

**Church Lane, Riccarton,
East Ayrshire:
Archaeological Mitigation**

Data Structure Report



by Sarah Krischer

issued 14th August 2018

on behalf of Mr Bruce Summers

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  Date14th August 2018.....

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

Checked  Date14th August 2018.....

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Introduction

1. This Data Structure Report has been prepared for Mr Bruce Summers in support of development work on land at Church Lane, Riccarton. The archaeological works were designed to mitigate the impact on the archaeological remains within their development area.
2. The works have been granted conditioned Planning Consent by East Ayrshire Council (Condition 2 on Planning Ref: 17/0414/PP). The West of Scotland Archaeology Service, which advises East Ayrshire Council on archaeological matters, provided guidance on the structure of archaeological works appropriate on this site. Rathmell Archaeology Ltd has been appointed by Mr Bruce Summers to undertake the development and implementation of archaeological mitigation works.
3. The Method Statement (Krischer 2018) provided the detail of the works for the mitigation pertaining to ground breaking within the development area and hence the direct physical impact on buried sediments.

Archaeological Background

4. The development area lies immediately to the south of the old graveyard of Riccarton Parish Church located in an area defined by Church Lane to the south and east, Old Street to the west and New Street to the north (Figure 2). A chapel was first noted on this site in 1229 and the parish church remained in the centre of this area until it was rebuilt on its current location to the north of New Street in the early 18th century. There was potential for human burials within the study area, either from before the construction of the cemetery wall or individuals deliberately buried outside the graveyard. In addition, there was the potential for medieval settlement to have been clustered around the church.
5. The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map shows the development area as a small patch of land to the south of the graveyard (Figure 1a). The north side of Church Lane is entirely open plots. There does appear to be a small structure in the centre of the development area, indicating that the area may have been disturbed by 19th century works. The 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map (Figure 1b) shows the same layout as the earlier map, with open areas and a small structure in the centre of the development area. This structure is no longer standing, and the area is currently covered by hardstanding.

Project Works

6. The programme of works comprised the archaeological monitoring of ground breaking works immediately to the south of the old graveyard of Riccarton Parish Church along Church Lane (Figure 2; Figure 5a). As already agreed in the Method Statement, works that did not extend beyond the depth of the hardstanding did not require monitoring (Krischer 2018). As a result, the southern portion of Trench 3 was not monitored.
7. The ground breaking works consisted of digging five foundations for the garage (Trenches 1-5). All five trenches were 0.5-1.5m deep and 0.8m wide. The works were undertaken using a 360° tracked excavator with a smooth ditching bucket and took place between the 26th and the 31st July 2018.
8. In compliance with the Method Statement (Krischer 2018) any potential archaeological features were investigated and recorded. All works were conducted in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Policy Statements and Code of Conduct and Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statements.

