

Figure 3.12 Slope failure caused by the removal of the toe of the slope during the initial grading of the slope.

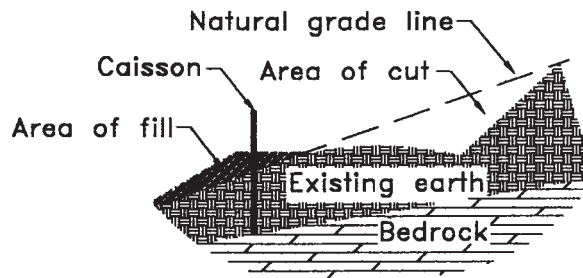


Figure 3.13 Caisson and soil buttress for destabilized slope detail.

Retaining walls are often designed with a batter; that is, they recede away from vertical by a specified amount. Batter is useful to offset the feeling of overtopping from tall, vertical retaining walls, and it helps to hide small imperfections and variations in the wall. In smaller flexible walls, the batter helps to hide and absorb seasonal bulges and movement that might occur, and it contributes to the wall's stability. Although it is determined on a case-by-case basis, a batter of 6:1 is commonly used for flexible walls, and it is somewhat less for rigid walls.