

Eaglesham Offline Storage, East Renfrewshire: Archaeological Mitigation

Data Structure Report



by Claire Williamson

issued 22nd June 2015

on behalf of Scottish Water Horizons

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 Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct.

Signed Claire Williamson

Date22nd June 2015.....

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

Checked Thomas Rees

Date22nd June 2015.....

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Introduction

1. This Data Structure Report has been prepared for Scottish Water Horizons in support of the construction works on Eaglesham Offline Storage, East Renfrewshire. The archaeological works were designed to mitigate the impact on the archaeological remains within their development area.
2. The works are being delivered under Permitted Development. Scottish Water Horizons, in recognising the archaeological and historic importance of Eaglesham, required archaeological attendance during the site works on a precautionary basis. The West of Scotland Archaeology Service, which advises East Renfrewshire Council on archaeological matters, provided guidance on the structure of archaeological works appropriate on this site. Rathmell Archaeology Limited has been appointed by Scottish Water Horizons to undertake the development and implementation of archaeological mitigation works.
3. The Method Statement (Rees 2015) 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.

Archaeological and Historical Background

4. Eaglesham, in its current form, is a planned village from the late 18th century – an initiative by the Earl of Eglinton replacing an earlier kirkton. The Orry - being common ground retained around the Eaglesham Burn (aka Kirkton Burn) - forms the core of the village with mirrored roads flanking this (Polnoon Street to the north and Montgomery Street to the south). The late 18th century and later layout of Eaglesham is well understood from available mapping evidence (see Figure 1b, Ainslie 1796 and Figure 1b).
5. Prior to the establishment of the planned village there was a medieval and post-medieval kirkton at Eaglesham, depicted at its floruit on Roy's Military Survey of Scotland of 1752-55 (see Figure 1a). The settlement is predominantly on the south side of the burn either side of a sinuous road (i.e. potentially the southern half of the Orry and the ground around Montgomery Street). This southern settlement does not appear to extend as far east as Cheapside Street. To the north of the Eaglesham Burn there is a short row of structures, roughly on the line of later Polnoon Street.

Offline storage in Polnoon Street

6. This offline storage was located in the roadway established in the late 18th century onwards with no suggestion of structures given at this site by the 1st edition Ordnance Survey (1863) to the 3rd edition in 1913. Mid-18th century mapping (Figure 1a) suggests that there was a precursor to at least the eastern half of Polnoon Street in existence but this may not have reached as far west as Mid Street (which lies to the immediate east of the offline storage location).

Offline storage to north of Cheapside Street

7. This is located in open ground to the east of Gilmour Street, in essence beyond the limits of the original planned village. This is reflected in the natural course of the burn to the north shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map. The subsequent 2nd edition 1897 (Figure 2) shows clearly that this burn has been canalised hinting that this ground may have become a more formal public space, however there is no suggestion of any structures related to the planned village on the Ordnance Survey maps. Roy's map (Figure 1a) does not suggest that the kirkton extended as far as this location.

Outfall into burn at head of Polnoon Street

8. All available mapping shows this area as the wooded head of the Orry with no evidence for development. There is the potential suggestion on Roy (see Figure 1a) that the area may be partly impacted by unenclosed rig and furrow agriculture in the mid-18th century.



Figure 1a: Roy's Military Survey of Scotland (1752-55).



Figure 1b: Ainslie's Map of the County of Renfrew (1796).

