

The Castle of St. John, Stranraer: Archaeological Mitigation

Data Structure Report v.2

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issued 16th August 2010



Rathmell
Archaeology Ltd

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Signed

Date16th December 2012....

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Introduction

1. A programme of archaeological works was required by Dumfries & Galloway Council, in response to landscaping works undertaken at the Castle of St John in Stranraer, Dumfries & Galloway. These works were designed to mitigate the impact on the archaeological remains within the development area to the agreement of Dumfries & Galloway Council Archaeology Service and Dumfries & Galloway Council.
2. The site is located in the centre of Stranraer, on the corner of George Street and Castle Street. It comprises a 16th century tower-house, restored and modified in the 19th century, and the landscaped, terraced area in its immediately vicinity.
3. Dumfries and Galloway Council requested archaeological monitoring of the area following the exposure of archaeologically sensitive deposits during landscaping works. Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeology Service who advise the planning authority on archaeological matters provided guidance on the structure of the archaeological works required.
4. Rathmell Archaeology Limited were appointed by Dumfries and Galloway Council to undertake this work on the Council's behalf. This Data Structure Report presents the findings of the archaeological mitigation carried out on the 8th July, 2010; the mitigation consisted of the cleaning back and recording of all exposed surfaces, and the recording of the exposed basal course of the castle's exterior wall.

Archaeological and Historical Background

5. The modern town of Stranraer has relatively recent origins, having been established as a Royal Burgh in 1617. However, there is evidence to suggest that it was occupied from a much earlier date, with evidence for occupation extending back into the prehistoric period.
6. Finds dating to the immediate post-glacial period, the Mesolithic, are attested by finds of microliths (NMRS No. NX06SE 35). These diminutive flint blades, which would once have formed part of a larger, composite tool or weapon, have been found in considerable numbers in the raised beach deposits occurring to the south and east of the town (Torrie & Coleman, 1995, 11).
7. Throughout the Early Bronze Age onwards, the area appears to have been a focus for the deposition of metalwork. Amongst the items recovered from the vicinity of 'Stranraer' are a flat axehead (NMRS No. NX06SE 38), a Late Bronze Age spearhead (NMRS No: NM06SE 23) and a Late Bronze Age hoard (NMRS No: NX06SE 36). The details of the latter are unclear: it is described by some sources as a 'founder's hoard', which would suggest that it included items associated with metalworking, while others describe it as a hoard of spearheads.
8. A Roman presence throughout the region can be inferred but not clearly demonstrated in the immediate vicinity of Stranraer. There is, however, reference in historic sources to a Roman site named 'Rerigonium' located on or near Loch Ryan (Torrie & Coleman, 1995, 12). Though its exact location remains unknown and its character uncertain, it may have occupied the same site as that later occupied by the medieval motte and burgh at Innermessan which served as the centre of secular and political power in the area during the early and high medieval period, in which respect it served as a predecessor to Stranraer.
9. The first firm evidence of Stranraer in the sources comes from the early 14th century (Torrie & Coleman, 1995, 15), and by the late 15th century, reference was being made to the presence of a chapel dedicated to St John (NMRS No: NX06SE 25). Just a few decades later, in 1510, Stranraer Castle was built.
10. Stranraer Castle comprises an 'L'-plan tower-house which was built for Ninian Adair of Kinhilt. The origins of the Adair family are unclear: the Statutory List suggests that the Adair family came from Ireland and settled in Scotland in the 13th century, while various web-mounted sources detailing Adair genealogy suggest that the Irish branch was a later

offshoot.

