

# **Site to the rear of 83 High Street, Sanquhar: Archaeological Watching Brief**

Data Structure Report



by Liam McKinstry

issued 15<sup>th</sup> August 2014

on behalf of Joe and Jean Ramsay

**RATHMELL**   
ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

---

## Quality Assurance

This report covers works which have been undertaken in keeping with the issued brief as modified by the agreed programme of works. The report has been prepared in keeping with the guidance of Rathmell Archaeology Limited on the preparation of reports. All works reported on within this document have been undertaken in keeping with the Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct.



Signed ..... Date 15<sup>th</sup> August 2014....

In keeping with the procedure of Rathmell Archaeology Limited this document and its findings have been reviewed and agreed by an appropriate colleague:



Checked ..... Date ....15<sup>th</sup> August 2014....

Copyright Rathmell Archaeology Limited. All rights reserved.

No part of this report may be copied or reproduced by any means without prior written permission from Rathmell Archaeology Limited. If you have received this report in error, please destroy all copies in your possession or control and notify Rathmell Archaeology Limited.

This report has been prepared for the exclusive use of the commissioning party and unless otherwise agreed in writing by Rathmell Archaeology Limited, no other party may use, make use of or rely on the contents of the report. No liability is accepted by Rathmell Archaeology Limited for any use of this report, other than the purposes for which it was originally prepared and provided.

Opinions and information provided in the report are on the basis of Rathmell Archaeology Limited using due skill, care and diligence in preparation of the same and no explicit warranty is provided as to their accuracy. It should be noted and it is expressly stated that no independent verification of any of the documents or information supplied to Rathmell Archaeology Limited has been made.

## **Contents**

<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Historical and Archaeological Background .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Project Works .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Findings.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Discussion .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Recommendations .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Conclusion .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Acknowledgements .....</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>References.....</b>	<b>15</b>

## Introduction

1. This Data Structure Report has been prepared for McGowan Miller Partnership on behalf of Joe & Jean Ramsay, in support of the construction of a residential house to the rear of 83 High Street, Sanquhar, Dumfries and Galloway (11/P/03/0345). These archaeological works are designed to mitigate any adverse impact on the archaeological remains within the development area. This report covers the excavation of the building footprint for the house, with works being carried out between the 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of July 2014.
2. Dumfries and Galloway Council required a programme of archaeological works to be undertaken in support of any planning consent which may be granted by the planning authority. The archaeology service who advise Dumfries and Galloway Council on archaeological matters provided guidance on the structure of archaeological mitigation required on this site prior to and during development works.
3. A written scheme of investigation (Davis 2013) provided the detail of the works (archaeological monitoring, exclusion, excavation, post-excavation analyses and publication) for the mitigation pertaining to ground breaking within the development area and hence the direct physical impact on buried sediments.

## Historical and Archaeological Background

4. The town of Sanquhar developed in the medieval period and its layout displays a typical linear medieval street plan, with burgage plots extending in narrow strips behind buildings with a narrow street frontage. The burgh has been recorded since the 14<sup>th</sup> century, although at that time it is uncertain how successful a community it was. However, it became a Royal Burgh in 1598, following its erection as a burgh of barony in 1484 under the lordship of the Crichton family.
5. The Crichton family built Sanquhar Castle, standing to the immediate southwest of the burgh, probably in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. This remained a stronghold throughout the late Middle Ages until the 17<sup>th</sup> century when it began to fall into ruin. It was partially restored by John Crichton-Stuart, 3<sup>rd</sup> Marquis of Bute, in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.
6. The Sanquhar Tollbooth was built in 1735, on the site of its predecessor, and is now a museum. From the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century there was increased industrial activity in the area, especially coal mining. The present St Bride's church was rebuilt in the 19<sup>th</sup> century on the site of a church of medieval foundation.
7. The settlement of Sanquhar, comprising both burgh and castle, occupies a strategic position within Nithsdale, with the historic parish of Sanquhar stretching across a five mile stretch of the Nith Valley. The area has long been a strategic routeway through the Southern Uplands, demonstrated by the presence of at least four fortified sites of various periods within a short distance of the medieval town. A Roman fortlet has been identified as a cropmark to the northwest of the town, suggesting the presence of a Roman road through the area, linking with forts at Drumlanrig and Loudoun Hill. An early defensive mounded earthwork to the northwest of the town, known as *Sean Caer* ("Old Fort") has not been investigated archaeologically, though it is possibly later prehistoric in origin, and probably gives us the root of the town's name.
8. There are also hints of early medieval activity: a runic stone, potentially Norse in origin, was found within the town in the 19<sup>th</sup> century; while St Bride's well, to the northeast of Sean Caer, may indicate early medieval ecclesiastical activity. These potential early medieval sites strengthen the critical location of Sanquhar within this routeway through the Southern Uplands from later prehistory to the post-medieval period.

