

## Arundel Great Court, Central London

Current Use: Underground Basement Car Park/Offices/Hotel  
Client: Land Securities  
Value: £79,000  
Location: London

A geotechnical site investigation within an existing basement at Arundel Great Court (close to the Strand) in London was undertaken. The purpose of this investigation was to allow shallow geological conditions and drainage constraints to be identified prior to specifying a final foundation design for a new building.

The investigation was designed to identify full details of existing drainage conditions and shallow geology beneath the existing basement.

The contract involved working within tight constraints, as all shallow pits had to be dug in the basement which was in operational use as a car park. Being a central London location, many of the vehicles parked were of a high value, so great care had to be taken to avoid damage or nuisance.

In addition to the shallow pits an 8.4 metre deep hole with full shoring had to be hand dug within a disused office in the southern area of the site. Hand dug excavation was undertaken due to the heavily restricted access and the limited amount of ventilation to the work area.



Stitch drilling was utilised to break through the surface slab to minimise disruption to a hotel immediately above the site area.

Archaeological constraints identified by this work included the former Thames River Wall from the 1600s identified at full depth of the hand excavated pit.

The subsequent foundation design for the planned new building was completed taking account of this archaeological feature identified through this site investigation.