

Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXCAVATION:
THE ROSES
CHAPEL LANE
AKELEY
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE**

on behalf of

MK Real Estate Investments Ltd.



Alastair Hancock BSc PgDip

July 2005

ASC: 693/ACL/02

Letchworth House
Chesney Wold, Bleak Hall,
Milton Keynes MK6 1NE
Tel: 01908 608989 Fax: 01908 605700
Email: office@archaeological-services.co.uk
Website: www.archaeological-services.co.uk



Site Data

<i>ASC site code:</i>	ACL	<i>Project no:</i>	693
<i>Event No:</i>	2005.70		
<i>County:</i>	Buckinghamshire		
<i>Village/Town:</i>	Akeley		
<i>Civil Parish:</i>	Akeley		
<i>NGR (to 8 figs):</i>	SP 7088 3777		
<i>Extent of site:</i>	1.98 Ha		
<i>Present land use:</i>	Garden		
<i>Planning proposal:</i>	Erection of two detached dwellings and associated access		
<i>Local Planning Authority:</i>	Aylesbury Vale District Council		
<i>Planning application ref/date:</i>	05/00459/APP, 18 th February 2005		
<i>Client:</i>	MK Real Estate Investments Ltd. 4 th Floor Exchange House 494 Midsummer Boulevard Milton Keynes MK9 2EA		
<i>Contact name:</i>	John Ferrigno		
<i>Telephone</i>		<i>Fax:</i>	

Internal Quality Check

<i>Primary Author:</i>	A Hancock	<i>Date:</i>	15 th July 2005
<i>Edited/Checked By:</i>	R. Zeepvat	<i>Date:</i>	
<i>Revisions:</i>		<i>Date:</i>	
<i>Edited/Checked By:</i>		<i>Date:</i>	

© Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd

No part of this document is to be copied in any way without prior written consent.

Every effort is made to provide detailed and accurate information. However, Archaeological Services & Consultancy Ltd cannot be held responsible for errors or inaccuracies within this report.

© Ordnance Survey maps reproduced with the sanction of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

ASC Licence No. AL 100015154

CONTENTS

Summary	5
1. Introduction	5
2. Aims & Methods	7
3. Archaeological & Historical Background	9
4. Results.	14
5. Conclusions	20
6. Acknowledgements	21
7. Archive	21
8. References	22

Appendices:

1. Trench Summary Tables.....	24
2. Excavation Summary Tables	26
3. Finds Concordance	27
4. Specialist Reports	28

Figures:

1. General location (1:25000).....	4
2. Site boundary (1:1000).....	8
3. Proposed development (1:300).....	12
4. Location of evaluation trenches showing features (1:300)	13
5. Archaeological feature and location of section drawing (1:300)	16
6. Sections through features (1:20).....	17

Plates:

Cover:

1. Trench from Chapel Lane, facing southwest.....	18
2. Trench at rear of The Roses, facing northeast.....	18
3. Trench at rear of The Roses, facing west-northwest	18
4. Section 1 (Pit 102) facing southwest	18
5. Section 2, (Terminal end of Ditch? 105) facing northwest	18
6. Section 3, (Ditch 109) facing northeast	18

7. Section 5, (Pit 107) facing southwest	19
8. Section 8, (Pit 120) facing southeast	19
9. Section9, (Gully 122) facing southeast	19
10. Features 107, 116, 118 and 120 facing northwest	19

