

Castlehill, New Cumnock: Archaeological Evaluation

Data Structure Report



by Liam McKinstry

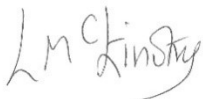
issued 2nd April 2015

on behalf of Auberne Homes

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Contents

Introduction.....	3
Historical and Archaeological Background	3
Project Works	7
Findings	7
Area 1.....	7
Area 2.....	10
Documentary	16
Appendix 1: Trench Details.....	18
Trench Summary.....	18
Appendix 2: Registers	21
Context Register.....	21
Photographic Register	26
Drawing Register.....	31
Appendix 3: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland.....	32
Contact Details.....	34

Figures

Figure 1a: Extract from Pont’s map of 1583-96	4
Figure 1b: Extract from Adair’s map of 1685.....	4
Figure 2a: Extract from Moll’s map of 1745.....	5
Figure 2b: Extract from Roy’s map of 1752-55	5
Figure 3a: Extract from 1 st edition Ordnance Survey 1860	6
Figure 3b: Extract from 2nd edition Ordnance Survey 1897	6
Figure 4: Site Location Plan.	8
Figure 5a: View of T1 showing stone drain (008) and eastern edge of moat [015]. From the E.....	11
Figure 5b: View of clay layer (009) overlying peat-like layer (008) within moat in T2. From the S.	11
Figure 6a: View of edge of moat ditch [015] and the foundation [024] of the 19 th century church within T4. From the NE.	12
Figure 6b: View of stone concentration (028) at western end of T5. From the SSE.....	12
Figure 7a: View of stone concentration (030) at western end of T5. From the SSE.....	13
Figure 7b: View of stone concentrations (028) – (030) at western end of T5. From the SW.	13

Introduction

1. This Data Structure Report has been prepared on behalf of Auberne Homes in respect of the construction of a new residential development, including dwellings and their associated road access and footpaths, at Castlehill, New Cumnock (14/0293/PP). These archaeological works were designed to mitigate any adverse impact on the archaeological remains within the development area and were carried out between 23rd February and 12th March 2015.
2. East Ayrshire Council required a programme of archaeological works to be undertaken in support of any planning consent which may be granted by the planning authority. West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) who advise East Ayrshire Council on archaeological matters, provided guidance on the structure of archaeological mitigation required on this site prior to the development works.
3. A Written Scheme of Onvestigation (McKinstry 2015) provided the detail of the works (archaeological evaluation, 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 development area encompasses the disused United Reform Church and its associated grounds to the north of Castlehill Street, New Cumnock, East Ayrshire. This church was built over the remains of an earlier 19th century church, which was in turn built on the site of New Cumnock Castle (WoSASPIN 9065; NMRS ref: NS61SW 2). This medieval castle was also known as Black Bog Castle and Black Craig Castle in the New Statistical Account (1845), and it has also occasionally been referred to locally as The Castle of Black Lorg (Murray 1989).
5. The existing church - the Arthur Memorial United Reform Church (NMRS ref: NS61SW 46) - was constructed between 1912 and 1913 over the demolished remains of a previous Free Church building built between 1843 and 1845. Within the church's grounds to the immediate east was a 20th century war memorial (NMRS ref: NS61SW 48) in the shape of a 'Celtic' cross which has been relocated to New Cumnock Parish Church on Castle Street. A ruined 17th century church and graveyard, New Cumnock Kirk (NMRS ref: NS61SW 1), was located to the immediate south-southwest of the development area. This church building, according to local sources, was said to have been constructed using stone taken from New Cumnock Castle.
6. New Cumnock Castle was first mentioned at the start of the 14th century where it was the seat of the Earls of Dunbar (Galbraith 1975) though its origins are probably much older. The castle is mentioned several times in Blind Harry's '*Actes and Deidis of the Illustre and Vallyeant Campioun Schir William Wallace*' and the castle was briefly home to Edward II in 1307 when he brought his army to Scotland in pursuit of Robert the Bruce. The original castle is thought to have been a motte and bailey construction (Murray 1989), although it is possible that there had been a settlement on the site before any castle was built. It is probable that the original structure would have been made of wood and situated on the summit of a knoll or artificial mound.
7. The site of the castle is significant in the wider geography of the area. It was situated on an isolated piece of raised ground close to the confluence of the River Nith and the Afton Water; to the west, there are extensive areas of marshy ground. The situation of the castle would have been naturally defensive while lying across the natural north to south communication route formed through the Southern Uplands by valley of the River Nith.
8. Subsequent structures were of stone as by 1580 the castle was described as ruinous (Warrick 1899). There may have been a period of rebuilding or repair c. 1650 and there were still considerable upstanding remains at the end of the 18th century (Warrick 1899). Modern building works to the north of the United Reform Church uncovered the remains of massive stone walls possibly relating to the stone phase of the castle.

