

11 Kilmarnock Road, Mauchline, East Ayrshire: Archaeological Monitoring

Data Structure Report



by Diane Gorman

issued 13th March 2015

on behalf of Jamieson Blair Ltd

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 ...  Date13th March 2015.....

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Checked  Date13th March 2015.....

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Introduction

1. This Data Structure Report has been prepared for Jamieson Blair Ltd in support of construction work on land at 11 Kilmarnock Road, Mauchline, East Ayrshire (13/0755/PP). The development work includes a new roof on the existing structure and two new garages facing onto Castle Street. The archaeological works were designed to mitigate any adverse impact on the archaeological remains within the development area.
2. East Ayrshire Council required a programme of archaeological monitoring to be undertaken as an element of the granted planning consent. The West of Scotland Archaeology Service, who advise Glasgow City Council on archaeological matters has provided guidance on the structure of archaeological works required by the granted planning consent and the mitigation of the development works.
3. Rathmell Archaeology Limited was appointed by Jamieson Blair Ltd to undertake the development and implementation of archaeological mitigation works for the construction stage of the project. This Data Structure Report details the findings of the archaeological mitigation works.
4. The Method Statement (Matthews 2014) 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.
5. The identified structure of appropriate mitigation works are those necessary to ensure that the development could proceed while dealing appropriately with the identified adverse impact of the archaeological resource.

Archaeological and Historical Background

6. The development area lies on the south-western side of the Kilmarnock Road (New Road) within the archaeologically sensitive area defined for the burgh of Mauchline (WoSAS Pin 7253). Mauchline has a medieval origin, the majority of the parish having been granted to the Cistercian Melrose Abbey before 1177.
7. The medieval administration of this land was through a grange, with offices, granaries, barns, a hospice and chapel (the latter was to become the parish church) controlled by Melrose Abbey. The nucleus of these buildings was Abbot Hunter's Tower (aka Mauchline Castle, WoSAS Pin 7254) probably built about 1450, when Andrew Hunter was abbot of Melrose (his arms appear on a roof boss in the hall). There is no evidence to suggest that a cell of the Abbey or a dependent priory developed here; this was simply the administrative headquarters.
8. The surrounding burgh was not licensed as burgh of barony until 1510; becoming burgh of regality in 1707 (Pryde 1965). It is likely that some form of irregular settlement grew up around or close to the grange before the formal grant of a burgh charter. This pattern of pre-burgh development flowing into formal recognition may be reflected in the early street layout – with Mauchline exhibiting a convergent pattern of roadways suggesting *ad hoc* development over time rather than a formally planned new settlement.
9. The best illustration of this is from Roy's Military Survey of Scotland 1752-55 (see Figure 1a) showing Machlin (sic) aligned on a single north-south street with a number of lesser thoroughfares converging on the centre, near the present church (WoSASPIN 7263). The most built-up of these roads leads eastwards on or close to the line of the modern High Street. The greater part of the settlement is shown to lie south of the Mauchline Burn, but a second well built-up street lies on the north side of the burn on or near the alignment of the modern Burnside.



Figure 1a: Roy's Military Survey (Lowlands 1752-55)

