

4.2 Context: Settlement Edge

The north edge of Buckie is defined by sea, but elsewhere, the edge of the settlement is generally either reinforced by the steep slopes of the narrow dens, or is characterised by having a less distinct edge, where the settlement boundary relates to a very subtle change in gradient, a track or a footpath.

The illustrations opposite indicate the range of settlement edge 'types' found on the outskirts of Buckie. The location of these edges is shown on the Settlement Edge Map which follows.

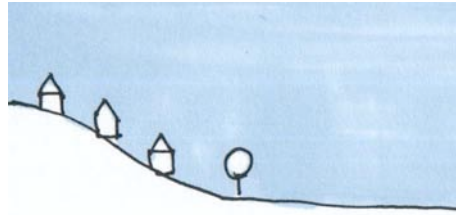
Key characteristics of the settlement edge of Buckie include:

- the subtlety of containment provided by the gentle gradient of the surrounding low relief
- the contrast of less subtle, and indeed well defined edges created by the abrupt edge of the sea, and the steep sided gulleys
- the enclosure provided by the steep slopes of the raised beaches, both on the approach to the town along the coast, and separating elements of the older, shore based settlement from the more elevated sections of the town
- the quality and management of the cultivated farmland which lies directly adjacent to much of the remaining settlement edge, providing a well defined contrast to the built development and avoiding the appearance of neglect which sometimes accompanies peri urban areas
- the fragmentation of the settlement edge along the A942, created by the presence of some isolated development
- the well defined sense of arrival from most of the approach roads

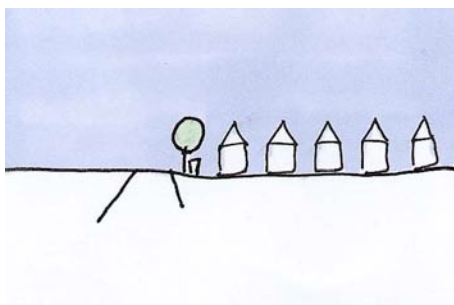
Buckie: Sketches Illustrating Types of Settlement Edge



Edge reinforced by containing ridge or hill



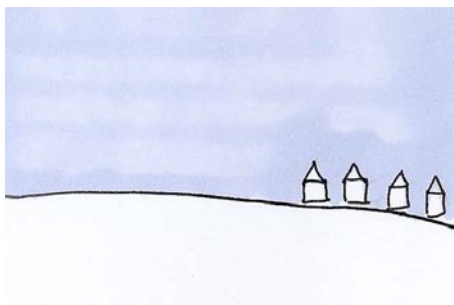
Edge reinforced by distinct change of gradient



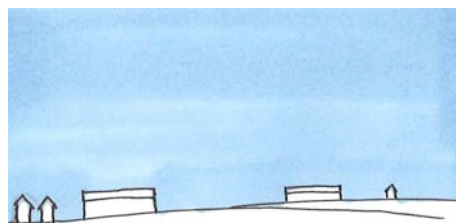
Edge reinforced by one or several non topographical landscape features, such as trees, footpath, park