11. Blaeu's map of 1654 (Figure 1a), derived from an earlier survey by Pont in the late sixteenth century, shows a settlement at Stranraer ('Stronrowyr'), located to the left of a stream or river. The stream is a watercourse which originally ran through Stranraer, before being diverted via a culvert in the mid-19th century. To the right of this feature is a large structure, possibly defensive, to the right of a stream or river at 'Chapel'. This probably represents the castle, which would have been upstanding by this time, and which may have been located in close proximity to the earlier chapel of St. John. This association is still reflected in the castle's name – the Castle of St John.
12. Two maps of mid-eighteenth century date show the area in varying degrees of detail. The earlier of these, Moll's map of 1745 (Figure 1b), harkens back to Blaeu. It is the earliest map to record the area following the town's elevation to burgh status, and it shows only an isolated structure at 'Stranraer', located to the left of the stream.
13. Roy's Military Survey of 1747-55 (Figure 2a), carried out only a few years later, shows the town plan of 'Stranraer' in intricate detail. The streets are laid out in typical fashion, with buildings fronting a main east-west thoroughfare, and long strips of 'backland' stretching out to the rear. Some additional streets are also present, running roughly north-south. It is not clear whether the town was laid out in this fashion from the onset, or the streets later imposed. What is apparent, however, is that the Castle of St John had already been incorporated as an integral part of the townscape at this early date.
14. The castle must have been occupied in the early seventeenth century as certain elements of its fabric, namely the attic storey and presumably the caphouse, appear to have been added at this point. By the late eighteenth century, however, it had fallen into disrepair. Coulter reports (1791-9) that 'The Castle, now uninhabited, is a whin-stone building with free-stone corners and windows, of considerable height, and still very substantial'.
15. This hiatus was short-lived, however. The structure was bought by the town council in 1815, and plans were subsequently drawn up by a Glasgow architect, Kenneth Mathieson, to convert it into a 'secure and salutary jail' (RCAHMS, 1996, 192). Various alterations to the fabric were recorded at this time, including the insertion of arched windows in the upper storeys. The finished structure is referred to in the New Statistical Account of 1834-43 as 'a prison in the parish, in which about forty prisoners were confined during last year, some for debts, others for theft and assault. The prison is well secured. Proper means are observed for preserving the health of the prisoners... It is under the superintendence of a jailor and two assistants' (Wilson, 1834-43, 101).
16. The Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1843 shows the castle in use as a prison (Figure 2b), with the structure clearly labelled 'Castle Prison'. It is accessed by a lane approaching from the north-northwest, and is hemmed in by later buildings on all sides. The circular stair-tower which abuts the south-facing elevation is clearly visible, and a narrow path running west-southwest from the castle accesses a formal garden, complete with sundial.
17. A subsequent Town Plan of 1863-77 is more helpful in understanding the relationship between the castle and the surrounding buildings, as in this particular edition, roofed buildings are shaded. The castle remains in use as a prison, and the buildings occurring in association all appear to be roofed and occupied (Figure 3a).
18. By 1893, the castle-prison has fallen into disuse, and is now described as 'castle – Remains of' (Figure 3b). In general terms, however, there is little change in its vicinity. The surrounding buildings are still roofed and occupied, though the garden is no longer accessible and a number of smaller outbuildings have been added, both adjoining the castle structure and erected in its vicinity.
19. The structure remained in municipal ownership, and by the 1960s, it was described as being in 'a fair state of repair' by visiting representatives of the Ordnance Survey. It was subject to programmes of repair and consolidation on two separate occasions in the 1960s and 1980s. Archaeological excavations were carried out in association with these works, by Tabraham and Lewis (Tabraham and Lewis, 1979) and Ritchie (Ritchie, 1989) respectively. It has now recently been reopened to the public as a museum.



