

**49 North Castle Street,
St Andrews:
Archaeological Mitigation**

Data Structure Report



by Peter Klemen

issued 18th July 2016

on behalf of Safedem Ltd

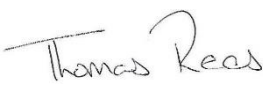
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Quality Assurance

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

Signed  Date18/07/2016....

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

Checked  Date18/07/2016.....

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Quality Assurance Data

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Introduction

1. This Data Structure Report has been prepared for Neil Simpson of Wellwood Leslie Chartered Architects on behalf of Safedem Ltd in support of the construction of a two storey extension to rear of 49 North Castle Street, St Andrews (Planning app: 15/04205/FLL). The site lies in a settlement area that pre-dates the foundation of the burgh of St Andrews in c.1140.
2. Fife Council's Archaeologist who advises Fife Council on archaeology matters has provided guidance on the structure of archaeological works required by the planning permission for the mitigation of the development works. Rathmell Archaeology Limited has been appointed by Wellwood Leslie Chartered Architects on behalf of Safedem Ltd to undertake the development and delivery of the archaeological mitigation.
3. Fife Council's Archaeologist has specified that the developer should secure the implementation of an archaeological evaluation. The archaeological evaluation would aim to provide sufficient information to either evidence an absence of significant archaeology (hence seeking to purge any issue) or to define more closely the archaeological response necessary to deal with significant archaeology within the area.

Historical and Archaeological Background

4. Early mapping by John Geddy, *S.Andre Sive Andreapolis Scotiae Universitas Metroplitana* (1580) (not shown) depicts the area in which the 49 North Street is located, as an open area with buildings to directly to the south and east. Although this unlikely to be a measured cartographic survey and more a pictorial representation of St Andrews, it does provide evidence that when the map/plan was published the development area was open.
5. *Roy's Military Survey of Scotland* (Highlands 1747-52) (not shown) and John Ainslie's *County of Fife* (1775) (not shown) both provide depictions of the area of North Castle Street, however, the surveys are not detailed enough to focus specifically on the development area, but do illustrate the area with structures/buildings across the area.
6. It is not until John Wood's *Plan of the City of St Andrews* (1820) (Figure 1a) that a detailed survey of North Castle Street and the development area is provided. Wood's (1820) survey depicts the development site as open and unbuilt with a structure/building directly to the north and on the corner of North Castle Street. The land to the east North Castle Street, itself labelled 'Castle Wynd' is also open.
7. The *Great Reform Act Plan/Map* (1832) (Figure 1b) depicts the whole of the north east corner of North Castle Street as open and with the structure/building depicted on Wood's (1820) now gone.
8. The *Ordnance Survey Large Scale Town Map* (1854) (Figure 2a) provides the first detailed depiction of a structure/building and associated courtyard within the present development area. A wall, aligned north-south, separates the rear of the development area to an open garden area associated with the structure/building directly joining the development area to the north.
9. The *6-inch 2nd edition Ordnance Survey* (1895) (Figure 2b) the building to the north has expanded eastwards with part of the garden previously associated with this and depicted on the *Ordnance Survey Large Scale Town Map* (1854) has been divided with part of it forming the garden for the development site. The *6-inch 4th edition Ordnance Survey* (1947) (not shown) depicts no change to the physical layout of the development area.
10. Using cartographic evidence it is possible to record the recent evolution of the development area. This details that from the early nineteenth century to the late 1940s there has been very little change to the development area and the focus for the archaeological works within the garden area (Figure 5) has been undeveloped at least since 1820 (Figure 1a).
11. The development site lies in an area that pre-dates the foundation of the burgh of St Andrews in c.1140. Indeed, this site originally formed part of the pre-burgh settlement that clustered around the Pictish monastery of Kinrymont (which later became the

cathedral priory precinct after c.1140). In a legal sense, this site originally constituted part of the urban baronial lordship of the priory of St Andrews and only legally became part of the burgh after 1405 when the Laws of the Four Burghs enacted that urban baronies should be subject to burghal municipal jurisdiction.