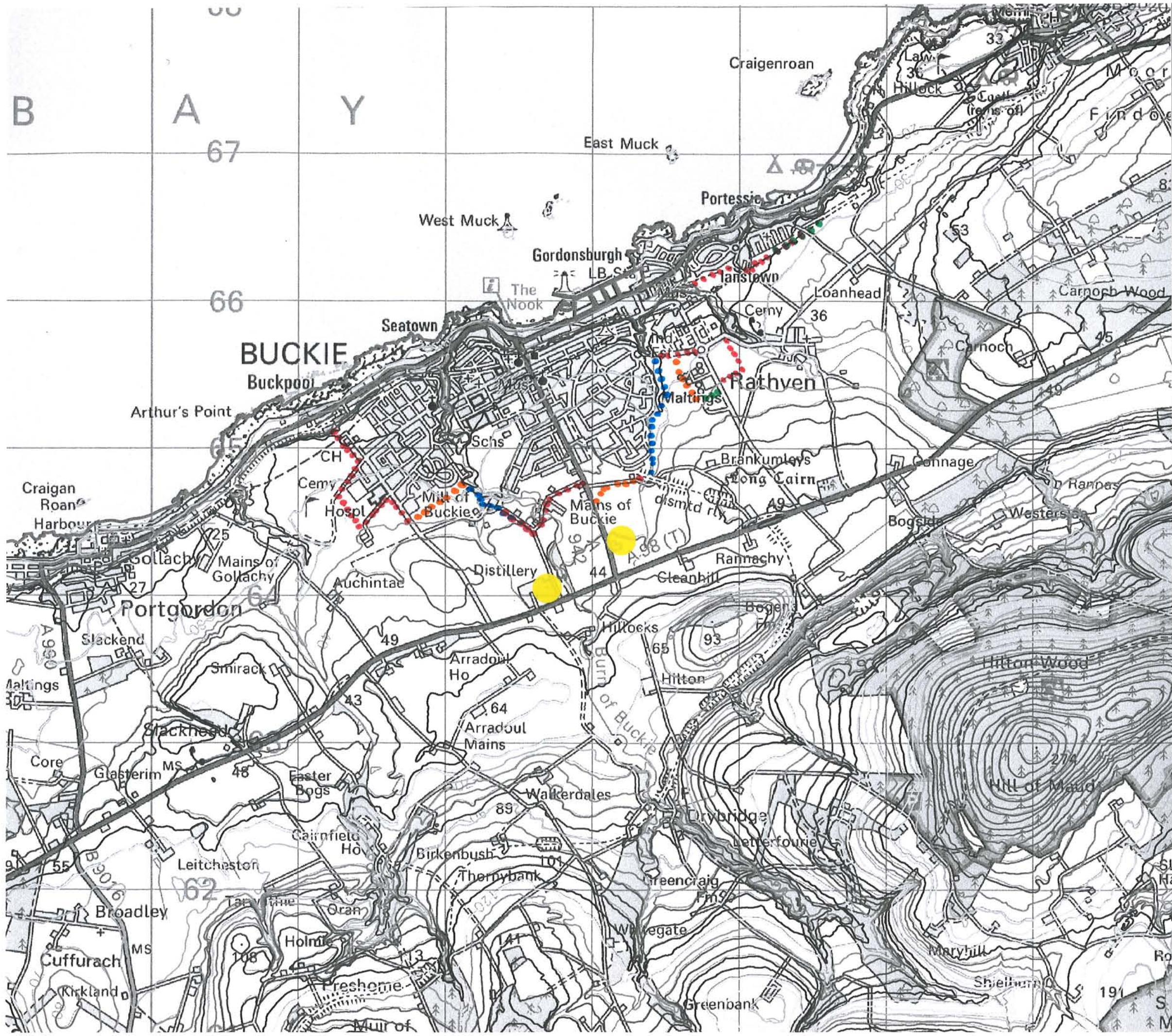
Edge reinforced by major road or railway



No distinct defining feature



Fragmented edge








INTEGRATION OF NEW DEVELOPMENT
INTO THE MORAY LANDSCAPE

Buckie

SETTLEMENT EDGE

Scale 1:25 000

Settlement Edge

-  Edge contained by very gentle slopes
-  Edge contained by steep slopes
-  Edge reinforced by non topographical feature such as a line of trees, playing field or footpath
-  No distinct feature defining edge
-  Outlying buildings create a slightly fragmented edge along the A942