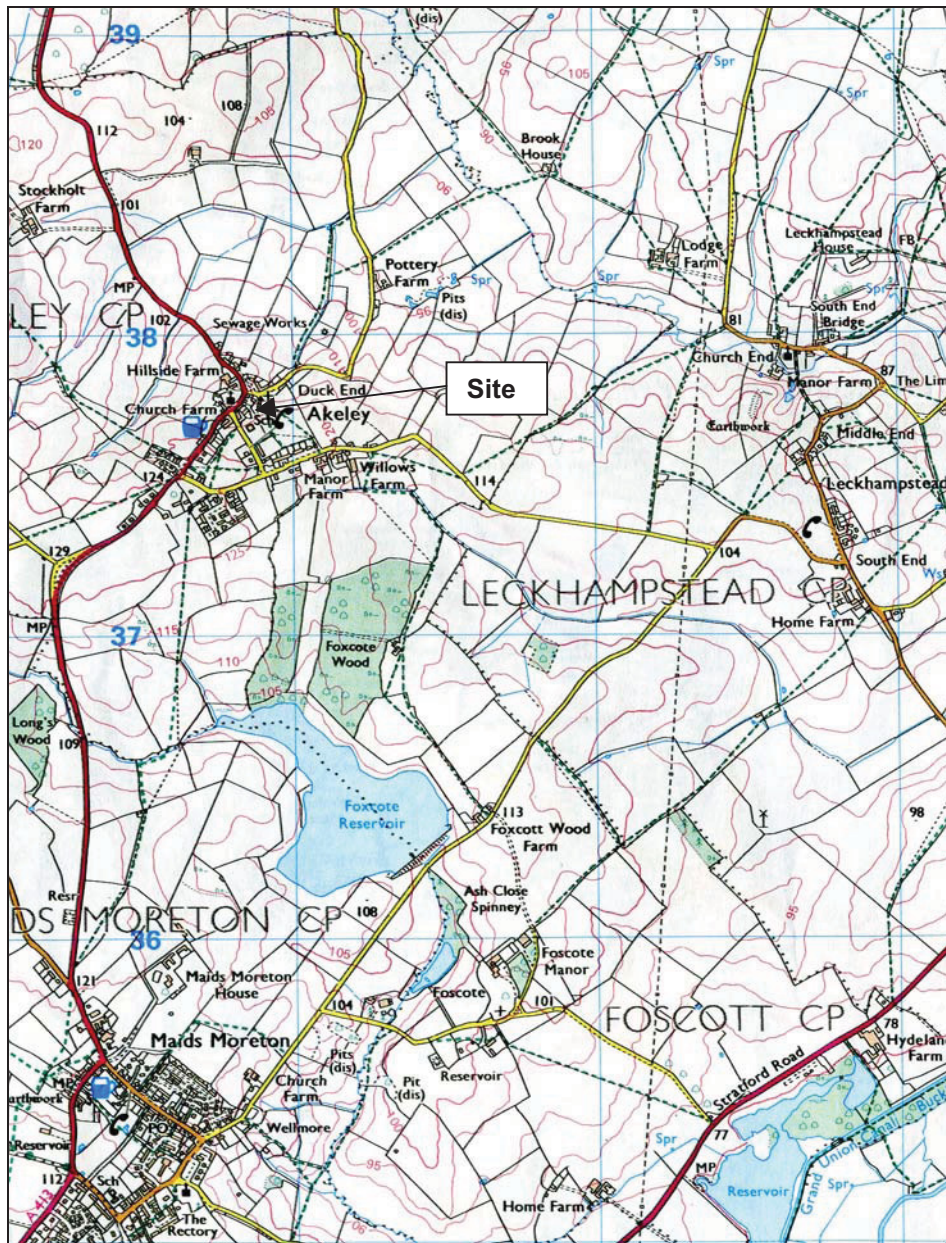


Figure 1: General location (scale 1:25,000)

Summary

An archaeological excavation was undertaken at the rear of the Roses, Akeley, Buckinghamshire in June 2005 prior to the construction of an access drive designed to serve a number of houses due for construction at a later date.

The excavation confirmed the presence of 11th century archaeological features noted in a prior evaluation (Ivens, 2004). The discovery of two sherds of early/mid Saxon pottery extend the known spatial extent of activity of this date northwards from a single findspot ca. 250m to the south.

Features verifying the presence of 13th – 14th century tenement plots fronting Main Street were not revealed.

1 Introduction

1.1 In June 2005 *Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd* (ASC) carried out a “strip and record” excavation at a site to the rear of The Roses, Chapel Lane, Akeley, Buckinghamshire (NGR SP 7088 3777: Fig. 2). The project was commissioned by *MK Real Estate Investments Ltd.* and was carried out according to a project design prepared by ASC (Simmelman, 2005), and a brief (Radford, 2005) prepared on behalf of the local planning authority (LPA), *Aylesbury Vale District Council*, by their archaeological advisor (AA), David Radford of *Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service* (BCAS). The relevant planning application reference is 05/00459/APP, 18th February 2005.

1.2 *Planning Background*

This strip and record was required under the terms of *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16* (PPG16), in response to proposals for the construction of houses, an access drive and parking spaces (Fig. 3). This report details the results of the first phase of groundworks, which consisted of top and subsoil strip on the route of the access drive.

1.3 *Location & Description*

The village of Akeley lies approximately 4km north of Buckingham (Fig.1). The site lies in a garden / orchard area to the rear of The Roses, a bungalow located on Chapel Lane in the northern part of the village. The site is bounded to the north by Chapel Lane, to the west by two properties (The Coach House and Lylo) fronting Main Street, to the south by the village school and to the east by a recreation ground.

1.4 *Services, Buildings, Access, Etc*

The site was accessed through a driveway at the eastern side of The Roses. Although the route of one foul sewer was noted on plans, a prior archaeological evaluation of the site (Ivens 2003:11-12) had revealed other sewer pipes and storm drains. A number of garden sheds, greenhouses and demolished cold frames were located on or near the route of the access drive. However, these were moved or demolished during the excavation.

1.5 *Geology & Topography*

The underlying geology of Akeley consists of Great Oolite limestone beds covered by cornbrash, except for the northwest and northeast fringes of the parish. In the centre and the south of the parish, Oxford Clay caps the cornbrash. Over all of these lie extensive deposits of glacial boulder clay, containing isolated deposits of glacial sands and gravels. There are extensive gravel deposits in the south east of the parish, towards Chalkmore (Ivens 2003:3). The topography of the site was varied; a north-south aligned topographic low (former natural drainage?) was present running parallel with the boundary dividing Lilo from The Roses and the ground rose *ca.* 1m to the east and *ca.* 2m to the west.

2 Aims & Methods

2.1 *Aims*

As described in the brief (Section 6), the aims of the excavation were:

- To establish (as far as is practical) the date, plan form and function of the archaeological features affected by development and interpret the results in terms of the documented history and historical topography of Akeley
- To seek to use the results to test and refine the Whittlewood Project model of settlement
- To note the alignment of features in relation to Main Street and any evidence for development of the village plan, the laying out of tenements etc.
- to test the theory that the eastern part of the site lay within the open field and seek to identify any evidence suggesting changes in land use.

2.2 *Standards*

The work conformed to the project design, to the relevant sections of the Institute of Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct* (IFA 2000) and *Standard & Guidance Notes* (IFA 2001), to the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers East of England Region *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England* (ALGAO 2003), to English Heritage's *Management of Archaeological Projects* (EH 1991), and to the relevant sections of ASC's own *Operations Manual*.

2.3 *Methods*

The work was carried out according to the brief (Section 9) and ASC's Project Design (Sections 2.3 and 2.5).