Figure 1a: Blaeu's Map of 1654



Figure 1b: Extract from Moll's Map of 1745



Fig. 2a: Extract From Roy's Military Map of 1747-55



Fig. 2a: Extract From Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1847

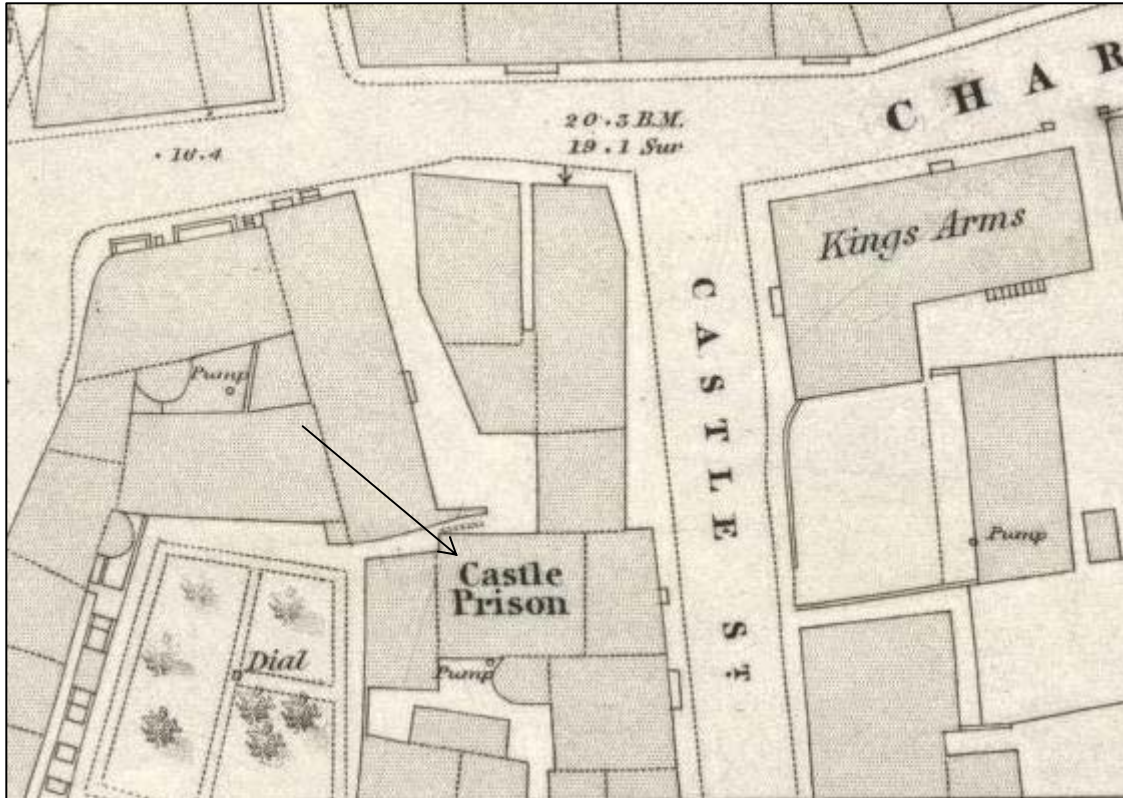


Fig. 3a: Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1863-77

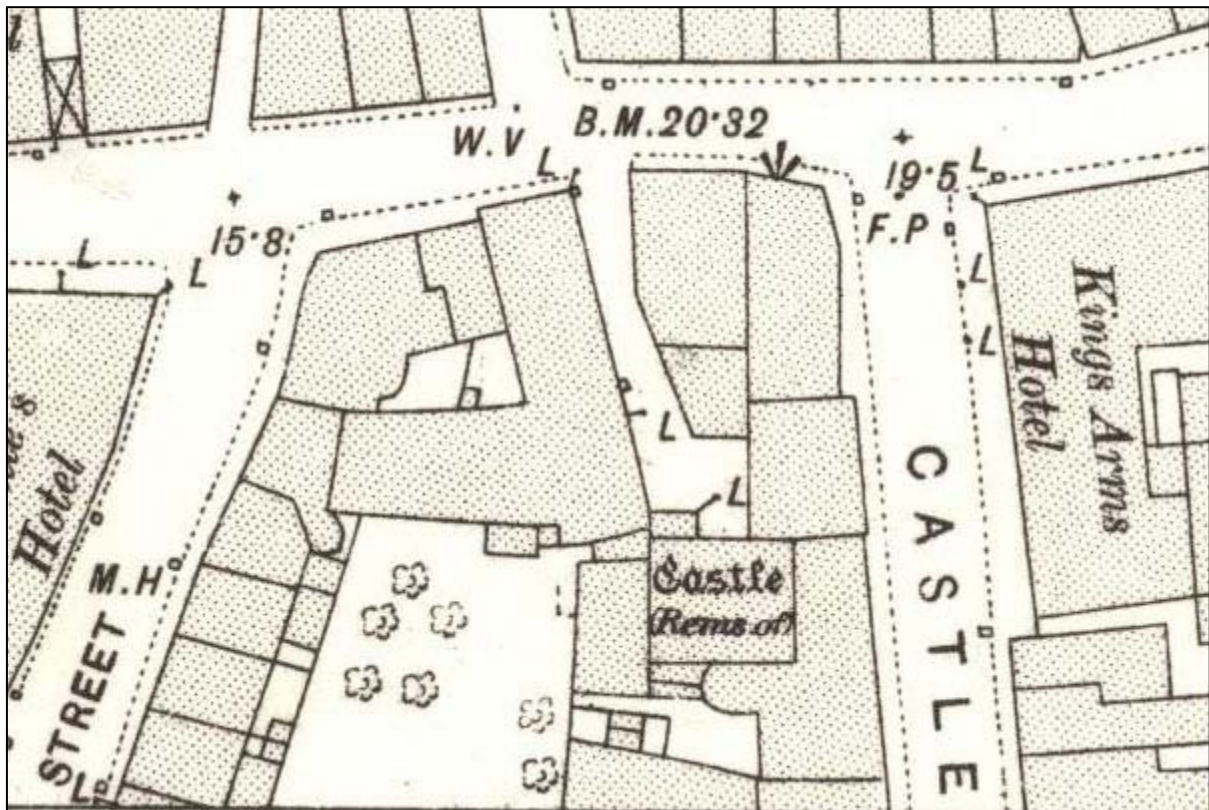


Fig. 3b: Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1893

Project Works

20. The programme of works was carried out on the 8th July 2010 (Figure 4). These comprised the cleaning and recording of an area located immediately adjacent to the castle's west-facing elevation which had already been stripped down to the level of the subsoil, and the archaeological monitoring of all subsequent ground breaking works, These comprised ground reduction in the south-east corner of the castle terrace and further reduction across the terrace in its entirety. The form of these works was undertaken in the manner agreed with Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeology Service.
21. One known feature of archaeological significance was identified. This was the foundation trench of the tower-house. All exposed architectural features were also recorded. Some additional features were identified and investigated but they proved to be recent in date or of natural origin. All works were conducted in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct and Historic Scotland Policy Statements.

Findings: Monitoring

22. Excavation works were undertaken using a 14-ton tracked excavator. The works had already been started by the time an archaeologist arrived on site (Figure 5a); an area of level terraced ground extending 3m west of the west wall of the castle had already been stripped, along the length of the castle wall and extending 1m northwards beyond the north-west corner.
23. This exposed area, described here as the 'West Terrace', was hand cleaned and recorded in detail prior to the commencement of groundbreaking works elsewhere on the site (Figure 6). The ground level had been reduced by approximately 0.2m, revealing some architectural features relating to the castle. The first of these was a basal course of masonry (009), which formed the uppermost course of the foundations (Figure 5b), exposed to a greater depth in October 2009 (Pickin, 2009).
