

# **Hunterston Convertor and Substation, West Kilbride, North Ayrshire: Archaeological Evaluation**

Data Structure Report: Addendum



by Douglas Gordon

issued 30<sup>th</sup> September 2013

on behalf of RSK Environment Ltd

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## Introduction

1. This report is an addendum to the Data Structure Report (Gordon 2013b) for the archaeological evaluation in respect to the construction of the Hunterston Converter and Substation, West Kilbride, North Ayrshire and has been prepared for RSK Environment Ltd (RSK) on behalf of their clients. The archaeological works were designed to determine the archaeological potential of the development area and hence inform the specification for mitigation of the impact on the archaeological remains within the development area.
2. North Ayrshire Council required a programme of archaeological works to be undertaken as a requirement of the issued planning consent (N/11/00708/PPPM). The West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WoSAS) who advise North Ayrshire Council on archaeological matters provided guidance on the structure of archaeological works required on site during extraction works. RSK Environment Ltd have acted as the client's archaeological consultants, agreeing a proportionate response to meet the planning authority's concern.
3. Rathmell Archaeology Limited were appointed by RSK Environment Ltd on behalf of their clients to undertake the implementation of archaeological investigative works prior to the development of the site. The project works were specified in the Written Scheme of Investigation (RSK 2013), which was agreed with the West of Scotland Archaeology Service.
4. This report details the findings from the continuation of the intrusive evaluation undertaken in keeping with this Written Scheme of Investigation and assumes knowledge of the previous Data Structure Report (Gordon 2013).

## Historical and Archaeological Background

5. This site has been subject to an archaeological appraisal that informed the Environmental Report by AECOM (2011). We assume within this report the reader's familiarity with this preceding document which is the basis for understanding the known landuse history of the area. This preceding work identified eighteen sites within the study area around the site, representing archaeological activity from the Mesolithic through to the post-medieval period.
6. Archaeological sites within the proposed development boundary recorded in the Environmental Report include the upstanding Goldenberry Farm (Site 18), former Whinstone quarries (Sites 19 & 20), a sub oval mound (Site 26) and a structure (Site 25) identified on historic mapping and a flint scatter (Site 10).
7. The site numbers refer to Figure 9.1 and Table 9-5 in AECOM 2011, with further details available in their Appendix E: Gazetteer.

## Project Works

8. This second phase of the archaeological evaluation was undertaken between the 26<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> August 2013 on ground controlled by EDF. The works were carried out in keeping with the methods detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (RSK 2013) and the supporting Risk Assessment Method Statement (RAMS) (Gordon 2013a). This phase of the archaeological evaluation maintained a common standard with the preceding work, consisting of the excavation of a series of intrusive trenches to expose a 8% sample of the development area.
9. In total 906m<sup>2</sup> was excavated during this second phase, while the previous phase of the evaluation excavated 9577m<sup>2</sup> of trenching. The total of both phases 10483m<sup>2</sup> exceeds the required 8% sample (a minimum sample of 9664m<sup>2</sup>) of the available ground within the development area. The positions of the trenches as machined in the combined phases are shown on the site plan (Figure 1).
10. All trenches were to be opened and closed on the same day. The distribution of trenches was influenced by appropriate safety buffers placed on water, telecom and electricity services. The positioning of the trenches was largely in keeping with the agreed trench

plan; though minor variations to the position and alignments of some trenches were made due to ground conditions and safety considerations.

11. Trench extensions were carried out to Trenches 8 and 12 to help elucidate the extent and character of features found within the bed of those trenches. These extensions were typically 4m by 4m in plan, though the extension on Trench 12 was 10m by 4m.
12. All works were conducted in accordance with the West of Scotland Archaeology Service Standard Conditions, the Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct and Historic Scotland Policy Statements.

## Findings

13. In total seven full evaluation trenches (Trenches 7 to 13) and the continuation of two older, first phase trenches (Trenches 14 and 15) were excavated within the development area, using a tracked 360° mechanical excavator with a toothless 2m ditching bucket.
14. All putative features identified within the bed of each trench were investigated in accordance with the RAMS and WSI with many consequently being discounted as products of bioturbation or geological anomalies rather than anthropic features. Those that were determined to be anthropic in origin are described below.
15. A standardised description of each trench is contained within the *Appendix 1: Trench Summaries* at the rear of this report; all trenches are also depicted on Figure 1. Appendix 2 contains the registers for context description, photography, drawing, sampling and finds from the project.

## Conventions

16. Where significant features are discussed their location will normally be quoted as a distance along the relevant trench (such as +23m). This distance was measured from the end of the trench quoted first for the orientation of the trench in the *Trench Summaries* in Appendix 1.
17. All depths given for features are given from the base of the trench after the removal of topsoil and/or modern overburden unless otherwise stated. The reader should presume a homogenised topsoil was present in all trenches over the upper surface of the drift geology unless an alternative description is provided. Where a number of cut features were identified in close proximity, they have been described together as Feature Groups – while this may reflect an association between them, at the current time the only definite association is physical proximity.
18. The context is the basic archaeological unit of description relating to either a structure, cut or sediment of common characteristics. Structures (such as walls or built surfaces) and cut features (normally identified as they cut the underlying subsoil) are denoted by squared brackets (e.g. [040]). Sediments, including the fills of cut features, are denoted by rounded brackets (e.g. (041)).
19. When discussing broadly circular features in plan our general approach is to consider those features over 500mm in diameter are taken to be pits while those under 500mm are considered postholes. The difference in size is an indication of only a possible function; a posthole only requires being large enough to hold a post and may contain stones for packing around the post. While a pit which is larger may have been dug to extract sand & gravel, to create an obstacle or for the purpose of rubbish disposal. Where clear evidence of function is present, such as packing stones, post-pipes and ramps, then such features will be described by inferred function regardless of size.



