

57a South Street, St Andrews, Fife: Archaeological Mitigation

Data Structure Report



by Callum Allsop

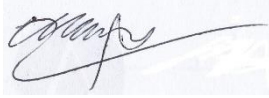
issued 24th January 2017

on behalf of Kerry Smith Architects

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



Signed Date24/01/2017....

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



Checked Date24/01/2017.....

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Quality Assurance Data

Author(s)	Callum Allsop		
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Introduction

1. This Data Structure Report has been prepared for Kerry Smith Architects in support of a single storey extension to the rear of a Category C Listed Building (with various internal and external alterations) at 57a South Street, St. Andrews, Fife KY16 9QR (Planning App: 15/03913/LBC).
2. These archaeological works are designed to mitigate any adverse impact on the archaeological remains within the development area.
3. Fife Council Archaeological Unit 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 (Planning App: 15/03913/LBC, Condition 3). Rathmell Archaeology Limited has been appointed by Kerry Smith Architects to undertake the development and delivery of the archaeological mitigation.
4. Fife Council Archaeological Unit has specified that the developer shall secure the implementation of archaeological mitigation. The archaeological mitigation 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.
5. The identified structure of appropriate mitigation works are those necessary to ensure that the development can proceed, while dealing appropriately with the identified adverse impact on the archaeological resource.

Rathmell Archaeology

6. Rathmell Archaeology Ltd through our offices in Ayrshire and Dundee provide a wide range of archaeological services throughout Scotland to developers, their agents, conservation groups and government agencies. Established in February 2003 we are a growing service provider bringing enthusiasm and innovation to our industry, underpinned by our professional experience.
7. We adopt a professional approach to ensure that our clients' interests are dealt with effectively, while maintaining a balance between the sometimes conflicting need for both profitable development and archaeological conservation.
8. Rathmell Archaeology has a strong reputation for delivering works to a high standard and to schedule. All team members are used to successfully working to set schedules to meet our client's needs. Our project team has considerable cumulative experience that will prove invaluable in delivering the project competently and to schedule.

Historical and Archaeological Background

9. Early mapping by John Geddy, *S. Andre Sive Andreapolis Scotiae Universitas Metropolitana* (1580) (see title page) depicts the area in which 57a South Street is located as a burgage plot with a building directly to the south and other burgage plots to the north, west and east. This map is a more pictorial representation of St Andrews rather than a measured cartographic survey, however it does provide evidence that at the time of publication the development area was a burgage plot which probably forms part of the original burgh masterplan laid out by Mainard the Fleming in the 1140s.
10. *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 rear of South 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.
11. It is not until John Wood's *Plan of the City of St Andrews* (1820) (Figure 1a) that a detailed survey of South Street and the development area is provided. Wood's (1820) survey depicts the built structure/building of 57a South Street directly to the north of the building fronting South Street. The buildings have also been labelled as belonging to the "Fraser" family.

12. The *Great Reform Act Plan/Map* (1832) (Figure 1b) depicts only the frontage of buildings along South Street with large open spaces behind and the structure/building behind the frontage depicted on Wood's (1820) has gone.
13. The *Ordnance Survey Large Scale Town Map* (1893) (Figure 2a) provides the first detailed depiction of a structure/building within the present development area. A wall, aligned east-west, separates the area of development from an open garden area associated with the structure/building directly joining the development area to the north.
14. The *25-inch Ordnance Survey* (1895) (Figure 2b) also records the building within the development area and the garden plot to the north depicted on the *Ordnance Survey Large Scale Town Map* (1893). The *6-inch 4th edition Ordnance Survey* (1947) (not shown) depicts no change to the physical layout of the development area.
15. Using cartographic evidence it is possible to record the recent evolution of the development area. This details that from the early 19th century to the late 1940s there has been some change within the development area, with the introduction of a small sub-square building that is no longer standing. The focus for the archaeological works within the garden area (Figure 3) has been developed at least since 1820 (Figure 1a).
16. The development area is situated within the Central St. Andrews Conservation Area which defines the archaeological potential contained within as: *The area [...] which defines the medieval burgh: the three main central roads and their backlands (North Street, South Street and Market Street)* (Fife 2010).
17. The development area is also less than 200m due west of the scheduled monument area of St. Andrews Cathedral and Priory which is designated as a monument of national importance due to its pedigree as one of the earliest Christian foundations in Scotland, being the site of the main administrative centre of the Scottish church from at least the 10th century to the Reformation, and because of the great scale and outstandingly high quality of its buildings.

