Archaeology South-East

ASE

The contracts division of the Centre for Applied Archaeology, University College London

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Worthing Borough Council
Town Hall
Chapel Road
Worthing
BN11 1HA

WORTHING BOROUGH COUNCIL
PLANNING SECTION
RECEIVED - 1 NOV 2010
TO PD REF No. 1994

Our ref: 4068/let03/pd

29th October 2010

Dear Peter,

WB/08/0107/FUL & WB/09/0447/FUL
37-39 Chesswood Road, Worthing

On behalf of our client please find enclosed one bound copy of our evaluation report relating to the above site for your records to allow the archaeological planning condition to be discharged.

I trust this is acceptable.

Yours sincerely,

[redacted]

Neil Griffin
Project Manager

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Archaeology South-East

ASE

An Archaeological Evaluation at 37-39 Chesswood Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 2AA

Planning Ref: WB/08/0107/FULL & WB/09/0447/FULL

NGR 515328 103526
(TQ15328 03526)

Project No:4068
Site Code: CHE09

ASE Report No: 2009194
OASIS id: 68203

Sarah Porteus
With contributions by
Elke Raemen

November 2009

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Abstract

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at 37-39 Chesswood Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 2AA, on behalf of Simon Gamble, as part of a planning condition applied to the construction new dwellings to the rear of the property. Two 10m by 1.8m evaluation trenches were excavated. A later post-medieval pit and French drain were identified in Trench 1 with a further French drain and small undated pit found in Trench 2. A single, residual, sherd of 9th-11th Century pottery was recovered from the subsoil in Trench 2. The site is thought to hold little potential for further archaeological remains.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Site Background

1.1.1 Archaeology South-East were commissioned by Simon Gamble to undertake an archaeological evaluation at 37-39 Chesswood Road, Worthing, West Sussex (NGR515328 103526, Fig. 1).

1.2 Geology and Topography

1.2.1 The site is currently a level garden under lawn. The underlying geology is Brickearth (British Geological Survey, Sheet 313/333).

1.3 Planning Background

1.3.1 The work was undertaken as part of a planning condition imposed on planning permission granted by Worthing Borough Council (Planning ref: WB/08/0107FULL & WB/09/0447/FULL).

1.3.2 The planning condition was set following the advice of West Sussex County Council Archaeologist, Mark Taylor in his capacity as advisor to Local Planning Authorities.

1.3.3 The proposed development includes conversion and extension of 37-39 Chesswood Road to form seven apartments with four new houses to the rear with car parking and car port.

1.4 Aims and Objectives

1.4.1 The aims of the archaeological evaluation as set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation (ASE 2009) were to ascertain:

Whether archaeological remains extend across the development site.

The character, extent, preservation, significance, date and quality of remains and deposits.

How they might be affected by the development of the site

What options should be considered for mitigation

1.4.2 The general objective was to ensure that any archaeological finds and features were recorded and interpreted to appropriate standards.

1.5 Scope of Report

1.5.1 This report represents the findings of the archaeological evaluation undertaken on the 25th of November 2009 by Sarah Porteus (archaeologist) and Paula Howell (assistant archaeologist). The project was managed by Neil Griffin (field work) and Jim Stevenson (post-excavation).

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2.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 An historic environment record search of the area within a 500m radius of the site revealed finds and features of prehistoric to modern date.

2.2 Neolithic – Iron Age (4000BC-AD42)

2.2.1 An unpolished stone axe was found at Homefield park (HER 3326-MWS376). A further undated prehistoric flint implement was found at Broadwater (HER 3333-MWS378). Prehistoric occupation evidence of Bronze Age to Iron Age date was also identified during cable laying outside number 30 Chesswood Road (HER3351-MWS5630).

2.3 Roman (AD43-409)

2.3.1 Chance 19th century finds of Roman date include burial urns found during the construction of a railway cutting west of Ham bridge (HER3321-MWS5834) a New Forest Ware beaker (HER7261-MWS7314) and pottery (HER7875-MWS7969). A sestertius of Antonius Pius was also found at 22 Marlowe Road (HER3328-MWS378).

2.4 Medieval (AD410-1593)

2.4.1 Grain driers, pits and ditches within a boundary enclosure of 10th to 15th century date were uncovered during archaeological works at Little High Street (HER6412-MWS6702).