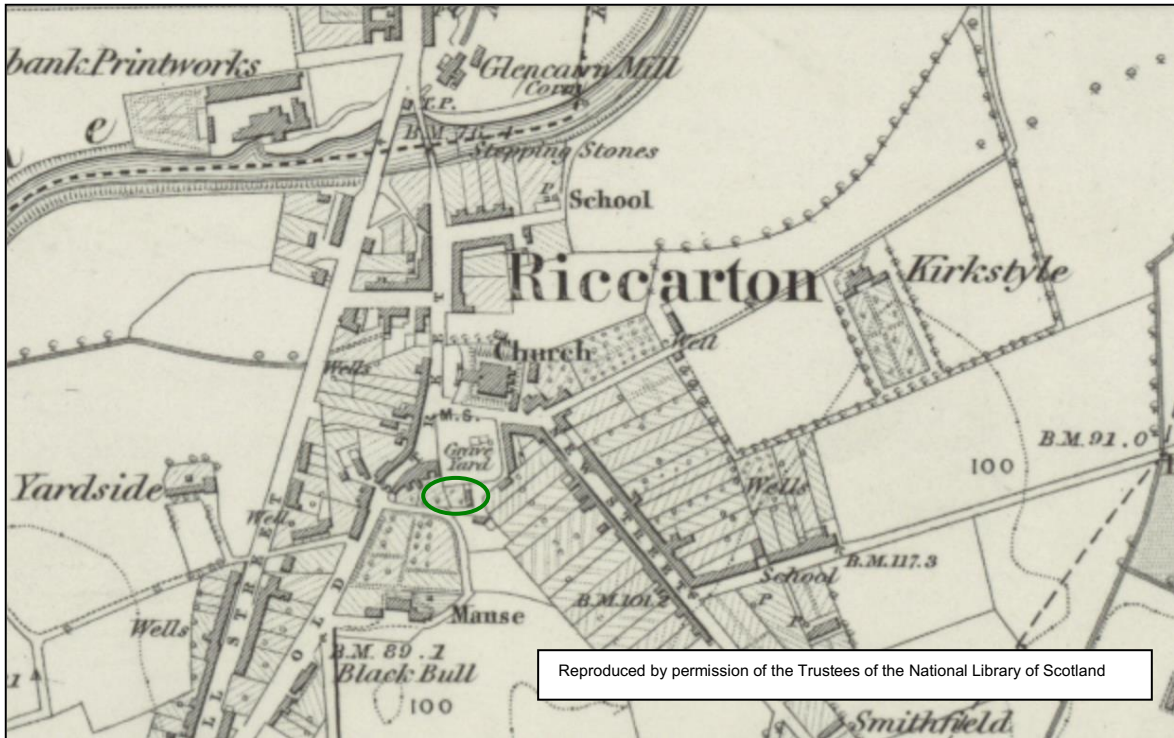


Figure 1a: 6-inch 1st edition Ordnance Survey map (1860). The green circle denotes the development area.