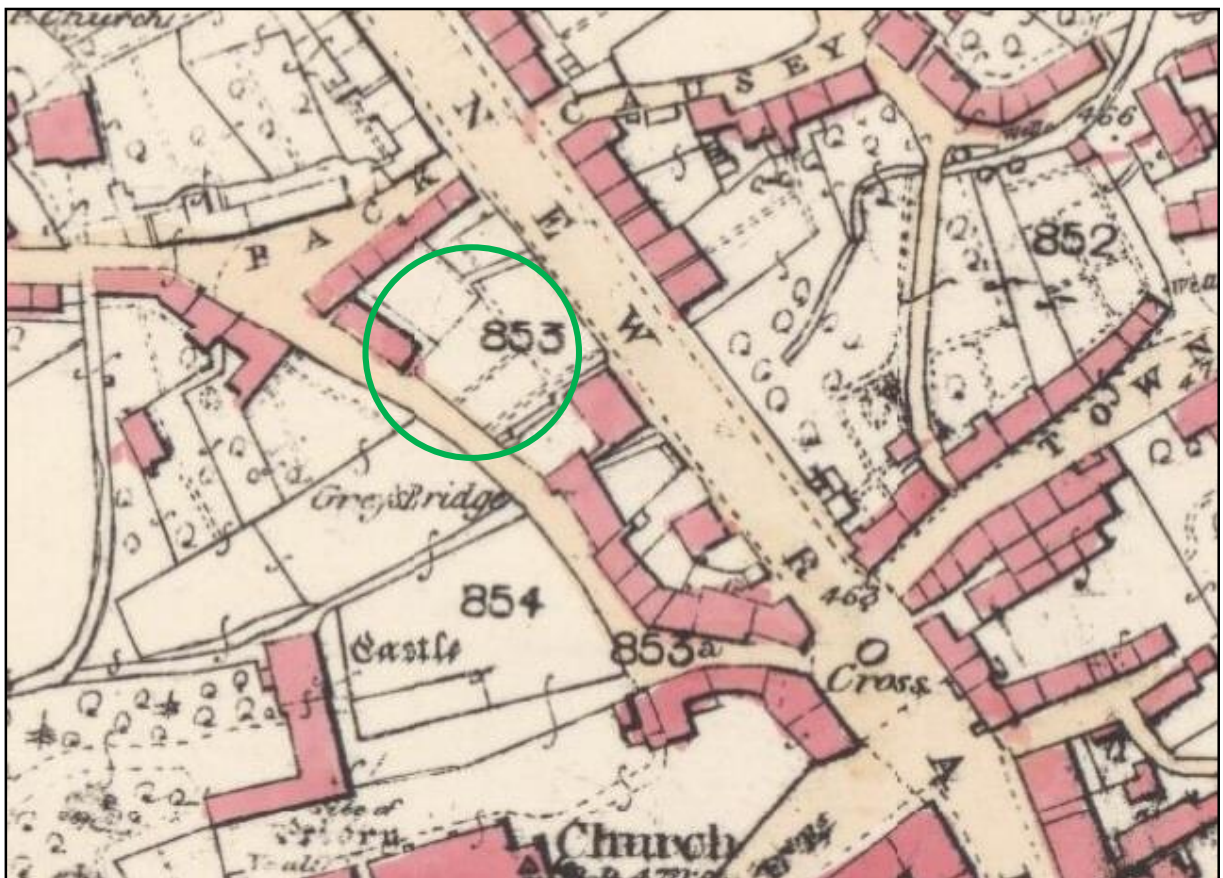


Figure 1b: 1st edition Ordnance Survey (1860) Ayr Sheet XXVII.8



Figure 2a: 3rd edition Ordnance Survey (1909)



Figure 2b: 4th edition Ordnance Survey (1945)

10. The subsequent Ordnance Survey from 1860 (Figure 1b) shows Kilmarnock Road (then the New Road) forced through the centre of Mauchline forming a new staggered crossroads as it cuts across High Street (then Townhead) and Loudoun Street (then Main Street). The development area is depicted at this time as open plot between New Road and Castle Street.
11. The development area remains an open plot in the 3rd edition of 1909 (see Figure 2a), there is little change by 1945, the 4th edition Ordnance Survey, (see Figure 2b). The continuity of this frontage between the mid 18th and the present suggests the potential for the development area to overlie much older buildings. Beyond this, there is the potential for evidence of ancillary activity from the medieval and post-medieval period. Such earlier activity is likely to have been compromised to a degree by the later 19th and 20th century structures.

