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(Figure 1) View of Quinag from Glencoul.



(Figure 101) The sea front at Ullapool.



(Figure 103) Sunset over Loch Glencoul.

A walkers' guide and map showing the rocks and landscape of Assynt and Intverpolly

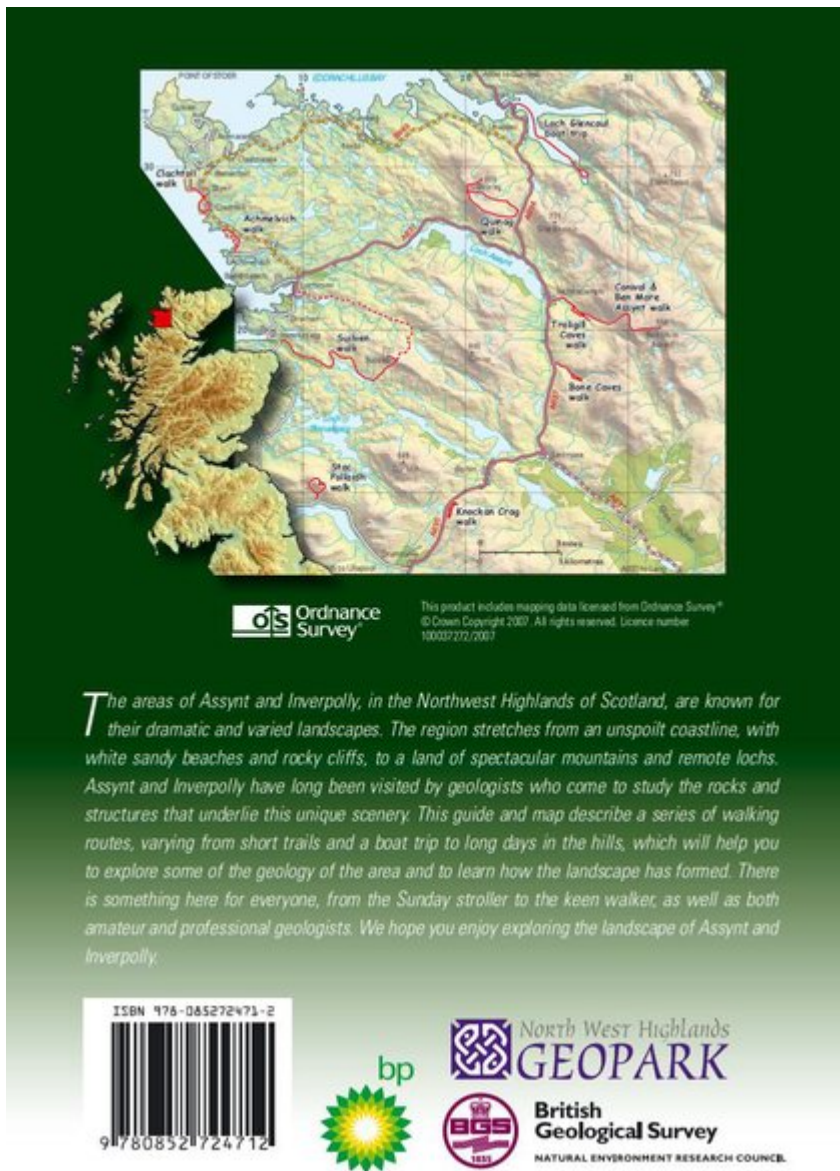


Exploring the landscape of
Assynt



Map Scale 1:50 000

