

Riccarton Parish Church: Archaeological Evaluation

Data Structure Report

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issued 25th March 2008



Rathmell
Archaeology Ltd

Quality Assurance

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Signed Date

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Checked Date

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1 Overview

- 1.1 This Data Structure Report presents the findings of an archaeological evaluation requested by Riccarton Parish Church in respect to the proposed development of a Church Hall on land adjacent and to the east of the Church (centred NGR NS 4282 3639) The archaeological works were carried out on the 12th of March 2008 and were designed to inform on the archaeological potential of the development area and the potential impact on archaeological remains within the development area.
- 1.2 The findings presented below inform on the character of any archaeologically significant features within the development area. A consideration of the appropriateness of further archaeological works is also contained below. The character of such further stages of work will need to be agreed with East Ayrshire Council and the West of Scotland Archaeology Service.
- 1.3 The area concerned is in the village of Riccarton, which straddles the A71 to the south of Kilmarnock. The proposed development area is a roughly triangular piece of ground bordered to the south by Church Street, to the north west by Riccarton Church and to the north east by a large electrical substation. The ground is level and has been roughly covered with tarmac. This is patchy in places showing signs of prolonged and periodic disturbance. The close proximity of the development area to the mound upon which sits the Riccarton Parish Church is the reason for the required archaeological evaluation of the area.
- 1.4 Rathmell Archaeology Ltd was appointed by Riccarton Parish Church to act with regard to archaeological matters. Prior to the commencement of works a Method Statement was agreed with West of Scotland Archaeology Service on behalf of East Ayrshire Council which defined the nature of works to be undertaken.

2 Project Works

- 2.1 The programme of works was intended to include four test pits or trenches. One of these would be a small test pit to investigate the slope of the mound upon which Riccarton Church is built. The other three trenches were to be two of 20m length and one of just less than 30m length, radiating out from the wall of the church and covering the development area. A total station survey was also to be completed in order to provide a map of trench locations and a basic level survey of the area. Unfortunately the proposed trench layout was not possible in the circumstances and the general layout of trenches had to be altered.
- 2.2 One trench was excavated into the slope of the mound of the Church as far as was accessible to the digger from within the development area. A further five test pits were excavated inside the development area. Two of these test pits were 10m in length and the remaining three were approximately 3m in length. The location and extent of these trenches was restricted by the location of services, however, despite these difficulties a profile of deposition across the development area was obtained.
- 2.3 These works were undertaken in keeping with the submitted Method Statement which had been agreed with the West of Scotland Archaeology Service, the on-site works taking place on the 12th of March 2007.
- 2.4 All of the exposed features were investigated to determine their archaeological significance. All works were conducted in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeology's Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct and Historic Scotland Policy Statements.
- 2.5 Prior to this archaeology work commencing a geological survey had been carried out by Omnitech (Scotland) Ltd. The intention of this survey was to give an indication of the nature of the sediments on site and their suitability for the proposed development. This work consisted of three boreholes, one at each corner of the proposed development.



Figure 1a: Riccarton Church, showing chancel extension.



Figure 1b: Development area.