Project Works

12. The archaeological mitigation works took place on Wednesday 4th March 2015, and consisted of the monitoring of the excavation of 6 foundation pits. The excavations were carried out using a JCB 3CX. The development site is located at 11 Kilmarnock Road, and consisted of two areas. Firstly, an existing building at the north-east side of the development (facing Kilmarnock Road) required a new roof. The second area was located to the rear of this building (to the south-west), looking onto Castle Street; it was in this area that the monitoring works took place (Figure 3, Figure 5b).
13. It is important to note at this stage that a height difference of approximately 3m exists between the level of Kilmarnock Road and the level of Castle Street (Castle Street being at the lower level). This seems to have occurred to account for a general sloping of this part of the town from the north (Figure 5a).
14. The monitored excavations were located within the lower, basement area of the new development. Currently, this is home to 6 small rectangular red brick structures (described on site drawings as 'lock-ups'), within a slightly larger rectangular parcel of land, with an additional small storage area to the south-east (Figure 4). The area in its entirety is located to the north-east of the tarmac-covered surface of Castle Street, but has not itself been surfaced with tarmac. The position of the larger rectangular land parcel, containing the 6 lock-ups and the storage area, occupies the footprint of Garages 1 and 2 on the development plans.
15. The 6 lock-ups and the adjacent storage area consisted of a series of adjacent rectangular red brick structures, orientated north-west to south-east. The former consisted of 5 red brick cross-walls, orientated south-west to north-east, running at 90° angles from another red brick wall which ran along the north-east side. Red brick walls had also been constructed at the north-west and south-east ends to create the outer walls. Subsequent to their excavation, supporting structures were to be constructed within the foundation pits to support this back wall during remaining works.
16. No walls existed at the south-west side of the lock-ups; this was presumably to allow access from Castle Street. Though unroofed, it seems likely they were roofed at some point. Although similarly built of red brick, the adjacent storage area was earlier or a later addition, as it did not share the same rear wall.
17. In its entirety, the sequence of 6 lock-ups measured 16.8m long (north-west to south-east) by 4.15m wide (south-west to north-east), with each lock-up measured approximately 3.6m long (south-west to north-east) by 2.63m wide (north-west to south-east). The foundation pits were located at the north-east side of the lock-ups, tight against the back wall: each measured the width of the lock-up (2.63m) (north-west to south-east) by 2.3m - 2.4m transversely. The depths of the foundation pits varied between 0.25m and 0.75m from the top of ground level. The pits were assigned a sequence of numbers on-site from 1 to 6 (Figure 4).
18. 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.