### *The development site*

9. With its location beside the Cameron Monument - commemorating the Sanquhar Declaration of 1680 and standing on the purported original location of the Mercat Cross

- 83 High Street is at the very centre of the medieval burgh of Sanquhar.
- 10. The frontage at 83 High Street, Sanquhar, has had a building on it since at least 1832 - as shown by the Great Reform Act town plan – although Roy’s Military Survey of Scotland 1752-55 (Figure 2) suggests that the structures on this frontage were probably long standing by this time. The 1856 Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition map (Figure 1) also shows a building on the site, while showing the area to the rear of 83 High Street as being clear of buildings. The 6-inch OS map of 1896-1900 shows a small structure in the rear garden area fronting onto the back lane (this is no longer present).
- 11. It appears the boundary of the property at 83 High St has not changed since 1856, according to the corpus of map evidence which is available for analysis. However, the plot to the east of 83 High Street seems to have been rebuilt at some point since the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, with the building of houses at Cameron Place also taking place during the 20<sup>th</sup> century.
- 12. Cameron Place, the lane to the rear of 83 High Street, follows the line of a track running behind the burgage plots, as shown in the Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition. This track could also be represented by a curved line running behind the frontages in the Great Reform Act town plan of 1832.

## Project Works

- 13. The programme of works comprised the archaeological monitoring of excavations for a proposed building footprint (Figure 3). This building’s shape in plan was to be L-shaped but a larger area was stripped which could accommodate areas for decking and access as well as for the footprint of the building itself.
- 14. The area to be stripped measured 12.15m from northwest to southeast by 11-12m from northeast to southwest. It was rectangular on plan (excluding a small portion of the site used as an access ramp at the NE corner) and bounded by a 19<sup>th</sup> century wall (010) on its northwest and southeast sides. This wall also partially bounded the north eastern side where it joined onto the north eastern face of a small 19<sup>th</sup> century outbuilding (008) which was demolished as the works commenced (Figure 5 and 6).
- 15. The development area was in use prior to the construction works as a garden which was separated from the main garden behind 83 High Street by a wooden fence. Along with the outbuilding there were two rectangular areas of concrete, (011) and (012), in the eastern corner and south eastern side of the development area which had been used as hard standing for a greenhouse and a shed. The rest of the site was covered with grass and topsoil (001). An initial stage of the works involved the excavation of three small test pits to determine the nature of the underlying subsoil. These pits were located at the southwest end of the development area and on either side of the outbuilding. The works were carried out in compliance with the terms agreed in the written scheme of investigation (Davis 2013).
- 16. Any potential archaeological features were investigated and recorded, with the on-site works taking place between the 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of July 2014. All works were conducted in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists’ Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct and Historic Scotland Policy Statements.



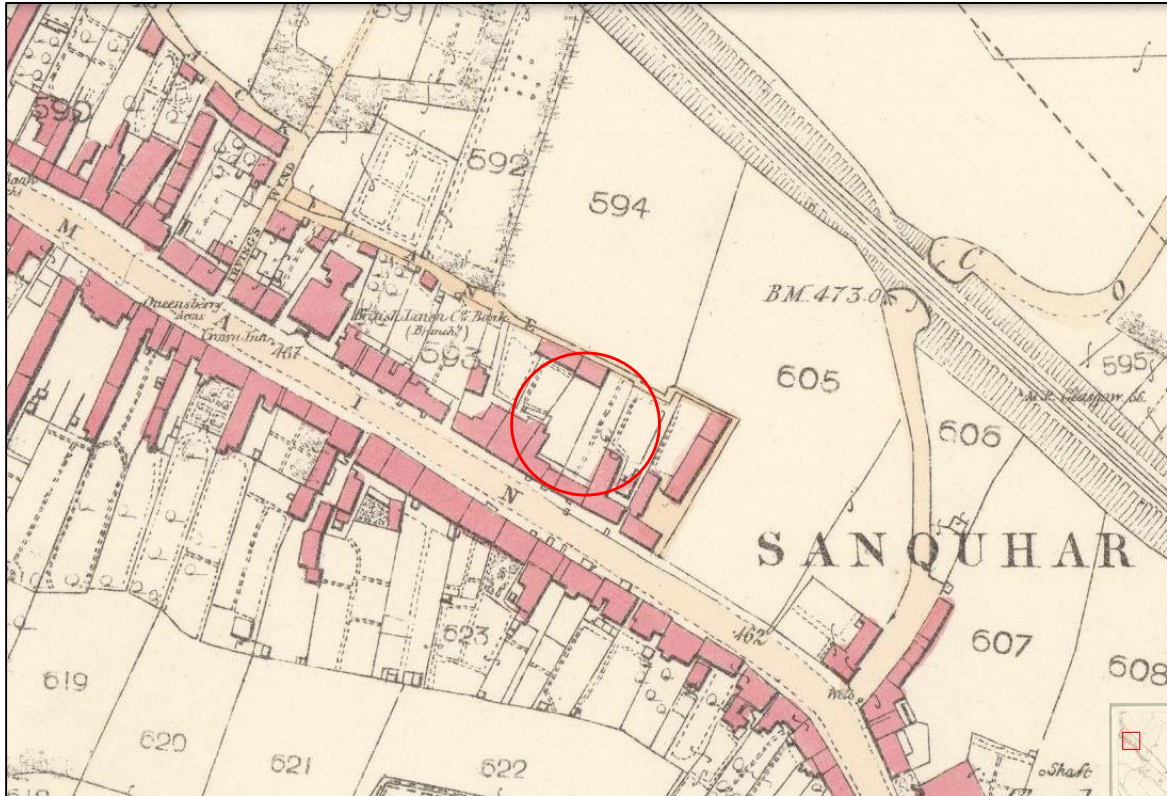


Figure 1: Extract from the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey.