24. A further feature revealed in the castle's fabric was a square opening (011), located just above (009). This appeared to be an original feature (Figure 7a), probably marking the line of a drain.
25. A narrow foundation cut (014) could be identified in places (Figure 7b), surviving immediately adjacent to the basal course (009). It was characterised by a dark-brown silty-clay fill (015) and it appeared to be contemporary with the castle, thus representing its foundation trench.
26. The survival of this feature was sporadic, occurring only at the south end for a distance of approximately 5m and for a distance of approximately 1m, at a point starting roughly 4.5m E of the castle's northwest corner. Over the remainder of its extent, the feature had been severely disturbed (Figure 8a). One cut, [022], followed virtually the same line as the earlier foundation trench, but the fill here (023) was markedly different. This may represent 19th century 'wall-chasing', perhaps even an early archaeological endeavour.
27. Another instance of disturbance were clearly associated with the insertion of a Victorian water pipe in the case of [018]/(019), and recent disturbances of twentieth century date were also evident. Both comprised rather substantial trenches, with one in particular [016]/(017) causing major disturbance in the vicinity of the tower-house's northwest corner.
28. Following the recording of the West Terrace, ground reduction was undertaken to the south of the castle (the 'South Extension'). Here the pre-existing ground level was reduced by a depth of approximately 300mm (Figure 8b). This was, however, insufficient either to penetrate the subsoil or reveal any features of archaeological significance. Context Nos. (028), (030) and (033), which were revealed by the ground-breaking works, were clearly modern in origin, with two spreads of modern material (031) and (032) further demonstrating the disturbed nature of the soils at this particular location.