2.5 Post-Medieval (AD1540-1900)

2.5.1 Post-medieval finds have included a mid 19th century clay pipe industry centre (HER3357-MWS399), structural remains (HER7277-MWS7339) and wall footings (HER7328-MWS7396).

2.6 Modern (AD1900-present

2.6.1 An early 20th century brickworks (HER6129-MWS4792) was also identified within the 500m radius search area.

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3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

3.1 Two evaluation trenches of 10m length by 1.8m wide (Fig.2) were excavated by machine using a flat bladed bucket in spits of no more than 0.10m thickness under constant supervision by a suitably qualified archaeologist.

3.2 Excavation by machine was taken down to the top of any significant archaeological layer or the top of 'natural' substrate where no archaeological deposits were found at a higher level.

3.3 The surface of the excavated area was cleared of loose spoil by hand following machine excavation and all excavated material was scanned using a metal detector to recover any artefacts.

3.4 Any finds recovered were bagged separately and clearly labelled by context and retained for examination by ASE specialists.

3.5 All contexts were recorded on pro forma context recording forms.

3.6 A digital photographic record was maintained of the excavations.

3.7 A long running section of the stratigraphy of each trench was recorded at a scale of 1:20. Additional plans and sections of features encountered were drawn at 1:20 and 1:10 scale respectively.

3.8 All features and trenches were levelled in relation to ordinance datum heights.

3.9 No reinstatement was undertaken of trenches was undertaken.

Number of Contexts	14
No. of files/paper record	1
Plan and sections sheets	1
Bulk Samples	0
Photographs	1 digital CD
Bulk finds	1 small box
Registered finds	0
Environmental flots/residue	0

Table 1: Quantification of site archive

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4.0 RESULTS

4.1 Trench 1 (Fig.3)

4.1.1 Trench 1 was slightly shortened due to the presence of a tree stump at the northern end of the trench. The trench was widened slightly at the north end to cover the required area. A large tree stump overlying modern detritus had disturbed the stratigraphy to the south of Trench 1.

List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Thickness	Height m.AOD
1/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.40	5.237
1/002	Deposit	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.21	4.837
1/003	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.627
1/004	Cut	Cut of pit	1.10	0.70	0.41	4.637
1/005	Fill	Fill of pit	1.10	0.70	0.41	4.637
1/006	Cut	Cut of French drain	2.00+	0.20	0.35	4.637
1/007	Fill	Fill of French drain	2.00+	0.20	0.35	4.637

4.1.2 Summary

The natural dark orangish brown brickearth [1/003] was encountered at 4.627m.AOD. The brick earth was overlain by a mid orange brown. slightly sandy, clay subsoil deposit [1/002] of 0.21m maximum thickness.

Cut into the subsoil deposit was a 0.20m wide, 0.35m deep north to south aligned linear French drain [1/006] which was filled with loosely packed flint nodules [1/007].

The drain was cut by a vertical sided irregularly shaped pit [1/004] of 1.10m length by 0.70m width with a depth of 0.41m. The pit was filled with a mid greyish brown silty clay deposit with occasional charcoal flecks [1/005]. Several fragments of post-medieval brick were recovered from this fill.

Overlying the features was a loose blackish brown rich garden soil, [1/001], of 0.40m thickness from which occasional ceramic building material, pottery and iron inclusions were recovered.

4.2 Trench 2 (Fig. 4)

List of recorded contexts

Number	Type	Description	Max. Length	Max. Width	Deposit Thickness	Height m.AOD
2/001	Deposit	Topsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.40	5.052
2/002	Deposit	Subsoil	Tr.	Tr.	0.20	4.652
2/003	Deposit	Natural	Tr.	Tr.	N/A	4.452
2/004	Cut	Cut of French drain	0.60	0.20	0.35	4.612
2/005	Fill	Fill of French	0.60	0.20	0.35	4.612

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		drain				
2/006	Cut	Cut of pit	0.22	0.22	0.08	4.587
2/007	Fill	Fill of pit	0.22	0.22	0.08	4.587

4.2.1 Summary

The natural dark orangish brown brickearth, [2/003], was encountered at 4.452m.AOD. Cut into the natural brickearth was a 0.20m wide, 0.35m deep north to south aligned linear French drain [2/004] which was filled with loosely packed flint nodules [2/005].

