

Land Surface Evaluation for Engineering Practice

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Preface

The Second Working Party on Land Surface Evaluation for Engineering Practice

The original Working Party on Land Surface Evaluation for Engineering Practice, under the chairmanship of **Mr R. J. G. Edwards**, reported in 1982. Their report was presented in the *Quarterly Journal of Engineering Geology*, Volume 15, pages 265–316, and was based primarily on work that had been carried out during the previous decade. Since the original report was published there have been considerable advances in the subject. Therefore, the Committee of the Engineering Group of the Geological Society set up the Second Working Party in January 1997. The membership of the Second Working Party comprised the following.

Dr J. S. Griffiths: Chairman: Head of the Department of Geological Sciences at the University of Plymouth and member of Plymouth Environmental Research Group; Committee Member of the Engineering Group of the Geological Society (1997–2003).

Mr R. J. G. Edwards: Chairman of the First Working Party; Consultant Engineering Geologist; Director of Earth Science Partnership.

Professor D. Brunsten: Emeritus Professor in Physical Geography at Kings College, London; Member of the First Working Party; First President of the International Association of Geomorphologists; and the Fifth Glossop Lecturer (2001).

Mr J. H. Charman: Consultant Engineering Geologist; Chairman of the Engineering Group 1996–98; Member of the Council of the Geological Society (1998–2000).

Dr P. Nathanail: Senior Lecturer at Nottingham University; Chairman of the Environment Group of the Geological Society (1997–99).

Mr W. Rankin: Divisional Director of Foundations and Geotechnics at Mott MacDonald; Chairman of the Association of Geotechnical Specialists (1996–98); Chief Executive of AGS (1998–2000); Chairman of Ground Forum (2000–2001).

Mr P. Phipps: Senior Engineer at Mott MacDonald; First Glossop Award Winner (1997); Committee Member of the Engineering Group (1997–2000).

During the early meetings of the Working Party it became apparent that the report would have to take a different form from the normal Engineering Group Working Party publications. It was decided that the range and breadth of the subject would require input from a large number of specialists if it was to provide a realistic view of the state of the art. The result was that practitioners in land surface evaluation known to the members of the Working Party were invited to contribute short papers to an edited volume.

In the compilation of the final edited volume, substantial assistance was provided by **Dr Gareth J. Hearn** of Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick, and **Mr E. Mark Lee** of the University of Newcastle, who, along with **Professor Denys Brunsten**, acted as sub-editors.

All members of the Working Party and the sub-editors gave freely of their time in the preparation of this report. The backing of employers in giving professionals the space and time on this, and similar working parties, is too often taken for granted. As Chairman of the Working Party I wish to record the debt of gratitude that I owe to the many individuals, companies and university departments who have provided such support. In addition, I wish particularly to thank **Mott MacDonald and Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick** for providing financial backing towards the cost of printing the final report, thus allowing us to use colour in some of the figures.

Dr James S Griffiths
Chairman
University of Plymouth
October 2000