



AC prototype remained incognito for 44 years

AC PROTOTYPE SURFACES

>> AC MA-200 PROTOTYPE >>> SURREY, ENGLAND

AN AC prototype has turned up in America, after spending decades not far from the Thames Ditton factory where it was built 44 years ago.

Mark Gold stumbled across the car on the internet while looking for a Cobra 289 to buy. The 1963 one-off, with a 289 V8 and ZF five-speed gearbox, was bought with no paperwork, but Gold has since managed to trace original photos and factory drawings.

Jason Wenig, whose company The Creative Workshop is restoring the car, said: 'The car's previous owners never paid much attention to its significance. It had had a respray and some aftermarket seats, but was drivable and in fair condition. It isn't a barn find but it was flying under the radar all this time.'

'We are working to bring it back to its former glory and to correct the incorrect items, so the AC/Cobra/Shelby/Frua world can finally appreciate this missing link.'

John Spencer, librarian of the AC Owners' Club said: 'Nobody's sure whether it was meant to have been a 428 prototype. The front suspension uses rockers with inboard springs and the rear is similar to Chapman struts.'