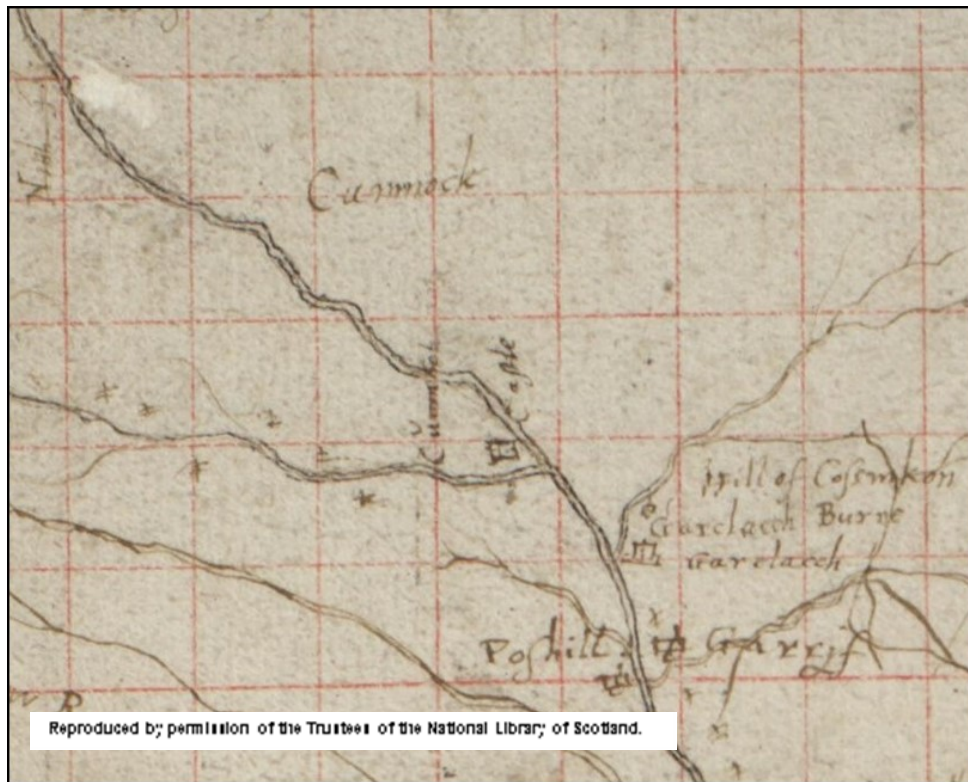


Figure 1a: Extract from Pont's map of 1583-96

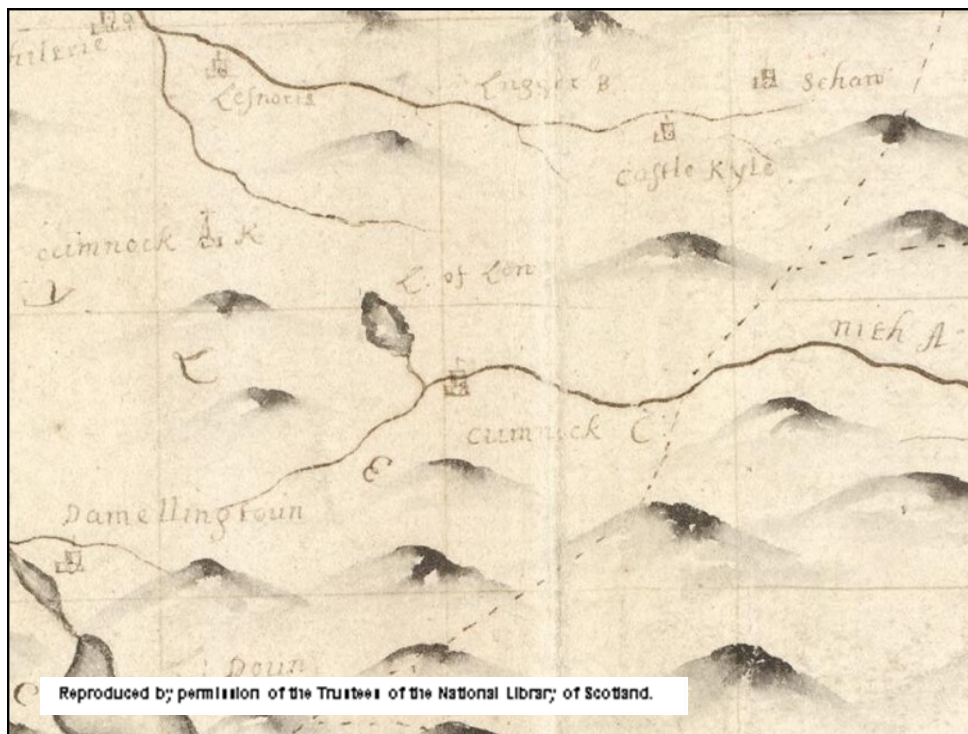


Figure 1b: Extract from Adair's map of 1685



Figure 2a: Extract from Moll's map of 1745



Figure 2b: Extract from Roy's map of 1752-55



Figure 3a: Extract from 1st edition Ordnance Survey 1860

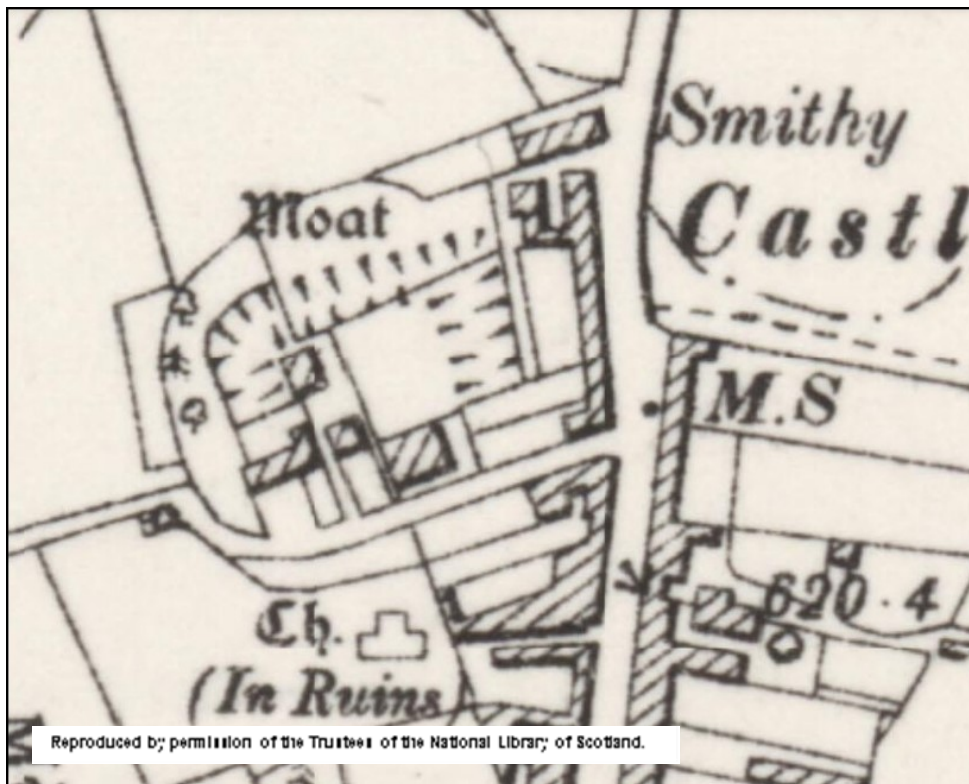


Figure 3b: Extract from 2nd edition Ordnance Survey 1897

9. The cartographic evidence for New Cumnock Castle is strong, with the earliest reference within Pont's map of 1583-96 (Figure 1a). Adair's map of 1685 (Figure 1b) denotes 'Cumnock C' which presumably refers to the castle rather than the town. Moll's map of 1745 (Figure 2a) also shows 'Kumnock Castle' and confirms that there were some above ground remains within the 18th century. Roy's of 1752-55 map (Figure 2b), shows Cumnock but does not refer to it as a castle. It does, however show a cruciform shaped structure within a square box which may represent the above ground remains of the castle at that point.
10. Although there are no original upstanding remains at New Cumnock Castle today, the partially landscaped remains of the moat are still visible in the garden of the old manse to the immediate northwest of the development area. Both the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps for New Cumnock (Figures 3a and b) show the moat surviving on the west-southwest, north-northeast and east-northeast sides. Excavations carried out previously to the immediate north of the 17th century church and graveyard uncovered a level linear bank which ran along the edge of Castlehill Road (Matthews, A. and Rees, T. 2003). This bank was 1.5m thick and covered a buried ground surface. The excavation proved that the cemetery wall cut into this linear bank, suggesting that the bank material comprised either upcast or a deliberately-crafted bank/glacis associated from the southern side of the moat. This material could date to the medieval period and the initial excavation of the moat, although with the last known activity or occupation occurring in 1650 it could be post-medieval in origin. From these findings, it would be reasonable to infer that the southern side of the moat underlies Castlehill Road.

Project Works

11. An archaeological evaluation was undertaken between the 23rd February and the 12th March 2015. This comprised the excavation of seven intrusive trenches for the purposes of exposing an 8% sample of the development area. The development area was situated within the building footprint and grounds of the Arthur Memorial United Reform Church.
12. Where possible the trenches were placed in accordance with the terms of the Written Scheme of Investigation (McKinstry 2015). It was originally planned that the trenches within the church's building footprint would be excavated after its demolition, but upon consultation with the client and planning authorities a more practical solution was devised which involved excavating within the church prior to its demolition so as to view any potential archaeology before the demolition process could affect surviving sub-surface remains. Because of this, the trench layout within the church area had to changed. In total, 72.31 linear metres were excavated, which slightly exceeded the 64 linear metres required for the purposes of this investigation. The position of the trenches is depicted in the site plan (Figure 4).
13. 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

14. A total of seven evaluation trenches were excavated using an 8 tonne 360° tracked excavator and mini digger, each equipped with a smooth 1.6m and 1m ditching buckets respectively. Details of the trenches may be found in Appendix 1 of this document. Included below is a synthesis of the findings and interpretation from these trenches.

Area 1

15. Trenches 1-3 (Figure 4) were located in Area 1 within the grounds. The church grounds at the time of the excavation were rectangular on plan and covered with a layer of highly disturbed topsoil over which lay recently deposited modern building debris. The grounds were bounded to the north-northwest and east-northeast by a drystone wall. To the south-southeast there was a brick and stone retaining wall which ran along the edge of Castlehill Road. At the west-southwestern side of the area there was the raised earthen terrace with stone steps built into it which led into the main entrance of the church.