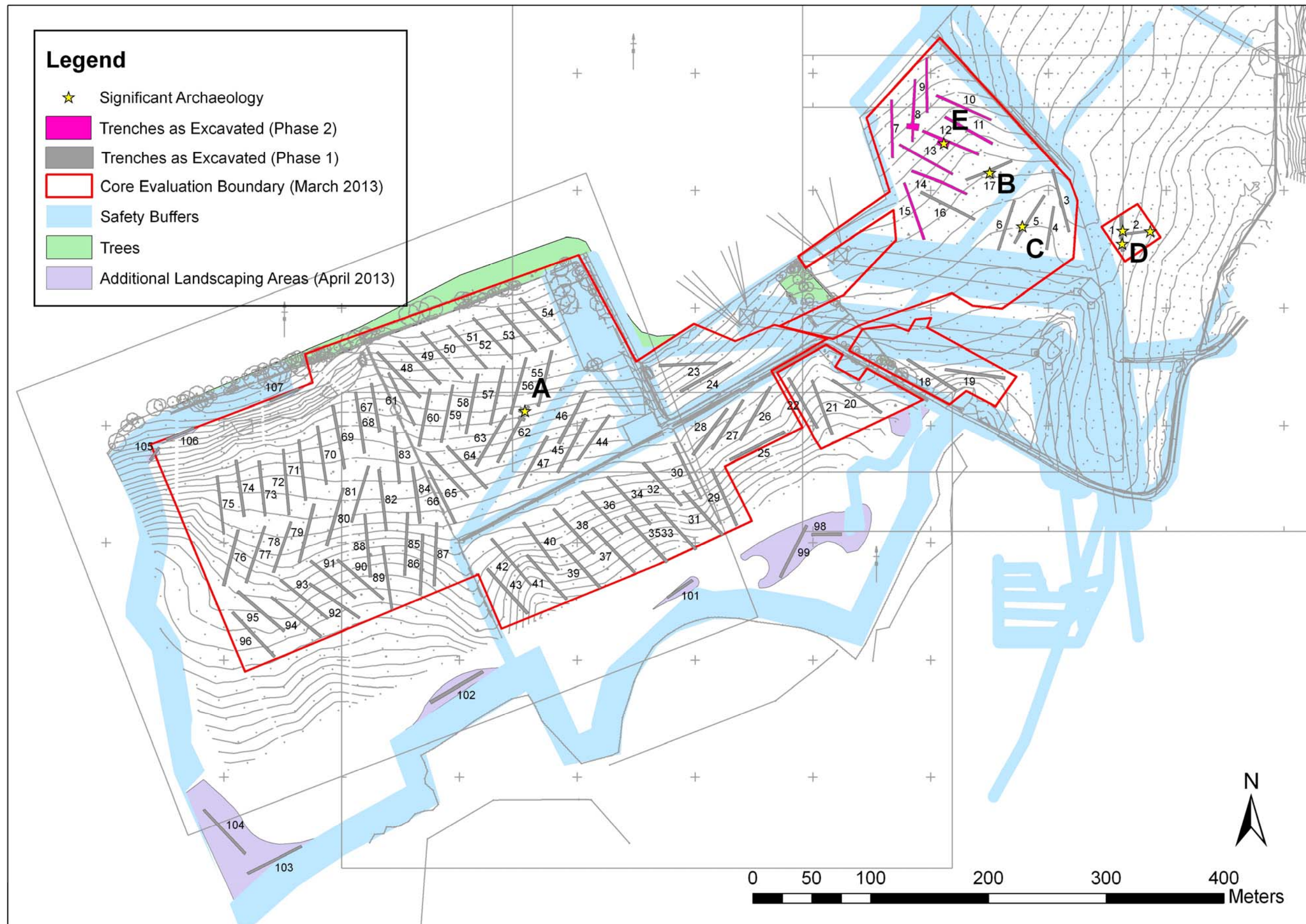


Figure 1: Post-excavation layout of trenches with significant Feature Groups marked

### *Natural Sediment*

20. The topsoil (001) consisted of light brown silty sand with frequent rootlets and rare inclusions of blonde sandstone fragments. In general the topsoil was about 300mm in depth although was up to 680mm in places. The subsoil varied across the site with bedrock (003) being present in the higher portions of the site. In general the main subsoil was sand or sandy gravel of varying colours (094).

