

# **Brathwic Terrace, Brodick: Archaeological Mitigation**

Data Structure Report



by Claire Williamson  
issued 12<sup>th</sup> October 2018  
on behalf of Ashleigh (Scotland) Ltd

**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 Claire Williamson Date ...12<sup>th</sup> October 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 Thomas Rees Date ...12<sup>th</sup> October 2018...

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## Quality Assurance Data

Author(s)	Claire Williamson		
Date of Issue	12 <sup>th</sup> October 2018	Version	1.0
Commissioning Body	Ashleigh (Scotland) Ltd		
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## Introduction

1. This Data Structure Report has been prepared for Ashleigh (Scotland) Ltd in support of development work at Brathwic Terrace, Brodick.
2. The archaeological works were designed to determine the nature, form and extent of any archaeological remains within the development area so as to inform the mitigation of any adverse impact. The archaeological works were structured to meet the guidance of the West of Scotland Archaeology Service who, in advising that archaeological issues should be addressed, advised an initial evaluation at an 8% sample level of the greenfield area. Additional trenches were included to sample the ground abutting the bunded spoil on the eastern side of the site as a proxy test of this ground.
3. Rathmell Archaeology Limited was appointed by Ashleigh (Scotland) Ltd to undertake the development of the archaeological evaluation. The project works were detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Rees 2018), which was agreed with the West of Scotland Archaeology Service.

## Archaeological and Historical Background

4. The 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey shows the proposed development area to be an enclosed, rectangular field with a N-S aligned lane on its eastern side.
5. Some 30m to the NW of the proposed development area is the East Mayish Standing Stone (HES SM4903, Canmore 40136, WoSAS 4719). This early prehistoric standing stone, which is a Scheduled Monument, is situated in level pasture land, the stone itself being 3.3m high, 1.1m broad and 0.3 m thick. Roughly 300m to the west of this stone several stone cists (burial chambers) were uncovered from a slight rise at West Mayish in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century (Canmore 40135, WoSAS 4718). These may well have been short cists from the Bronze Age, suggesting the potential for repeated ritual use of this area of raised ground overlooking Brodick Bay.
6. Archaeological monitoring was required as part of the Arran Ring Main project (WoSAS EV4149) as it passed some 300m to the WSW of the proposed development area, prompted by the cists and standing stone. While no structural or funerary features were identified during these works, six lithics (struck flakes of pitchstone and mudstone) were recovered. Some 150m downslope to the NE of the area a 5% intrusive trenching sample (WoSAS EV1241) was undertaken on a housing development west of Springbank Farm. No significant archaeological material was identified by these works.

## Project Works

7. An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018. This consisted of the excavation of a series of intrusive trenches for the purposes of exposing an 8% sample of the previously undeveloped portions of the development area to be archaeologically examined.
8. The trenches were placed in accordance with the terms of the Written Scheme of Investigation (Rees 2018), although some alterations were required on site. The eastern end of Trench 5 had to be moved slightly south to avoid an upstanding tree. The southern ends of Trenches 11 and 12 had to be moved slightly to the east in order to reach the bund which sat slightly further in this direction. The presence of an open drainage ditch that ran around the base of the bund on its northwestern side required Trenches 9 and 10 to be shuffled slightly to the west, and a break put in Trench 10 in order to avoid damage to this feature.
9. The presence of upstanding trees and a garden along the northern edge of the area (Figures 2a and 2b) limited the amount of available ground at this end, meaning that some of the intended meterage was lost in this area. Trenches 1 and 4 had to be shortened, while Trench 3 was split into two smaller trenches (Trenches 3a and 3b) to fit within breaks in the upstanding trees (Figure 3a). Trench 2 was also shuffled slightly to the south to be able to fit in its full length.

10. In total 819m<sup>2</sup> were excavated within the available ground, while this exceeded the targeted sample for the 8% of the greenfield area (some 800m<sup>2</sup>) this was due to the trenches for the proxy sample of the bunded ground offsetting the loss of available ground at the northern end. The position of the trenches is depicted in the site plan below (Figure 1).
11. 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.

