

**11 Eglinton Terrace, Ayr:  
Archaeological Mitigation**

Data Structure Report

by Alan Matthews

issued 7<sup>th</sup> December 2009



**Rathmell**  
Archaeology Ltd

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## Quality Assurance

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Date .....

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Checked .....

Date .....

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## Introduction

1. A programme of archaeological works was required by Mr Alexander, in respect to a proposed garage and interconnecting extension to the existing property at 11 Eglinton Terrace, Ayr. The archaeological works are designed to mitigate the impact on the archaeological remains within the development area to the agreement of South Ayrshire Council.
2. The development site is situated to the rear of 11 Eglinton Terrace and can be accessed from Eglinton Place (NGR: NS 333 222) (Figure 2a). It consists of an urban back plot, partially paved and mostly retained as a garden. Three services are known to be in the area and more may be present at depth; these include a large drain and manhole, an electrical cable and a telephone line.
3. South Ayrshire Council required an archaeological watching brief to be undertaken as a condition of the granted planning consent (09/00414/FUL). West of Scotland Archaeology Service who advise South Ayrshire Council on archaeological matters has provided guidance on the structure of archaeological works required on this site.
4. Rathmell Archaeology Limited has been appointed by Mr Alexander to undertake the development and implementation of an archaeological watching brief during all groundbreaking works at 11 Eglinton Terrace, Ayr as per the terms of the agreed Method Statement (Matthews 2009).
5. This Data Structure Report presents the findings of the archaeological mitigation carried out on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 2009; the mitigation consisted of archaeological monitoring of all groundbreaking works.

### *Archaeological and Historical Background*

6. No known archaeological features exist within the development area; however, several prompts do exist to suggest historical and archaeological potential within and around the development area and it is for this reason that the archaeological condition has been applied. The development area is positioned between the historical centre of Ayr and the coast; just to the south of the River Ayr.
7. The written history of Ayr goes back to 1197 when a royal castle was built by order of William the Lion, King of Scots. The burgh of Ayr was erected later in 1205. The Castle of Ayr is known to have been located near the mouth of the river; originally made of wood, it was rebuilt in stone in 1307. The remains of the castle are believed to have been destroyed by later constructions. However, the development area overlaps its possible location and so there exists the potential for early medieval deposits to survive at depth.
8. There is additional potential for medieval remains within the development area due to the proximity of the Church of St John (Figure 1b). Its remains survive as St John's Tower, situated in open parkland just to the south and east of the development area (Figure 2a). It is unclear what, if any, medieval activity surrounded the church as the early burgh was located to the east.
9. The Royal burgh of Ayr was founded in 1205. It did not expand far enough westwards to overlap with the development area; however, as a centre of economic activity the potential exists for remains related to the growth of the burgh to survive in close proximity.
10. Perhaps the greatest archaeological potential within the development area comes from remains associated with a Commonwealth Citadel, completed in 1654. The citadel is shown on William Roy's Military Maps (1747-55) (Figure 1a) and is known to have been of elongated hexagonal shape with a bastion at each corner; a floodable outer ditch was provided to the two landward fronts and a sloping earthwork glacis. The large internal area of the fort allowed for a raised centrally planned parade square, though termed "market place" in the original drawings. This was fronted on three sides by carefully laid out ranges of buildings, comprising mostly barracks but also including administrative buildings. The site of the citadel overlaps the location of the development area.