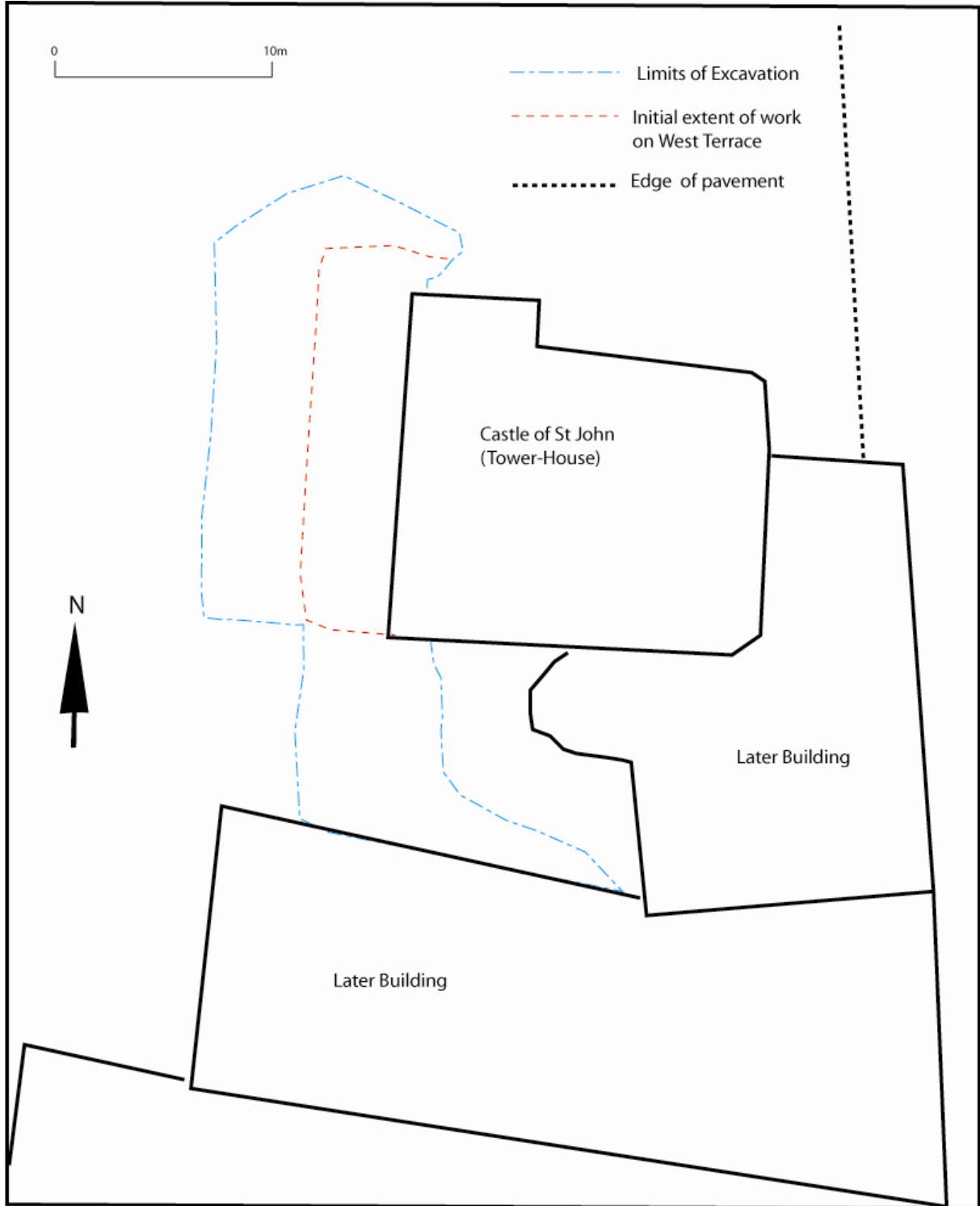


Figure 4: Limits of Excavation



Figure 5a: General View of Site, Showing Works in Vicinity of Tower-House



Figure 5b: Basal Course of Masonry (009) revealed at foot of Tower-House

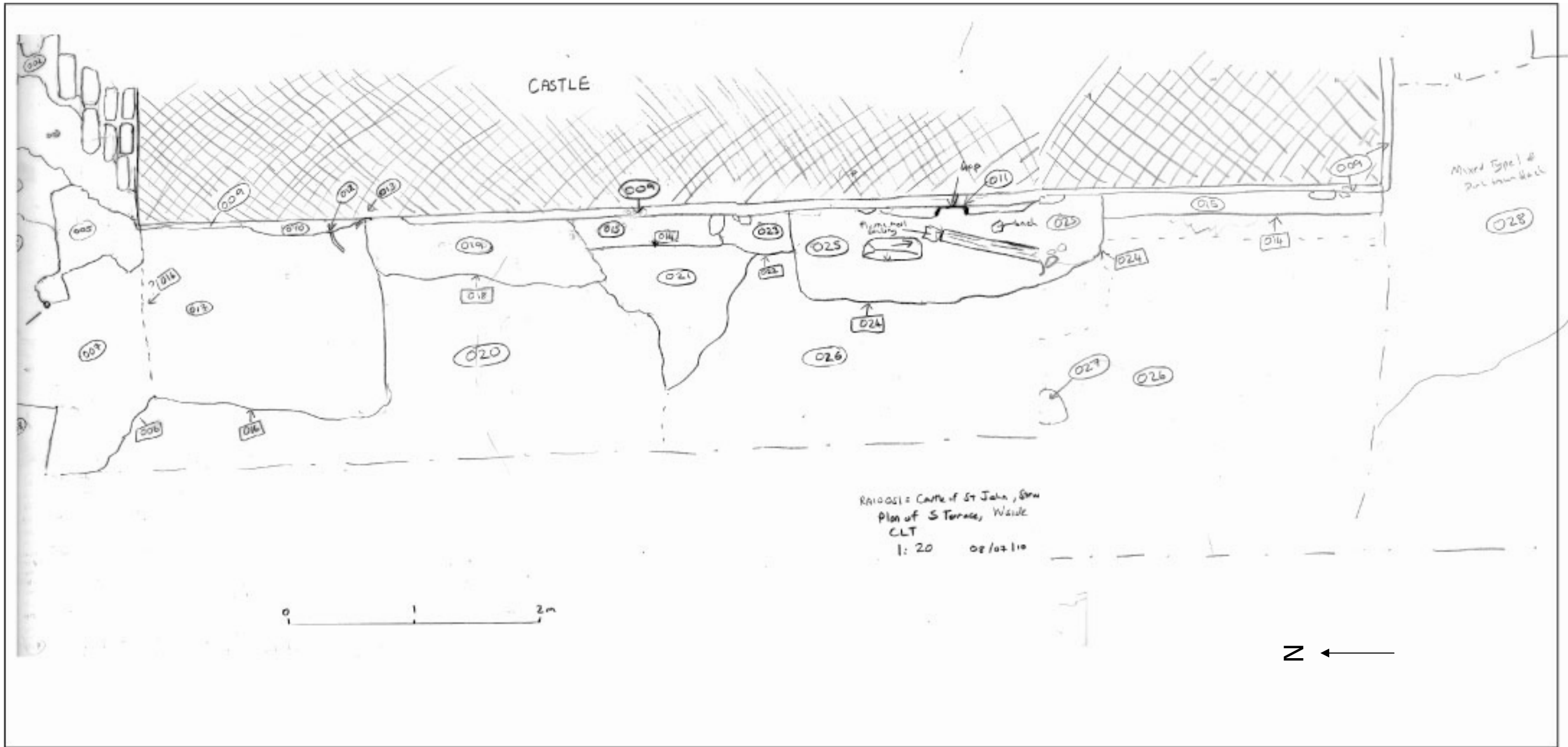


Figure 6: Detailed Plan showing length of W Wall, and featuring Foundation Trench [014]/(015), with later disturbance and variable nature of Subsoil



Figure 7a: *In Situ* ? Drain (011) in W-Facing Elevation of Castle



Figure 7b: Surface cleaned, N Side (W Facing Elevation), with Foundation Trench [014]/(015) visible



Fig. 8a: Foundation Trench [014]/(015), with later cuts evident: [018]/(019) to left, [022]/(023) to right



Fig. 5b: South Extension – Fully Excavated

29. A modern concrete structure (029) lay approximately 1m to the south of the castle's south wall. To the north of this, no ground reduction took place, in an area which had already been subject to earlier disturbance, carried out under archaeological supervision, when a lightning conductor was inserted here (Pickin, 2009).
30. With works in the South Extension completed, further ground reduction took place on the West Terrace. The area previously uncovered was extended southwards by 2 metres, and the levels further reduced by approximately 0.1m, tapering so that no further reduction was made in the area located immediately adjacent to the castle's west wall. This work exposed clean sands and gravels, such as (036), (037) and (038), the character of which supported the possibility that the 'subsoils' identified previously, (020) and (026) had been exposed and disturbed at an earlier date, perhaps contemporary with the castle's conversion to a jail in the mid-nineteenth century.
31. It also indicated that the area had been subject to widespread disturbance during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. As well as service trench [033]/(034), which appears to have been associated with lead pipe (012), there were several pits or hollows, (039), (040) and (045), which contained finds of modern ceramic and glass.