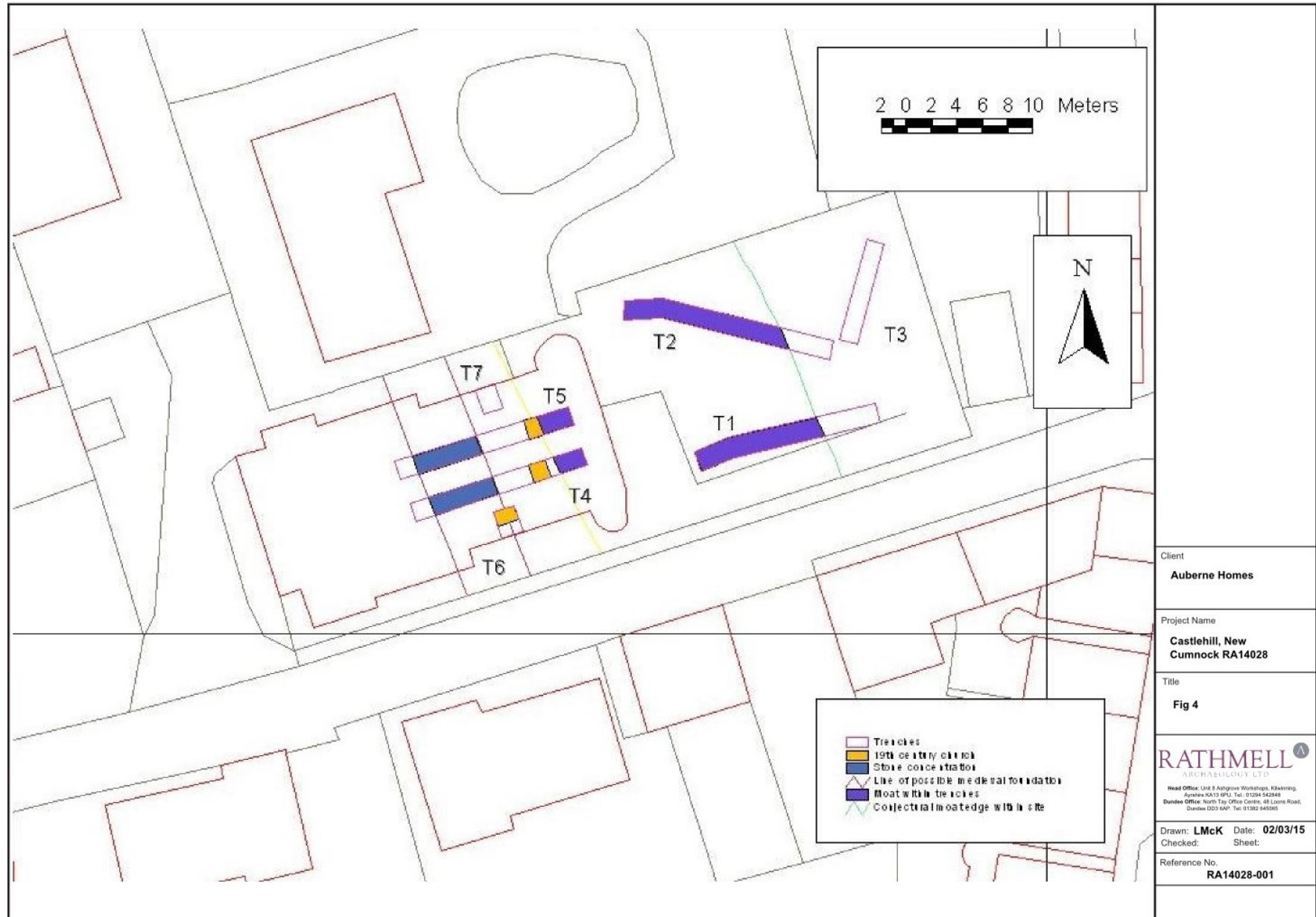


Figure 4: Site Location Plan.

16. Trench 1 ran in a west-southwest to east-northeast direction along the south-southeastern edge of Area 1, parallel to Castlehill Road. The trench was 16.2m long and had a depth of between 700mm-1800mm. Trench 2 ran diagonally across Area 1 from the edge of the terrace towards the centre, in a west-northwest to east southeast direction. It measured 14.08m in length and had a depth ranging between 1000mm and 1500mm. Trench 3 ran in a north-northeast to south-southwest direction from the north-northeastern corner of Area 1 towards the centre. The trench was 9.03m long and had a depth of between 850mm-1000mm.
17. At the west-southwestern end of Trench 1 and the west-northwestern end of Trench 2, both trenches cut the edge of the terrace in front of the church. The sections of both showed the terrace to be partially slumping onto the lower ground below, overlying the topsoil there: this displaced terrace material consisted of a topsoil (001), which comprised a mixed mid grey/mid grey-brown, clayey silt with occasional to moderate inclusions of stone, modern brick, metal and plastic. Beneath this, in Trench 1, was a made up layer, (002), which consisted of a light to mid-orange silty sand with frequent small stone and pebble inclusions. Topsoil (003), which was associated with the main, lower, portion of the grounds was very similar in character to topsoil (001) which had slumped from the terrace above.
18. Beneath topsoil (003) were two, contemporaneous, made-up layers. The first of these, (004), was located in Trench 1 and was similar to the made-up layer (002) observed within the edge of the terrace. The second of these, (005), was located in Trenches 2 and 3 and consisted of a mixed mid grey/grey-brown, silty-sand/silty-clay with frequent stone and occasional to moderate modern brick inclusions. Within Trench 2 there was also evidence of an earlier topsoil layer, (006), which underlay the made up layer (002): this consisted of a mixed mid-dark grey/mid-dark grey-brown, clayey silt with occasional to moderate inclusions of stone, modern brick, metal and plastic. Beneath this buried topsoil layer (006) and made-up layers (004) and (005) lay another made-up layer, (007), which was identified within Trenches 1-3. This consisted of a mixed mid orange-brown/grey-brown, silty clay with moderate, small to medium sized stone and gravel inclusions.
19. The upper, more disturbed, layers within Trenches 1-3 covered the less disturbed layers beneath to a depth of between 700mm-1200mm across Area 1. Within Trench 1's east-northeastern end the made-up layer, (007), overlay a light to mid grey-blue clay (009) which in turn overlay a peat-like layer (010) (Figure 5b). The peat-like layer was excavated at a depth of c.1200mm within Trench 1. These layers or fills lay within what appeared to be the east-northeastern edge of a ditch [015] which cut through a very compacted, mid grey-brown, silty-clay (011) containing moderate inclusions of small stone and pebbles.
20. At the west-southwestern end of Trench 1 a stone drain (008) was identified within the made up layer (007) at a depth of 600mm. Due in part to the identification of the drain and on account of the depth at the end of the trench where it cut into the terrace (1750mm) it was considered unsafe to excavate further.
21. The lower layers within Trench 2's east-southeastern end were similar to that of those found in Trench 1. Layers/fills (009) and (010) were identified (Figure 5b) with the peat-like layer being excavated to a depth of 1400mm. Both of these layers/fills were similarly contained within the sloping ditch [015] (Figure 5a and 5b) which cut into the very compacted silty-clay layer (011). The west-northwestern end of the trench was excavated down to the made up layer (007) and another underlying layer (031) to a depth of 1200mm-1500mm. The underlying layer, (031), consisted of a moderate to firmly compacted, mixed mid grey-brown/grey-orange clay with moderate small to medium sized stone and occasional brick fragment.
22. Within Trench 3 the made-up layer (007) overlay two more potentially made-up layers, (012) and (013): these consisted of a compacted red/red-brown sand with fragments of off-white coloured stone within it and a moderately compacted red sand layer respectively. Under these layers was another potentially made-up layer (014) which was excavated to a depth of 1000mm and consisted of very compacted, mid grey-brown/orange-brown, silty-clay with moderate small to medium sized stone inclusions. In the south-southwestern corner of the trench a layer or block of compact cream-coloured stone (017) was identified

within layer (014) at a depth of 850mm.