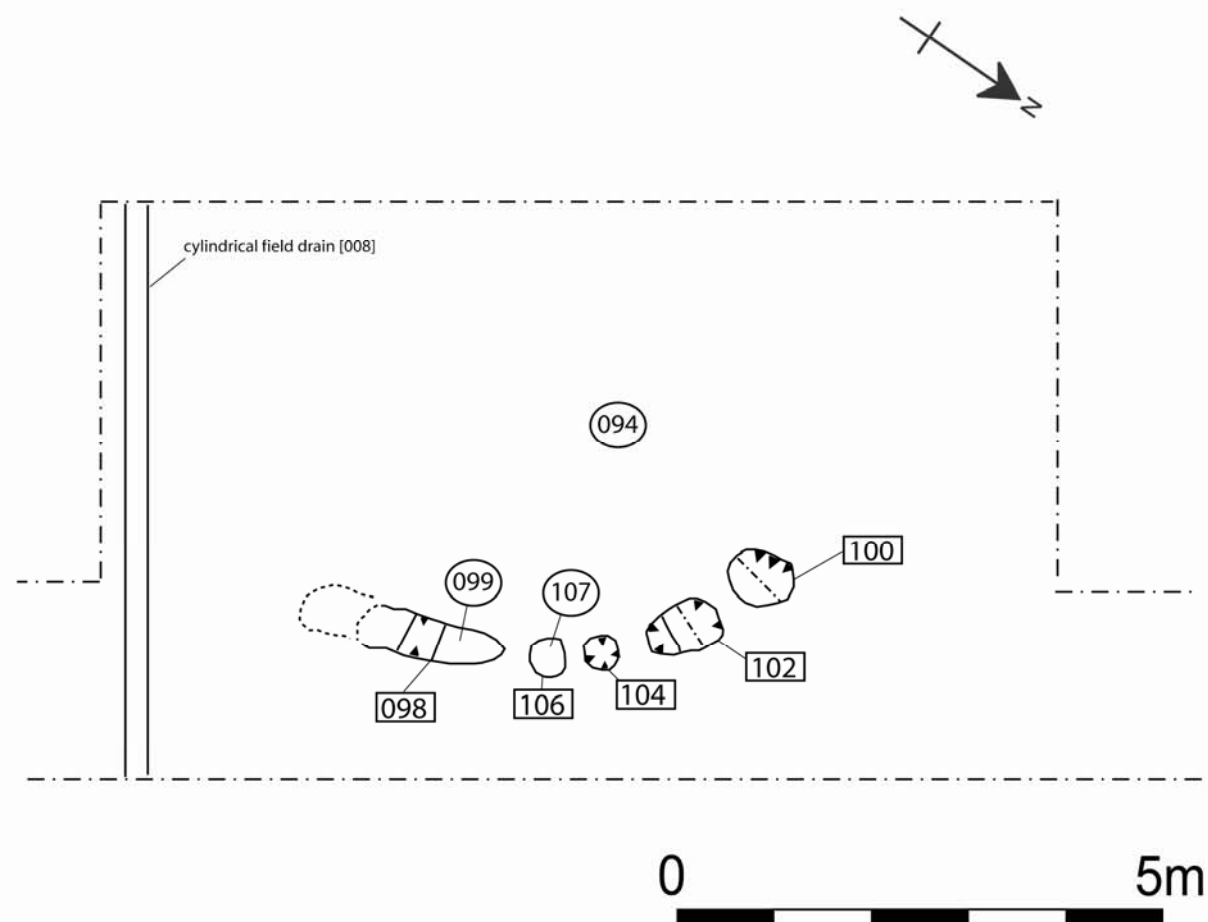
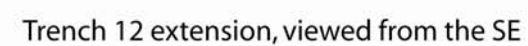
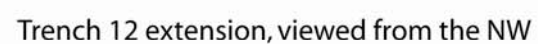
### *Feature Group E*

21. Within Trench 12 (Figure 2a) an apparent curvilinear feature was exposed in the base of the trench, it measured 5.5m in length and between 300mm and 600mm in width, with the interior of its curve facing NE. Upon further investigation the curvilinear feature resolved into five separate features [098], [100], [102], [104] and [106] which had almost merged within the bed of the trench (Figure 2b). An extension (10m by 4m) was excavated on the north eastern facing side of the trench, this was to investigate if further features were exposed that continued the arch; this however didn't reveal additional features.
22. Examining the five features within the trench: [098] was a short curving linear feature measuring 2.5m long by 400mm wide and up to 130mm in depth. It had sloping sides and an irregular base. Its fill was a mid brown sandy silt with flecks of charcoal. The remaining four features did not share this character, each being rather circular or oval in plan:
  - ❖ [100] was sub-rounded in plan measuring 600mm in diameter and 200mm in depth with a mid brown sandy silt (101) with frequent inclusions of small stones and occasional flecks of charcoal;
  - ❖ [102] was circular in plan measuring 300mm in diameter and up to 130mm deep. With a mid brown sandy silt (103) with frequent inclusions of small stones and occasional flecks of charcoal;
  - ❖ [104] was circular in plan measuring 200mm in diameter and up to 220mm in depth. Its fill (105) was the same as (101) and (103); and
  - ❖ [106] was irregular circular in plan measuring approximately 200mm in diameter and abutted [098] and [104]. Its fill [107] was also similar to (101).
23. In general there was a dearth of material culture from these features, although a very small flake of flint <060> was recovered from the fill of feature [098].

### *Other anthropic features*

24. Two additional postholes features were located, one in each of Trench 8 and 9; these were features [096] and [095] respectively. The circular, 460mm diameter, [096] proved to be some 160mm deep with a single fill (097) that contained a flint chunk <042>. Trench 8 was expanded but no additional features were identified in proximity to this solitary features.
25. Field drains were occasionally encountered, which consisted of rubble (007), horseshoe (004) and clay drains (008). Unlike the rest of the evaluation the drains were generally aligned NE-SW – falling with the predominant slope. In addition plough scars were evident within many of the trenches.





