

**REMEMBERING
MIKE SCULLIN (1932-1995)
ONE OF THE FOUNDING
FATHERS OF GRADING &
EXCAVATION ORDINANCES**

J. David Rogers, Ph.D., P.E., P.G., C.E.G., C.HG.

University of Missouri-Rolla

and

Patrick L. Drumm, P.G., C.E.G., C.HG.

Earth Focus Geological Services, Inc.

for

**Symposium #6 Pioneer Geologists in Southern California
2007 Annual Meeting**

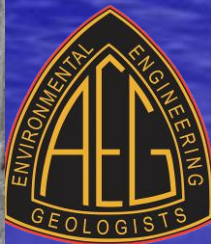
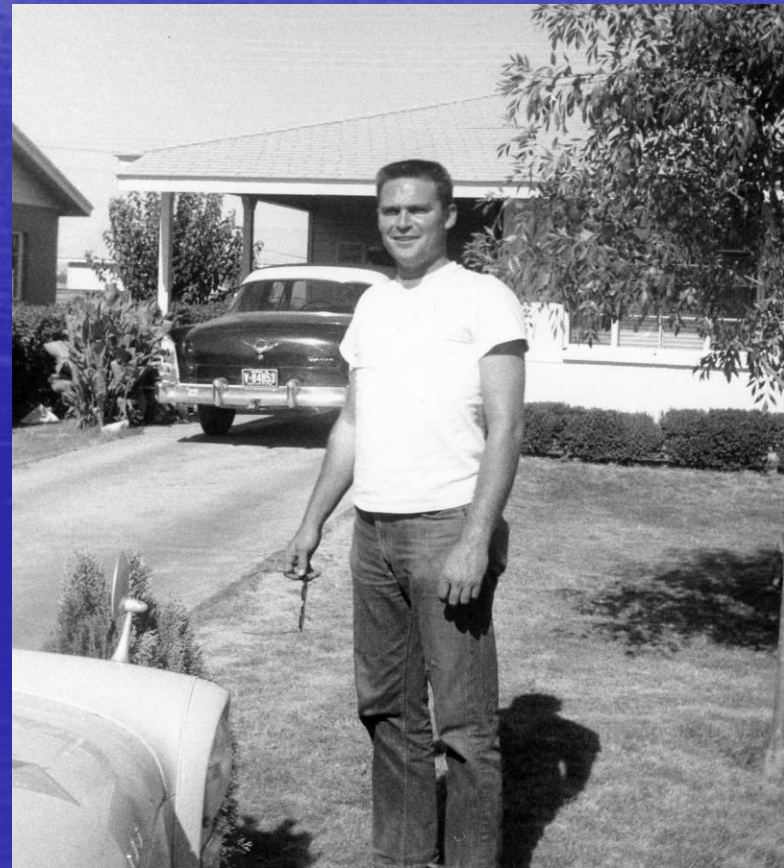
**Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists
Los Angeles, California
September 27, 2007**

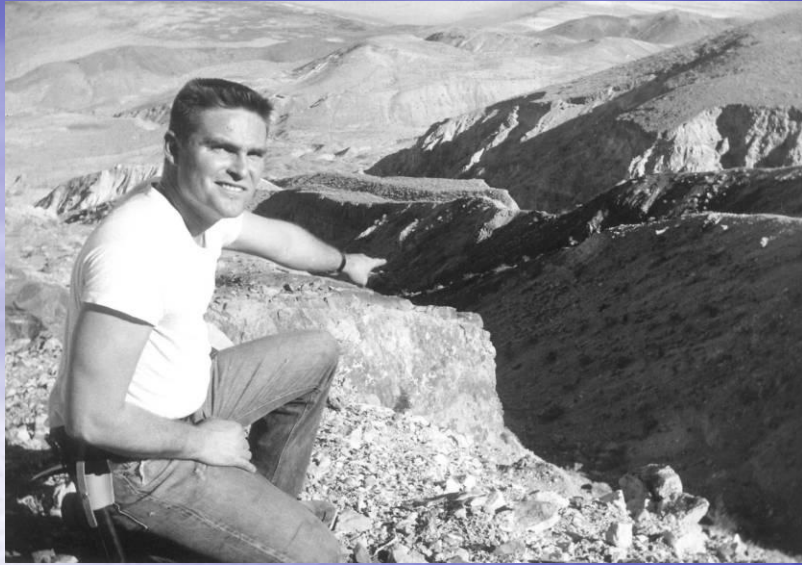


Mike Scullin's Early Years

Mike was born in Danville, Illinois in 1932, where he father was the Director of Public Works. His father died of a heart attack in 1937.

Mike graduated from high school in 1950, and after attending Southern Illinois, enlisted as a Navy Seebee in 1953.