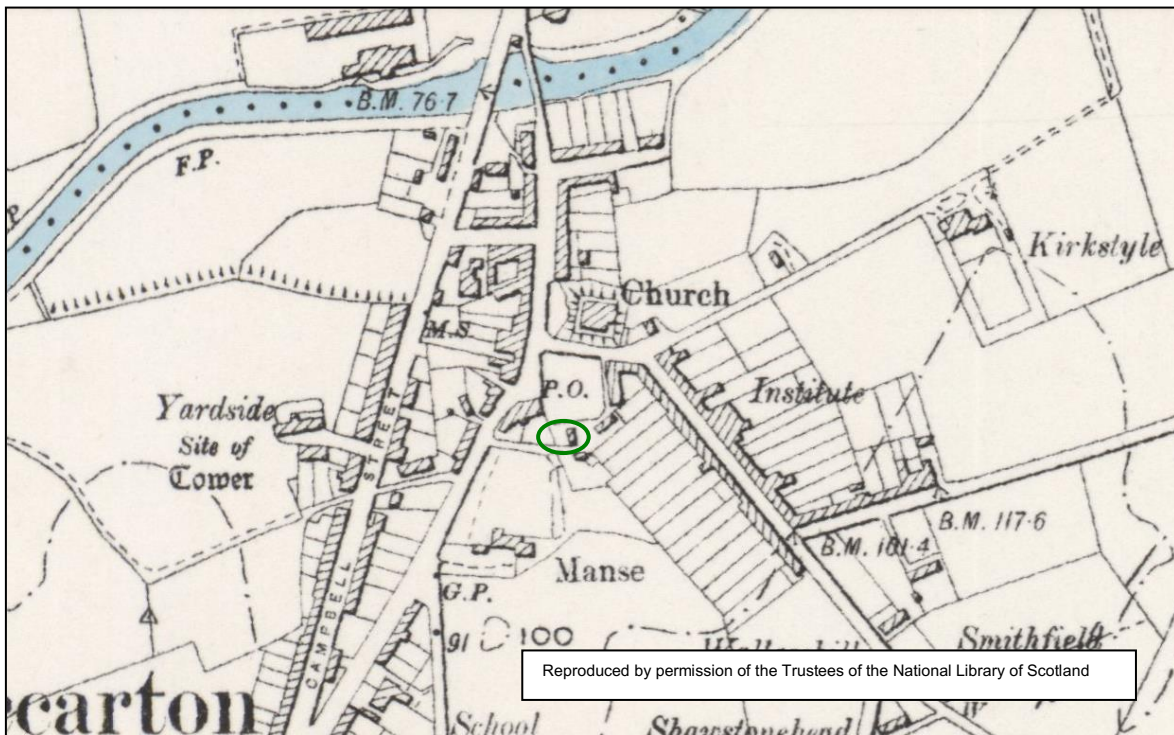


Figure 1b: 1897 revised Ordnance Survey map. The green circle denotes the development area.

Findings

9. Five foundation trenches were excavated within the development area (Figure 2). Trench 1 ran northeast-southwest at the northern end. Trenches 2, 3 and 4 all ran perpendicular from Trench 1 southwards to the road, starting at its southwestern end, middle and northeastern end respectively. At the southern end of these trenches sat Trench 5 which ran northeast-southwest parallel to Trench 1.

Trench 1

10. Trench 1 ran 9.5m northeast-southwest along the northern end of the site near to the southern wall of the church graveyard. The trench was 0.8m wide and 0.5 to 0.6m deep. It was cut into a layer of hardstanding which comprised small sub-angular grey gravel in a brown orange sand matrix (001) measuring 0.1m thick. At the northeast end of the trench, (001) overlay topsoil (008): a loose brown orange sand with frequent small sub-angular stone inclusions. The topsoil was 0.2m thick and overlay compact mid- orange brown clay natural subsoil with infrequent manganese inclusions (002). The subsoil was encountered at a depth of 0.3m and cut into to a maximum depth of 0.5m.
11. In the southwestern 7.6m of Trench 1, (001) was underlain by made ground (006), a moderately compact dark blackish brown clay with frequent brick and stone inclusions. This made ground had a thickness of 0.25m and overlay natural subsoil (002). Sat 5.4m from the southwestern end of Trench 1, a small linear feature [005] running north-south was revealed cut into the surface of (002). The linear was U-shaped with steep sides and a rounded base (Figure 3b). It had a width of 0.32m and was 0.19m deep. A length of 0.8m was exposed within the trench and it extended outwith the trench in both directions. The linear was filled by (004), a loose mid blackish-orange clayey sand with small stone inclusions that was the same as the overlying deposit (006).
12. No significant archaeological features were revealed within Trench 1.

Trench 2

13. Trench 2 ran northwest-southeast at the western end of the development area parallel to the wooden garden fence which formed the boundary on this side. It ran perpendicular to Trench 1. The trench was 9.4m long and 0.8m wide. The northwestern third of the trench was excavated to a depth of 0.6m, while the remainder of the trench was excavated to 1.5m.
14. Trench 2 was dug through (001) and loose whitish grey small sub-angular Type 1 gravel (007) with frequent brick and concrete slab inclusions. (001) was only present in the northern 1.5m of the trench. Made ground (006) underlay (001) and (007) at a depth of 0.25m for the entire length of the trench (Figure 3a). The natural subsoil (002) was not exposed in this trench.
15. No significant archaeological features were revealed within Trench 2.

Trench 3

16. Trench 3 ran southeast from Trench 1. It began 4.15m in from the southwestern end of Trench 1. The trench was 0.8m wide and 0.6m deep. The full length of the trench was 9m, but only the northern half was monitored; the southern half did not go deeper than the hardstanding.
17. The northern half of the trench was cut into hardstanding (001). For the initial 0.8m of the trench from the northern end, (002) sat underlying (001) at a depth of 0.25m. Beyond that, (001) was underlain by made ground (006), also at a depth of 0.25m. The made ground was cut into to a maximum depth of 0.6m.
18. While the excavation of the southern half was not monitored, the open trench was inspected and its stratigraphy recorded. Here, the trench was excavated through 0.6m of (007) to expose the made ground (006). The base of the trench stopped at the surface of the made ground.
19. No significant archaeological features were revealed within Trench 3.

