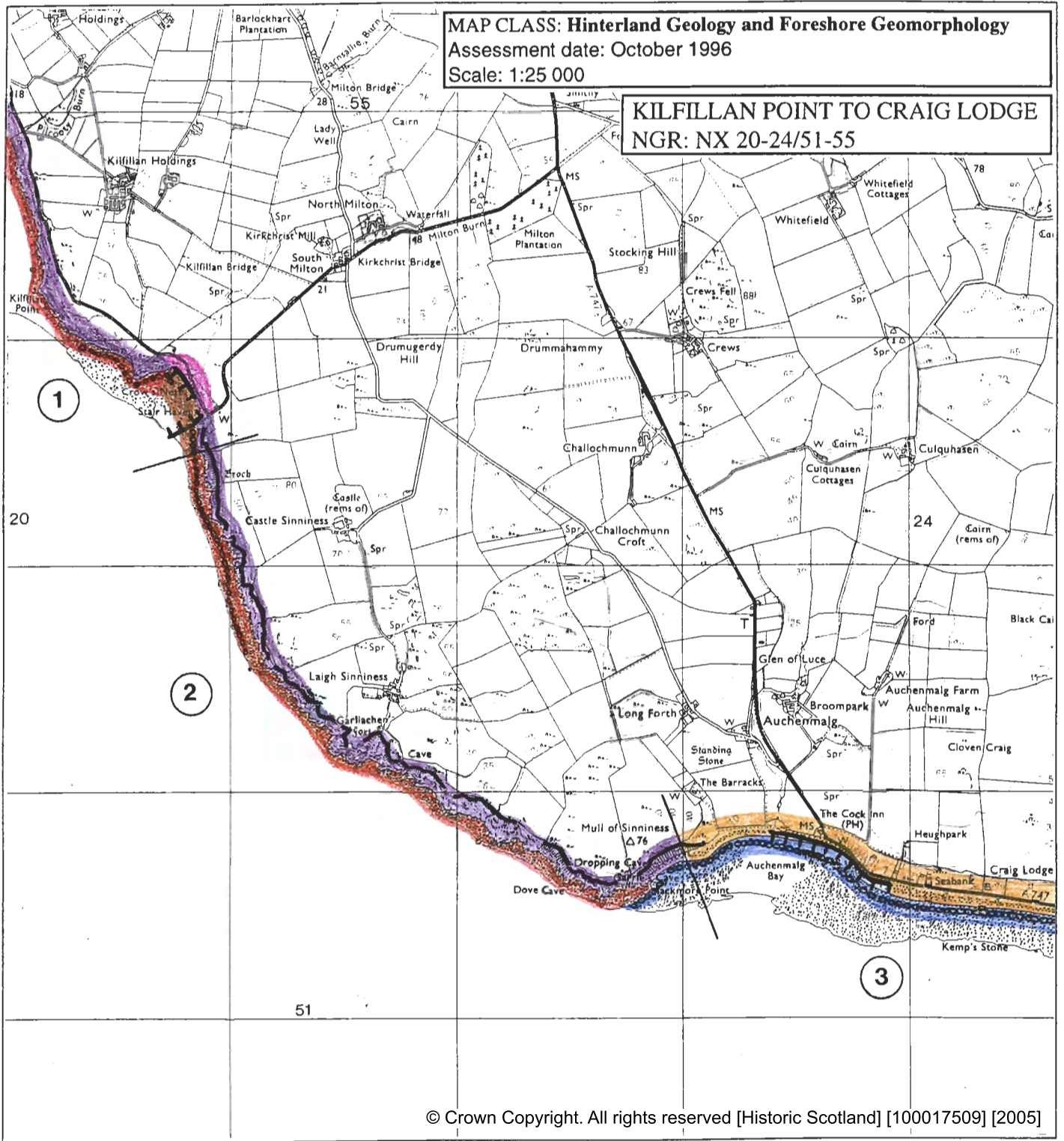
**MAP CLASS: Hinterland Geology and Foreshore Geomorphology**