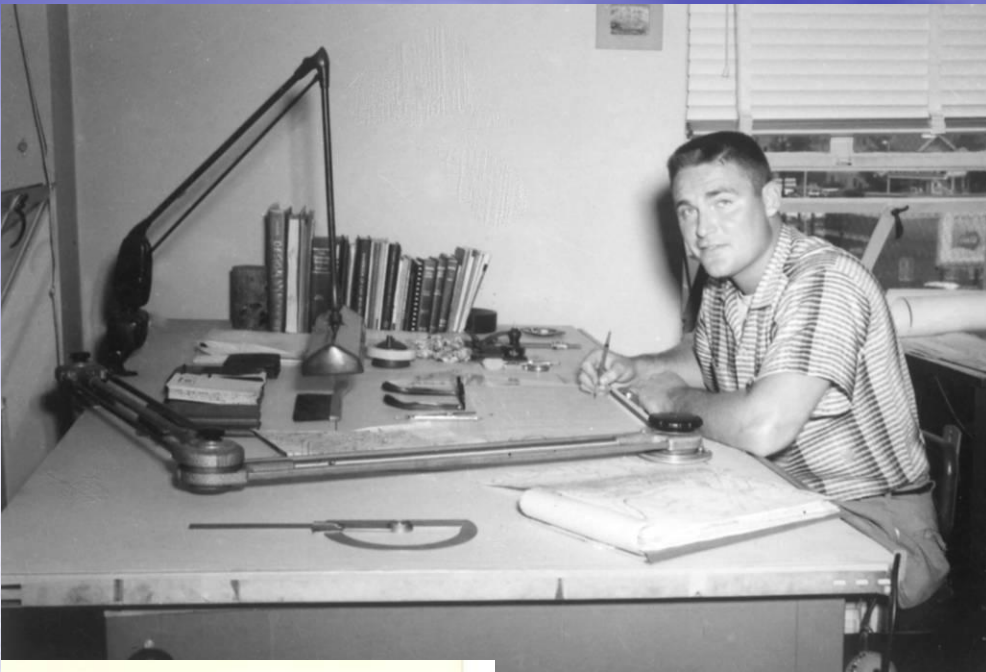




After leaving the Navy in 1956, Mike enrolled in civil engineering at Arizona State in Tempe, under the GI Bill. At end of his junior year he decided to change his major to geology. He did his summer field camp in the Teton Range during the summer of 1958, after completing all his coursework.



City of Glendale



Jim Slosson

- Mike landed a job as the City of Glendale's first grading inspector in 1959
- One Saturday he met a fellow geologist named Slosson, who was fighting with a pair of cat skimmers....



1961

City of Los Angeles
OFFICIAL
GRADING REGULATIONS

Excerpts From The Official
City Building Code and
Grading Bulletins Adopted
By The Board of Building
And Safety Commissioners



Published By:

BUILDING NEWS, INC.

9581 West Pico Blvd., Los Angeles 35, Calif.

CRestview 4-7593

BRadshaw 2-1340

Price \$1.20, plus 5c sales tax total \$1.25

Getting Involved

Jim Slosson encouraged Mike to become involved with the development of grading and excavation codes. Mike joined AEG's Building Codes Committee in 1961, which developed the modern grading code after the storm season of 1961-62. In 1958 the City of Los Angeles began certifying Engineering Geologists, followed soon thereafter by the Counties of Los Angeles (1960), Orange (1962), and Ventura (1963).

County of Orange

Department of Building and Safety

Engineering Geologist

This is to Certify That

C. MICHAEL SCULLIN

has met all the requirements as set forth by the Engineering Geologist Qualification Board and is hereby recognized by the Department of Building and Safety of the County of Orange, as an approved Engineering Geologist.



Department of Building and Safety

Frank Lightner
Chairman

W. K. Kowalec
Secretary

20

Certification Number

August 4, 1964

Date of Original Issue

City of Los Angeles

Board of Building and Safety Commissioners

Engineering Geologist

This is to Certify That

C. MICHAEL SCULLIN

HAS MET ALL THE REQUIREMENTS AS SET FORTH BY THE ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST QUALIFICATION BOARD, AND IS HEREBY RECOGNIZED BY THE BOARD OF BUILDING AND SAFETY COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES, AS AN APPROVED ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST.

BOARD OF BUILDING AND SAFETY COMMISSIONERS

A. J. Lund
A. J. LUND, Secretary

January 10, 1963

Date of Original Issue



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

Application Form for Member or Associate Member

Name C. MICHAEL SCULLIN Date JULY 7, 1963
 Address 4106 DUNSMORE AVE App. for Member: Associate Mem. LA CRESCENTA CALIF.
 Prof. Societies and Licences G.S.A., A.S.C.E., A.E.G., SIGMA GAMMA EPSILON, ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST LICENCE - CITY OF L.A.
 Date of Birth MAR. 5, 1932

EDUCATION

Date From To	College or University (Name and Address)	Major Subject	Semester Hours Credit, Geology	Degree and Date
SEPT 1950 - JUNE 1952	SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIV. CARBONDALE, ILLINOIS	INDUSTRIAL MANAGEMENT & ARCHITECTURE	65 2/3 NONE	NONE
SEPT 1952 - JAN 1963	TEXAS WESTERN UNIV. EL PASO, TEXAS	"	10 NONE	NONE
JAN 1956 - AUG 1958	ARIZONA STATE UNIV. TEMPE, ARIZONA	GEOLOGY	119 45	B.S. DEGREE JULY 1958
FEB 59 - JUNE 60	U.C. L.A. EXTENSION - L.A.	MATH	9 NONE	NONE
SEPT. 60 - PRESENT	UNIV. SO. CALIF. - L.A.	ENGR. GEOL.	11 11	WORKING TOWARD M.S. IN ENGR. GEOL.

EXPERIENCE

(Begin with most recent and describe duties in detail)

From Mo. Yr.	To Mo. Yr.	Job title and description of duties performed	Employer (name and type of business) Name supervisor and indicate if eng. geol., civil eng., or other
JAN 1963	PRESENT	ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST IN CHARGE OF ALL EXCAVATION GRADING; DRAINAGE & EROSION CONTROL, & GEOL. HAZARDS IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA OF ORANGE COUNTY; REGIONAL GEOLOGIC & SOILS REPORTS, ETC.	GRADING SECTION DEPT. OF BLDG. & SAFETY COUNTY OF ORANGE 400 W. 8th STREET SANTA ANA, CALIF. FLOYD G. McLELLAN - SR. CIVIL ENGR.
MAR. 1959	JAN 1963	ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST IN CHARGE OF ALL HILLSIDE DEVELOPMENTS IN CITY OF GLENDALE - EXCAVATION, GRADING, DRAINAGE & EROSION CONTROL, & GEOL. HAZARDS	GRADING SECTION OFFICE OF CITY ENGINEER CITY OF GLENDALE 120 N. HOWARD ST. GLENDALE 6, CALIF. A. E. DUNFORD - CIVIL ENGR.
AUG. 1958	FEB 1959	ASSISTANT GEOLOGIST ELECTRIC & GAMMA RAY LOGGING OF WATERWELLS & ENGR. BORINGS; GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT, SLOPE STABILITY & STRATIGRAPHIC PROBLEMS.	ASSOCIATED STRATIGRAPHIC SERVICES 11950 SAN VICENTE BLVD. L.A. 49, CALIF. JOHN FOSTER - GEOLOGIST

CAEG

- Mike joined CAEG in 1959.
- This shows Mike's application to upgrade to full member status in the California Association of Engineering Geologists in July 1963, after he had joined Orange County





NEWSLETTER

ASSOCIATION OF ENGINEERING GEOLOGISTS

VOLUME 6 - No. 1

JANUARY 1963

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

At the January 12th Board meeting all members of your Board of Directors were present. Five committee chairmen attended, and written reports were on hand from the other three committee men. Your representatives in A. E. G. are on the job; if they do not reflect your views, it is possible they have not heard from you.

