

CURRICULUM VITAE - MICHAEL B. PHIPPS

**Principal Engineering Geologist
Manager, Southern California Office**

Current Address

COTTON, SHIRES AND ASSOCIATES, INC.
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Registration

Professional Geologist in California, PG 5748
Certified Engineering Geologist in California, CEG 1832

Education

B.S. Geological Sciences: University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California, 1987
Graduate-level coursework in Hydrogeology, California State University, Northridge, 1989, 1992

Representative Experience

Mr. Phipps is a registered California Professional Geologist and Certified Engineering Geologist with over 32 years of diverse technical, project management, operations management and executive experience in the geotechnical industry in southern California. His technical expertise includes engineering geological site characterization studies, technical/peer review for municipalities, geotechnical construction observation and monitoring, litigation support and expert witness testimony, and geotechnical evaluation and remediation of landslides and other geologic hazards.

Mr. Phipps' representative technical experience includes geotechnical and coastal engineering peer review; geotechnical investigation, instrumentation, and remediation of landslides; geotechnical investigation and construction monitoring of earthfill dams; investigation of tunnel outfall alignments, pipelines, and water storage facilities; geologic mapping, assessment and grading/construction observation for mass-graded residential, commercial and industrial developments in Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino and San Diego Counties; fault surface rupture hazard investigations; geotechnical investigations for numerous types of structures involving both shallow and deep foundations; geotechnical distress evaluations and litigation-related forensic studies, including expert witness testimony; geotechnical due-diligence for property acquisition, development siting and feasibility studies; groundwater development studies; water quality evaluations; Phase I and II Environmental Site Assessments; oil well abandonment; and preparation of geotechnical sections of Environmental Impact Reports. He has successfully managed projects with budgets exceeding \$500,000.

Mr. Phipps has performed as City Geologist or Engineering Geological Reviewer for many southern California cities, primarily in Ventura and Los Angeles Counties. He is well-versed in excavation, grading, and building code practices, principles and regulations, especially as they



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relate to engineering geology, hillside and coastal development. He has assisted in the development and review of geotechnical guidelines and proposed code changes for several municipalities and has also assisted several cities with obtaining disaster-related FEMA funding.

In 1998 Mr. Phipps opened the Camarillo (Ventura County) Office of Bing Yen & Associates, Inc., a subsidiary of ATC Group Services Inc., with 3 employees and a handful of existing clients. Through implementation of strategic marketing and business development, growth of niche service sectors, and selective hiring, the operation steadily grew under his leadership to its peak level of approximately \$2 million/year in revenue in 2003, with approximately 20 employees and a full-service geotechnical laboratory. He expanded the company's municipal/public works services to approximately 75% of revenues, with the remainder coming from a variety of private sector clients and expert witness work. As Branch Manager, he was responsible for operational profit/loss, productivity, and business development, while maintaining his own chargeability with technical work at approximately 20%. At the executive level he has overseen operations at multiple branch offices, inclusive of fiscal, business development, and technical oversight responsibilities.

Professional History

Principal Engineering Geologist and Manager, Southern California Office, Cotton, Shires & Associates, Inc., Thousand Oaks, California, 2008-Present

Principal Geologist, Geolabs-Westlake Village, Westlake Village, California, 2004-2008

Principal Geologist to Vice President of Operations and Branch Manager, Bing Yen & Associates, Inc. (subsidiary of ATC Group Services Inc.), Camarillo and Irvine Offices, California, 1998-2004

Senior Project Geologist, Leighton and Associates, Inc., Westlake Village, California, 1996-1997

Senior Project Geologist and Manager of Geological Services, Bing Yen & Associates, Inc., Irvine, California, 1993-1996

Staff to Project Geologist, Slosson & Associates, Van Nuys, California, 1986-1993

Professional Affiliations

American Society of Civil Engineers

Association of Engineering and Environmental Geologists

American Public Works Association

Coast Geological Society