Discussion

32. The works comprised ground reduction in a terraced area lying immediately to the west of the west wall of the castle (the 'West Terrace'), and to the south of the south wall (the 'South Extension'). It was hoped that ground reduction on such an extensive scale would reveal structural remains contemporary with the castle and associated with its earliest phases of use. In particular, there was the possibility that service buildings such as stables and kitchens might still be identified as buried remains.
33. In the South Extension, the required ground reduction did not expose enough of the underlying sediments to allow any evaluation of subsurface remains to be identified. It revealed instead an area of disturbed sediments (028), (030), (033) which appeared to represent disturbed topsoil or overburden laid down in the nineteenth or twentieth centuries.
34. Ground levels had not been built up to the same extent over the West Terrace; as a result, the current works involved the removal of the underlying sediments to a depth of approximately 0.2m below the original ground surface. This had the potential to cause damage to any underlying archaeology that may have been present on the site. The initial stage of this ground reduction work had already been carried out prior to the arrival of the archaeologist on site.
35. Only one feature of potentially early date was identified. This was the line of the foundation trench for the castle, [014]/(015) which had itself been compromised over much of its extent by the cuts of modern service trenches such as ([018]/(019) and, possibly, earlier investigative works of an archaeological nature [022]/(023). Stretches of the original foundation trench still survived, however, at the south-west corner and at the mid-point of the west wall.
36. The subsoil in the immediate vicinity of the foundation trench was problematic. The foundation trench cut through compact gravelly sand (020) in the northern portion and a compact gravel (026) in the south. When hand-cleaned, both (020) and (026) revealed modern artefacts in the form of sherds of 19th century ceramic and bottle glass, in deposits which appeared to be of natural origin. When the levels were further reduced, the contrast with the underlying sands and gravels (036), (037), (038) and (041) was evident: in comparison, these were very clean to the overlying gravelly layer represented by (020) and (026).
37. It therefore seems likely that (020) and (026) represent an area of subsoil exposed in the 19th century, perhaps at the time the castle was remodelled as a jail. A thin layer of gravel may have been spread upon the exposed subsoil to form a firm, though ephemeral, surface which was compacted into a thin layer no more than 0.02m thick and which became pressed down into the surface of the subsoil below.

38. Across the extent of the West Terrace, there was evidence of major disturbance during the nineteenth and twentieth century. This included cuts for service trenches and more ambiguous spreads or filled with black soil, heavily tainted with coal and often associated with fragments of masonry. These may represent either dumps for material generated during the demolition of the nineteenth century structures which once occupied the site, or levelling material laid down prior to the establishment of an earlier ground surface. In one instance (040), this material was located at the edge of the modern terrace and it may represent overburden dumped in order to form the terrace.

Recommendations

39. The archaeological monitoring works comprised the cleaning and recording of an archaeologically sensitive area associated with the Castle of St John in Stranraer, and further monitoring of ground-breaking works in the vicinity.
40. The only significant archaeology to be encountered here was the remains of the castle's foundation trench, which had already been subject to disturbance as a result of the insertion of buried services in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. This feature was recorded, and the location of all disturbances noted.
41. No further works are recommended at this time. However, the area in the immediate vicinity of the castle remains archaeologically sensitive, due to the survival of the foundation trench. The remainder of the area to the west of the castle revealed no evidence of features associated with the castle, though it remains possible that buried archaeology survives at depth beneath the apparently sterile sands that were revealed during the groundbreaking operations here. The area to the south, where the depth of the underlying subsoil was not reached in these particular works, should still be considered archaeologically sensitive in those locations that have not been subject to ground disturbance in recent times.
42. The appropriateness and acceptability of our recommendations rest with Dumfries & Galloway Council and their Archaeology Service.

Conclusion

43. A programme of archaeological works was carried out on behalf of Dumfries and Galloway Council, in respect to landscaping works carried out in the vicinity of the Castle of St John, Stranraer, Dumfries and Galloway. The archaeological works were designed to mitigate the impact on the archaeological remains within the development area.
44. The work initially comprised the cleaning and recording of exposed subsurface deposits located immediately to the west of the castle. One feature of archaeological significance was recorded – the foundation cut of the castle. This was the foundation trench, which remained intact in places, though it had been subject to disturbance over much of its extent through the insertion of services. Various architectural features relating to the castle were also exposed and recorded.
45. An area to the south of the castle was then subject to ground reduction, but this work failed to break through the upper, modern layers of overburden and topsoil. A final, second phase of ground reduction took place to the west of the castle, but this revealed nothing of archaeological significance.
46. No further archaeological works have been recommended in association with this phase of development upon the site.