The Board authorized the expenditure of funds for the legal fees to change our name to A. E. G. on the incorporation papers. Funds were also authorized for our membership in the International Conference of Building Officials. Results of the ballot on adoption of the Code of Ethics were 15 to 1 in favor of adoption.

Ed Zielbauer discussed means of board representation of possible new sections, where geographic location makes the cost of attendance at board meetings prohibitive. Further study will be given this matter, and suggestions from those most affected would be welcomed by Ed.

Bill Gardner reports that presentation of our registration bill to the State Legislature is going ahead as planned. However, we will need to do some missionary work in educating other groups to the need for this legislation. Local committee chairmen are prepared to discuss this with the members at your next section meeting.

Inquiry has been made to A. G. I. as to their requirements for affiliation. Their legal counsel is currently studying our constitution and brochure to determine whether we would qualify for membership under their tax exempt status.

The Board approved the applications of 15 new members, 5 associate members, and one affiliate member; these new members include 7 from Missouri, 2 from Kansas, and one each from Illinois, Texas, Oregon, Washington and Pakistan.

Decisions of the past year are being put into action, our membership is expanding and A. E. G. is moving ahead. Express your opinions on the current issues at your meetings so that those representing you will be informed. We need your active participation in A. E. G. -- but we also need your financial support. So send in your 1963 dues and your registration assessment and save the Treasurer the mailing of second notices.

Burt Marliave

AEG Newsletter

- This is the January 1963 AEG Newsletter informing the membership that the board had voted to drop the word "California" from their name and their support of a geology registration bill in the State Legislature



Orange County Geologist

- Mike joined the Orange County's Department of Building and Safety as their first geologist after adoption of their new grading ordinance in January 1963.



COUNTY OF ORANGE

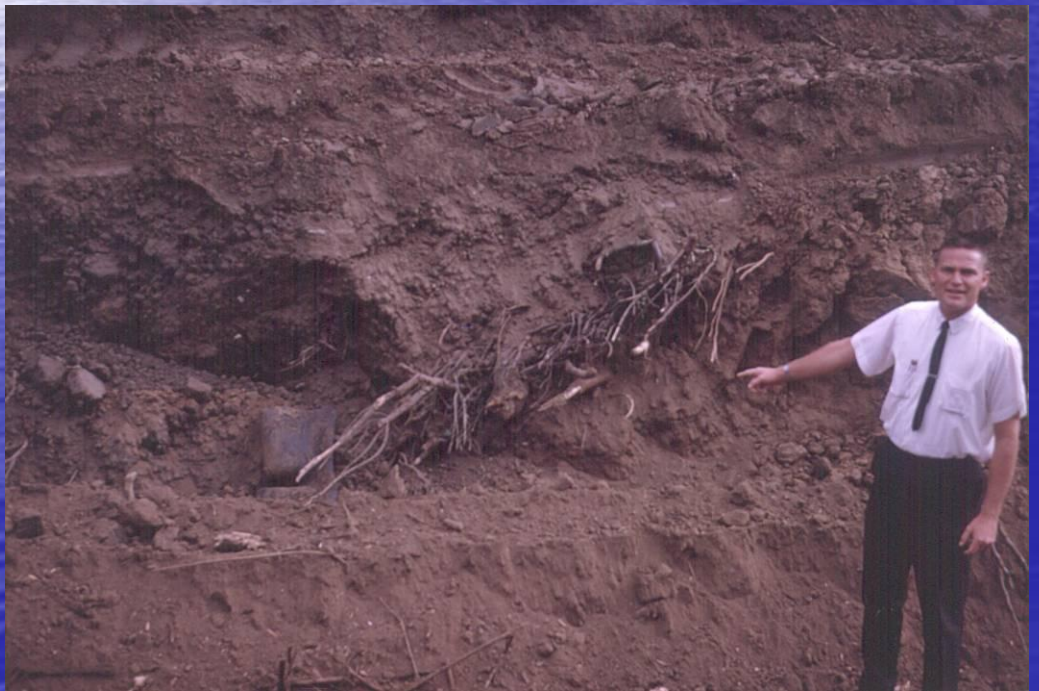


C. MICHAEL SCULLIN
ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST

DEPARTMENT OF
BUILDING AND SAFETY
HOURS: 8 A.M. TO 9:30 A.M.
4:30 P.M. TO 5 P.M.

PHONE 547-0547
400 W. 8TH ST.
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA





The Enforcer

- Mike's experience as a center on the Southern Illinois football team never hurt him when it came to coercing contractors!
- They had never been subject to regulations previously



URBAN HILLSIDE DEVELOPMENT UNDER GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY CONTROL

(Submitted to the Soils Mechanics Group of the American Society of Civil Engineers, May 15, 1963 - Suite 3333 - Biltmore Hotel, 5th and Olive Streets, Los Angeles, California and The Daniel W. Mead award presented to the Los Angeles Section, ASCE, April 6, 1964.)

INTRODUCTION

Soils engineering and geological considerations relative to the establishment and maintenance of building sites and the locations of geologically hazardous areas in the foothills and mountains are of the utmost importance. Until recently, most of the land used for residences has been relatively free of damage from existing or potential soils engineering and geological hazards; however, the increasing demand for building sites has accelerated and will continue to accelerate the development of the available foothill and mountain slopes for residential living. On much of this terrain, geological hazards are inherent and their effects have to be neutralized or eliminated if extensive damage to public and private property is to be avoided. Therefore, it is essential, in the interest of public safety and welfare, that the governmental agency secures and utilizes the information and data provided by soils engineers and geologists regarding those natural factors necessary to insure sound development, and incorporate requirements for soils engineering and geological investigations and control into its procedures, policies and laws.