Also cut into the natural brickearth was a small, shallow, pit of 0.22m diameter and 0.08m depth [2/006] which was filled with unworked flint nodules and a small amount of burnt laminated stone [2/007]. The pit was undated.

Overlying these features was a mid orangey brown, slightly sandy, clay subsoil deposit, [2/002], of 0.20m maximum thickness. A single residual sherd of 9th - 11th Century pottery was recovered from the subsoil.

Overlying the features was a loose blackish brown rich garden soil deposit [2/001] of 0.40m thickness with occasional ceramic building material, pottery and iron inclusions.

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5.0 THE FINDS

5.1 A small assemblage of finds was recovered during the evaluation. These have been summarised in Table 2.

Context	Pot	Wt (g)	CBM	Wt (g)	Bone	Wt (g)	Stone	Wt (g)	Fe	Wt (g)	F.Clay	Wt (g)
1/001	4	36	2	676	2	38						
2/001									2	6		
1/005			3	26					1	288		
2/002	1	10									1	8
2/007							1	10				
Total	5	46	5	702	2	38	1	10	3	294	1	8

Table 2. Quantification of the finds.

5.2 The Pottery by Luke Barber

5.2.1 Two contexts on the site produced pottery of post-Roman date. By far the earliest sherds was recovered from [2/002]. This consists of a hand-made reduced black bodysherd tempered with moderate angular flint with a little shell/chalk (voids) to 1mm probably dating between the 9th and 11th centuries. The remaining pottery, all of 19th- century date, was recovered from [1/001]. This assemblage includes sherds from an unglazed earthenware flower pot, post-medieval redware jar and English porcelain plate.

5.3 The Ceramic Building Material by Sarah Porteus

5.3.1 A small quantity of ceramic building material (CBM) was recovered from two contexts. Three red brick fragments with moderate calcareous and clack iron rich inclusions were recovered from context [1/005], the fragments are abraded and of probable 19th or 20th century date. Two fragments of probable Minton encaustic floor tile were recovered from context [1/001]. The abraded tiles were most likely originally used as hall flooring, the larger of the two fragments had a central white flower design on a pale blue background with a cream and red ornate border of probable 1840's date. The smaller fragment has a plain square cream border with partial ornate central cream border and pale blue infill of similar date.

5.4 The Animal Bone by Gemma Ayton

5.4.1 Two fragments of animal bone were recovered from context [1/001]. Both fragments of bone have been identified as sheep/goat (Ovis/Capra). The first fragment is from the shaft of a left tibia. The distal end of the tibia has been sawn off and the surface of the bone displays signs of weathering. The second fragment has been identified as a right scapula fragment. The glenoid cavity is slightly porous suggesting that the bone is from a juvenile animal. There is no evidence of burning, gnawing of pathology on either of the two fragments.

5.4.2 Due to the small size of the assemblage, it holds no potential for further

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statistical analysis.

5.5 **Other Finds** by Elke Raemen

5.5.1 Subsoil [2/002] contained a single fired clay fragment. The piece is amorphous with a low fired, sparse fine sand-tempered fabric with rare iron oxide inclusions to 1mm.

5.5.2 A single piece of shale was recovered from pit [2/006] (fill [2/007]).

5.5.3 Ironwork includes a general purpose nail fragment from topsoil [2/001] as well as a copper-alloy cast number 6 or 9 on an iron sheet (12.5 by 19.7mm). The latter dates to the late 19th to 20th century and may be a printing character. An iron hollow sheet (2.8mm thick) wedge (height 87+mm) may have formed a post socket. The piece is of late 19th- to 20th-century date.

5.6 **Potential**

5.6.1 The assemblage is small and late in date. There is no potential for further analysis. No further work is required.

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6.0 THE ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES

6.1 No features suitable for environmental sampling were encountered during the evaluation.

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7.0 CONCLUSION

7.1 The excavation of two evaluation trenches with a total area of 36 square metres revealed limited archaeological results.

7.2 Trench 1 revealed a pit containing later post-medieval finds. This feature cut an undated, but most likely, post-medieval French drain. Trench 2 revealed a second identical French drain, running parallel to that uncovered in trench 1. A small undated feature was also found in Trench 2 with no particular clue as to its function. A later post-medieval garden soil was present in both trenches. A moderate degree of disturbance had occurred to deposits in Trench 1 with a large tree stump being identified as having removed any archaeological potential.