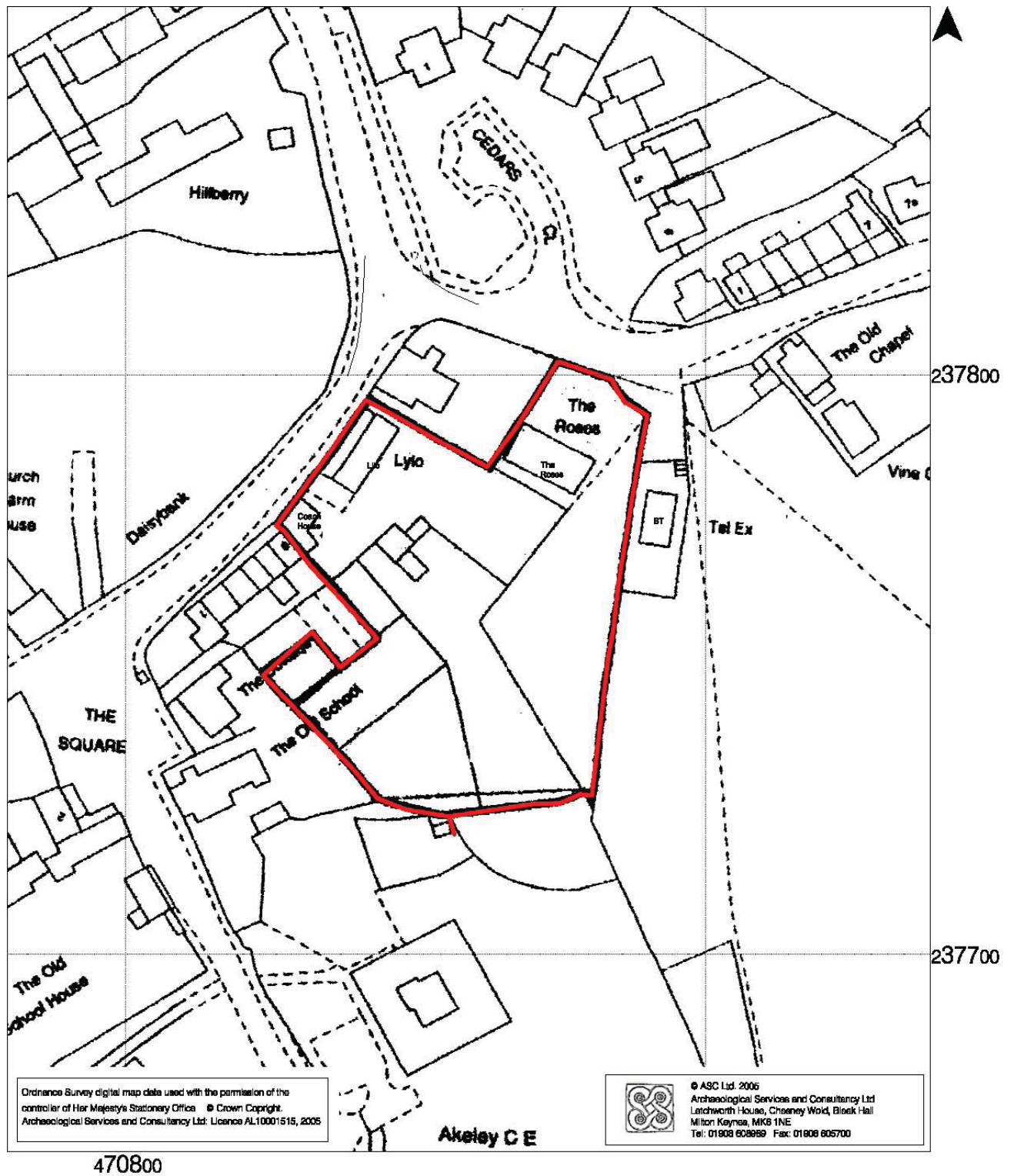


Figure 2. Site Boundary

3 Archaeological & Historical Background

3.1 The site lies in a suggested settlement foci of the “dispersed” medieval village of Akeley. An archaeological evaluation undertaken at the rear of The Roses in 2003 revealed a number of 11-12th century medieval features, including a north-south aligned boundary ditch that may have delimited village from fields. In addition features indicative of backyard activity within 13th -14th century tenement plots fronting Main Street were discovered (Ivens 2004).

As an example of a “dispersed” medieval settlement the village is of particular archaeological interest and is included in the *Whittlewood Project* (WP), a research project run by the *University of Leicester*. The testpitting (University of Leicester, 2001, 2002) and fieldwalking (Jones, 2004) undertaken by the WP has allowed the following development model for the village:

- Iron Age activity appears to spread over a wide area from Duck End to Manor Farm, although it may have been concentrated towards the eastern part of the village. Whether it represents settlement or simply agricultural exploitation cannot be answered at present.
- Romano-British pottery has been recovered from a number of locations. The main focus of activity appears to be at the back of Duck End and there is evidence to suggest that the northern line of the churchyard enclosure was established at this date.
- Early-mid Saxon material comes from a single location. Interestingly, this lies close to the crossing of the original course of the main street (east of its current line) with Leckhampstead Road. This may have been the location of early medieval settlement.
- Later material, although still pre-conquest, suggests activity zones to the north of the churchyard and close to the church. The absence of this material from Test Pits located between these zones implies an absence of activity and may suggest a loose confederation of farmsteads forming the core of the medieval village.
- The village was to expand rapidly in the aftermath of Domesday. Clearly, the eastern side of the main street opposite the church was occupied at this date, and expansion took place along the Leckhampstead Road. This was to be abandoned, however, as the village went into retraction in the early 14th century, a date based on the homogenous nature of the pottery assemblage.
- Only in the post-medieval period did the line of the main street shift to the west onto its current course, probably to facilitate transport along the main street from Buckingham north, and the cut through Church Hill established, leading to the modern morphology of the village.

The archaeological and historical context of the site is summarised below:

3.2 *Prehistoric (before 43BC)*

The Buckinghamshire SMR records that two Bronze Age spearheads and a small socketed axe were found in unspecified locations in the 19th century (Ivens 2003; App.1).

3.3 *Romano-British (43BC-AD43)*

Akeley appears to have been crossed by a minor road, the Viatores 162, in the Roman period. This ran north east-south west c. 250m south west of the site. The presence of small scale Romano-British settlements, such as farmsteads, has been indicated by pottery and coin finds within the Akeley area, including a possible settlement in the vicinity of the former church, c.75m to the west of the present site (Ibid. 2003).

3.4 *Anglo-Saxon (c.450-1066)*

The only known early Anglo- Saxon remains in Akeley are two pottery sherds of early mid Saxon date (AD450-850). These were discovered on Leckhampstead Road close to the crossing of the original course of the main street, c.250m south-west of the site (Leicester University 2002). Later Saxon pottery fragments were found in the northern part of the village in the vicinity of the church. None of this material, however, could be dated any earlier than the later 10th century.

3.5 *Medieval (c.1066-1500)*

Akeley is recorded in the Domesday Book as having been held by Alric, son of Goding prior to the Norman Conquest (Ivens 2003:8) It was subsequently granted to William Giffard by William the Conqueror, and formed part of a much larger estate.