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Hunterston  
Converter Station

Title	Feature Group E
-------	-----------------

Reference No. RA12026-1

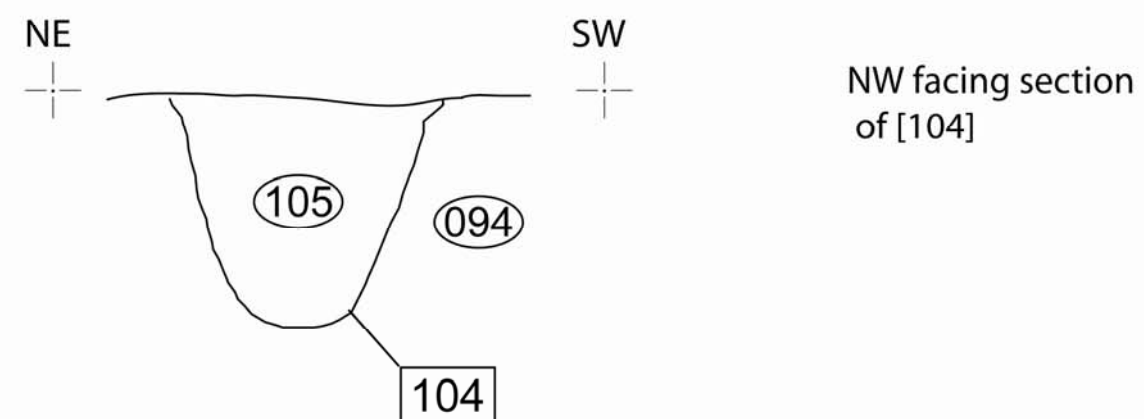
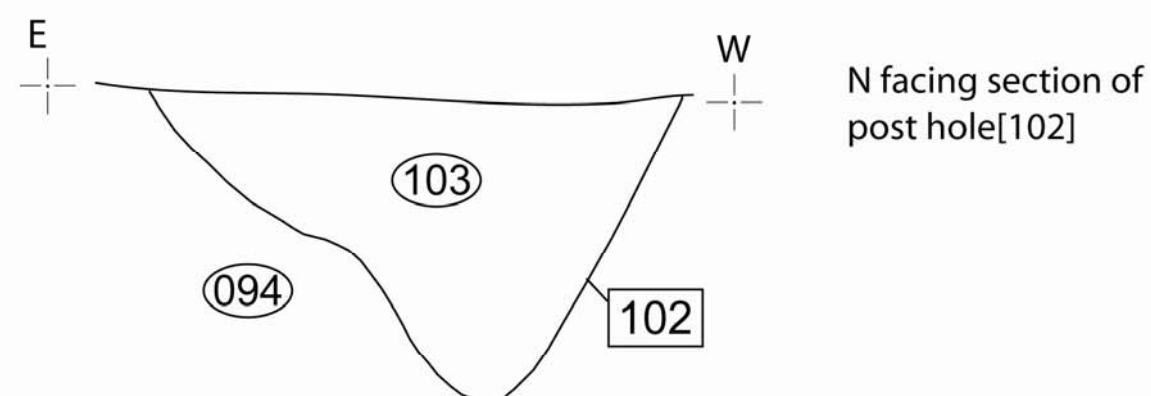
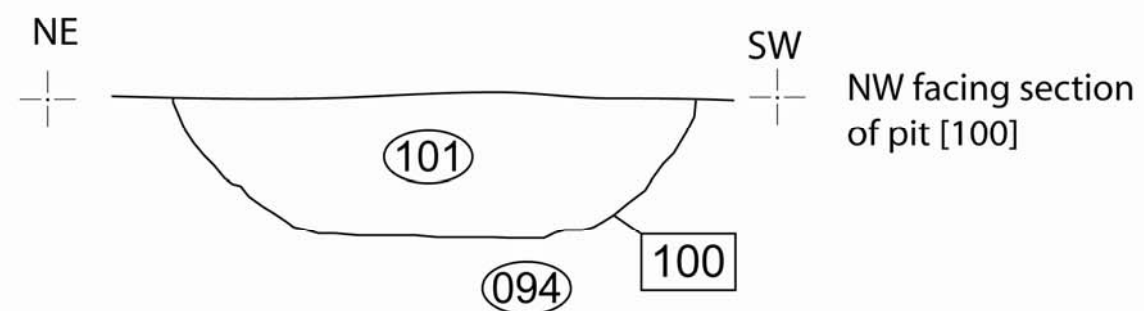
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post-excavation photograph of pit [100]



post-excavation photograph showing postholes [102] & [104]



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Project Name

Hunterston  
Converter Station

Project No.	RA12026
-------------	---------

Title	Feature Group E
-------	-----------------

Prepared by DG	Date Sep 2013
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Reference No. RA12026-1

Figure 2b: Details of Feature Group A





Figure 3a: General Shot of Sub Station site from the SE



Figure 3b: General Shot of Sub Station from the E





Figure 4a: Trench 8 from the S



Figure 4b: Trench 9 from the S

### *Topsoil finds*

26. Twenty one small finds were recovered from Trenches 7, 8 and 9 deriving from topsoil contexts (note each find can be multiple objects from a shared context / trench). As such this material will have been impacted by ploughing and is anticipated not to be at its original deposition location. This material was predominantly small pieces of struck flint, both burnt and unburnt. The focus of the recovery of this material was from Trenches 7, 8 and 9. Small finds associated with the features or trenches with significant features have been described above.

### **Discussion**

27. The results of the second phase of the evaluation revealed anthropic features of which there were in a single concentration which have been identified as Feature Groups E (continuing the terminology and letter run adopted by the first phase of the evaluation). Presented below is a discussion of the nature of these features which, by the limited nature of an evaluation sample, is speculative.