7.2 The only, very slight, evidence of activity earlier than post-medieval date was a single sherd of. 9th - 11$^{th.}$ Century pottery recovered from the subsoil. It would be expected that if there was a substantial occupation of the site (or near vicinity) during this period, a greater amount of artefacts would have been recovered.

7.3 The results of the evaluation suggest the potential for finding archaeological features is low because of the comparative paucity of finds and features present

7.4 The archaeological trial trenching has effectively tested the archaeology of the area to be affected by the development.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

ASE 2009 *37-39 Chesswood Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 2AA: Archaeological Investigation Written Scheme of Investigation.* Unpublished WSI report.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The careful machine excavation and assistance of Peter Gamble and co-operation of the residents of 39 Chesswood Road is greatly appreciated. The assistance of Simon Gamble and Mark Taylor WSCC County Archaeologist is also acknowledged.

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SMR Summary Form

Site Code	CHE09					
Identification Name and Address	37-39 Chesswood Road, BN11 2AA					
County, District &/or Borough	West Sussex					
OS Grid Refs.	515328 103526					
Geology	Brickearth					
Arch. South-East Project Number	4068					
Type of Fieldwork	Eval. √	Excav.	Watching Brief	Standing Structure	Survey	Other
Type of Site	Green Field √	Shallow Urban	Deep Urban	Other		
Dates of Fieldwork	Eval. 25.11.09	Excav.	WB.	Other		
Sponsor/Client	Simon Gamble					
Project Manager	Neil Griffin					
Project Supervisor	Sarah Porteus					
Period Summary	Palaeo.	Meso.	Neo.	BA	IA	RB
	AS	MED	PM √	Other Modern		

100 Word Summary.

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at 37-39 Chesswood Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 2AA, on behalf of Simon Gamble, as part of a planning condition applied to the construction new dwellings to the rear of the property. Two 10m by 1.8m evaluation trenches were excavated. A later post-medieval pit and French drain were identified in Trench 1 with a further French drain and small undated pit found in Trench 2. The site is thought to hold little potential for further archaeological remains

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OASIS ID: archaeol6-68203

Project details	
Project name	An archaeological evaluation at 37-39 Chesswood Road, Worthing
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken at 37-39 Chesswood Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 2AA, on behalf of Simon Gamble, as part of a planning condition applied to the construction new dwellings to the rear of the property. Two 10m by 1.8m evaluation trenches were excavated. A later post-medieval pit and French drain were identified in Trench 1 with a further French drain and small undated pit found in Trench 2. A single, residual, sherd of 9th-11th Century pottery was recovered from the subsoil in Trench 2. The site is thought to hold little potential for further archaeological remains.
Project dates	Start: 25-11-2009 End: 25-11-2009
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 5 - Garden
Monument type	NONE None
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	'Targeted Trenches'
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
Project location	
Country	England
Site location	WEST SUSSEX WORTHING WORTHING 37-39 Chesswood Road
Postcode	BN11 2AA
Study area	32.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 15328 03526 50.8192094410 -0.362591162812 50 49 09 N 000 21 45 W Point
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Archaeology South-East
Project brief originator	Archaeology South-East
Project design originator	Archaeology South-East
Project director/manager	Neil Griffin
Project supervisor	Sarah Porteus
Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer

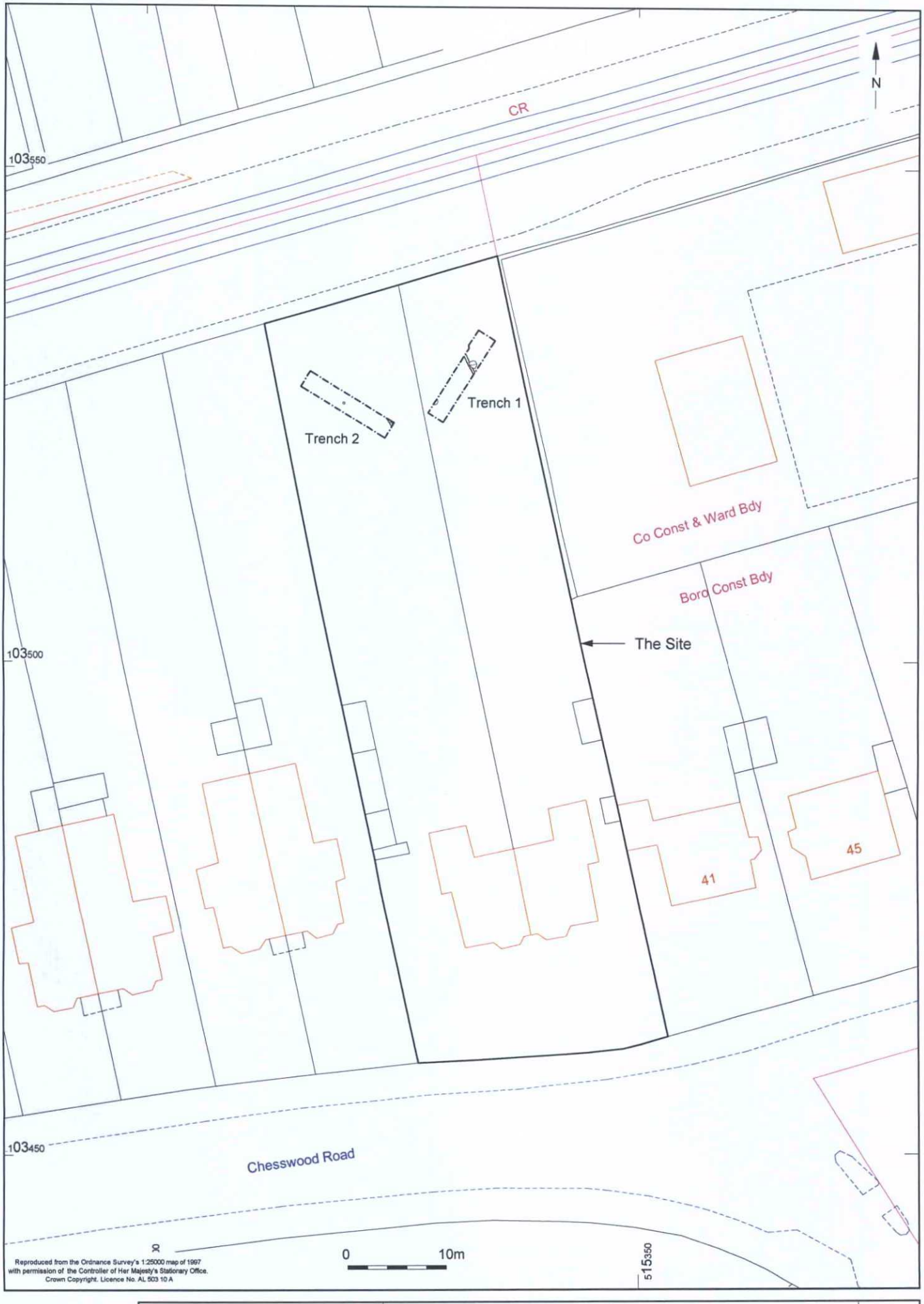
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Name of sponsor/funding body	Simon Gamble
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Worthing Museum
Physical Contents	'Ceramics','Metal'
Digital Archive recipient	Worthing Museum
Digital Contents	'none'
Digital Media available	'Images raster / digital photography','Text'
Paper Archive recipient	Worthing Museum
Paper Contents	'none'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Plan','Report','Section'
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	An archaeological evaluation at 37-39 Chesswood Road, Worthing, West Sussex, BN11 2AA
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Porteus, S.
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Entered on	26 November 2009

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© Archaeology South-East		37-39 Chesswood Road, Worthing	Fig. 1
Project Ref: 4068	Dec 2009	Site location and WSCC HER data	
Report Ref: 2009194	Drawn by: JLR		



© Archaeology South-East		37-39 Chesswood Road, Worthing	Fig. 2
Project Ref: 4068	Nov 2009	Trench location	
Report Ref: 2009194	Drawn by: JLR		

pit 1004

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Project Ref: 4068	Nov 2009	Trench 1, plan and sections
Report Ref: 2008194	Drawn by: JLR	

Fig. 3

© **Archaeology South-East**	37-39 Chesswood Road, Worthing	Fig. 4
Project Ref: 4088	Trench 2, plan and sections	
Report Ref: 2009/94	Drawn by: JLR	Nov 2009

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