The Domesday Book also indicates that Akeley was heavily wooded at this time. In the 13th century, Akeley formed part of Whittlewood Forest, but by the early 14th century it is named as having formerly lain within the forest (Ivens 2003:9). Medieval field systems are clearly evident around the village from surviving examples and in aerial photos. Remnant south east to north west ridge and furrows remain in the recreation ground c.60m to the east of the present site.

It is known from documentary sources that a church existed from at least the 11th century, and it is thought to have stood on the site of the most recent church, which was constructed in 1854 and demolished in 1980 (Ivens 2003:6) c. 75m west of the site.

There appears to have been at least three settlement foci within the bounds of the present village. Two groups of house platforms, which are probably of medieval date, and late 12th/13th century occupation evidence have been recorded in Leckhampstead Road, c. 200-250 south east of the present site. Pottery evidence from the Whittlewood Project test pits suggest that there was further occupation at the western end of Leckhampstead Road, c 600m south west of the present site. The third focal area was that of the church. An evaluation at The Roses in 2003 revealed evidence for 13-14th century tenement plots in the western part of the site and a substantial 11-12th century

boundary ditch running north-south and probably forming the rear of tenement plots as well as a boundary between the properties and the fields beyond. The eastern part of the site, which contained poorly preserved remains consisting of possible medieval and post-medieval ditches and a trackway, is therefore thought to have lain in the adjacent field (Ivens 2003).

3.6 Post-medieval and modern (1500-present)

Post-medieval artefacts have frequently been found during the Whittlewood Project investigations (University of Leicester 2001, 2002). Cartographic evidence shows that the village layout and the road patterns can be dated to the 1760s (Ivens 2003:9). The Enclosure Map of 1794 shows that the settlement was still concentrated in the northern part of the village with some dispersed settlement along Leckhampstead Road. The village has not seen a great degree of development since then. Certainly construction work took place and small scale industry in the form of the Akeley Pottery and Brickworks came and went in the late 19th/early 20th century. Perhaps the most dramatic developments occurred in the last quarter of the 20th century with the demolition of St. James's Church and the infilling of a relatively substantial number of sites throughout the centre of the village.



Figure 3. Proposed development



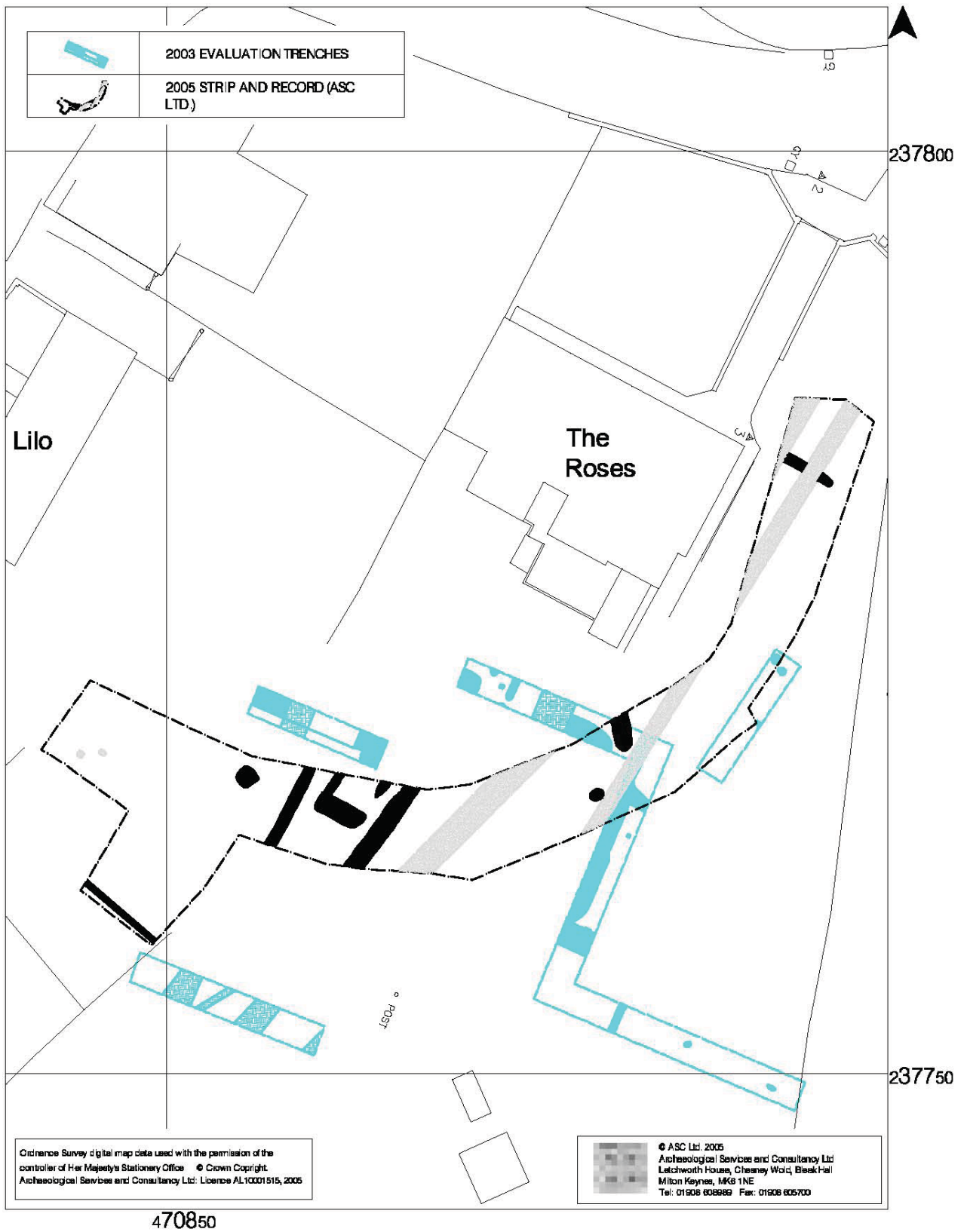


Figure 4. Location of evaluation trenches showing features

4 Results

4.1 The following paragraphs provide a summary of the results of the excavation. See Figures 4 and 5 for relative locations of 2003 and 2005 trenches and features and Figure 6 for section drawings. A full description of the 2005 trench is provided in Appendix 1 and the pottery in Appendix 4.