Project Works

18. An archaeological evaluation was undertaken over one day on the 13th January 2017, and was carried out in keeping with the methods outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Allsop 2017). This evaluation consisted of the excavation of a single intrusive trench. After an initial inspection of the development area, the dimension and location of Trench 1 were altered within the development area to measure 1.5m by 0.75m (See Figures 3 and 4 for locations). Excavations were carried out by a two tonne tracked mini-excavator (Figure 5a).
19. 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.
20. 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

21. One evaluation trench was excavated across the proposed development area (Figure 5a). The details of the trenches can be found in Appendix 1 within this report. Trench 1 measured 0.75m wide by 1.5m in length. In total an area of 1.125m² was excavated to the natural subsoil which was reached at a depth of 1.5m.
22. The initial deposit encountered (001) consisted of a compact reddish-brown gravel, 120mm thick. Underlying (001), at a depth of 200mm from the ground level of the trench was a linear stone feature [003], E-W aligned, consisting of a single course width and depth, and measuring 450mm wide and 200mm deep (Figure 5b).

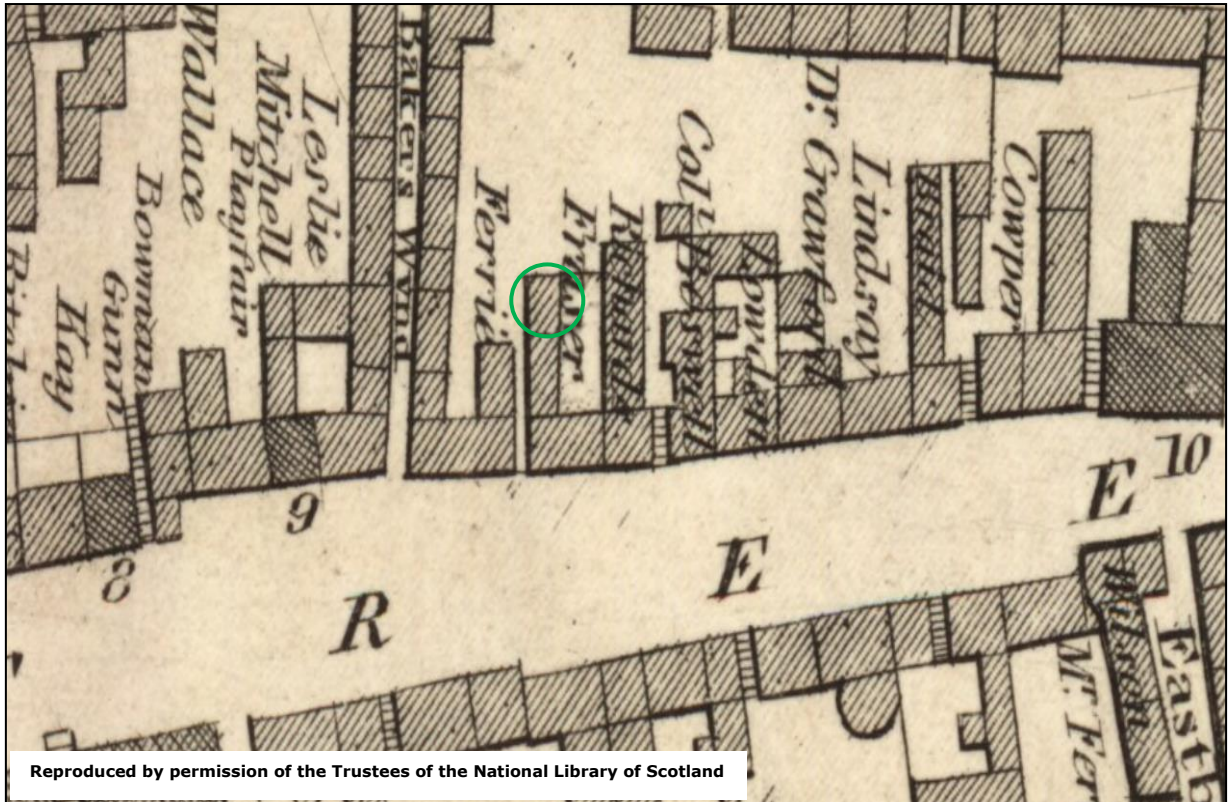


Figure 1a: Extract from Wood's map of 1820.

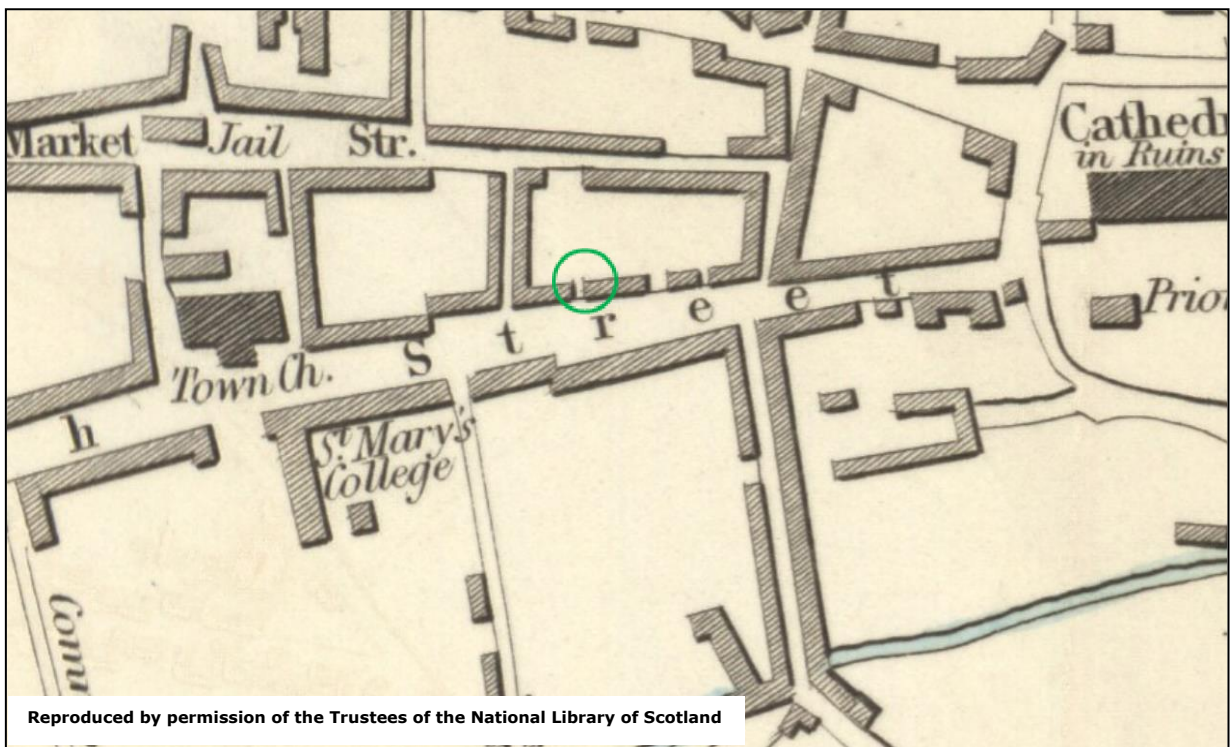


Figure 1b: Extract from Great Reform Act map of 1832.