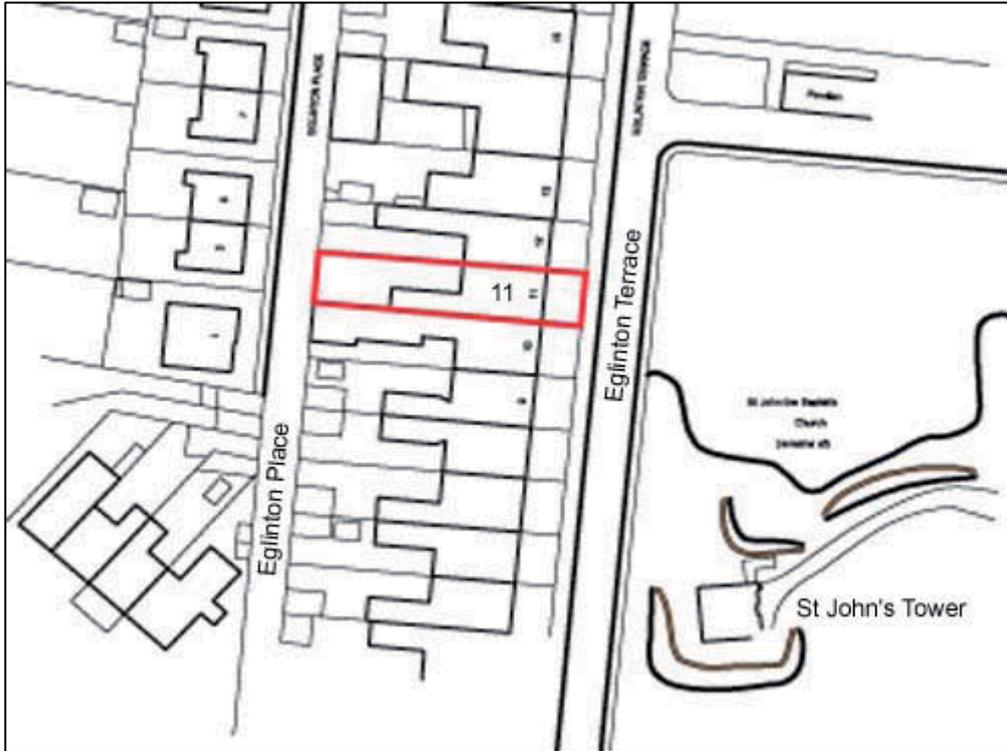


Figure 2a: Site location

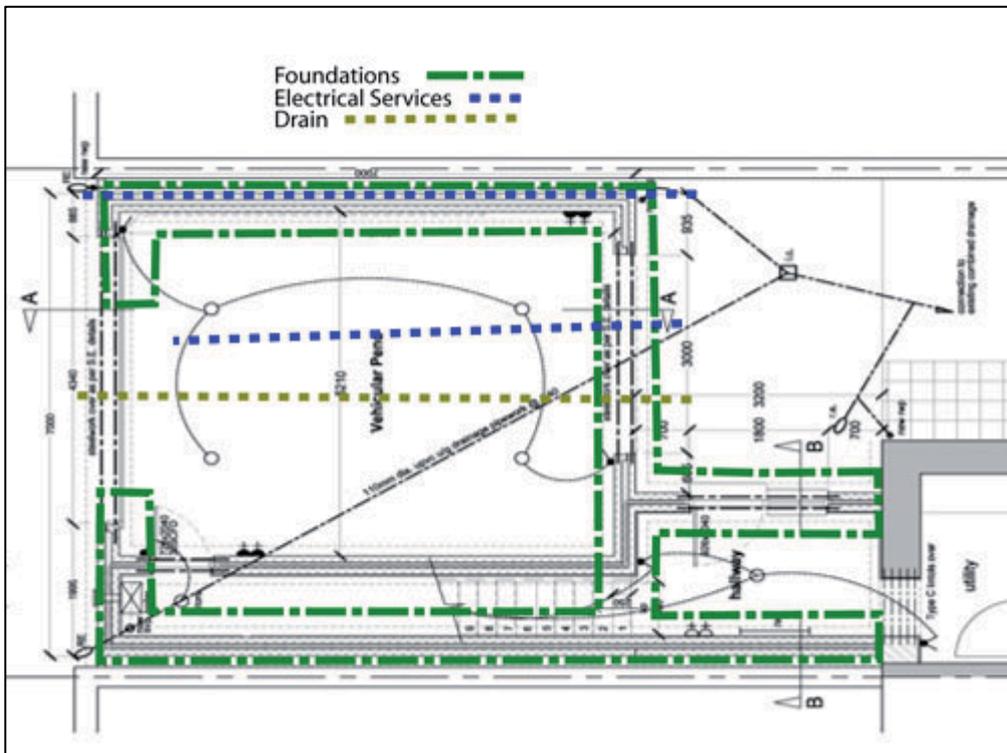


Figure 2b: Location of excavation work and services

11. The subsequent erection of the ground defined by the limits of the citadel into a burgh, Montgomeriestoun, is unlikely to introduce additional archaeological issues as the new burgh failed relatively quickly.

## Project Works

12. The programme of works was carried out on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 2009 in the form of archaeological monitoring of all ground breaking works as described in the Method Statement (Matthews 2009) and agreed with WoSAS. Archaeological monitoring allowed the excavation of foundation trenches to be carried out while mitigating any potential impact on any archaeology that may have been present.
13. Any exposed features were investigated to determine their archaeological significance. The excavation works were limited to the placement of trenches for the foundations of the planned extension (Figure 2b). All works were conducted in accordance with the West of Scotland Archaeology Standard Conditions, the Institute of Field Archaeology's Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct and Historic Scotland Policy Statements.

