

TRINITY GARDENS, EDINBURGH	
Description:	Bulk Excavation and Relocation of Mature Tree
Form of Contract:	SBC without Quantities
Duration:	17 weeks
Contract Value:	£900,000
Client:	Ailsa Investments
Clients Representative:	SRC (now Arcadis AYH)

This relatively straightforward project comprised advance works for the construction of a prestigious new residential scheme by Ailsa Developments. The site lies immediately adjacent to the junction of Ferry Road and Inverleith Row in the Trinity area of Edinburgh.

The principal purpose of the project was to form the void in which the new basements would be constructed. In addition to bulk earthworks, the project involved temporary support to the excavation at designated locations and the removal of more than 200 piles from the office block that previously occupied the space. The formation of the excavation was protected by a capping layer.



Although the majority of the natural soils excavated were taken to a waste recycling facility, approximately 20% was stockpiled in an area close to the site for re-use in backfilling the new basements.

Our work was carried out carefully in the proximity of a large number of mature trees, which will be retained to enhance the new development. We also took measures to minimise disruption to our neighbours in this predominantly residential area. However, the most sensitive and challenging aspect of the project was the successful relocation of an existing mature Strawberry Tree (*Arbutus Menziesii*) that stood over 14 metres tall and weighed in the vicinity of 40 Tonnes.

The Client's team included Project Manager SRC, Engineer Halcrow Yolles, Quantity Surveyor AYH and Arboreal Consultant Eamonn Wall & Co. Our work was carried out under an archaeological watching brief.