#### *Evidence for timber structures (Feature Groups E)*

28. The five features identified within Trench 12 identified as Feature Group E, appear to be postholes or timber-holding slots. By their nature, a posthole indicates that an upright, earthfast timber was erected at this point. Given the arcing nature of these features it is most likely that they represent traces of timber structure. If the arc continued it would have produced a structure with a 5-7m diameter, possibly a roundhouse. However no further features were uncovered when the trench was extended by some 40m<sup>2</sup>.
29. This may mean that the rest of the structure has been truncated most likely by ploughing. Alternatively it is also possible that these features represent all that there ever was of this structure, meaning that it may represent a screen or windbreak of some kind. The curving form may also suggest that this short structure was erected around the outer boundary of some more ephemeral structure.
30. Given the proximity of these features to those at Feature Group B (see Figure 1) during the first phase of the evaluation (Gordon 2013) it is credible that they may relate to a more extensive unenclosed settlement located to the southeast. Again the solitary postholes in Trenches 8 and 9 also may reflect low intensity use of the slope during prehistory. Prior to further works, it is not credible to assess whether these feature groups are contemporaneous.
31. Domestic later prehistoric archaeology of this type represents an unusual occurrence within Ayrshire, which, despite having a reasonably high density of Late Bronze Age to Iron Age sites is dominated in this period by enclosed or fortified sites unlike the lowland unenclosed site discussed here. The Iron Age vitrified fort at Auld Hill (Canmore ID: 40587, WoSAS Pin: 5165) only 2km to the south is a good example of such a defended site, which was reworked later into a motte and bailey castle.
32. In his discussion of unenclosed sites, Hendry has highlighted that, while they exist in various parts of Scotland, they have not been extensively studied in Ayrshire (1996, 38). Two of the sites listed by Hendry as Iron Age sites with no fortifications are located just down the coast from Hunterston, at Nethermuir near Troon (Canmore ID: 41687, WoSAS Site ID: 6258) and at Mainholm, Glaisnock near Ayr (Canmore ID: 41727, WoSAS Site ID: 6298). Both of these exist as circular cropmarks not yet excavated. In addition there are unenclosed post built structures on the outskirts of Irvine at the GlaxoSmithKline Factory (Williamson 2012).

### *Topsoil Finds*

33. The majority of the flint recovered from the topsoil (001) was small pieces of struck flint, both burnt and unburnt. While some large fragments of burnt flint were recovered, comparable to the material found in the first phase of the evaluation and ascribed to the liming of the fields, most of the pieces were suggestive of a prehistoric reduction strategy. As such there appears to be a slight concentration of undiagnostic lithic



material in the vicinity of Trenches 7, 8 and 9. This concentration may well correspond to the known lithic scatter in this area identified as Site 10 by AECOM (2011).

## Conclusion

34. A programme of archaeological investigative works was required by RSK Environment Ltd on behalf of their clients in respect to the construction of the Hunterston Converter and Substation, West Kilbride, North Ayrshire (N/11/00708/PPPM). The archaeological works were designed to determine the archaeological potential of the development area and hence inform the specification for mitigation of the impact on the archaeological remains within the development area.
35. The archaeological investigative works consisted of the completion of an intrusive evaluation which was designed to assess an 8% sample of the proposed development area. The works were carried out from the 26<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> August 2013, seven full trenches and the continuation of two older, first phase trenches were excavated.
36. A group of features was uncovered in the course of the evaluation; Feature Group E (centred NGR NS1871 5124) that consisted of an arc of four postholes and a short slot feature. Two further solitary postholes were identified, on each in Trenches 8 and 9. Further, there appears to be a slight concentration of undiagnostic lithic material in the vicinity of Trenches 7, 8 and 9

## Acknowledgements

37. The author would like to thank the Siemens Site Managers Richard Terrell and Mick O'Sullivan for their help, guidance and understanding during the on site archaeological works as well as Joe Somerville from RSK. I would also like to thank Thomas Rees for his edits of this report, as well to Katie Sludden, Claire Williamson, Diane Gorman, Joss Durnan, Claudia Caldeira, Steve Thomson and Tom Davis for their help on site and with the production of this report. With special thanks to the Hunterston Estate Farm Manager, Willie.

## References

### Documentary

AECOM	2011	<i>Western HVDC Link Environment Report; Northern Point of Connection: Hunterston Converter and Substation.</i> Unpublished commercial report by AECOM.
Gordon, D	2013a	<i>Hunterston Converter Station and Substation, North Ayrshire: Archaeological Evaluation Risk Assessment Method Statement (RAMS)</i> Unpublished commercial document by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd.
Gordon, D	2013b	<i>Hunterston Converter Station and Substation, North Ayrshire: Archaeological Mitigation</i> Unpublished commercial document by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd.
Hendry, A.	1996	'The Iron Age in Ayrshire (c.500 BC – 500 AD): An Update', in <i>John Smith of Dalry, Geologist, Antiquarian and Natural Historian: Part 2 – Archaeology and Natural History</i> , Ayrshire Monographs No. 17, April 1996.
Somerville, J	2013	<i>Hunterston Converter and Substation: Written Scheme of Investigation.</i> Unpublished commercial report by RSK.
Williamson, C	2012	<i>GlaxoSmithKline Turbines, Irvine, North Ayrshire - Turbine 3: Archaeological Mitigation Data Structure Report.</i> Unpublished commercial document by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd

### Cartographic

1747-55	Roy	Military Survey of Scotland
1855	Ordnance Survey	1 <sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey
1960	Ordnance Survey	7 <sup>th</sup> edition Ordnance Survey
20 <sup>th</sup> Century	Ordnance Survey (with annotations)	Hunterston Estate Map

## Appendix 1: Trench Details

Within this appendix a standardised set of data pertaining to the evaluation trenches from the second phase is presented.