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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	W Terrace	Deposit	Rectangular stone setts	Modern surface
002	W Terrace	Deposit	Loose grey-brown pea-gravel, 0.03m deep	Bedding for (001)
003	W Terrace	Deposit	Compact spread of yellow mortar	Possible pre-existing surface associated with (005)?
004	W Terrace	Deposit	Soft mottled yellow-brown sand, with pea gravel embedded	Redeposited natural
005	W Terrace	Structure	Cement plinth with Fe pivot	Part of modern structure (?19 th or ?20 th century) now removed
006	W Terrace	Cut	Line of cut at NW corner of tower-house	Cut of modern service trench
007	W Terrace	Deposit	Loosely packed whinstone chips (Type 1)	Fill of service pit (006) containing (008). Full extent of cut not established
008	W Terrace	Structure	Brick-built structure, full extent unknown.	Modern manhole
009	Castle	Structure	Line of protruding sandstone blocks	Basal Course of castle wall
010	Castle	Deposit	Spread of concrete	Later alteration to castle masonry, associated with insertion of services
011	Castle	Structure	Square gap in masonry over (009)	Possible drain, contemporary with castle
012	Castle	Structure	Length of lead piping protruding from castle wall	19 th century water pipe
013	Castle	Structure	Broken salt-glazed earthenware pipe protruding from castle wall	19 th century drainpipe

Context No.	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
014	W Terrace	Cut	Runs in an approximately N-S direction, parallel to the W Wall of the tower-house at distance of 0.3m W of the W wall. It can be traced for a distance of 1.1m (cut at N end by [018]/(019) and S end by [022]/(023), and commences at a point measuring roughly 4.7m S of the N end of the W wall.	Cut of foundation trench
015	W Terrace	Deposit	Compact mid-brown silty clay, with occasional charcoal flecks.	Fill of foundation trench.
016	W Terrace	Cut	Cut of square trench, 2 x 2m in extent, depth unknown.	Modern service trench, perhaps equivalent to (006)
017	W Terrace	Deposit	Fill of [016], comprising whinstone chips ('Type 1')	Fill of modern service trench [016]
018	W Terrace	Cut	Cut running parallel to W wall of castle, visible from 3m S of N end to roughly 4.5m N of S end. Measures 0.4m wide, and cuts [014]/(015) at S end, and is cut by [015]/(016) at N end.	19 th century disturbance, possibly showing the line of a service trench (?containing (013).
019	W Terrace	Deposit	Fill of [018], comprising dark-brown/black gravelly sand.	Fill of 19 th century service trench.
020	W Terrace	Deposit	Compact red-brown sand with numerous inclusions of small stones. Rather dirty in appearance, with finds of 19 th century slipware, bottle glass, etc.	Disturbed natural, possibly exposed in the 19 th century and compacted into a surface at this time. Contrasts with (036), (037) etc. which unequivocally represent the natural subsoil, but appears to be cut by foundation trench [014]/(015).
021	W Terrace	Deposit	Spread of loose red-brown sand, with numerous inclusions of small stones. Very clean, with no finds.	Natural
022	W Terrace	Cut	Narrow cut running parallel to the castle wall, measuring 0.3m wide.	Modern recut of foundation trench
023	W Terrace	Deposit	Dark brown/black silty sand with frequent flecks of coal	Fill of recut foundation trench, very distinct from (015)
024	W Terrace	Cut	Cut running parallel to W wall of castle, measuring 2.5 from E-W by 0.7m transversely.	Modern disturbance over line of foundation [014]/(015)
025	W	Deposit	Fill of (024), comprising loose black silty sand with finds of	Fill of modern trench.

Context No.	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
	Terrace		plastic sacking, Al. drinks can, fence stob, plastic, etc.	
026	W Terrace	Deposit	Very compact spread of pebbles, measuring up to 0.06m x 0.06m in extent, with 19 th century finds (bottle glass, slip-decorated ceramic) occurring at the surface	Disturbed natural, perhaps compacted to form a surface as per (020). Differs in character from (020) on account of the underlying subsoil (gravel as opposed to sand)
027	W Terrace	Deposit	Circular spread of concrete 0.3m in diameter. Not investigated	Modern posthole.
028	S Ext	Deposit	Mixed spread of whinstone chips ('Type 1') and dark-brown/black soils. Extends to base of excavations, i.e. between 0.2 and 0.3m deep.	Redeposited
029	S Ext	Structure	Rectangular concrete structure	Modern manhole
030	S Ext	Deposit	Mottled red-brown/black silty sand, very rooty and humic, with frequent finds of glazed white earthenware and modern glass	Disturbed subsoil
031	S Ext	Deposit	Spread of black silty sand 1m x 0.5m in extent	Modern disturbance
032	S Ext	Deposit	Spread of black silty sand, roughly circular on plan, measuring 0.5m in diameter.	Modern disturbance
033	S Ext	Deposit	Loose black silty-sand with numerous modern inclusions	Redeposited in 19 th or early 20 th century.
034	W Terrace	Cut	Runs NNE-SSW from W wall of tower-house, and matches line of (012). Measures 0.2m in width.	Cut of 19 th century service trench.
035	W Terrace	Deposit	Black silty sand, forming fill of [034]	Fill of 19 th century service trench.
036	W Terrace	Deposit	Yellow-brown mottled sand, loose	Natural subsoil
037	W Terrace	Deposit	Red-brown gravel, loose	Natural subsoil
038	W Terrace	Deposit	Mixed sands and gravel, red-brown, loose	Natural subsoil
039	W	Deposit	Amorphous black spread, extending over an area measuring roughly 5m from E to W by 2m transversely, and composed of	Modern disturbance

Context No.	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
	Terrace		compact, silty sand.	
040	W Terrace	Deposit	Spread of black silty sand measuring roughly 2m from N-S by 1m transversely, containing bricks, fragments of masonry.	Modern demolition debris
041	W Terrace	Deposit	Dark brown silty sand, very clean with no finds and no organic content evident	Natural subsoil
042	W Terrace	Deposit	Dark brown lens of sand, running approximately E-W and bearing a superficial resemblance to an anthropic feature. Measured 0.5m from N-S with a pale lens within it. After partial excavation, it was dismissed as natural.	Variation in natural subsoil.
043	W Terrace	Deposit	Pale yellow-brown sand with frequent inclusions of pebbles.	Natural subsoil.
045	W Terrace	Deposit	Spread of black silty sand, measuring 0.4m from N-S x 0.2m transversely.	Modern disturbance.

