

**Cumbræ Parish Church,
North Ayrshire:
Archaeological Mitigation**

Data Structure Report



by Liam McKinstry

issued 7th October 2016

on behalf of Cumbræ Parish Church

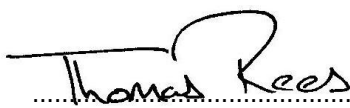
RATHMELL 
ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

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  Date ...7th October 2016.....

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

Checked  Date ...7th October 2016.....

Copyright Rathmell Archaeology Limited. All rights reserved.

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

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

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

Quality Assurance Data

Author(s)	Liam McKinstry		
Date of Issue	7 th October 2016	Version	1.0
Commissioning	Cumbrae Parish Church		
Event Name	Cumbrae Parish Church		
Event Type	Evaluation		
Event Date(s)	5 th to 6 th September 2016		
Rathmell Archaeology Code	RA16007	OASIS Ref	rathmell1-247320
Location	United Kingdom : Scotland : North Ayrshire		
NGR	NS 16355 55206	Parish	Cumbrae
Designation(s)	None		
Canmore IDs	None		

Contents

Introduction	3
Historical and Archaeological Background	3
Project Works	3
Findings.....	5
Recommendations	10
Conclusion	10
Acknowledgements	10
References	11
Documentary	11
Cartographic.....	11
Appendix 1: Trench Details.....	12
Trench Summary	12
Appendix 2: Registers.....	14
Context Register.....	14
Sample Register	14
Finds Register	15
Drawing Register	16
Photographic Register	17
Appendix 3: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland	18
Contact Details	19

Figures

Figure 1a: Roy’s Military Survey of 1747-52.....	4
Figure 1b: Ordnance Survey, 1869, 1st edition map	4
Figure 2: Plan of evaluation trench layout	6
Figure 3: Plan and sections of posthole [005] and possible hearth [007] in Trench 6.	7
Figure 4a: Pre excavation view of the site from the E.....	8
Figure 4b: View of stone & ceramic drains, (008) & (009), in Trench 1 from the E.	8
Figure 5a: View of Trench 4 from the ENE.....	9
Figure 5b: View posthole [005] & possible hearth [007] in Trench 6 from the WSW.	9

Introduction

1. This Data Structure Report has been prepared for Cumbrae Parish Church in support of the erection of a new church building (13/00245/PPP) on ground adjacent to Bute Terrace, Millport, North Ayrshire. These archaeological works have been designed to mitigate any adverse impact on the archaeological remains within the development area. This report presents the findings from the intrusive evaluation of the initial phase of the development area.
2. North Ayrshire Council required a programme of archaeological works to be undertaken at ground adjacent to Bute Terrace, Millport, North Ayrshire as an element of the granted planning permission in principal. West of Scotland Archaeology Service, who advise North Ayrshire Council on archaeology matters has provided guidance on the structure of archaeological works required and the mitigation of the proposed development works.
3. Rathmell Archaeology Limited were appointed by Cumbrae Parish Church 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 (Matthews 2016), which was agreed with the West of Scotland Archaeology Service.

Historical and Archaeological Background

4. The development area is an area of open fields to the immediate north of the town of Millport. Cumbrae Primary School stands to the immediate west of the development area, with Bute Road and the town of Millport to the south. Superseded mapping shows very little change to the development area. Roy's Military Survey of 1747-52 (Figure 1a) shows the development area as agricultural land to the south coast of the island of Cumbrae between the farms of 'Kirkton', 'Kairns' and 'Bracach'.
5. The Ordnance Survey, 1869, 1st edition map (Figure 1b) shows the development area in much the same condition to which it appears today. In this map it exists as enclosed agricultural land to the immediate north of the town of Millport. Notable differences between this map and the current state of the land include the fact Bute Road does not exist, although the line of it is marked by property boundaries, and the Primary School is absent.
6. There are no known archaeological sites within the development area. The immediately surrounding area has no Scheduled Monuments or other sites recognized to be of national importance however several sites exist of regional or local importance. Several listed buildings exist in the town of Millport to the south. The grounds of the Garrison House (Canmore ID: 188049) to the immediate south of the development area have been shown to contain the remains of decorative and kitchen gardens. To the north and in the same field as the development area local tradition holds that a group of standing stones (Canmore ID: 40625) existed although no above ground trace currently exists.