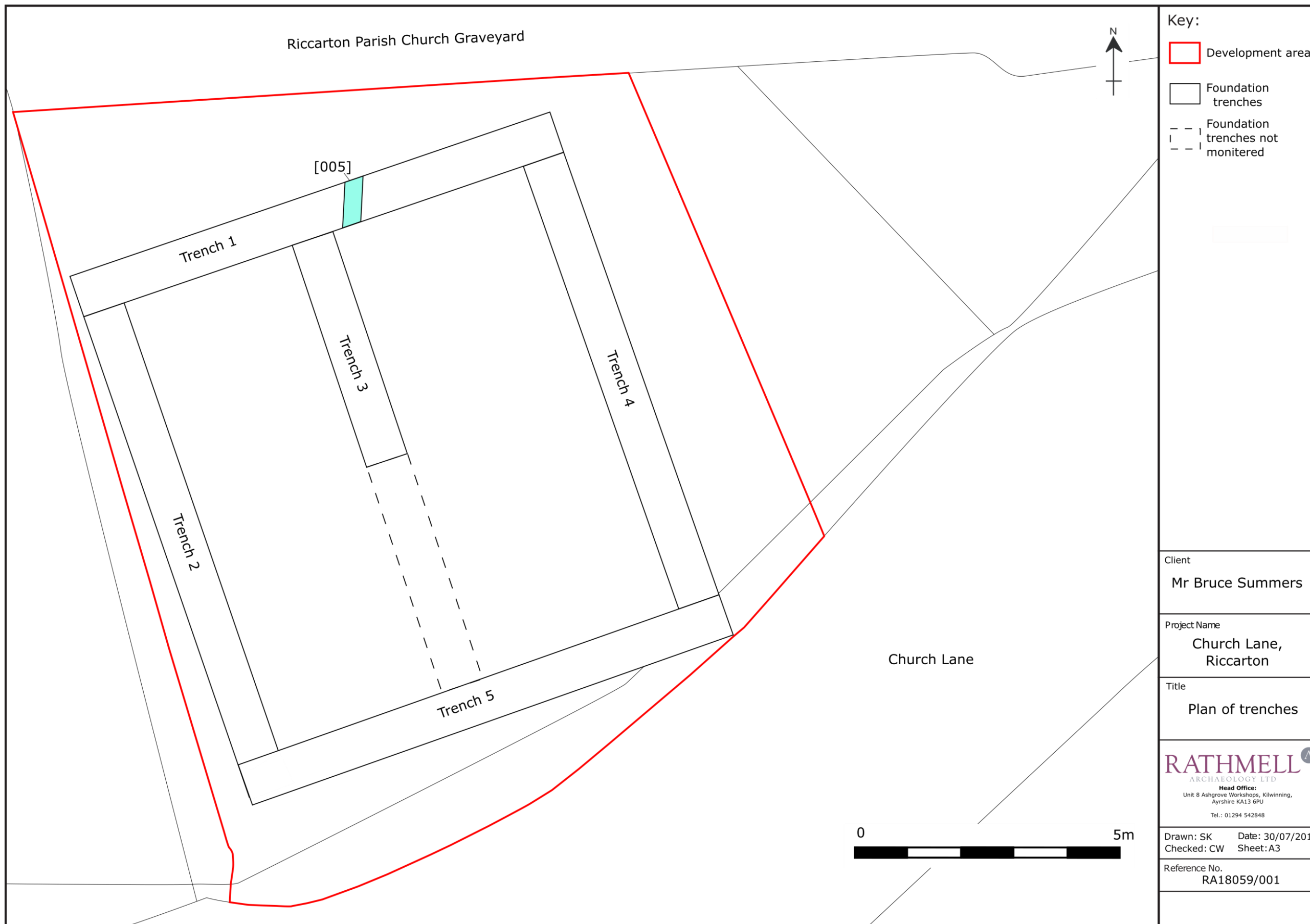


Figure 2: Plan showing monitored areas.