Figure 2: Extract from Roy's Military Survey of Scotland 1752-55

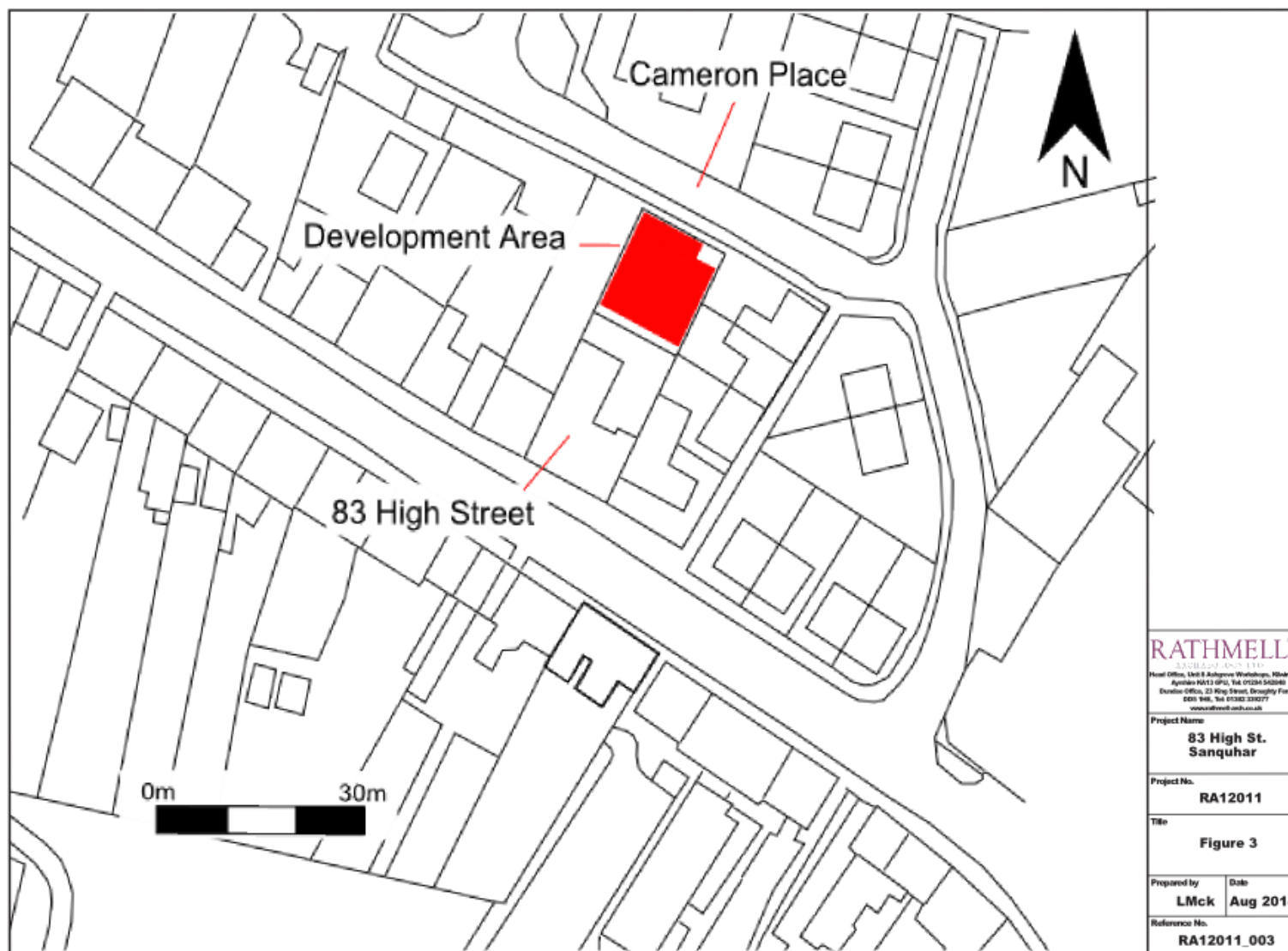
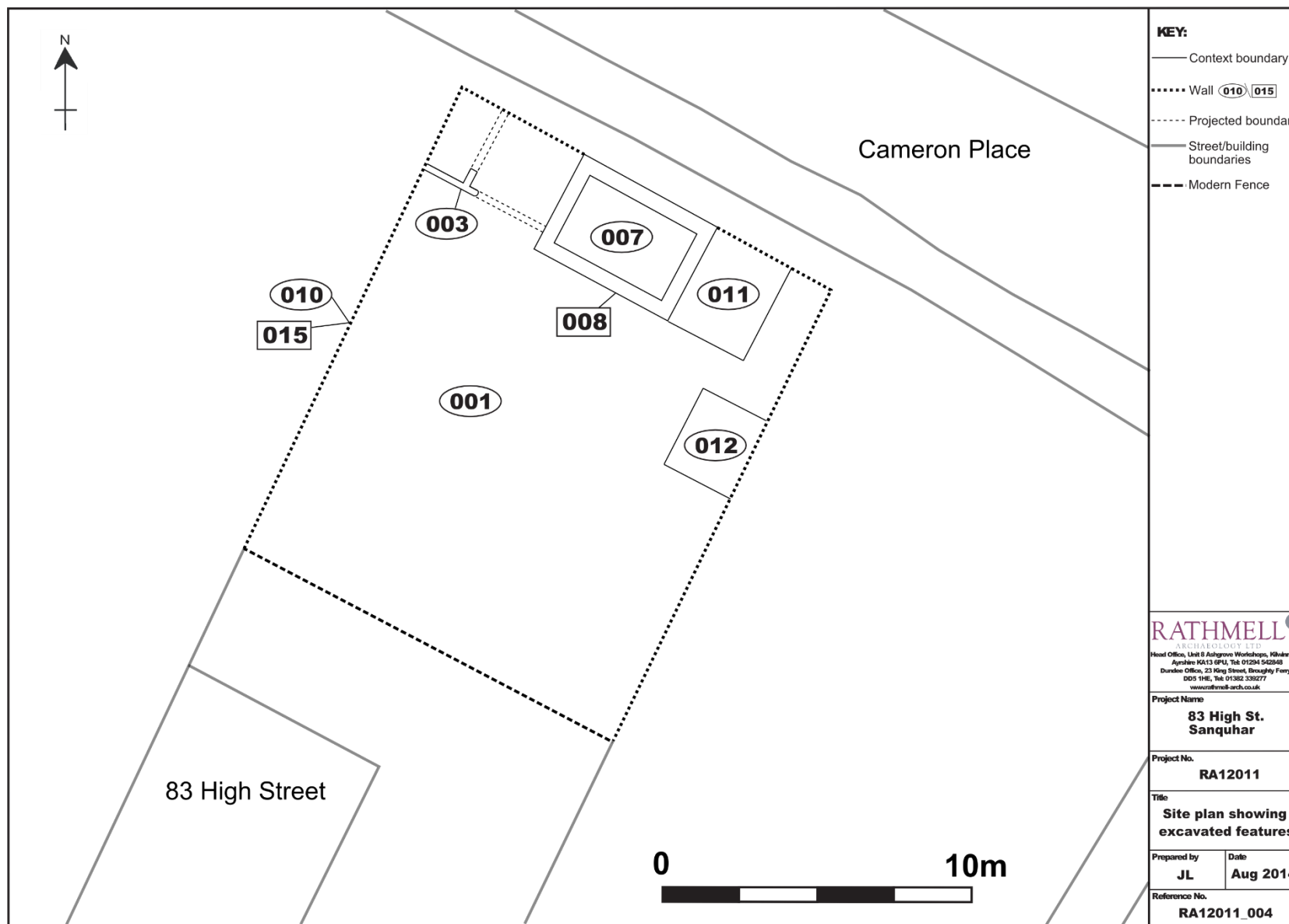