Project Works

7. This archaeological evaluation, which was undertaken between 5th and 6th of September 2016, was carried out in keeping with the methods detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Matthews 2016) and the supporting Safety Plan & Risk Assessment (SPRA) (Matthews 2016).
8. It consisted of the excavation of a series of intrusive trenches (Figure 2) to expose an 8% sample of the initial phase of the development area (roughly 0.33ha so minimum of 264m² of trenching), by means of a series of linear trenches (165 linear meters using a 1.6m bucket). During the evaluation a total of 269.2m² was excavated which slightly exceeded the required 8%.
9. Additional trenching was delivered to ensure the comparable evaluation of a strip of land to the east of the development (roughly 0.07ha) that is also under the control of the applicant. A single trench was excavated measuring 59.2m² which exceeded the scale necessary to provide a comparable 8% sample of this ground.



Figure 1a: Roy's Military Survey of 1747-52



Figure 1b: Ordnance Survey, 1869, 1st edition map

10. The site was located in the southwest corner of an irregular shaped field (Figure 2 and 4a) which sloped slightly from WNW to ESE and more steeply in the southernmost part of the development area. The field's boundaries mainly consisted of a mixture of stone walls and low hedgerows. The field was bounded by two roads to the south (Bute Terrace) and East (College Street). To the west there were farm buildings and the local Cumbrae primary school.
11. All works were conducted in accordance with the West of Scotland Archaeology Service Standard Conditions, the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct and Historic Scotland Policy Statements.

Findings

12. In total, 8 evaluation trenches were excavated across the available portion of the development area (Figure 2), using a JCB3cx mechanical excavator with a toothless 1.6m ditching bucket.
13. The topsoil within the site, (001), consisted of moderately compacted, light to mid grey-brown clayey sand with occasional small to medium stone/gravel inclusions. The topsoil had a thickness range across the excavated trenches of between 0.3m to 0.42m.
14. There were two main subsoil layers identified within the site (Figure 5a). The first, (002), consisted of firmly compacted, mid red/orange-brown clay sand with occasional gravel and small stones. The second subsoil layer, (003), consisted of firmly compacted, mid red-brown clay sand with frequent small stones/gravel and occasional-moderate medium sized stones.
15. A truncated posthole, [005], and a possible hearth, [007], were identified close to the WSW end of Trench 6 (Figures 3 and 5b). The posthole's cut was circular shaped in plan and measured 0.32m by 0.3m and had a depth of 0.11m. Its fill, (004), consisted of moderately compacted, mid grey brown (with patches of dark grey brown) sandy silt with moderate inclusions of small to medium sized stone. The hearth's cut was circular shaped in plan and measured 0.73m by 0.71m and had a depth of 0.1m. Its fill, (006), consisted of loose to moderately compacted, dark grey brown silty sand with occasional patches of yellow sand with moderate small stone, occasional medium sized stone and charcoal fleck inclusions.
16. A number of field drains with ceramic pipes, (008) and (009), were identified within many of the trenches (Figure 4b). For the locations of these features see Appendix 1.
17. A number of finds were recovered from the topsoil within the test trenches. These included 19th or 20th century pottery sherds and glass fragments. Other recent finds included a clay pipe stem which was stamped with J. Herriot (1875) Glasgow and a corroded copper coin or token.
18. There was also five lithics recovered from the topsoil within the trenches (Trenches 1, 2 & 5) which took the form of quartz, burnt and struck flint; none were diagnostic. One possible smoother, a thin cobble, (Find No. 19) was recovered from within the fill, (006), of posthole [005].

Discussion

19. The two features located within the WSW end of Trench 6, truncated posthole [005] and possible hearth [007], may indicate some form of temporary domestic activity in the south western part of the development area. The possible hammer stone (Find No. 19) recovered from the posthole's fill, (004), may suggest a prehistoric date for these features. There was also a small amount of quartz and burnt/worked lithics found from within the topsoil of several of the excavated trenches which may also point towards prehistoric activity in the area.
20. The truncated nature of the posthole, [005], and the Ordnance Survey mapping evidence would suggest that intensive ploughing or other agricultural activity had occurred from the 19th century onwards within the development area. The widespread recovery of 19th and 20th century pottery sherds, glass fragments and other modern finds (see Appendix