## Findings: Monitoring

14. The archaeological monitoring involved all the ground breaking works associated with the proposed garage and interconnecting extension (Figure 3a). These works comprised a series of trenches excavated for the placement of foundations within the development area. These interconnecting trenches were located along both the boundary walls and across the centre of the development area in accordance with the building plans provided. In three places services were shown to be present within the development area; a large drain and manhole, an electrical cable, and a telephone line (Figure 2b). It is possible that additional services were present at depths not reached by the excavation works but the potential disturbance, even of those revealed, should be noted.
15. Excavation works were undertaken using a mini-digger with hand excavation carried out in awkward areas given the tight space available to work in (Figure 3b). The foundation trenches were typically 900mm wide and excavated to a depth of 600mm. The first 200mm of excavated material was topsoil (001), which consisted of a very dark brown garden soil containing plant roots and modern rubbish. Immediately beneath the topsoil was yellow-orange, very loose sand (002). Deposit (002) continued to the base of the trenches showing some signs of disturbance by roots and the placement of services.
16. No significant archaeological features were observed during the archaeological monitoring works in this area. The only artefacts recovered in the course of the works were modern (late 19<sup>th</sup> century to present day) rubbish. Any potential archaeological features were investigated.
17. The only potential archaeological feature observed during the works was a mass of mortar (003) lying adjacent to the south wall of the development area. Feature (003) (Figure 4a) proved upon excavation to be physically tied in to the foundation of the south wall of the development area. No artefacts were recovered in relation to this feature.
18. Signs of disturbance along the northern boundary (Figure 5b) of the development area and additional modern artefacts in deposits (001) and (002) were attributed to disturbance resulting from the placement of a telephone cable. It was clear that the cable had been recently buried and that the associated telegraph pole had recently been moved.



Figure 3a: Prior to excavation of the foundations



Figure 3b: Work in progress at south wall



Figure 4a: (003) at south-east corner



Figure 4b: Foundations at south wall

## Discussion

19. It was clear from observation of the excavation works that the Topsoil (001) represents the accumulated garden soil of the back-plot of 11 Eglinton Terrace. The sandy subsoil (002) although appearing to be of natural origin contained anthropic material in the form of modern archaeology and artefacts. The most likely interpretation is that deposit (002) is re-deposited or heavily disturbed natural soil and that archaeologically sterile drift geology was not reached anywhere on site.
20. Feature (003) which consisted of a mass of mortar tied into the foundations of the south wall (Figure 4b) of the development area, may indeed have been an extension of the wall foundations. It was certainly an extension of the same structure and therefore contemporary. It is possible that it represents an extension of the foundations which would have further extended the outbuildings of 11 Eglinton Terrace. However, no further evidence was recovered to support this.
21. Services were noted in three places on the site; a large drain and manhole, an electrical cable (Figure 4a) and a telephone line. All ran east to west through the development area. The telephone cable was connected to a telegraph pole which had been recently moved from the north-west corner of the development area. Modern disturbance resulting from the movement of this cable was observable along the entire northern boundary of the site.
22. The electrical cable and the drain were both located in the centre of the development area. A manhole was associated with the drain (Figure 3a). It should be acknowledged that considerable disturbance had taken place within the centre of the development area as a result of the placement of these services. In the case of the drain and manhole, this disturbance continued to a depth not reached by the excavation works carried out here. It is likely that this disturbance has resulted in the removal of any significant archaeology from the centre of the development area.
23. The archaeological monitoring works carried out here did not reveal any significant archaeology. The maximum depth of excavation was 600mm; geologically sterile drift geology was not reached and therefore the possibility exists that significant archaeology is preserved at depths greater than 600mm. However, this possibility must be tempered with the known disturbance of the site from services and existing buildings. It is clear that the surrounding walls and services have massively reduced the archaeological potential of the development area even at depths greater than 600mm.

## Recommendations

24. The archaeological monitoring works included all ground breaking works within the development area. In the course of these works disturbance by existing services was revealed; this disturbance was mostly concentrated in the centre of the area running east-west along the line of the drain. The excavation for the foundation trenches covered the edges of the development area and crossed the centre to a depth of 600mm. No significant archaeology was observed in the course of the excavation works.
25. The purpose of the archaeological works was to determine the nature, form and extent of the archaeological resource within those areas adversely impacted upon by the development according to the Method Statement (Matthews 2009). No significant archaeology was observed within those areas adversely impacted upon by the development and therefore Rathmell Archaeology Ltd recommends that no further archaeological work should be carried out in relation to this development.



