

ABI Equipment Limited

Piling Equipment Specialists

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ABI Equipment Limited was asked to supply specialist equipment consisting of an ABI TM 13/16 Mobilram complete with MRZV925VS variable moment vibrator for ground probing by contractor Balfour Beatty Ground Engineering. This would be used for 'spiking' the ground on a contract at the O2 Arena, Greenwich, London.

The piling works were carried out in February 2014.

O2 Arena Greenwich

Main Contractor: Balfour Beatty Ground Engineering

Piling Equipment supplier: ABI Equipment Limited

Main Contractor Balfour Beatty was awarded the contract for the Aurura Hotel Development at the location of the O2 arena. The contract involved driving 350 x 350 mms by up to 14 metres long pre cast concrete piles. They decided that prior to carrying out the piling work, to probe the ground first to ensure that the ground was free from any obstructions.



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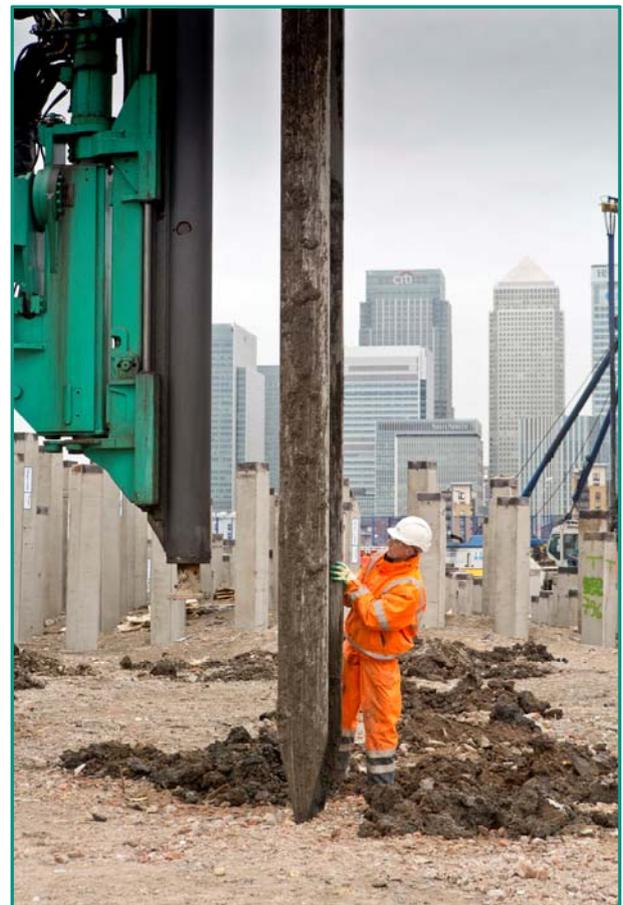
The alternative to doing this would either to have pre-augured the ground which would have necessitated removing the spoil with the inherent risk of encountering and disturbing contaminated ground with all the associated problems that this cause. Alternatively they could have gone ahead with the pile driving and when obstructions were encountered to excavate beneath the pile to remove the obstruction which would have been very time consuming and awkward. This would also risk pile breakage.

The probing/spiking was undertaken to depths up to 14metres through made ground into the terrace gravels and stiff clay to ensure the pile locations were free of obstructions. Helicopter Foundations and other reinforced concrete obstructions were encountered from previous site uses. 50 locations were 'spiked' each day.



Contractor Balfour Beatty commented: 'The ABI Rig worked well and was reliable. We would use this process again'.

The probing/spiking was done using an ABI Mobilram c/w vibrating hammer to probe the ground in the position where the hotel, the ballroom and the apartment structures were to be built. In total there were approximately 1800 pile locations.



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