Assessment date: October 1996

Scale: 1:25 000

**KILFILLAN POINT TO CRAIG LODGE**

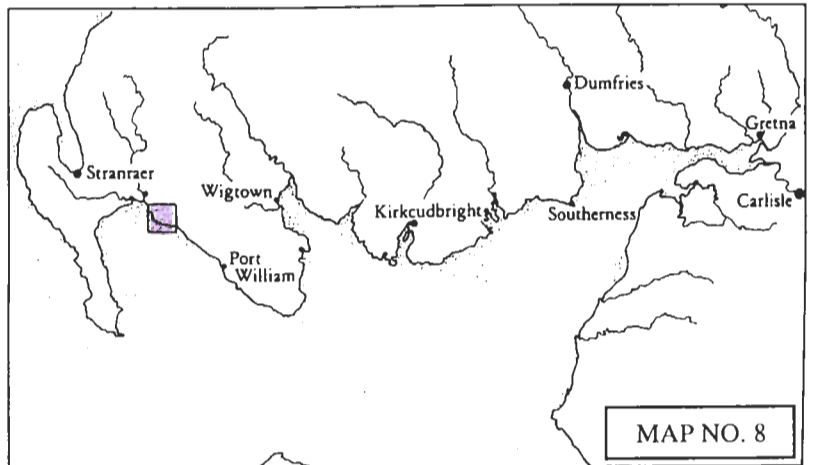
NGR: NX 20-24/51-55



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**KEY**

Hinterland Geology	Derwent Code	Colour
Drift, boulder clay	French Grey	
Drift, boulder clay over visible rock	Dark Violet	
Raised beach and marine deposits	Golden Brown	
Blown sand	Pink Madder Lake	
Glacial sand and gravel	Magenta	
Alluvium	Emerald Green	
Coastal Geomorphology		
Mainly rock platform	Deep vermilion	
Mainly sand	Ultramarine	
Mainly alluvial/marine mud	Venetian Red	
Marsh	May Green	
Coast Edge		
Low edge (<5m)	Thin black line	
Cliff (>5m)	Solid black line	
Man made barrier	Black line with spines	
Shingle beach	Small circles	
Human disturbance	Black carats	



MAP NO. 8

## MAP 8: EROSION

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### 1. ST HELENA ISLAND to KILFILLAN POINT

NX 201 547

1.7km

*Eroding or stable*

This unit has an exposed south westerly aspect and contains an indented rocky shoreline with shingle at the HWM. This region appears to be eroding only slowly.

### 2. KILFILLAN POINT to east of STAIRHAVEN BAY

NX 205 540

2.8km

*Definitely eroding*

This unit has an irregular cliff edge and an intertidal zone that is extremely wide (current SLWM is c.0.2km) consisting of boulders and sandy bars. Some sand accretion is occurring at the mouth of a small burn that enters the bay. Armour stone and Rip-Rap wall has been used with limited success as erosion is occurring either side of these works. More serious erosion is occurring to the east of a ruined pier. The 1946 vertical aerial photograph shows that the pier was extant. It has since collapsed and wave attack is accelerating erosion immediately east of the pier. Cliff edge retreat now stands in excess of 3m.

### 3. STAIRHAVEN BAY east to SLACKMORE POINT

NX 219 520

2.8km

*Eroding or stable*

This region of coastline consist of irregular indented greywackee cliffs. Erosion is occurring along the deep gullies and especially along faults and fractures. It is difficult to estimate cliff-edge retreat but it is estimated to be slow.