4.2 *Introduction*

The trench following the route of the access drive was machine stripped of top and subsoil until the underlying natural strata and/or archaeological features were revealed. The natural deposit consisted of mid yellowish brown till in the eastern half of the trench and mid reddish orange clayey sand in the west.

4.3 *2003 Evaluation Trenches*

The 2003 trenches (Fig 4) were located on the base mapping following the NGR coordinates listed in the evaluation report (Ivens, 2004, 22). The area stripped in 2005 intersects two of the 2003 trenches and the recorded position of one of the sewers corresponds. None of the other features recorded in 2003 were present and expected continuations of modern and archaeological feature alignments did not occur. In the part of the access drive trench with the greatest depth of overburden no expression of the complex stratigraphy, (Ivens, 2004, 12-13), described in Trenches 5 and 6 was noted.

4.4 *Modern Features*

Two modern sewer trenches were evident cutting the natural at the rear and to the east of The Roses (Fig 5). A storm drain ran in the same orientation along the western margin of the most westerly sewer. The surface of the fill of these features contained significant amounts of brick rubble, 20th century pottery and ferrous detritus and these recent features were not investigated further.

Two small (*ca.* 15cm x 10cm) square postholes were evident cut into the natural at the western limit of the stripped area. These features were half sectioned and the dark organic topsoil fill contained modern pottery and plastic, which dated them to the late 20th century.

4.5 *Archaeological Features*

The terminal end of a northwest-southeast aligned possible ditch [123], which had been cut by both sewer trenches, was evident in the northern part of the stripped area. No dating evidence was recovered, however its fill was loose with a significant organic content and it is suggested that this may be a relatively recent feature.

A sub-circular pit [102] (Plate 4) was located *ca.* 2m southwest of the terminal end of a north northwest aligned ditch or ovoid pit [105] (Plate 5), which extended beyond the northern face of the trench. The fill of pit [102] contained one sherd of 14th century pottery and the fill of feature [105] contained six sherds of mid 11th century pottery. One residual sherd of Romano-British pottery was recovered from the fill of [105].

At the lowest point of the site, and underlying the deepest layer of overburden, five features were cut into the natural stratum (Plates 3, 6, 7 and 10). Two northeast-southwest aligned linear ditches [109, 118] bounded an area containing one sub-rectangular pit [107] and the terminal ends of two less substantial northeast-southwest aligned probable ditches [114, 116]. The darker fill of pit [107] illustrated that it had cut and truncated ditch [116].

The fill of ditch [109] contained two, presumably residual, sherds of early/middle Saxon pottery and three sherds of late 11th century pottery. Ditch [116] plus pit [107] contained sherds of late 11th century pottery. Pit [107] and ditch [109] contained one and four fragments of animal bone respectively. An abraded and probably residual sherd of Romano-British pottery was the only dating evidence recovered from ditch [118]. No dating evidence was recovered from ditch [114].

A sub-square pit [120] (Plate 8) was located *ca.* 2m west and slightly upslope of ditch [118]. The fill of this pit appeared rich in rotted organic matter and was wet and notably dissimilar to the dry silty fills of the other archaeological features. Although a good candidate for environmental sampling no dating evidence was recovered from its fill and sampling was discounted.

A northwest-southeast aligned shallow gully [122] was located in the southwestern part of the examined area (Plate 9). Its fill appeared similar to the silty fills of some of the other archaeological features although no dating evidence was recovered.