## Findings

12. In all, 13 evaluation trenches were excavated using a 13 tonne 360° tracked excavator with a smooth 2m ditching bucket; details of the trenches may be found in Appendix 1 of this document. Included below is a synthesis of the findings and interpretation from these trenches.
13. The trenches were excavated through turf and topsoil (001) which comprised a moderately compacted mid- reddish brown silty clay with frequent rootlets and occasional small to medium sized stone inclusions. This was present across the whole of the area.
14. Natural subsoil was encountered at depths of between 200 to 600mm below the ground surface level. The subsoil consisted predominantly of firmly compacted dark pinkish red clay with frequent gravel inclusions (002) (Figure 3b), although natural variations in the subsoil appeared across the area. Within the southern portions of the site, patches of very compact mottled mid- red/orange/yellow silty clay with moderate stone inclusions (003) were present, as well as a very compact light grey clayey silt with moderate small stone inclusions (004). Within Trench 7, there was also an area of (007): a moderately compacted light grey (mottled with orange flecks) silty clay with frequent medium sized stones. Towards the northern end of the area, a small area of bedrock (009) was also revealed within Trench 2.
15. The majority of the trenches revealed modern disturbance in the form of drains (005), (006) and (008). Both (005) and (008) represented rubble drains which varied in the size of stone used. (005) appeared to represent one drain which ran N-S through the western ends of Trenches 5-8. It measured 0.5m wide and was filled by sub-angular and sub-rounded stones measuring an average size of 0.29m by 0.26m by 0.2m. Rubble drains (008) were recorded within Trenches 6 and 7, although it is possible that they existed within some of the other trenches where small patches of waterlogging – often caused by meeting the drains themselves – may have obscured their presence. Drains (008) were orientated SSE-NNW, measured 0.4m wide and were filled by sub-angular and sub-rounded stones measuring an average size of 0.2m by 0.07m by 0.16m (Figure 4a).
16. (006) represented red tile drains. These were the most frequent and appeared within a number of the trenches across the western half of the site. They were mainly orientated SSW-NNE, although one example within Trench 5 ran WNW-ESE. The cut for these drains measured 0.3m wide and 350mm deep and they were filled by a mixture of re-deposited natural subsoil and topsoil. They contained a horseshoe shaped red tile drain (0.1m wide) which sat at a depth of 200mm (Figure 4b).
17. The site of the substation in the southeastern corner of the area was surrounded by a substantial bund of material along its western and northern edges (Figure 5a). Trenches 10, 11 and 12 were all placed so that their eastern ends ran into the edge of this bund. As might be expected, this revealed the bund itself to have been formed by (010): re-deposited natural subsoil (mainly (002)) which represented the material excavated during the installation of the substation and its surrounding structures. (010) was exposed to a thickness of 1.2m within the trenches, although will be much thicker within the main body of the bund, and sat directly overlying the topsoil (001) (Figure 5b).
18. The only artefacts noted were occasional 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century finds throughout topsoil (001).

