GEOTECHNICAL SPECIAL PUBLICATION NO. 111

JUDGMENT AND INNOVATION

THE HERITAGE AND FUTURE OF THE GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING PROFESSION

EDITED BY FRANCISCO SILVA AND EDWARD KAVAZANJIAN, JR.

ASCE

GEO INSTITUTE

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THE HERITAGE AND FUTURE OF THE GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING PROFESSION

EDITED BY
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Abstract: This book contains six papers of timeless value from some of the most experienced leaders of the geotechnical engineering profession. The papers reflect over 250 years of collective geotechnical engineering experience. Paper topics include historic and futurist views of the profession, strength and slope stability analysis, internal erosion and piping, field and laboratory measurements in geotechnical engineering, and geoenvironmental engineering and its impact on geotechnical practice.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Judgment and innovation : the heritage and future of the geotechnical engineering profession / edited by Francisco Silva, Edward Kavazanjian, Jr.
p. cm. -- (Geotechnical special publication ; no. 111)
Includes bibliographical references and index.
ISBN 0-7844-0537-9
1. Engineering geology. 2. Engineering geology—Technological innovations.
I. Silva, Francisco, 1950- II. Kavazanjian, Edward. III. Series.

TA705 .J93 2000
624--dc21 00-061827

Library of Congress Catalog Card No: 00-061827
ISBN 0-7844-0537-9
Manufactured in the United States of America.

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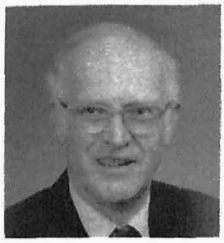
Judgment and Innovation - The Heritage and Future of the Geotechnical Engineering Profession



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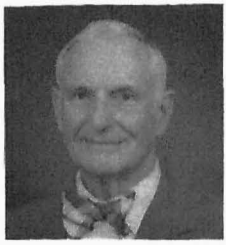

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Preface

The Embankments, Dams and Slopes Committee of the Geo-Institute met during the Geo-Logan Specialty Conference and agreed to sponsor a multisession event on the heritage and future of geotechnical engineering at the 1998 ASCE Convention in Boston. The stated objective of the event was to bring together a distinguished group of geotechnical engineers to address practicing engineers about the heritage of our profession and provide a preview of what to expect in the not-to-distant future. Our intention in organizing this event was to instill a sense of pride among the audience as to what the geotechnical profession has accomplished and create a measure of excitement about where the profession is headed. The program far exceeded our expectations.

The presentations at the three sessions that comprised the event provided historical and futurist assessments of geotechnical engineering, discussed innovative methodologies for solving important geotechnical problems, and addressed topics related to societal responsibilities and the impact of society on the environment. The success of the program led to requests for publication of a proceedings that would capture the essence of the moment. The editors trust that this book fulfills this need.

This symposium reflects a joint effort between the Embankments, Dams and Slopes Committee of the Geo-Institute of ASCE and the organizers of Geo-Congress 98. The editors would like to thank the authors for contributing twice, first with their oral presentations and subsequently with written versions of their presentations. We also wish to thank Prof. Charles C. Ladd and Dr. Thomas K. Liu, the organizing committee of Geo-Congress 98, the staff of ASCE, and particularly Charlotte McNaughton for her patience during the time we took to compile, review, and assemble this publication.

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