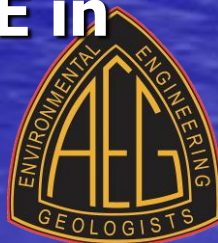
This paper has been compiled to review current regulations pertaining to hillside development and the responsibilities and qualifications of the professional people who control this development.

CURRENT REGULATIONS

The Orange County ordinance is the result of six months of bi-weekly meetings conducted from January through June of 1962 by 27 Soils

ASCE Daniel W. Mead Award

- Mike's first professional paper was "**Urban Hillside Development Under Government Agency Control**" for meeting of the Spoil Mechanics Group of the Los Angeles Section of ASCE in April 1964.





UBC Appendix Chapter 70

- During the early 1960s Mike worked hard in the cooperative effort to get **Appendix Chapter 70-Excavation and Grading** added to the Uniform Building Code
- It was officially adopted in 1964



Annual ASCE Orange County Branch Beer Bust



- A couple of candid shots from the 1966 and 1967 ASCE Beer Busts in Santa Ana
- Note mud on Mike's shoes





The late 60s

- As the 60s drew to a close, grading codes became increasingly strict, with the 1967 UBC employing 2:1 cut and fill slopes.
- As a consequence, morals relaxed, skirts lifted, and haircuts became less frequent



County of Orange



GRADING AND EXCAVATION CODE

Title 7, Division 1, Article 8
of the Codified Ordinances

County of Orange



GRADING MANUAL

Board of Supervisors Resolution No.81-1358

217

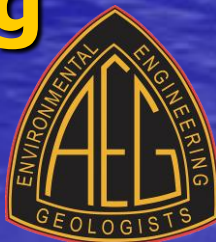
SLOPE STABILITY



C. Michael Scullin

REPORT

During Mike's tenure as Orange County Geologist they developed the most comprehensive excavation and grading code in the nation.



The
American Institute of Professional Geologists

*Has Examined the Academic Training,
Geological Experience, and Ethical Conduct of*

Charles Michael Scullin

And Has Judged Him To Be Qualified As A

Certified Professional Geologist

And Has Granted Him

Certificate Number

1510

TO USE AS EVIDENCE THEREOF AND OF HIS PLEDGE TO UPHOLD THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS AND TO PRACTICE THE CODE OF ETHICS OF THE INSTITUTE AND WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT THIS CERTIFICATE MAY BE REVOKED AS PROVIDED IN THE SEVERAL SECTIONS OF ARTICLE II OF THE BY-LAWS OF THE INSTITUTE.

ATTESTED AND DATED

This 30th Day of MARCH A.D. 1967

Edward E. Sue
SECRETARY OF THE INSTITUTE



Reuben S. ...
PRESIDENT OF THE INSTITUTE



- During his last few years with Orange County Mike developed an enviable reputation as a grading department supervisor and his published articles were without peer.
- In 1967 he became a CPG through AIPG and began smoking a pipe, shown at right.

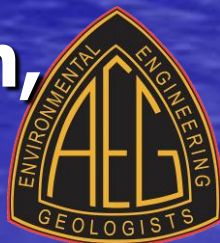




Geolabs manager 1968-71

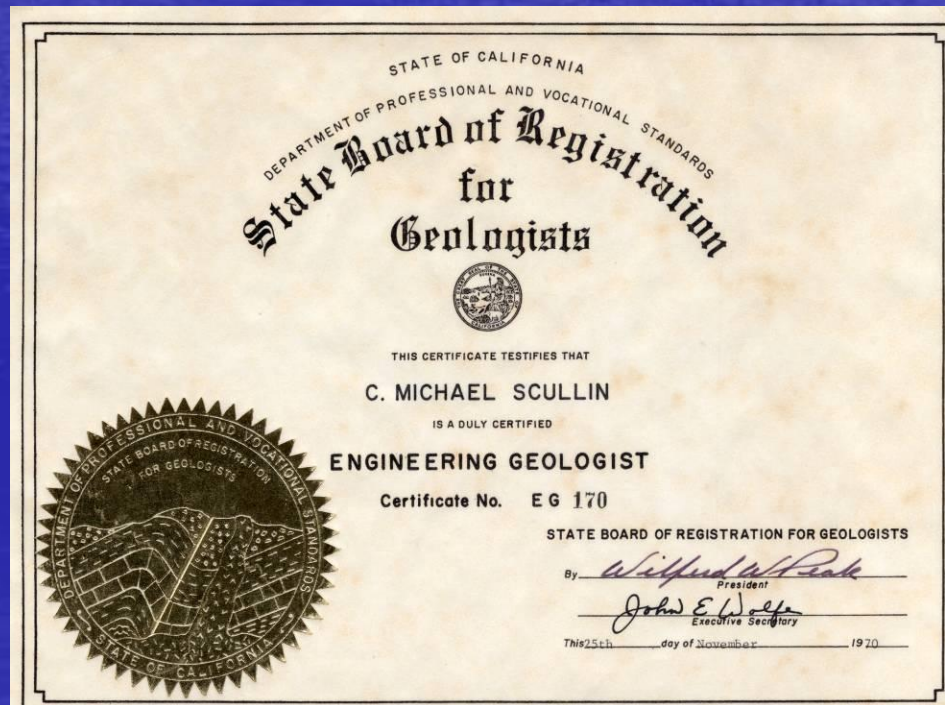
At the Lincoln Memorial in September 1970. No more crew cuts.

- Mike started getting offers to work in the private sector. In August 1968, he joined Geolabs and became their Orange County office manager.
- In Sept. 1970 they sent him to Washington, DC to open a new office.



Geology Registration at last !

- The California Board of Registration for Geologists and Geophysicists was finally established by statute in 1969, after 7 years of lobbying.
- Mike became RG 283 when the first certificates were issued in Sept 1970





- In February 1971 Mike returned to southern California and found a job with his old mentor, Jim Slosson.
- Having gone through a painful divorce he shared an apartment with another bachelor and the two started dating different ladies.



Leighton & Associates

Mike shifted to Leighton & Associates in Orange County between Nov 1972 and Oct 1974 to be closer to his three sons, who were living in Orange County.