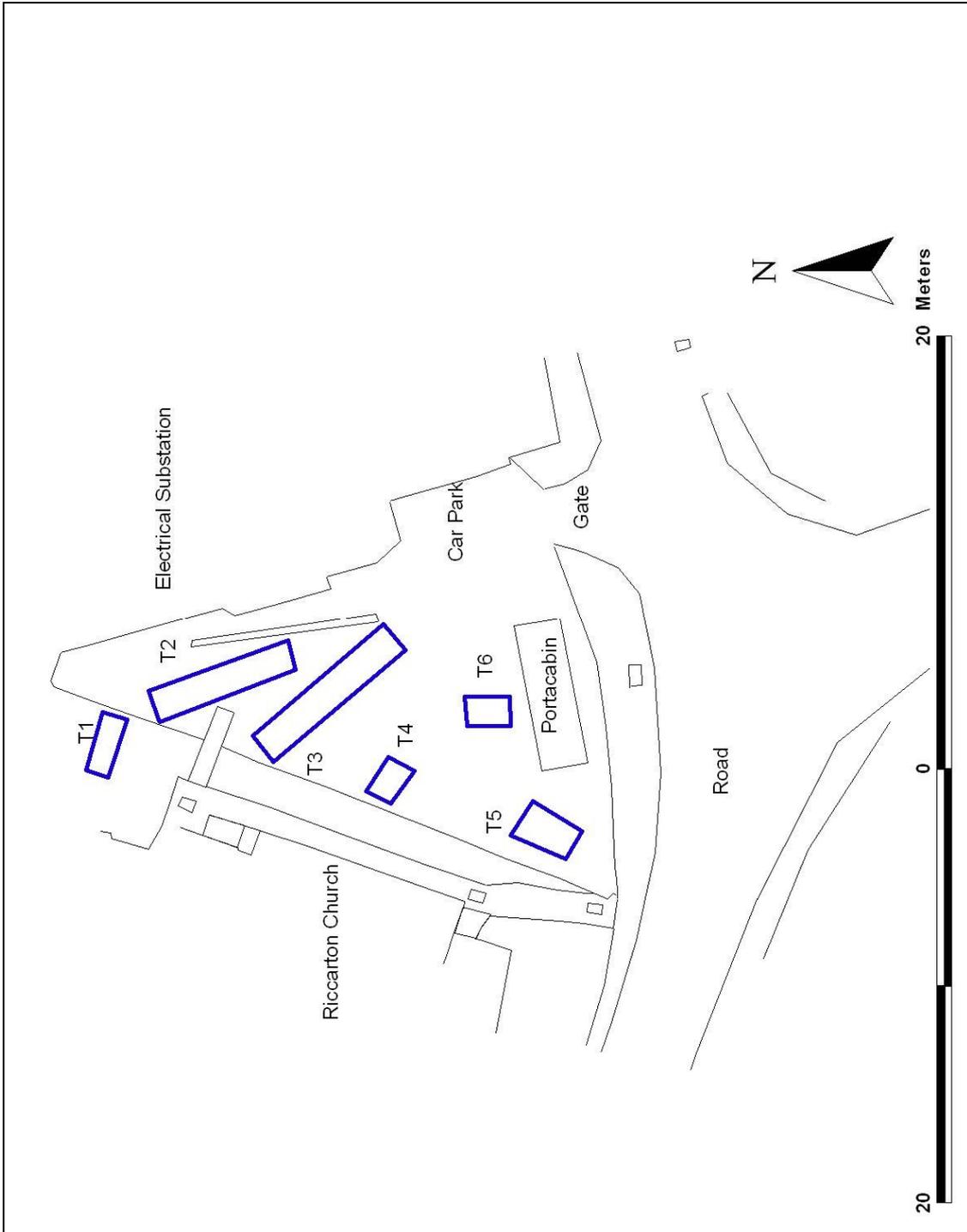


Figure 2: Plan of Trench layout

3 Findings: Desktop Study

- 3.1 Riccarton Parish Church was erected in 1823 onto a pre-existing mound. This mound is identified in pre-1823 sources including cartographic (Roy 1747-55, Wood 1819) and bibliographic (OSA 1797). The former illustrate a (roughly) north to south aligned steep sided rectangular mound while the latter notes '*At the village there is a mount of considerable bulk, the greater part of which appears to be artificial*'. This mound is associated with use for dispensing justice – a court hill. There are neither depictions of ditches, associated enclosures or fortification nor any pre-1823 suggestions of such use.
- 3.2 It is reasonable to infer that the mound has been regularised in size and plan. The listing building report notes '*earth from the foundations as used to change the course of the river at East Shaw Street*'; while the source for this statement is uncertain it stresses the removal of surplus material (rather than the simpler expansion of the mound). Thus it is reasonable to compare the 1819 Wood plan and the 1857-60 1st edition Ordnance Survey and suggest a significant reduction in the mound with the predominant loss being in the contraction of the north to south axis. It is also likely that the scale of works enacted will have involved at minimum cosmetic works to the east and west faces of the mound – giving the current regularised appearance.
- 3.3 The ground to the east of the mound is not depicted as developed on pre-Ordnance Survey maps, with the burgh of Riccarton lying to the west and south of the mound until the early 19th century when structures appear to the north of the mound, adjacent to the River Irvine. The parish church is extant throughout the Ordnance Survey sequence; while the 1857-60 1st Ordnance Survey structures lie to the east, only one remains by 1896 and this too has been lost by 1910.
- 3.4 The current mound closely matches the orientation and size of the parish church (square in plan) and not the pre-1823 plans. The church was extended to the east in 1910 by the building of a chancel. It has been suggested the mound was also extended to accommodate these new building works and that this poor foundation material has been the cause of subsidence until recently. This suggests, therefore, that the eastern-most portion of the existing mound is wholly artificial and of relatively recent date.
- 3.5 The historical information available on the mound is such that no clear presumption of its origin can be made. In terms of archaeological potential, the mound could be presumed to be artificial and significantly pre-date the mid 18th century. There is the potential that this is an early motte, should this be the case there is the potential for outer defensive works, associated enclosures and settlements.
- 3.6 The mound appears to have been severely altered including substantial loss of material from the north-south axis and probably re-grading and loss from all sides. In addition material may have been added to the mound in the early 1900s in order to extend the church building. The upper surface of the mound has been heavily reworked during the construction of the church. None of these works led to the discovery of materials or structures that would have likely been noted in the NSA.

4 Findings: Trenches

- 4.1 Trench 1 was located outside the development area at the north eastern corner of the mound upon which the church is built. The intention with this trench was to reveal the composition of the mound and the likelihood of archaeological material being contained therein. Unfortunately the results of this trench appear to bear out the supposition that the original mound has been extended to the east in order to accommodate the extension to the church. The composition of the section in this trench was built-up material down to a depth of more than 1.2m. This material contained elements of modern brick and other building detritus.



Figure 3a: Trench 1



Figure 3b: Trench 2