Figure 3: Site Location Plan.

## Findings

17. The topsoil (001) within the site comprised moderately compacted dark brown silty clay with frequent small stone inclusions. It also contained occasional to moderate modern inclusions such as brick, plastic, metal and other modern debris, and had a depth range across the site ranging between 0.48m and 0.55m. Underlying the topsoil was a thick made up layer (016) which comprised loose to moderately compacted, mixed, mid- to dark grey-brown/orange-brown sandy silt with very frequent brick, metal, glass, sandstone and other 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century debris. This layer extended across the site and had a depth range of 0.45m to 0.65m (Figure 7). Beneath this lay the naturally occurring subsoil (002) which consisted of a very compacted mid- to dark orange clay with occasional to moderate small stone inclusions (Figure 8). The subsoil extended across the site and was excavated to a depth of 0.24m so as to be clear of any 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century activity.
18. All the features identified within the development area were 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century in date (Figure 4). These included the red sandstone boundary wall (010): this enclosed most of the site, with the exception only of the southwest side, where a wooden fence separated the site from the main garden for 83 High Street. The wall's northeast side was incorporated into the north eastern wall of outbuilding (008) on both sides though only the subsurface foundations survived on the north western side as it had been mostly demolished to create a driveway (Figure 8). The wall was approximately 1.5 m to 2m high. It was 0.5m wide at the base, tapering to 0.3m wide nearer the top. The wall was constructed with roughly faced stone which was mortared into place. In areas (mainly the southeast side) it had been raised in height somewhat though the building style was cruder.
19. The outbuilding (008) which was incorporated into the boundary wall was rectangular in plan and measured 4.5m from northwest to southeast by 3.6m transversely. Its foundations were approximately 1m deep below the ground level of the street (the height of the structure before demolition commenced was approximately 3m above street level). The wall was 0.4m to 0.45m thick and was constructed using straight edged/faced red sandstone blocks which were 0.3 to 0.45m x 0.4m to 0.45m x 0.25m to 0.35m in size. These blocks were mortared into place. The flooring (007) within the outbuilding consisted of a layer of concrete and brick which in turn overlay a rubble core layer which consisted of mid to dark grey brown sandy silt with very frequent inclusions of brick and orange/red sandstone fragments (80%). The layer had a depth range of 0.25 to 0.46m.
20. The remains of a brick wall (003) were uncovered in the northern corner of the development area (Figures 9 and 10). The wall, which ran in a northwest – southeast direction, appears to have formed a lean-to extension which utilised parts of the boundary wall (010) and the north western wall of outbuilding (008) to form its overall structure.
21. There was also the suggestion of what may have been an internal wall division or a projection from the main wall (010) approximately 1.5m from the wall's northwest end. This small, northeast–southwest orientated stretch of walling (003) was of a similar width and height as the main wall but only 0.28m of it survived in plan. The individual blocks making up the wall measured 0.25m long, 0.13m wide and 0.07m thick. The blocks were mortared into place and 4 courses survived. The wall was 1.8m long, 0.24m wide and 0.38m to 0.42m high. The wall abutted the 19<sup>th</sup> century boundary wall and there was a roughly 1m gap between the wall and the outbuilding (008) which may have served as an entrance.