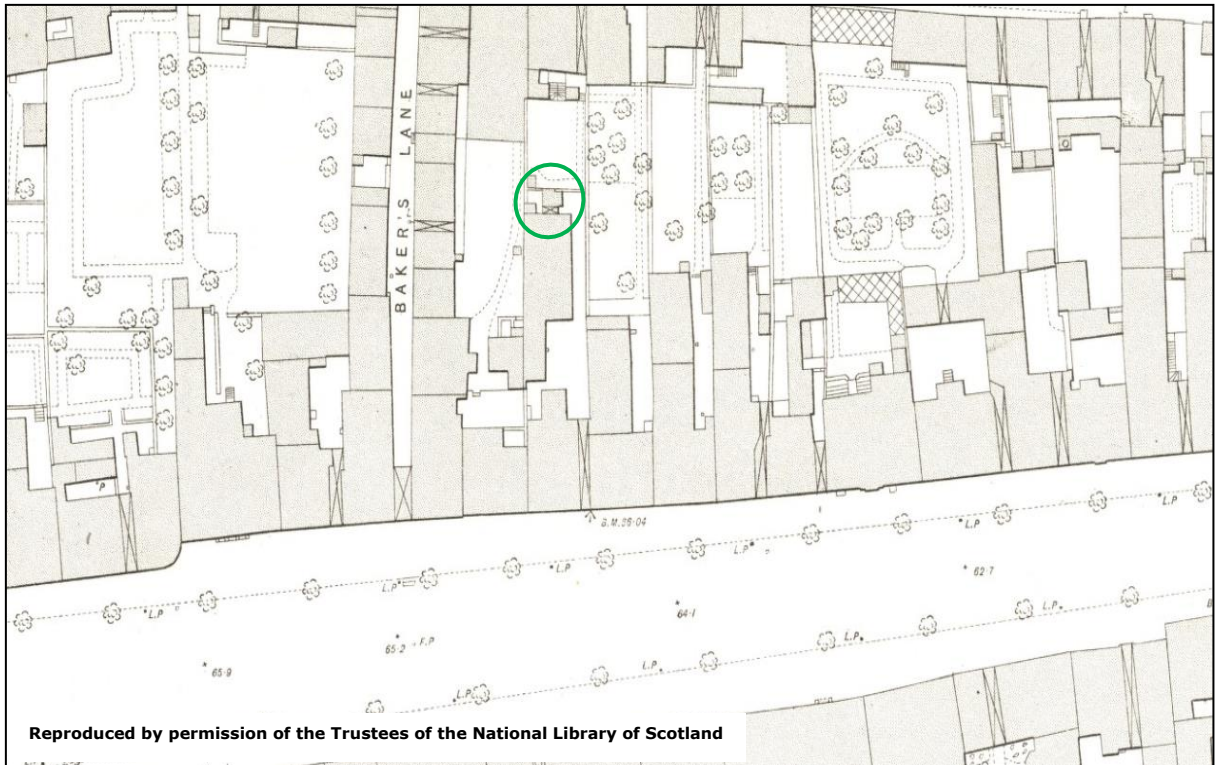


Figure 2a: Extract from Ordnance Survey Large Scale Town Map of 1893.



Figure 2b: Extract from 25" edition Ordnance Survey map 1895.