- 4.2 An unknown electrical service was located running north-south through the approximate centre of the site before any excavation work had taken place. This service had not been previously located on any plan and due to the close proximity of the substation to the north-east; it seemed prudent to take all steps to avoid excavating nearby. As a result, the trench locations, as described in the Method Statement, had to be altered.
- 4.3 It had originally been intended to excavate a trench for almost the entire length of the development area, running south from the northern corner. In order to accommodate the known services this was reduced to a trench of 10m (Trench 2). Trench 2 did provide a profile of the sediments across the northern half of the development area. Its sections were characterised by a surface layer of tarmac established on a substantial quantity of made ground. At the northern end of the Trench this made ground (006) was of a similar form to the sediments observed in Trench 1. However, this changed character in the southern half of Trench 2 and was built up in layers from larger angular stones (007) to small regular gravel, similar to type 1, (008).
- 4.4 At a depth of just less than 1m the sediments in Trench 2 became sand and gravel subsoil. This subsoil was of a uniform composition and contained no anthropic material. At approximately half way along the trench the remains of a wall survived, with this feature having been cut into the subsoil. The composition of this wall was large angular pieces of sandstone and light crumbling mortar. However, there was evidence that the wall had at one time been faced with modern brick. Adjacent to the northern face of this wall was an accumulation of coal fragments and coal dust.
- 4.5 The first borehole (BR 1) placed by Omnitech was located just to the south and west of Trench 2 and did not locate subsoil until 1.6m. Although the variation in subsoil depth across the site could easily explain the difference of 600mm between the subsoil located in Trench 2 and the evidence from BR 1 it should also be noted that the borehole is most likely located on the line of the wall/wall remains which was apparent in Trench 2 and 3. This would mean that the ash made ground from BR 1 is most likely part of the wall foundation or the adjacent deposits already described. It was noted in the Omnitech report that the location of the borehole had to be moved due to obstruction.
- 4.6 Trench 3 ran roughly parallel to Trench 2 but was located slightly further south. A very similar form of sediments was observed during the excavation of Trench 3; the build up of sediments from (007) to (008) and finally to a rough tarmac surface, (001). The older form of made ground, (006), was not observed anywhere in this Trench. Similar forms of stones to those observed in the wall in Trench 2 were also in Trench 3 but not in a structural form. Ground disturbance across the entire site appeared, even at this stage, to be extensive; Trench 3 had to be doglegged to avoid a large deposit of concrete.
- 4.7 The remaining three trenches; Trenches 4, 5, and 6, were located where possible around the remaining obstacles on site and with the intention of giving the best possible cross-section of the sediments. Unfortunately, the entire south western corner of the site was composed of granite cobbles immediately under the tarmac. Trench 5 attempted to assess the sediments of this area by removing the cobbles in one location; however, the cobbles had been laid on a bed of concrete and so further excavation was impossible to achieve safely and within the agreed time frame.
- 4.8 Trench 4 was to the south of Trench 3 and against the western boundary of the site. The sediments in this Trench were unusual in that the made ground continued deeper than in any other trench and that the subsoil, (009), was composed of clay which was both damp and contained a small degree of humic material. In contrast Trench 6 comprised very shallow made ground, 0.5m deep, which dropped immediately on to natural clay, (014). Trench 6 was located to the south and east of Trench 4. These results are supported by the results from the second and third boreholes in the Omnitech report.



