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Past Proceedings: First International Conference on Case Histories in Geotechnical Engineering (1984): Vol. II

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PREFACE

The University of Missouri-Rolla began to plan the International Conference on Case Histories in Geotechnical Engineering in 1981. The conference is co-sponsored and partially funded by the National Science Foundation. It has been organized in cooperation with the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering; Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee, University of Roorkee; Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok; Chinese Academy of Building Research; and the Institute of Rock and Soil Mechanics, Academia Sinica, Wuhan.

To begin planning the program, approximately 500 letters were mailed to professional colleagues in the United States, Canada, Australia, India, New Zealand, Mexico, and Europe indicating our intention to host this conference. The proposed themes were listed and comments were solicited. We were encouraged when we received 98 positive responses, with prospects of papers from 28 countries. In addition, extremely useful suggestions were received.

The call for papers was issued in August 1982 and papers were contributed from 38 countries: Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China Czechoslovakia, Egypt, France, Ghana, Greece, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Japan, Libya, Malaysia, Mexico, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States, Venezuela and Yugoslavia, making this conference a truly international one. The large number of papers received were reviewed by a panel of 35 international experts.

The organizing committee always was ready to assist in matters of organization. In the initial stages of planning, guidance was obtained from Harry B. Seed and subsequently from Frank E. Richart Jr. The University of Missouri-Rolla staff have been very cooperative throughout, especially personnel of the Engineering Continuing Education unit. Special mention also should be made of the valuable advice and guidance I have received from Dr. Norbert O. Schmidt, professor and Dr. Joseph H. Senne, chairman, UMR civil engineering department. In addition, our secretaries worked hard to keep pace with the paper work associated with such a venture. Their work is especially appreciated since everyone knows how difficult it would be to handle such monumental work without the active cooperation of these people!

Cooperation and guidance were received from graduate students and colleagues both on and off the UMR campus. The timely printing of the proceedings has been made possible through the efforts of personnel at UMR Centralized Printing Office and University Printing Services at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Without the expertise and technical assistance of these individuals, the proceedings would not exist in their present form. I am indebted to the University of Roorkee which allowed me the time and a grant of Rs. 5000 (approximately \$500) during initial planning stages of this conference and to the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research for their cooperation.

We now look forward to a successful conference in St. Louis during the week of May 6, 1984.

JANUARY 3, 1984

Shamsher Prakash, Editor
and Conference Chairman

Table of Contents

Theme III

Case Histories in Dams, Embankments and Slopes

Powerhouse Slope Behavior, Fort Peck Dam, Montana	541
J. V. Hamel, G. S. Spencer—U.S.A.	
Grand Coulee Riverbank Stabilization - Case History of the Design of Remedial Measures.....	553
J. Lawrence Von Thun—U.S.A.	
Peculiar Behaviour of the Manicouagan 3 Dam's Core.....	561
O. Dascal—CANADA	
The Santa Helena Dam on Compressible Foundation	569
Vinod K. Garga, Arnoldo V. Rocha, Homero G. Ramos—CANADA	
Clay Shale Foundation Slide at Waco Dam, Texas.....	579
W. R. Stroman, R. R. W. Beene, A. M. Hull—U.S.A.	
The Use of Limited Field Observation in Remedial Design.....	587
J. P. Sully, G. I. McPhail—VENEZUELA	
Design and Performance of Horizontal Drains.....	593
J. H. Kleppe, G. M. Denby—U.S.A.	
Performance of Trial Embankment on Soft Clay.....	599
T. Shibata, H. Sekiguchi—JAPAN	
Embankments Built Over Swamps	609
Samuel Y. Ng, James C. Rudd—U.S.A.	
Stability of Slopes - A Case History	619
G. Ramasamy, Gopal Ranjan, Bhawani Singh, A. C. Khazanchi, U. N. Sinha—INDIA	
Performance of an Embankment on Peat.....	625
R. E. Olson—U.S.A.	
Stability of Hill Slopes and Foundation Condition at Radio Astronomy Centre Ootacamand	631
R. K. Katti, V. S. Chandrasekaran, A. Parthasarathy, K. K. Moza—INDIA	
An Embankment on Soft Clays with Sand Drains.....	637
A. Cancelli, A. Cividini—ITALY	
Controlled Breaching of a Full Scale Clay Flood Bank	645
A. Marsland—UNITED KINGDOM	