23. No artefacts were recovered from any of the trenches within Area 1.

Area 2

24. Trenches 4-7 (Figure 4) were located within the shell of the disused Arthur Memorial United Reform Church. Two of the main trenches - Trenches 4 and 5 - utilised the internal layout of the concrete aisles and flooring (018) running parallel to each other in a west-southwest to east-northeast direction for 14.5m. The other two trenches, Trenches 6 and 7, were located between the concrete aisles and the walls of the church, one running to the south-southeast and the other to the north-northeast. Both measured 2m in length. The flooring within the sub-rectangular shaped church was located at the west-southwestern end and the east-northeastern end (at the church entrance) with aisles and small support walls running between. Beneath the concrete surface lay a stone and mortar/concrete foundation layer (019) with a combined thickness of 450mm which extended throughout all of the trenches. In the gaps between the aisles and support walls lay a tarmac-like surface (021) which had been laid as a dampproofing agent for a timber floor which would have stretched across the gaps between the aisles and the support walls.
25. The upper layers within all of the trenches in Area 2 shared the same characteristics. The first comprised (020) which lay beneath the floor foundation and the tarmac-like layer and consisted of loose to moderately compacted, mixed orange sand/yellow sand-gravel with moderate inclusions of small- to medium-sized stone and 19th or 20th century brick fragments. This layer had a thickness ranging between 200mm-300mm. Directly underlying (020) was another deliberate layer of infill (022) which consisted of moderately to firmly compacted, mixed grey-brown/dark brown clayey-silt with moderate stone and brick inclusions. This layer had a thickness range of 420mm-700mm. A number of ceramic and metal service pipes, (025-027), ran through the layer though no associated cuts were evident. Underneath the deliberate infill layer (022) lay another potentially made-up layer (023). This layer was a very compacted, mixed grey-brown/grey-orange clay with occasional to moderate inclusions of small to medium sized stone with very infrequent inclusions of larger stones. Approximately 200mm-300mm of the layer was excavated within Trenches 4 and 5.
26. Located within Trenches 4-6 were structural remains [024] (Figure 6a). These comprised large flat unworked stones interspersed with smaller irregular-shaped stones bonded with pale yellow mortar. The stones had a size ranging between 230mm by 180mm by 140mm to 600mm by 420mm by 280mm. The structure had a width ranging from 1-1.5m and was upstanding to a height of 700mm within the trenches it was identified in. The top part of the structure was located at a depth of 450mm beneath the floor level within the church. From its location within the trenches the foundation could be seen to run across Trenches 4 and 5 in a north-northwest to south-southeast direction. The section of foundation seen within Trench 6 turned to the west-southwest forming an L shape.
27. The less disturbed layers within Trenches 4 and 5 were located at depths of between 1100mm to 1400mm and 860mm to 1300mm respectively. In the east-northeastern ends of the trenches, an additional made up layer (031) was identified. This layer consisted of moderate to firmly compacted, mixed mid grey-brown/grey-orange clay with moderate small to medium sized stones and occasional brick fragments. The layer was excavated to depths of 1450mm and 1300mm within Trenches 4 and 5 respectively, as measured from concrete floor surface (018). Layer (031) lay within the west-southwestern edge of ditch cut [015] (Figure 6a) which itself cut through a layer of very firmly compacted, mixed mid grey/mid brown, clayey-silt (032) with moderate small sized stone inclusions. This layer (032) was excavated to a depth of 1740mm from the concrete floor surface within Trench 4.



Figure 5a: View of T1 showing stone drain (008) and eastern edge of moat [015]. From the E.



Figure 5b: View of clay layer (009) overlying peat-like layer (008) within moat in T2. From the S.



Figure 6a: View of edge of moat ditch [015] and the foundation [024] of the 19th century church within T4. From the NE.



Figure 6b: View of stone concentration (028) at western end of T5. From the SSE.



Figure 7a: View of stone concentration (030) at western end of T5. From the SSE.



Figure 7b: View of stone concentrations (028) – (030) at western end of T5. From the SW.

29. At the west-southwestern ends of Trenches 4 and 5, concentrations of stone and clay (028)-(030) were identified at a depth of between 860mm-1100mm below the concrete floor surface (Figure 6b, 7a and 7b). These horizontally parallel layers formed a band which crossed both trenches in a north-northeast to south-southeast alignment, running almost parallel to the ditch cut identified in Trench 4 and within the trenches in Area 1. The west-southwesternmost concentration, (028), consisted of medium to large sized stones within very compacted, mid to dark grey-brown, clay. The stones were irregular or flat in shape and had a size ranging between 400mm x 300mm x 300mm to 300mm x 250mm x 180mm.
30. This concentration measured approximately 1.8-2.1m in width, and was upstanding to a height from the base of the trench of approximately 300mm (the feature was not fully excavated). The central concentration (029), consisted of a very compacted, mixed grey-brown/dark brown, clay with moderate small stone inclusions. The concentration was situated between stone concentrations (028) and (030) and had a width of between 1-1.5m. The east-northeasternmost concentration, (030), comprised medium to large sized stones wet within very compacted, mid to dark grey-brown, clay. The stones ranged in size between 390mm x 280mm x 420mm and 450mm x 380mm x 180mm, and were irregular or flat in shape. This particular concentration had a width of c.1.9-2.3m and its height from the base of the trench was approximately 300mm.
31. No artefacts were recovered from any of the trenches within Area 2

Discussion

32. Within Area 1, the upper layers within all the trenches - (001) – (008) and (012) – (013) - were all evidence of 19th or 20th century activity within the grounds. These layers ranged in depth between 700mm-1200mm in all of the trenches, with the overall excavated depth of the trenches varying between 700mm-1800mm. The stone drain (008), which was of 19th century date, was found at a depth of 600mm beneath the modern ground level, and cut through an earlier layer of made up ground (007). The current topsoil (003) within the grounds of the church had been recently disturbed and was found to overlie the base of the 20th century war memorial (016) which still survived at a depth of c.200mm. The slumping of topsoil (001) and other layers forming the terrace in front of the 20th century church also seems to have been a recent 20th or 21st century event. The terrace material (031), which was located in Areas 1 and 2, was a deliberate infilling of the moat ditch [015] on the inner edge of its east-northeast side. This infilling was carried out to level the ground surface, probably during the early 20th century in advance of the building of the Arthur Memorial United Reform Church building.
33. The upper layers within the trenches in Area 2 were all related to the various phases of construction, demolition and renovation associated with the 20th century ((033)) and earlier 19th century churches ((024)). Within the footprint of the 20th century church, beneath the foundation for its flooring and other associated layers ((018), 019 and 021)) was layer (020) which appeared to represent the levelling layer underlying the entire footprint of the church. Beneath this was an infill layer (022), probably comprising a mixture of demolition material derived from the 19th century church and other material brought in to cover the foundations of the old church. These layers had a combined depth within the trenches of between 860mm-1400mm with the overall depth range of the trenches being 860mm-1760mm.
34. In addition to layer (023), archaeologically significant features were identified which may have been associated with the foundation levels of the castle. The first of these features were the stone concentrations (028) – (030): these three discrete concentrations formed a line running in a north-northwest to south-south-east alignment within Trenches 4 and 5. The clay and stone make up of these stone concentrations would suggest that they were derived from the foundations or basal levels of a large stone wall, either forming part of a building or – perhaps more likely - the curtain wall of the castle. The moat ditch cut [015] identified within Trenches 1 and 2 in Area 1 and in Trench 4 in Area 2 seemed to run parallel to these stone concentrations which would seem to confirm that both the ditch cut and the stone concentrations had once formed part of New Cumnock Castle.