Trench 4

20. Trench 4 ran southeast from the northeastern end of Trench 1. It was 8.9m long and 0.8m wide, and had a maximum depth of 0.8m.
21. The trench was cut into hardstanding (001) which measured 0.15m thick. In the northwestern half of the trench (001) was underlain by topsoil (008). Underlying topsoil (008) at a depth of 0.34m sat natural subsoil (002). The subsoil was cut into for 0.2m (Figure 4a).
22. In the southeastern half of Trench 4, (001) was underlain by Type 1 gravel (007) at a depth of 0.15m. (007) was in turn underlain by made ground (006) at a depth of 0.45m. The full extent of the made ground is not known in this section but it was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.8m (Figure 4b), and the base of the trench did not go beyond it.
23. No significant archaeological features were revealed within Trench 4.

Trench 5

24. Trench 5 ran northeast-southwest at the southern end of the development area. It measured 0.8m wide and 9.8m long. It had a maximum depth of 0.8m. The trench ran parallel with Trench 1 and connected to Trenches 2, 3 and 4 at their southwestern ends.
25. The trench was cut into Type 1 gravel (007) which ranged in thickness from 0.15 to 0.35m. Underlying (007) sat made ground deposit (006), which, in turn, was excavated to a depth of 0.4 to 0.55m. The natural subsoil (002) was exposed in places across the trench underlying (006).
26. No significant archaeological features were revealed within Trench 4.

Artefacts

27. A glass bottle (Find no. 3; Figure 5b) was found in made ground (006) in Trench 4. It was a moulded blue green torpedo bottle with a rolled lip. The bottle was 0.24m long and had a maximum diameter of 0.075m. The bottle had no decorations or embossed lettering. This form of bottle was used to hold aerated mineral water. They first appeared in England around 1809, but was most common between the 1870s and 1910.
28. In addition, (006), which was found across the majority of the site, contained a large amount of ceramic sherds that were late 19th century in date.

Discussion

29. The study area was a patch of waste ground located between Church Lane and the graveyard of Riccarton Parish Church. The area appeared to have been highly disturbed and is covered in layers of hardstanding (001) and modern gravel spreads (007). Across much of the site, these are underlain by a thick layer of made ground (006), deposited in order to raise the area to a uniform height. The made ground contained a large amount of late 19th century material, indicating that the development area is likely to have been levelled off during this period.
30. The linear feature found running north-south within Trench 1 is likely to be modern in date. It is incredibly shallow and the fill (004) is the same as the overlying made ground deposit (006). It is likely that this linear feature is an old service trench or drain. It is also possible that this linear feature may have related to the small structure shown within the development area on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps (Figures 1a and b).

Recommendations

31. This Data Structure Report covers archaeological monitoring works carried out on behalf of Mr Bruce Summers as a requirement of the granted planning consent (Condition 2 on Planning Ref: 17/0414/PP).



Figure 3a: Post-excitation shot of Trench 2 from the southeast.



Figure 3b: Linear feature [005] in Trench 1, taken from the southeast.



Figure 4a: Post-excavation shot of the northwest half of Trench 4 from the northwest.



Figure 4b: Post-excavation shot of the southeast half of Trench 4 showing northeast facing section, taken from the east.



Figure 5a: General shot of site taken from the south.



Figure 5b: Torpedo bottle from (006) in Trench 4.

32. The area covered by the archaeological monitoring works identified no significant archaeological features or artefacts within the development area. Only modern 19th century features were revealed during the works with a large portion of the area being covered by made ground containing late 19th century material. As such, it is recommended that no further archaeological works are required as a direct consequence of these works.
33. The appropriateness and acceptability of our recommendations rest with East Ayrshire Council and their advisors, the West of Scotland Archaeology Service.

Conclusion

34. Archaeological monitoring works were carried out in support of development work on land at Church Lane, Riccarton. The archaeological works were designed to mitigate the impact on the archaeological remains within the development area.
35. The monitoring works found a large area of late 19th century made ground and a shallow modern linear feature. The works did not identify the presence of any significant archaeological features within the development area.