Figure 4a: Trench 4



Figure 4b: Development area

4.9 No significant archaeological material was observed anywhere on site and the extent of the disturbance appears to be modern. Older made ground located to the west and north of the site appears to be associated with the building of the chancel on to the Church in 1910. No artefacts were recovered and all those observed in the course of the excavation were post 1800s or decidedly modern.

5 Discussion

5.1 No significant archaeological features were noted within the evaluation trenches. All artefacts recovered were modern, of a date later than the 1800s, and it was clear from the form of the sediments that the area had been heavily disturbed.

5.2 Examining the historical evidence we know that a mound was in existence prior to the construction of Riccarton Parish Church in 1825. This mound appears, from mainly cartographic evidence, to be much larger and of a different form to the mound upon which the church is constructed and the written evidence supports the idea that the mound was modified and reshaped during the construction of the church with spoil used to modify the course of the river. The suggestion that the mound was subsequently extended to accommodate the construction of the chancel in 1910 is supported by the evidence of modern made ground in the section of Trench 1. However the physical evidence to date cannot confirm or support the contention that the greater part of the mound is an ancient artificial construction.

5.3 Trenches 2 and 3 show a consistent profile of sediment build up across the site progressing from north to south. It would seem that an initial build up of ground (006) is probably associated with the construction of the chancel and the extension of the church. It is difficult to relate this to the remains of the wall located in Trench 2 and the similar construction debris in Trench 3. It is possible that the extension of the church destroyed these remains or that they existed for a time contemporaneously. What is certain from the sections in Trenches 2 and 3 is that the subsequent landscaping of the site, resulting finally in the existing layer of tarmac, has removed any structural remains which may have existed on site and caused a disturbance to the level of the natural subsoil.

5.4 The interpretation of the site chronology given above is supported by the sediments observed in Trenches 4 and 6. Trench 4 had a considerable depth of made ground and the lower sediments were similar to those observed in Trench 1, (006). This supports the notion that the made ground relating to the extension of the church is early in the surviving sequence. The subsoil at the base of this trench was clay and the subsoil in Trench 6 was also clay. Obviously there is a change in the subsoil make up across the site.

5.5 In addition to the sequence described above, the south western corner of the site had been cobbled at some point. The cobbles covered an area measuring less than one quarter of the development area in extent, but they had been laid onto a thick bed of concrete and it was therefore impossible to examine the sequence of sediments beneath them. Clearly the cobbles preceded the tarmac and the final levelling of the development area but further excavation would be required to determine whether they post or pre-dated the expansion of the church.