35. These features would have been part of the castle's east-northeastern side and may suggest a basal width for the curtain wall foundation of approximately 5-6m and a height from the base of the trench of 300mm, though it may have gone deeper. The distance between the possible foundation and the inner edge of the moat ditch would have been roughly 5m, with the cut located at a depth of between 1200mm-1400mm below the current ground level.
36. The moat ditch would have had an overall width of approximately 22m. Its overall depth was unknown, though approximately 400mm-500mm was excavated from moat fills (009) and (010) within Trenches 1 and 2. From depictions shown on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps it is possible to establish that the castle's moat was sub-rectangular in plan and orientated in a north-northwest to south-southeast alignment. It measured roughly 85-88m from east-southeast to west-northwest by around 66-67m transversely; by this time, however, the south-southeastern side of the moat had been infilled with Castlehill Road now following its original line. The west-southwest side of the moat was around 20m wide, the north-northwest side was roughly 20m wide and the east-northeast side was approximately 24m wide which would appear to confirm the evidence for the moat ditch identified during the evaluation trenches.

Recommendations

37. This Data Structure Report has been prepared on behalf of Auberne Homes in respect of the construction of a new residential development, including dwellings and their associated road access and footpaths, at Castlehill, New Cumnock (14/0293/PP). The recommendations put forward in this document will be contributory to any final recommendations made on the completion of the works.
38. The archaeological evaluation trenches excavated on site uncovered a series of layers and structures relating to episodes of demolition, construction and alteration within the building footprint of the Arthur Memorial United Reform Church and its grounds. These layers all relate to works carried out in either the 19th or 20th century, and cover over significant archaeological features which relate to the medieval castle at New Cumnock.
39. These significant features were found at depths of 700mm-1200mm in Area 1 and 860mm-1400mm within Area 2. It is recommended that further archaeological works will be necessary should the construction process have the reasonable potential to generate a substantive impact, either direct or indirect, on this sensitive archaeological horizon.
40. The appropriateness and acceptability of our recommendations rest with the representative of the West of Scotland Archaeological Service.

Conclusion

41. An archaeological evaluation was carried out on behalf of Auberne Homes in respect of the construction of a new residential development, including dwellings and their associated road access and footpaths, at Castlehill, New Cumnock (14/0293/PP). These archaeological works are designed to mitigate any adverse impact on the archaeological remains within the development area.
42. This report covers the excavation of seven trenches undertaken within the building footprint of the Arthur Memorial United Reform Church and its grounds as part of the evaluation process. These trenches comprised thick layers of made up ground, seemingly related to the demolition of an earlier 19th century church on the site and the subsequent construction of the 20th century church. Beneath these layers significant archaeological remains relating to the medieval New Cumnock Castle were identified at a depth of between 700mm and 1400mm within the trenches. These remains included a concentration of stone and clay which was identified within the churches building footprint and which may have been a foundation relating to the castle's curtain wall. Traces of a large ditch were also identified, both within the grounds of the church and within the building footprint itself. This ditch ran in a north-northwest to south-southeast direction, parallel to the possible foundation identified within the footprint of the church footprint.
43. These features seem to have formed part of the castle's east-northeastern side and may

suggest a basal width for the curtain wall foundation of approximately 5-6m. It was upstanding for a height of approximately 300mm from the base of the trench of 300mm, though it may have extended beneath its visible extent.

44. The distance between the possible foundation and the inner edge of the moat ditch would have been around 5m, with the moat ditch having an overall width of approximately 22m. The cut was located at a depth of between 1200mm and 1400mm beneath the current ground level. Approximately 400mm-500mm was excavated from the moat's uppermost fills, though its overall depth remains unknown. From the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey mapping, it is possible to establish that the castle's moat was sub-rectangular in plan and orientated in a north-northwest to south-southeast direction. It measured roughly 85-88m from east-southeast to west-southwest by 66-67m transversely, though the south-southeastern side of the moat had been infilled with Castlehill Road now passing along it. The west-southwest side of the moat appears to have been around 20m in width, the north-northwest side 20m wide and the east-northeast side was 24m wide: this is consistent with the dimensions of the moat ditch as revealed within the evaluation trenches.

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46. This project has been monitored for the West of Scotland Archaeological Service by Martin O'Hare who has given guidance and direction throughout.

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Appendix 1: Trench Details

Trench Summary

Trench	Orientation	Size	Topsoil & Flooring/trench Depth	Subsoil Character	Modern/ Agricultural Features	Significant Features	Artefacts
1	W-E	16.2m by 1.6m	150-370mm/700-1800mm	Natural subsoil was not reached. 0m to +5.6m: (007), mixed mid orange-brown/grey-brown, silty clay with moderate, small to medium sized stone and gravel inclusions. +5.6m to +9m: (010), softly compacted, dark to grey-brown, peat-like layer with frequent organic inclusions. +9m to +9.8m: (009), light to mid grey-blue, clay. +9.8m to +10.4m: (010). +10.4m to +16.2m: (011), very compacted, mid grey-brown, silty-clay.	At +4.6m, (008), 19 th or 20 th century field drain cut into made-up layer (007).	At +12.3m, [015], cut of New Cumnock Castle moat ditch (ENE side). Associated fills within it include (009) and (010). Layer (011) may also represent the counterscarp of the moat ditch.	None
2	NW-SE	14.08m by 1.6m	150mm-370mm/1000mm-1500mm	Natural subsoil was not reached. 0m to +4.8m: (031), moderate to firmly compacted, mixed mid grey-brown/grey-orange, clay with moderate small to medium sized stone and occasional brick fragment. +4.8m to +5.4m: (007), mixed mid orange-brown/grey-brown, silty clay with moderate, small to medium sized stone and gravel inclusions. +5.4m to +10.3m: (009), light to mid grey-blue, clay. +10.3m to +11.5m: (010), softly compacted, dark to grey-brown, peat-like layer with frequent organic inclusions.	None	At +10.5m, [015], cut of New Cumnock Castle moat ditch (ENE side). Associated fills within it include (009) and (010). Layer (011) may also represent the counterscarp of the moat ditch.	None

Trench	Orientation	Size	Topsoil & Flooring/trench Depth	Subsoil Character	Modern/ Agricultural Features	Significant Features	Artefacts
				+11.5m to +14.08m: (011), very compacted, mid grey-brown, silty-clay.			
3	SW-NE	9.03m by 1.6m	150mm-370mm/850mm-1000mm	Natural subsoil was not reached. 0m to +4.8m: (031), moderate to firmly compacted, mixed mid grey-brown/grey-orange, clay with moderate small to medium sized stone and occasional brick fragment. +4.8m to +5.4m: (007), mixed mid orange-brown/grey-brown, silty clay with moderate, small to medium sized stone and gravel inclusions. +5.4m to +10.3m: (009), light to mid grey-blue, clay. +10.3m to +11.5m: (010), softly compacted, dark to grey-brown, peat-like layer with frequent organic inclusions. +11.5m to +14.08m: (011), very compacted, mid grey-brown, silty-clay.	None	Layer (014) may represent the counterscarp of the moat ditch.	None
4	WSW-ENE	14.5m by 1.6m	450mm/1000mm-1780mm	0m to +1.3m: (023), very compacted, mixed grey-brown/grey-orange, clay with occasional to moderate inclusions of small to medium sized stone. +1.3m to +3.5m: (028), concentration of medium to large sized stones within very compacted, mid to dark grey-brown, clay. +3.5m to +4.7m: (029), very compacted, mixed	At +8.4m to +10.5m, [024], foundation wall of 19 th century church building. Services pipes (025-027).	At +11.1m, [015], cut of New Cumnock Castle moat ditch (ENE side). Associated fills within are (031). Layer (032) may also represent part of an artificial hill or platform on which the castle was constructed.	None