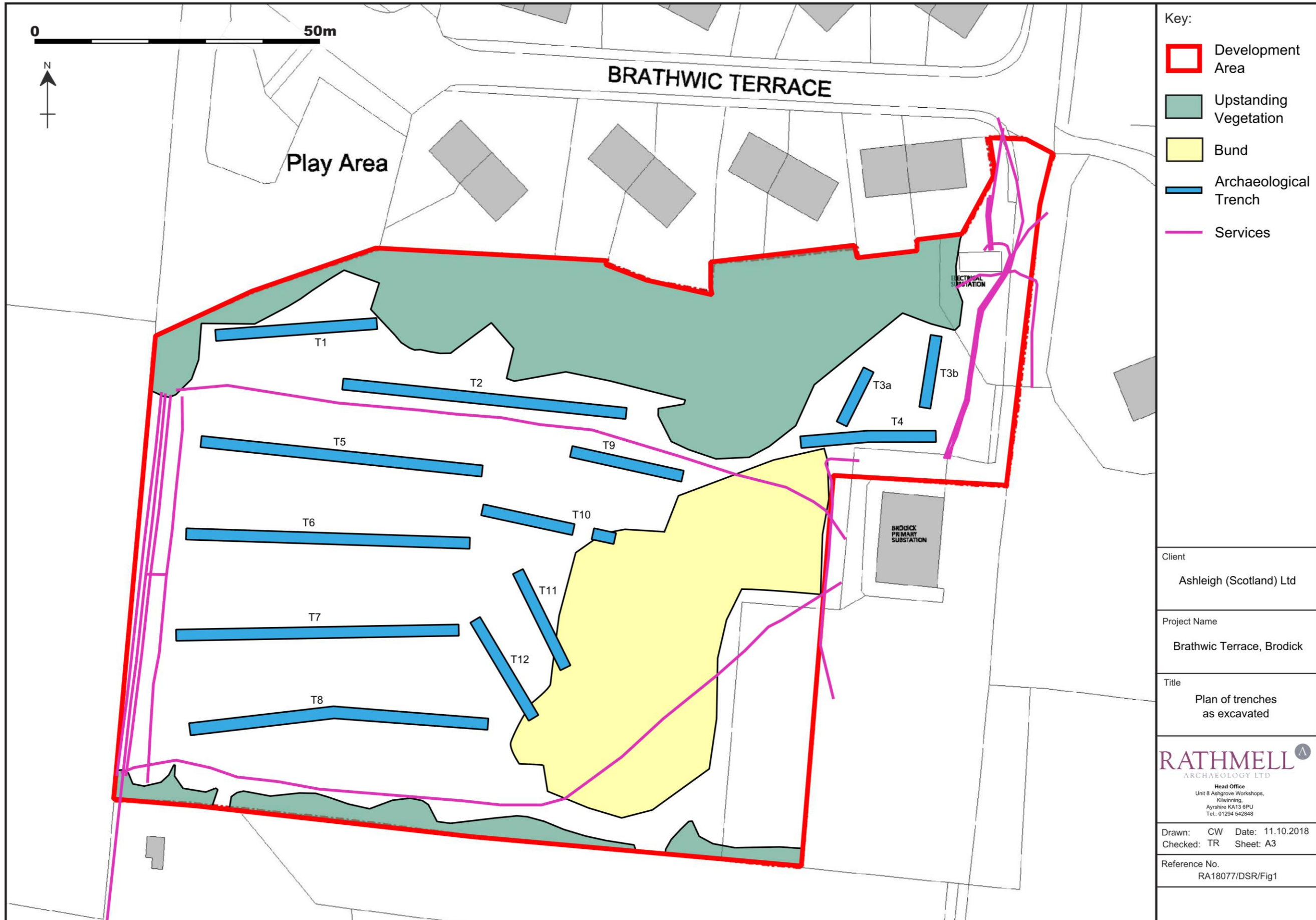


Figure 1: Plan of trenches as machined

## Discussion

19. No significant archaeological features were uncovered during the course of the archaeological works, with the features uncovered related to the use of the area during recent periods.
20. The most common features present were field drains both in the form of rubble-filled (005) and (008), and red tile (006). These drains were spread across the majority of the area with the only exception being the northeastern corner where Trenches 3a, 3b and 4 were positioned. As described, the area is shown as an enclosed field on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey in 1868 attesting to its use as agricultural land from at least the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The field drains are likely to be remnants from the use of the ground for this purpose, with the presence of more than one type highlighting an ongoing concern over drainage improvement which was seen more than one phase of intervention. Indeed, the predominantly clay character of the underlying subsoil, with waterlogging still evident in many places, points to the need for such interventions.
21. Aside from the presence of the field drains, the only other archaeological activity revealed within the trenches was that represented by the bund surrounding the substation to the east. As might be expected, this bund was revealed to be re-deposited natural subsoil from reducing and levelling the ground to the east which was simply banded directly on top of the ground surface to the side.
22. The lack of significant features from the area, including the sample underlying the edges of the bund, indicate that this is an area that has seen minimal activity prior to its use for agriculture within the last few centuries. It highlights that the significant activity represented by the presence of the East Mayish Standing Stone and the stone cists further to the west did not extend into this location.

## Recommendations

23. No significant archaeological remains were located within the development area and the only archaeological features observed related to modern use of the site.
24. On balance, given the lack of significant archaeological material recovered during the course of the evaluation works, Rathmell Archaeology Ltd recommends that no further archaeological work be carried out within this development area.
25. The appropriateness and acceptability of our recommendations rest with North Ayrshire Council and their advisors, the West of Scotland Archaeology Service.

## Conclusion

26. A programme of archaeological works was required by Ashleigh (Scotland) Ltd in respect to the consented development at Brathwic Terrace, Brodick. The archaeological works were designed to provide guidance on whether archaeological works would be required to mitigate the impact on any archaeological remains within the development area.
27. No significant archaeological remains were uncovered. The features identified related to attempts to improve the drainage of the ground during its use as agricultural land from at least the 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards.

## Acknowledgements

28. I am grateful to Ashleigh (Scotland) Ltd for giving us the opportunity to carry out these works and for all of their assistance, and to John Thomson Construction Ltd for undertaking the trenching works on site. I am also grateful to Hugh McBrien at the West of Scotland Archaeology Service for all of his help and guidance throughout the project. Thanks also goes to Thomas Rees for his final editing of this report.