Figure 5a: Central area showing electrical cable



Figure 5b: Foundations along the north wall

## Conclusion

26. A programme of archaeological works was carried out on behalf of Mr Alexander, in respect to a proposed garage and interconnecting extension to the existing property at 11 Eglinton Terrace, Ayr. The work entailed archaeological monitoring of the application area during which all ground-breaking works were carried out under archaeological observation. The archaeological works were designed to mitigate the impact on the archaeological remains within the development area.
27. The archaeological monitoring works uncovered no significant archaeological deposits and no anthropic material other than that which related to modern use of the site. No archaeologically significant features were uncovered during the works and as such no further works are recommended.

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## References

### *Documentary*

- |              |      |   |
|--------------|------|---|
| Dow, F       | 1979 | <i>Cromwellian Scotland</i> . John Donald Publishers Ltd  |
| Matthews, A  | 2009 | <i>11 Eglinton Terrace, Ayr, Ayrshire: Archaeological Watching Brief, Method Statement</i> . Rathmell Archaeology Ltd |
| Scot Gov     | 2008 | SPP23 Planning and the Historic Environment.  |
| SOEnv        | 1994 | Planning Advice Note 42, Archaeology, Scottish Office Environmental Department.                                       |
| Strawhown, J | 1989 | <i>The History of Ayr</i> . John Donald Publishers Ltd  |

### *Cartographic*

- |           |                 |   |
|-----------|-----------------|---|
| 1747-1755 | Roy             | Military Survey of Scotland                       |
| 1860      | Ordnance Survey | 1 <sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey, Ayrshire |
| 1897      | Ordnance Survey | 2 <sup>nd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey, Ayrshire |
| 1905      | Ordnance Survey | 3 <sup>rd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey, Ayrshire |

## Appendix 1: Registers

Within this appendix are all registers pertaining to works on-site regardless of the process by which that information was gathered (e.g. evaluation or strip, map & sample).

### *Context Register*

Context No.	Area/Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
001	Site	Deposit	Dark brown to black, very humic silty-sand. Loose. Inclusions of tree roots and modern rubbish.	Garden soil – topsoil.
002	Site	Deposit	Loose, yellow-orange sand.	Natural subsoil. In most places either disturbed to redeposited.
003	-	Structure	Concrete or high quality lime mortar.	Part of the foundations of the south wall. Possibly extending the house or outbuildings.

### *Photographic Register*

Image No.	Print		Slide		Digital	Description	From	Date
	Film No.	Neg. No.	Film No.	Neg. No.				
01	-	-	-	-	1	Before excavation of foundations	E	3/12/09
02	-	-	-	-	2	Before excavation of foundations	E	3/12/09
03	-	-	-	-	3	Before excavation of foundations	W	3/12/09
04	-	-	-	-	4	Before excavation of foundations	W	3/12/09
05	-	-	-	-	5	Before excavation of foundations	W	3/12/09
06	-	-	-	-	6	Before excavation of foundations	W	3/12/09
07	-	-	-	-	7	Before excavation of foundations	W	3/12/09

Image No.	Print		Slide		Digital	Description	From	Date
	Film No.	Neg. No.	Film No.	Neg. No.				
08	-	-	-	-	8	Electrical Service and Manhole	W	3/12/09
09	-	-	-	-	9	Electrical Service and Manhole	W	3/12/09
10	-	-	-	-	10	Eglinton Place	S	3/12/09
11	-	-	-	-	11	Eglinton Place	N	3/12/09
12	-	-	-	-	12	First excavation – south-east corner	N	3/12/09
13	-	-	-	-	13	First excavation – south-east corner	N	3/12/09
14	-	-	-	-	14	First excavation – south-east corner	N	3/12/09
15	-	-	-	-	4837	Foundations along south wall	E	3/12/09
16	-	-	-	-	4838	Foundations along south wall	E	3/12/09
17	-	-	-	-	4839	Foundations along south wall	NE	3/12/09
18	-	-	-	-	4840	Foundations along south wall	NE	3/12/09
19	-	-	-	-	4841	003	N	3/12/09
20	-	-	-	-	4842	003	N	3/12/09
21	-	-	-	-	4843	003	N	3/12/09
22	-	-	-	-	4844	003	NW	3/12/09
23	-	-	-	-	4845	003	NW	3/12/09
24	-	-	-	-	4846	Foundations along south wall	NW	3/12/09
25	-	-	-	-	4847	Foundations along south wall	NW	3/12/09
26	-	-	-	-	4848	Foundations along south wall	W	3/12/09
27	-	-	-	-	4849	Foundations along south wall	W	3/12/09
28	-	-	-	-	4850	Citadel wall collapse	N	3/12/09
29	-	-	-	-	4851	Citadel wall collapse	NW	3/12/09
30	-	-	-	-	4852	Citadel wall collapse	N	3/12/09