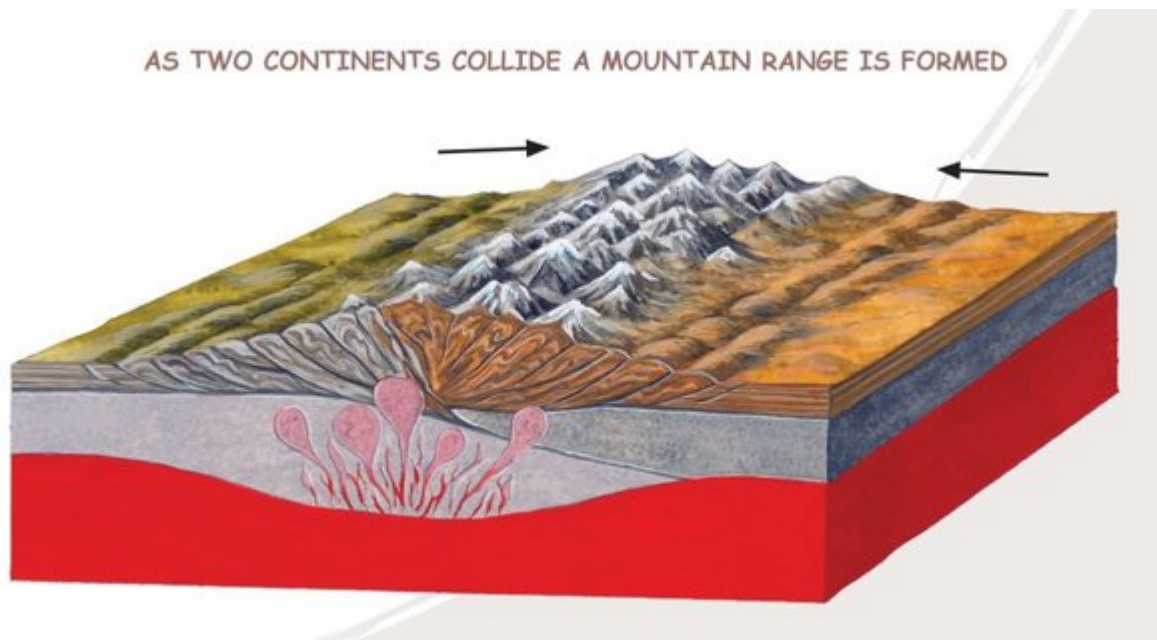
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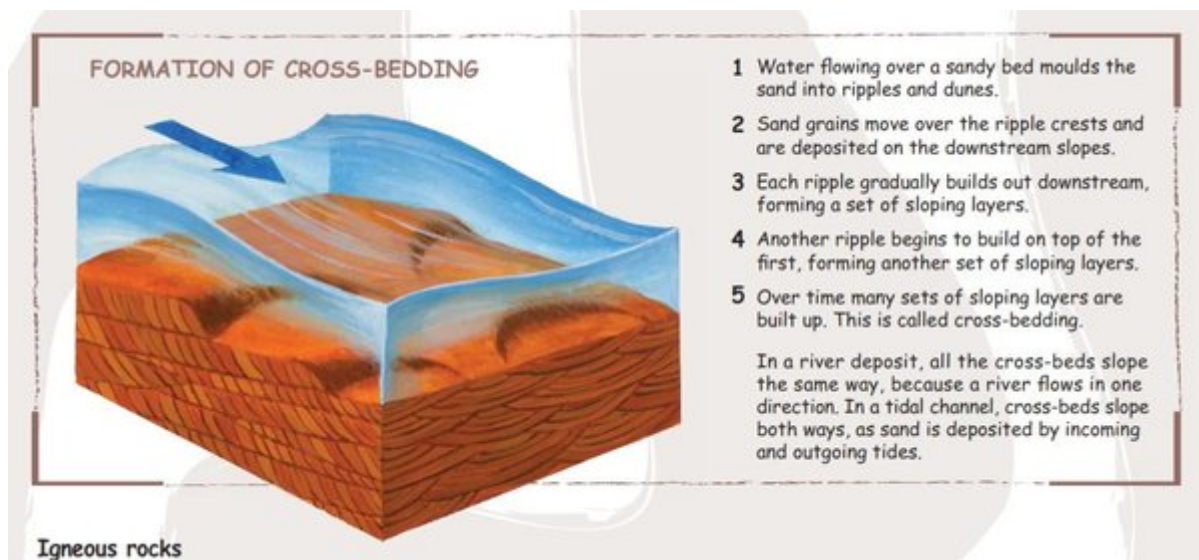
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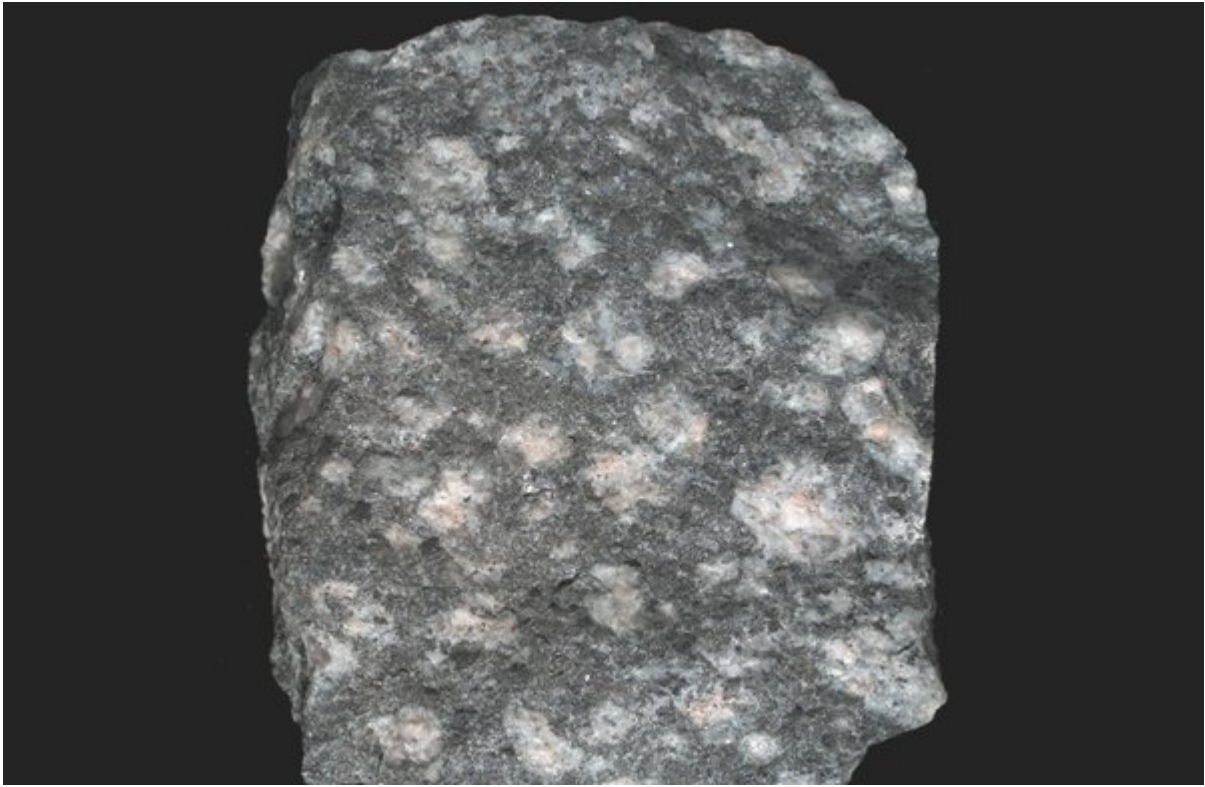
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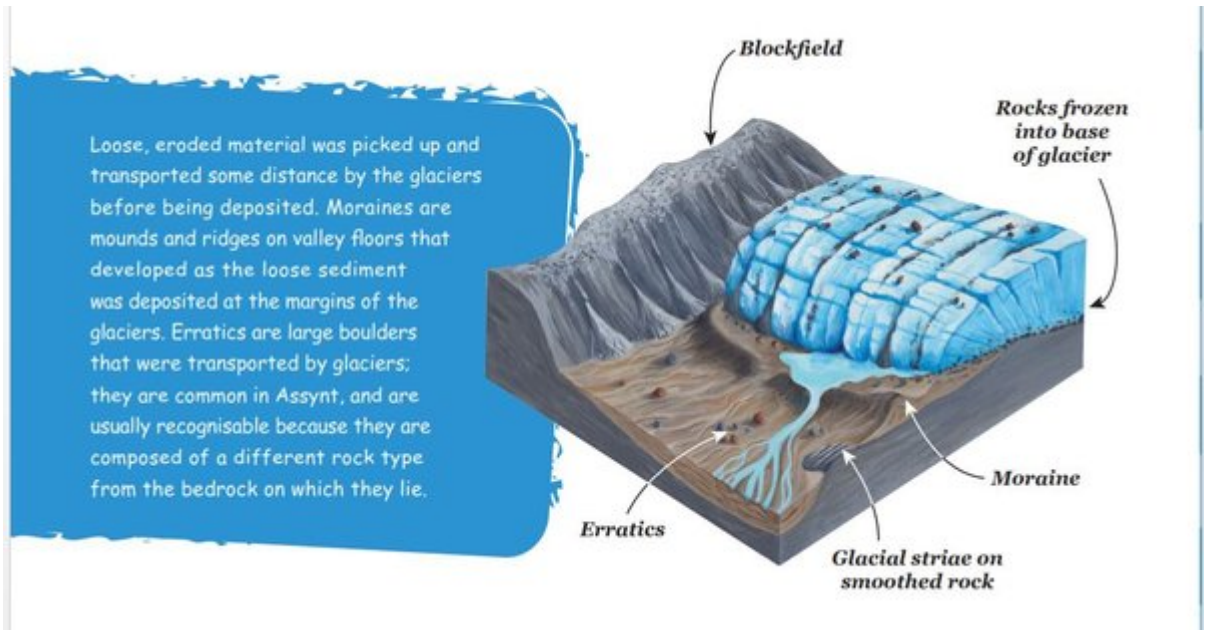
