

Oak-rich woodland at Uags.

The site was visited briefly on 12/10/2003 and photographs taken and field notes made. There was not time nor resources for a more detailed survey. Also, the season was late so that flowering was over and plant recognition difficult. The location is at the far south tip of the Applecross peninsula and is on the Torridonian Sandstone, which at this point dips more strongly. The 1899 geological map shows no substantial till or moraine in the area but does show a much larger area of woodland than does the modern map. Oak Woodland (estimate 30-40ft tall) growing from the coastal edge, following up stream gulleys adjacent to and rooted in to sandstone rock (see picture). Very occasional Silver Birch and Rowan are also found. Ground vegetation is generally moss, bracken and sedges rising to heather on the crags. Also found were occasional wild mint, bramble, fern and common blue berry and primrose. This site was formerly inhabited and therefore care must be taken in drawing conclusions as to the origins of the woodland. Nevertheless, it shows that oak does flourish in the area, in this case below about 50 m OD. Oak was noted in the other woodlands examined but was uncommon. Due to the area being exposed to uncontrolled sheep grazing it is not possible to assess the potential of the trees to regenerate themselves from seed.

As elsewhere the soil consisted of thin podzolic soils over the sandstone while in hollows and on level sites thin peaty soils form.

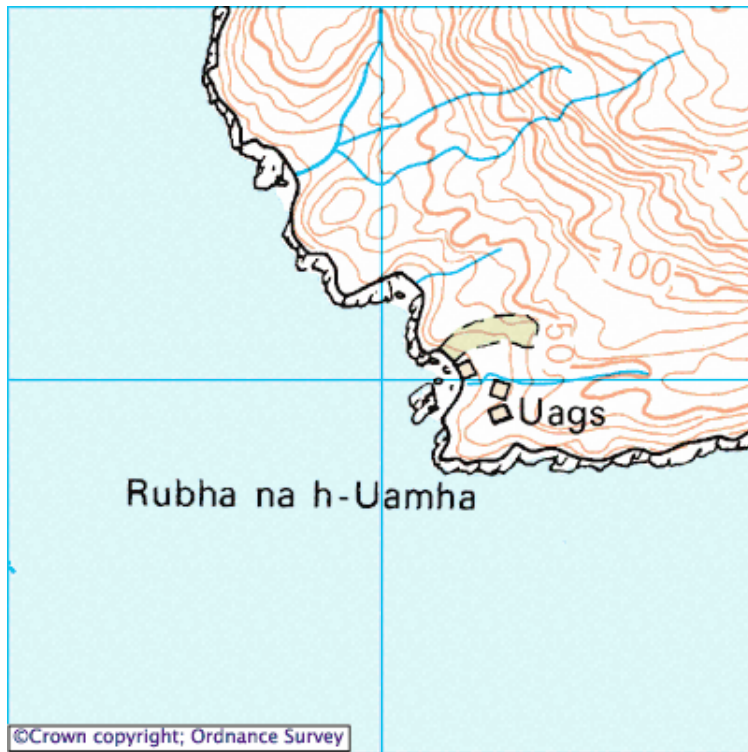
Grid ref: 722 351 (near Uags)

(Source: OS Landranger 24, Raasay & Applecross, Crown 1998.)



Source: <http://www.streetmap.co.uk/streetmap.dll?G2M?X=172400&Y=835320&A=Y&Z=5>

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Source: <http://www.streetmap.co.uk/streetmap.dll?G2M?X=172500&Y=835500&A=Y&Z=3>