Photographic Register

Image No.	Print		Slide		Digital	Description	From	Date
	Film No.	Neg. No.	Film No.	Neg. No.				
01	-	-	-	-	001	General View of Works Previously Undertaken	NE	08/07/10
02	1	31	-	-	002	As above	NNE	08/07/10
03	1	32	-	-	003	As above – Terracing & Landscaping apparent	WNW	08/07/10
04	1	33	-	-	004	As above	SW	08/07/10
05	1	34	-	-	005	Surface reduced – SW of Castle	SW	08/07/10
06	1	35	-	-	006	Pre-Excavation, S Side of Castle ('S Extension')	W	08/07/10
07	1	36	-	-	007	As above	NW	08/07/10
08	2	1A	-	-	-	General View of Castle	NNW	08/07/10

Image No.	Print		Slide		Digital	Description	From	Date
	Film No.	Neg. No.	Film No.	Neg. No.				
09	2	2A	-	-	008	NW Corner of Castle. W-Facing Elevation – Cement Plinth (005) exposed	N	08/07/10
10	2	3A	-	-	009	As above	WNW	08/07/10
11	2	4A	-	-	010	Detail of Plinth (005) with Fe pivot exposed	W	08/07/10
12	2	5A	-	-	011	S of Castle Wall ('W Terrace') – N Side After Cleaning	SW	08/07/10
13	2	6A	-	-	012	Foundation Trench [014]/(015)	S	08/07/10
14	2	7	-	-	013	Foundation Trench [014]/(015), cut in N by [018]/(109) and in S by [022]/(023)	W	08/07/10
15	2	8	-	-	014	W of Castle Wall ('W Terrace') – S Side after cleaning	SW	08/07/10
16	2	9	-	-	015	Aperture (?Drain) (011)	WSW	08/07/10
17	2	10	-	-	016	Detail of Basal Course (009) – S Side	W	08/07/10
18	2	11	-	-	017	S of Castle ('S Extension') – Post Excavation	NW	08/07/10
19	2	12	-	-	018	Basal Course (009) – S side	S	08/07/10
20	2	13	-	-	019	Detail of Basal Course (009) – W side	W	08/07/10
21	2	14	-	-	020	W of W wall ('W Terrace') – post-excavation	S	08/07/10
22	2	15	-	-	021	NW Corner – post-excavation	SW	08/07/10
23	2	16	-	-	022	W Terrace – post excavation, with [016]/(017) to fore	N	08/07/10

Drawing Register

Drawing No.	Sheet No.	Area/Trench	Drawing Type	Scale	Description	Drawn By	Date
1	1	W terrace	Plan	1:20	Site Plan – W Terrace, N End	CLT	08/07/10
2	2	W Terrace/S	Plan	1:20	Site Plan – W Terrace, N End, and S Extension, W End	CLT	08/07/10

Drawing No.	Sheet No.	Area/ Trench	Drawing Type	Scale	Description	Drawn By	Date
		Ext					
3	3	S Ext	Plan	1:20	Site Plan – S Extension, E End	CLT	08/07/10
4	4	W Terrace	Plan	1:250	Revised Site Plan following further ground reduction	CLT	08/07/10

Appendix 2: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Dumfries & Galloway
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Castle of St John, Stranraer
PROJECT CODE:	RA10051
PARISH:	Stranraer
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Louise Turner
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Rathmell Archaeology Limited
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching Brief
NMRS NO(S):	NX06SE 11
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Castle
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 6 figures)	NX 060 608
START DATE (this season)	8 th July 2010
END DATE (this season)	8 th July 2010
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (may include information from other fields)	Landscaping works in the vicinity of the Castle of St John, an early 16 th century tower-house in Stranraer, revealed traces of the foundation trench surviving in places along the south wall. It had, however, been heavily disturbed along its length by later buried services. Some of these appeared to date back to the mid-nineteenth century, when the structure was converted into the town jail.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Dumfries & Galloway Council
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Unit 8 Ashgrove Workshops, Kilwinning, Ayrshire KA13 6PU
E MAIL:	contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Report to Dumfries & Galloway Council and archive to National Monuments Record of Scotland.

Contact Details

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

Rathmell Archaeology Ltd	www.rathmell-arch.co.uk
Unit 8 Ashgrove Workshops	
Kilwinning	t.: 01294 542848
Ayrshire	f.: 01294 542849
KA13 6PU	e.: contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk

48. Dumfries and Galloway Archaeology Service can be contacted through the details noted below:

Dumfries and Galloway Archaeology Service	
Dumfries and Galloway Council	
Newall Terrace	t.: 01387 260154
Dumfries	f.: 01387 260149
DG1 1LW	e.: jane.brann@dumgal.gov.uk

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