5.6 The sediment sequence observed in the six trenches suggests that the development area has been repeatedly landscaped and reworked over the last century. Evidence of landscaping on site begins with the expansion of the church. This may have been preceded by construction of the wall observed in Trench 2. At some point the south western corner of the site was cobbled, probably on bedding material of a depth of 500mm. At least two services are known to run through the site including one electrical service running north-south. The rough tarmac which places the site in its current state probably included a sequence of levelling and making up the ground. All of the sequence described above rests immediately on the natural soil.



Figure 5a: Roy's Military Map 1747-55

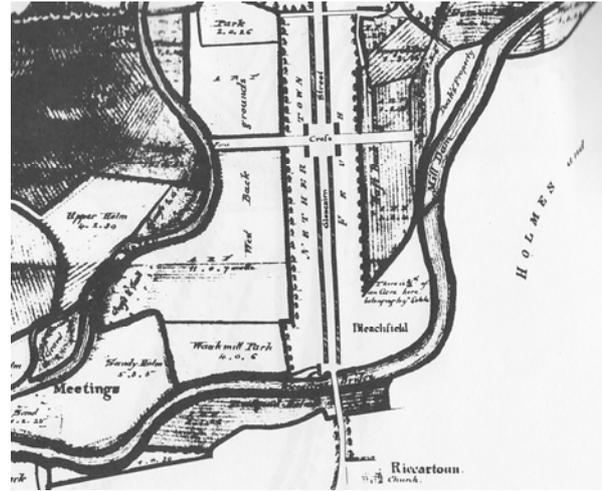


Figure 5b: Lordship Barony 1790

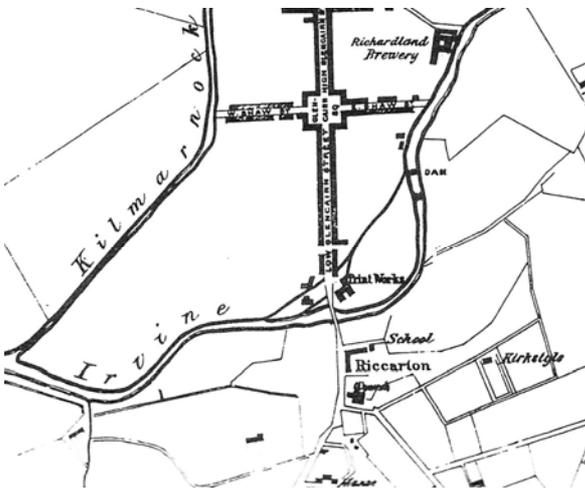


Figure 5c: Reid 1819

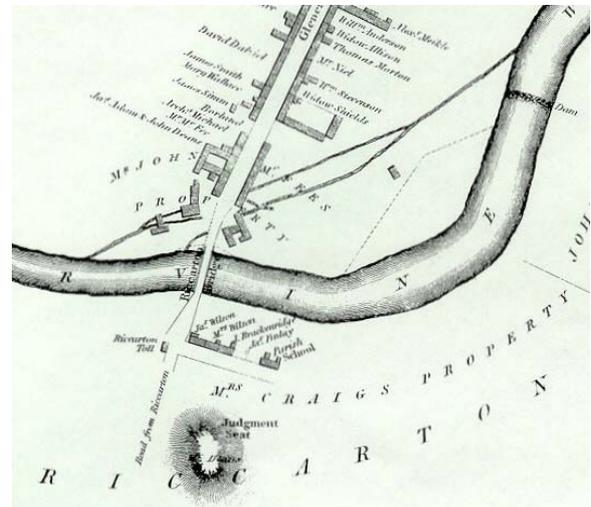


Figure 5d: Wood 1819



Figure 5e: Estate of Kilmarnock 1824



Figure 5f: 1st edition Ordnance Survey 1860

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 The archaeological works failed to identify any features of significant archaeological worth and recovered nothing but modern material in the way of finds. Trenches 2, 3, 4 and 6 all reached natural subsoil and provided a picture of sediments across the site and particularly in that part of the site close to the church and close to the mound. All of those sediments observed were modern and no pre-1800s material was recovered anywhere on site.
- 6.2 On balance, it appears most probable that nineteenth and twentieth century activity has wholly removed any trace of early activity from the development area – should there have been any present. The potential survives for enclosure features under the chancel, the construction of which extended the mound. However, the proposed build will only extend to the slope rising to the chancel, thus not impacting on sediments beneath the known modern made ground. Hence we recommend that no further archaeological mitigation works are necessary and no post-excavation analysis of the site of material recovered from the site is required.
- 6.3 The appropriateness and acceptability of our recommendations rests with the West of Scotland Archaeology Service and East Ayrshire Council. Confirmation that the above recommendations are acceptable should be sought from these bodies

