



WEBB YATES ENGINEERS L'ARGENS BRIDGE

Bridge, near Toulon, France
COST £70,000

Designed and built as a response to an extremely inaccessible site, this cable suspension bridge provides pedestrian and quad-bike access to part of a 400-acre vineyard divided by the river L'Argens.

The bridge is low in weight and impact, with the span lifted into a graceful camber to reduce the chances of water-borne debris hitting the

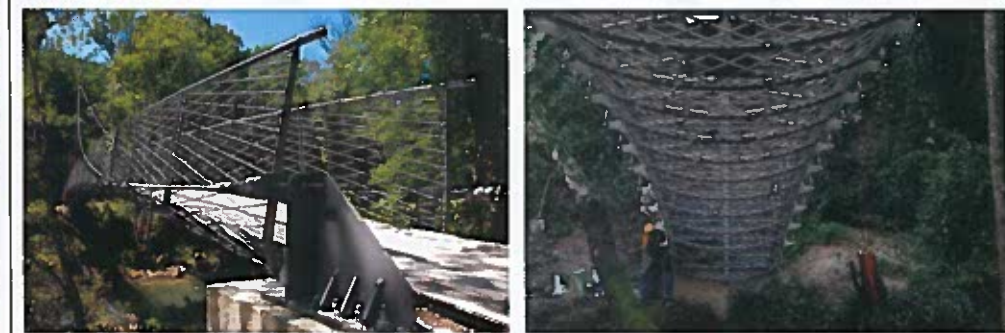
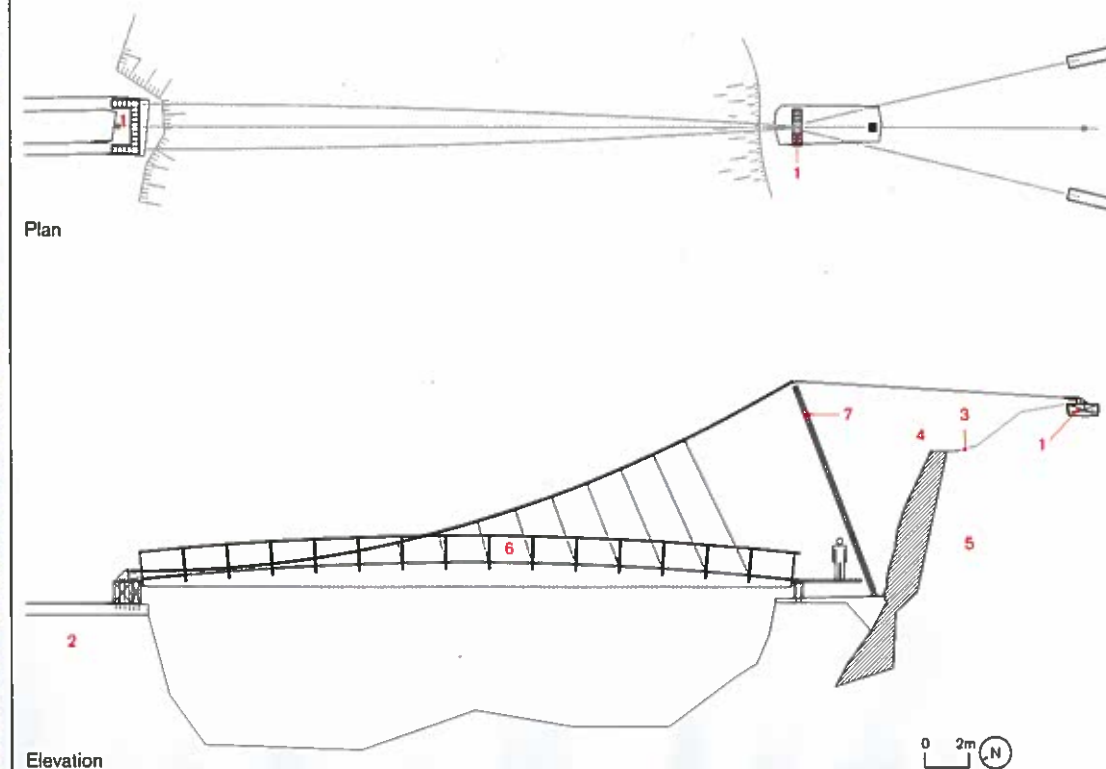
bridge in a flood. Most elements have a dual structural and design purpose, for example the balustrade is a beam, and the handrail and decking are parts of the primary load-spreading system.

The balustrade infill was formed with an open mesh uniting the bridge deck and the handrail as a truss, which spreads any applied loading

along the bridge. Scoop foundations were used to resist the catenary forces in the weak alluvial soil with a single mast sat on the only stable ground, a rocky outcrop on the southern bank.

The 15 fabricated sections and supporting cables were transported to site for assembly and hauled into place one by one using an overhead zip wire spanning the river.

ALL PHOTOGRAPHS BY WEBB YATES ENGINEERS



LEGEND

1. Concrete slab
2. Alluvium
3. Trail
4. Bank
5. Rocks
6. Deck
7. Mast

CREDITS

TENDER June 2011
START ON SITE November 2012
COMPLETION February 2013
PROCUREMENT Traditional
CLIENT Private
STRUCTURAL ENGINEER Webb Yates Engineers
FABRICATOR John Horton