Figure 2a: General shot along northern edge of site from the southeast



Figure 2b: View of the garden at the northern edge of site from the southwest





Figure 3a: General shot of Trenches 3a, 3b and 4 from the southwest



Figure 3b: Trench 8 from the west showing natural subsoil (002)



Figure 4a: Rubble drain (008) in Trench 8 from the south-southeast



Figure 4b: Red tile drain (006) in Trench 7 from the north-northeast



Figure 5a: Shot towards bund around substation from the west



Figure 5b: North facing section through bund at eastern end of Trench 10 showing (010) overlying topsoil (001)

## References

### *Documentary*

Rees, T 2018 *Brathwic Terrace, Brodick, Archaeological Mitigation, Written Scheme of Investigation*, unpublished commercial report by Rathmell Archaeology Ltd

### *Cartographic*

Ordnance Survey      1868      Six-inch 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, Argyllshire, Sheet CCXLIV  
(includes: Kilbride; Kilmory)

## 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	WSW-ENE	2m by 28.6m 57.2m <sup>2</sup>	300mm	Firmly compacted dark pinkish red clay (002).	Red tile drain (006) present at +12.5m orientated SSW-NNE.	None	None
2	SW-NE	2m by 50.4m 100.8m <sup>2</sup>	300 to 400mm	Firmly compacted dark pinkish red clay (002) with a patch of bedrock (009) present from +19m until +23.7m.	Red tile drain (006) present at +11m, +27m, +38m and +41.7m, all orientated SSW-NNE.	None	None
3a	NNE-SSW	2m by 12.9m 25.8m <sup>2</sup>	200 to 300mm	Firmly compacted dark pinkish red clay (002).	None	None	None
3b	NNE-SSW	2m by 10.7m 21.4m <sup>2</sup>	200mm	Firmly compacted dark pinkish red clay (002).	None	None	None
4	W-E	2m by 24.2m 48.4m <sup>2</sup>	350 to 500mm	Firmly compacted dark pinkish red clay (002).	None	None	None
5	W-E	2m by 50m 100m <sup>2</sup>	250 to 400mm	Firmly compacted dark pinkish red clay (002).	Red tile drain (006) present at +0m orientated WNW-ESE. Rubble drain (005) present at +12m orientated N-S.	None	None

Trench	Orientation	Size	Topsoil Depth	Subsoil Character	Modern/ Agricultural Features	Significant Features	Artefacts
6	E-W	2m by 50.2m 100.4m <sup>2</sup>	200 to 400mm	Firmly compacted dark pinkish red clay (002) present until +18.7m before changing to very compact mottled mid-red/orange/yellow silty clay (003). Subsoil changes back to (002) at +30.2m for the remainder of the trench.	Red tile drain (006) present at +21m and +30.2m, orientated NNE-SSW.  Rubble drain (008) present at +37.3m orientated SSE-NNW.  Rubble drain (005) present at +42.7m orientated N-S.	None	None
7	W-E	2m by 50m 100m <sup>2</sup>	400mm	Firmly compacted dark pinkish red clay (002) with a patch of Moderately compacted light grey (mottled with orange flecks) silty clay (007) present from +29.2m until +36.9m. At +40m subsoil changes to very compact mottled mid- red/orange/yellow silty clay (003). This is present until +44.1m before changing to very compact light grey clayey silt (004) for the remainder of the trench.	Red tile drain (006) present at +7.8m and +44.1m, orientated SSW-NNE.  Rubble drain (005) present at +12.4m orientated N-S.  Rubble drain (008) present at +37.5m orientated NNW-SSE.	None	None
8	E-W	2m by 52.8 105.6m <sup>2</sup>	300 to 500mm	Firmly compacted dark pinkish red clay (002) with a patch of very compact light grey clayey silt (004) present from +9.5m until +10.8m.	Red tile drain (006) present at +24.5m orientated NNE-SSW.  Rubble drain (005) present at +39.5m orientated N-S.	None	None
9	WNW-ESE	2m by 20.2m 40.4m <sup>2</sup>	250 to 400mm	Firmly compacted dark pinkish red clay (002) present until +6m before changing to very compact light grey clayey silt (004). Changes back to (002) at +15m for the remainder of the trench.	None	None	None