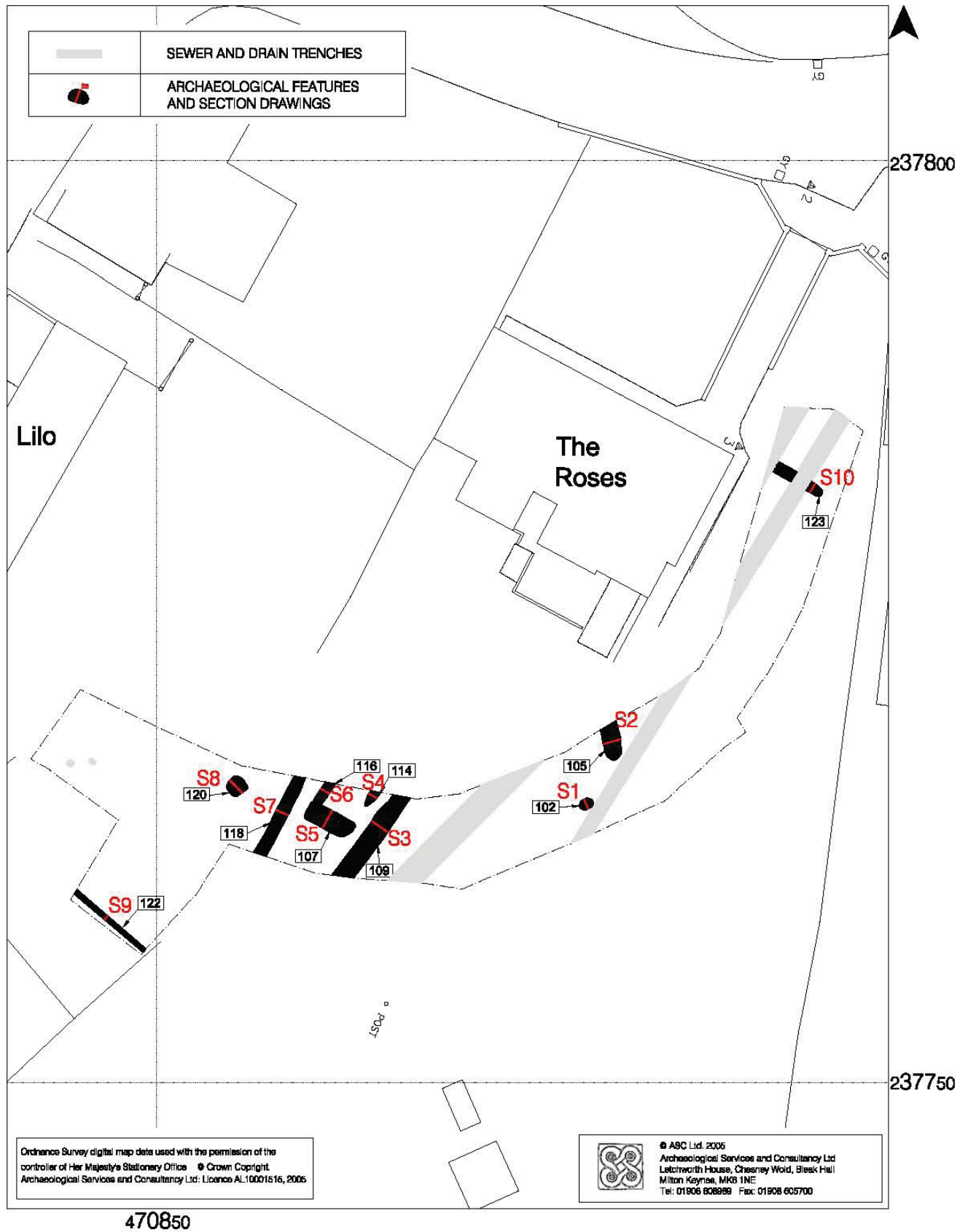


Figure 5. Archaeological features and location of section drawings

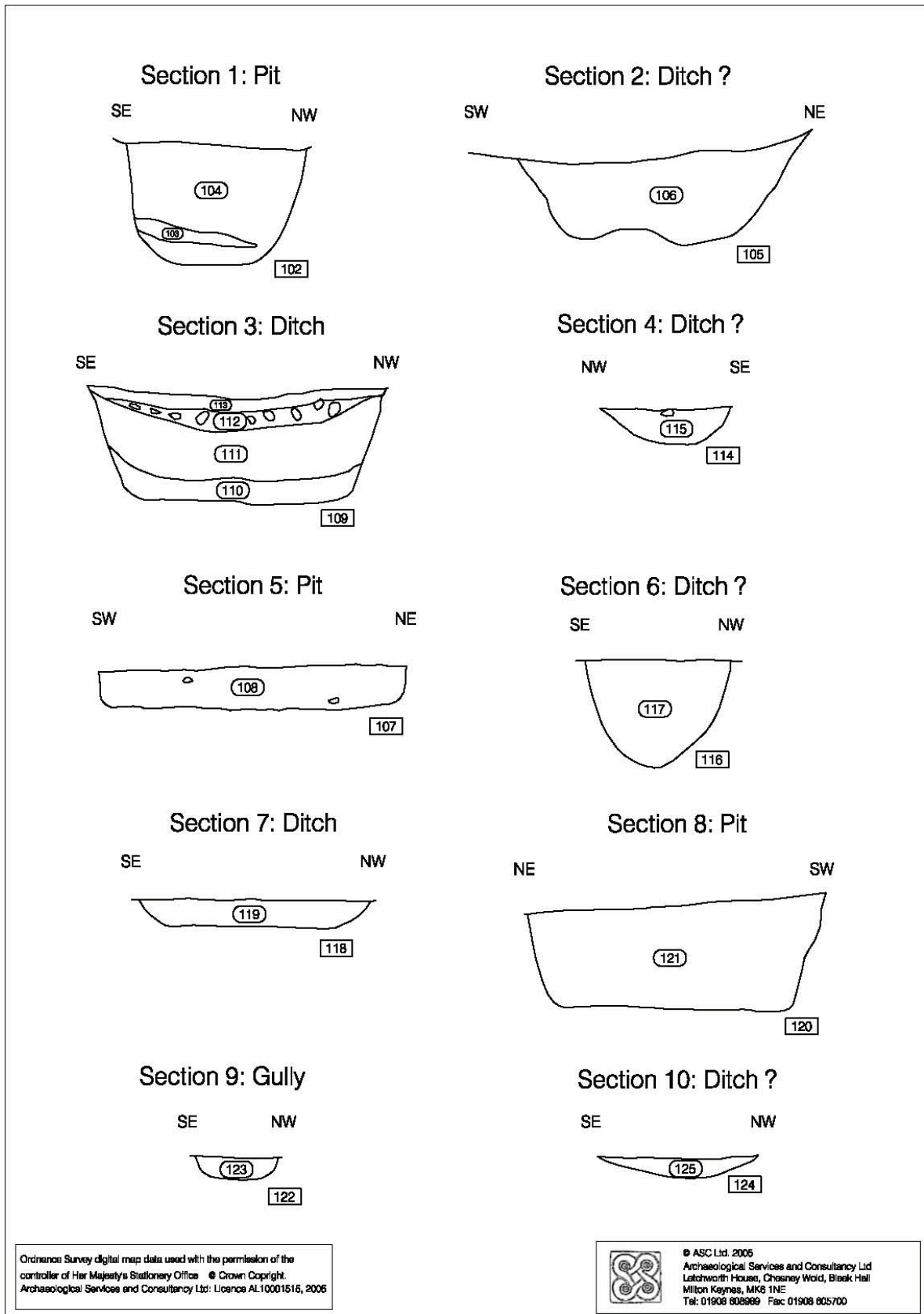


Figure 6. Sections through features

0 1m



Plate 1: Trench from Chapel Lane, facing southwest



Plate 2: Trench at rear of The Roses, facing northeast



Plate 3: Trench at rear of The Roses, facing west-northwest



Plate 4: Section 1 (Pit 102) facing southwest



Plate 5: Section 2, (Terminal end of ditch ? 105) facing northwest



Plate 6: Section 3 (Ditch 109) facing northeast



Plate 7: Section 5 (Pit 107) facing southwest



Plate 8: Section 8 (Pit 120) facing southeast



Plate 9: Section 9 (Gully 122) facing southeast



Plate 10: Features 107, 116, 118 and 120 facing northwest

5. Conclusions

- 5.1 The excavation revealed a number of archaeological features which were concentrated in the central and western part of the examined area. Of these features *ca.* 60% were located at the lowest point of the site in a natural northeast-southwest aligned gully.
- 5.2 The 2005 excavation was tied in to extant buildings with a total station and subsequently co-registered to digital base mapping. Little correlation is evident between the position and alignments of the features recorded in the 2003 evaluation (Ivens, 2004) and those revealed by the 2005 excavation.
- 5.3 The layered stratigraphy discovered in trenches 5 and 6 of the 2003 evaluation (Ivens, 2004 pp 12-13) was not evident in the part of the 2005 trench closest to the 2003 trench locations. This is the lowest point of the site and the modern ground surface is significantly raised above the medieval surface, however, it was impossible to confirm deliberate episodes of dumping to raise ground level (*ibid*) due to the uniform nature of the subsoil.
- 5.4 Four residual sherds of Romano-British pottery were recovered and confirm suggested R-B activity with a foci at the north of the modern village (University of Leicester, 2002).
- 5.5 Two probably residual sherds of early/middle Saxon pottery were recovered from the fill of ditch [109] which lies at the lowest part of the site and is presumably the north-south ditch recorded in 2003 (Ivens, 2004, context 94, trench 6). This extends the area of known early/mid Saxon activity in Akeley 250m north of the only prior findspot near the Leckhampstead Road.
- 5.6 The majority of features at the west of the area contained late 11th century pottery however a sherd of mid 11th century pottery recovered from ditch [105] suggests that it may be slightly earlier.
- 5.7 The truncation of ditch [116] by pit [107] indicates at least two phases of late 11th - early 12th century activity.
- 5.7 A sherd of 14th century pottery recovered from pit [102] suggests that it is the most recent pre-modern feature.
- 5.8 Modern sewer and storm drain trenches were present but did not appear to have truncated any archaeological features in the area examined by this phase of work.
- 5.9 It has proved difficult to test the hypothesis of tenements to the west and agricultural land to the east of the north-south ditch (Ivens, 2004). The location of the discovered features suggest a greater amount of activity in the western part of the examined area, however evidence for structural features was not discovered at the extreme west closest to Main Street and firm evidence for definite agricultural activity, *e.g.* plough scars suggesting ridge and furrow, was absent in the eastern part of the area.

5.10 ***Confidence Rating***

The excavation was carried out during bright sunny conditions and a high confidence rating is attributed to the results.

6. Acknowledgements

The writer is grateful to John Ferrigno of MK Real Estate Investment Ltd for commissioning the project. Thanks are also due to David Radford of the County Archaeological Service who monitored the project and Paul Blinkhorn for his examination of the recovered pottery. The site team consisted of the author, Nick Crank BSc AIFA and Thomas Chadwick. The report was edited by B. Zeepvat.

