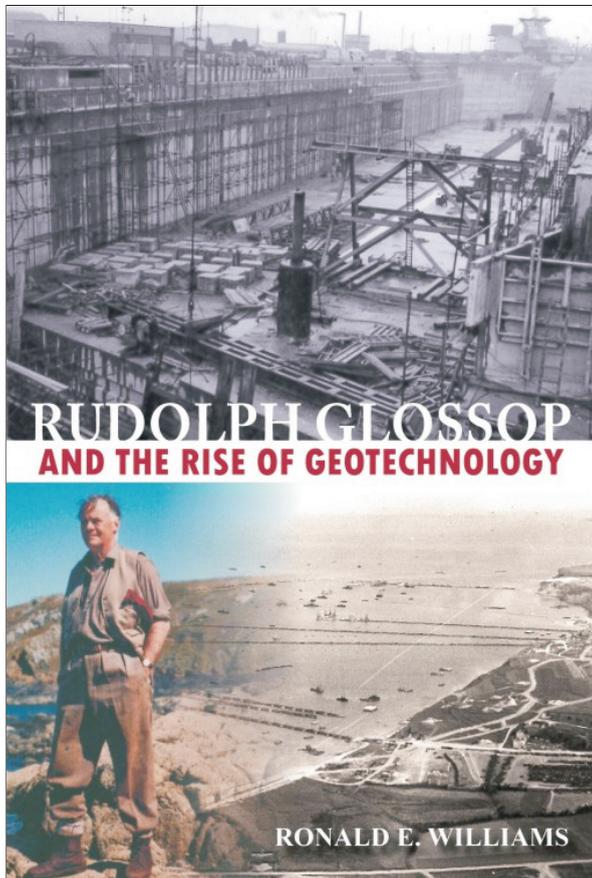


# PRESS RELEASE

## A vivid portrait of Rudolph Glossop

### **RUDOLPH GLOSSOP** and the Rise of Geotechnology



**Ronald E. Williams**

- **A personal account of the role played by Rudolph Glossop, one of the founders of geotechnical engineering in the UK**
- **Based upon previously unpublished personal journals, diaries and letters including correspondence with Bjerrum, Skempton and Terzaghi**

Rudolph Glossop made a unique contribution to the early development of both geotechnical engineering and engineering geology and this volume presents a fascinating and revealing perspective on his involvement by means of selected extracts from personal diaries, letters and journals. From his early experience as an undergraduate and the four years spent in the Gold Coast to the establishment of Soil Mechanics Ltd and his time as director of Mowlems, Glossop became one of the key figures and was involved in many of the key stages in the development of geotechnology.

His journal provides a fuller understanding of the Mulberry Harbour, which was a key factor in the success of the D-Day landings in northern France, June 1944; while his diaries give a unique account of the significant challenges that had to be overcome during construction of Derwent Dam, N.E. England.

The famous Skempton, in his obituary of Glossop, refers to "works of original scholarship, written with the clarity and style of which Glossop was a master ... by his own example and by the example of others, he never lost sight of the importance of bringing together the practical and academic aspects of both geology and soil mechanics."

Ron Williams has painstakingly pieced together a fascinating account of the life and career of an outstanding engineer, and in the process has painted a vivid portrait of Rudolph Glossop and his achievements. Not before time will today's engineers and scientists have the opportunity to appreciate the achievements of one of the key figures in geotechnical engineering.

**Contents:** Selected Journals (Royal School of Mines, Introduction to civil engineering, The Gold Coast, The Second World War); Later Journals (Louis Leakey: A portrait, The Norwegian Geotechnical Institute 1955, Highways in Persia 1955–58, North America 1958); Selected Diaries and Letters; Selected Writings (The development of geotechnology, Geotechnology and *Geotechnique*, Engineering geology and Soil Mechanics, *The Quarterly Journal of Engineering Geology*, The Influence of Karl Terzaghi (The John Mowlem – Siemens Schuckert Partnership, *From Theory to Practice in Soil Mechanics*. book review, Karl Terzaghi: A personal tribute, The place of site investigation in foundation engineering, The influence of Terzaghi on civil engineering practice in England); Technical Papers: The Early Years (The construction of pavements on a clay foundation soil, Particle-size in silts and sands, Soil drainage with particular reference to road engineering, Soil stability problems in road engineering); Bibliography; references

**Readership:** this absorbing book will be of paramount interest to professionals in engineering geology, geotechnical engineering and all those interested in their history.

ISBN 978-184995-021-3 234 × 156mm 304pp c.60 b/w photos and diagrams hardback £50 early December, 2010

from **Whittles Publishing**, Dunbeath, Caithness, Scotland, UK. KW6 6EG  
T: +44(0)1593-731 333; F: +44(0)1593-731 400; e: [info@whittlespublishing.com](mailto:info@whittlespublishing.com)  
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