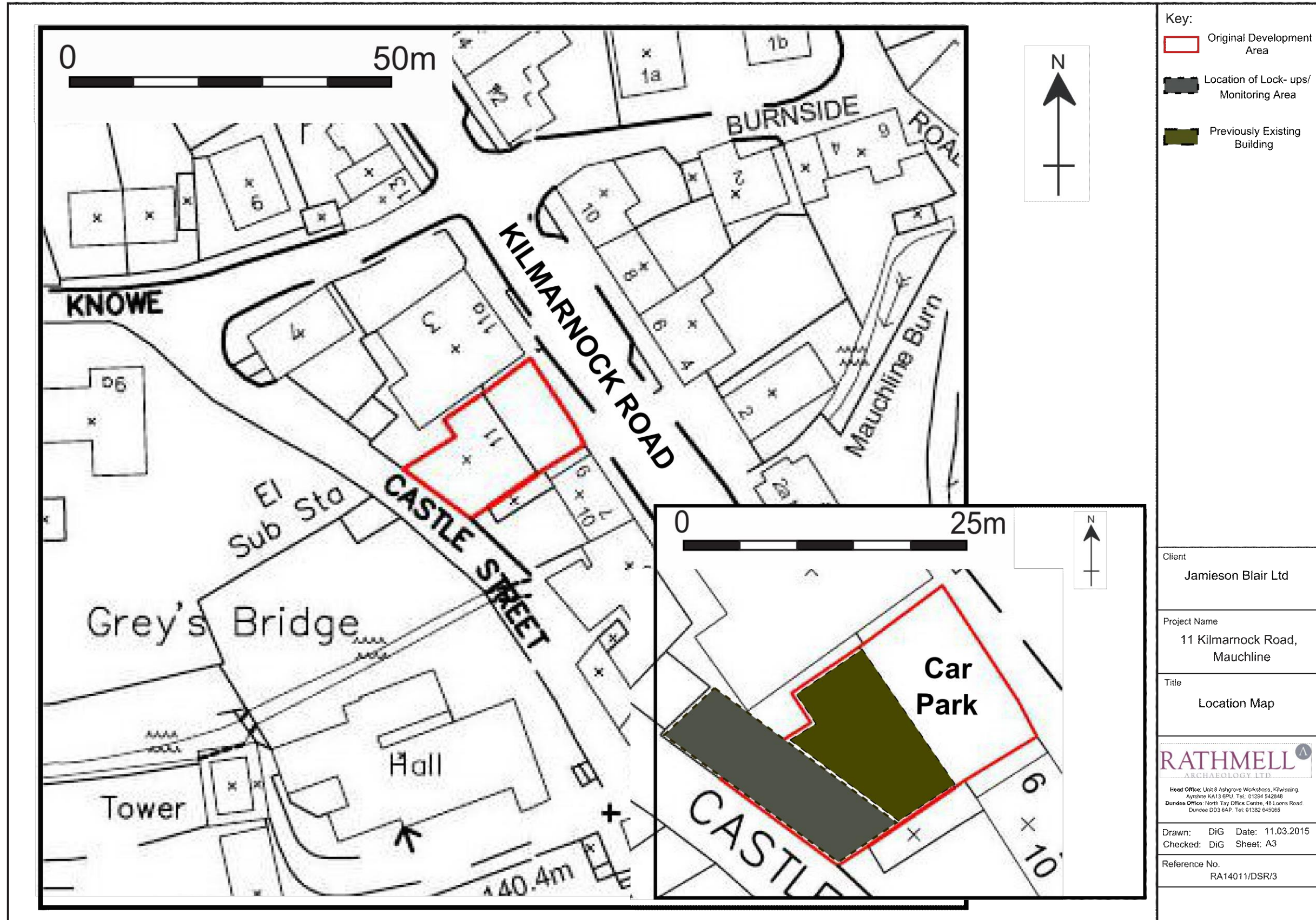


Figure 3: Location Map

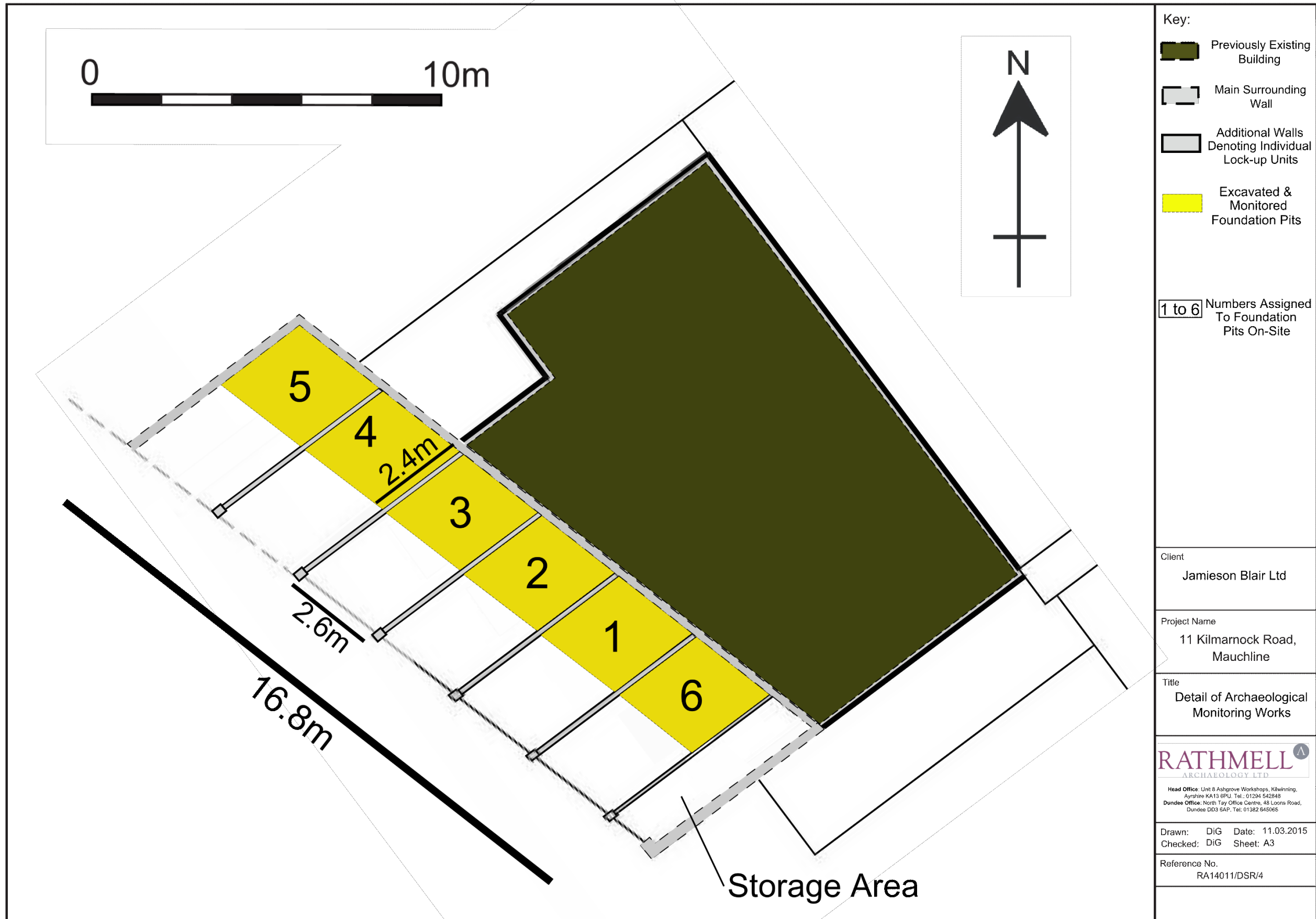


Figure 4: Detail of Archaeological Monitoring Works

Findings

19. Monitoring of the excavation of the foundation pits exposed a maximum thickness of 0.42m of deposits overlying red sandstone bedrock (002). The nature of the deposits varied somewhat, but generally the uppermost deposit was (001), which covered the majority of the area within the footprint of Garages 1 and 2 (Figure 6b). Deposit (001) looked to be a mixture of levelling material and a build-up of general detritus, and comprised mid-grey/mid-brown/black ash and silty sand, containing plastic, slate fragments, wood and occasional small to medium stones. This deposit varied in depth between less than 0.1m to 0.16m thick, and was the uppermost deposit encountered within 5 of the 6 foundation pits (pits 1 to 4 and 6).
20. Below this, within 4 of the 6 pits (pits 2 to 4 and 6), the excavation came down immediately onto bedrock (002), which was excavated to varying depths. One of the pits (pit 1) showed a similar situation over most of its extent, with 0.1m of (001) overlying bedrock (002). However, at the western corner, two further deposits were also exposed prior to the excavation encountering bedrock (Figure 6a).
21. These were deposits (003) and (004), which occurred in an area measuring 0.4m by 0.45m on plan. A deposit of (001) 0.1m thick was found above 0.3m thickness of deposits (003) and (004), with bedrock encountered at a depth of 0.4m below the top of the current ground level. Both (003) and (004) look to be levelling an area of natural slope within the bedrock. Deposit (003) consisted of yellow, coarse silty sand and measured 0.1m maximum thickness, with no visible inclusions. Deposit (004) consisted of brown silty, coarse sand again, with fragments of bedrock; the deposit measured 0.2m maximum thickness.
22. The floor of the lock-up at the north-west end of the lock-up sequence was coated with a layer of concrete (006); excavation of the foundation pit here (pit 5) found that the concrete measured 0.16m thick, and sat immediately over a sheet of blue plastic. A layer of grey concrete aggregate (007) measuring less than 0.1m thick was found immediately below the plastic. The usual deposit of (001) was found below the concrete, measuring 0.16m thick, and below this a layer of tarmac (008), measuring less than 0.05m in thickness, was exposed. The tarmac lay immediately above bedrock (002), which was found at a depth of 0.42m below the top of the concrete. The top of the concrete rose about 0.1m above the top of the adjacent tarmac of Castle Road.