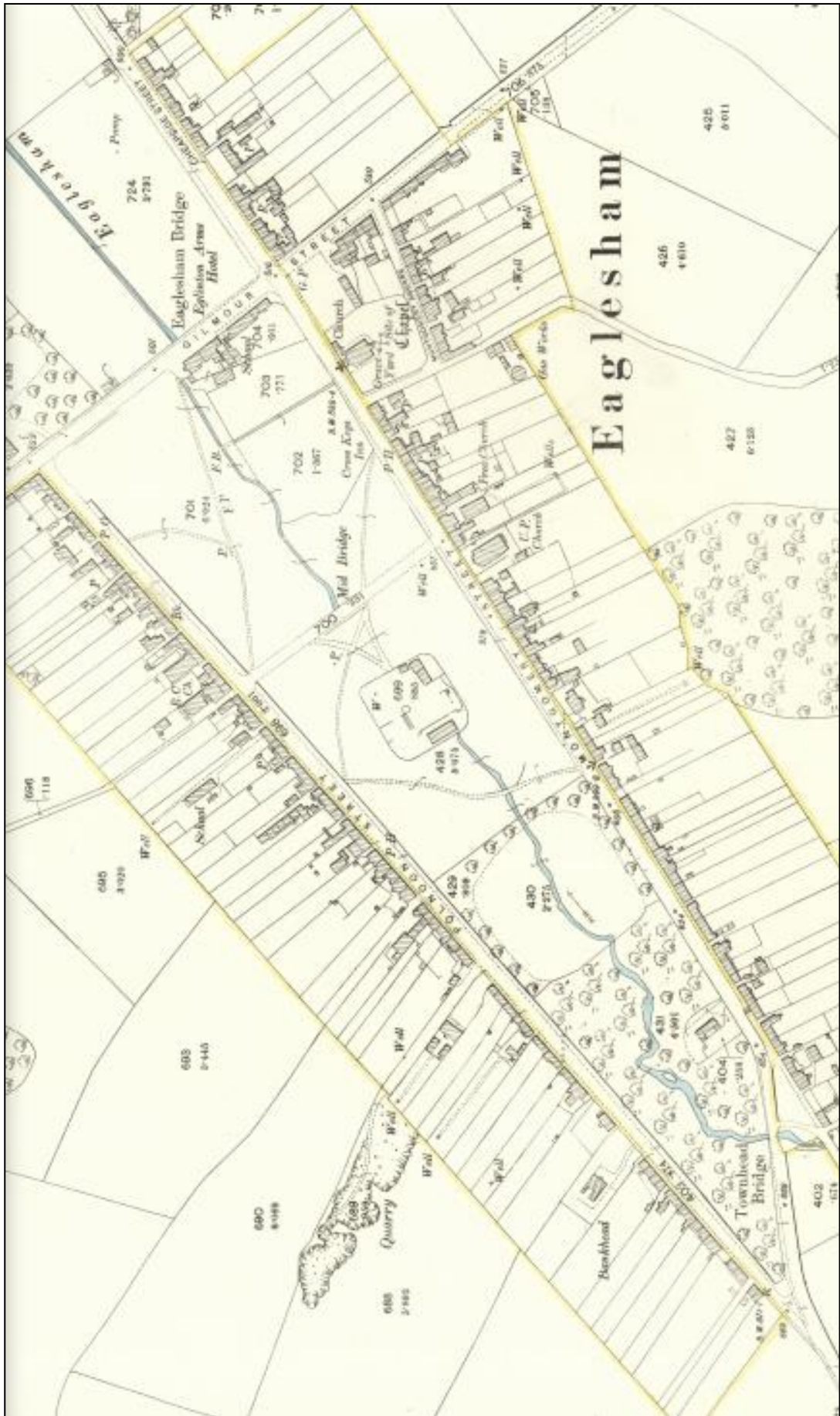


Figure 2: 2nd edition Ordnance Survey 1897, 25" to mile

Project Works

9. The programme of works comprised the archaeological monitoring of groundbreaking works across four areas (1 to 4). Area 1 consisted of a section of the offline storage, and also the site compound, in parkland just to the northwest of Cheapside Street. Area 2 comprised the section of offline storage which sat along Polnoon Street, just to the southwest of its junction with Mid Road. Areas 3 and 4 consisted of the insertion of the outfall pipe along the southwest end of Polnoon Street and the northeast end of Moor Road respectively. These two areas met at the junction between the two roads to form a continuous section of pipeline.
10. The monitoring works took place over a series of intermittent site visits from the 20th January to the 21st May 2015.
11. In compliance with the Method Statement (Rees 2015) any potential archaeological features were investigated and recorded. All works were conducted in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct and Historic Scotland Policy Statements.

Findings

Area 1

12. Area 1 sat in open parkland to the northwest of Cheapside Street. It comprised the area for the site compound with an adjacent access road, and the area for the insertion of an offline storage tank (Figure 3). The compound sat close to the main road, with the access road running along its southwestern side: this led to the storage tank area which sat at the northwestern end of the development area, close to a burn which itself sat further to the northwest.
13. The compound area was roughly rectangular in shape, measuring a maximum of 14m by 30m while the adjacent access road measured approximately up to 5m wide by 63m long. The main area for the tank measured 52.4m southwest to northeast by 20.5m transversely.
14. Prior to excavation, the entire area was covered by turf with underlying topsoil (001). (001) comprised a moderately compact dark brown slightly silty clay with frequent rootlets and occasional small stones which ranged in depth from 50 to 400mm.
15. The works removed the topsoil to reveal natural subsoil underlying it. This consisted of a firmly compacted mid-brown clay with rare small stone inclusions (002) which sat across the full extent of the stripped areas (Figure 6a).
16. No significant archaeological features were revealed within Area 1.