All measurement distances quoted along the trench measure based on the quoted orientation of the trench.

Trench	Orientation	Size	Topsoil Depth	Subsoil Character	Modern Features	Significant Features	Artefacts
7	N-S	2m x 49.6m 99.2m <sup>2</sup>	270 to 350mm	Mid reddish brown slightly silty sand with patches of sub rounded gravels and stones	Plough scars from +19m to +26m and +32m to +39m, Tree throw at +28m	None	Modern ceramic sherd, 3 x flint pieces, 8 x burnt flint pieces. 1 x coal
8	N-S	2m x 52.1 104.2m <sup>2</sup>	325-340mm	Mid reddish brown slightly silty sand with patches of sub rounded gravels and stones, outcrops of bedrock at +18 to +28m	NW-SE oriented field drain at northern end	Possible post-hole [96] at +15m 460mm diameter, 160mm deep	2 x flint pieces, 3 x burnt flint pieces
9	N-S	2m x 47.3m 94.6m <sup>2</sup>	300 to 360mm	Mid reddish brown slightly silty sand with patches of sub rounded gravels and stones	Plough scars southern end +2 - 8m, plough scar approx +35m	Possible post-hole +9m [95], unexcavated	11 x flint pieces, 1 x burnt bone fragment
10	NW-SE	2 x 51.2m, 102.4m <sup>2</sup>	280 to 355mm	Compact dark orange gravels with occasional large boulders	None	None	6 x flint pieces
11	NW-SE	2m x 47.5m 95m <sup>2</sup>	290 to 320mm	Compact dark orange gravels with occasional small to medium sized stones	Cylindrical clay field drain at +35m	None	3 x flint pieces
12	NW-SE	2m x 52.4m 104.8m <sup>2</sup>	345 to 360mm	Mid reddish brown slightly silty sand with patches of sub rounded gravels and stones, bedrock outcrops at +15 to 20m and +30-32m	Cylindrical clay field drain at +27m, plough scar at NW end of trench	Five features [098], [100], [102], [104] and [106] which had almost merged within the bed of the trench into curvilinear	1 x flint pieces

Trench	Orientation	Size	Topsoil Depth	Subsoil Character	Modern Features	Significant Features	Artefacts
						feature.	
13	NW-SE	2m x 53.3m 106.6m <sup>2</sup>	350mm to 500mm	Mid reddish brown slightly silty sand with patches of sub rounded gravels and stones	Cylindrical clay field drain at +40m	None	None
14a	NNW-SSE	2m x 25.5m 51m <sup>2</sup>	300mm	Mid reddish brown slightly silty sand with patches of sub rounded gravels and stones	Field drain N_S at +18-22m	None	None
15a	SSW-NNE	2m x 11m 22m <sup>2</sup>	340mm to 360mm	Mid reddish brown slightly silty sand with patches of sub rounded gravels and stones	None	None	None

## Appendix 2: Registers

Within this appendix are all registers pertaining to the second phase works on-site during the evaluation. Numbering within each registers continues the number sequences from the first phase of evaluation.

### *Context Register*

Context No.	Area/Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
1	Site	Deposit	Soft, light-mid brown silty sand. Frequent rootlets, rare blonde sandstone fragments. Depth variable between 160mm-550mm. Homogenous, max depth 550mm. Modern ceramic and burnt flint inclusions.	Topsoil
94	Site	Deposit	Red-brown silty sand or gravel	Natural Subsoil
95	Tr 9	Deposit	Circular dark brown-black silty sand 300mm diameter	Possible post-hole
96	Tr 8	Cut	Circular, gradual break of slope, nearly vertical SW side, 460mm diameter, 160mm deep	Post-hole
97	Tr 8	Deposit	Friable dark brown-black silty sand with frequent small charcoal flecks, occasional sub rounded stones	Fill of [096]
98	Tr 12	Cut	Curvilinear, 2.5m x 400mm wide x 130mm deep, curves s-nw, sloping sides to irregular base	Slot
99	Tr 12	Deposit	Mid brown sandy silt, charcoal flecks	Fill of [098]
100	Tr 12	Cut	Sub-rounded 600mm diameter x 200mm deep	Pit
101	Tr 12	Deposit	Mid brown sandy silt, 200mm thick containing frequent stones and occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of 100
102	Tr 12	Cut	Circular, 300mm diameter x 130mm deep	Post-hole
103	Tr 12	Deposit	Mid brown sandy silt, 200mm thick containing frequent stones and occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of [102]
104	Tr 12	Cut	Circular, 200mm diameter x 220mm deep	Possible post-hole
105	Tr 12	Deposit	Mid brown sandy silt, 200mm thick containing frequent stones and occasional charcoal flecks	Fill of [104]



Context No.	Area/Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
106	Tr 12	Cut	Amorphous cut feature, approx. 200mm diameter unexcavated	Possible post-hole
107	Tr 12	Deposit	Unexcavated, 200mm diameter approx.	Fill of [106]

