

CURRICULUM VITAE – MICHAEL B. PHIPPS

Principal Engineering Geologist
Principal-in-Charge, Southern California Office

Current Address

COTTON, SHIRES AND ASSOCIATES, INC.
699 Hampshire Road, Suite 102
Thousand Oaks, California 91361
Phone: (805) 370-8710, ext. 102
Email: mphipps@cottonshires.com

Registration

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

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 37 years of diverse technical, project management, operations management and executive experience in the geotechnical industry in southern California. His technical expertise includes litigation support and expert witness testimony, geotechnical evaluation and remediation of landslides and other geologic hazards, engineering geological site characterization studies, coastal hazard evaluations (wave uprush, tsunami, bluff retreat), technical/peer review for municipalities, and geotechnical construction observation, testing, and monitoring,

Mr. Phipps' has decades of experience as an expert consultant/witness in litigation matters mostly involving landslides, structure distress, moisture or groundwater intrusion, and storm-related flooding. He has testified in five trials, given expert testimony in dozens of depositions, and participated in numerous mediations. Mr. Phipps' representative technical experience includes investigation, evaluation and mitigation considerations for hundreds of small to very large landslides throughout Southern California, including the well-known Flying Triangle, Abalone Cove and Portuguese Bend Landslides on the Palos Verdes Peninsula, the Big Rock Mesa, Calle del Barco, Rambla Pacifico and Corral Canyon Landslides in Malibu, and the Castellammare Landslide in Pacific Palisades. He has also conducted dozens of investigations of mud/debris flow events and manufactured slope and embankment failures, including remedial design. Other representative experience includes design-level geotechnical investigations and construction monitoring of earthfill dams; investigation of tunnel outfall alignments, pipelines, and water retention and 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; slope instrumentation and monitoring (slope inclinometers, piezometers); design geotechnical investigations for numerous municipal, commercial and institutional structures involving both shallow and deep foundations; structure distress evaluations and litigation-related forensic studies; 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.

Mr. Phipps has performed as City Geologist, Engineering Geological Reviewer, and consultant for many southern California cities, including the cities of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Camarillo, Hidden Hills, Malibu, Moorpark, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills Estates, Santa Monica, Simi Valley, and Thousand Oaks, and the counties of Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo. He also performs technical review of geotechnical and coastal engineering reports submitted for beachfront and coastal bluff properties in the City of Malibu, and fault rupture hazard investigations submitted in the cities of Santa Monica and Malibu. He is well-versed in excavation, grading, and building code practices, principles, and regulations, especially as they relate to engineering geology and hillside and coastal development. He has participated in the development and review of geotechnical guidelines and proposed code changes for several municipalities and has also assisted several cities with obtaining millions of dollars of disaster-related FEMA funding.

Professional History

Principal Engineering Geologist and Principal-in-Charge, 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

Past and/or Present Professional Affiliations

American Society of Civil Engineers

Association of Engineering and Environmental Geologists

American Public Works Association

California Geotechnical Engineers Association (company membership)

Coast Geological Society

Selected Publications

INVERSE CONDEMNATION: HOW TO WIN; HOW TO KEEP THE DAMAGES DOWN, co-presented with G. Fisher, C. Schweikhard, and L. Sommer, Public Agency Risk Managers Association Annual Meeting, Monterey, California, 2001, and six other venues.

GUIDELINES FOR PREPARING ENGINEERING GEOLOGY REPORTS, REVISED 1992, assistant to J.E. Slosson, co-assisted by T.F. Blake, J.A. Johnson, J.R. Keaton, R.A. Larson, C.M. Scullin, & T.L. Slosson in County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Manual for Preparation of Geotechnical Reports, Appendix pp. A28-A39, Revised August 2005.

THE CITY OF AGOURA HILLS REVIEW PROCESS: A CASE HISTORY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GUIDELINES TO EXPEDITE THE PREPARATION AND REVIEW PROCESS OF ENGINEERING GEOLOGY REPORTS, co-authored with T.L. Slosson in Proceedings of the Association of Engineering Geologists 35th Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, California, 1992.

AN EXAMPLE OF SEQUENTIAL LAND USE NECESSITATING MITIGATION: WELL ABANDONMENT IN THE KRAEMER OIL FIELD, YORBA LINDA, CALIFORNIA, co-authored with J. E. Slosson and E.C. Sprotte, in Proceedings of the Association of Engineering Geologists 34th Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, 1991.

USE OF MULTIPLE WORKING HYPOTHESES AND MULTIPLE GEOLOGIC/GEOPHYSICAL TECHNOLOGIES TO ANALYZE A COMPLEX LANDSLIDE, co-authored with D.D. Crowther, T.L. Slosson and J.E. Slosson in Proceedings of the 27th Symposium on Engineering Geology and Geotechnical Engineering, Logan, Utah, 1991.

APPLICATION OF OIL WELL TECHNOLOGY AND CONTINUOUS CORING TO LANDSLIDE INVESTIGATION, co-authored with A.B. Esmilla and J.E. Slosson in Geology of the Palos Verdes Peninsula and San Pedro Bay, Volume and Guidebook, Pacific Section AAPG and SEPM, 1987.