Trench	Orientation	Size	Topsoil & Flooring/trench Depth	Subsoil Character	Modern/ Agricultural Features	Significant Features	Artefacts
				grey-brown/dark brown, clay with moderate small stone inclusions. +4.7m to +6.8m: (030), Concentration of medium to large sized stones within very compacted, mid to dark grey-brown, clay. +6.8m to +8.4m: (023). +10.5m to +11.9m: (032), Very firmly compacted, mixed mid grey/mid brown, clayey-silt. +11.9m to +14.5m: (031), moderate to firmly compacted, mixed mid grey-brown/grey-orange, clay with moderate small to medium sized stone and occasional brick fragments.			
5	WSW-ENE	14.5m by 1.6m	450mm/990mm-1400mm	0m to +1.3m: (023), very compacted, mixed grey-brown/grey-orange, clay with occasional to moderate inclusions of small to medium sized stone. +1.3m to +3.5m: (028), concentration of medium to large sized stones within very compacted, mid to dark grey-brown, clay. +3.5m to +4.6m: (029), very compacted, mixed grey-brown/dark brown, clay with moderate small stone inclusions. +4.6m to +6.9m: (030), Concentration of medium to large sized stones within very compacted, mid to dark grey-brown, clay. +6.9m to +9.8m:	At +9.8m to +11.2m, [024], foundation wall of 19 th century church building. Services pipes (025-027).	Layer (031) may be an upper fill within the moat ditch. The ditch cut [015] could not, however, be identified.	None

Trench	Orientation	Size	Topsoil & Flooring/trench Depth	Subsoil Character	Modern/ Agricultural Features	Significant Features	Artefacts
				(023). +11.2m to +14.5m: (031), moderate to firmly compacted, mixed mid grey-brown/grey-orange, clay with moderate small to medium sized stone and occasional brick fragments.			
6	NNW-SSE	2m by 1.6m	450mm/500-700mm	0m to +1m: (022), moderately to firmly compacted, mixed grey-brown/dark brown, clayey-silt with moderate stone and brick inclusions.	At +1m to +2m: [024], foundation wall of 19 th century church building.	None	None
7	NNE-SSE	2m by 1.6m	450mm/700-900mm	(023), very compacted, mixed grey-brown/grey-orange, clay with occasional to moderate inclusions of small to medium sized stone.	None	None	None

Appendix 2: Registers

Context Register

Context No.	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
001	1/1 and 2	Deposit	Mixed mid grey/mid grey-brown, clayey silt with occasional to moderate inclusions of stone, modern brick, metal and plastic. Thickness range of 180mm-370mm. Overlies (002).	Topsoil on slope of terrace in front of church building.
002	1/1	Deposit	Light to mid orange, silty sand with frequent small stone and pebble inclusions. Thickness of approximately 180mm. Underlies (001) and overlies (003).	Made-up layer beneath topsoil (001).

Context No.	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
003	1/1-3	Deposit	Mixed mid-dark grey/mid-dark grey-brown, clayey silt with occasional to moderate inclusions of stone, modern brick, metal and plastic. Thickness range of 150mm-260mm	Topsoil within the church grounds.
004	1/1	Deposit	Light to mid orange, silty sand with frequent small stone and pebble inclusions. Thickness of approximately 190mm. Underlies (003).	Made-up layer beneath topsoil (003).
005	1/2 and 3	Deposit	Mixed mid grey/grey-brown, silty-sand/silty-clay with frequent stone and occasional to moderate modern brick inclusions. Thickness of approximately 220mm. Underlies (003) with unclear relationship to (004).	Made-up layer beneath topsoil (003).
006	1/2	Deposit	Mixed mid-dark grey/mid-dark grey-brown, clayey silt with occasional to moderate inclusions of stone, modern brick, metal and plastic. Thickness of approximately 410mm.	Remains of a topsoil layer beneath (005).
007	1/1-3	Deposit	Mixed mid orange-brown/grey-brown, silty clay with moderate, small to medium sized stone and gravel inclusions. Thickness range of 190mm-520mm. Underlies (004-006).	Made-up layer (19 th or 20 th century)
008	1/1	Cut/Fill	Linear cut within T1. Fill consisted of mixed mid-dark grey/mid-dark grey-brown, clayey silt with very frequent stone inclusions. Feature was approximately 0.6m wide. Depth unknown.	19 th or 20 th century field drain cut into made-up layer (007).
009	1/1 and 2	Fill	Light to mid grey-blue, clay. Located within the eastern and southeastern ends of T1 and T2. Thickness of 130mm-270mm. Underlies (007).	Possible upper fill within moat cut [015].
010	1/1 and 2	Fill	Softly compacted, dark to grey-brown, peat-like layer with frequent organic inclusions. Not fully excavated. Underlies (009).	Possible upper fill within moat cut [015].
011	1/1 and 2	Deposit	Very compacted, mid grey-brown, silty-clay with moderate inclusions of small stone and pebbles. Not fully excavated. Cut by [015].	Unclear if this layer represents the natural subsoil or part of a counterscarp associated with the castles moat [015].

Context No.	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
012	1/3	Deposit	Compacted red/red-brown sand with fragments of off-white coloured stone within it. Not fully excavated. Underlies (007) and Overlies (013).	Possibly 19 th or 20 th century layer overlying (014).
013	1/3	Deposit	Moderately compacted, red sand layer. Not fully excavated. Underlies (012) and overlies (014).	Possibly 19 th or 20 th century layer overlying (014).
014	1/3	Deposit	Very compacted, mid grey-brown/orange-brown, silty-clay with moderate small- to medium-sized stone inclusions. Not fully excavated. Underlies (013). Possibly the same as (011).	Unclear if this layer represents the natural subsoil or part of a counterscarp associated with the castle moat [015].
015	1 and 2/1, 2 and 4	Cut	Linear cut running approximately NNW-SSE across the eastern ends of T1 and T2. Associated linear cut also traced at eastern end of T4. Most likely part of large moat ditch. Cuts through (011) in T1-2 and (032) in T4. Overall width of the moat ditch would be approximately 22m. Cut located at a depth of between 1200mm-1400mm below ground level. The overall depth of the moat is unknown, though the feature's fills (009) and (010) were excavated to a depth of approximately 400mm-500mm within T1 and T2. From the 1 st and 2 nd edition Ordnance Survey maps it is possible to discern that the castle's moat was sub-rectangular in shape and orientated in a NNW-SSE direction. It measured between 85 and 88m from ESE-WSW by 66-67m transversely, though the SSE side of the moat had been filled with Castlehill Road now passing along it. The WSW side of the moat was roughly 20m wide, the NNW side 20m wide and the ENE side 24m wide.	Cut of New Cumnock Castle moat ditch (ENE side).
016	1/2	Structure/cut	Square concrete and stone foundation. Approximately 1m by 1m and 400mm thick. Structure set within a cut at the SE end of T2.	Base for 20 th century war memorial within church grounds.
017	1/3	Deposit	Layer of compact white/cream coloured rock at the SW end of T3.	Thought to be bedrock but as the layer it protrudes from (014) is possibly the result of human deposition then it to may be the result of human activity.

Context No.	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
018	2/4-7	Deposit	Concrete flooring. Formed ground level and aisles within the church. Layer had a thickness of 50mm-70mm. Overlay (019).	Modern concrete floor surface within the church building. In the middle part of the church this flooring was set out in parallel aisles between which had been wooden floor surfaces.
019	2/4-7	Deposit	Stone and mortar/concrete foundation layer beneath concrete flooring (018). The layer was 380mm-400mm thick. Underlay (018) and Overlay (020). Abuts (019).	Floor foundation underlying modern floor surface (018).
020	2/4-7	Deposit	Loose to moderately compacted, mixed orange sand/yellow sand-gravel with moderate inclusions of small- to medium-sized stone and 19th or 20th century brick fragments. Layer 200mm-300mm thick. Underlies floor foundation (019) and overlies infill layer (022).	19th/20th century rubble/demolition layer.
021	2/4-7	Deposit	Layer of tarmac-like material which lies between the aisles of the church floor (018/019). Layer 50mm-80mm thick. Layer overlies (020) and abuts (019).	Tarmac surface lying between the concrete aisles within the church. Possibly acted as a damp proofing agent between the aisles for the wooden flooring above.
022	2/4-7	Deposit	Moderately to firmly compacted, mixed grey-brown/dark brown clayey-silt with moderate stone and brick inclusions. Layer had a thickness of 420mm-700mm. A number of ceramic and metal service pipes ran through the layer (no cut evident). The layer underlay (020) and overlay [024] and (028) –(030).	Deliberate layer of 19th or 20th century infill. Presumably over and around the remains of the 19th century church building foundations [024].
023	2/4 and 5	Deposit	Very compacted, mixed grey-brown/grey-orange clay with occasional to moderate inclusions of small- to medium-sized stones. There were also very infrequent inclusions of larger stones. The layer was not fully excavated but it was excavated to a depth of 200mm-300mm within T4 and T5. The layer underlay [024] and had an unclear relationship with (028) –(031)	Most likely a deliberate layer of deposited material predating the original 19th century church building. Possibly an interface layer between the 19th century building and the later stages of the castle.
024	2/4, 5 and 6	Structure	Possible structural remains within T4, T5 and T6 (forming a possible wall return). Consisted of large flat unworked stones with smaller irregular shaped stones in between. Stones had ranged in size between 230mm x 180mm x 140mm to 600mm x 420mm x 280mm. The stones were	Foundation walls of 19th century church building which was replaced by the early 20th century church.