Trench	Orientation	Size	Topsoil Depth	Subsoil Character	Modern/ Agricultural Features	Significant Features	Artefacts
10	WNW-ESE	2m by 20.5m 41m <sup>2</sup>		Firmly compacted dark pinkish red clay (002) present until +8.8m before changing to very compact mottled mid-red/orange/yellow silty clay (003). Subsoil changes back to (002) at +12.2m for the remainder of the trench.	Break in trench at +16.5m for a length of 3.5m to avoid presence of modern drainage ditch.  Bund material (010) present for final 4m of trench overlying topsoil, measuring up to 900mm thick.	None	None
11	SE-NW	2m by 19m 38m <sup>2</sup>	300 to 350mm	Firmly compacted dark pinkish red clay (002).	Bund material (010) present until +4.7m overlying topsoil, measuring up to 1.2m thick.	None	None
12	SE-NW	2m by 20.2m 40.4m <sup>2</sup>	250 to 450mm	Firmly compacted dark pinkish red clay (002) present until +16.7m before changing to very compact light grey clayey silt (004) for the remainder of the trench.	Bund material (010) present until +1.4m overlying topsoil, measuring up to 900mm thick.  Red tile drain (006) present at +6.6m orientated SSW-NNE.	None	None

## Appendix 2: Registers

### Context Register

Context No.	Area/Trench	Type	Description	Interpretation
001	All	Deposit	Moderately compacted mid- reddish brown silty clay with frequent rootlets and occasional small to medium sized stone inclusions. Ranges in thickness from 200mm to 600mm, present across the full extent of the site.	Topsoil
002	All	Deposit	Firmly compacted dark pinkish red clay with frequent gravel inclusions.	Natural subsoil
003	6,7,10	Deposit	Very compact mottled mid- red/orange/yellow silty clay with moderate stone inclusions.	Natural subsoil
004	7,8,9,12	Deposit	Very compact light grey clayey silt with moderate small stone inclusions.	Natural subsoil
005	5,6,7,8	Feature	Linear feature measuring 0.5m wide running N-S through Trenches 5-8. Filled by sub-angular and sub-rounded stones measuring an average size of 0.29m by 0.26m by 0.2m.	Rubble field drain present crossing western end of site.
006	1,2,5,6,7,8,12	Feature	Linear feature measuring 0.3m wide and 350mm deep. Cut had vertical sides. Contained horseshoe shaped red tile drain (0.1m wide) at a depth of 200mm. Cut filled by mixture of re-deposited topsoil and natural subsoil. Mainly present across western half of site orientated SSW-NNE, but one running on a WNW-ESE orientation within Trench 5.	Red tile field drain
007	7	Deposit	Moderately compacted light grey (mottled with orange flecks) silty clay with frequent medium sized stones.	Natural subsoil
008	6,7	Feature	Linear feature measuring 0.4m wide. Filled by sub-angular and sub-rounded stones measuring an average size of 0.2m by 0.07m by 0.16m. Orientated SSE-NNW.	Rubble field drain
009	2	Deposit	Very compact light reddish grey bedrock.	Natural bedrock
010	10,11,12	Deposit	Re-deposited natural subsoil (002) exposed up to a thickness of 1.2m (although thicker across majority of bund).	Re-deposited natural subsoil forming bund at eastern end of site



*Photographic Register*

<b>Image No.</b>	<b>Digital</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Date</b>
001	721	Pre-excavation shot of site	ENE	01/10/18
002	722	Pre-excavation shot of site	SE	01/10/18
003	723	Pre-excavation shot of site	SSE	01/10/18
004	724	Pre-excavation shot of site	WSW	01/10/18
005	725	Pre-excavation shot of site	W	01/10/18
006	726	Trench 8	W	01/10/18
007	727	Trench 5	W	01/10/18
008	728	Trench 12	NW	01/10/18
009	729	Trench 11	NW	01/10/18
010	730	Trench 4	E	02/10/18
011	731	Trench 3b	SSW	02/10/18
012	732	Trench 3a	SW	02/10/18
013	733	Trench 4	W	02/10/18
014	734	General shot towards Trench 4	WSW	02/10/18
015	735	General shot from west end of Trench 4	ENE	02/10/18
016	736	General shot of Trenches 3a, 3b and 4	SW	02/10/18
017	737	General shot of Trenches 5-12	ENE	02/10/18
018	738	General shot of Trenches 5-12	ENE	02/10/18
019	739	General shot towards Trenches 3a and 4	SW	02/10/18
020	740	Trench 9	WNW	02/10/18
021	741	General shot of Trench 9	WSW	02/10/18
022	742	Trench 10	WNW	02/10/18