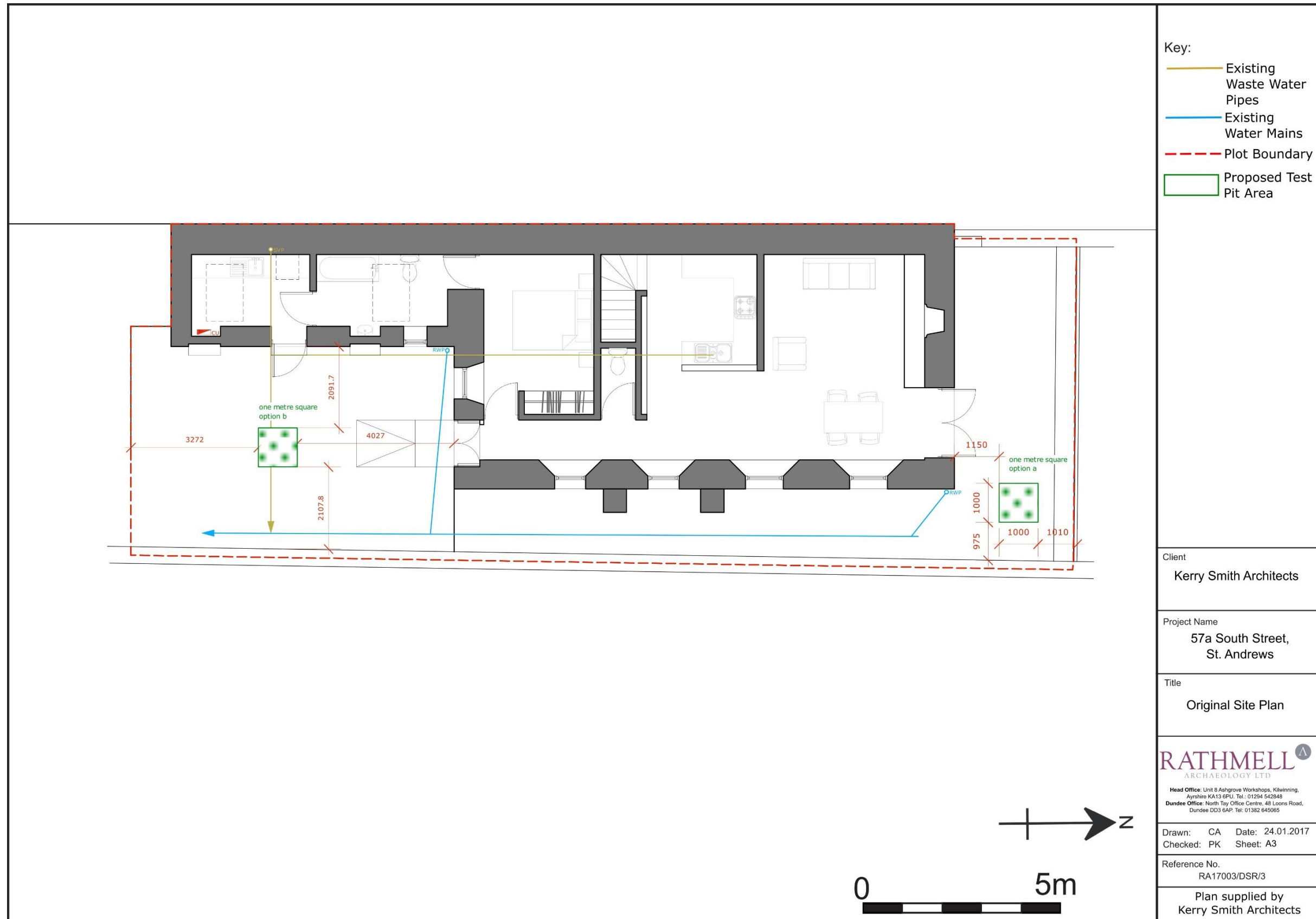


Figure 3: Original Site Plan

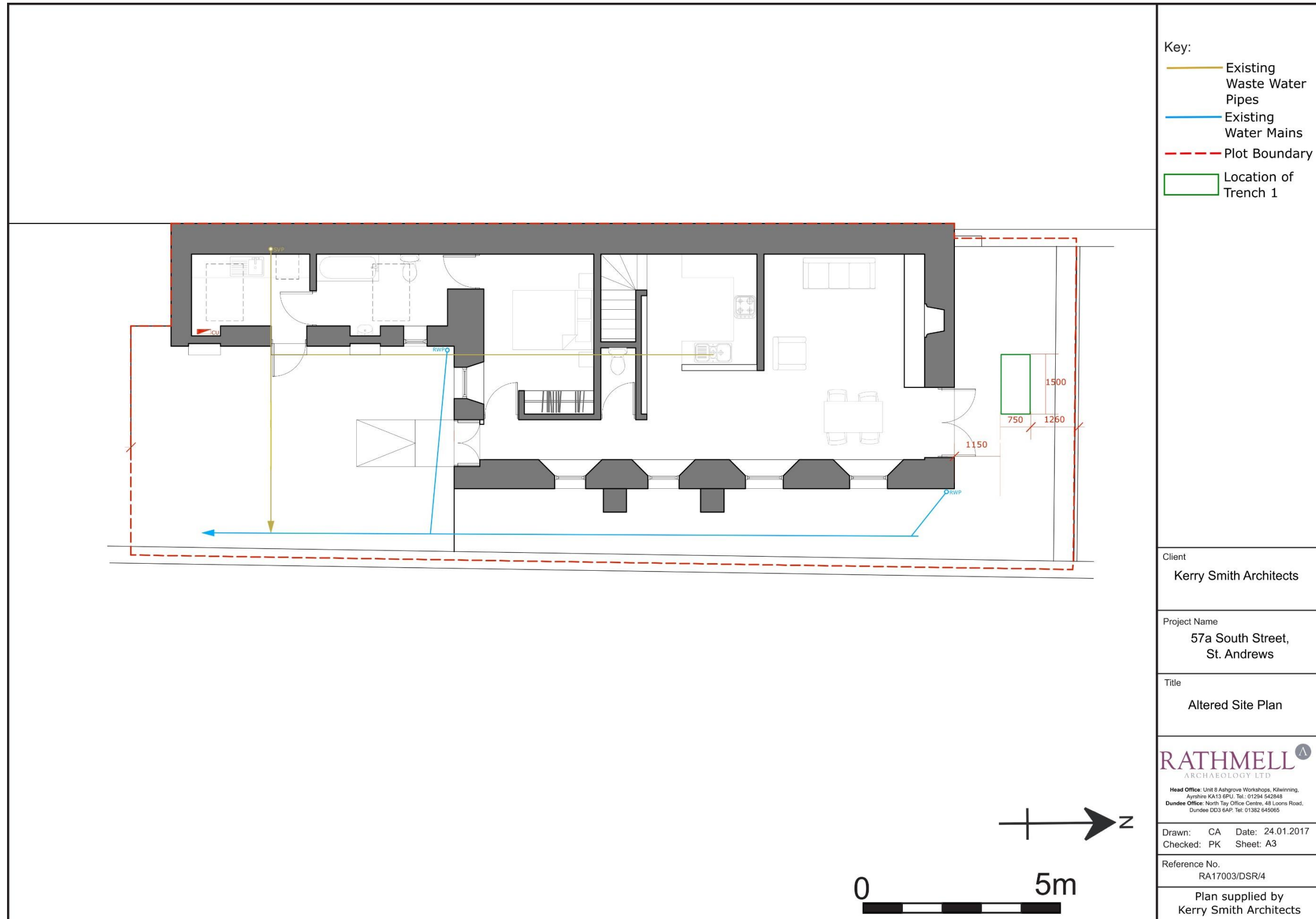


Figure 4: Altered Site Plan



Figure 5a: Working shot of Trench 1



Figure 5b: Shot of linear stone feature [003] in Trench 1



Figure 6a: North facing section of Trench 1



Figure 6b: South facing section of Trench 1

23. The stone wall was set into deposit (002) that was characterised by loose yellow sandy silt, 400mm deep, with very small to medium (0.01-0.1m) subangular stone inclusions, and occasional sherds of white ceramics and glass (not retained).
24. Context (004) (Figures 6a and b) formed the thickest of the contexts ranging from 0.8m to 1.05m and was characterised as compact dark brown silty clay with occasional charcoal inclusions and occasional sherds of white ceramics and glass (not retained).
25. At the base of the trench and underlying (004) was context (005) that comprised very compact sand with iron panning.
26. In Trench 1 no significant archaeological features pre-dating the late 19th century were recorded during the course of the investigative work.

Discussion

27. The immediate area of South Street is designated of archaeological interest within the St. Andrews Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan and the development area itself lies within close proximity to the Scheduled Monument Area of St. Andrews Cathedral and Priory. While the site lies within the historic centre of St. Andrews the evaluation investigations uncovered only a stone wall foundation [003] of an extension to the existing building carried out in the late 19th Century (Figure 5b). No significant archaeological features of earlier date were uncovered.
28. The deep stratigraphy demonstrates (Figures 6a and 6b) 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.