7. Archive

7.1 The project archive will comprise:

1. Brief
2. Project Design
3. Initial Report
4. Clients site plans
5. Site records
6. Finds records
7. Finds
8. Site record drawings
9. List of photographs/slides
10. B/W prints and negatives
11. Original specialist reports and supporting information
12. CDROM with copies of all digital files.

7.2 The archive will be deposited with Buckinghamshire County Museum. The Accession Number is 2005.70.

8. References


Standards & Specifications

- EH 1991 *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edition. English Heritage (London).
- Ferguson L.M. & Murray D.M. 1997 *Archaeological Documentary Archives: Preparation, Curation and Storage*. Institute of Field Archaeologists' Paper 1 (Manchester).
- IFA 2000a Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct*.
- IFA 2001 Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard & Guidance documents (Desk-Based Assessments, Watching Briefs, Evaluations, Excavations, Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings, Finds)*.
- Radford D. 2005. *The Roses, Chapel Lane, Akeley: Brief for Archaeological Excavation and Watching Brief*. Buckinghamshire County Archaeological Service.
- Semmelman, K. 2005. *The Roses, Chapel Lane, Akeley, Buckinghamshire: Project Design for Strip and Sample Excavation and Watching Brief on behalf of MK Real Estate Investments Ltd*. Archaeological Services and Consultancy Ltd. 693/ACL/01

Secondary Sources

- Blinkhorn, P. 2005 *Pottery from The Roses, Chapel Lane, Akeley (Site 693ACL)*. Unpublished specialist report.
- Jones, R. 2004 "Signatures in the Soil: The Use of Pottery in Manure Scatters in the Identification of Medieval Arable Farming". In *The Archaeological Journal*. **161**: pp 160 – 188.
- Ivens R.J. 2003 *Archaeological Evaluation of The Roses, Chapel lane, Akeley, Buckinghamshire*. Unpublished Report.
- University of Leicester. 2001 *Whittlewood Project: Akeley Shovel Test Pits* <www.le.ac.uk/elh/whittlewood/akeley.htm> viewed 06/06/2005
- University of Leicester. 2002 *Report on Test Pits in and around Akeley Village: June-August 2002* <www.le.ac.uk/elh/whittlewood/akeley2002.htm> viewed 06/06/2005
- Soil Survey 1983 *1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales, and accompanying legend* (Harpden).

Appendix 1: Trench Summary Tables

Trench					
		Max Dimensions			
		Width	c. 6.0m	Length	c. 60m
		Depth	1.6m max	Level (top)	
		NGR Co-ordinates			
		470884	470888	470845	470843
Orientation		NNE turning through 90° to NW			
Reason for Trench		To determine presence/absence of archaeology beneath route of driveway			
Context	Type	Description and Interpretation	Max Thickness (mm)	Height AOD.	
100	Layer	Mid greyish brown humic silt. Topsoil	600	-	
101	Layer	Mid orangeish brown clayey silt. Subsoil	1000	-	
102	Cut	Sharp break at top, vertical sides with a gradual break onto a flat base. Pit. Sub-circular in plan.		Top 114.38 Base 114.12	
103	Deposit	Lens of mid yellow silty clay natural deposited in pit 102	30		
104	Deposit	Dark brown humic clayey silt. Fill of pit 102.	400		
105	Cut	Sharp break from top to uneven sides (50° to 80°) with moderate to sharp break to uneven base. Terminal end of ditch ?		Top 114.42 Base 114.08	
106	Deposit	Mid yellowish brown clayey silt. Fill of 105	300		
107	Cut	Sharp break at top with steep (70°) sides and sharp break to a flat base. Has c. 150mm deeper slot at the southeastern end. Pit. Sub rectangular in plan. Truncates 116		Top 114.03 Base 113.85	
108	Deposit	Mid greyish brown (orange mottled) clayey silt. Fill of 107	300		
109	Cut	Sharp break at top to vertical sides and sharp to moderate break onto a flat base. Linear ditch.		Top 114.06 Base 113.61	
110	Deposit	Mid greyish orange sandy clay with moderate pebble inclusions. Primary fill of 109. Maybe natural as archaeologically sterile ?	100		