12. The area of North Castle Street is one of great antiquity having been a route of movement since the Iron Age with the area potentially being at least partially developed since the 8th century. It is also of note that medieval charters dating from around 1200 refer the site of a St Peter's Chapel which must have been on, near or close to the development site.
13. To the north of the development area lies St Andrews Castle (SM: 90259, Canmore ID: 34314) consisting of medieval and Renaissance style architecture and built by the Bishops and Archbishops of St Andrews. Started in c.1200 the majority of what is now seen is a pentagonal courtyard castle built by Bishop Walter Traill in the years around 1400, following the destruction of its predecessor in the Wars of Independence. Artillery blockhouses were built to replace the outer angle towers in the early 16th century, and fragments remain at the SW corner.
14. These were largely destroyed in the siege which followed the murder of Cardinal Beaton in 1546, during which siege a mine and counter-mine were dug beneath the ditch. The last major addition was the rebuilding of the entrance front in the 1550s by Archbishop Hamilton, in an advanced early-Renaissance style. The castle is now extensively ruined, with much of the east range, which included the hall, having fallen over the sea-cliff.
15. Associated with the castle, a series of excavations were carried out between October 1988 and January 1990 (Canmore ID: 34314) before work commenced on a new visitor centre to the west of the castle. The principal findings, which were extensive and complex represent: prehistoric features; medieval timber structures; medieval masonry buildings and associated features including a series of large pits and smaller pits; and structures post-dating the occupation of the site (Lewis 1996).
16. Within the trenches of the excavation carried out between October 1988 and January 1990, the base and several sherds of a vessel provisionally identified as a cord zoned beaker of Early Bronze Age date. (Canmore ID: 94395)
17. Sealing the presumed Bronze Age features and covering most of the excavation area, was a deposit of sandy loam, up to 0.45m deep, into which were cut numerous post-holes and post-pits and several beam slots. Few structures have been identified from these many post-settings other than from a series of pits that extended from E to W across most of the length of the site. On the evidence of its length and the apparent absence of a return, this line may define a boundary rather than a timber building. In all likelihood, however, many of the post-settings and beam slots were associated with timber buildings yet to be identified.
18. Of the four large rectangular and sub-rectangular pits that cut the subsoil of the excavated area one was considered to have been a cess pit from which an overflow channel led northwards into another pit that measured 2.4m by 1.4m and 1.1m deep. The pits, which had similar dimensions, all had very straight sides, suggesting they had been lined, probably with timber, and the linings removed immediately prior to backfilling. At least some of these pits are believed to have been associated with the tanning of leather. Enormous quantities of pottery and large amounts of fishbones and butchered mammal bones were retrieved from the infills.
19. Although no investigations have been undertaken in the direct vicinity of the development area. Investigations from the castle promontory attest to a range of chronological periods and thus anthropic activity in the area of North Castle Street. Therefore, and linked with the relative lack of intensive development in the garden area of 49 North Castle Street that forms the development area, it is possible that a range of anthropic activity may well be present.

