



The Canadian Geotechnical Society

Minutes: Meeting of CGS Heritage Committee

Toronto, 03 October, 2011

Prepared by J. Graham (Chair)

Present: Michel Aubertin, David Cruden, Jim Graham (Chair), Mahdi Taiebat, Rick Yoshida, Mustapha Zergoun

Regrets: Richard Jackson, Jørn Landva, Ken Skafffeld, Doug VanDine,

Visitors: Victor Sowa

Others interested: Robert Chapuis, David Devenny, Liam Finn, Suzanne Lacasse, Serge Leroueil, Fred Matich, Ian Moore, Lynden Penner, Abouzar Sadrekarimi, Doug Stead.

1. *Approval of Agenda.*

The agenda for the meeting on 03 October 2011 was approved.

2. *Approval of Past Minutes.*

Minutes from the meeting on 15 September 2010 were approved.

As in the previous version of the CGS website, it is intended that minutes from past meetings should be uploaded to the committee's pages of the new website. This will require discussions with the Society's VP Communications, Jean-Marie Konrad and the Administrator, Wayne Gibson.

Action: J. Graham

3. *Election of officers of the Heritage Committee*

Chair - Mustapha Zergoun - January 2012 to December 2014, three years.
Vice-Chair - TBA
Secretary - Rick Yoshida
Past-Chair - J. Graham

The incoming Chair, Mustapha Zergoun will identify additional people to serve on the committee.

Action: M. Zergoun

4. *Overview of report to CGS Board*

J. Graham overviewed the annual report prepared for the meeting of the CGS Board of Directors on 02 October 2011, see Attachment A. The Board of Directors commented favorably on the committee's activities during 2010-2011. It is hoped to also include this report in the committee's website pages.

5. *Additional activities since submission of annual report*

Because of the early required date for the committee's annual report, additional activities completed in the summer months of 2011 were not included. These can be seen in Attachment B.

6. *Completed projects*

Many of the projects proposed for 2010 have now been completed (Attachments A, B). Except for a small number of projects that became available just before the committee meeting, the

completed projects have all been sent to Wayne Gibson for uploading. Some have already been uploaded, but others have not. Uploading is expected in the near future. J. Graham will monitor progress on uploading.

Action: J. Graham

7. *Projects proposed for 2011-2012, (not listed in any preferred order).*

Members of the Committee are encouraged to complete one project each year.

a) A major achievement in the past year was scanning all past Proceedings of Canadian Geotechnical Conferences. This was done through the generous support of our colleagues in the University of Alberta and the Northern Alberta Section of the CGS. A short article announcing this valuable contribution should be prepared and submitted to Geotechnical News.

Action: J. Graham, M. Zergoun

b) Contact Serge Leroueil about obtaining a photographic collection and accompanying documents for the flow slide at St.Jean-Vianney in the 1970s.

Action: M. Aubertin, Serge Leroueil

c) Continue working on collecting short articles on geomechanics and numerical analysis in Canada. Contact Dave Chan at Univ. of Alberta for a short article on Dan Eisenstein's contribution to numerical analysis. J. Graham will support, if needed.

Action: M. Taiebat

d) Develop a short article on the work of Milos Novak at University of Western Ontario. Also speak with Liam Finn and Peter Byrne at UBC.

Action: M. Taiebat, Abouzar Sadrekarimi

e) Contact Ian Moore for article on contributions to numerical analysis by Kerry Rowe. Ian Moore has also offered to help with the piece we already have about K.Y. Lo, and if necessary to help with the Milos Novak article.

Action: Abouzar Sadrekarimi, Ian Moore

f) Bill Black, has worked on Frank Patton's early papers on hydrogeology. The Committee agreed that Frank Patton should be approached to determine where he would like the papers to be kept. Possible suggestions were UOIT for hard-copy documents, the CGS website for scanned documents, or the University of Alberta Archives. The geotechnical library at the University of Alberta is probably unsuitable because it does not have ongoing professional archival support.

Action: Richard Jackson

g) Contact VP Communications, Jean-Marie Konrad and Administrator Wayne Gibson about getting more promotion for the heritage collection on the home page of the CGS website. This should be on both the English and French pages of the website.

Action: Mustapha Zergoun

h) Develop the idea of asking prominent engineers "How did you first develop an interest in geotechnical engineering? Consider how best to present the results of the questioning.

Action: Mustapha Zergoun

i) Contact Vancouver Geotechnical Society (VGS) about adding a link from the CGS 'Members' web pages to the VGS site, which provides access to scanned copied of Proceedings of all their annual symposia.

Action: Mustapha Zergoun

j) Initiate a document on the early work of PFRA, with possible reference to PFRA archives and a list of important PFRA publications.

Action: Rick Yoshida

k) Provide recommendations on how best to provide background information on the contributions of Jack Mollard.

Action: Lynden Penner

l) Suzanne Lacasse will join the committee and provide links from the CGS website to Canadian projects that are already listed on the NGI electronic database.

Action: S. Lacasse

m) Contact John Allan about obtaining unused photographs from the work of the Canadian Geological Foundation on a book about the Kananaskas Bow River Dam. Prepare a collection of these photographs or, alternatively, obtain a link to any website prepared by the Foundation.

