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The FOR-SITE Foundation announces the completion of a new work by artist Andy Goldsworthy in the Presidio of San Francisco

San Francisco - The FOR-SITE Foundation, in partnership with the Presidio Trust, is pleased to announce the completion of a new work by artist Andy Goldsworthy in the Presidio of San Francisco. *Spire*, a site-specific installation, is made from the trunks of 37 cypress trees felled as part of the Presidio's reforestation effort. From its fifteen foot diameter, *Spire* rises over ninety feet into the air.

The height of the Presidio spire and its placement presented its own set of unique administrative and engineering challenges. Architects, structural engineers and preservationists were all brought into the process. To ensure stability, the keystone tree was lifted by a 350-ton crane and anchored into a metal sleeve within a 12-foot deep hole and surrounded by poured concrete.

New trees to be planted over the next decade will eventually grow up around the sculpture. At some future point in time, *Spire* itself will succumb to decay. During its lifespan, *Spire* will be a monumental reminder of the history of this forest and by extension the history of the Presidio.

The *Spire* is located on the Bay Area Ridge Trail near the Arguello Gate, west of Inspiration Point Overlook and north of the Presidio Golf Course Clubhouse.

Exhibition: *Goldsworthy at the Presidio*

November 14, 2008 to May 3, 2009

Wednesday to Sunday, 11 am to 5 pm

Located in Building 49 (adjacent to the Presidio Officers' Club on the Main Post)

This admission-free exhibit affords visitors further insights into Andy Goldsworthy's art and the making of the Presidio's spire.

Preparatory drawings, color photographs by the artist of spires he has created at other sites, and a 10-foot model of the Presidio spire provide an informative context for this sculpture. Text and installation photographs, and a short program of film and video clips, provide background on Goldsworthy, site-based art, and the Presidio Trust's reforestation efforts.

For Presidio visitors who choose the exhibition as their starting point, a visitor guide and map provides directions to the *Spire*, either by foot or car. For visitors who come to the exhibition after viewing the *Spire*, the exhibition broadens their understanding and appreciation of this work.

About the Artist

Andy Goldsworthy was born in 1956 and spent his childhood in Yorkshire, England. Goldsworthy's work has been made in the open air, in places as diverse as the Yorkshire Dales, the North Pole, and the Australian Outback. Goldsworthy is known to many through the 2001 film *Rivers and Tides*. His works in the Bay Area include *Stone River* at Stanford University, made from the rubble left after the Loma Prieta earthquake, and *Drawn Stone* at the De Young Museum in San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, which also recalls San Francisco's earthquakes and their effects.

Goldsworthy draws his inspiration from places and creates art from the materials found close at hand, such as twigs, leaves, stones, snow and ice, reeds, and thorns. The works made from these natural materials interact in different ways with their environments. The Presidio's man-made forest is an evocative backdrop for the artist who strives "to make connections between what we call nature and what we call man-made."

About the FOR-SITE Foundation

The FOR-SITE Foundation is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the creation, understanding, and exhibition of art about place. Created in 2003, the Foundation fulfills its mission through three key program initiatives: artist residencies, education projects, and exhibitions. For more information about the FOR-SITE Foundation, visit www.for-site.org. Andy Goldsworthy's *Spire* and the accompanying exhibition, *Goldsworthy at the Presidio*, were created under the auspices of the FOR-SITE Foundation with support from a private donor.

About the Presidio Trust

The Presidio Trust's mission is to preserve and enhance the Presidio as an enduring resource for the American public. The Trust's work encompasses the natural areas, wildlife, and native habitats of the park, as well as the historic structures and designed landscapes that make the park a National Historic Landmark District. The Presidio Trust is dedicated to ensuring that visitors to this spectacular place have the opportunity to gain a broader understanding of the Presidio, its place in American history, and the plants and wildlife that once thrived throughout the region. For more information about the Presidio Trust, visit www.presidio.gov/trust.