Context No.	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
			bonded with a rough pale yellow mortar. The structure had a width of 1-1.5m and a height of 700mm. The structure underlay (019), (021) and (022). It overlay (023) and (031).	
025	2/5	Pipe	Metal pipe which ran through layer (022) to the W of foundation [024]. Pipe had a diameter of 25mm.	19 th or 20 th century service pipe.
026	2/4 and 5	Pipe	Lead pipe which ran through layer (022) to the E of foundation [024]. Pipe had a diameter of 95mm.	19 th or 20 th century service pipe.
027	2/4 and 5	Pipe	Ceramic pipe which ran through layer (022) to the E of foundation [024]. Pipe had a diameter of 95mm.	19 th or 20 th century dated service pipe.
028	2/4 and 5	Deposit	Concentration of medium to large sized stones within very compacted, mid to dark grey-brown, clay. Stones had a size ranging between 400mm x 300mm x 300mm and 300mm x 250mm x 180mm. The stones were irregular or flat. The feature had a width of approximately 1.8-2.1m and a height from the base of the trench of 300mm. When considered in association with the other components of the clay and stone foundation, (029) and (030), the feature would have measured approximately 5-6m wide and would have had a NNE-SSW orientation	Possibly part of a rough foundation layer, along with (029) and (030), of stone and clay associated with the medieval castle.
029	2/4 and 5	Deposit	Very compacted, mixed grey-brown/dark brown, clay with moderate small stone inclusions. Layer was situated between stone concentrations (028) and (030) and had a width of between 1-1.5m and a thickness of 200mm. When considered in association with the other components of the clay and stone foundation, (028) and (030), the feature would have measured approximately 5-6m wide and would have had a NNE-SSW orientation	Possibly a core of clay and small stone which lay between two concentrations of stone (028) and (030). Possibly part of rough clay and stone foundation associated with the medieval castle.
030	2/4 and 5	Deposit	Concentration of medium to large sized stones within very compacted, mid to dark grey-brown, clay. Stones had a size ranging between 390mm x 280mm x 420mm and 450mm x 380mm x 180mm. The stones were irregular/flat shaped. The feature had a width of c.1.9-2.3m and a	Possibly part of a rough foundation layer, along with (028) and (029), of stone and clay associated with the medieval castle.

Context No.	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
			height from the base of the trench of c.300mm. When considered in association with the other components of the clay and stone foundation, (028) and (029), the feature would have measured approximately 5-6m wide and would have had a NNE-SSW orientation	
031	2/4 and 5	Deposit	Moderate to firmly compacted, mixed mid grey-brown/grey-orange, clay with moderate small to medium sized stone and occasional brick fragment. The layer was not fully excavated but was excavated to a depth of 550mm-600mm.	The layer may have been an upper fill within the WSW side of the castle's moat ditch [015], on its inner side.
032	2/4	Deposit	Very firmly compacted, mixed mid grey/mid brown, clayey-silt with moderate small sized stone inclusions. The layer was not fully excavated.	Unclear if this layer represents the natural subsoil or part of an artificial hill or platform on which the castle had been constructed. The inner side of the moat ditch [015] also seems to cut through it at the eastern end of T4.
033	2/6 and 7	Structure	Walls of church. Mix of sandstone block with mortar bond with areas of brick. Approximately 0.7m wide though much wider at the base.	Outer walls of 20 th century church.

Photographic Register

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
001	0398	Pre-excavation view of Area 2, the church grounds.	E	23/02/2015
002	0399	Pre-excavation view of Area 2, the church grounds.	S	23/02/2015
003	0400	Pre-excavation view of Area 2, the church grounds.	NE	23/02/2015
004	0402	Post-excavation view of T2.	SE	23/02/2015
005	0403	Trench 2. SW facing section. Close up of eastern moat edge [015].	S	23/02/2015

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
006	0404	Trench 2. NE facing section. Close up of the western part of fills (009) and (010) within moat [015].	NNW	23/02/2015
007	0405	Trench 2. NE facing section. Close up of the western part of fills (009) and (010) within moat [015].	NE	23/02/2015
008	0406	Trench 2. NE facing section. Close up of the western part of fills (009) and (010) within moat [015].	ENE	23/02/2015
009	0407	NW end of Trench 2.	E	23/02/2015
010	0408	Post-excavation view of Trench 2.	W	23/02/2015
011	0409	Oblique view of Trench 3.	SE	23/02/2015
012	0410	General view of Trench 3 under excavation.	NE	23/02/2015
013	0411	War memorial base [016] after removal from Trench 2.	SSW	23/02/2015
014	0412	View of the SE end of Trench 2 where the war memorial base [016] had been situated.	SE	23/02/2015
015	0413	View of war memorial base [016].	-	23/02/2015
016	0414	NW facing section of Trench 2.	WSW	23/02/2015
017	0415	Post-excavation view of Trench 2.	SW	23/02/2015
018	0416	Post-excavation view of Trench 2.	NE	23/02/2015
019	0417	Close up view of the SW end of Trench 2.	NE	23/02/2015
020	0418	Post-excavation view of W end of Trench 1 showing stone drain (008).	E	23/02/2015
021	0419	Close up view of clay layer (009) overlying Peat-like layer (008) within moat in Trench 2.	SSE	23/02/2015
022	0420	Post-excavation view of Trench 1.	E	23/02/2015
023	0421	Oblique view of Trench 1 showing stone drain (008) and eastern edge of moat [015].	SE	23/02/2015

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
024	0422	Oblique view of Trench 1 showing stone drain (008) and eastern edge of moat [015].	SE	23/02/2015
025	0423	View of stone wall marking the north-northwestern edge of the church grounds. Shows slight subsidence presumably caused by the moat running underneath.	ESE	23/02/2015
026	0424	View of stone wall marking the north-northwestern edge of the church grounds. Shows slight subsidence presumably caused by the moat running underneath.	ESE	23/02/2015
027	0425	Old (17 th century) parish located to the SW of the site of New Cumnock Castle.	W	23/02/2015
028	0426	Old (17 th century) parish located to the SW of the site of New Cumnock Castle.	SW	23/02/2015
029	0427	View of possible bank or artificial platform which may have formed the castles WSW side.	S	23/02/2015
030	0428	View of Castlehill road from WSW looking toward the A76.	WSW	23/02/2015
031	0429	View of possible bank or artificial platform which may have formed the castles ENE side. Taken from the A76.	ESE	23/02/2015
032	0430	Area 1 after backfilling.	-	23/02/2015
033	0431	View of possible bank or artificial platform which may have formed the castles NNW side. Taken from the A76	ENE	23/02/2015
034	0486	View of church doors after boarding was removed.	ENE	11/03/2015
035	0487	View of mini digger within Area 1.	-	11/03/2015
036	0488	View of Area 2 pre-excavation.	E	11/03/2015
037	0489	View of Area 2 pre-excavation.	E	11/03/2015
038	0490	View of mini digger entering the church.	WSW	11/03/2015
039	0491	View of floor foundation and wall, (018) and (019).	WSW	11/03/2015
040	0492	Machine clearing middle wall/foundation for flooring/aisles.	E	11/03/2015