### 3b. AUCHENMAIG BAY

NX 235 518

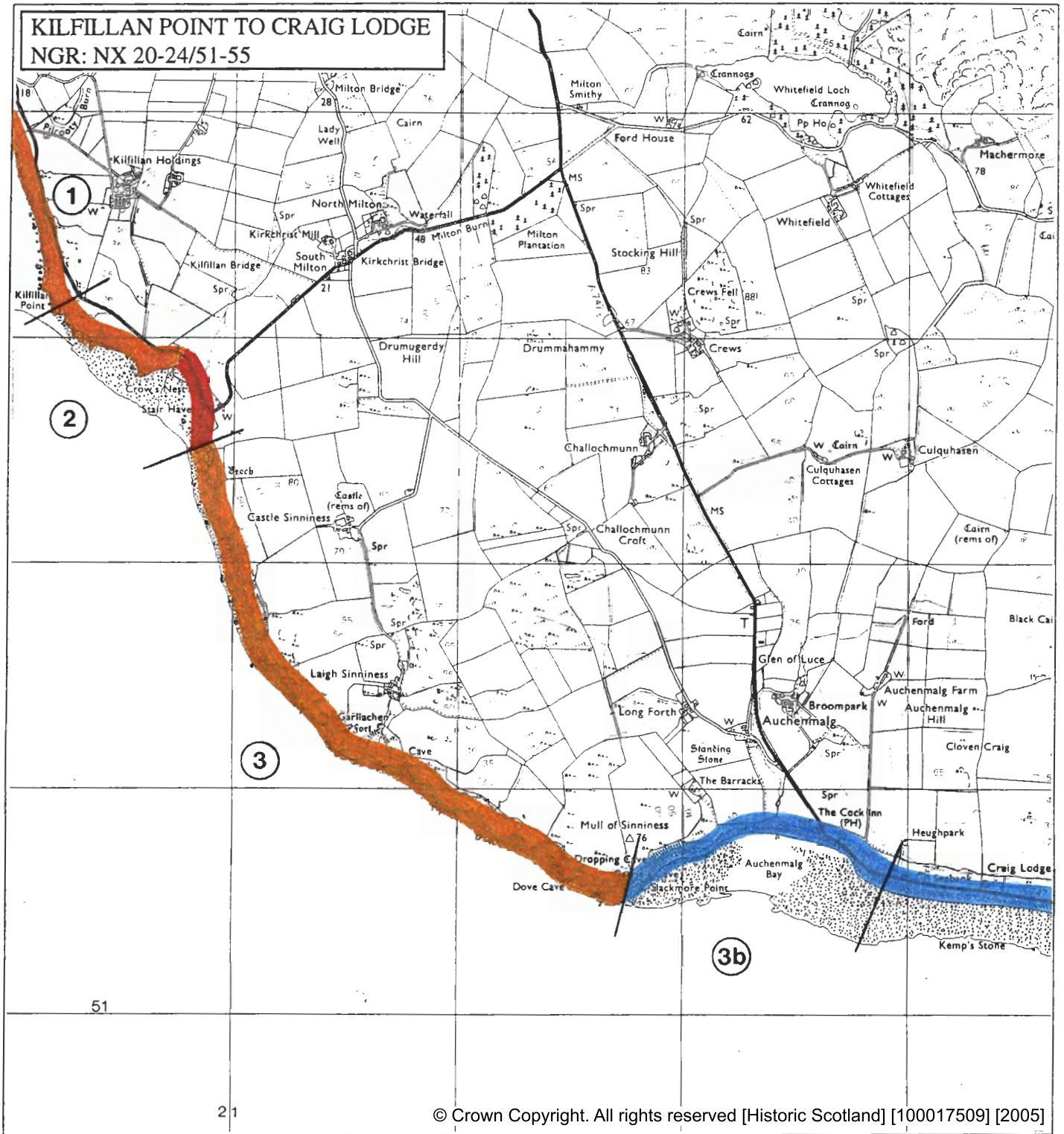
1.2km

*Accreting or stable*

This bay has a wide intertidal zone consisting of outcropping cleaved greywackee and wide areas of sand and shingle. The exposed promontory headland at Stackmore Point is precipitous and wave abraded rock fall is evident at its base.

Poorly sorted shingle is banking up at the current HWM in the centre of the bay which is defended by a concrete sea wall. The shingle is being deposited by longshore drift on a predominately easterly fetch.