Area 2

17. Area 2 consisted of the area excavated for the insertion of a second offline storage tank along a section of Polnoon Street, starting at the junction with Mid Road and running southwest (Figure 4).
18. This section sat mainly within the footprint of the road itself, although its southeastern edge cut slightly into the adjacent parkland on this side. The excavated area was rectangular in shape and measured 33m in length from northeast to southwest by 5m wide.
19. Prior to excavation, the majority of the area was covered by the current road surface (003). This consisted of a very compact black tarmac which measured 100mm deep.
20. Along the southeastern edge where the stripped area cut into the adjacent parkland (for a width of approximately 0.6m), the uppermost deposit consisted of turf overlying topsoil (006). This comprised a moderately compacted very dark brown silty clay with frequent roots and small stone inclusions which measured approximately 300mm deep.

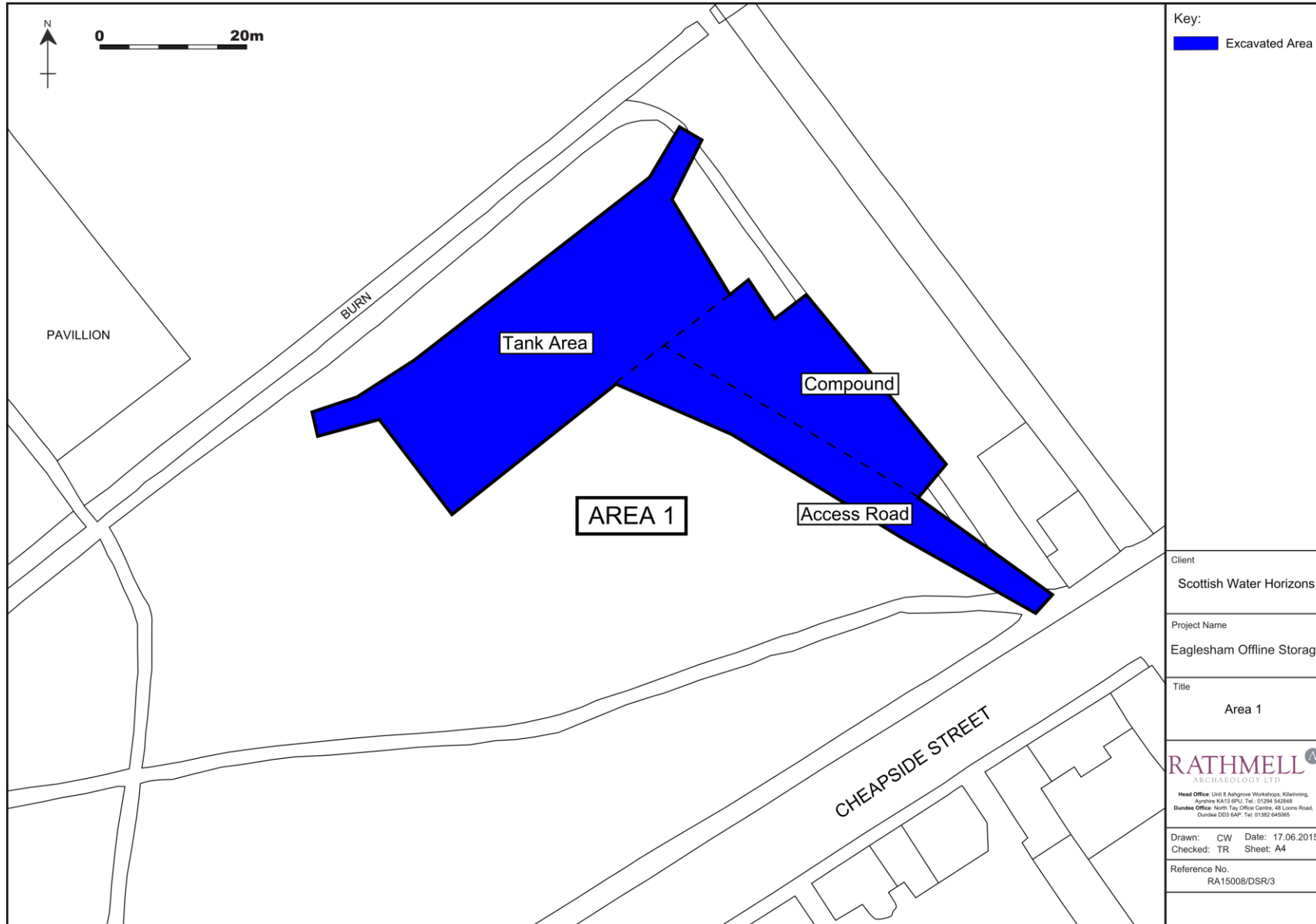


Figure 3: Plan of excavated section in Area 1

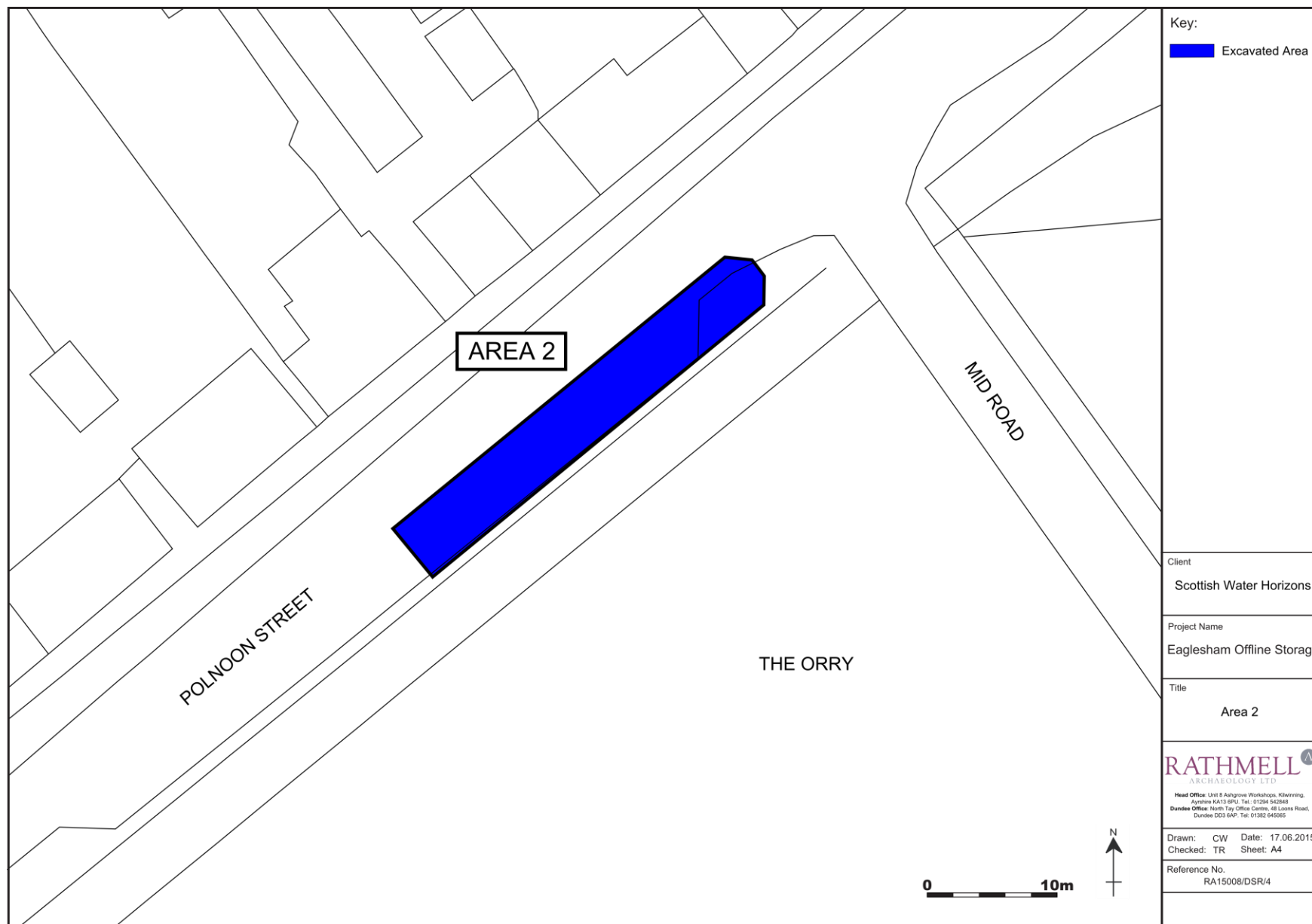


Figure 4: Plan of excavated section in Area 2

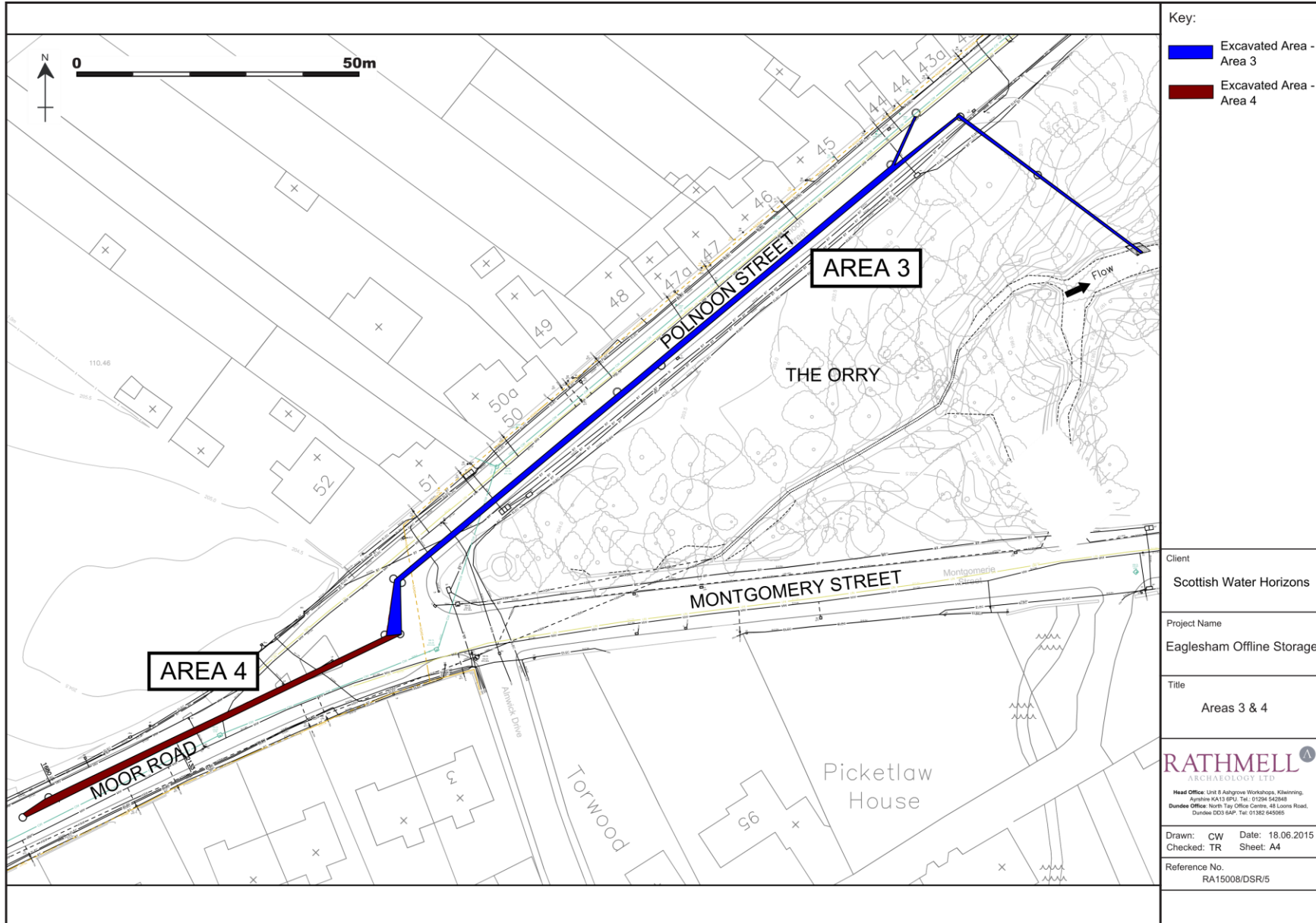


Figure 5: Plan of excavated sections in Areas 3 and 4

21. Underlying both (003) and (006) across the full extent of Area 2 was deposit (004). This comprised a compact dark brown silty clay with frequent small to medium sized stone inclusions which measured approximately 400mm thick (Figure 6b). This deposit appeared to be similar to a natural subsoil, but was of a looser compaction with many stone inclusions, giving the impression that it had been disturbed or re-deposited, probably during the construction of the overlying roadway.
22. Underlying (004) was natural subsoil (005) which comprised a compacted mid-orange/brown silty clay with rare small stone inclusions (Figure 6b). This was present across the full length of Area 2.
23. At frequent intervals throughout the length of the area, modern disturbance was recorded in the form of services which cut into deposits (004) and (005) underlying the tarmac surface. These crossed the pipe trench in various directions.
24. No significant archaeological features were revealed in Area 2.