Action: David Cruden

n) Provide advice about promoting the heritage collection on the home page of the CGS website, in Geotechnical News, or elsewhere. (See also paragraph a)).

Action: Doug VanDine

o) Contact Fred Match about i) early work on oil sands development, and ii) archiving documents at UOIT, Oshawa.

Action: J.Graham

p) Continue to remind Wayne Gibson that previously submitted material should be uploaded to the Heritage webpages in the near future.

Action: J.Graham

q) Prepare the file for Thomas Roy's booklet on roads in Ontario for uploading. Remember to add the Legget document from the Canadian Geotechnical Journal in 1988.

Action: J. Graham

r) Forward to Wayne Gibson for uploading, the information already provided by Jørn Landva and Paul Green on archived documents on Geoff Meyerhof at Dalhousie University.

Action: J. Graham

s) Finalize Ken Skafffeld's collection of photographs and early papers about the failure and righting of the Transcona Grain Elevator. Forward to Wayne Gibson for uploading.

Action: J. Graham

t) Check with Andrew Davinindas if there was some heritage material on display at the Toronto Pan-Am conference.

Action: J. Graham

u) Check with NRC Archives if they would accept letters between Michael Bozozuk and Robert Legget and add them to the collection that they already have.

Action: Jim Graham

J.Graham, Winnipeg, 20 October 2011

CGS Heritage Committee
Report of Activities – 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2011
Prepared by J.Graham, Chair

Introduction

The Heritage Committee manages archival and heritage material on behalf of the Canadian Geotechnical Society. Because the Society has no permanent office of its own, the Board of Directors in 2004 instructed the committee to manage a collection of 'virtual' archives on the CGS website at <http://www.cgs.ca/heritage-archive.php?lang=en>. The Committee arranges for scanning and uploading of material of general interest. It also provides lists of sources of archival materials, for example in national and provincial archives, and in university libraries.

It is intended that annual reports, and minutes of the committee will be made available at <http://www.cgs.ca/committees.php?lang=en#>. These pages have not yet been populated.

Executive Committee

The 2010-2011 Heritage Committee consists of the following members:

Chair: *Jim Graham (until 31 December 2011)*
Vice-Chair: *Mustapha Zergoun (Chair-Elect)*

Committee members:

David Cruden, David Devenny, Richard Jackson, Jim Graham (Chair), Jørn Landva, Lynden Penner, Ken Skafffeld, Mahdi Taiebat, Doug VanDine, Rick Yoshida, Mustapha Zergoun.
(Sai Vanapalli and Brian Williams have withdrawn from the committee.)

Affiliations with Other Organizations

The Heritage and Archives Committee of the Engineering Institute of Canada.

Membership Information None. (The Society's Committees do not register individual members.)

Financial Status

The Heritage Committee has no financial assets. It relies mainly on volunteer activities and donated support. Occasional calls may be made on the Society's general revenues.

List of Recent Activities

- The annual meeting of the Heritage Committee was held at the CGS Conference in Calgary in September 2010. Minutes of the meeting were prepared and circulated. It is intended to make them available at <http://www.cgs.ca/committees.php?lang=en>
- Preparation of a collection of photos and accompanying description of the collapse of the Peace River Bridge in 1957 – D. Cruden. (Sent to the CGS Administration in May 2011.)
- Proceedings of early conferences – Thanks to excellent support from our colleagues at the University of Alberta, and the Geotechnical Society of Edmonton, all but one of the early proceedings of annual Canadian Geotechnical Conferences have now been recovered and scanned. The conferences date back to 1947. (We believe that the missing conference was the 6th ICSMGE in Montreal in 1965 and steps are now being taken to scan these proceedings.) Special thanks go to Sally Petaske and Ashlee Ann Courts who managed and scanned the conference volumes at the University of Alberta. The files have been sent to the CGS Administrator for uploading at the Member Section of the CGS website.