**KILFILLAN POINT TO CRAIG LODGE**  
**NGR: NX 20-24/51-55**



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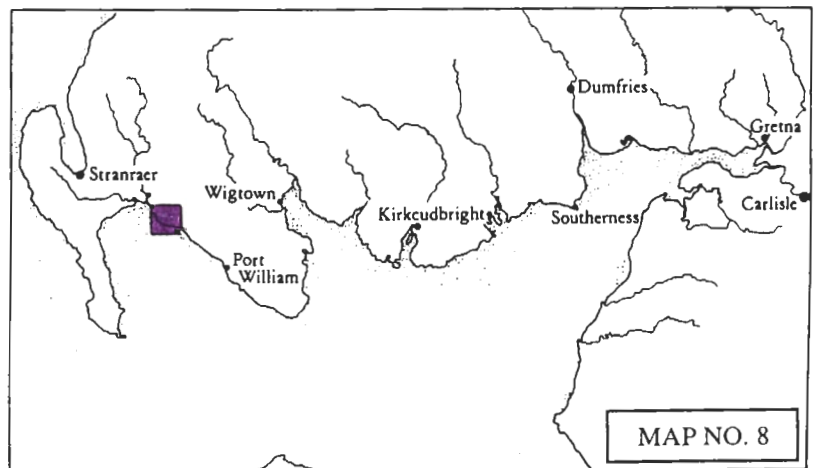
**KEY**

Erosion class	Derwent Code	Colour
Definitely accreting	Prussian Blue	
Accreting/stable	Light Blue	
Stable	Grass Green	
Stable/eroding	Deep Chrome	
Definitely eroding	Deep Vermilion	
Both accreting and eroding	Imperial Purple	
No access	Blank	
Land below 10m	Straw Yellow	

**MAP CLASS: EROSION**

Assessment date: 24.9.96

Scale 1:25 000



**MAP NO. 8**

## MAP 8: BUILT HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

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### Sites on the Coast Edge & Foreshore

**NX 2084 5358**  
STAIR HAVEN BAY  
Possible Wooden Pier/Fish Rack  
Uncertain  
Poor  
Survey & Monitor

**NX25SW 53**  
NX 2083 5365  
STAIR HAVEN BAY  
Stone & Rubble Pier  
19th century  
Poor  
Survey & Monitor

**NX 2087 5361**  
STAIR HAVEN BAY  
Ruined Harbour House  
19th century  
Fair  
Survey & Monitor

**NX25SW 9**  
NX 2091 5335  
STAIR HAVEN  
Broch  
Scheduled Ancient Monument  
2nd century BC - 2nd century AD  
Fair  
Survey & Monitor

**NX25SW 10**  
NX 2157 5219  
LAIGH SINNINESS  
Promontory Fort  
Scheduled Ancient Monument  
1st Mill. BC/AD  
Fair  
Monitor