Areas 3 and 4

25. Area 3 comprised the insertion of a new pipeline along the southwestern end of Polnoon Street (Figure 5). The northeastern end of this section started within the open parkland of the Orry to the southeast of Polnoon Street, then ran northwest until it reached the road. The remainder ran southwest along Polnoon Street and sat fully within the footprint of the road. The pipe trench ran for a total length of approximately 180m and measured between 1.4 to 2m wide.
26. Area 4 comprised the insertion of a new pipeline along the northeastern end of Moor Road which sat fully within the footprint of the road (Figure 5). The pipe trench within Area 4 ran for a total length of approximately 75m and also measured between 1.4 to 2m wide.
27. The pipe trenches in both areas met at the junction between Polnoon Street and Moor Road, where they formed a continuous line. This adjoining section was the last part to be excavated.
28. Prior to excavation, the northwestern end of Area 3 (i.e where it sat within the parkland) was covered by turf and topsoil (006), the same as that recorded in the parkland area met in Area 2, although with frequent tree roots also present.
29. Across the rest of Area 3, the uppermost deposit was formed by the same road surface which covered Area 2: tarmac (003).
30. Area 4 was covered by (007). This also consisted of a very compact black/grey tarmac but in this area it was lot thicker, measuring up to 480mm in thickness (Figure 7b). Underlying (007) in Area 4 was another layer of tarmac which appeared to have been laid during an earlier phase: (008). (008) was also very compact and measured 120mm thick (Figure 7b). It had a layer of geotextile underlying it.
31. Throughout both Areas 3 and 4, where the pipe trench sat within the footprint of the road, a large amount of disturbance was present underlying (003) and (008) respectively which took the form of frequent modern services running across the pipe trenches on different alignments (Figure 7a). This disturbance often reached down to a depth of 1 to 1.5m below the current ground surface.
32. Underlying this disturbance, and topsoil (006) at the northeastern end of Area 3, natural subsoil (009) was exposed across both areas. This consisted of a compacted dark grey silty clay (Figure 7a). Underlying this at a depth of approximately 1.5m below the current ground surface sat very compact mid-grey bedrock (010) (Figure 7a).
33. No significant archaeological features were exposed across Areas 3 and 4.

Discussion

34. The groundbreaking works failed to identify any significant archaeological features within the excavated sections, only revealing features which related to modern 19th and 20th

century activity.

35. When compared to the available historic mapping, Area 1, which sat to the northwest of Cheapside Street, appears to sit outwith the boundaries of the original village formed in the late 18th century, and also outwith the earlier kirktoon as depicted on Roy's map of 1752-55 (Figure 1a). In the more detailed mapping, this location is consistently shown as open ground with no evidence for structures. The only change which appears to have occurred in this area has been to the line of the burn which sits along the northwestern edge, which was canalised prior to the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey in 1897 (Figure 2). The lack of significant archaeological features in Area 1 supports the cartographic evidence that this area sat outwith the extent of the earlier towns and remained undeveloped.
36. Area 2 sits within the road along Polnoon Street, which hasn't changed since it was first depicted in this location on maps from the late 18th century onwards (Figure 1b). Prior to this, the earlier kirktoon - as depicted on Roy's survey of 1752-55 (Figure 1a) - appears to sit mainly to the south of the burn which runs through the Orry. Some structures are depicted to the north of the burn, however, meaning that there was a possibility for evidence of earlier occupation to have been sealed beneath the roadway. However, the lack of any such features suggests that earlier structures may not have extended into this location but may have sat closer to the burn. Their absence could, however, also be due to the amount of disturbance caused by the installation of the road and the frequent modern services running underneath it.
37. Areas 3 and 4 sat to the southwestern end of Polnoon Street and along Moor Road. When compared to the extent of the earlier kirktoon shown on the mapping, these locations appear to sit to the west, outwith its limits. This end of Polnoon Street, and Moor Road, are shown on Ainslie's map of 1796 (Figure 1b) but they look to be informal, with no surrounding structures. By the time of the 1st edition Ordnance Survey, the road along Polnoon Street appears to have been straightened, resembling the current alignment, with structures shown along its northwestern edge. Structures do not appear along Moor Road until the 20th century.
38. As such, the only development which appears to have occurred within Areas 3 and 4 has been the road itself. As with Area 2, the construction of the road and the digging of underlying services have also caused much disturbance reaching down to 1.5m below the current ground level. The only section of the excavated area which leaves the route of the roadway at the northeastern end of Area 3 crosses into the open parkland of the Orry. This section of the parkland sits outwith the industrial activity concentrated to the northeast (as shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey mapping), and is only ever depicted as an area of trees. No features were uncovered in this area to suggest that it had been the focus of any previous development.

Recommendations

39. The archaeological monitoring works failed to identify any significant archaeological features, and the only features revealed appeared to be the result of modern 19th and 20th century activity. Due to this, no further archaeological works are recommended as a direct consequence of these works.