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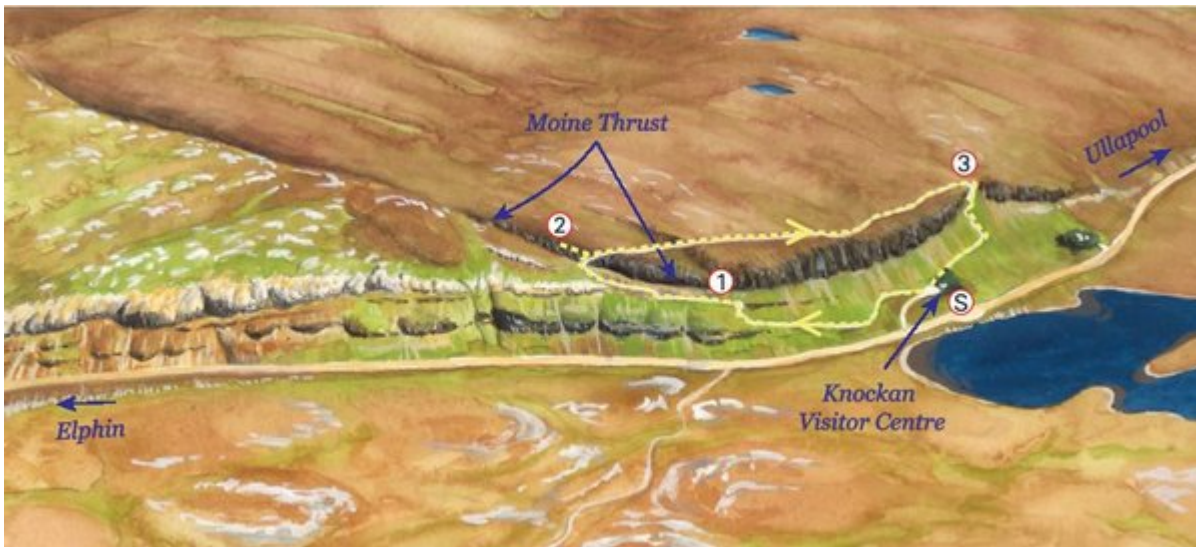
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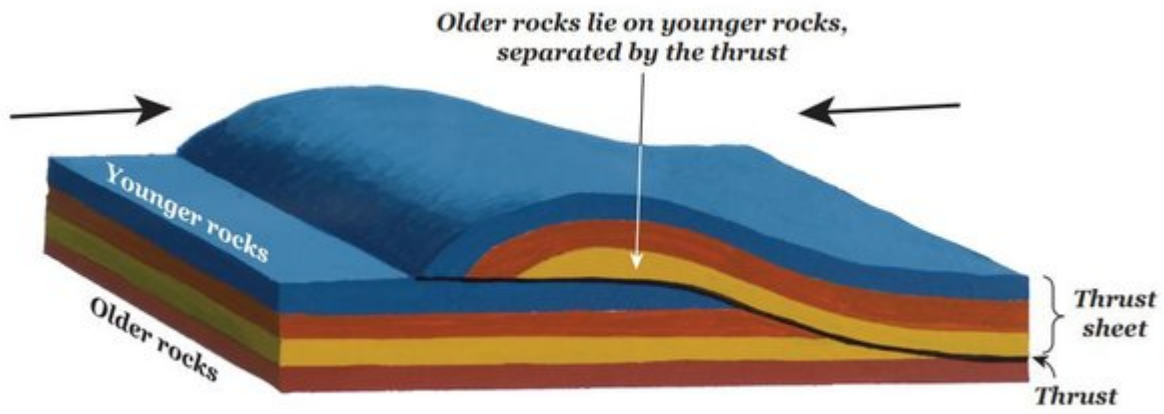
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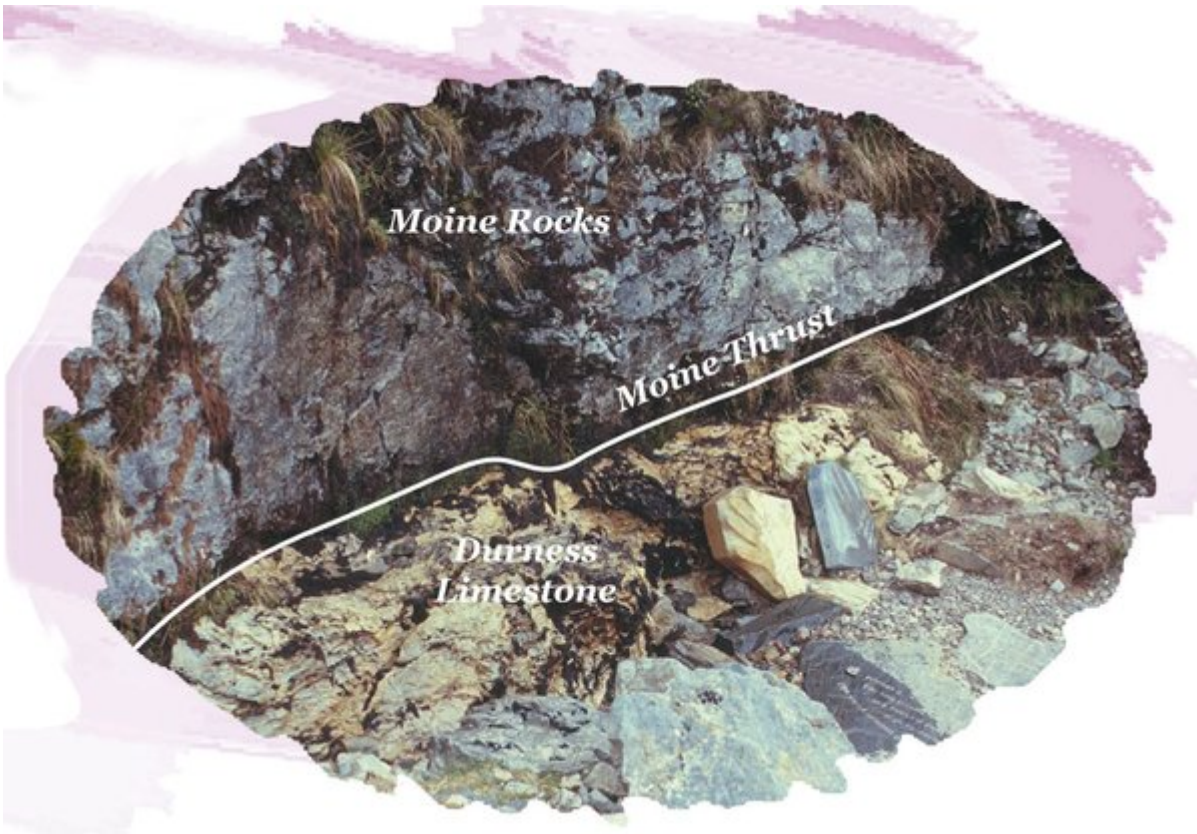
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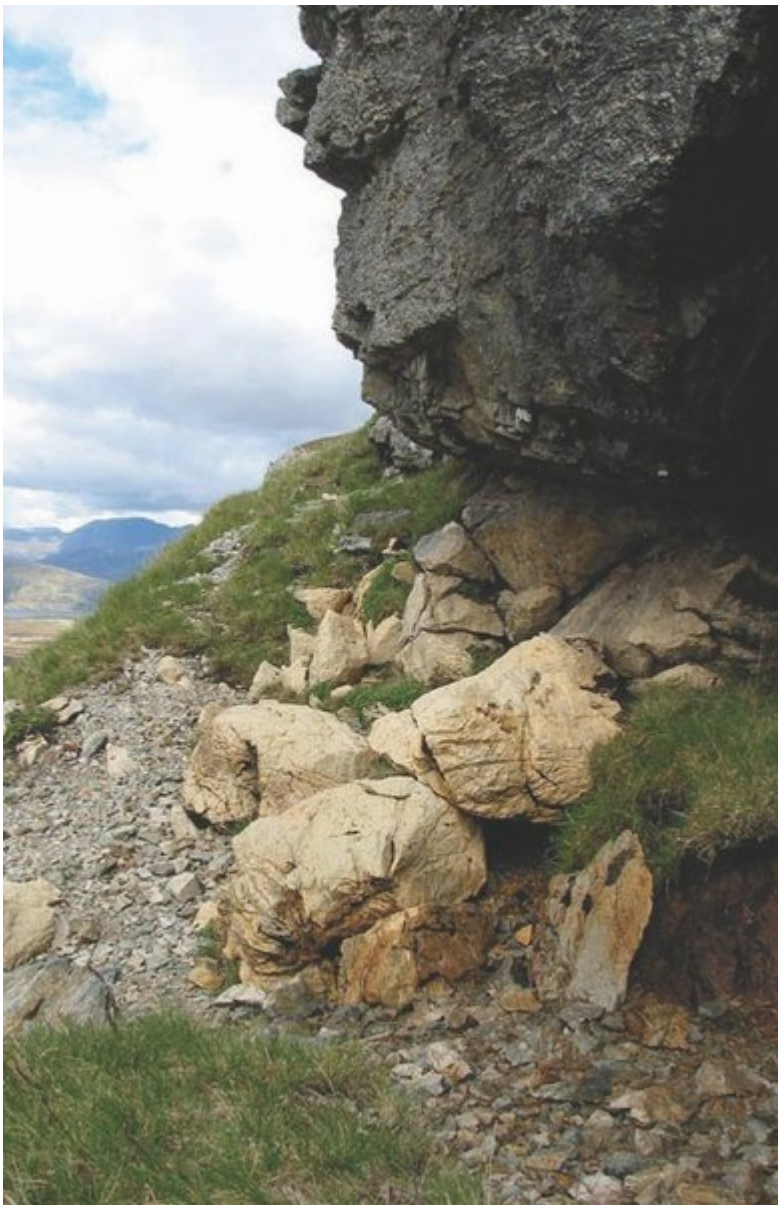