7 Conclusion

- 7.1 An archaeological evaluation requested by Riccarton Parish Church in respect to the proposed development of land adjacent and to the east of the Church was carried out on the 12th of March 2008 and was designed to inform on the archaeological potential of the development area and the potential impact on archaeological remains within the development area. The findings presented above inform on the character of any archaeologically significant features within the development area.
- 7.2 The Trenches revealed a sequence of accumulation and re-deposition which, at its earliest, immediately preceded the expansion of the Church in 1910. A single surviving wall course with a facing of modern brick survived beneath a substantial quantity of made ground. Any traces of previous occupation have been removed from the site by later landscaping.
- 7.3 With no pre-1800 artefacts or other archaeological features and given the established depth of subsoil in four Trenches across the site it seems unlikely that any pre-nineteenth century deposits survive anywhere within the development area.

8 References

- 8.1 *Documentary*
- | | | |
|-------|------|---|
| SODev | 1994 | <i>National Planning Policy Guideline 5, Archaeology and planning</i> , Scottish Office Development Department. |
| SOEnv | 1994 | <i>Planning Advice Note 42, Archaeology</i> , Scottish Office Environmental Department. |
- 8.2 *Cartographic*
- | | | |
|---------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1869 | Ordnance Survey | 1 st edition map 1:10560 |
| 1747-55 | William Roy | Roy's Military Maps |
| 1862-3 | Ordnance Survey | Rothsay, Ordnance Survey Town Plan |
| 1819 | John Wood | Riccarton Town Plan |
| 1819 | Reid | Town Plan |

Appendix 1: Trench Details

Within this appendix a standardised set of data pertaining to the evaluation trenches is presented.

All measurement distances quoted along the trench measure based on the quoted orientation of the trench. See Figure 1 for trench locations.

Test pit 1

Size: 900mm by 2.5m.

Stratigraphy: Stratigraphy is entirely composed of built up material. Medium brown, humic soil containing fragments of modern building material and other debris. In section we can see that the deposition of material has been in curving layers orientated parallel to the slope.

Significant features: None.

Artefacts: None.

Test pit 2

Size: 10m by 1.5m.

Stratigraphy: The uppermost deposit, like the entire site, was roughly laid tarmac (001). This dropped immediately onto made ground. At the northern end of the trench the made ground was composed of brown, humic soil (006) with inclusions of modern brick. This was stratigraphically older than the build-up of material at the southern end of the trench. The deposits in the southern half of the trench were progressively layered from large, rough angular stones (007) to uniform gravel (008). In all parts of the trench the made ground was set upon natural sand and gravel subsoil. There was a greater concentration of medium, rounded stones in the subsoil at the northern end. The trench was approximately dissected by the lowest course of a wall. This wall was composed of large angular stones and rough mortar. It had been faced with more modern brick. To the immediate south of this wall was a deposit of coal fragments and dust.

Significant features: None.

Artefacts: None.

Test pit 3

Size: 10m by 1.5m.

Stratigraphy: The surface layer of rough tarmac (001) was set upon a layer of imported gravel (008). Beneath this was a build-up of large, rough, angular stones (007). These stones were present along almost the entire length of the trench. In the centre of the trench there was a deposit of large angular stones and brick. Both of these deposits were immediately above the natural sand and gravel subsoil (003). Set into the subsoil at the northern end of the trench was the rough remains of a wall line similar to that found in Trench 2 but much more degraded. This Trench was doglegged to avoid the removal of a large concrete block.

Significant features: None.