Deep Seated Base Failure and Reconstruction Work.....	655
M. Fukuoka—JAPAN	
Collapsible Soils Chashma Right Bank Canal	665
Izharul Haq—PAKISTAN	
Failure of a Dredged Slope in a Sensitive Clay.....	671
D. P. LaGatta, S. L. Whiteside—U.S.A.	
The Delayed Failure of a Large Cutting in Hong Kong	679
R. R. Hudson, S. R. Hencher—HONG KONG	
The Failure of a Cut Slope on the Tuen Mun Road in Hong Kong	683
S. R. Hencher, R. P. Martin—HONG KONG	
The Failure of a Soil Blanket Lining Caused by the Action of Bacteria.....	689
G.W. Plant, P. B. B. Voslo—SOUTH AFRICA	
Failure Slope in Clay Shales in Aratu Bay - Brazil	695
R. B. Guimarães—BRAZIL	
Failure of an Embankment on Soft Clay	701
M. K. Yegian, Hugo Perez Lasalvia—U.S.A.	
The Foundation of the Right Bank in Wadi-Zarat Dam	707
M. A. Benltayf, M. Atalla, K. Rabah—LIBYA	
Lake Monona Causeway - Madison, Wisconsin, USA	713
W. W. Warzyn, C. A. Stoll—U.S.A.	
Sealing Leakage of Earth Dam by Concrete Diaphragm.....	721
Shen Chonggang, Jiang Guocheng—CHINA	
Behaviour of Ramganga Dams	725
Bhagwat V. K. Lavania—INDIA	
Failure of Micaceous Waste Tailings Dam	731
W. F. Brumund—U.S.A.	
Performance of a Stone Column Supported Embankment.....	735
R. R. Goughnour, R. D. Barksdale—U.S.A.	
Slide Stabilization with Gravel Trenches	743
E. G. Wardlaw, L. A. Cooley, A. E. Templeton, R. L. Fleming, Jr.—U.S.A.	
Long Term Failure in Compacted Clay Slopes	749
A. E. Templeton, G. L. Sills, L. A. Cooley—U.S.A.	
Stability of an Erratic Tailings Deposit	755
P. C. Kotzias, A. C. Stamatopoulos, B. Karas—GREECE	
The Stability of Shannon Embankments	759
K. R. Massarsch, M. O. Fives—SWEDEN	

Theme IV
Case Histories in
Off Shore Structures

Rock Borer Attack on Juaymah Trestle Concrete Piles	767
E. A. Wiltsie, W. C. Brown, K. Al-Shafei—SAUDI ARABIA	

Theme VI
Case Histories in
Machine Foundations

Machine Foundations in Power Plant and Other Industries - Case Studies	775
K. G. Bhatia—INDIA	
Dynamic Response and Static Analysis of RCC Space Frames Supporting High Speed Centrifugal Machines with Coupled Soil-structure Interaction.....	781
Dilip K. Chakravorty, Dhiman K. Ghosh, H. N. Batavyal—INDIA	
A Case Study on Decreasing Vibration of Machine Foundations and Structures.....	787
Wang Xikang—CHINA	

Theme VII
Case Histories in
Rock Mechanics

Shale Pit Slopes - A Case History	793
D. H. Shields—CANADA	
Stillwater Tunnel, Central Utah Project, Utah, Case History	807
R. S. Sinha, K. D. Schoeman—U.S.A.	
Pittsburgh's Mt. Lebanon Tunnels - A Case History.....	817
G. L. Butler, B. P. Cavan, F. K. Mussger, G. W. Rhodes, H. T. Whitney—U.S.A.	
Mechanised Rock Tunneling in Adverse Conditions.....	827
I. McFeat-Smith—HONG KONG	
The Experience of a Dam Founded on Difficult Rock Foundation.....	833
Jian-Yun Mei, Yu-Yin Guo—CHINA	
The Stability of Underground Power Chambers in Brittle Rock.....	843
Weishen Zhu, Kejun Wang, Guangzhong Peng—CHINA	
Geotechnical Problems in a Bridge over Corinth Canal	849
S. G. Christoulas, N. A. Kalteziotis, G. K. Tsiambaos—GREECE	
Research on Slope Stability of a Certain Open-Pit Mine	855
Wang Wuling—CHINA	

Theme VIII

Case Histories in Selection of Sites for Industrial Structures and Determination of Design Soil Parameters

Study on Vibration in Site Selection for a Precision Instrument Factory	863
Pan Fulan—CHINA	
A Dockwall Failure in Milwaukee, Wisconsin	869
A. B. Wagner—U.S.A.	
A Case of Singular Geotechnical Failure for Industrial Structures in the Peruvian Andes	877
A. Carrillo Gil, R. Torres Vega—PERU	
Siting Study for Aluminum Plant in Central Kentucky	885
Grover C. Cox, III—U.S.A.	
A Case of Land Use and Urban Planning in the Expansive-Soil District	895
Hou Shitao, Wang Siyi, Zhou Jibing, Cao Kezhi—CHINA	
Siting for a Nuclear Power Plant in Saudi Arabia	901
A. A. Sabtan, W. M. Shehata—SAUDI ARABIA	

Guest Lectures

Case Histories for Today's Geotechnique.....	907
R. B. Peck—U.S.A.	
Foundations on Friction Creep Piles in Soft Clays.....	913
Sven Hansbo—SWEDEN	
Behavior of Two Big Rockfill Dams, and Design Aims.....	923
V. F. B. de Mello—BRAZIL	
Time Dependent Limit Stability of Tunnel and Dam Engineering in Difficult Rocks.....	943
Tan Tjong Kie—CHINA	
The Brenda Mines' Cycloned-Sand Tailings Dam	953
Earle J. Klohn—CANADA	