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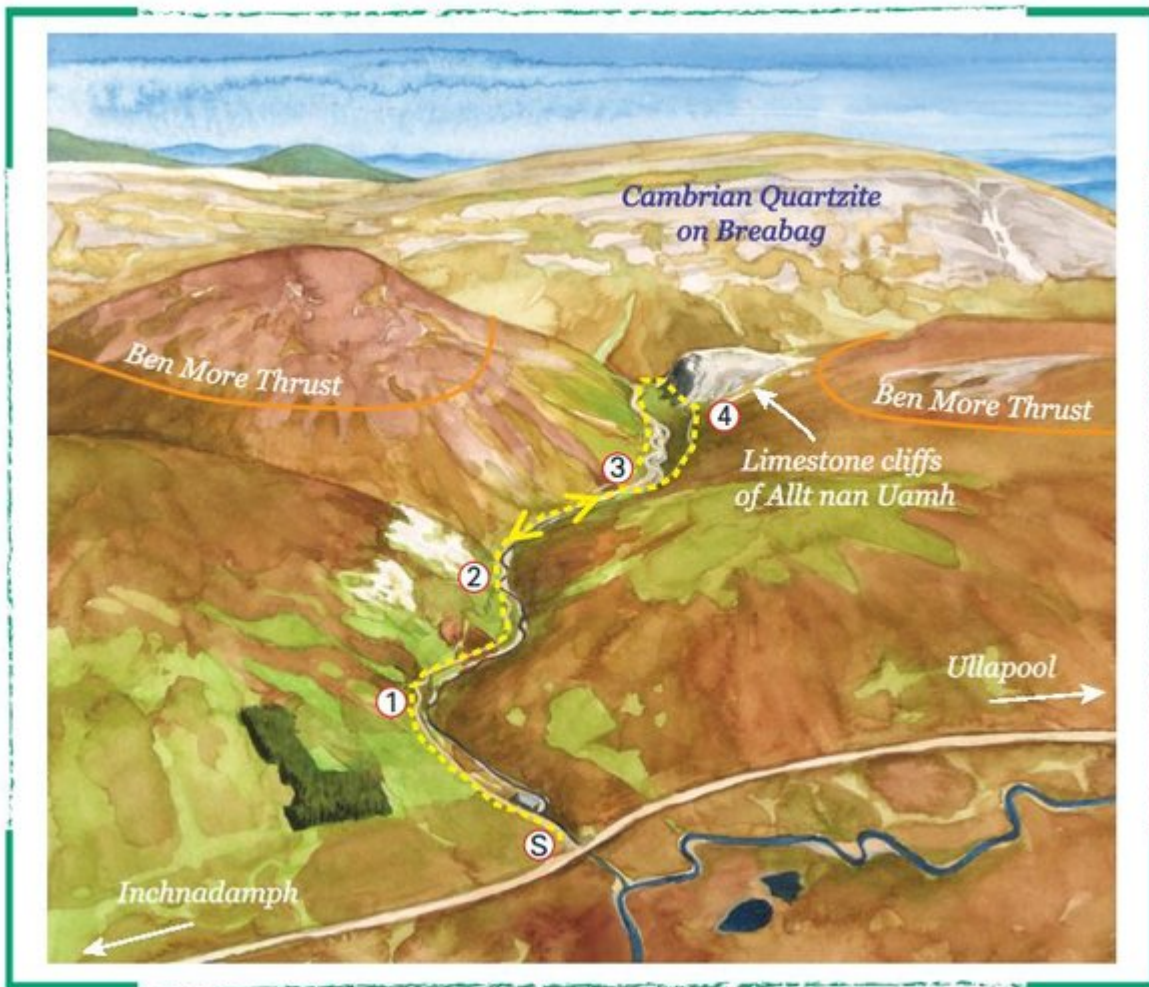
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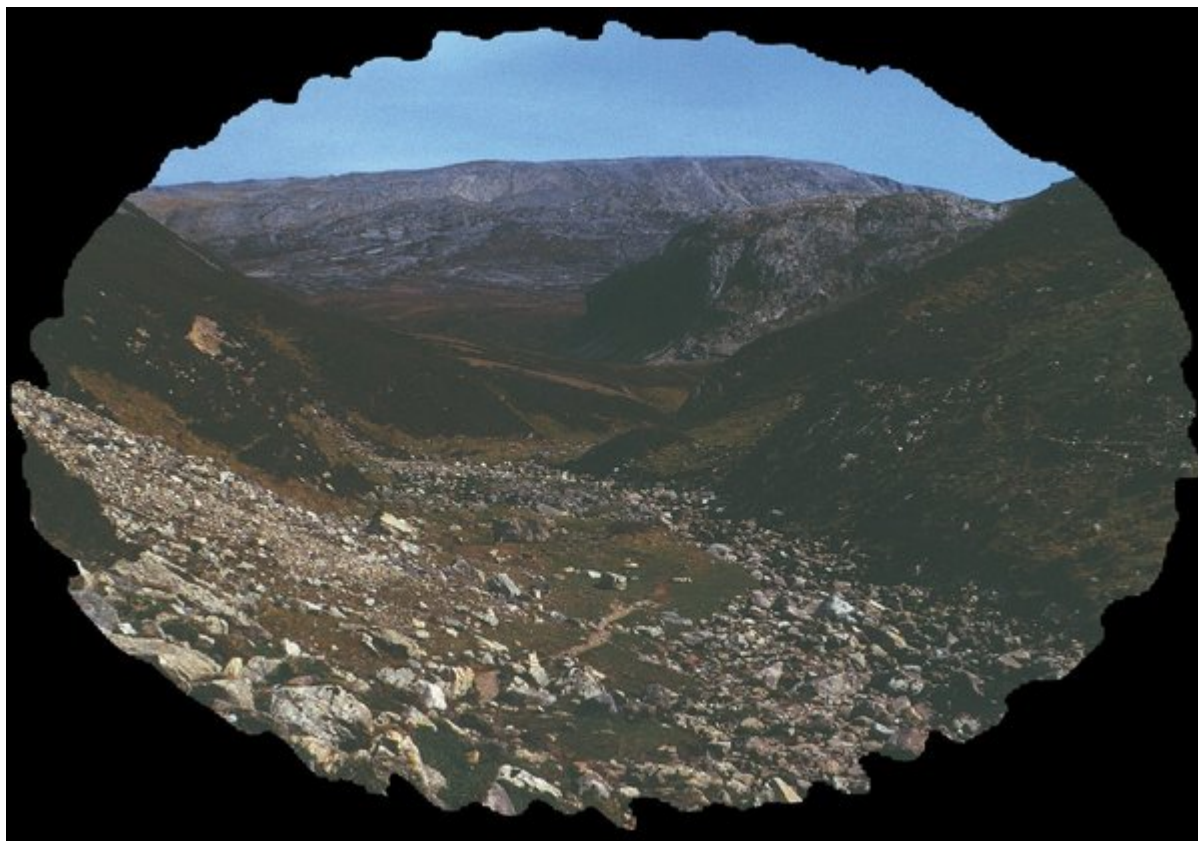
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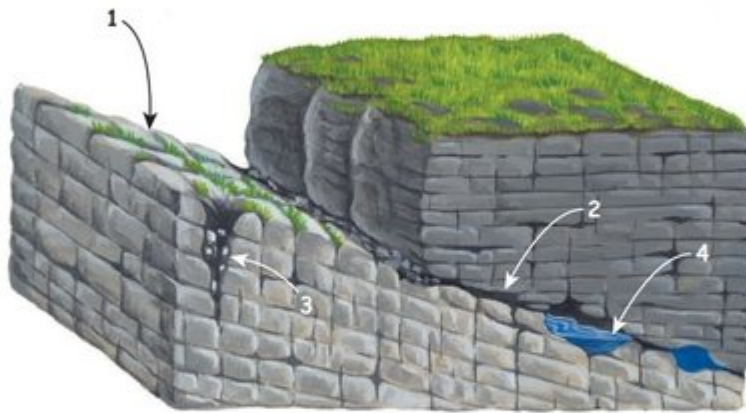
(Figure 36) Glacially transported Lewisian Gneiss boulder above Traligill Rising.