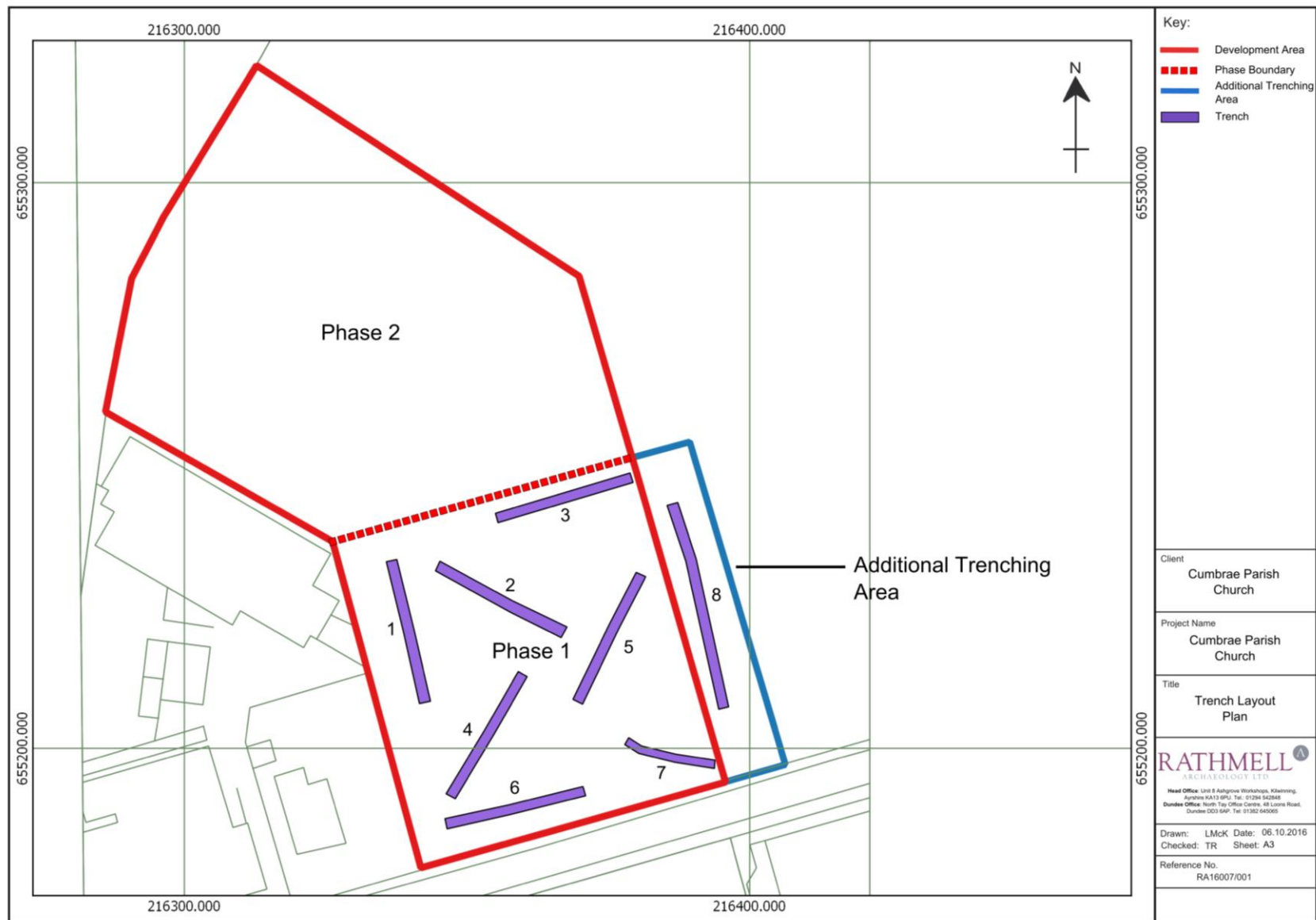


Figure 2: Plan of evaluation trench layout

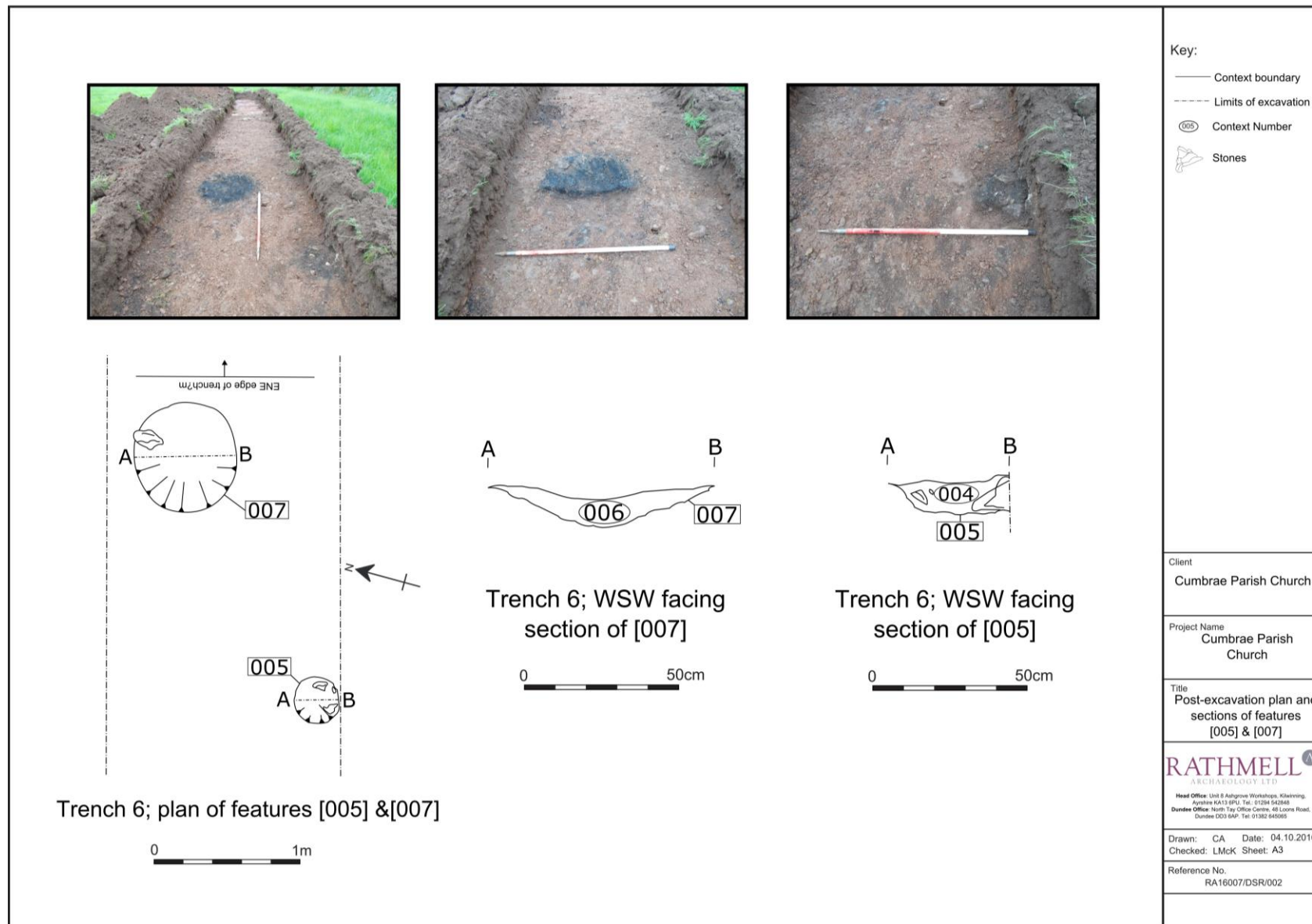


Figure 3: Plan and sections of posthole [005] and possible hearth [007] in Trench 6.



Figure 4a: Pre excavation view of the site from the E.



Figure 4b: View of stone & ceramic drains, (008) & (009), in Trench 1 from the E.



Figure 5a: View of Trench 4 from the ENE.



Figure 5b: View posthole [005] & possible hearth [007] in Trench 6 from the WSW.

2) from the topsoil, (001), and the ceramic and stone drains cut into the natural subsoils, (002) and (003), would seem to confirm this activity.