Bucket auger rig

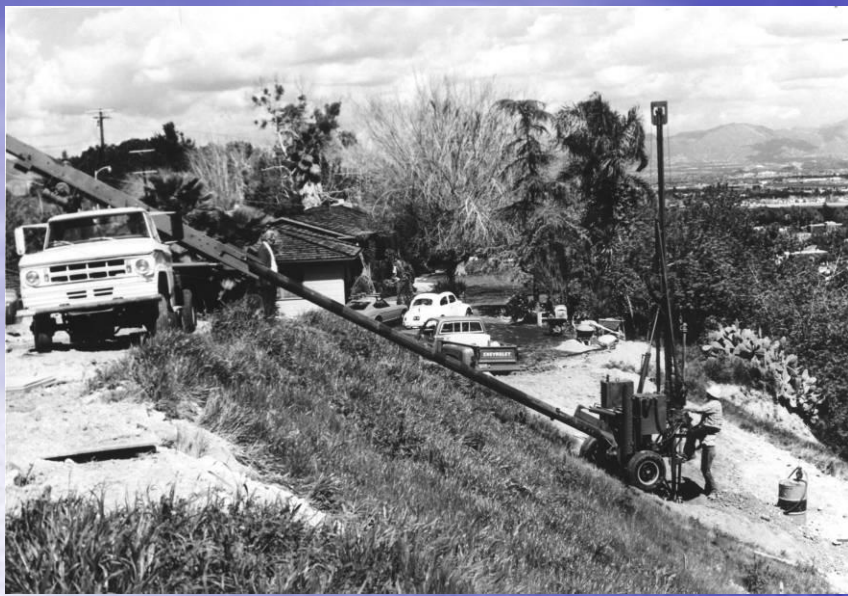


Mike's 1970 Chevy Nova



Mike's Easy Rider poster





C. Michael Scullin

Consulting Engineering Geologist

From October 1974 to May 1983 Mike was self-employed, working out of his homes in Canoga Park and, later, Thousand Oaks.

One of the soils engineers he worked with frequently was David Hsu, shown at lower left.



Engineering Geologist

URBAN GEOLOGY, SEISMICITY, GRADING CONSULTANT

C. MICHAEL SCULLIN

6422 TONY AVENUE
CANOGA PARK, CALIFORNIA 91307 213 883-5269

ENGINEERING
GEOLOGIST



Between 1974-83 Mike worked on some challenging projects, besides meeting and marrying Sandi Strebe, who worked for Geosoils in Van Nuys. They blended their respective families and raised five children together.



Fulfillment of a dream

- One of Mike's dreams was to complete his master's degree and write the quintessential text on grading and excavation codes

EXCAVATION AND GRADING CODE
ADMINISTRATION, INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT
AT THE COUNTY LEVEL

A PROJECT/THESIS PRESENTED TO THE
FACULTY OF WHITEHEAD COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF REDLANDS

IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF ARTS
IN MANAGEMENT

BY

C. MICHAEL SCULLIN

JULY 26, 1977

Engineering Geologist

URBAN GEOLOGY, SEISMICITY, GRADING CODE CONSULTANT

C. MICHAEL SCULLIN

3094 ROUNDUP CIRCLE
THOUSAND OAKS, CA. 91360

(805) 492-8127
492-8027



**EXCAVATION
AND
GRADING
CODE
ADMINISTRATION,
INSPECTION,
AND
ENFORCEMENT**

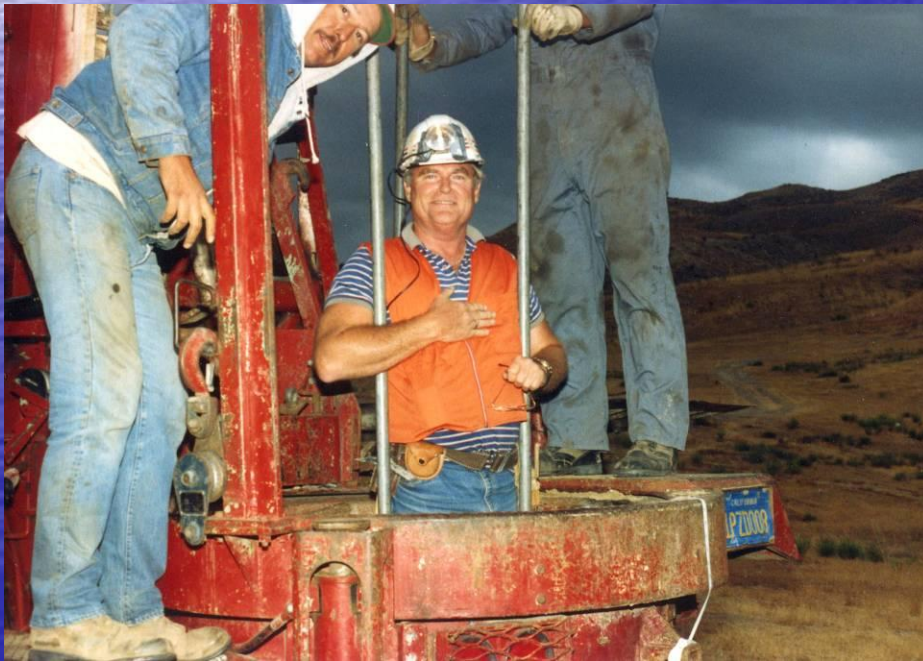
C. Michael Scullin

The Bible of Grading(1983)

- **Prentice-Hall published Mike's book titled Excavation and Grading Code Administration, Inspection, and Enforcement in 1983. It was reprinted by ICBO in 1991 and 1994**

Robert Stone & Associates 1983-90

Mike was Vice President
and Chief Engineering
Geologist of Robert Stone
& Associates in Van Nuys
between May 1983 and
February 1990.



Robert Stone & Associates, Inc.



