HERITAGE NETWORK

UNIT 1, WOODSIDE INDUSTRIAL ESTATE BISHOPS STORTFORD

HN444

Site name and address:	Unit 1, Woodside Industrial Estate, Bishops Stortford		
County:	Hertfordshire	District:	East Hertfordshire
Village/town:	Bishops Stortford	Parish:	Birchanger
Planning reference:	3/03/1669	NGR:	TL 5070 2160
Client name and address:	Kendro Laboratory Products plc		
Nature of work:	Factory upgrade	Present land use:	Factory forecourt
Size of affected area:	c.686m ²	Size of area investigated:	c.285m ²
Site Code:	HN444	Other reference:	n/a
Organisation:	Heritage Network	Site Director:	David Hillelson
Type of work:	Monitoring	Curating Museum:	Bishops Stortford Museum
Start of work	18/02/2004	Finish of work	24/03/2004
Related SMR Nos:	n/a	Periods represented:	n/a
Previous summaries/reports:	n/a		

Narrative:

In order to meet the requirements of an archaeological condition on the planning permission for development work at Unit 1, Woodside Industrial Estate, Dunmow Road, Bishops Stortford, the Heritage Network was commissioned by the developer to monitor a programme of groundworks around the exterior of the building.

The site is located on the north-east edge of the town, centred on NGR TL 5070 2160. The development proposed the construction of a number of concrete bases for the location of power, refrigeration and ventilation plant, together with associated service trenches.

The site lies within *Area of Archaeological Significance no.274* (AAS274), which defines an area of extensive early Iron Age to Roman occupation. On this basis there was considered by the planning authority to be potential for the development to disturb archaeological remains including artefacts, pits, ditches and ring gullies.

Three site visits were made to inspect the surfaces revealed after the removal of tarmac and reinforced concrete. On the southern side of the building, where new air-conditioning plant was to be located, the modern tarmac surface consisting of 0.10m of surfacing and 0.30m of base material, had been removed to reveal a sub-base of MOT Type 2 granular material. The sub-base was not breached and no archaeology was affected by the works.

On the eastern side of the building, where a new electricity sub-station and associated cable trenches to the street were located, the reinforced concrete surface was broken out and a sub-base of MOT Type 1 granular material removed. Below this the geological natural was exposed. This consisted of a very firm yellowish brown clay with frequent inclusions of chalk flecks and fragments. No intrusive archaeological features were observed in the areas exposed.

Illustrations:

Figure 1	Site location
Figure 2	Location of groundworks

David Hillelson 28 June 2004

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