- Sai Vanapalli and Siva Sivathayalan coordinated an initiative in Ottawa on preparing a list of recommended reading for projects on Champlain Sea (Leda) clay. This is available at <http://www.cgs.ca/recommended-reading.php?lang=en>.
- Richard Jackson has been working on getting papers from Frank Patton safely archived and access information made available on the website. The papers deal with his work with D.U.Deere at the University of Illinois on slope stability and his incorporation of the concepts of groundwater flow system theory.
- Similarly, Paul Karrow has arranged for Legget/Karrow papers from the book *Handbook of Geology in Civil Engineering* to be archived at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology.
- Possibly in the next one or two years, Michel Aubertin will begin developing information on contributions from Quebec to geotechnology in Canada.
- Mustapha Zergoun is working with a retired geotechnical engineer from BC Hydro to develop information on Hydro projects. He is also initiating a set of questions to ask 'seasoned' geotechnical engineers about their early years in the profession. It is anticipated that replies will be posted online.
- David Cruden and Jørn Landva report on the origins of Thomas Roy - "The early life of Thomas Roy is described in Legget's 1988 paper. Roy's subsequent movements are still unclear but there are references to a Thomas Roy active as a surveyor in the Miramichi forests in the 1810s and in Ontario in the 1830s as a civil engineer from Scotland. It is possible that as the Maritimes timber trade declined Roy moved back to his family in Scotland. This investigation requires genealogical and archival skills..."
- On Geoff Meyerhof, Jørn Landva writes - "A total of 45 banker's boxes of documents from Dr. Meyerhof's personal and university office libraries has been donated to the Dalhousie University Library Archives by the Dept of Engineering and by Dr. Meyerhof's son (Tom Meyerhof). The documents were sorted and partially catalogued prior to donation or by the Library Archives. An effort by Paul Green and Jørn Landva to further define the contents of the individual boxes is now nearly complete. The documents include originals, reprints, drafts, technical notes, correspondence, and construction drawings and sketches. Information will be prepared for the CGS website which outlines access to the Meyerhof collection. Some of the more interesting or relevant documents could be scanned for CGS if they're of interest, subject to getting permission from Dalhousie University.
- At the time of writing, Ken Skaffeld is finalizing captions for a photographic collection from the failure and righting of the Transcona grain elevator in Winnipeg. This will be finalized and uploaded in June 2011.
- Additional obituary notices have been uploaded at <http://www.cgs.ca/lives-lived.php?lang=en> as they became available.
- Doug VanDine provided papers on the early years of engineering geology and the geotechnical profession in British Columbia and Canada.
- Mustapha Zergoun provided a personal list of "Top 10" heritage geotechnical papers from British Columbia".

Additional Information

Ongoing work by members of the Committee includes the following projects. Each member of the committee and other interested members of the CGS aim at completing one project per year. Additional or alternative projects will also be welcomed.

- a) Doug Stead – initial contact has been made with Lynden Penner regarding the contributions of J.D. Mollard to terrain analysis using remote sensing.
- b) Mahdi Taiebat – contacts have been made to develop a record of early work on numerical analysis in geotechnical engineering in Canada – Milos Novak, Dan Eisenstein, Emil Frind (Welland Ship Canal), Liam Finn, Peter Byrne, etc., perhaps with assistance from Hesham El Naggat (UWO) and David Chan (U of A).
- c) Sai Vanapalli –assisted David Cruden with acquiring the Thomas Roy booklet; finalize the reading list of publications on sensitive clays in the Ottawa region. Due to commitments at the University of Ottawa, Sai Vanapalli has resigned from the committee. We thank him for his efforts.
- d) Rick Yoshida will develop one project from the following: reading list and other papers on geotechnical engineering in Saskatchewan; work on riverbank slides and dam performance; impact of geophysics, hydrogeology and geophysics (Karl Sauer, Earl Christianson) on engineering practice; Jack Mollard - impact and papers (with Lynden Penner); PFRA papers and projects.
- e) Rejean Couture and David Cruden are considering revisions to the bilingual glossary of landslide terms.
- f) Jim Graham will complete his term as chair of the Heritage Committee in December 2011. Mustapha Zergoun has agreed to chair the committee in 2012 – 2014.

Jim Graham, Chair,
Heritage Committee, CGS, 16 May 2011

CGS Heritage Committee
Update on Report of Activities – May to September 2011
Prepared by J.Graham, Chair

1. After finally identifying that the ISSMFE Conference in Montreal in 1965 was also that year's Canadian Geotechnical Conference, all Proceedings from early Canadian Geotechnical Conferences have now been scanned by Sally Petaske and Ashlee Ann Courts at the University of Alberta and forwarded to Wayne Gibson for uploading. Our thanks go to David Cruden and David Caughill for supporting and guiding this work.
2. Michael Bozozuk has donated a number of personal letters written by R.F. Legget. It has not yet been decided if these should be scanned and added to the website, or simply sent to the Legget collection at UOIT, Oshawa.
3. Richard Jackson has worked on preparing important background papers on early hydrogeology by Frank Patton for uploading to the website.
4. David Cruden and Rejean Couture are working on preparing the early 'Landslides Glossary' for uploading to the website. This may become a project for the coming year.
5. David Cruden and Stan Thompson prepared a collection of photographs from the collapse of the Peace River Bridge in 1957. Wayne Gibson has been reminded of the need to upload these to 'Photographic Collections'.
6. Mahdi Taiebat has continued working on getting short reports on the development of computing and numerical modeling in Canada. So far, the feedback from possible authors has been disappointing.
7. David Cruden has obtained a copy of Thomas Roy's booklet on road building in Upper Canada from the 1840s. A decision needs to be reached about how it should be made accessible.
8. Paul Karrow has sent additional boxes of documents for the Legget/Karrow book *Geology in Civil Engineering* to the EIC archives in UOIT Oshawa. The CGS agreed to refund the cost of transportation.
9. Jörn Landva and Paul Green are preparing a short listing of Meyerhof documents that are currently available in the library at Dalhousie University.
10. Ken Skafffeld has collated and provided captions to the photograph collection for the righting of the Transcona Elevator. Copies of old articles written about the elevator failure have been compiled and will also be uploaded.

J.Graham

26 September 2011.