Recommendations

21. The only significant features identified were within Trench 6, a truncated posthole [005] and a possible hearth [007], in the south westernmost part of the development area. The fill of the truncated posthole contained a possible smoother which may indicate that the features were of prehistoric date. There was also a small amount of lithics recovered from the topsoil within the site but only a few of these artefacts appeared to have been worked but could still suggest prehistoric activity elsewhere within the development area. All of the other artefacts and features identified within the development area were of 19th or 20th century date.
22. Due to the possible prehistoric features and artifacts recovered from the evaluation trenches it is recommended that further ground breaking works within the development area, particularly the southwestern corner, should be carried out under archaeological supervision.
23. The acceptability of these recommendations needs to be confirmed with WoSAS and North Ayrshire Council.

Conclusion

24. A programme of archaeological investigative works was carried out for Cumbrae Parish Church in support of the erection of a new church building (13/00245/PPP) on ground adjacent to Bute Terrace, Millport, North Ayrshire. 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.
25. 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 between 5th and 6th of September 2016, with a total of 8 trenches excavated. The works identified a truncated posthole and a hearth of possible prehistoric date as well as an assemblage of lithics and 19th to 20th century ceramics, glass and metal. Agricultural activity in the form of 19th or 20th century ceramic and stone drains were also identified within the site.

Acknowledgements

26. The author would like to thank Cumbrae Parish Church, for the opportunity to carry out these works and also to Paul Robins at the West of Scotland Archaeology Service who gave support and guidance throughout. We would also like to thank Thomas Rees for his editing of this report.

References

Documentary

HM Government, 1997, Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act, HMSO

Historic Scotland, 2008, Scottish Historic Environment Policy

Matthews, A. 2016, Cumbrae Parish Church, North Ayrshire: Archaeological Evaluation, Written Scheme of Investigation.

Museum of London, 1994, Archaeological Site Manual

Museums and Galleries Commission, 1992, Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections

Scottish Government, 2008, Treasure Trove in Scotland: A code of Practice

Scottish Government, 2010, *Scottish Planning Policy*

Scottish Government, 2011, Planning Advice Note 2/2011: Planning & Archaeology

Cartographic

Roy, W., 1752-55, Military survey of Scotland

Ordnance Survey, 1869, Argyllshire (includes Cumbrae and Largs), 6-Inch, sheet CCXVI

Appendix 1: Trench Details

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

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

Trench Summary

Trench	Orientation	Size	Topsoil Depth	Subsoil Character	Modern/ Agricultural Features	Significant Features	Artefacts
1	NNW-SSE	1.6m by 26.7m 42.72m ²	310mm	(002) Firmly compacted, mid red/orange-brown clay sand with occasional gravel and small stones.	Ceramic drain (008) and Stone field drain (009).	None	Find No's 1-3
2	NW-SE	1.6m by 25.7m 41.12m ²	360-380mm	(002) Firmly compacted, mid red/orange-brown clay sand with occasional gravel and small stones.	None	None	Find No's 7-14
3	WSW-ENE	1.6m by 25.6m 40.96m ²	330-350mm	(002) Firmly compacted, mid red/orange-brown clay sand with occasional gravel and small stones.	Stone field drain (009).	None	Find No's 4-6
4	SW-NE	1.6m by 26m 41.60m ²	300-400mm	(002) Firmly compacted, mid red/orange-brown clay sand with occasional gravel and small stones. (003) Firmly compacted, mid red-brown clay sand with frequent small stones/gravel and occasional-moderate medium sized stones.	None	None	Find No's 21-25

Trench	Orientation	Size	Topsoil Depth	Subsoil Character	Modern/ Agricultural Features	Significant Features	Artefacts
5	SSE-NNW	1.6m by 25.3m 40.48m ²	350-400mm	(002) Firmly compacted, mid red/orange-brown clay sand with occasional gravel and small stones.	Stone field drain (009).	None	Find No's 15-17
6	WSW-ENE	1.6m by 25.5m 40.08m ²	340-370mm	(002) Firmly compacted, mid red/orange-brown clay sand with occasional gravel and small stones. (003) Firmly compacted, mid red-brown clay sand with frequent small stones/gravel and occasional-moderate medium sized stones.	None	Posthole [005] and possible hearth [007].	Find No's 18-20
7	SSE-NNW	1.6m by 13.9m 22.24m ²	380-420mm	(002) Firmly compacted, mid red/orange-brown clay sand with occasional gravel and small stones.	Ceramic drain (008).	None	None
8	NNW-SSE	1.6m by 37m 59.20m ²	360-380mm	(002) Firmly compacted, mid red/orange-brown clay sand with occasional gravel and small stones.	Stone field drain (009).	None	Find No's 26-27