Image No.	Print		Slide		Digital	Description	From	Date
	Film No.	Neg. No.	Film No.	Neg. No.				
31	-	-	-	-	4853	Citadel wall collapse	NW	3/12/09
32	-	-	-	-	4854	Citadel wall collapse	NW	3/12/09
33	-	-	-	-	4855	Central foundations	W	3/12/09
34	-	-	-	-	4856	Central foundations	W	3/12/09
35	-	-	-	-	4857	Central foundations	W	3/12/09
36	-	-	-	-	4858	Central foundations	N	3/12/09
37	-	-	-	-	4859	Central foundations	N	3/12/09
38	-	-	-	-	4860	Central foundations	S	3/12/09
39	-	-	-	-	4861	Central foundations	S	3/12/09
40	-	-	-	-	4862	Central foundations	S	3/12/09
41	-	-	-	-	4863	Central foundations	S	3/12/09
42	-	-	-	-	4864	Work in progress	E	3/12/09
43	-	-	-	-	4865	Work in progress	E	3/12/09
44	-	-	-	-	4866	Telephone cable	SE	3/12/09
45	-	-	-	-	4867	Telephone cable	SE	3/12/09
46	-	-	-	-	4868	Electrical cable	S	3/12/09
47	-	-	-	-	4869	Electrical cable	S	3/12/09
48	-	-	-	-	4870	Telephone cable	SE	3/12/09
49	-	-	-	-	4871	Telephone cable	SE	3/12/09
50	-	-	-	-	4872	Western end	NW	3/12/09
51	-	-	-	-	4873	Western end	NW	3/12/09
52	-	-	-	-	4874	Western end	NW	3/12/09
53	-	-	-	-	4875	Northern foundations	W	3/12/09

Image No.	Print		Slide		Digital	Description	From	Date
	Film No.	Neg. No.	Film No.	Neg. No.				
54	-	-	-	-	4876	Western end	W	3/12/09
55	-	-	-	-	4877	Western end	W	3/12/09
56	-	-	-	-	4878	Work in progress	SW	3/12/09
57	-	-	-	-	4879	Work in progress	SW	3/12/09
58	-	-	-	-	4880	Southern foundations	W	3/12/09
59	-	-	-	-	4881	Southern foundations	W	3/12/09
60	-	-	-	-	4882	Northern foundations	W	3/12/09
61	-	-	-	-	4883	Northern foundations	W	3/12/09
62	-	-	-	-	4884	Southern foundations	W	3/12/09
63	-	-	-	-	4885	Southern foundations	W	3/12/09
64	-	-	-	-	4886	Southern foundations	W	3/12/09

*Drawing Register*

Drawing No.	Sheet No.	Area/Trench	Drawing Type	Scale	Description	Drawer	Date
1	1	SE	Plan	-	Sketch of location of 003	AM	3/12/09
2	1	-	Plan	-	Sketch of location of services	AM	3/12/09

## Appendix 2: Discovery &amp; Excavation in Scotland

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	South Ayrshire
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	11 Eglinton Terrace
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	09060
<b>PARISH:</b>	Ayr
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Alan Matthews
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	Rathmell Archaeology Limited
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Monitoring
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	None
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	None
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	None
<b>NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)</b>	NS 333 222
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2009
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2009
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)</b>	None
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (may include information from other fields)	The work entailed archaeological monitoring of the application area during which all ground-breaking works were carried out under archaeological observation. The archaeological monitoring works uncovered no significant archaeological deposits and no anthropic material other than that which related modern use of the site. However, the work did not reach archaeologically sterile drift geology and so the potential of the area has not been fully explored.
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	None
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Mr Alexander
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Unit 8 Ashgrove Workshops, Kilwinning, Ayrshire KA13 6PU
<b>E MAIL:</b>	contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)</b>	Report to West of Scotland Archaeology Service and archive to National Monuments Record of Scotland.

## Contact Details

28. Rathmell Archaeology can be contacted at our Registered Office or through the web:

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Ayrshire	f.: 01294 542849
KA13 6PU	e.: <a href="mailto:contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk">contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk</a>

29. The West of Scotland Archaeology Service can be contacted at their office or through the web:

West of Scotland Archaeology Service	<a href="http://www.wosas.org.uk">www.wosas.org.uk</a>
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20 India Street	t.: 0141 287 8332/3
Glasgow	f.: 0141 287 9259
G2 4PF	e.: <a href="mailto:enquiries@wosas.glasgow.gov.uk">enquiries@wosas.glasgow.gov.uk</a>

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