

Cite this article

(2019)

Award-winning paper in 2017.

Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers – Geotechnical Engineering **172(1)**: 109, <https://doi.org/10.1680/jgeen.2019.172.1.109>

Announcement

ICE Publishing: All rights reserved

Award-winning paper in 2017

Papers published in *Geotechnical Engineering* are eligible for awards from the Institution of Civil Engineers. Papers from any of the ICE journals can be nominated for several awards. In addition, each journal has awards dedicated to their specific subject area.

On Monday 8 October 2018, ICE president Robert Mair presented an award to the following paper published in *Geotechnical Engineering* in 2016. The Editorial Panel nominated their best papers and an awards committee chaired by Nigel Wright allocated the awards.

Crampton Prize

The Crampton Prize, presented for the best paper on practical geotechnical engineering, was awarded to Pugh (2017).

Abstract

Investigations of serviceability failures of building floor slabs supported by stone columns in very soft clays prompted a review of the methods for predicting the settlement reduction achieved by the columns. Data from both successful case histories and serviceability failures indicate that, in practice, settlement reduction for widespread loading of very soft clays may be both quite limited and overestimated by current design methods. Analysis of long-term settlement observations from two serviceability failures suggests that the reduction in secondary settlement achieved by the stone columns was also quite limited. Based on these findings it is considered that the range of loadings and thicknesses of very soft clay for which stone columns would be viable for widespread building loads is likewise limited. A review of the serviceability failures led to the conclusion that inadequacies in the procurement of the design and construction of the stone columns contributed to the failures.

REFERENCE

Pugh RS (2017) Settlement of floor slabs on stone columns in very soft clays. *Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers – Geotechnical Engineering* **170(1)**: 16–26, <https://doi.org/10.1680/jgeen.15.00150>.



Crampton Prize winner Richard S. Pugh with ICE president Robert Mair