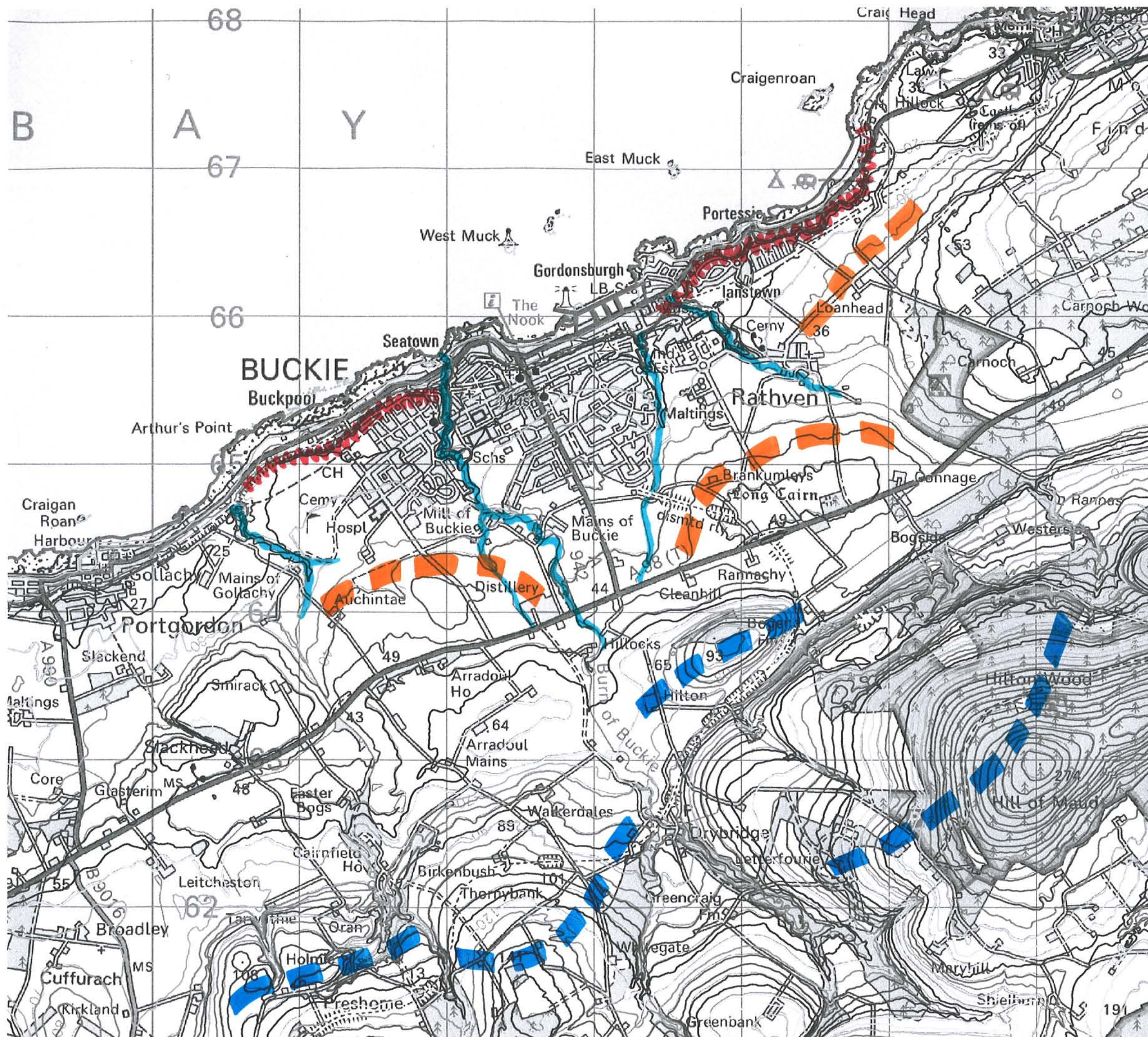
4.3 Context: Landscape Setting

Buckie is one of a series of coastal settlements, some of which have gradually merged over time, along this north facing coast. The presence of the sea makes a very obvious contribution to the setting of Buckie, as the opportunity for a relatively safe harbour is one of the reasons for its location. Views to the sea, from outwith and within the town, dominate the appreciation of the town.

Within a broader context, Buckie lies at the northern edge of the coastal plain, so is located within an expansive setting which extends south to a series of prominent inland hills.

Key characteristics of the landscape setting include:

- the openness and expansiveness of the settlement surroundings, reinforced by the presence of the sea, but also reflected in the open agricultural landscape which forms its hinterland
- the subtlety of the landform gradients and shapes, which create a very gentle relief and reinforce the distinctive coastal setting of the town
- the contribution made to the settlement setting by the rocky foreshore and steep slopes of the raised beaches, particularly on approach along the coast
- the informal access provided within the narrow dens, and associated with the coast and disused railway tracks, all of which combine to create a network of access routes within and around the settlement




INTEGRATION OF NEW DEVELOPMENT INTO THE MORAY LANDSCAPE


Buckie LANDSCAPE SETTING

Scale 1:25 000

Wider setting


 Higher hills are located further south, indicating the edge of the wide coastal plain

Topographical Setting

 The north facing slopes on which most of the town is located, rise gently to form subtle containment around the outskirts of the town to the south

Other Landscape Features

 The incised burns wind through the town

 Steep containing raised beaches reinforce this narrow coastal strip of buildings next to the foreshore

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