

Facsimile of 19th century hand-drawn geological map

'Geological Map of the lower Province of Moray showing the localities where organisms are to be found' drawn by John Martin, 1853

The Museum's first curator, John Martin (1801-1881), created the earliest geological map of Moray in 1836. He subsequently expanded this to include part of Nairnshire in 1842 which was published in Patrick Duff's *Sketch of the Geology of Moray*. In addition to the geology, his 1853 map gives details of the Devonian fossil fishes found in quarries across the area and which were generating considerable scientific interest.

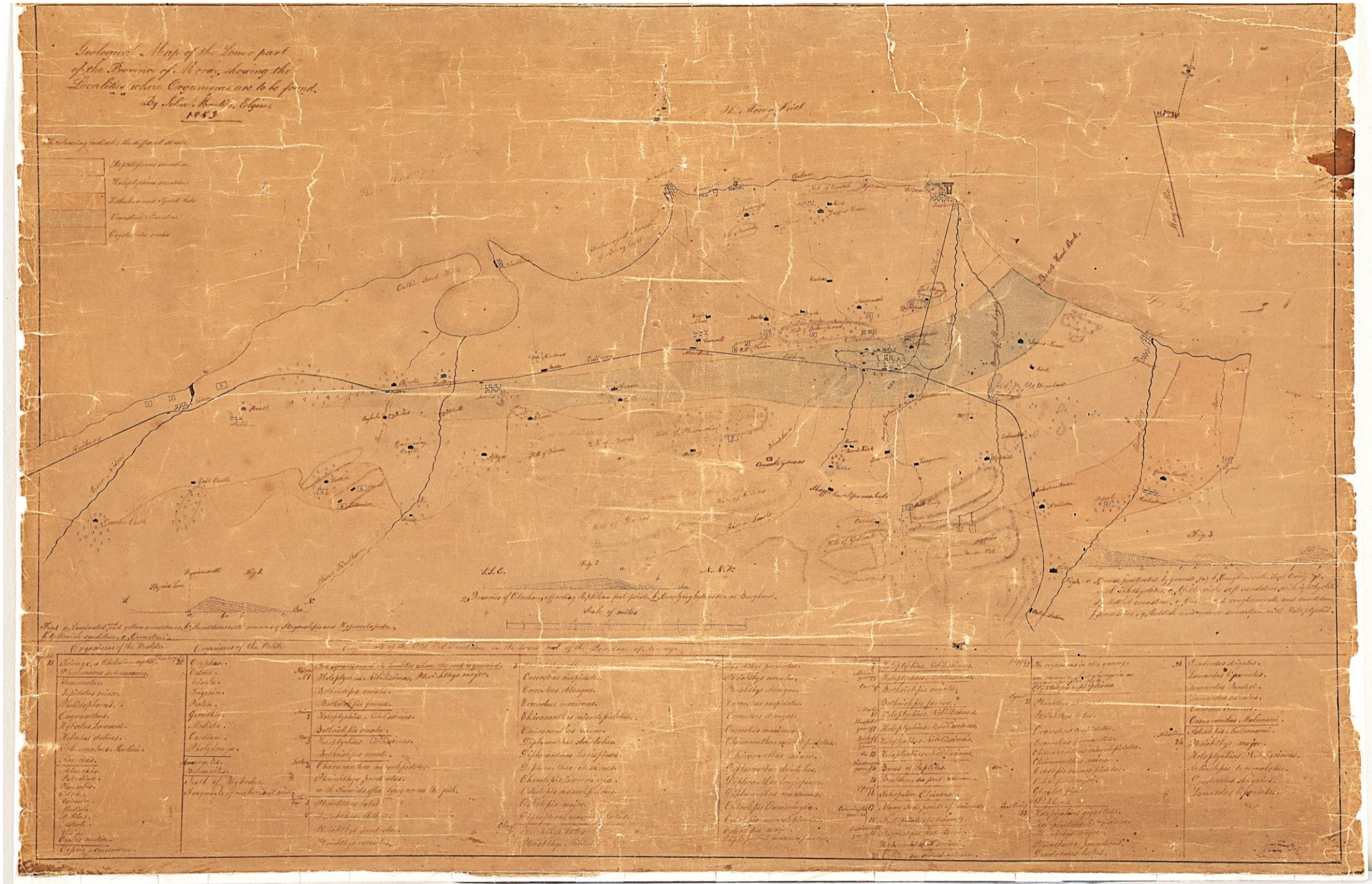
Drawn in gall ink and graphite pencil on linen-backed paper, the map was faded and in need of urgent conservation to prevent further deterioration. Experts at the Scottish Conservation Studio at Hopetoun House, Edinburgh, stabilised it but it remains too fragile to display. This contrast-enhanced photograph allows the information to be shared without the need to refer to Martin's original map.



Photograph of Martin's geological map in 2023 (ELGNM:1978.339) showing the paper peeling away from the backing and the tears and creases caused by decades of storage in less than perfect conditions.

Map after treatment at the Scottish Conservation Studio, Hopetoun House, Edinburgh

ELGNM:1978.339



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Gordon Fraser Charitable Trust