Discussion

23. Monitoring works at 11 Kilmarnock Road, Mauchline revealed only evidence of modern disturbance, with the maximum depth of material found overlying bedrock (002) being 0.42m. Generally, the excavations exposed between less than 0.1m and 0.15m thickness of deposit (001) above bedrock (002).
24. It is possible that the shallow depth at which red sandstone bedrock was found during excavation of the 6 foundation pits results from local quarrying; the shallow nature of sediments found above the bedrock would seem to suggest this, perhaps resulting from an attempt to level the area with (001), prior to the construction of the lock-ups and storage area.
25. The village of Mauchline was known for its underlying geology of red sandstone. The new statistical accounts mentions extensive strata of red 'freestone' in the south side of the parish, in places upwards of 40 feet in depth. In addition, reference to local red sandstone quarries are made within both the old and new statistical accounts; disused red sandstone quarries are located to the south of the village. Barskimming Quarry was located close to Mosshead Farm, to the south-west of the village centre, while Ballochmyle Quarry was located in the vicinity of Haughyett Farm, to the south of the village centre.
26. Many buildings within the vicinity of the excavation area are constructed from red sandstone. A number of houses along Kilmarnock Road and Castle Street are constructed of ashlar red sandstone blocks. In particular the parish church, which is located to the south of the development area and which was constructed in 1829 is constructed of red

sandstone, as well as Mauchline Castle, located to the south-east of the development. While it cannot be confirmed that this material has originated in Mauchline, the proximity of the buildings to such an easily available source of stone would indicate it is probable.

Conclusion

27. A programme of archaeological works was required by Jamieson Blair Ltd in support of construction work on land at 11 Kilmarnock Road, Mauchline. The archaeological works were designed to mitigate the impact on the archaeological remains within the development area.
28. The mitigation works consisted of an archaeological watching brief which monitored the excavation of 6 foundation pits located to the rear of the development. No significant archaeological features were found, although monitoring of the works did reveal potential evidence of small scale quarrying activities having taken place there at some point.

Acknowledgements

29. The author would like to thank the West of Scotland Archaeology Service for their support and guidance during the archaeological works at Mauchline.



Figure 5a: Site Location, looking onto Castle Street (from WNW)



Figure 5b: Lock-ups, and rear of existing building (from W)



Figure 6a: South-east facing section, Foundation Pit 1 (from SE)



Figure 6b: Mid-excavation shot of Foundation Pit 4, showing (002) (from SW)

References

Documentary

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------|---|
| Matthews, A | 2014 | <i>11 Kilmarnock Road, Mauchline, East Ayrshire: Archaeological Mitigation Method Statement</i> , unpublished commercial report by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd |
| Auld, W | 1791-99 | 'Parish of Machlin' In <i>Old Statistical Accounts of Scotland Vol.2.pp 110</i> |
| Tod, J | 1834-1845 | 'Parish of Mauchline' In <i>New Statistical Accounts of Scotland Vol.5.pp 160 & 163, 164</i> |