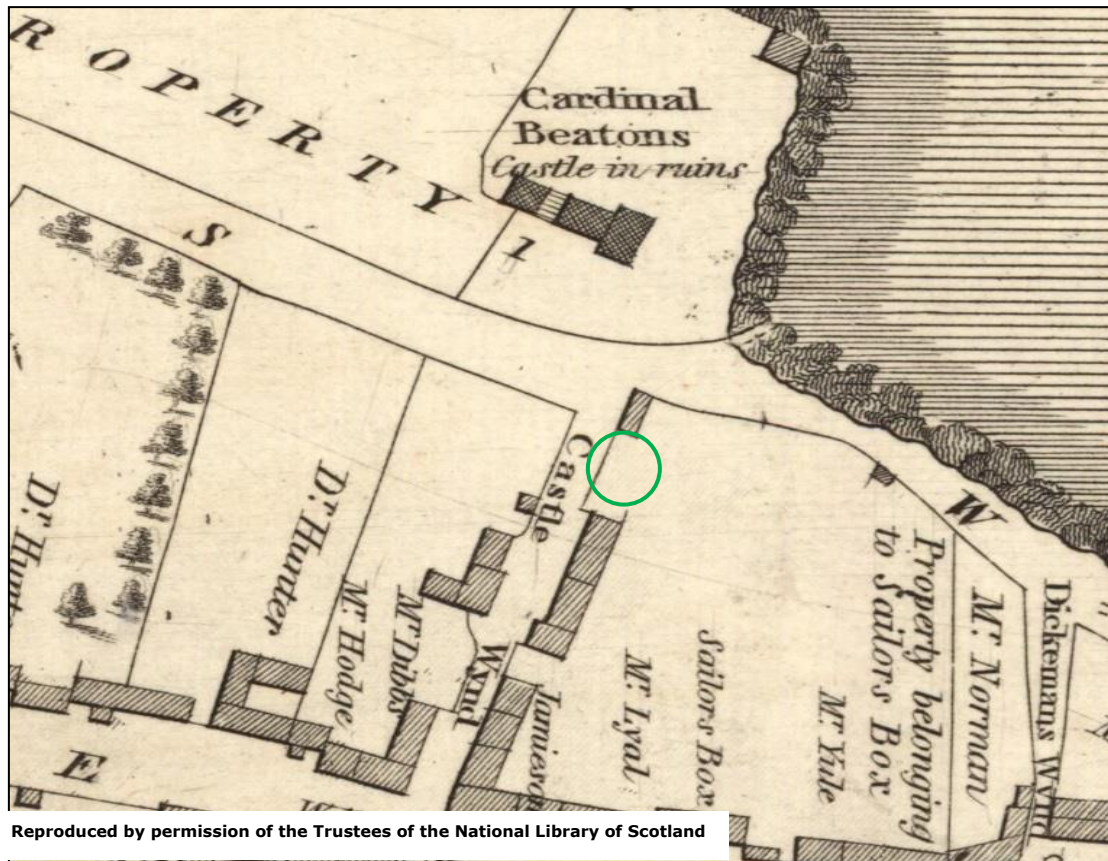


Figure 1a: Extract from Wood's Plan of the City of St Andrews (1820)

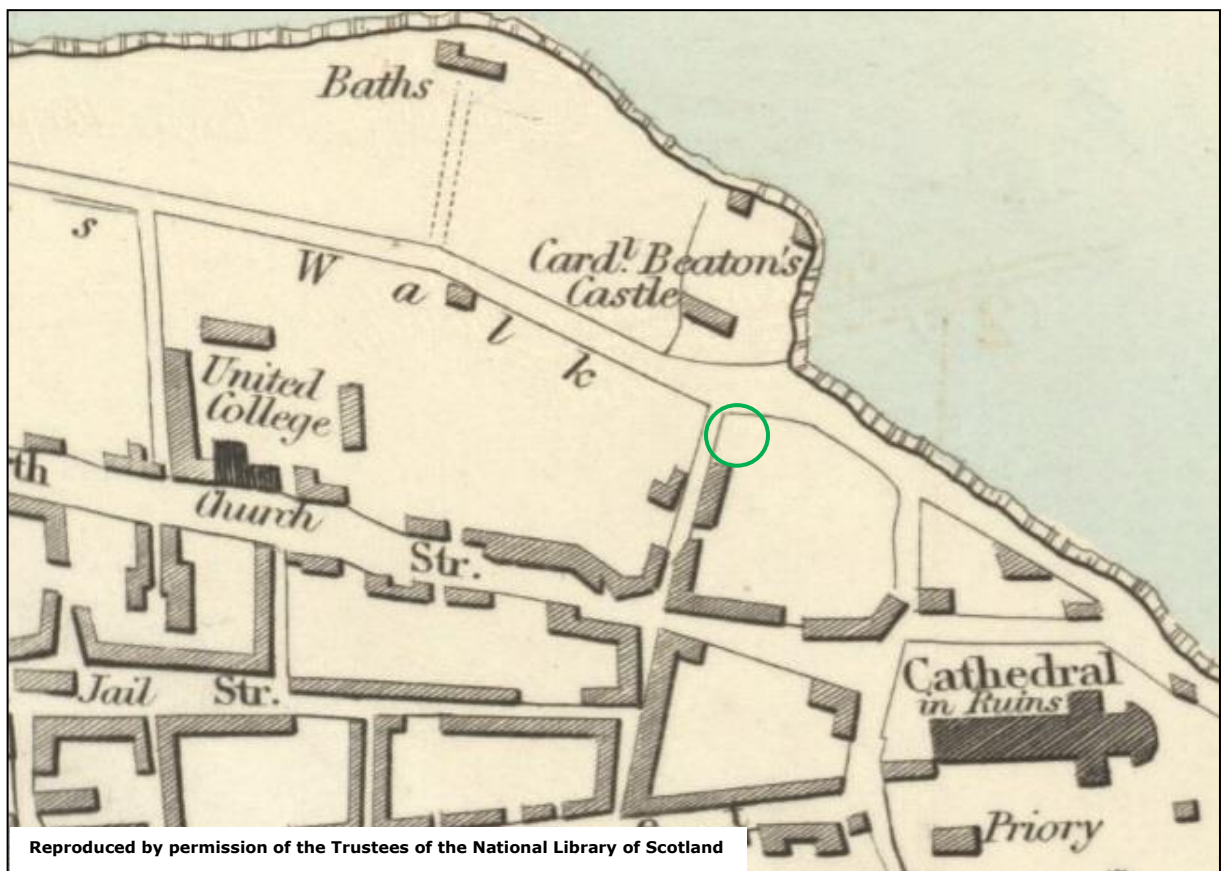


Figure 1b: Extract from Great Reform Act survey (1832)