Artefacts: None.

Test pit 4

Size: 2.5m by 1.5m.

Stratigraphy: A top layer of tarmac (001) was laid upon a bed of demolition debris (014). Beneath this debris was the gravel, levelling deposit observed in other Trenches (008). This levelling was laid upon a deposit of sand and gravel soil which contained some modern building debris. This deposit was similar to 006 but may have been redeposited natural, similar to 003. At the base of this Trench was a deposit of very compact dark brown clay with humitic inclusions which appeared to be a natural deposit.

Significant features: None.

Artefacts: None.

Test pit 5

Size: 1.5m by 3m

Stratigraphy: Beneath the initial layer of tarmac (001) was a layer of granite cobbles (011). These cobbles were laid on a layer of concrete (010).

Significant features: None.

Artefacts: None.

Test pit 6

Size: 1.5m by 3m.

Stratigraphy: Layer of tarmac (001) was laid upon a levelling deposit of angular blocks of yellow sandstone mixed with modern building debris (013). This came immediately onto natural silty-clay (012).

Significant features: None.

Artefacts: None.

Appendix 2: Registers

Context Register

No.	Area	Interpretation	Description
001	Site	Tarmac and immediate bedding material.	Roughly laid tarmac topcoat and immediate bedding material of gravel debris and type 1.
002	Trench 2	Sand and gravel subsoil	Orange/brown sand and gravel subsoil. Small round stones, no inclusions. Some medium stones.
003	Trenches 2 and 3	Sand and gravel subsoil	Orange brown sand and gravel subsoil. Small round stones, no inclusions.
004	Trench 2	Deposit of coal	Mainly composed of fragments of coal and coal dust. Very compact.
005	Trench 2	Wall foundation	Large angular sandstones bonded with light coloured mortar. Facing of more modern brick.
006	Trenches 1, 2 and 3.	Made ground	Rough and loose made ground. Very humic light brown soil. Inclusions of stone and modern building material.
007	Trenches 2 and 3	Deposition of demolition for levelling	Large angular stones forming the base layer of made ground. Including fragments of modern brick.
008	Trenches 2, 3 and 4.	Levelling	Rough gravel or type 1, used as a levelling or surface layer on made ground.
009	Trench 4	Clay subsoil	Dark brown clay. Small inclusions of stone. Very damp and compact.
010	Trench 5	Concrete	Roughly made concrete used as base layer for laying cobbles.
011	Trench 5	Cobbles	Cobbles
012	Trench 6	Clay subsoil	Mid-brown silty clay with some inclusions of small stones. Very compact.
013	Trench 6	Made ground	Mid-size blocks of angular sandstone mixed with inclusions of modern brick.
014	Trench 4	Demolition used for levelling	Very dark brown to black demolition debris used for levelling.

Photographic Register

Image	Description	From	Date
1	Development area	S	13/3/08
2	Development area	S	13/3/08

3	Development area	S	13/3/08
4	Development area	S	13/3/08
5	Riccarton Church	SE	13/3/08
6	Riccarton Church	SE	13/3/08
7	Church Street	E	13/3/08
8	Church Street	W	13/3/08
9	Riccarton Church	SE	13/3/08
10	Riccarton Church	SE	13/3/08
11	Riccarton Church	SE	13/3/08
12	Substation doors	W	13/3/08
13	Trench 2	S	13/3/08
14	Trench 2	S	13/3/08
15	Trench 2	SE	13/3/08
16	Trench 2	SE	13/3/08
17	Trench 2	N	13/3/08
18	Trench 2	N	13/3/08
19	Trench 1	E	13/3/08
20	Trench 1	E	13/3/08
21	Trench 1	N	13/3/08
22	Riccarton Church	NE	13/3/08
23	Trench 1	E	13/3/08
24	Trench 1	E	13/3/08
25	Trench 1	NE	13/3/08
26	Trench 1	NE	13/3/08
27	Trench 2	S	13/3/08
28	Trench 2	S	13/3/08
29	Trench 2	N	13/3/08
30	Trench 2	N	13/3/08
31	Features 004 and 005	S	13/3/08
32	Features 004 and 005	S	13/3/08
33	Features 004 and 005	W	13/3/08
34	Features 004 and 005	W	13/3/08
35	Features 004 and 005	N	13/3/08
36	Features 004 and 005	N	13/3/08