(Figure 37) View west along thrust plane in dry river bed, Traligill.

LIMESTONE LANDSCAPES IN TRALIGILL

Rainwater is slightly acid because it dissolves carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. In limestone areas, rain reacts with calcium carbonate in the limestone, gradually dissolving it away. The resulting landscape shows a variety of dissolution features, collectively known as 'karst', after an area in Slovenia.



1. Blocks and clefts in the limestone surface are known as 'clints' and 'grykes'.
2. Water seeping into cracks dissolves the limestone, gradually forming underground caves.
3. Small caves close to the surface collapse, forming sinkholes.
4. Caves become connected, forming cave systems into which entire rivers disappear, leaving dry stream beds on the surface. Rivers may flow for some distance through these cave systems, before reappearing from springs or risings.

(Figure 38) Limestone landscapes in Traligill.



(Figure 39) The Lower Traligill cave.



(Figure 40) The Upper Traligill Caves, Cnoc nan Uamh to the right.



(Figure 41) View down the valley to Loch Assynt and Quinag.



(Figure 42) Achmelvich to Alltanabradhan Mill. Painting of walk by Elizabeth Pickett.



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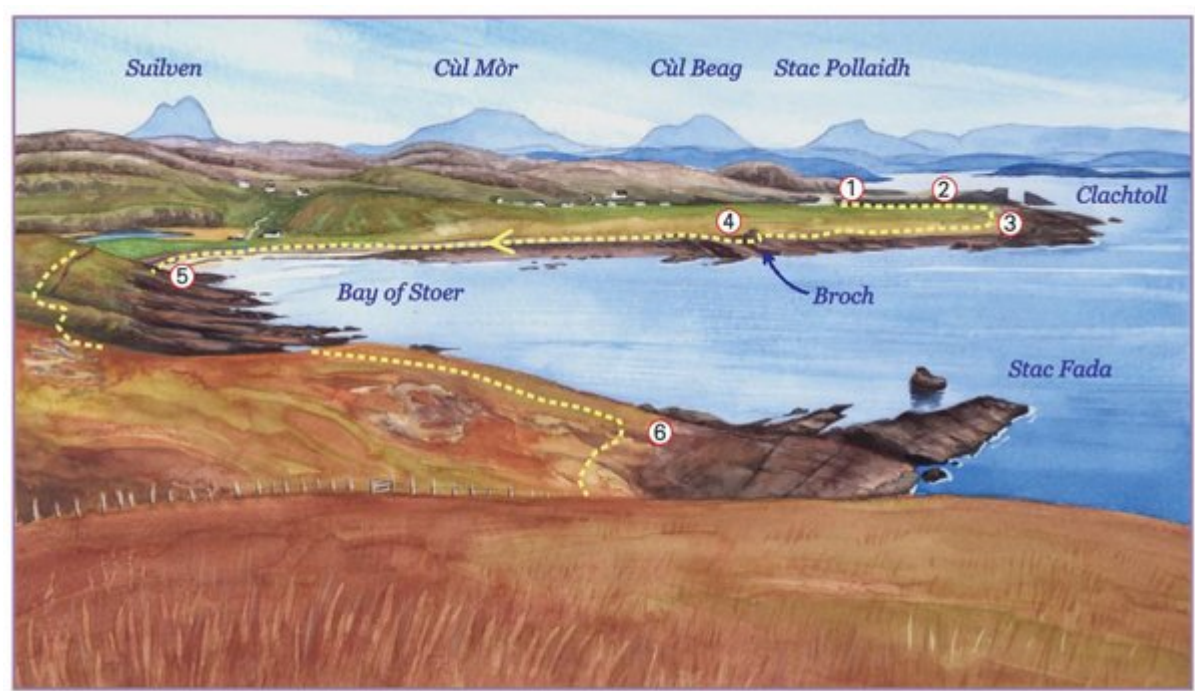
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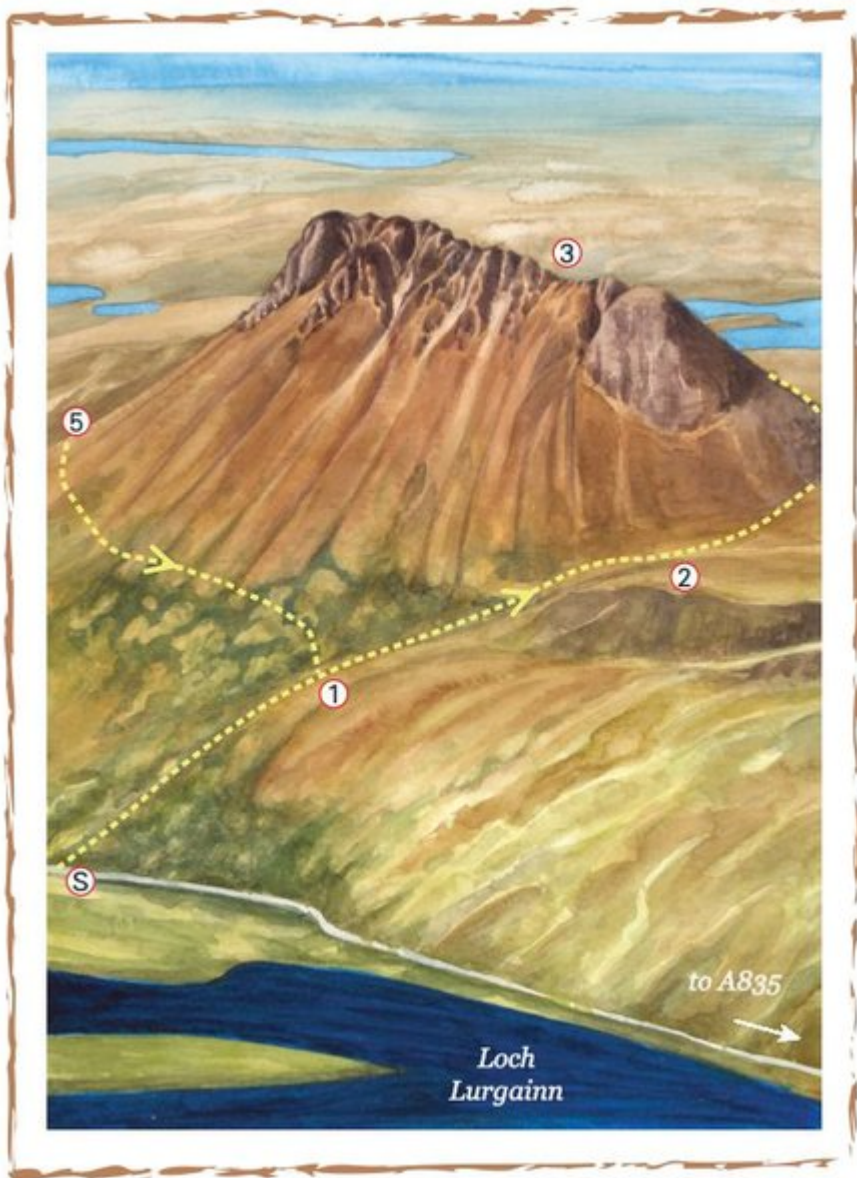
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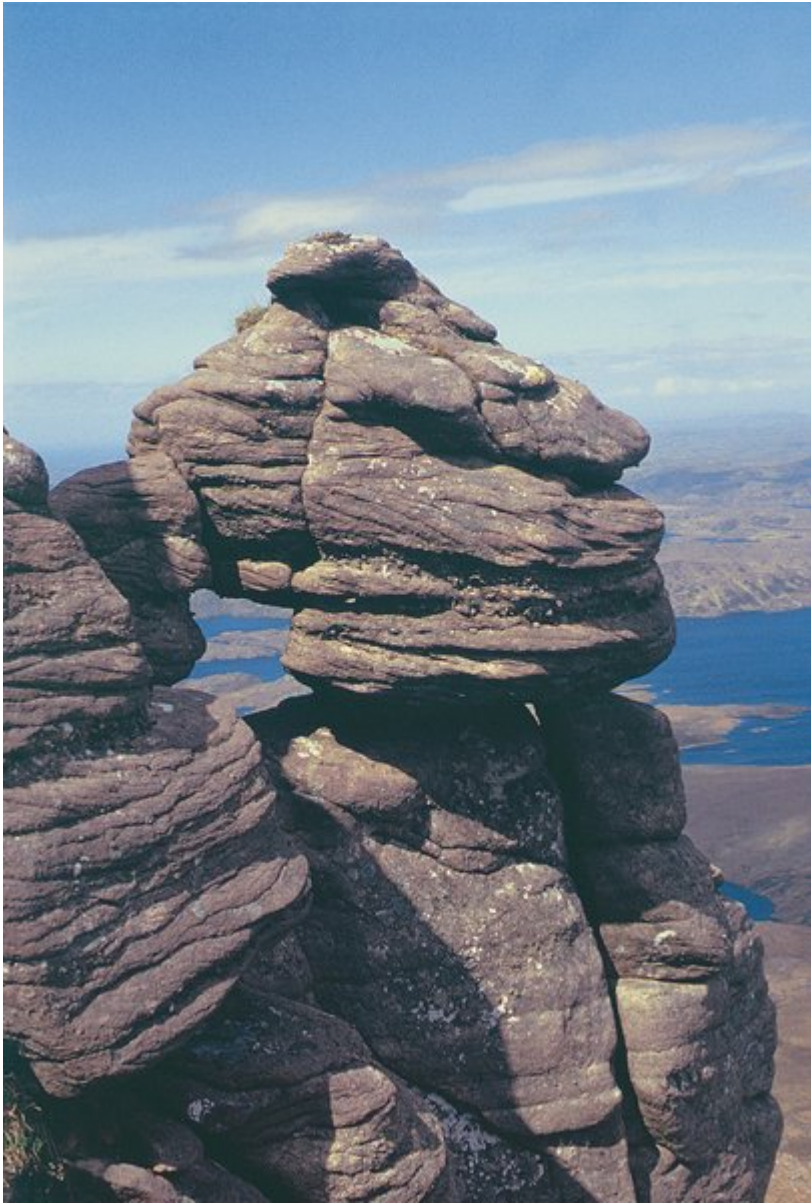
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(Figure 61) Sculpted sandstone on the ridge of Stac Pollaidh.



(Figure 62) Cross-bedded sandstone pinnacle on the ridge of Stac Pollaidh.

FORMATION OF SANDSTONE PINNACLES THROUGH WEATHERING



- 1 Rainwater seeps into cracks and fissures in the sandstone.



- 2 As the water freezes and thaws, the cracks are widened, forcing blocks of sandstone apart.



- 3 Loose blocks fall, leaving behind rock pinnacles that are further sculpted by wind and rain.