*Engineering Geology • Soil Engineering
Material Testing*

Michael Scullin, C.E.G. 170
Vice President & Chief Geologist

15414 Cabrito Rd., Unit A
Van Nuys, CA 91406-1439

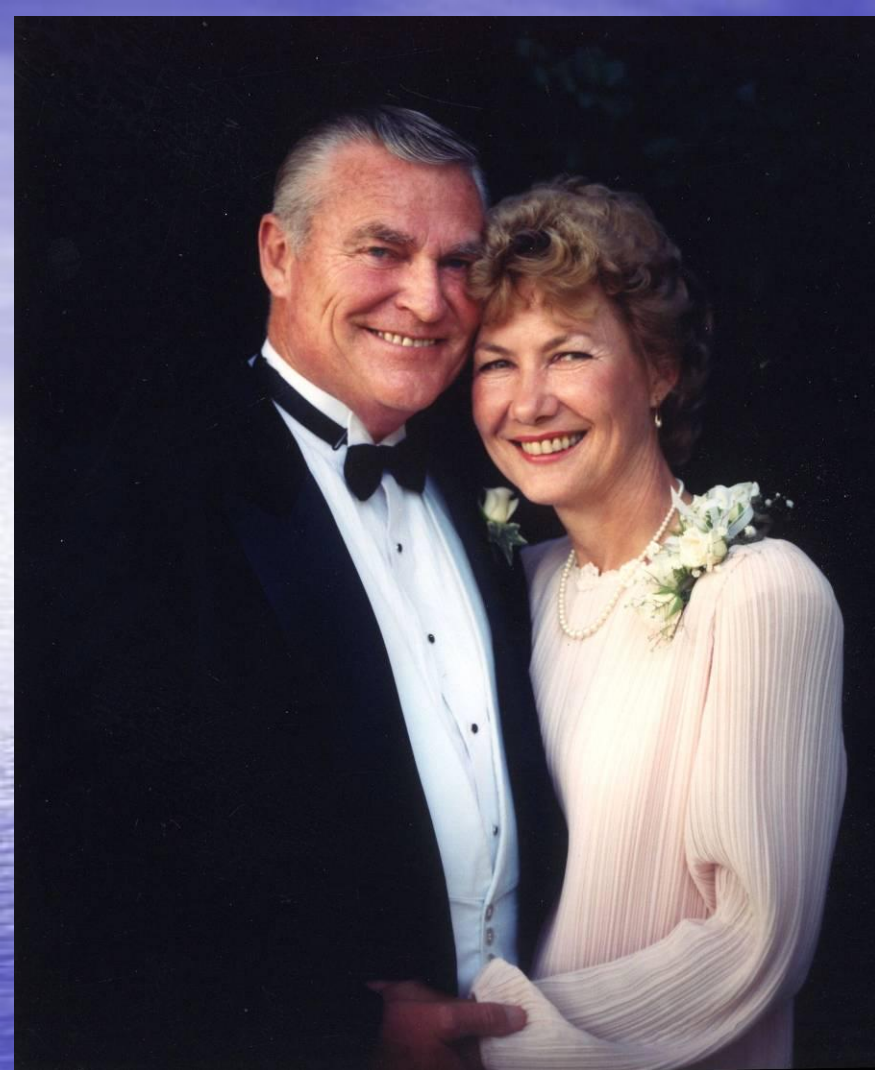
(818) 989-5338
800-222-5913



**Mike directing
trenching of the
Malibu Coast
Fault (at left) and
on a Dibblee
Foundation field
trip (below)**



Mike called them his "Bonus years"



- Mike and Sandi at his son Greg's wedding (above) and at Tai-kwon-do practice; after massive heart attack in 1987

Rogers/Pacific Years 1990-95



Mike spent his last five years at Rogers/Pacific; teaching grading courses with Dave Rogers for ICBO, ABAG, and the City of Los Angeles.

Michael Scullin, RG, CEG, CPG
Chief Engineering Geologist



ROGERS/PACIFIC
Geological and Geotechnical Engineering

396 Civic Drive Pleasant Hill, CA 94523 (510) 682-7601
15643 Sherman Way #410 Van Nuys, CA 91406 (818) 781-2695

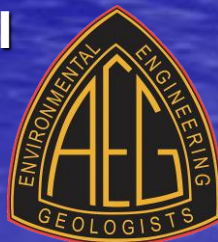


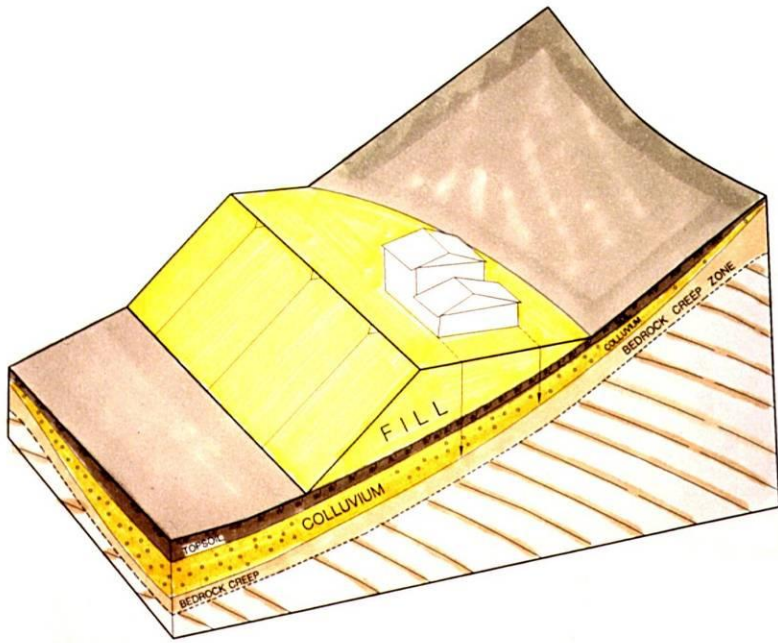
Mike had an impressive array of images showing grading operations

