Engineering Geology of Construction
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Preface

This book is based on papers presented to the 28th Annual Conference of the Engineering Group of The Geological Society which was held at the University of Manchester between 6 and 10 September 1992. The theme of the Conference was ‘Engineering geology of construction’ and covered the whole spectrum of the activities of the engineering geologist in construction projects.

The Conference was the first of its type to benefit from the assistance of sponsorship from industry. North West Water Engineering provided assistance with the organization of the Conference programme and in the production of printed and audiovisual materials for the Conference.

The Conference took place over a four-day period with plenary sessions covering topics on foundations, highways, tunnelling and excavation. There was also a series of field trips. The final session of the Conference was of particular importance as the Institution of Civil Engineer’s Ground Board Steering Group on Site Investigation presented the findings of their interim report following its report on ‘inadequate site investigation’. The session was entitled ‘adequate site investigation’ and discussed how to achieve improved practices in site investigation and the way forward into the next decade.

The majority of the papers presented at the conference are represented in this volume, together with the theme lectures of Professor Cojean and Professor Rowe. In addition to this, a series of commissioned papers has been included to add balance to the topics covered. These include papers by Professor Matheson and Dr Perry on highway engineering and the paper by Jim Beveridge and Bill Rankin on engineering geology and NATM techniques. In keeping with previous years, an introductory review is provided which attempts to survey the various themes of the Conference. A concluding paper exploring in general terms the input engineering geologists should have on construction projects and their future professional development is also included.

The conference was well attended with a mix of academic and industrial engineering geologists including international delegates from all five continents.

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S. Walthall
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Warrington, Cheshire, January 1995
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