

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

Site Name

EASTERN WORKSHOPS, SHEPPERTON STUDIOS, SPELTHORNE, SURREY

Type of project Watching Brief On Geotechnical Test Pits

Quality Control

Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited Project Code			K760
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AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF ON GEOTECHNICAL TEST PITS AT THE EASTERN WORKSHOPS, SHEPPERTON STUDIOS, SPELTHORNE, SURREY

Site Code: SHEP 04

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 0683 6865

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INTRODUCTION

The excavation of two geotechnical test pits by Soil Technics was archaeologically monitored by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited and the eastern side of the Eastern Workshops, Shepperton Studios, Spelthorne, Surrey. The work was commissioned by Shepperton-Pinewood Limited and was carried out by the author on Wednesday 28th July 2004. A previous evaluation in the immediate vicinity of the Eastern Workshops¹ showed the presence of prehistoric to post-medieval features and deposits in the area. Test Pit 1 measured 0.60m x 0.50m and was excavated to a depth of 1.40m below surface level. Test Pit 2 measured 1.00m x 0.60m and was excavated to a depth of 1.10m below surface level.

Test Pit 1

Phase 1 - Natural

The earliest deposit encountered was a layer of natural gravel [54]. This was encountered at a height of 11.70m OD and continued beyond the 1.40m depth limit of the test pit.

Phase 2 - Modern

Sealing the natural gravel was a layer of modern ground make-up [53], which was encountered at a height of 12.00m OD, and was 0.30m thick. Sealing this was a layer of crushed concrete [52], encountered at a height of 12.20m OD and was 0.20m thick. Sealing this was the surface concrete [51] which was 0.20 thick.

Test Pit 2

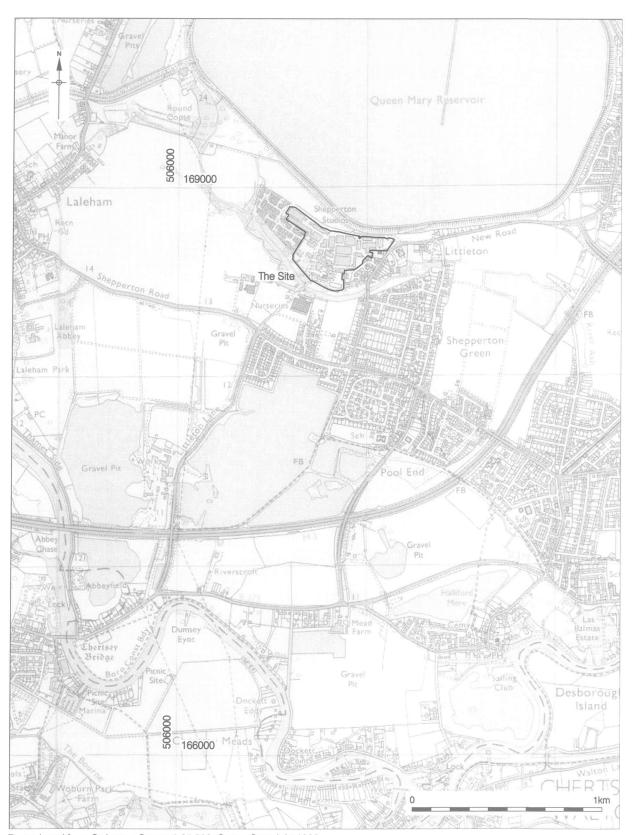
Phase 2 - Modern

The earliest deposit encountered was a layer of concrete [59] which was at the very base of the test pit. This was encountered at a height of 11.28m OD. Above this was another slab of concrete [57] encompassing 0.80m of the test pit from the northern end, at a height of 11.78m OD. To the south of this concrete within the 0.20m area, between the concrete and the limit of excavation, was a layer of ground make-up [58], which was encountered at a height of 11.78m OD and was 0.50m thick. Sealing this was a layer of crushed concrete [56], at 12.18m OD, which was 0.40m thick. Sealing this was the surface concrete [55] which was 0.20m thick.

¹ Clough, H., 2004, An Archaeological Evaluation at the Eastern Workshops, Shepperton Studios, Spelthorne, Surrey. Unpublished report, Pre-Construct Archaeology Itd.

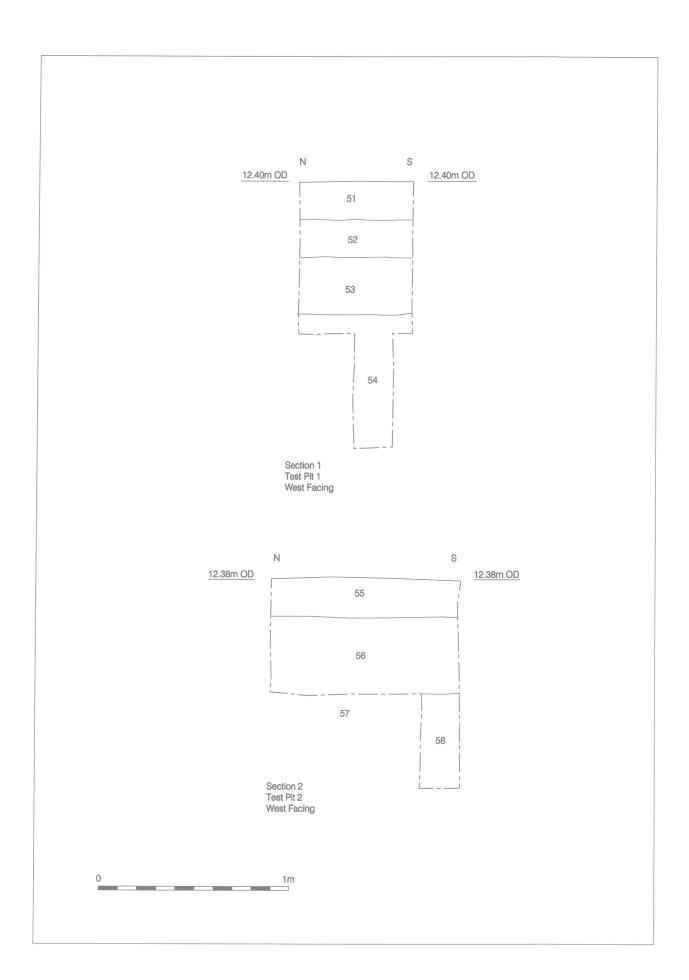
Conclusion

The previously undertaken evaluation highlighted the archaeological potential of the site ranging from prehistoric to post-medieval deposits. However the test pits monitored were directly within the construction trench footings for the existing eastern workshops. Therefore only these modern footings and materials associated with the backfilling of the construction trenches were encountered.



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