



Foundations on Expansive Soils, Second Edition (Developments in Geotechnical Engineering)

By *F.H. Chen*

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Since the first edition of Foundations on Expansive Soils appeared in 1975, considerable advancements have been made in this field. While most of the research has been concentrated in the area of heave prediction, identification of swelling soil and soil suction, studies on unsaturated soil, finite element analysis and stress modeling have also commanded a great deal of attention. More and more nations are becoming aware of the damage caused by expansive soils and it could be said that more than half the world is affected by swelling soils. As a consulting geotechnical engineer, the author has seen little advancement in the practical application of theoretical approaches towards solving engineering problems. Both geotechnical engineers and structural engineers adhere to the initial concept that by isolating water, the problem can be resolved. Unfortunately, more and more structural failure has been reported.

This book provides the practicing engineer with a summary of the state-of-the art knowledge of expansive soils and practical solutions based upon the author's experience. Part I discusses theory and practice, and summarizes some of the theoretical physical properties of expansive soils. It also discusses various techniques employed to found structures on expansive soils such as drilled pier foundation, mat foundation, moisture control, soil replacement, and chemical stabilization. Part II presents six detailed case studies. A considerable amount of new material has been incorporated into each chapter of this revised edition, particularly on highway pavement and soil suction.

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