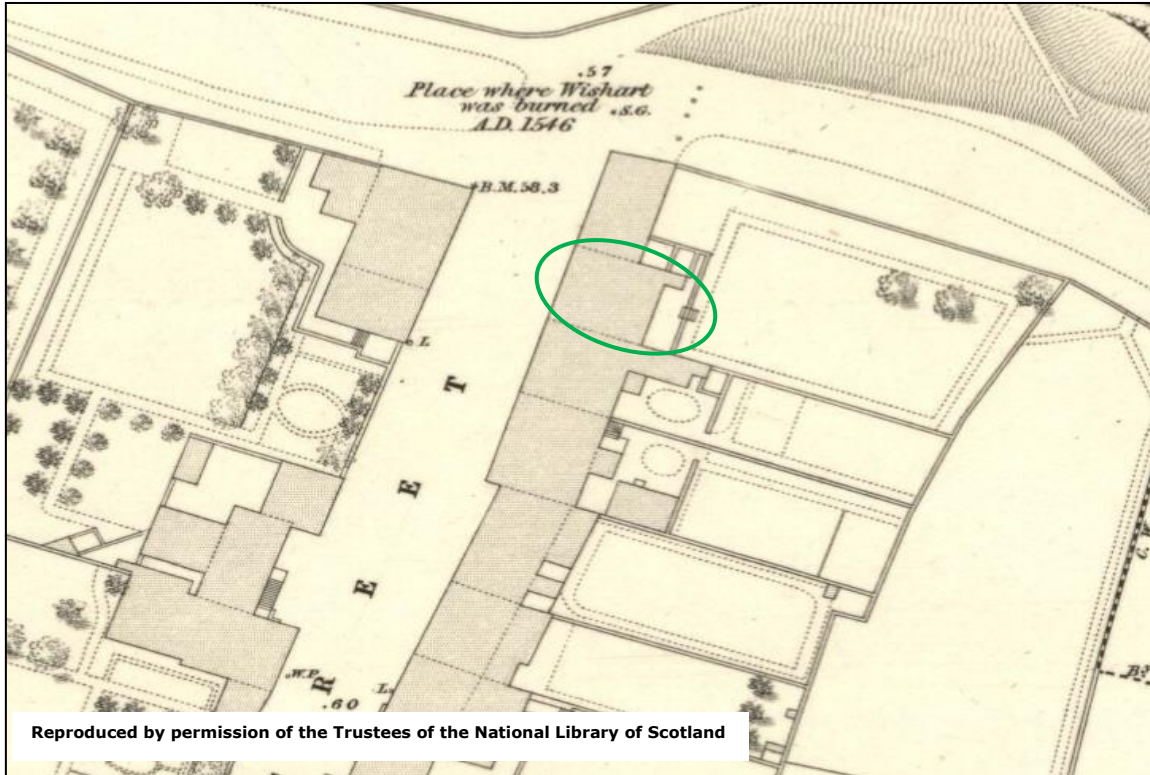


Figure 2a: Extract from *Ordnance Survey Large Scale Town survey (1:1056) (1854)*