Appendix 2: Registers

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

Context Register

Context.	Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
001	All	Deposit	Moderately compacted, light to mid grey-brown clayey sand with occasional small to medium stone/gravel mix.	Topsoil
002	All	Deposit	Firmly compacted, mid red/orange-brown clay sand with occasional gravel and small stones.	Natural Subsoil
003	All	Deposit	Firmly compacted, mid red-brown clay sand with frequent small stones/gravel and occasional-moderate medium sized stones.	Natural Subsoil
004	6	Fill	Moderately compacted, mid grey brown (with patches of dark grey brown) sandy silt with moderate inclusions of small to medium sized stone.	Fill of posthole [005]
005	6	Cut	Circular shaped in plan. Break of slope at the top moderate with moderately sloping sides. Break of slope at the base moderate with a flat base. Measured 0.32m x 0.3m and had a depth of 0.11m. Filled by (004). Cuts natural subsoil (003).	Cut of truncated posthole
006	6	Fill	Loose to moderately compacted, dark grey brown silty sand with occasional patches of yellow sand with moderate small stone, occasional medium sized stone and charcoal flecks.	Fill of possible hearth [007]
007	6	Cut	Circular shaped in plan. Break of slope at the top gradual with gently sloping sides. Break of slope at the base gentle with a curving base. Measured 0.73m x 0.71m and had a depth of 0.1m. Filled by (006). Cuts natural subsoil (003).	Cut of possible hearth

Sample Register

Sample	Trench	Contextno.	Sample Type	Description	Excavator	Date
001	6	006	Soil (1 Bag)	Fill of possible burnt pit/hearth [007]	LMcK	19/9/16
002	6	004	Soil (1 Bag)	Fill of possible post-hole [005]	LMcK	19/9/16

Finds Register

Find No.	Area Trench	Context no.	Material Type	Description	Excavator	Date
001	1	001	Lithic	1x fragment of quartz	LMcK	06/09/16
002	1	001	Ceramic	6x white glaze sherds	LMcK	06/09/16
003	1	001	Ceramic	2x red burnt earthenware sherds	LMcK	06/09/16
004	3	001	Ceramic	10x white glaze sherds	LMcK	06/09/16
005	3	001	Ceramic	1x black glaze sherds	LMcK	06/09/16
006	3	001	Ceramic	1x stoneware sherds	LMcK	06/09/16
007	2	001	Ceramic	1x clay pipe stem (inscribed J Herriot (1873) Glasgow)	LMcK	06/09/16
008	2	001	Lithic	1x burnt flint, 1x burnt shale, 1x coal	LMcK	06/09/16
009	2	001	Ceramic	1x white glaze sherd	LMcK	06/09/16
010	2	001	Glass	1x coloured glass fragment	LMcK	06/09/16
011	2	001	Glass	1x frosted glass fragment	LMcK	06/09/16
012	2	001	Lithic	1x burnt flint	LMcK	06/09/16
013	2	001	Lithic	1x struck flint	LMcK	06/09/16
014	2	001	Ceramic	12x white glaze sherds	LMcK	06/09/16
015	5	001	Lithic	2x burnt flint, 1x burnt shale	LMcK	06/09/16
016	5	001	Glass	1x coloured glass fragment	LMcK	06/09/16
017	5	001	Ceramic	7x white glaze sherds	LMcK	06/09/16
018	6	001	Ceramic	7x white glaze sherds	LMcK	06/09/16
019	6	004	Lithic	1x possible smoother	LMcK	06/09/16
020	6	001	Plastic	1x golf ball	LMcK	06/09/16
021	4	001	Ceramic	5x white glaze sherds	LMcK	06/09/16

022	4	001	Ceramic	10x white glaze sherds	LMcK	06/09/16
023	4	001	Ceramic	1x black glaze sherd	LMcK	06/09/16
024	4	001	Glass	2x fragments	LMcK	06/09/16
025	4	001	Metal	Copper alloy disc	LMcK	06/09/16
026	8	001	Glass	2x fragments	LMcK	06/09/16
027	8	001	Ceramic	White glaze sherds	LMcK	06/09/16