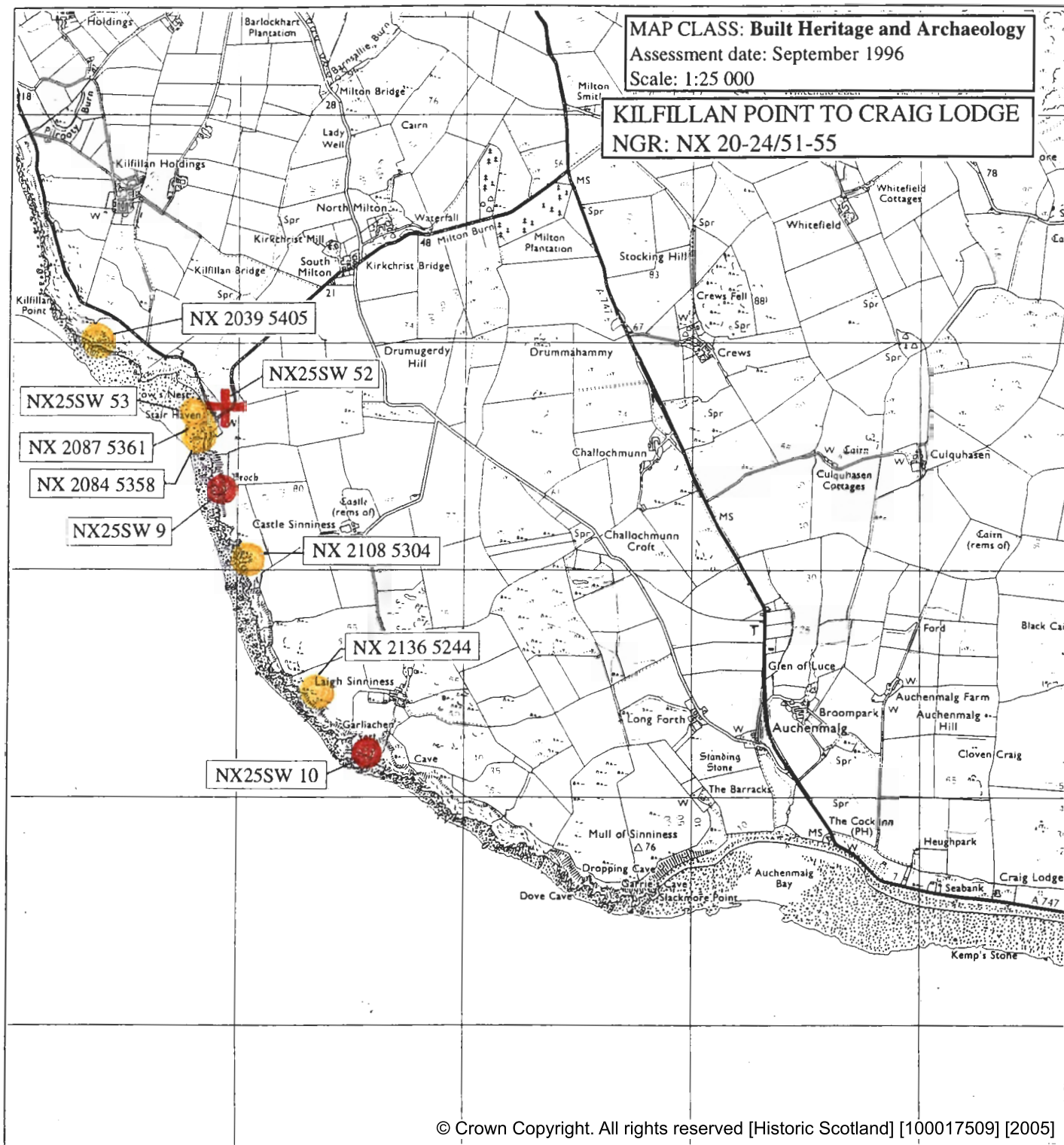
### Sites in the Hinterland

**NX 2039 5405**  
KILFILLAN POINT  
Quarry  
Uncertain  
Good  
Nil

**NX25SW 52**  
NX 2094 5370  
STAIR HAVEN  
Ruined Warehouse  
Statutory Listed Building  
Mid 19th century  
Good  
Nil

**NX 2108 5304**  
SINNINESS  
Wooden Post  
19/20th century  
Good  
Nil

**NX 2136 5244**  
LAIGH SINNINESS  
FIELD CAIRN  
Uncertain  
Good  
Nil



**KEY**

Site location	Symbol	Colour	Significance
NGR ref. - eg.	Roundel - Solid, (or area)	Red	Protected Ancient Monument
	Cross	Red	Listed Historic Building
NX 143 368	Roundel - Open, (or area)	Red	Monument formally proposed by Historic Scotland for designation
	Roundel - Solid, (or area)	Yellow	Other known Ancient Monument
NMRS ref. - eg.	Dashed outline	Yellow	Gardens/Designed landscape
NX13 SW17	Roundel - Solid, (or area)	Yellow	Undesignated wreck
	Area	Green	Insufficient information; more work needed
	Area	Blue	Probably archaeologically sterile