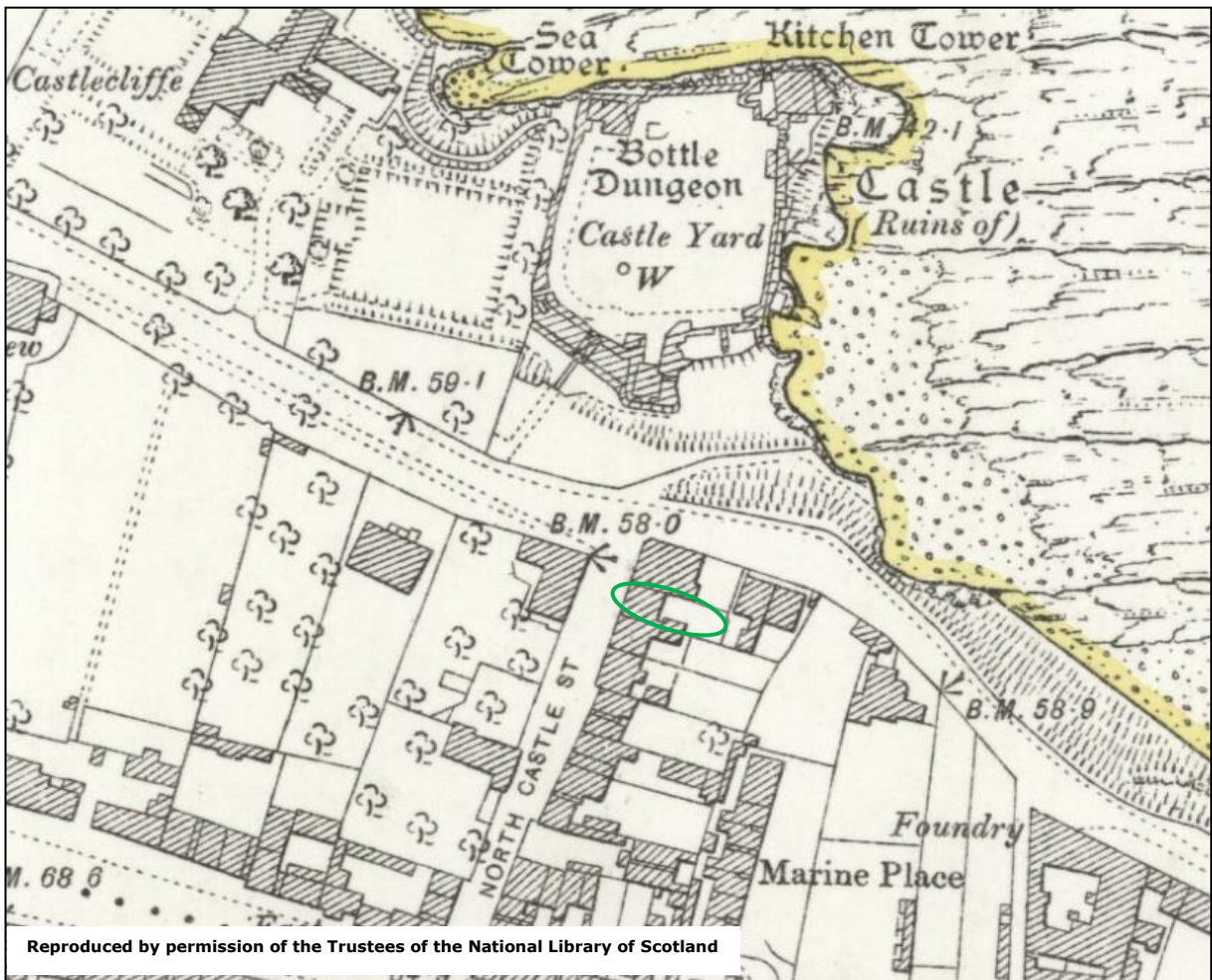


Figure 2b: Extract from *2nd edition Ordnance Survey 6 inch survey (1895)*



Figure 3a: Working shot; excavation of Trench 2



Figures 3bi & bii: Trenches 1 (left) & 2 (right)

Project Works

20. An archaeological evaluation was undertaken over one day on the 6th July 2016, and was carried out in keeping with the methods outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Klemen 2016). This evaluation consisted of the excavation of two intrusive trenches. Trench 1 measured 3.5m by 1.2m and Trench 2 measured 3m by 1.2m (See Figure 5 for locations). Excavations were carried out by a JCB 8035 ZTS tracked excavator (Figure 3a).
21. Any potentially significant archaeological features, structures or deposits encountered were recorded by the archaeologist on site, using Rathmell Archaeology Ltd standard methods. All contexts, small finds and environmental samples were given unique numbers with bulk finds collected by context.
22. All works complied with Fife Council's Archaeologist Guidelines, the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct and Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement.