37	Development area, portacabin	N	13/3/08
38	Development area, north end	W	13/3/08
39	Development area, north end	W	13/3/08
40	Adjacent graveyard	N	13/3/08
41	Riccarton Church	SW	13/3/08
42	Riccarton Church, additional date stamp	S	13/3/08
43	Riccarton Church	S	13/3/08
44	Riccarton Church, date stamp	W	13/3/08
45	Riccarton Church	W	13/3/08
46	Riccarton Church	W	13/3/08
47	Richarton Church	N	13/3/08
48	Cobbled surface	N	13/3/08
49	Cobbled surface	S	13/3/08
50	Cobbled surface	S	13/3/08
51	Cobbled surface	S	13/3/08
52	Cobbled surface	S	13/3/08
53	Cobbled surface	E	13/3/08
54	Cobbled surface	E	13/3/08
55	Cobbled surface	E	13/3/08
56	Trench 3	NW	13/3/08
57	Trench 3	W	13/3/08
58	Trench 3	W	13/3/08
59	Trench 3	N	13/3/08
60	Trench 3	E	13/3/08
61	Trench 3	S	13/3/08
62	Trench 3	SE	13/3/08
63	Trench 3	NW	13/3/08
64	Trench 3	E	13/3/08
65	Trench 4	N	13/3/08
66	Trench 4	N	13/3/08
67	Trench 4	NE	13/3/08
68	Trench 4	S	13/3/08
69	Trench 4	S	13/3/08

70	Trench 4	S	13/3/08
71	Trench 5	N	13/3/08
72	Trench 5	N	13/3/08
73	Trench 5	S	13/3/08
74	Trench 5	S	13/3/08
75	Trench 6	W	13/3/08
76	Trench 6	E	13/3/08
77	Trench 6	S	13/3/08
78	Development area	S	13/3/08
79	Development area	S	13/3/08
80	Lead on fence	W	13/3/08
81	Lead on fence	W	13/3/08
82	Lead on fence	W	13/3/08
83	Lead on fence	W	13/3/08
84	Lead on fence	W	13/3/08
85	Development area	W	13/3/08
86	Development area	W	13/3/08
87	Substation	W	13/3/08
88	Survey station	S	13/3/08
89	Development area	N	13/3/08
90	Development area	N	13/3/08
91	Development area	N	13/3/08
92	Development area	S	13/3/08

Drawing Register

Sheet	No.	Trench	Title	Scale	Date	Author
1	1	All	Site Plan	Sketch	13/3/08	AM
1	2	2	Plan and Section	1:50	13/3/08	AM
1	3	1	Plan and Section	1:50	13/3/08	AM
1	4	3	Plan and Section	1:50	13/3/08	AM
1	5	4	Plan and Section	1:50	13/3/08	KS
1	6	5	Plan and Section	1:50	13/3/08	KS
1	7	6	Plan and Section	1:50	13/3/08	KS

Appendix 3: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Ayrshire
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Riccarton Church
PARISH:	Riccarton
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Alan Matthews
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Rathmell Archaeology Limited
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NS428363
START DATE (this season)	12 th March 2008
END DATE (this season)	12 th March 2008
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (may include information from other fields)	An archaeological evaluation designed to inform on the archaeological potential of the area. The Trenches revealed a sequence of accumulation and re-deposition which, at its earliest, immediately preceded the expansion of the Church 1910. A single surviving wall course with a facing of modern brick survived beneath a substantial quantity of made ground. Any traces of previous occupation have been removed from the site by later landscaping.
PROJECT CODE:	07089
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Riccarton Parish Church
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	10 Ashgrove Workshops, Kilwinning, Ayrshire KA13 6PU
E MAIL:	contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Report to West of Scotland Archaeology Service and archive to National Monuments Record of Scotland.

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