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## Luban Croma

[NC 281 135]

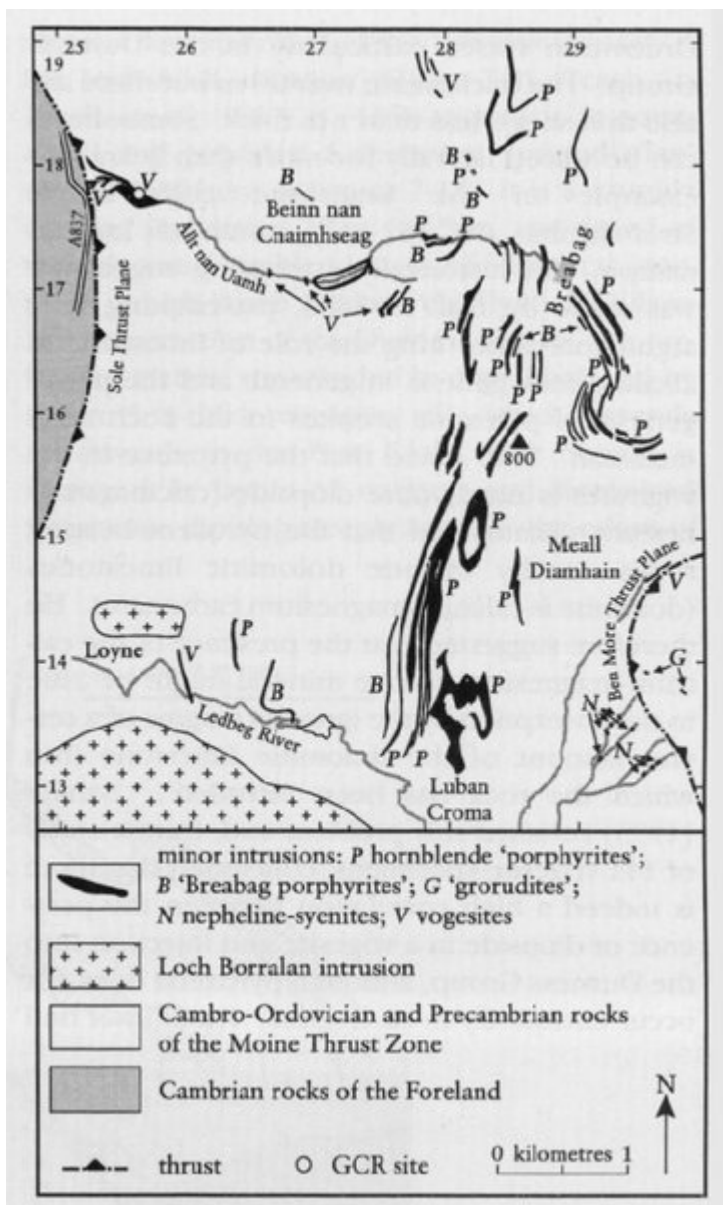
### Description

The site is a relatively accessible and representative part of a large area of barren, well-exposed ground to the north of the Loch Borrallan intrusion (Figure 7.16). It is largely composed of Cambrian Pipe Rock, with some Furoid Beds, cut by a large number of sills mainly of 'hornblende porphyrite'. Sabine (1953) provided a map of this part of Assynt which forms the basis of (Figure 7.16). This shows the distribution of 'hornblende porphyrites', vogesites (see below), nepheline-syenite dykes representing outliers of the Loch Borrallan mass, and a localized hypabyssal rock, which Sabine called the 'Breabag Porphyrite'. The latter occur as sills, 3–9 m thick, cropping out in a narrow belt about 5 km x 1.5 km between the Ledbeg River and the ridge of Breabag (Figure 7.16). All save one example (perhaps not *in situ*, according to Sabine) of this petrographical type occur in the Sole thrust sheet, i.e. below the Ben More Thrust. In hand specimen they have superficial similarities to fine-grained Canisp Porphyry but in section they prove to be microdiorites, with glomeroporphyritic aggregates of feldspar and phenocrysts of hornblende, set in a matrix of K-feldspar with a little quartz. Sabine's map gives a good impression of the variety of hypabyssal intrusive rocks found in this part of Assynt.

### Interpretation and conclusions

The Luban Croma GCR site represents the wide variety of minor intrusions that can be demonstrated in this part of Assynt, including 'hornblende porphyrites' and a spatially restricted variety known as the 'Breabag Porphyrites'. It is possible that this variant provides a relative age-marker, because, like the 'gorrudites', they must have been emplaced prior to movements on the Ben More thrust plane.

### [References](#)



(Figure 7.16) Distribution of sills and dykes between the Luban Croma and Allt nan Uamh sites, north of the Loch Borralan intrusion. (After Sabine, 1953, fig. 8.)