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Rock Walk Gardens, Torquay

Rock Walk Gardens was a once neglected Victorian garden cliff walk among the steep slopes and limestone rock faces backing the Marine Parade at Torquay. Following extensive tree removal in 2008 prior to regeneration of Rock Walk, it became obvious that the slope and rock faces would need significant stabilisation works.



Rock Walk gardens before tree removal

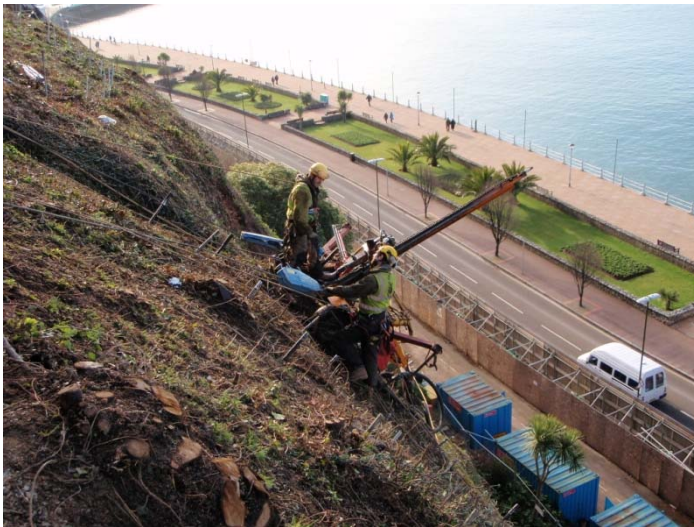


Typical unstable areas of slope exposed by tree removal



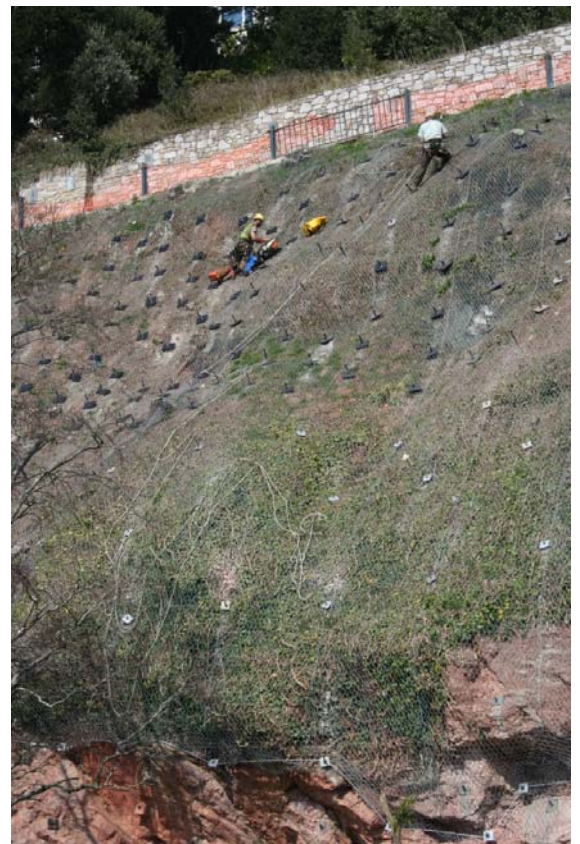
Vertical Technology won the £1m contract to carry out extensive stabilisation works. During the 28 week contract period VT undertook the following:

- Removed 750 tonnes of loose rock.
- Demolished 3 bridges.
- Installed 540 soil nails up to 10m in length.
- Installed 10'600m² rock netting secured by 2100 Nr 1.5m & 2.0m dowels.
- Installed 96 Nr dowels and 7 stainless steel rock anchors up 8m in length to secure unstable blocks.
- Installed sprayed concrete, concrete dentition and anchored concrete buttresses.



Marini rig installing hollow self drilling soil nails with 75mm sacrificial bit.

Installed soil nails and rock netting





Hanging rock netting over steep rock buttresses.



Installing dentition [concrete filled sand bags] with soil nails and rock dowels to secure unstable



Specialist lightweight DTH rig drilling 80mm diameter holes for anchors.





Testing rock anchors to BS 8081



The finished job, on time and well within budget