Slope treatment details



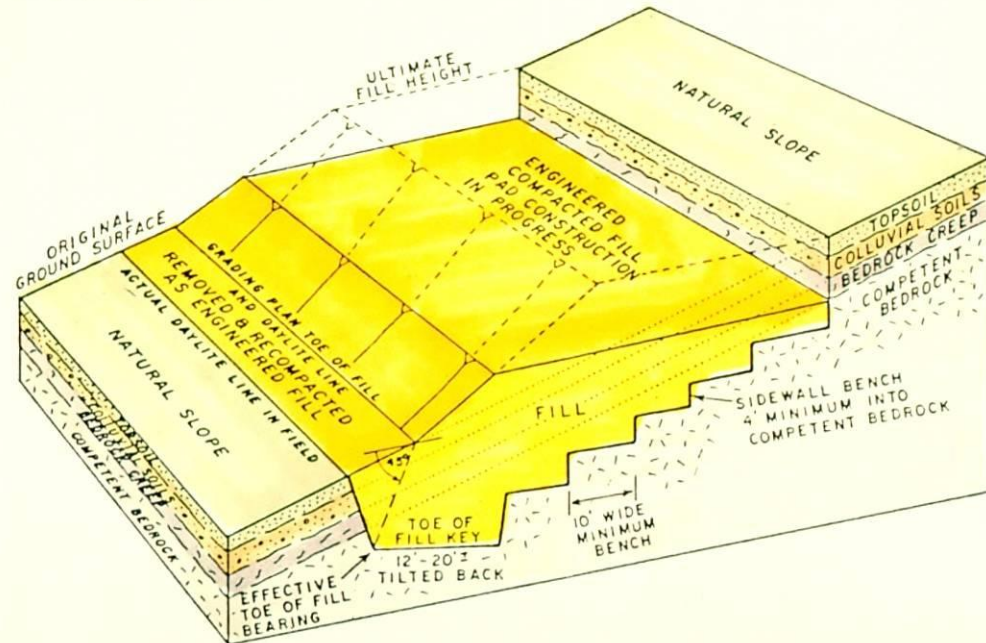
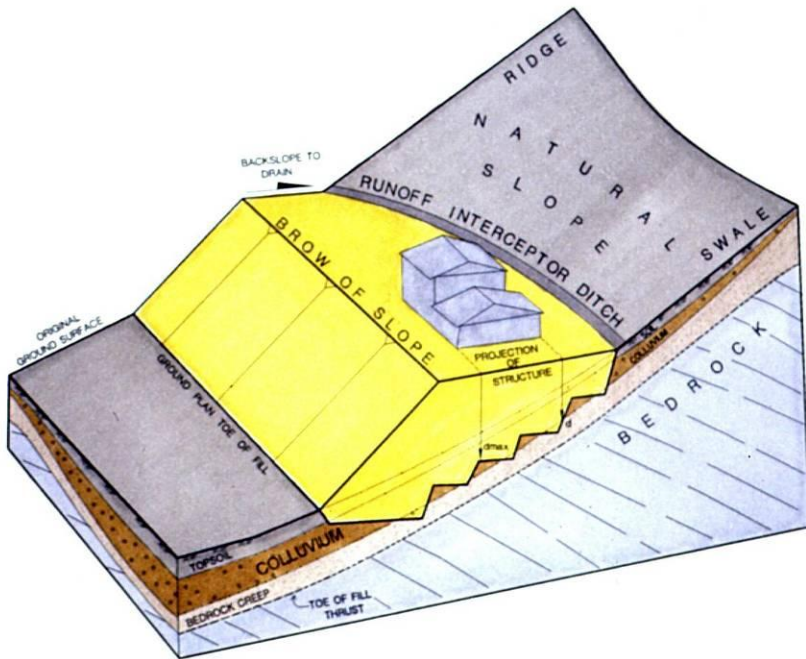
Scrappers double dumping fill – a real Bozo No-No





He also had some great drawings that he used in his Grading Short Course

A typical toe-of-fill key for the construction of a sidehill fill in siltstone or shale terrain. The toe-of-fill key frequently requires keying and benching through several feet of topsoil, several feet of colluvium, and several feet of bedrock creep in order to key into competent bedrock. Toe-of-fill keys 10-20 ft. deep are common in such areas. Note that the effective bearing point of this toe of fill (45° from the horizontal) moves laterally downslope from the proposed grading plan toe.