Findings

23. Two evaluation trenches were excavated across the proposed development area (Figure 3 b1 & bii and 5). The details of the trenches can be found in Appendix 1 within this report. Trench 1 measured 1.2m wide by 3.5m in length with Trench 2 measuring 1.2m by 3m. In total an area of 7.8m² was excavated with the natural subsoil in both trenches reached at 1.7m. As a result of the deep stratigraphy at 1.2m in depth the bucket was changed and a 600mm wide sondage was excavated to establish the depth of the natural subsoil (Figure 3 bi & bii).
24. Topsoil (001) consisted of a moderately compacted silty sand and black humic mix with frequent rootles 100mm thick. Below (001), (002) was characterised by a moderately compacted silty clay, dark grey in colour with occasional rounded stones and some degraded sandstone with a thickness of 300mm.
25. Context (003) (figure 4a) formed the thickest of the contexts at 900mm and was characterised moderately compacted, clayey sand, mid grey colour with very frequent sandstone fragments (yellow, grey, red in colour), charcoal, occasional animal bone and oyster shell. The base of context (003) had a compacted clay lens approximately 30mm thick and form a distinct division between (003) and (004).
26. Context (004) was a loose compacted, light orange brown sand with occasional small rounded stones and 300mm thick. The lowest and base context (005) was a moderately compacted orange yellow sand with very frequent small rounded stones and 100mm thick. Within this context there is a lens, 50mm thick by 600mm in width of light pink clayey silt with charcoal throughout and possibly represents a localised burning activity.
27. In both trenches no significant archaeological features were recorded during the course of the investigative work.

Discussion

28. The immediate area of North Castle Street is one of great antiquity having been a route of movement since the Iron Age with the area potentially being at least partially developed since the 8th century. Previous investigations within the castle area have recorded archaeological activity in the form of Prehistoric features to Medieval and Post-Medieval activity. However during the evaluation investigations no significant archaeological features were uncovered.
29. The deep stratigraphy demonstrates (Figure 4b) that the area has been subjected to a long period of habitation and provides the potential for earlier anthropic activity to exist elsewhere in the surrounding area.



Figure 4a: Demonstrating the substantial building material forming (003)



Figure 4b: Demonstrating the stratigraphic sequence, Trench 1.