Conclusion

40. Archaeological monitoring works were carried out in support of the construction works on Eaglesham Offline Storage, East Renfrewshire. The archaeological works were designed to mitigate the impact on the archaeological remains within their development area.
41. The works did not identify the presence of any significant archaeological features. The only archaeological features present were those relating to modern 19th and 20th century activity.



Figure 6a: Area 1 - Northeast half of main tank area showing subsoil (002)



Figure 6b: Area 2 – Sample of southwest facing section



Figure 7a: Area 3 – shot showing stratigraphy at southwestern end



Figure 7b: Area 4 – shot showing depth of tarmac layers (007) and (008)

Acknowledgements

42. We are grateful to Scottish Water Horizons for allowing us the chance to carry out these works and also to the West of Scotland Archaeology Service who gave guidance throughout the project. We would also like to thank Thomas Rees for his support and to Dr Louise Turner for her final editing of this report.

References

Rees, T. 2015 *Eaglesham Offline Storage, East Renfrewshire: Archaeological Mitigation, Method Statement*. Unpublished commercial report by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd

Cartographic

Roy, W	1752-55	<i>Military Survey of Scotland</i>
Ainslie, J.	1796	<i>Map of the County of Renfrew</i>
Ordnance Survey	1863	First Edition 6 inch <i>Renfrewshire Sheet XVII</i>
Ordnance Survey	1897	Second Edition 25 inch <i>Renfrewshire 017.14</i>

Appendix 1: Registers

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

Context Register

Context	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
001	1	Deposit	Moderately compact dark brown slightly silty clay with frequent rootlets and occasional small stones. Depth ranges from 50mm to 400mm. Covered full extent of Area 1.	Topsoil and turf covering Area 1
002	1	Deposit	Firmly compacted mid-brown clay with rare small stone inclusions. Covered full extent of Area 1 underlying (001).	Natural subsoil in Area 1
003	2, 3	Deposit	Very compact black tarmac. Measured 100mm deep and extends across majority of Area 2.	Modern tarmac forming current road surface along Polnoon Street
004	2	Deposit	Compact dark brown silty clay with frequent small to medium sized stone inclusions. Measured approximately 400mm thick, and extended across full extent of Area 2, underlying (003).	Disturbed natural subsoil underlying tarmac surface layer along Polnoon Street
005	2	Deposit	Compacted mid- orange brown silty clay with rare small stone inclusions. Present along full depth of Area 2 underlying (004) and (006).	Natural subsoil in Area 2
006	2	Deposit	Moderately compacted very dark brown silty clay with frequent roots and small stone inclusions. Measured approximately 300mm deep and extended along the SE edge of Area 2 where the excavated area cut into the adjacent park.	Topsoil and turf along edge of park where it meets SE edge of Polnoon Street
007	4	Deposit	Very compact black/grey tarmac. Measured up to 480mm thick and present across full extent of Area 4.	Modern tarmac forming current road surface along Moor Road. Quite thick which may suggest that the road surface has been built up/raised over time?
008	4	Deposit	Very compact black tarmac measuring approximately 120mm thick. Underlies (007) and has a layer of geotextile underlying it.	Earlier layer of tarmac underlying current tarmac road surface (008)
009	3, 4	Deposit	Compacted dark grey silty clay.	Natural subsoil
010	3, 4	Desposit	Very compact mid-grey bedrock underlying natural subsoil	Bedrock

Context	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
			across Areas 3 and 4. Sits at a depth of approximately 1.5m below the ground surface.	

Photographic Register

Image	Digital	Description	From	Date
01	1292	Area 1, N. of Cheapside – General working shot	S	20/01/15
02	1293	Area 1, N. of Cheapside – Shot of stripped area for tank	E	20/01/15
03	1294	Area 1, N. of Cheapside – NE end of tank area	SW	20/01/15
04	1295	Area 1, N. of Cheapside – Shot of compound	WNW	20/01/15
05	1296	Area 1, N. of Cheapside – Shot of compound	SSW	20/01/15
06	1297	Area 1, N. of Cheapside – Shot of tank area (topsoil stripped)	WSW	20/01/15
07	1298	Area 1, N. of Cheapside – Shot of tank area (topsoil stripped)	SW	20/01/15
08	1299	Area 1, N. of Cheapside – Shot of tank area (topsoil stripped)	NNE	20/01/15
09	1300	Area 1, N. of Cheapside – NE half of tank area (topsoil stripped)	SE	20/01/15
10	1301	Area 1, N. of Cheapside – Shot of compound	SE	20/01/15
11	1302	Area 1, N. of Cheapside – Shot of compound	SE	20/01/15
12	1303	Area 2, Tank on Polnoon/Mid Road – General shot, NE end	NE	05/03/15
13	1304	Area 2, Tank on Polnoon/Mid Road – Shot of 1 st section, NE end	NE	05/03/15
14	1305	Area 2, Tank on Polnoon/Mid Road – 1 st section, NE facing section, SE half	NE	05/03/15
15	1306	Area 2, Tank on Polnoon/Mid Road – 1 st section, NE facing section, NW half	NE	05/03/15
16	1307	Area 2, Tank on Polnoon/Mid Road – 1 st section, shot of S corner	NE	05/03/15
17	1308	Area 2, Tank on Polnoon/Mid Road – 1 st section, SW facing section, NW end	S	05/03/15
18	1309	Area 2, Tank on Polnoon/Mid Road – 1 st section, NW facing section, NE end	NW	05/03/15
19	1310	Area 2, Tank on Polnoon/Mid Road – 1 st section, general shot of SW end	NW	05/03/15

