

**44 YEAR OLD GABION STRUCTURE
DOWDERRY, CORNWALL, UNITED KINGDOM**

Seawalls and Shoreline Structures

Problem

Adjacent to the village of Dowderry the beach was affected by erosion. Tidal action undermined the toe of the cliff and threatened to cause a major slip. Properties, including a Hotel, were endangered by possible subsidence.

Solution

As the cliff was above the normal high tide level, it was considered sufficient to construct a stepped retaining wall from mass gravity gabions. The work was completed in 1971, and the threat of erosion was removed. The properties on the cliff were also stabilized and no longer in danger of possible subsidence. After 44 years, the gabion coating and structure seems to show no sign of any significant damage and the gabion structure is perfectly integrated with the coastal environment.

Client: Caradon District Council**Designer / Consultant:** Maccaferri Construction**Contractor:** N/A**Products used (Qty.)**

- Gabions N/A

Date of construction: 03/1971 - 09/1971[Google Maps](#)[Google Earth](#)

After construction in 1971



View of the sea defence wall as it now appears



Recent global view of the sea defence wall