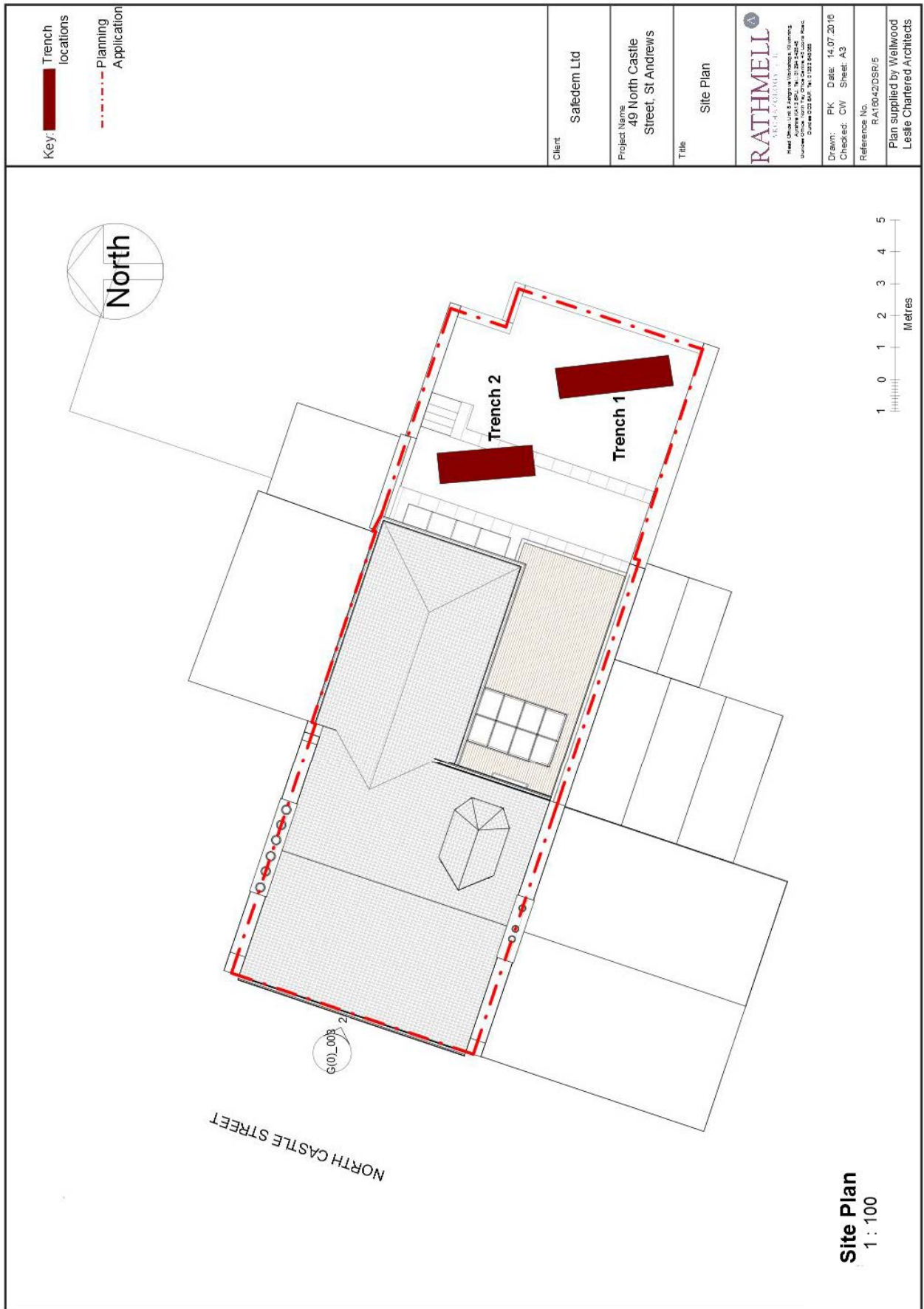


Figure 5: Site plan and location of trenches

30. Context (001) represented a modern grass lawn with (002) forming a modern garden soil possibly of 19th and 20th century origin. The cartographic evidence demonstrates that from the early nineteenth century to the late 1940s there has been very little change to garden area and has been undeveloped at least since 1820 (Figure 1a).
31. It is suggested that the thick layer forming (003) which has a substantial amount sandstone (Figure 4a) most likely represents a period of building activity associated with the construction of the dwellings located at the upper north end of North Castle Street, including number 49. The highly mixed formation of (003) makes it difficult to distinguish any internal divisions within the context. However, it may be that the lower part of (003) represents late 18th to early 19th century activity.
32. Context (004) would most likely represent an early garden soil associated when the area was still open as demonstrated by Geddy's survey (1580). Using this survey and Roy's *Military Survey of Scotland* (Highlands 1747-52) which provides a depiction of the area of North Castle Street as having structures/buildings across the area, it is possible to suggest that the area was open from the late 16th century to the mid-18th century.
33. It is not to say that this layer can be definitively dated to the late 16th century, but using the cartographic evidence it is possible to put forward that (004) represents the period when this area of North Castle Street was open.
34. Context (005) represents the natural subsoil with a similar context recorded during the investigative works within the castle promontory (Lewis 1996).

Recommendations

35. The archaeological mitigation works did not reveal any significant archaeological material from within the development area. However, the deep stratigraphy demonstrated that the area has been subjected to a long period of habitation and provides the potential for earlier anthropic activity to exist elsewhere in the surrounding area.
36. As such it is the recommendation of Rathmell Archaeology Ltd that no further works are appropriate. The appropriateness and acceptability of our recommendations rest with Fife Council's Archaeologist on behalf of Fife Council.

Conclusion

37. A programme of intrusive evaluation was carried over one day on the 6th July 2016 for Neil Simpson of Wellwood Leslie Chartered Architects on behalf of Safedem Ltd in support of the construction of a two storey extension to rear of 49 North Castle Street, St Andrews (Planning app: 15/04205/FLL). This Data Structure Report covers the monitoring works requested by Fife Council's Archaeologist who advises Fife Council on archaeological matters.
38. In the course of the archaeological monitoring no significant archaeology was uncovered. However, the deep stratigraphy demonstrated that the area has been subjected to a long period of habitation and provides the potential for earlier anthropic activity to exist elsewhere in the surrounding area.

References

Documentary

Klemen, P. 2016. 49 North Castle Street, St Andrews: Archaeological Mitigation, Written Scheme of Investigation. Unpublished commercial report by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd.

Lewis, J H. 1996. Excavations at St Andrews, Castlecliffe, 1998-90', Proc Soc Antiq Scot, vol. 126, 2, 1996. Page(s): 605-688

Cartographic

Ainslie, J. 1775. *County of Fife*

Geddy, J. 1580. *S.Andre Sive Andreapolis Scotiae Universitas Metropolitana*

Great Britain. Parliament. House of Commons. 1832. *Great Reform Act Plan of St Andrews*