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
023	743	Trench 10	ESE	02/10/18
024	744	Trench 10 – N facing section through bund at east end	NNE	02/10/18
025	745	Trench 8	E	02/10/18
026	746	Trench 7	E	02/10/18
027	747	Trench 7	W	02/10/18
028	748	Trench 7 – field drain (006)	NE	02/10/18
029	749	Trench 7 – field drain (006)	NE	02/10/18
030	750	Trench 7 – field drain (006)	NW	02/10/18
031	751	Trench 6	W	02/10/18
032	752	Trench 6	E	02/10/18
033	753	Trench 6 – rubble drain (005)	N	02/10/18
034	754	Trench 6 – rubble drain (008)	SE	02/10/18
035	755	Trench 1	WSW	02/10/18
036	756	General shot of Trenches 1 and 2	SW	02/10/18
037	757	General shot of Trench 1	SE	02/10/18
038	758	Trench 2	SW	02/10/18
039	759	General shot towards garden (at NE end of Trench 2)	SW	02/10/18
040	760	General shot towards garden (at NE end of Trench 2)	SW	02/10/18
041	761	General shot towards garden (at NE end of Trench 2)	S	02/10/18
042	762	General shot towards garden (at NE end of Trench 2)	WSW	02/10/18
043	763	General shot of the site backfilled	E	02/10/18
044	764	General shot of the site backfilled	SE	02/10/18
045	765	General shot of the site backfilled	S	02/10/18

Image No.	Digital	Description	From	Date
046	766	General shot of the site backfilled (Trenches 3-4)	WSW	02/10/18
047	767	General shot of the site backfilled	ENE	02/10/18
048	768	General shot towards garden (at Trench 4)	SW	02/10/18
049	769	General shot towards garden (at Trenches 2 and 9)	SE	02/10/18

### *Drawing Register*

Drawing No.	Sheet No.	Area/ Trench	Drawing Type	Scale	Description	Drawn by	Date
001	1	5	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 5	CW	01/10/18
002	2	12	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 12	CW	01/10/18
003	2	11	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 11	CW	01/10/18
004	2	9	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 9	CW	02/10/18
005	2	10	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 10	CW	02/10/18
006	1	3b	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 3b	CW	02/10/18
007	1	3a	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 3a	CW	02/10/18
008	1	4	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 4	CW	02/10/18
009	1	8	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 8	CW	02/10/18
010	1	7	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 7	CW	02/10/18
011	1	6	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 6	CW	02/10/18
012	1	1	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 1	CW	02/10/18
013	1	2	Plan	1:100	Plan of Trench 2	CW	02/10/18

## Appendix 3: Discovery & Excavation in Scotland

<b>LOCAL AUTHORITY:</b>	North Ayrshire
<b>PROJECT TITLE/SITE NAME:</b>	Brathwic Terrace, Brodick
<b>PROJECT CODE:</b>	RA18077
<b>PARISH:</b>	Kilbride
<b>NAME OF CONTRIBUTOR:</b>	Claire Williamson
<b>NAME OF ORGANISATION:</b>	Rathmell Archaeology Limited
<b>TYPE(S) OF PROJECT:</b>	Evaluation
<b>NMRS NO(S):</b>	None
<b>SITE/MONUMENT TYPE(S):</b>	None
<b>SIGNIFICANT FINDS:</b>	None
<b>NGR</b>	NS 01903 35460 (centred on)
<b>START DATE</b> (this season)	1 <sup>st</sup> October 2018
<b>END DATE</b> (this season)	2 <sup>nd</sup> October 2018
<b>PREVIOUS WORK</b>	None
<b>MAIN (NARRATIVE) DESCRIPTION:</b> (may include information from other fields)	A programme of archaeological works was required by Ashleigh (Scotland) Ltd in respect to the consented development at Brathwic Terrace, Brodick. The archaeological works were designed to provide guidance on whether archaeological works would be required to mitigate the impact on any archaeological remains within the development area. No significant archaeological remains were uncovered. The features identified related to attempts to improve the drainage of the ground during its use as agricultural land from at least the 19 <sup>th</sup> century onwards.
<b>PROPOSED FUTURE WORK:</b>	None
<b>CAPTION(S) FOR ILLUSTRS:</b>	None
<b>SPONSOR OR FUNDING BODY:</b>	Ashleigh (Scotland) Ltd
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<b>ARCHIVE LOCATION</b> (intended/deposited)	Report to West of Scotland Archaeology Service and archive to the National Record of the Historical Environment

## Contact Details

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

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