Acknowledgements

36. We are grateful to Mr Bruce Summers for allowing us the chance to carry out these works and also to the West of Scotland Archaeology Service who gave guidance throughout the project. We would also like to thank Claire Williamson for her support throughout the project.

References

Krischer, Sarah 2018 *Church Lane, Riccarton, East Ayrshire: Archaeological Mitigation Method Statement*

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Cartographic

Ordnance Survey	1860	1 st Edition 6-inch Ayrshire Sheet XXIII
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Ordnance Survey	1897	2 nd Edition 6-inch Ayrshire Sheet XXIII.NW
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Appendix 1: Registers

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

Context Register

Context	Area/ Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
001	All	Deposit	Loose mid- orange grey sand with frequent medium size sub-angular stone inclusion. The deposit is found throughout the development area and has a depth of 0.25-0.3m	Hard standing.
002	All	Deposit	Compact mid- orange brown clay with infrequent manganese inclusions. The deposit is found throughout the development area and underlies made ground (006) and topsoil (008).	Natural subsoil
003	-	-	VOID	VOID- SAME AS (006)
004	T1	Deposit	Loose mid- blackish-orange clayey sand with small stone inclusions. The fill is the same as overlying deposit (003).	Fill of linear [005]
005	T1	Cut	U-shaped cut of linear. The cut is 0.32m wide and 0.19m deep. It runs north-south across the trench for 0.8m. The cut has a concave base and gently sloping sides.	Cut of linear, filled by (004)
006	T2,T3,T4, T5	Deposit	Moderately compact dark blackish brown clay with frequent inclusions of brick and ceramics. The deposit underlies hardstanding (001) and Type 1 gravel (007). It has a maximum depth of 1m.	Made ground.
007	T2,T3, T4, T5	Deposit	Loose grey gravel with frequent brick and concrete slab inclusions. Underlies hard standing (001) in places. The deposit is underlain by made ground (006). The deposit is between 0.15 and 0.4m thick.	Type 1 gravel
008	T1, T4	Deposit	Loose brown orange sand with frequent small sub-angular stone inclusions underlying (001) in Trenches 1 and 4. Overlies natural subsoil (002) and is 0.2m thick.	Topsoil

Photographic Register

Image	Digital	Description	From	Date
001	9686	Mid-excavation shot of excavation trench 1 showing (002), (006) and (004)	NE	26/07/2018

Image	Digital	Description	From	Date
002	9687	Mid-excavation shot of excavation trench 1 showing (002), (006) and (004)	SE	26/07/2018
003	9688	Mid-excavation shot of linear [005] in trench 1.	SE	26/07/2018
004	9689	Mid-excavation shot of linear [005] in trench 1.	S	26/07/2018
005	9690	Post-excavation shot of trench 1.	SW	26/07/2018
006	9691	Post-excavation shot of trench 1.	SW	26/07/2018
007	9692	Post-excavation shot of trench 2.	NW	26/07/2018
008	9693	Post-excavation shot of trench 2.	SE	26/07/2018
009	9694	Post-excavation shot of linear [005].	NE	26/07/2018
010	9695	Post-excavation shot of linear [005].	SE	26/07/2018
011	9696	General shot of trench 1.	NE	26/07/2018
012	9697	General shot of site.	W	26/07/2018
013	9698	General shot of site.	N	26/07/2018
014	9699	General shot of site.	N	26/07/2018
015	9700	General shot of site.	SW	26/07/2018
016	9701	General shot of site.	SW	26/07/2018
017	9702	General shot of site.	S	26/07/2018
018	9703	General shot of site.	SW	26/07/2018
019	9704	Mid-excavation shot of trench 3	NW	27/07/2018
020	9705	Post-excavation shot of trench 3	NW	27/07/2018
021	9706	Post-excavation shot of trench 3	N	27/07/2018
022	9707	General shot of site.	NE	27/07/2018
023	9708	Post-excavation shot of trench 3.	NW	27/07/2018
024	9709	Post-excavation shot of trench 3.	N	27/07/2018
025	9710	Post-excavation shot of trench 3.	N	27/07/2018
026	9711	Post-excavation shot of trench 3.	N	27/07/2018