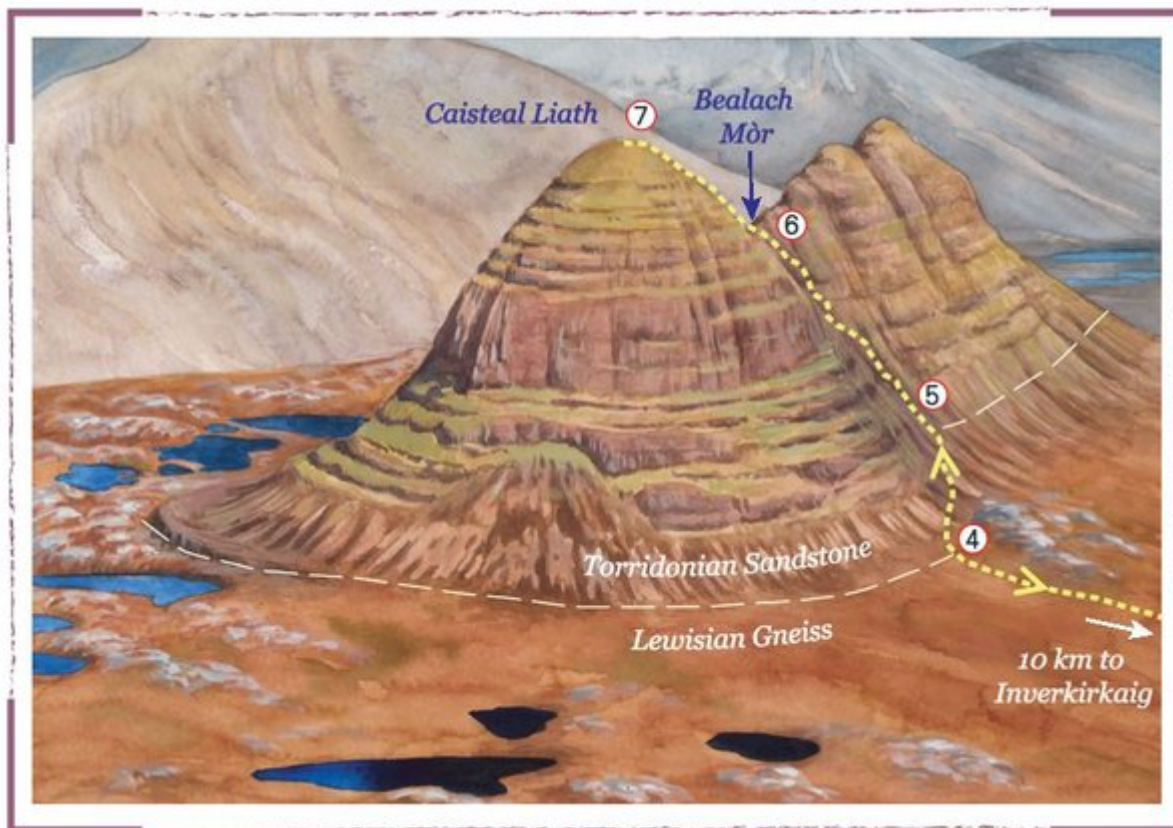
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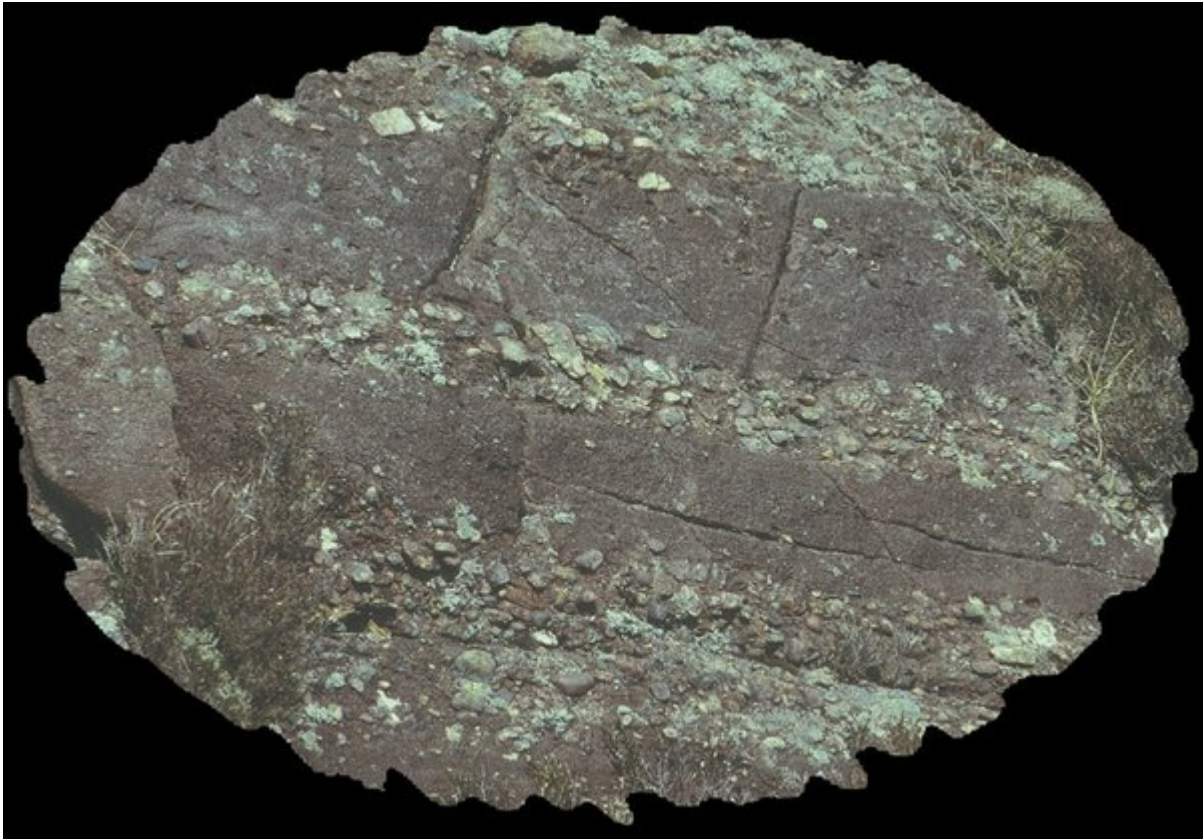
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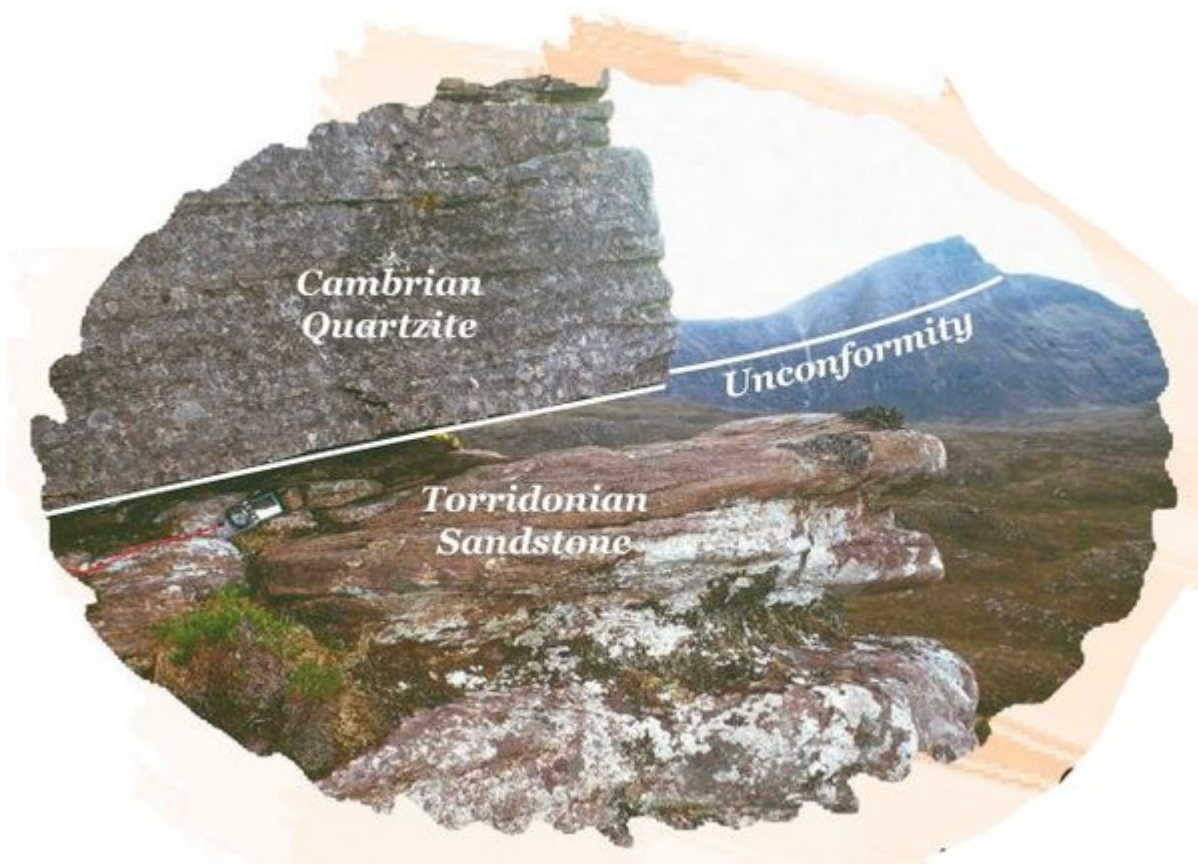
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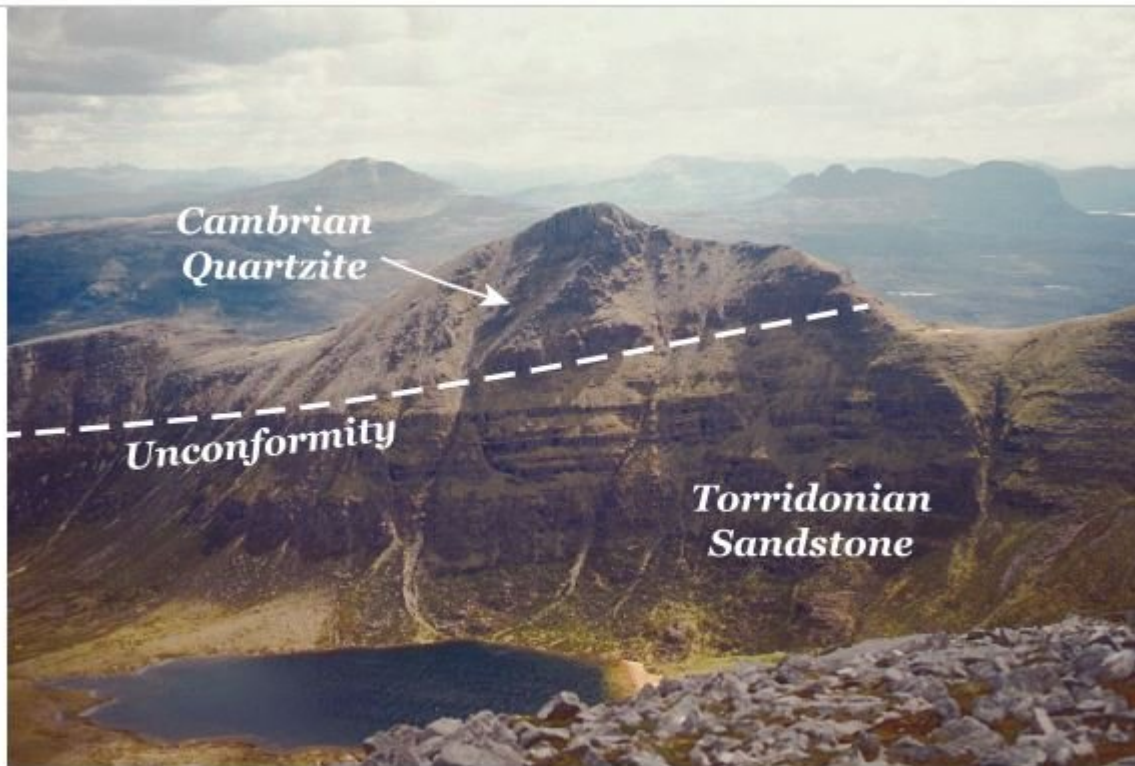