111	Deposit	Mid greyish orange sandy silt with occasional pebble inclusions. Fill of 109. Maybe natural as archaeologically sterile ?	200	
112	Deposit	Light grey rounded, sub rounded, sub angular and angular pebbles of different lithologies and sizes. Fill of 109.	40	
113	Deposit	Mid grey and orange mottled clayey silt. Fill of 109.	30	
114	Cut	Moderate break from top to shallow sides (45°) and no discernible break to concave base. Terminal end of linear ditch ?		Top 113.93 Base 113.75
115	Deposit	Mid yellowish brown clayey silt. Fill of 114	100	
116	Cut	Sharp break to steep/irregular sides and no discernible break to concave base. Terminal end of linear ditch ? Truncated by cut of pit 107.		Top 114.04 Base 113.75
117	Deposit	Mid greyish orange clayey silt. Fill of 116.	350	
118	Cut	Moderate break at top with shallow sides (45°) and gradual break to flat base. Linear ditch.		Top 114.14 Base 113.95
119	Deposit	Mid greyish brown (orange mottled) clayey silt. Fill of 119	100	
120	Cut	Sharp break at top, vertical sides with a sharp break onto a flat base. Pit. Sub-square in plan.		Top 115.26 Base 115.15
121	Deposit	Dark greenish grey silt. Fill of 120	400	
122	Cut	Moderate break at top with shallow sides (45°) and no discernible break to concave base Linear gully ?		Top 115.26 Base 115.15
123	Deposit	Mid greyish orange clayey silt. Fill of 122	60	
124	Cut	Moderate break at top to shallow sides with no discernible break to concave base. Terminal end of ditch ?		Top 113.88 Base 113.94
125	Deposit	Mid yellowish grey sandy silt. Fill of 124		
126	Layer	Mid yellowish brown till in east of site and reddish orange clayey sand in west. Natural	-	

Appendix 2: Excavation Summary Tables

Plan Register

Sheet No	Drawing No	Scale	Details
1	1	1:50	Eastern area of trench and features
1	2	1:50	Central area of trench and features
1	3	1:50	Western area of trench and features

Section Register

Sheet No	Drawing No	Scale	Contexts
1	1	1:10	102
1	2	1:10	105
1	3	1:10	110
1	4	1:10	115
1	5	1:10	107
1	6	1:10	116
1	7	1:10	118
1	8	1:10	120
1	9	1:10	122
1	10	1:10	124

Bulk Finds Register

Context	Pottery		Bone		Flint	Shell	Stone	Other	
	No.	Wt (g)	No.	Wt (g)	No.	Wt(g)	No.	type	No/Wt(g)
104	1	13							
106	7	61							
108	2	22	1	180					
110	18	239	4	195					
117	1	19							
119	1	13							

Appendix 3: Finds Concordance

Context	Pottery		Bone		Flint (no)	Shell (g)	Stone (no)	Other Finds	
	(no)	(g)	(no)	(g)				Type	(no)
104	1	13							
106	7	61							
108	2	22	1*	180					
110	18	239	4*	195					
117	1	19							
119	1	13							

* Animal bone was not retained

Appendix 4: Specialist Reports

Pottery from 'The Roses', Chapel Lane, Akeley (Site 693ACL)

Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 30 sherds with a total weight of 367g. It was all of Saxo-Norman date, other than four sherds of Romano-British material and a single fragment of a 14th century jug.

The post-Roman pottery was recorded using the coding system of the Milton Keynes Archaeological Unit type-series (e.g. Mynard and Zeepvat 1992; Zeepvat et al. 1994), with the following noted:

MS3: *Medieval Grey Sandy Wares*, mid 11th – late 14th century. 6 sherds, 42g.

MSC1: *Sandy and Shelly ware*, late 11th – mid 13th century. 12 sherds, 153g.

MC9: *Brill/Boarstall Ware*. 1200-?1600. 1 sherd, 13g.

The following, not covered by the type-series, were also noted:

E/MS: Early/middle Saxon hand-built ware, 5th – 9th century. Moderate to dense sub-rounded quartz up to 1mm, rare white flint and calcareous material up to 1mm. 2 sherds, 19g.

Oxford ware: Late 11th - 14th century (Mellor 1994). Oxford fabric OXY. Abundant sub-angular quartz with some rounded clay pellets and occasional polycrystalline quartz. Handmade and wheel-thrown vessels. Only jars, and no glazed pitchers from this site, despite them being common elsewhere. 5 sherds, 67g.

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table 1. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*. The range of fabric types is very typical of the region, and can be paralleled at numerous other sites. All the sherds appear to be from jars, other than a single glazed jug sherd from context 104.

Three of the four sherds of Romano-British material were redeposited in later features. The fourth, from context 119, was the only pottery from that feature, but the sherd was very abraded, and could easily be residual in a later feature with no contemporary pottery.

Table 1: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

	RB		E/MS		MS3		OXY		MSC1		MC9		
Cntxt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	No	Wt	Date
104											1	13	14thC
106	1	19			6	42							M11thC
108							1	15	1	7			L11thC
110	2	41	2	19			3	33	11	146			L11thC
117							1	19					L11thC
119	1	13											RB?
Total	4	73	2	19	6	42	5	67	12	153	1	13	

Bibliography

Mellor, M, 1994 Oxford Pottery: A Synthesis of middle and late Saxon, medieval and early post-medieval pottery in the Oxford Region *Oxoniensia* **59**, 17-217

Mynard, DC and Zeepvat RJ, 1992 *Great Linford* Bucks Archaeol Soc Monog Ser **3**

Zeepvat, RJ, Roberts, JS and King, NA, 1994 *Caldecotte, Milton Keynes. Excavation and Fieldwork 1966-91* Bucks Archaeol Soc Monog Ser **9**