Drawing Register

Drawing No.	Sheet No.	Area/ Trench	Drawing Type	Scale	Description
1	1	Tr.1	Plan	1:50	Trench 1; post-excavation plan
2	1	Tr. 2	Plan	1:50	Trench 2; post-excavation plan
3	1	Tr. 4	Plan	1:50	Trench 4; post-excavation plan
4	1	Tr. 6	Plan	1:50	Trench 6; post-excavation plan
5	1	Tr. 6	Plan	1:20	Trench 6; plan of features [005] &[007]
6	1	Tr. 6	Section	1:10	Trench 6; west-southwest facing section of [007]
7	1	Tr. 6	Section	1:10	Trench 6; west-southwest facing section of [005]
8	2	Tr. 3	Plan	1:50	Trench 3; post-excavation plan
9	2	Tr. 5	Plan	1:50	Trench 5; post-excavation plan
10	2	Tr. 8	Plan	1:50	Trench 8; post-excavation plan

Photographic Register

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
001	028	Pre-excavation shot of site	E	05/09/16
002	029	Pre-excavation shot of site	E	05/09/16
003	030	Trench 1; land drains and water pipe	NW	05/09/16
004	031	Trench 1; post-excavation	SSE	05/09/16
005	032	Trench 2; post-excavation	ESE	05/09/16
006	033	Trench 3; post-excavation	ENE	05/09/16
007	034	Trench 6; features [005] and [007]	WSW	05/09/16
008	035	Trench 6; pre-excavation of [005] and [007]	WSW	05/09/16
009	036	Trench 6; pre-excavation of [007]	WSW	05/09/16
010	037	Trench 6; pre-excavation of [005]	WSW	05/09/16
011	038	Trench 6; half section of [007]	WSW	05/09/16
012	039	Trench 6; half section of [005]	WSW	05/09/16
013	040	Trench 6; half sections of [005] and [007]	WSW	05/09/16
014	041	Trench 6 post-excavation	ENE	05/09/16
015	042	Trench 7; post-excavation	WNW	05/09/16
016	043	Shot of backfilling	ENE	05/09/16
017	044	Shot of backfilling	ENE	05/09/16
018	045	Trench 3; post-excavation	ENE	06/09/16
019	046	Trench 2; post-excavation	NNE	06/09/16
020	047	Trench 8; post-excavation	NNW	06/09/16

Appendix 3: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	North Ayrshire
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Cumbrae Parish Church, Millport
PROJECT CODE:	RA16007
PARISH:	Cumbrae
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Liam McKinstry
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Rathmell Archaeology Limited
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	-
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	-
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	19th or 20th century pottery; prehistoric lithics
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NS 16355 55206
START DATE (this season)	5 th September 2016
END DATE (this season)	6 th September 2016
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	No
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (may include information from other fields)	<p>A programme of archaeological investigative works was carried out for Cumbrae Parish Church in support of the erection of a new church building (13/00245/PPP) on ground adjacent to Bute Terrace, Millport, North Ayrshire. 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 between 5th and the 6th of September 2016, with a total of 8 trenches excavated. The works identified a truncated posthole and a possible hearth of possible prehistoric date as well as an assemblage of lithics and 19th to 20th century ceramics, glass and metal. Agricultural activity in the form of 19th or 20th century ceramic and stone drains were also identified within the site.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	Yes
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Cumbrae Parish Church
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Unit 8 Ashgrove Workshops, Kilwinning, Ayrshire KA13 6PU
EMAIL ADDRESS:	contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Report to West of Scotland Archaeology Service and archive to HES Collections.

Contact Details

29. Rathmell Archaeology can be contacted at our Registered Office or through the web:
- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Rathmell Archaeology Ltd | www.rathmell-arch.co.uk |
| Unit 8 Ashgrove Workshops | |
| Kilwinning | t.: 01294 542848 |
| Ayrshire | f.: 01294 542849 |
| KA13 6PU | e.: contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk |
30. The West of Scotland Archaeology Service can be contacted at their office or through the web:
- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| West of Scotland Archaeology Service | www.wosas.org.uk |
| 231 George Street | t.: 0141 287 8330 |
| Glasgow | e.: enquiries@wosas.glasgow.gov.uk |
| G1 1RX | |

End of Document