- KEY:**
- Context boundary
  - ..... Wall (010) (015)
  - - - - - Projected boundary
  - Street/building boundaries
  - - - - - Modern Fence

**RATHMELL**  
ARCHAEOLOGY LTD  
 Head Office, Unit 8 Ashgrove Workshops, Kilmarnock,  
 Ayrshire KA13 6PU, Tel: 01294 542848  
 Dundee Office, 23 King Street, Broughty Ferry,  
 DD5 1HE, Tel: 01382 330277  
 www.rathmell-arch.co.uk

Project Name  
**83 High St.  
 Sanquhar**

Project No.  
**RA12011**

Title  
**Site plan showing  
 excavated features**

Prepared by	Date
<b>JL</b>	<b>Aug 2014</b>

Reference No.  
**RA12011\_004**

22. The remains of an associated floor surface [004] were also identified in what would have been the structure's interior (Figure 11). Bricks similar to those used for the wall's construction were used for this floor surface suggesting that they were both contemporary. Confined between the boundary and brick walls was a highly disturbed re-deposited layer (005) which consisted of compacted dark grey orange clay which underlay the brick floor (004). The layer had a depth of between 0.4-0.5m and overlay the natural subsoil and enclosed a red ceramic pipe (006).
23. Two shallow furrows [013] were identified close to the south western edge of the development area (Figure 12). These features ran in a northwest – southeast direction and measured 0.4m wide, 6.7m to 12.15m long and 0.12m deep. They were filled with a relatively modern made up material similar to (016). A number of 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> century ceramic sherds and small fragments of animal bone were recovered from the furrows which would suggest a relatively modern date.

## Discussion

24. The whole garden area to the rear of the main house was until recent times undivided and sloped down from the northeast to the southwest. At some point in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century an attempt was made to level and raise this area up and this is when the made up layer (016), which included frequent 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century building debris, was deposited over the entire site.
25. The monitoring works carried out within the development area removed this material, revealing exclusively 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century features. These included a previously unknown brick wall (003) which may have formed an extension to the outbuilding (008). An associated brick surface (004) with a ceramic pipe (006) beneath it could suggest that the extension served as an outside toilet facility with the outbuilding serving as a coal store or wash-house for the main house on the High Street.
26. The furrows [013] identified in the south western end of the development area, from the finds recovered within them, also seem to have been 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century in date. These furrows may relate to small scale agricultural, horticultural or gardening activities at the rear of the main house.
27. No significant archaeological features were identified throughout the course of these works, which – given the location of the site within the limits of a historic burgh which may have roots stretching back into the medieval period – seems quite surprising, the absence of evidence also extending to artefacts as well as surviving features. This would suggest that construction/landscaping activities which took place during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries and which created the pattern of deposits evident today (a layer of made-up ground directly overlying the natural subsoil) have completely removed any traces of earlier activities across the area.



Figure 5: Outbuilding [008] and wall [010] under demolition. From the S.



Figure 6: Outbuilding [008] and wall [010] demolished. From the NW.





Figure 7: SW part of development area stripped to made-up layer (016). From the NW.



Figure 8: View of natural subsoil (002) at NE side of development area. From SW.





Figure 9: View of brick wall (003) abutting wall (010) and foundations of (010). From SW.



Figure 10: View of brick wall [003] uncovered during main stripping. From SW.





Figure 11: Brick wall [003] and surface (004) within early test pit. From SE.



Figure 12: View of furrow (013). From the NW.



## Recommendations

28. This Data Structure Report covers the archaeological works carried out in association with the construction of a residential house to the rear of 83 High Street, Sanquhar, Dumfries and Galloway (11/P/03/0345). The recommendations put forward in this document will be contributory to any final recommendations made on the completion of the works.
29. The archaeological monitoring works uncovered 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century features which included the brick wall (003) and associated brick surface (004) and shallow furrows. The works also showed the relationships between the existing outbuilding (008) and boundary wall (010) with these features. No significant archaeological features were identified within the natural subsoil layer (002) within the development area and as a result it is recommended that no further work should be carried out.
30. The appropriateness and acceptability of our recommendations rest with the representative of the Dumfries and Galloway Council Archaeology Service.

