

## Quaternary Engineering Geology

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# Quaternary Engineering Geology

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EDITED BY

**A. Forster**

Engineering Geology Research Group  
British Geological Survey  
Nottingham, UK

**M. G. Culshaw**

Engineering Geology Research Group  
British Geological Survey  
Nottingham, UK

**J. C. Cripps**

Department of Geology  
University of Sheffield  
Sheffield, UK

**J. A. Little**

Department of Civil Engineering  
Heriot-Watt University  
Edinburgh, UK

**C. F. Moon**

School of Construction  
Sheffield City Polytechnic  
Sheffield, UK

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## Preface

"Quaternary Engineering Geology" was the theme of the 25th Annual Conference of the Engineering Group of the Geological Society which was held at Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh from the 10th to the 14th of September 1989. A wide ranging topic was chosen to encourage as many engineering geologists as possible to participate in a conference which marked a quarter century of annual meetings. The organizing committee also made special efforts to encourage authors and delegates from overseas to make the Conference an international gathering, an aim assisted by the sponsorship of the Conference by the International Association of Engineering Geology. The Conference was successful on both counts, with a high attendance and over 40% of the papers from authors outside the United Kingdom describing work in 14 countries.

The Conference was fortunate to have Professor Fookes to give the keynote address in which he eloquently set the scene for the following sessions by describing clearly and succinctly the events and processes which took place in the Quaternary.

The sessions which followed covered the topics of glacial deposits, periglacial and slope processes, non-glacial processes/deposits and engineering geological mapping of Quaternary deposits. Theme lectures were given by distinguished engineering geologists and a report on the papers in the session made by a leading worker in the field. The sessions were then largely devoted to discussion of papers, preprints of which have been previously circulated. Discussion together with exchanges of views and experiences continued outside the lecture theatre in lively sessions in the trade exhibition and during the field excursions on the second day of the Conference. Amongst the distinguished speakers were Prof. J.N. Hutchinson, Prof. G.E. Blight, Prof. G.S. Boulton, and Prof. D. Muir Wood. They and all the other contributors are thanked for making the Conference an outstanding success.

The 55 papers presented here originally formed a 669 page preprint volume. To them have been added the keynote address, theme lectures, extensive discussion contributions made during the sessions and the summing up. Written discussion, enlargements to the verbal discussion and other contributions received after the conference are also included.

The editors were sad to hear of the accidental death, after he attended the Conference, of Professor S. Okusa of the Institute for Hazards in Snowy Areas, Niigata, Japan. We extend our condolences to his family, friends and colleagues.

A. Forster  
M. G. Culshaw  
J. C. Cripps  
J. A. Little  
C. Moon

Keyworth, 1991

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