Image	Digital	Description	From	Date
20	1311	Area 2, Tank on Polnoon/Mid Road – 1 st section, general shot of SW end	WNW	05/03/15
21	1312	Area 4, Pipe trench on Moor St – General shot	ENE	05/03/15
22	1313	Area 4, Pipe trench on Moor St – General shot	ENE	05/03/15
23	1314	Area 4, Pipe trench on Moor St – S facing section through build-up	SE	05/03/15
24	1315	Area 3, Pipe trench at top of Polnoon – General shot of works	NE	05/03/15
25	1316	Area 1, N of Cheapside – SW end dug to full depth	ENE	05/03/15
26	1317	Area 1, N of Cheapside – SW end dug to full depth	SSW	05/03/15
27	1377	Area 1 – General shot	NE	05/03/15
28	1378	Area 2 – 3 rd section	NE	19/03/15
29	1279	Area 2 – SE facing section	SE	19/03/15
30	1380	Area 2 – E facing section	E	19/03/15
31	1381	Area 3 – General shot	NE	19/03/15
32	1382	Area 3 – SE facing section	SE	19/03/15
33	1383	Area 3 – General shot	NE	19/03/15
34	1384	Area 3 – General shot	NE	19/03/15
35	1385	Area 4 – General shot	NNE	19/03/15
36	1386	Area 2 – Working shot	SE	31/03/15
37	1387	Area 2 – Working shot	E	31/03/15
38	1388	Area 4 – General shot	N	31/03/15
39	1389	Area 3 – General shot	NW	31/03/15
40	5037	Area 3 – General shot	NE	1/05/15
41	5038	Area 4 – NNW facing section (lower)	NNW	1/05/15
42	5039	Area 4 – NNW facing section	N	1/05/15
43	5040	Area 4 – NNW facing section (upper)	N	1/05/15
44	5041	Area 4 – General shot of trench	NE	1/05/15

Image	Digital	Description	From	Date
45	5042	Area 4 – General shot of trench	WSW	1/05/15
46	5043	Area 3 – General shot (at N end)	NE	1/05/15
47	5044	Area 3 – NW facing section	NW	1/05/15
48	5001	Area 3 (where it meets Area 4) – General shot	N	21/05/15
49	5002	Area 3 (where it meets Area 4) – W facing section	NW	21/05/15
50	5003	Area 3 (where it meets Area 4) – E facing section	NE	21/05/15
51	5004	Area 3 (where it meets Area 4) – W facing section (tarmac)	W	21/05/15
52	5005	Area 3 (where it meets Area 4) – W facing section	NW	21/05/15
53	5006	Area 3 (where it meets Area 4) – W facing section (S end)	W	21/05/15

Appendix 2: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Renfrewshire
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Eaglesham Offline Storage
PROJECT CODE:	RA15008
PARISH:	Eaglesham
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Claire Williamson
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Rathmell Archaeology Limited
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching brief
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	Area 1 – NS 57516 52095; Area 2 – NS 57119 51969; Area 3 – NS 56750 51667; Area 4 – NS 56672 51602.
START DATE (this season)	20 th January 2015
END DATE (this season)	21 st May 2015
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (may include information from other fields)	<p>Archaeological monitoring works were carried out in support of construction works undertaken as part of Eaglesham Offline Storage, East Renfrewshire. The archaeological works were designed to mitigate the impact on the archaeological remains within their development area.</p> <p>The works did not identify the presence of any significant archaeological features. The only archaeological features present were those relating to modern 19th and 20th century activity.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Scottish Water Horizons
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 West of Scotland Archaeology Service and archive to RCAHMS Collections

Contact Details

43. 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

t.: 01294 542848

f.: 01294 542849

e.: contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk

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