## Conclusion

31. Archaeological monitoring work was carried for McGowan Miller Partnership on behalf of Joe & Jean Ramsay, in support of the construction of a residential house to the rear of 83 High Street, Sanquhar, Dumfries and Galloway (11/P/03/0345). These archaeological works are designed to mitigate any adverse impact on the archaeological remains within the development area. These works were carried out between the 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of July 2014.
32. The programme of works comprised the archaeological monitoring of excavations for a proposed building footprint, covering an area measuring a maximum of 12.15m from northwest to southeast by 12m transversely and bounded by a 19<sup>th</sup> century wall (010) on its northwest and southeast sides. This wall also partially bounded the north eastern side where it was incorporated into a small 19<sup>th</sup> century outbuilding (008) demolished as works commenced.
33. The development area had originally been used as a garden, now separated from the main garden behind 83 High Street by a wooden fence. Along with the outbuilding there were two rectangular areas of concrete, (011) and (012), in the eastern corner and south eastern side of the development area which had been used as hard standing for a greenhouse and a shed. The rest of the site was covered with grass and topsoil (001).
34. The whole garden area to the rear of the main house was until recent times undivided and sloped down from the northeast to the southwest. At some point in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century an attempt was made to level and raise this area up and this is where the made up layer (016), which included frequent 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century building debris, was deposited over the entire site. The monitoring works carried out within the development area removed this material revealing 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century features. These included a previously unknown brick wall (003) which may have formed an extension to the outbuilding (008). An associated brick surface (004) with a ceramic pipe beneath it could suggest that the extension served as a washroom or toilet facility with the outbuilding serving as a coal store for the main house on the High Street. The furrows (013) identified in the south western end of the development area also seem to have been 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century in date, and may relate to small scale agricultural, horticultural or gardening activities at the rear of the main house. No significant archaeological features were identified, with the site potentially having been subject to substantial landscaping activities across its extent during the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

## Acknowledgements

35. The author would like to thank McGowan Miller Partnership and Joe & Jean Ramsay for their support throughout the project and Claire Williamson and Louise Turner, Senior Archaeologists (Rathmell Archaeology Ltd) for their kind input and editing.

36. This project has been monitored for Dumfries and Galloway Archaeological Council by Andrew Nicholson of the Dumfries and Galloway Archaeology Service, who provided guidance and direction throughout its duration.

## References

### *Documentary*

Davis, T    2013                          *Site to the rear of 83 High Street, Sanquhar: Archaeological Monitoring. Written Scheme of Investigation. (Rathmell Archaeology Ltd, Unpublished report)*

### *Internet*

[www.canmore.rcahms.gov.uk](http://www.canmore.rcahms.gov.uk)

### *Cartographic*

1793	Roy, William	Roy’s Lowlands map 1752-55
1860	Ordnance Survey	1 <sup>st</sup> edition Map of Dumfries 1: 2500
1899	Ordnance Survey	2 <sup>nd</sup> Edition Map of Dumfriesshire 1:2500

## Appendix 1: Registers

Within this appendix are all registers pertaining to works on-site during the watching brief:-

### Context Register

Context No.	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
001	-	Deposit	Moderately compacted dark brown silty clay with frequent small stone inclusions. Also contained occasional to moderate modern inclusions such as brick, plastic, metal and other modern debris. The topsoil had a depth range throughout the site of 0.48m to 0.55m.	Topsoil.
002	-	Deposit	Very compacted mid to dark orange clay with occasional to moderate small stone inclusions. Extended throughout the site and was excavated to a depth of 0.24m.	Natural subsoil.
003	-	Structure	Remains of a brick foundation wall which ran in a northwest – southeast direction. The wall appears to have formed a lean-to extension which most likely utilised parts of the boundary wall (010) and the north western wall of the outbuilding to form its overall structure. The individual bricks making up the wall measured 0.25m long, 0.13m wide and 0.07m thick. The bricks were mortared into place and 4 courses survived. The wall was 1.8m long, 0.24m wide and 0.38m to 0.42m high. The wall abutted the 19 <sup>th</sup> century boundary wall (010) and there was a c.1m gap between the wall and the outbuilding (008) which may have served as an entrance. The wall underlay the made-up layer (016) and was built onto the natural subsoil (002).	Either a late 20 <sup>th</sup> or early 20 <sup>th</sup> century structure. Most likely an extension to the 19 <sup>th</sup> century outbuilding. The most likely uses for the structure would have been as a store for coal, wash-house or garden shed for the main house on the High Street.
004	-	Deposit	Brick layer associated with wall (003). Depth of layer was 0.08m. Individual bricks measured 0.25m long, 0.13m wide and 0.07m thick.	Layer of brick flooring associated with wall (003).
005	-	Deposit	Compacted dark grey orange clay which underlay the brick floor surface (004) and was confined within the lean to structure formed by the brick wall (003), the boundary wall	Layer of re-deposited and highly disturbed subsoil.