Cartographic

- | | | |
|-----------------|---------|--|
| Roy, W | 1752-55 | <i>Military Survey of Scotland (Lowlands)</i> |
| Ordnance Survey | 1860 | <i>25-inch 1st Edition Ordnance Survey Ayr Sheet XXVII.8 (Mauchline) Surveyed 1857</i> |
| Ordnance Survey | 1909 | <i>25-inch 3rd Edition Ordnance Survey Ayrshire 028.08 (includes Mauchline, Tarbolton) Published 1909, Revised ca. 1908</i> |
| Ordnance Survey | 1945 | <i>25-inch 4th Edition Ordnance Survey Ayrshire 028.08 (includes Mauchline, Tarbolton) Published 1945, Revised ca. 1938</i> |

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	Mid grey/mid brown/black ash and silty sand. Contains plastic, wood fragments, slate fragments, stone and red brick fragments. 0.1m to 0.16m thickness. Found within foundation pits 1 to 6.	Soft sediment forming upper deposit of majority of lock-up area.
002	-	Bedrock	Red sandstone, found at 0.42m maximum depth (below top of surrounding ground level).	Natural bedrock.
003	-	Deposit	Yellow, silty, coarse sand. Measured 0.1m thickness, no visible inclusions. Found below (001) and above (004) within the west corner of foundation pit 1.	Probable levelling material.
004	-	Deposit	Brown, silty, coarse sand. Measured 0.2m thickness, contained fragments of bedrock (002). Found below (003) and above (002), within the west corner of foundation pit 1.	Probable levelling material.
005	-	Deposit	Red brick walls, forming lock-ups and surrounding rectangular structure. Consisted of mortar bonded modern red bricks, built in single and double skin fashion.	Red brick walls forming lock-ups and surrounding rectangular area.
006	-	Deposit	Solid; concrete deposit. Existed as upper deposit of foundation pit 5, covering entirety of lock-up where foundation pit 5 was located. Measured 0.16m thickness, sat immediately over sheet of blue plastic; below plastic sheeting was deposit (007), concrete aggregate.	Modern concrete.
007	-	Deposit	Deposit of modern green/grey concrete aggregate. Found below blue plastic sheeting which sat below concrete (006) within foundation pit 5. Measured 0.03m thickness. Sat immediately above a deposit of (001) within pit.	Deposit of modern concrete aggregate.
008	-	Deposit	Layer of tarmac, found within foundation pit 5. Deposit was found below a layer of deposit (001). Tarmac deposit measured 0.05m maximum thickness.	Modern tarmac deposit.

Photographic Register

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
001	001	General shot, pre-excavation/location of site	W	03/03/15
002	002	As above, zoomed in	W	03/03/15
003	003	As above	W	03/03/15
004	004	As above	W	04/03/15
005	005	Mid-excavation shot of foundation pit 1	WSW	04/03/15
006	006	As above, showing extent of waterlogging	WSW	04/03/15
007	007	Mid-excavation shot of foundation pit 1	SSW	04/03/15
008	008	Post-excavation shot of foundation pit 1, showing bedrock (002)	SSW	04/03/15
009	009	South-east facing section of foundation pit 1	SE	04/03/15
010	010	North-west facing section of foundation pit 1	SW	04/03/15
011	011	Close-up of red brick from the walls	-	04/03/15
012	012	General shot, Mauchline Castle	NE	04/03/15
013	013	As above	NE	04/03/15
014	014	General shot	SE	04/03/15
015	015	As above	SE	04/03/15
016	016	Working shot	SE	04/03/15
017	017	Most south-eastern most lock-up, showing garage above	SW	04/03/15
018	018	Post-excavation shot of foundation pit 2	SW	04/03/15
019	019	South-east facing section of foundation pit 2	S	04/03/15
020	020	North-west facing section of foundation pit 2	SW	04/03/15
021	021	Post-excavation shot of foundation pit 3	SW	04/03/15