Recommendations

29. The archaeological mitigation works did not reveal any significant archaeological material prior to the late 19th century building extension within the development area. The deep stratigraphy recorded within Trench 1 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.
30. 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

31. A programme of intrusive evaluation was carried over one day on the 13th January 2017 for Kerry Smith Architects in support of a single storey extension to the rear of a Category C Listed Building (with various internal and external alterations) at 57a South Street, St. Andrews, Fife KY16 9QR (Planning App: 15/03913/LBC). This Data Structure Report covers the monitoring works requested by Fife Council's Archaeologist who advises Fife Council on archaeological matters.
32. In the course of the archaeological monitoring a linear stone feature was uncovered that most likely represents the late 19th century extension to the main building in the plot depicted on late 19th century cartographic evidence. No significant archaeology of earlier provenance was encountered. The deep stratigraphy recorded within Trench 1 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

Allsop, C. 2017. 57a South Street, St Andrews: Archaeological Mitigation, Written Scheme of Investigation. Unpublished commercial report by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd.

Fife Council. 2010. *St Andrews Conservation Area Appraisal & Management Plan, 2.2*, page 15

Rains, M.J. and Hall, D.W. 1997. Excavations in St Andrews, 1980-89', *Tayside and Fife Archaeological Committee, Monograph One*, 1997.

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 1893. Large Scale Town Map

OS 25-inch 1895, Fifeshire, 009.10

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	W-E	1.125m ²	-	Very compact sand with iron panning	Stone foundation wall	None	Pottery and glass

Context Register

Context No.	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
001	1	Deposit	Compact reddish-brown gravel, 120mm deep.	Aggregate material
002	1	Deposit	Loose yellow sandy silt with very small to medium subangular stone inclusions, 400mm deep.	Demolition deposit
003	1	Structure	Linear stone feature, E-W aligned, at 200mm depth from top of trench. Single course wide and deep (450mm wide and 200mm deep).	Foundation wall of 19 th century extension
004	1	Deposit	Compact dark brown silty clay with occasional charcoal inclusions, 0.8-1.05m deep.	Garden soil
005	1	Deposit	Very compact sand with iron panning	Natural subsoil

Photographic Register

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
01	0001	Pre-excavation of development area	SE	13/01/17
02	0002	Shot of 19 th century foundation wall [003]	E	13/01/17
03	0003	Shot of 19 th century foundation wall [003]	S	13/01/17
04	0004	Working shot of trenching	SE	13/01/17

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
05	0005	Working shot of cleaning	E	13/01/17
06	0006	Working shot of cleaning	E	13/01/17
07	0007	North facing section of Trench 1	N	13/01/17
08	0008	South facing section of Trench 1	S	13/01/17
09	0009	South facing section of Trench 1	S	13/01/17
10	0010	Post-excavation of Trench 1	E	13/01/17

Appendix 2: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	Fife
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	57a South Street, St Andrews, Fife
PROJECT CODE:	RA17003
PARISH:	St Andrews
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Callum Aillsop
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Rathmell Archaeology Limited
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Evaluation
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR	NO 5112 1666
START DATE (this season)	13 th January 2017
END DATE (this season)	13 th January 2017
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (may include information from other fields)	<p>A programme of intrusive evaluation was carried over one day on the 13th January 2017 for Kerry Smith Architects in support of a single storey extension to the rear of a Category C Listed Building (with various internal and external alterations) at 57a South Street, St. Andrews, Fife KY16 9QR (Planning App: 15/03913/LBC). 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 a linear stone feature was uncovered that most likely represents the 19th century extension to the main building. No significant archaeology of earlier provenance was encountered. The deep stratigraphy recorded within Trench 1 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:	Kerry Smith Architects
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EMAIL ADDRESS:	contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Report to Fife Council's Archaeologist Service and archive to National Record of the Historic Environment.

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