Context No.	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
			(010) and the outbuilding (008). The layer had a depth of between 0.4-0.5m. The layer overlay the natural subsoil and enclosed a red ceramic pipe (006).	
006	-	Deposit	Red ceramic pipe approximately 0.1m in diameter. The pipe ran in an approximate northeast – southwest direction and was within re-deposited layer (005).	Remains of a drain, water or sewerage pipe associated with the lean-to structure formed by wall (003).
007	-	Deposit	Concrete and brick floor surface within outbuilding (008). Overlies a rubble core layer (009) and enclosed by the structures walls (008).	Floor surface within outbuilding (008).
008	-	Structure	Rectangular-shaped stone structure. Structure measured 4.5m from northwest to southeast, 3.6m from northeast to southwest and its foundations were approximately 1m deep from the level of the street (the height of the structure before the demolition commenced would have been approximately 3m from street level). The wall was 0.4m to 0.45m thick and was constructed using straight edged/faced orange/red sandstone blocks which were 0.3 to 0.45m x 0.4m to 0.45m x 0.25m to 0.35m in size. The blocks were mortared into place.	Partially demolished 19 <sup>th</sup> century outbuilding. Originally the structure's northeast wall fronted onto Cameron Place and was abutted on both sides by the enclosing boundary wall [010]. At a later date, possibly the late 19 <sup>th</sup> or early 20 <sup>th</sup> century, a brick wall was added to the northwest side of the structure to form a lean to along with the boundary wall. This later addition was demolished sometime in the 20 <sup>th</sup> or 21 <sup>st</sup> century, most likely to form access for parking, though the outbuilding was retained.
009	-	Deposit	Layer of mid to dark grey brown sandy silt with very frequent inclusions of brick and red sandstone fragments (80%). Layer had a depth range of 0.25 to 0.46m. The layer underlay the concrete and brick floor surface (007), overlay the natural subsoil and was enclosed by the outbuildings walls (008).	Rubble core within the foundations for outbuilding (008).
010	-	Structure	Red sandstone wall which encloses most of the site with the exception of the southwest side (where a wooden fence separates the site from the main garden for 83 High Street). The wall's northeast side was incorporated into the north eastern wall of the outbuilding (008) on both sides, though only the subsurface foundations survived on the north	The original 19 <sup>th</sup> century boundary wall enclosing the rear of 83 High Street.

Context No.	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
			western side as it had been mostly demolished to create a driveway. Measuring between 1.5 m to 2m inn height, the wall measured 0.5m wide at the base and 0.3m wide nearer the top. The wall was constructed with roughly-faced stone which had been mortared into place. In some areas (mainly the southeast side) the height had been raised with the building style appearing cruder in these locations.	
011	-	Deposit	Rectangular-shaped layer of concrete and brick located at the eastern corner of the development. It measured 3.6m from northeast to southwest by 2.7m transversely and ranged in thickness between 0.08m to 0.14m. Overlay the topsoil (001).	Modern concrete surface which was used as the base for a greenhouse.
012	-	Deposit	Rectangular-shaped layer of concrete and brick located at the south eastern side of the development. It measured 2.7m from northeast to southwest by 2.25m transversely with a thickness ranging between 0.08m and 0.14m. Overlay the topsoil (001).	Modern concrete surface which was used as the base for a garden shed.
013	-	Cut/Fill	Series of two parallel linear features which ran in a northwest – southeast direction in the south western part of the development site. The linear features were 0.4m wide, 6.7m to 12.15m long and were 0.12m deep. The linear features were filled with a material similar to (016).	19 <sup>th</sup> or 20 <sup>th</sup> century agricultural furrows.
014	-	Pipe	Modern plastic water pipe cur through made up layer (016).	Modern plastic pipe.
015	-	Voided	Voided	Voided
016	-	Deposit	Loose to moderately compacted, mixed, mid to dark grey-brown/orange-brown sandy silt with very frequent brick, metal, glass, sandstone and other 19 <sup>th</sup> century to modern debris. Layer extended throughout the site and had a depth range of 0.45m to 0.65m. The layer underlay the topsoil (001) and overlay the natural subsoil (002).	Made-up layer covering most of the site.

*Photographic Register*

<b>Image No.</b>	<b>Digital</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Date</b>
01	1	General pre excavation view.	NW	25/07/13
02	2	General pre excavation view.	WSW	25/07/13
03	3	General pre excavation view.	SSW	25/07/13
04	4	19 <sup>th</sup> century outbuilding (008) at the rear of the development area.	WSW	25/07/13
05	5	General view of test pit 1.	S	25/07/13
06	6	E facing section of test pit 1.	E	25/07/13
07	7	General view of test pit 2.	SW	25/07/13
08	8	SW facing section of test pit 2.	SW	25/07/13
09	9	Buried brick surface (004) within test pit 3.	NE	25/07/13
10	10	Buried brick surface (004) within test pit 3.	NE	25/07/13
11	11	General view of test pit 3.	SSE	25/07/13
12	12	SSE facing section of test pit 3.	SSE	25/07/13
13	13	General view of development area after the completion of the test pitting.	ENE	25/07/13
14	14	View of the 19 <sup>th</sup> century outbuilding (008).	S	25/07/13
15	15	View of outbuilding (008) being demolished.	SW	15/07/14
16	16	View of outbuilding (008) being demolished.	S	15/07/14
17	17	Floor surface (007) being removed.	WSW	15/07/14
18	18	Floor surface (007) being removed, showing the underlying rubble core (009).	WSW	15/07/14
19	19	Outbuilding (008) and wall (010) being demolished.	S	15/07/14
20	20	View of outbuilding area being stripped.	SW	15/07/14



Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
21	21	View of outbuilding area being stripped.	NW	15/07/14
22	22	View of bricks under concrete surface (011).	WSW	16/07/14
23	23	Southern corner of the development area after stripping down on to underlying topsoil (001).	NW	16/07/14
24	24	Eastern corner of the development area after stripping down on to underlying topsoil (001).	W	16/07/14
25	25	Western corner of the development area after stripping down on to underlying topsoil (001).	SE	16/07/14
26	26	View of area surrounding the outbuilding (008) stripped.	N	16/07/14
27	27	View of entire development area after stripping down on to underlying topsoil (001).	SE	16/07/14
28	28	View of brick wall (003) located in the northern part of the development area.	W	16/07/14
29	29	View of the southern part of the site stripped down to the natural subsoil (002).	WNW	16/07/14
30	30	Modern furrow (013) located in the south western part of the site.	NW	17/07/14
31	31	View of modern pottery and animal bone recovered from furrow (013).	NW	17/07/14
32	32	View of the south western part of the development area stripped down to subsoil level (002).	NW	17/07/14
33	33	View of the south western part of the development area stripped down to subsoil level (002).	NW	17/07/14
34	34	View of the north western part of the development area stripped down to subsoil level (002).	S	17/07/14
35	35	View of the south western part of the development area stripped down to subsoil level (002).	S	17/07/14
36	36	Northeast facing section of the south western edge of the development area, showing	NE	17/07/14

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
		the main house on the High Street in the background.		
37	37	View of northern and north eastern parts of the development area stripped down to the natural subsoil (002).	SW	17/07/14
38	38	Close up of the remains of the boundary walls (010) foundations on its north eastern side.	SW	17/07/14
39	39	View of northern and north eastern parts of the development area stripped down to the natural subsoil (002).	SW	17/07/14
40	40	View of the north eastern side of the boundary wall (010) in section.	NW	17/07/14
41	41	View of northern and north western parts of the development area stripped down to the natural subsoil (002).	NNE	17/07/14
42	42	View of Site stripped down to subsoil (002), leaving only an access ramp for the machine.	S	17/07/14
43	43	View of Site stripped down to subsoil (002), leaving only an access ramp for the machine.	W	17/07/14
44	44	Post excavation view centring on where the outbuilding (008) had been situated.	WNW	17/07/14
45	45	View showing the remaining ramp into the development area.	SW	17/07/14

### *Finds Register*

Find No.	Area/Trench	Context No.	Material Type	Description	Excavator	Date
1	-	-	CBM	19 <sup>th</sup> or 20 <sup>th</sup> century brick sample (2 bags)	LMcK	15/07/14
2	-	009	CBM	19 <sup>th</sup> or 20 <sup>th</sup> century brick sample (2 bags)	LMcK	16/07/14
3	-	016	CBM	19 <sup>th</sup> or 20 <sup>th</sup> century brick sample (3 bags)	LMcK	16/07/14

<b>Find No.</b>	<b>Area/ Trench</b>	<b>Context No.</b>	<b>Material Type</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Excavator</b>	<b>Date</b>
4	-	013	Ceramics	19 <sup>th</sup> or 20 <sup>th</sup> century pottery sherds from modern furrow.	LMcK	16/07/14
5	-	013	Bone/Teeth	Animal bone recovered from modern furrow.	LMcK	17/07/14

## Appendix 2: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	Dumfries and Galloway
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	83 High Street, Sanquhar
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	RA12011
<b>PARISH:</b>	Sanquhar
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Liam McKinstry
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	Rathmell Archaeology Limited
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Watching brief
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	None
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	None
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	None
<b>NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)</b>	NS 78345 09808 (Centred)
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	15th July 2014
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	17th July 2014
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)</b>	None
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (may include information from other fields)	<p>Archaeological monitoring was required for the excavations of a proposed building footprint within the burgh of Sanquhar. The area to be stripped was bounded over much of its extent by a 19th century wall which abutted on its north-east side a small 19th century outbuilding which was demolished as works commenced.</p> <p>The burgage plot to the rear of the main house was until recent times undivided and sloped down from northeast to the southwest. At some point in the early 20th century this area was levelled: beneath this made-up ground were 19th or 20th century features, including a brick wall which may have formed an extension to the then-extant outbuilding. There was a complete absence of finds or features which might indicate occupation and use in the medieval or post-medieval periods.</p>
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	None
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	McGowan Miller Partnership on behalf of Joe & Jean Ramsay
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Unit 8 Ashgrove Workshops, Kilwinning, Ayrshire KA13 6PU
<b>E MAIL:</b>	<a href="mailto:contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk">contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk</a>
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)</b>	Report to West of Scotland Archaeology Service and archive to RCAHMS Collections

## Contact Details

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

Rathmell Archaeology Ltd  
Unit 8 Ashgrove Workshops  
Kilwinning  
Ayrshire  
KA13 6PU

[www.rathmell-arch.co.uk](http://www.rathmell-arch.co.uk)

t.: 01294 542848

f.: 01294 542849

e.: [contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk](mailto:contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk)

End of Document