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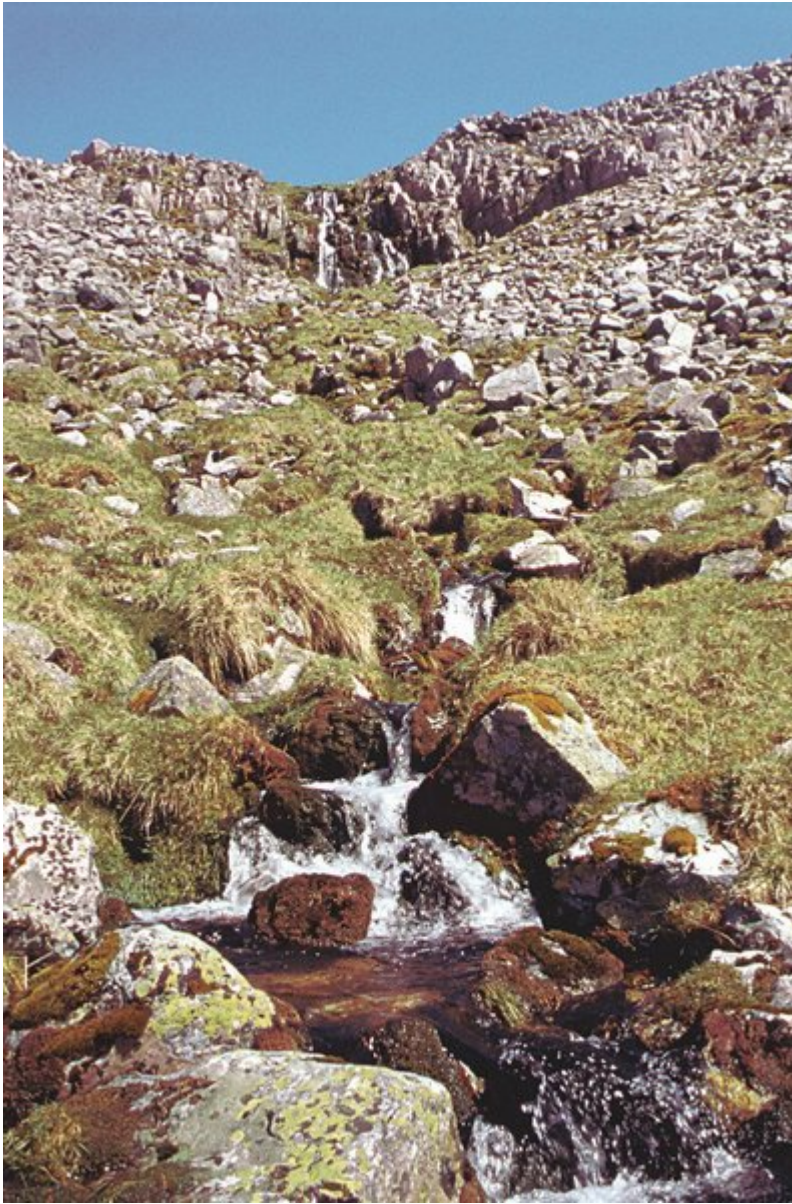
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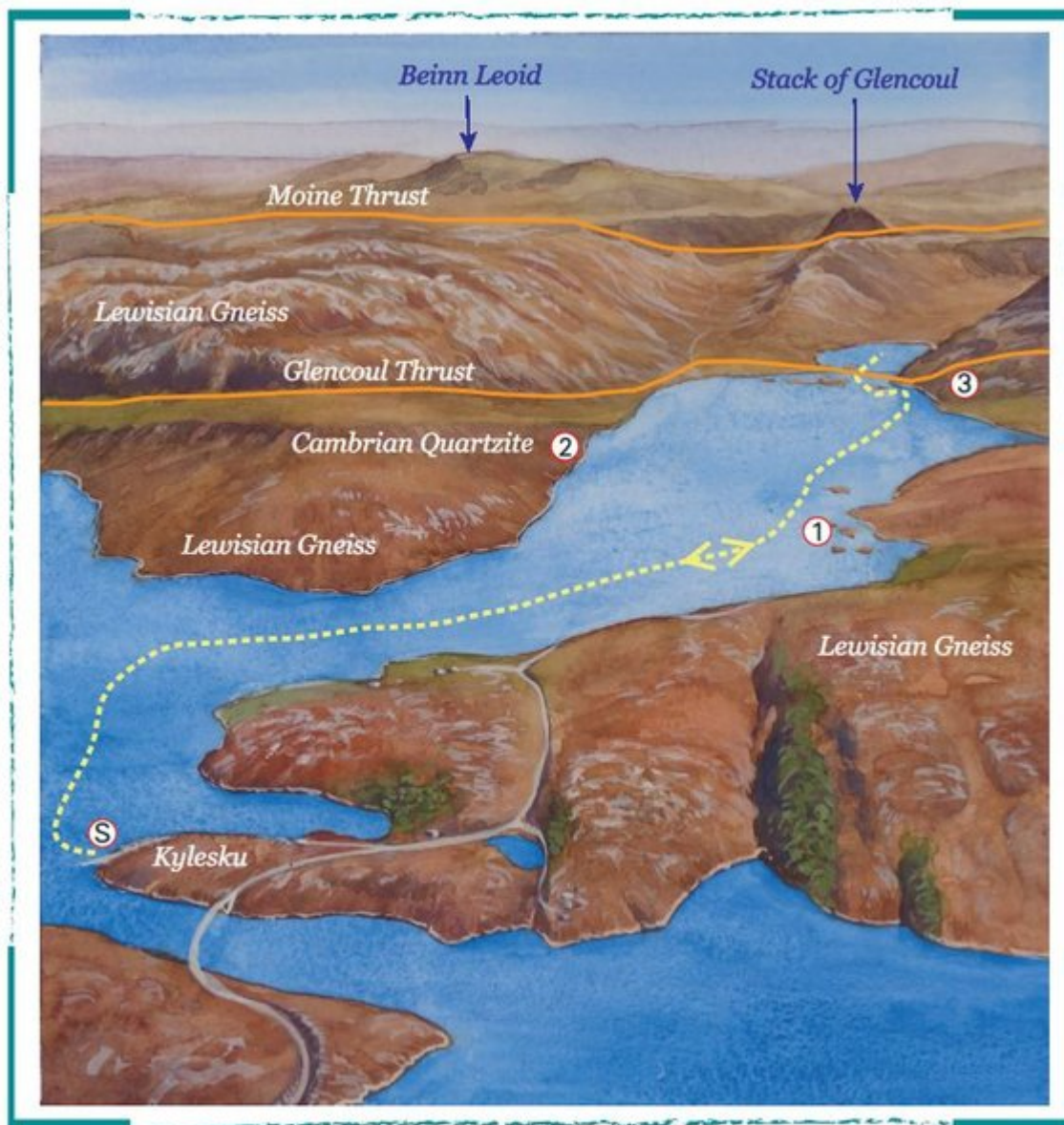
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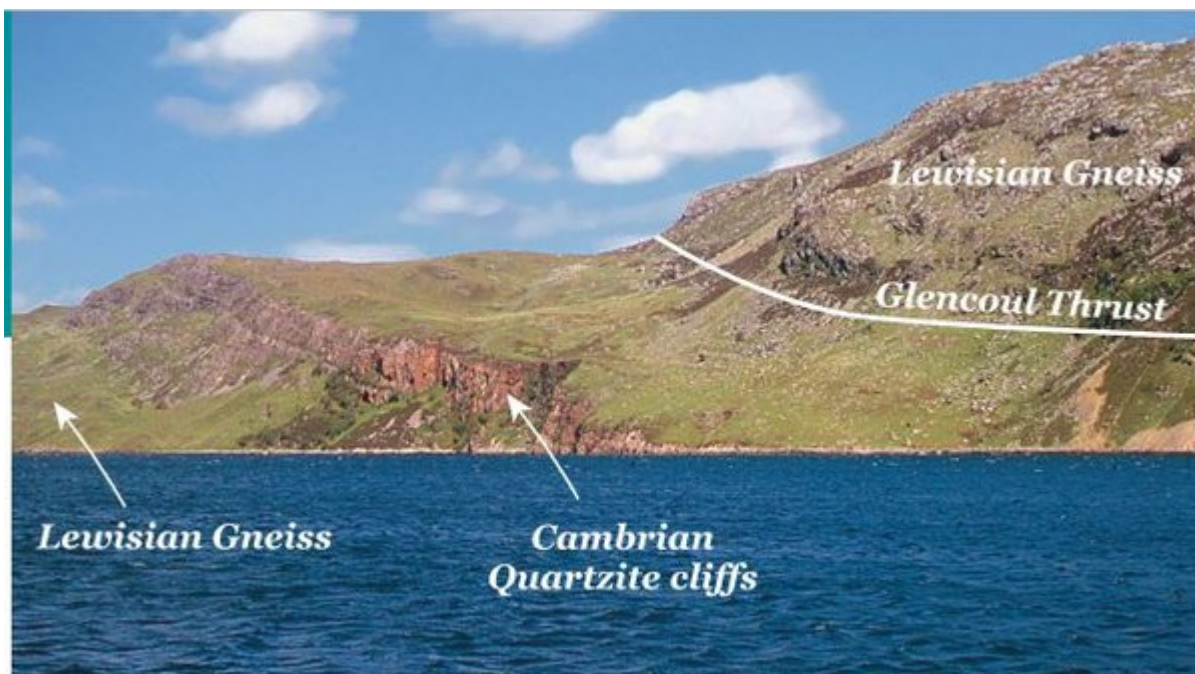