OS 1854. *Large Scale Town Map*

OS 1895 *6-inch 2nd Edition Fife, Sheet 12*

Roy, W. 1747-52. *Military Survey of Scotland*

Wood, J. 1820. *Plan of the City of St Andrews*

Appendix 1: Registers

Trench Details

Trench	Orientation	Size	Topsoil Depth	Subsoil Character	Modern Features	Significant Features	Artefacts
1	NNW-SSE	1.2m by 3.50m 4.2m ²	100mm to 100mm	Deep stratigraphy at 1.7m with the top 100mm formed by (001) and (002) forming the next 300mm. The next context (003) represents the next 900mm with (004) 300m thick and the basal and natural subsoil (005) exposed to 100mm.	None	None	None
2	NNW-SSE	1.2m by 3m 3.6m ²	100mm to 100mm	Deep stratigraphy at 1.7m with the top 100mm formed by (001) and (002) forming the next 300mm. The next context (003) represents the next 900mm with (004) 300m thick and the basal and natural subsoil (005) exposed to 100mm.	None	None	None

Context Register

Context No.	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
001	Trenches 1 & 2	Deposit	Moderately compacted silty sand and black humic mix with frequent rootles. Thickness; 100mm.	Topsoil and grass lawn
002	Trenches 1 & 2	Deposit	Moderately compacted silty clay, dark grey colour with occasional rounded stones and some degraded sandstone. Thickness; 300mm.	Garden soil (modern; 19 th -20 th century)
003	Trenches 1 & 2	Deposit	Moderately compacted, clayey sand, mid grey colour with very frequent sandstone fragments (yellow, grey, red), charcoal, some animal bone and oyster shell. The base of the context is a more compacted clay and form a division between the context below. Thickness; 900mm.	Building material (19 th century)

Context No.	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
004	Trenches 1 & 2	Deposit	Loose compacted, light orange brown sand with occasional small rounded stones. Thickness; 300mm. Within this context there is a lens, 50mm thick by 600mm in width of light pink clayey silt with charcoal throughout. Possibly representing a burning activity.	Possibly represents an earlier garden soil (18 th – 17 th century)
005	Trenches 1 & 2	Deposit	Moderately compacted orange yellow sand with very frequent small rounded stones. Exposed to a thickness; of a 100mm.	Natural subsoil

Photographic Register

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
01	4136	Pre-excavation of site	SW	06/06/2016
02	4137	Pre-excavation of site	NW	06/06/2016
03	4138	Stratigraphy of Trench 1 at 1m	S	06/06/2016
04	4139	Working shot of Trench 1	S	06/06/2016
05	4140	Trench 1 excavated	S	06/06/2016
06	4141	West facing section of the south end of Trench 1	W	06/06/2016
07	4142	East facing section of the south end of Trench 1	E	06/06/2016
08	4143	South facing section of the south end of Trench 1	N	06/06/2016
09	4144	Lens of pink clay silt in (004), East facing section	E	06/06/2016
10	4145	West facing section: cleaned to show contexts	W	06/06/2016
11	4146	Working shot Trench 2	NW	06/06/2016
12	4147	Showing building material at 1m (003)	N	06/06/2016
13	4148	Showing building material at 1m (003)	N	06/06/2016
14	4149	Trench 2 from the north end	N	06/06/2016

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
15	4150	West facing section, Trench 2	W	06/06/2016
16	4151	East facing section, Trench 2	E	06/06/2016
17	4152	Back filling Trench 2	N	06/06/2016
18	4153	Post excavation of trench backfilled	N	06/06/2016
19	4154	Post excavation of trench backfilled	W	06/06/2016

Appendix 2: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Fife
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	49 North Castle Street, St Andrews
PROJECT CODE:	RA16042
PARISH:	St Andrews
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Peter Klemen
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Rathmell Archaeology Limited
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Monitoring
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NO 51269 16847 (Centred)
START DATE (this season)	06 th July 2016
END DATE (this season)	06 th July 2016
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. DES ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (may include information from other fields)	<p>A programme of intrusive evaluation was carried over one day on the 6th July 2016 for Neil Simpson of Wellwood Leslie Chartered Architects on behalf of Safedem Ltd in support of the construction of a two storey extension to rear of 49 North Castle Street, St Andrews (Planning app: 15/04205/FLL). This Data Structure Report covers the monitoring works requested by Fife Council's Archaeologist who advises Fife Council on archaeological matters.</p> <p>In the course of the archaeological monitoring no significant archaeology was uncovered. However, the deep stratigraphy demonstrated that the area has been subjected to a long period of habitation and provides the potential for earlier anthropic activity to exist elsewhere in the surrounding area.</p> <p>As such it is the recommendation of Rathmell Archaeology Ltd that no further works are appropriate. The appropriateness and acceptability of our recommendations rest with Fife Council's Archaeologist on behalf of Fife Council.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Safedem Ltd
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ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Report to Fife Council's Archaeologist Service and archive to RCAHMS Collections.

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