

Broomielaw and Tradeston Public Realm and Quay Walls

# Regenerating the banks of the River Clyde

**£16.8m**

/ Project value

**January 2008**

/ The build commenced

**May 2009**

/ The build was completed

The £16.8m Broomielaw and Tradeston Public Realm and Quay Walls project has successfully regenerated previously neglected areas situated on both banks of the River Clyde. The Broomielaw works involved the stabilisation of 400m of the sheet piled quay wall, increasing its height by approximately 1m, while the Tradeston element of the scheme focused on the replacement of 250m of the existing quay wall, 20m into the River Clyde. Approximately 13,800m<sup>2</sup> of Linear Parks were also created in the public realm works, transforming an unloved part of Glasgow city centre into an attractive modern public space.

## The Brief

With responsibility for renewing the riverside area of the city, Glasgow City Council commissioned an ICE 5th Edition contract to complete public realm and quay wall replacement and stabilisation works in Broomielaw and Tradeston.





“This project has successfully regenerated previously neglected areas and transformed an unloved part of Glasgow city centre into an attractive modern public space. We are proud to have played such an important role in this scheme,”

Leo Martin  
GRAHAM Managing Director – Civil Engineering

### The challenges

The works at Broomielaw quay were carried out alongside busy two and four-lane carriageways and therefore required careful consideration of traffic management arrangements. In addition, the works incorporated the construction of a new lane for public transport use alongside the pedestrian area. Consultation with relevant stakeholders, including Strathclyde Police and Glasgow City Council, resulted in a two phased approach to work completion and the maintenance of traffic management areas. During the scheme we had to section off both quays to provide sufficient working space that would leave adequate, and safe, room for the public to avail of the route.

### GRAHAM's solution

Reflecting the success of this complex project, Glasgow City Council encouraged GRAHAM to submit the scheme for consideration at the British Construction Industry Awards (2010). Although unsuccessful in the face of stiff competition, the £16.8m programme has revitalised this section of Glasgow's riverside and maximised new development areas. The new quay walls, consisting of driven piles with infill sheet piles and tie rods, allowed for increased flood protection. Specifically, the works at Broomielaw required strengthening and stabilisation, which included protection to existing tie rods and drainage provision. Furthermore, the wall was then raised by constructing a new capping beam on top of the existing wall. The Tradeston project involved the removal of 250m of existing quay wall, and jetty, and its subsequent reconstruction, 20m from the existing quay wall. In addition, some 13,800m<sup>2</sup> of Linear Parks were created in the public realm works.

### Outputs & Benefits

- / **Regeneration:** The high-profile project has successfully regenerated previously run down areas on both banks of the River Clyde
- / **Increased Flood Protection:** The new quay walls, which consist of driven king piles with infill sheet piles and tie rods, allow for increased flood protection
- / **Multiple Users:** The new public realm spaces accommodate multiple user requirements from access by foot or by cycle and provide opportunities to sit, eat or merely observe the life of the city
- / **Architectural Features:** Features such as granite bench seating, granite edging to landscape areas and along the raised flower beds were constructed, providing additional seating areas while acting as the retaining wall



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+44 (0) 28 9268 9500   info@graham.co.uk   graham.co.uk

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