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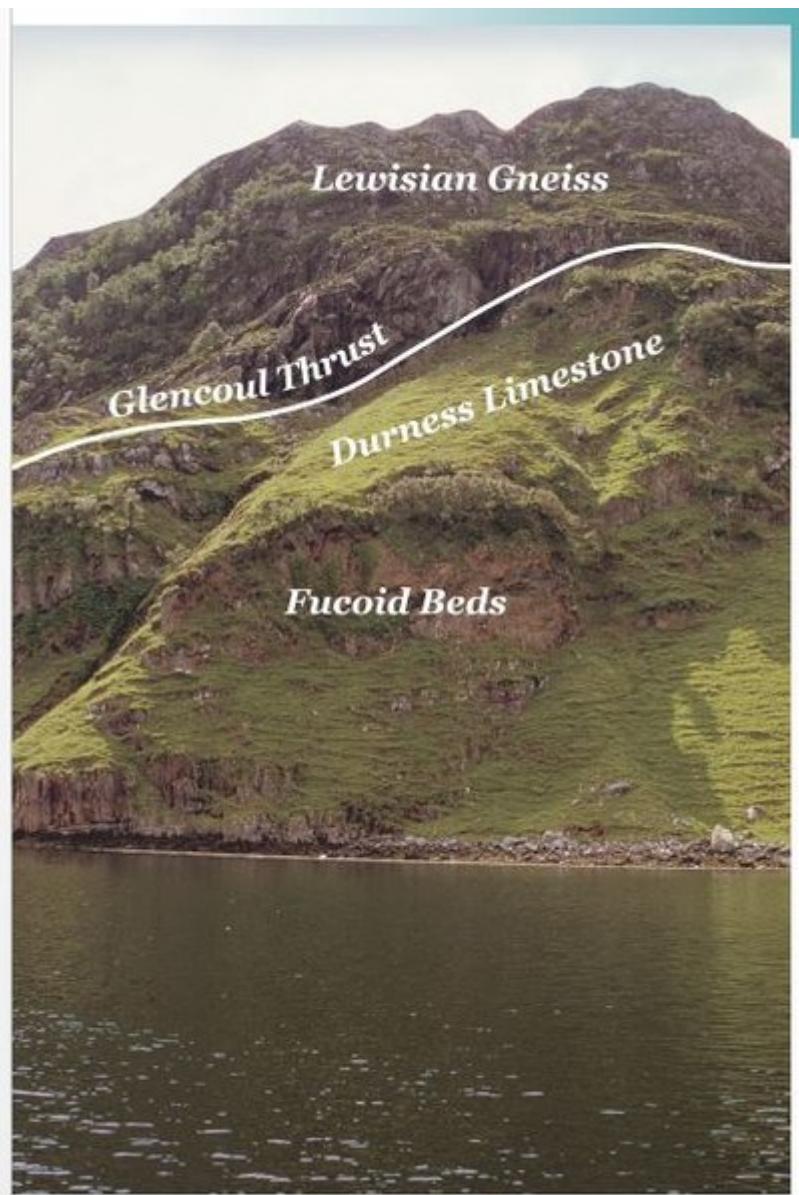
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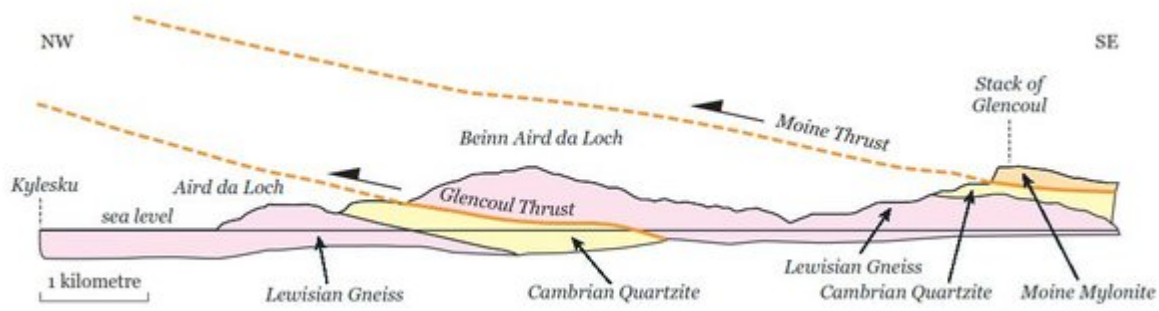
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