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
041	0493	View of engineers exploratory (Trench 7).	E	11/03/2015
042	0494	View of engineers exploratory (Trench 6).	ENE	11/03/2015
043	0495	E end of Trench 4 showing layers and floor foundation, (018), (019), (021), (020) and (022).	N	11/03/2015
044	0496	E end of Trench 4 showing layers and floor foundation, (018), (019), (021), (020) and (022).	NE	11/03/2015
045	0497	View of 19 th century church foundation [024] in Trench 4.	N	11/03/2015
046	0498	View of 19 th century church foundation [024] in Trench 4.	NE	11/03/2015
047	0499	Post-excavation view of Trench 4.	NE	11/03/2015
048	0500	Post-excavation view of Trench 4.	E	11/03/2015
049	0501	View of 19 th century church foundation [024] in Trench 4.	NE	11/03/2015
050	0502	Post-excavation view of Trench 4.	WNW	11/03/2015
051	0503	View of N facing section of Trench 4 at its W end. Shows stone concentration (030) at the base of the trench.	NE	11/03/2015
052	0504	View of N facing section of Trench 4 at its W end. Shows stone concentrations (028), (029) and (030) at the base of the trench.	E	11/03/2015
053	0505	View of Trench 7 with small exploratory slot placed through it. Shows layer (022).	E	12/03/2015
054	0506	View of Trench 7 with small exploratory slot placed through it. Shows layer (022).	E	12/03/2015
055	0507	View of stone concentration at W end of Trench 5.	WSW	12/03/2015
056	0508	View of stone concentration at W end of Trench 5.	S	12/03/2015
057	0509	View of possible building stone from layer (023) at stone concentration (028).	-	12/03/2015

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
058	0510	View of possible building stone from layer (023) at stone concentration (028).	-	12/03/2015
059	0511	View of stone concentration (030) and part of (029) within Trench 5.	S	12/03/2015
060	0512	View of stone concentration (030) and part of (029) within Trench 5.	S	12/03/2015
061	0513	Oblique view of W end of Trench 5, showing stone concentrations (028), (029) and (030).	WSW	12/03/2015
062	0514	View of possible building stone from layer (023) at stone concentration (028).	-	12/03/2015
063	0515	View of possible building stone from layer (023) at stone concentration (028).	-	12/03/2015
064	0516	View of W end of Trench 5, showing stone concentrations (028), (029) and (030).	W	12/03/2015
065	0517	View of both trenches, Trench 4 and Trench 5.	W	12/03/2015
066	0518	View of both trenches, Trench 4 and Trench 5.	W	12/03/2015
067	0519	Oblique view showing stone concentrations (028), (029) and (030) in Trench 5.	WSW	12/03/2015
068	0520	View of 19 th century church foundations within Trench 4 and Trench 5.	WNW	12/03/2015
069	0521	Section through 19 th century church foundations [024] within Trench 5.	S	12/03/2015
070	0522	Oblique view of church foundations [024] in Trench 5.	SW	12/03/2015
071	0523	View of 19 th century church foundations within Trench 4 and Trench 5.	S	12/03/2015
072	0524	View of 19 th century church foundations within Trench 4 and Trench 5.	S	12/03/2015
073	0525	View of brick from layer (031) at E end of Trench 5.	-	12/03/2015
074	0526	View of brick from layer (031) at E end of Trench 5.	-	12/03/2015
075	0527	Post excavation view of Trench 5.	E	12/03/2015
076	0528	View of Trench 4 and Trench 5 fully excavated with church foundations [024] visible.	E	12/03/2015

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
077	0529	View of Trench 4 and Trench 5 fully excavated with church foundations [024] visible	SE	12/03/2015
078	0530	Close up view of church foundations in Trench 4 and Trench 5.	SE	12/03/2015

Drawing Register

Drawing No.	Sheet No.	Area/ Trench	Drawing Type	Scale	Description	Drawer	Date
001	1	1/1	Plan	1:100	Post-excavation plan of Trench 1	LMcK	23/02/2015
002	1	1/2	Plan	1:100	Post-excavation plan of Trench 2	LMcK	23/02/2015
003	1	1/3	Plan	1:100	Post-excavation plan of Trench 3	LMcK	23/02/2015
004	1	1/1	Section	Not to scale	Sketch section of Trench 1. S facing.	LMcK	23/02/2015
005	1	1/2	Section	Not to scale	Sketch section of Trench 2. SW facing.	LMcK	23/02/2015
006	1	1/3	Section	Not to scale	Sketch section of Trench 3. SE facing.	LMcK	23/02/2015
007	2	2/4-7	Plan	1:100	Post-excavation plan of Trenches 4-7 within churches interior.	LMcK	11- 12/03/2015
008	2	2/4-5	Profile	Not to scale	Cross section/profile of church floor, E facing.	LMcK	11- 12/03/2015
009	2	2/4	Section	Not to scale	Sketch section of Trench 4. N facing.	LMcK	11- 12/03/2015
010	2	2/5	Section	Measured sketch	Measured sketch section of Trench 5. S facing.	LMcK	11- 12/03/2015
011	2	2/7	Section	Not to scale	Sketch section of Trench 7. E facing.	LMcK	11- 12/03/2015

Appendix 3: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Ayrshire
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Castlehill, New Cumnock
PROJECT CODE:	RA14028
PARISH:	New Cumnock
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Liam McKinstry
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Rathmell Archaeology Limited
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	NS61SW 2, Canmore ID 44712
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	Castle, Moat.
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NS 6176 1381 (Centred)
START DATE (this season)	23 rd February 2015
END DATE (this season)	12 th March 2015
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (may include information from other fields)	<p>An archaeological evaluation was carried on behalf of Auberne Homes in respect of the construction of a new residential development at Castlehill, New Cumnock (14/0293/PP).</p> <p>The work involved the excavation of seven trenches within the building footprint of the 1913 Arthur Memorial United Reform Church and its grounds. These trenches revealed thick layers of made-up ground dominated by construction and demolition material relating to the demolition of an earlier 19th century church and the subsequent construction of its 20th century replacement.</p> <p>Beneath these layers, significant archaeological remains relating to New Cumnock Castle, a medieval castle which once stood upon the site, were identified at a depth of between 700mm and 1400mm within the trenches. These remains included a linear concentration of stone and clay which was identified within the churches building footprint and which may have been a foundation, possibly relating to the castle's curtain wall. A large ditch was also identified within the grounds and within the building footprint of the church. This ditch ran parallel direction to the possible foundation identified within the church building footprint, in a north-northwest to south-southeast direction.</p> <p>These features seemed to have formed part of the castle's east-northeastern side. They suggest a basal width for the curtain wall foundation of approximately 5-6m and a surviving height of at least 300mm, though the feature was not excavated to its full depth. The moat ditch, which lay approximately 5m from the foundation, would have had an overall width of approximately 22m. The cut was located at a depth of between 1200mm-1400m below the current ground level. Approximately 400mm-500mm was excavated out the moat's uppermost fills, but the overall depth of this feature remains unknown, though.</p> <p>1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey mapping of the area shows that</p>

	the moat was sub-rectangular in shape and orientated in a north-northwest to south-southeast direction. In plan, it measured approximately 85m from east-southeast to west-southwest by 66-67m, transversely, though by this time the south-southeastern side of the moat had been infilled with Castlehill Road now passing along it. Historic mapping also suggests that the moat varied in width between 20m and 24m wide, which is consistent with the evidence obtained from the evaluation trenches.
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	Yes.
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
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ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Report to West of Scotland Archaeology Service and archive to RCAHMS Collections

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