### *Finds Register*

Find No.	Area/Trench	Context no.	Material Type	Description	Excavation	Date
034	Tr 7	001	Flint, Ceramic	1 x flint chunk, 1x modern blue glaze pot sherd	DG/KS	21/08/13
035	Tr 7	001	Flint	1 x small burnt chunk	KS	21/08/13
036	Tr 7	001	Flint	1 x small burnt flake	KS	21/08/13
037	Tr 7	001	Flint	2 x burnt flakes 1x burnt chunk	KS	21/08/13
038	Tr 7	001	Flint	2 x burnt chunk 1 x small flake	KS	21/08/13
039	Tr 7	001	Industrial waste	1 x coal	KS	21/08/13
040	Tr 7	001	Flint	1 x small flint chunk, 1 x burnt flake	KS	26/08/13
041	VOID					
042	Tr 8	097	Flint	1 x chunk w/ cortex	JD	26/08/13
043	Tr 8	001	Flint	1 x burnt chunk	JD	26/08/13
044	Tr 8	001	Flint	1 x flake	JD	26/08/13
045	Tr 8	001	Flint	1 x small burnt chunk	JD	26/08/13
046	Tr 8	001	Flint	1 x small burnt flake	JD	26/08/13
047	Tr 9	001	Flint	2 x small flakes	DG	27/08/13
048	Tr 9	001	Flint	1 x small chunk	DiG	27/08/2013

049	Tr 9	001	Flint	1 x flake	DiG	27/08/13
050	Tr 9	001	Flint	1 x flake	DiG	27/08/13
051	Tr 9	001	Flint	1 x flake, 1 x chunk	DiG	27/08/13
052	Tr 9	001	Flint	1 x chunk w/cortex, 1 x small chunk, 1x small flake	DiG	27/08/13
053	Tr 9	001	Bone	1 x small frag. burnt bone	DiG	27/08/13
054	Tr 10	001	Flint	1 x flake 1x small chunk flint	DiG	27/08/13
055	Tr 10	001	Flint	2x chunks	DiG	27/08/13
056	Tr 10	001	Flint	1x small flake, 1 x chunk	DiG	27/08/13
057	Tr 11	001	Flint	1 x flint	JD	27/08/13
058	Tr 11	001	Flint	2x small burnt chunks	JD	27/08/13
059	Tr 11	001	Flint	2 x small chunks, 1 x flake	JD	27/08/13
060	Tr 12	099	Flint	1 x small flint flake	JD	28/08/13

### Photographic Register

Image	Print		DSLR		Digital	Description	From	Date
	Film No	NEg No	Card No	Image No				
361	-	-	-	-	63	Pre-ex. Trench 7	SW	21/08/2013
362	-	-	-	-	64	Post-Ex Trench 7	SW	21/08/2013
363	-	-	-	-	65	Post-Ex Trench 7	S	26/08/2013
364	-	-	-	-	66	Post-Ex Trench 8	S	26/08/2013
365	3	11	1	32	67	Section of 097	SE	26/08/2013
366	3	12	1	33	68	General shot 097	SE	26/08/2013
367	-	-	1	34	-	General shot 097	SE	26/08/2013

Image	Print		DSLR		Digital	Description	From	Date
	Film No	NEg No	Card No	Image No				
368	-	-	-	-	69	Trench 8 W Extension general shot	SW	27/08/2013
369	-	-	-	-	70	Trench 8 W Extension general shot	SE	27/08/2013
370	-	-	-	-	71	Trench 8 Extensions general	ESE	27/08/2013
371	-	-	-	-	72	Pre-ex shot trench 9	S	27/08/2013
372	-	-	-	-	73	Post-ex Trench 9	S	27/08/2013
373	-	-	-	-	74	Post ex Trench 10	NW	27/08/2013
374	-	-	-	-	75	Post-ex Trench 11	SE	27/08/2013
375	3	13	1	35	76	General section though linear 098	NE	28/08/2013
376	3	14	1	36	77	NW Facing section through 098	NW	28/08/2013
377	3	15	-	-	78	Post ex view 105/104	NE	28/08/2013
378	3	16	-	-	79	SE Facing section 102	SE	28/08/2013
379	3	17	-	-	80	NW Facing section 102	NW	28/08/2013
380	3	18	-	-	81	NW Facing section pit 100	NW	28/08/2013
381	-	-	-	-	82	Post-ex Trench 12	ESE	28/08/2013
382	-	-	-	-	83	General view Trench 12 extension	NW	28/08/2013
383	-	-	-	-	84	General view Trench 12 extension	SE	28/08/2013
384	-	19	-	-	85	Pit 100 Post-ex	NW	28/08/2013
385	-	20	-	-	86	Post Holes 102, 104 Post-ex	NNW	28/08/2013
386	-	-	-	-	87	Post-ex Trench 13	NW	28/08/2013
387	-	-	-	-	88	Post-ex Trench 14	SE	29/08/2013
388	-	-	-	-	89	Post-ex Trench 15	S	29/08/2013

Image	Print		DSLR		Digital	Description	From	Date
	Film No	NEg No	Card No	Image No				
389	-	-	-	-	90	Backfilled trench 7	SSW	29/08/2013
390	-	-	-	-	91	Backfilled Trench 8	SSW	29/08/2013
391	-	-	-	-	92	Backfilled Trench 9	SSW	29/08/2013
392	-	-	-	-	93	Backfilled Trench 10	NW	29/08/2013
393	-	-	-	-	94	Backfilled Trench 11	NW	29/08/2013
394	-	-	-	-	95	Backfilled Trench 12	NW	29/08/2013
395	-	-	-	-	96	Backfilled Trench 13	NW	29/08/2013
396	-	-	-	-	97	Backfilled Trench 14	NW	29/08/2013
397	-	-	-	-	98	Backfilled Trench 15	N	29/08/2013

