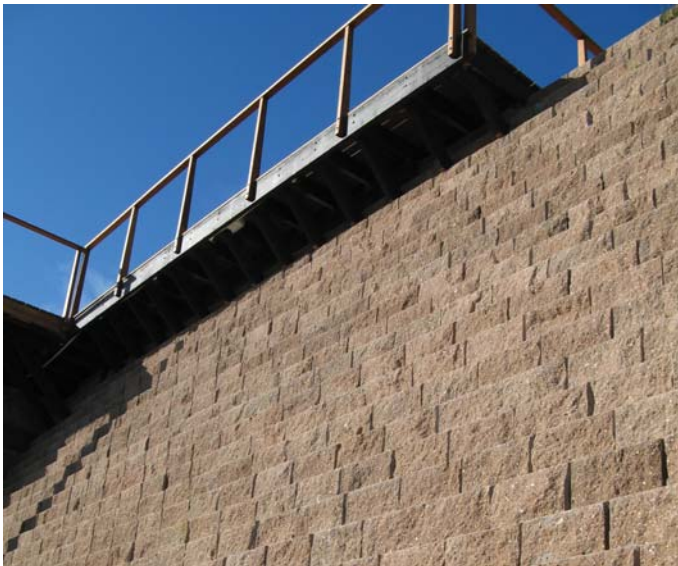


The Retaining wall under the pool



This installation at Sunset Close, Llundudno, Western Cape was completed by Decorton, Cape Town based specialist contractor for segmental retaining wall installations, who was appointed to install the supporting structure for this pool, situated high up on solid granite rock outcrops.

The tricky part of this project involved constructing a level foundation established on the sloping and uneven granite rock. This necessitated some core drilling and epoxy grouting of Y16 starter bars. Next, a reinforced concrete foundation was cast with steps at intervals to match Terraforce L12 block heights.

The retaining wall was built to three meter height employing a concrete filled double skin with steel reinforcing in the inner skin. The following two to three meter height was built with concrete filled single skin.

It should be noted that this kind of installation requires a much more demanding level of professional supervision than is required for standard retaining walls. In addition the blocks need to be thoroughly cleaned every evening to remove any cement stains from them.

As work progressed under the supervision of engineer Fred Laker, reinforcing geogrids were locked into the blocks, embedded in 4% cement stabilised backfill and tied again to sandbags filled with cement/sand mix. These sandbags were effectively used to provide the shape of the Gunito pool, installed by Suburban pools. Once the pool was completed, local contractor Philip Goode from Timber Tech added a stunning IPE (Brazilian Walnut) contemporary deck and handrail.

The pool