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
022	022	Post-excavation shot of foundation pit 3	SW	04/03/15
023	023	General shot (showing foundation pit 3 to right of photo, and foundation pits 4 and 5 to left)	S	04/03/15
024	024	As above, showing house above	S	04/03/15
025	025	Showing layer of build-up above the wall	S	04/03/15
026	026	As above, zoomed in	SSW	04/03/15
027	027	Showing location of house above wall	S	04/03/15
028	028	As above, showing foundation of house/shovel to left of photo	S	04/03/15
029	029	Location shot	WNW	04/03/15
030	030	As above	WNW	04/03/15
031	031	General shot, castle and burn	ENE	04/03/15
032	032	General/working shot	SE	04/03/15
033	033	Castle (bad shot)	NE	04/03/15
034	034	Mid-excavation shot of foundation pit 4	SW	04/03/15
035	035	South-east facing section of foundation pit 4	SSW	04/03/15
036	036	North-west facing section of foundation pit 4	SW	04/03/15
037	037	General shot, the most north-western 2 of the lock-ups	SSW	04/03/15
038	038	As above	SSW	04/03/15
039	039	Wall forming north-western limit of larger rectangular area, showing re-use of red sandstone blocks within wall/possible original wall	S	04/03/15
040	040	Post-excavation shot of foundation pit 4	WSW	04/03/15
041	041	South-east facing section of foundation pit 4	SSW	04/03/15
042	042	South-west facing section of foundation pit 4	SW	04/03/15
043	043	North-east facing section of foundation pit 5	NE	04/03/15

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
044	044	As above	NNE	04/03/15
045	045	As above (zoomed in)	NE	04/03/15
046	046	North-west facing section of foundation pit 5	SW	04/03/15
047	047	South-east facing section of foundation pit 5 (bad shot)	SSW	04/03/15
048	048	South-west facing section of foundation pit 5	SW	04/03/15
049	049	General shot of foundation pit 5	SW	04/03/15
050	050	General shot, post-excavation of foundation pit 6	WSW	04/03/15
051	051	General shot of site	SSW	04/03/15
052	052	As above	WSW	04/03/15
053	053	As above	WSW	04/03/15
054	054	Post-excavation shot of foundation pit 6/north-west facing section	WSW	04/03/15
055	055	General post-excavation shot of foundation pit 6	SW	04/03/15
056	056	South-east facing section of foundation pit 6	SW	04/03/15

Appendix 2: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Ayrshire
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	11 Kilmarnock Road, Mauchline
PROJECT CODE:	RA14011
PARISH:	Mauchline
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Diane Gorman
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Rathmell Archaeology Limited
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching brief
NMRS NO(S):	-
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	-
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	-
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NS 4981 2731
START DATE (this season)	3 rd March 2015
END DATE (this season)	4 th March 2015
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (may include information from other fields)	<p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken in support of construction work on land at 11 Kilmarnock Road Mauchline, East Ayrshire. The development work included the construction of two new garages facing onto Castle Street. The archaeological works were designed to mitigate any adverse impact on the archaeological remains within the development area and were carried out on behalf of Jamieson Blair Ltd.</p> <p>The archaeological mitigation works consisted of the monitoring of the excavation of 6 foundation pits, carried out using a JCB 3CX. The pits were located within 6 red brick lock-up type structures, to be demolished during the current development works.</p> <p>The excavation of the foundation pits was monitored to depths of between 0.25m and 0.75m from the top of the surrounding ground level. Within each pit, natural red sandstone bedrock was exposed at a maximum depth of 0.42m.</p> <p>No significant archaeological features, deposits or artefacts were uncovered. However, the presence of bedrock at such shallow depth might suggest that the area was subject to quarrying for the desirable red sandstone bedrock with ground levels subsequently built up as part of later construction works.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Jamieson Blair Ltd
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ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Report to WoSAS and archive to RCAHMS Collections
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