### *Drawing Register*

Drawing No.	Sheet No.	Area/ Trench	Drawing Type	Scale	Description	Drawer	Date
129	14	Tr 7	Plan	1:100	Post-ex Trench 7	JD	21/08/2013
130	14	Tr 8	Plan	1:100	Post-ex Trench 8	JD	26/08/2013
131	14	Tr 8	Section	1:10	SE facing section of [096]	KS/JD	27/08/2013
132	14	Tr 8A	Plan	1:100	Post-ex E extension of Trench 8	JD	27/08/2013
133	14	Tr 8B	Plan	1:100	Post-ex W extension of Trench 8	JD	27/08/2013
134	14	Tr 9	Plan	1:100	Post-ex Trench 9	JD	27/08/2013
135	14	Tr 10	Plan	1:100	Post ex Trench 10	JD	27/08/2013
136	14	Tr 11	Plan	1:100	Post ex Trench. 11	JD	27/08/2013

Drawing No.	Sheet No.	Area/ Trench	Drawing Type	Scale	Description	Drawer	Date
137	14	Tr. 12	Plan	1:100	Post ex Trench. 12	KS	28/08/2013
138	14	Tr. 12	Section	1:10	NW facing section of pit [100]	KS	28/08/2013
139	14	Tr 12	Section	1:10	N facing section of posthole [102]	KS	28/08/2013
140	14	Tr 12	Section	1:10	Profile of posthole [104]	KS	28/08/2013
141	14	Tr 13	Plan	1:100	Post ex Trench. 13	JD	28/08/2013
142	14	Tr 14	Plan	1:100	Post ex Trench. 11	JD	29/08/2013
143	14	Tr 15	Plan	1:100	Post ex Trench 12	JD	29/08/2013



## Appendix 3: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	North Ayrshire
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Hunterston Converter and Substation
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	RA12026
<b>PARISH:</b>	West Kilbride
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Douglas Gordon
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	Rathmell Archaeology Limited
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Evaluation
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	Pits and Postholes
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	Pottery, Flint
<b>NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)</b>	NS 1847 5101
<b>START DATE (this season)</b>	1st July 2013
<b>END DATE (this season)</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> August 2013
<b>PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)</b>	None
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (may include information from other fields)	<p>A programme of archaeological investigative works was required by RSK Environment Ltd on behalf of their clients in respect to the construction of the Hunterston Converter and Substation, West Kilbride, North Ayrshire (N/11/00708/PPPM). The archaeological works were designed to determine the archaeological potential of the development area and hence inform the specification for mitigation of the impact on the archaeological remains within the development area.</p> <p>The archaeological investigative works consisted of an intrusive evaluation which was designed to assess an 8% sample of the proposed development area. The works were carried out intermittently from the 1<sup>st</sup> July to the 29<sup>th</sup> August 2013, ninety nine trenches were excavated in total, with one trench being abandoned and seven trenches remaining to excavate at a later point due to access issues.</p> <p>Four concentrations of potentially significant archaeological features and artefacts were identified by these works, these have been grouped together as Feature Groups A to D. Feature Group A was the most western (centred NGR NS 1835 65101) comprising three structural postholes with no suggestion of date.</p> <p>Feature Group B to E all lay in the east of the development area. Feature Group B (centred NGR NS1875 5121) contained a greater concentration of structural features, some eight postholes, a circle of stakeholes, a possible structural slot and two pits. One of these pits appears to have been a hearth-pit and contained 47 sherds of late prehistoric pottery, probably Iron Age in date. In a lesser manner Feature Group E (centred NGR NS1871 5124) consisted of an arc of four postholes and a short slot feature, again suggesting a structure. In contrast Feature Group C (centred NGR NS1878 5117) comprised two pits without chronologically diagnostic finds, perhaps dispersed activity related to the structures at Feature Group B.</p> <p>The composition of Feature Group D (centred NGR NS 1887 5116) was markedly different - a series of three linear ditches that could form a coherent enclosure associated with a single posthole. While flints were recovered from these features, a diagnostic piece of 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> century AD red gritty ware was recovered suggesting some level of medieval activity at this location.</p> <p>A range of other features and finds were made, but these were interpreted as being of modern (i.e. 19<sup>th</sup> century or more recent) and relating to the recent agricultural use of the ground.</p>

<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	Yes
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	None
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	RSK Environment Ltd
<b>ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Unit 8 Ashgrove Workshops, Kilwinning, Ayrshire KA13 6PU
<b>EMAIL ADDRESS:</b>	contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk
<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)</b>	Report to West of Scotland Archaeology Service and archive to RCAHMS Collections.

## Contact Details

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

Rathmell Archaeology Ltd	<a href="http://www.rsk.co.uk">www.rsk.co.uk</a>
Unit 8 Ashgrove Workshops	
Kilwinning	t.: 01294 542848
Ayrshire	f.: 01294 542849
KA13 6PU	e.: contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk

39. RSK Environment Ltd can be contacted:

RSK Environment Ltd	<a href="http://www.rathmell-arch.co.uk">www.rathmell-arch.co.uk</a>
Sussex Street	t.: 0141 4180471
Glasgow	f.: 0141 4294566
G41 1DX	e.: communications@rsk.co.uk

40. The West of Scotland Archaeology Service can be contacted at their office or through the web:

West of Scotland Archaeology Service	<a href="http://www.wosas.org.uk">www.wosas.org.uk</a>
Charing Cross Complex	
20 India Street	t.: 0141 287 8332/3
Glasgow	f.: 0141 287 9259
G2 4PF	e.: enquiries@wosas.glasgow.gov.uk

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