Image	Digital	Description	From	Date
027	9712	Post-excavation shot of trench 3.	N	27/07/2018
028	9713	Post-excavation shot of trench 3.	N	27/07/2018
029	9714	General shot of area.	NE	27/07/2018
030	9715	General shot of type 1.	SW	27/07/2018
031	9716	General shot of type 1.	SW	27/07/2018
032	9717	General shot.	SE	27/07/2018
033	8798	Post-excavation shot of trench 5.	NE	31/07/2018
034	8799	Post-excavation shot of southern half of trench 4.	SE	31/07/2018
035	8800	Post-excavation shot of northern half of trench 4.	NW	31/07/2018
036	8801	Post-excavation shot of northern half of trench 4.	NW	31/07/2018
037	8802	Post-excavation shot of trench 5.	NE	31/07/2018
038	8803	Post-excavation shot of trench 5.	NE	31/07/2018
039	8804	Post-excavation shot of northeastern end of trench 5.	S	31/07/2018
040	8805	Post-excavation shot of trench 5.	SW	31/07/2018
041	8806	Post-excavation shot of southern half of trench 4.	E	31/07/2018
042	8807	Post-excavation shot of southern half of trench 4.	SE	31/07/2018
043	8808	Post-excavation shot of southern half of trench 4.	E	31/07/2018
044	8809	Post-excavation shot of southern half of trench 4.	E	31/07/2018
045	8810	Post-excavation shot of northern half of trench 4.	NW	31/07/2018
046	8811	Post-excavation shot of northern half of trench 4.	N	31/07/2018
047	8812	Post-excavation shot of northern half of trench 4.	W	31/07/2018
048	8813	General shot of trench 3.	NW	31/07/2018

Finds Register

Find No.	Area/ Trench	Context no.	Material Type	Description	Excavator	Date
001	T3	006	Ceramic	2 x ceramic sherds.	SK	27/07/2018
002	T4	006	Glass	1 x glass bottle	SK	31/07/2018
003	T4	006	Ceramic	2 x ceramic sherds.	SK	31/07/2018

Appendix 2: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

LOCAL AUTHORITY:	East Ayrshire
PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:	Church Lane, Riccarton
PROJECT CODE:	RA18059
PARISH:	Riccarton
NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:	Sarah Krischer
NAME OF ORGANISATION:	Rathmell Archaeology Limited
TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:	Watching brief
NMRS NO(S):	None
SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):	None
SIGNIFICANT FINDS:	None
NGR (2 letters, 8 or 10 figures)	NS 42779 36302
START DATE (this season)	26 th July 2018
END DATE (this season)	31 st July 2018
PREVIOUS WORK (incl. <i>DES</i> ref.)	None
MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION: (may include information from other fields)	<p>Archaeological monitoring works were carried out in support of development work on land at Church Lane, Riccarton. Five foundation trenches were excavated within the development area. The archaeological works were designed to mitigate the impact on the archaeological remains within the development area.</p> <p>The monitoring works found a large area of late 19th century made ground and a shallow modern linear feature. The works did not identify the presence of any significant archaeological features within the development area.</p>
PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:	None
CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:	None
SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:	Mr Bruce Summers
ADDRESS OF MAIN CONTRIBUTOR:	Unit 8 Ashgrove Workshops, Kilwinning, Ayrshire KA13 6PU
E MAIL:	contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk
ARCHIVE LOCATION (intended/deposited)	Report to West of Scotland Archaeology Service and archive to the National Record of the Historic Environment

Contact Details

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

Rathmell Archaeology Ltd
Unit 8 Ashgrove Workshops
Kilwinning
Ayrshire
KA13 6PU

www.rathmell-arch.co.uk

t.: 01294 542848

f.: 01294 542849

e.: contact@rathmell-arch.co.uk

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