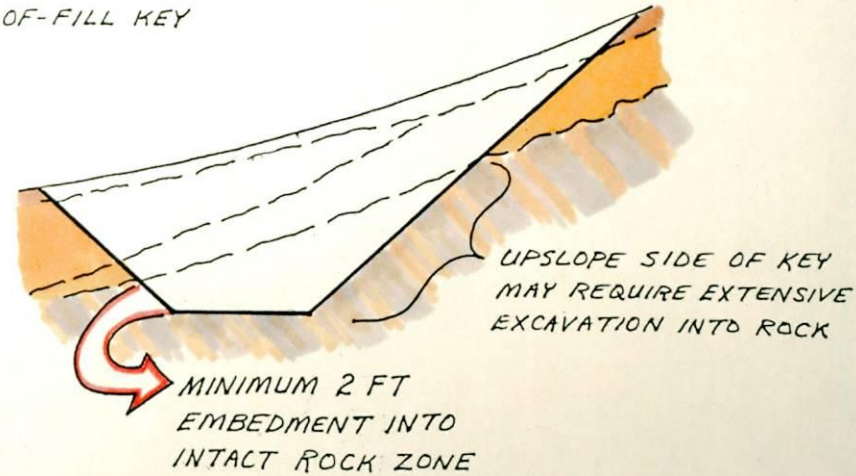


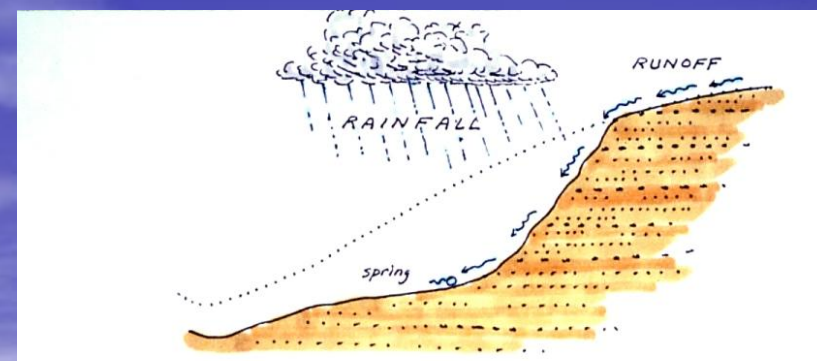
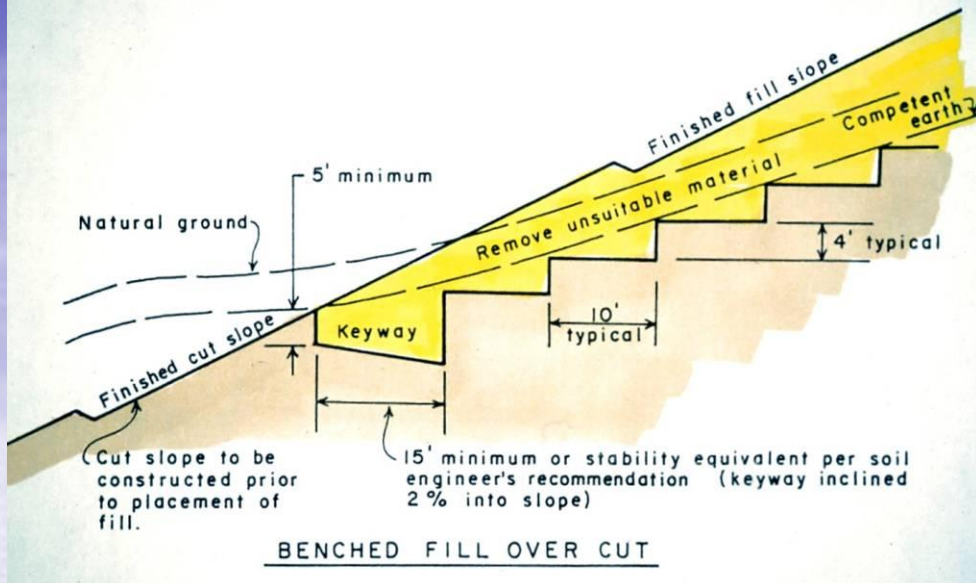


Some of Mike's visuals on keyways

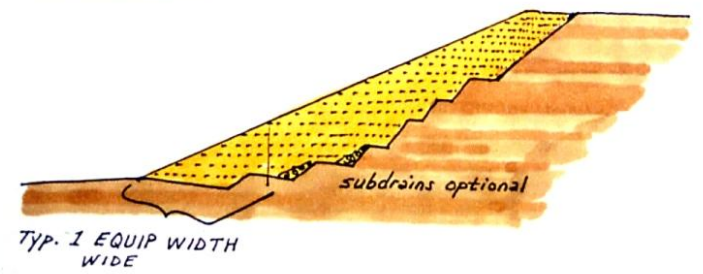


TOE-OF-FILL KEY





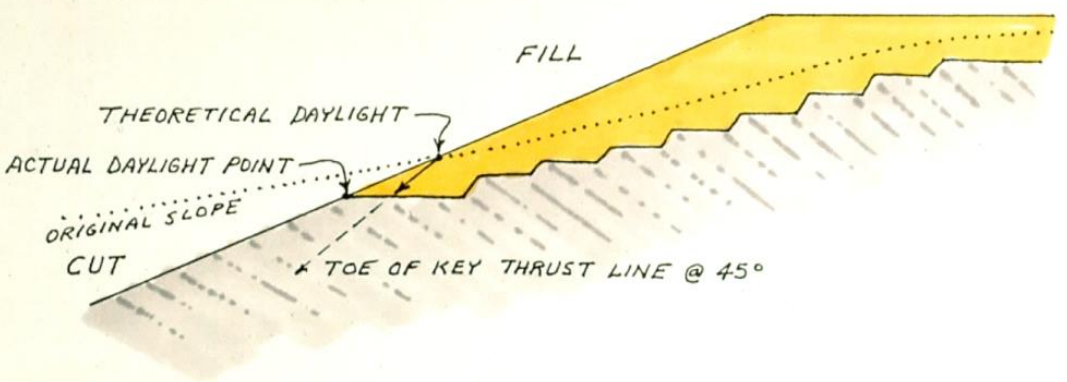
STABILITY FILL



NATURAL SLOPE BEFORE GRADING



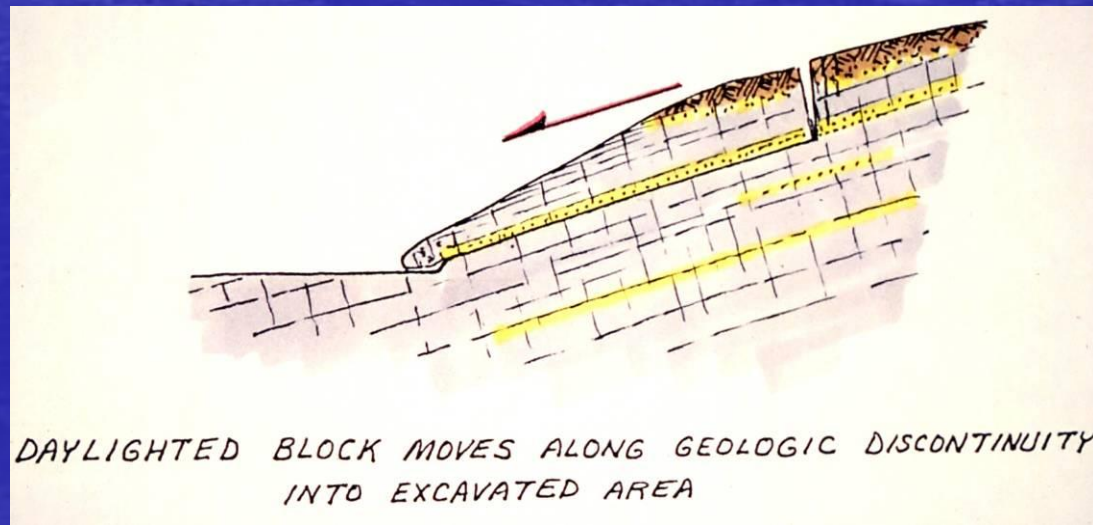
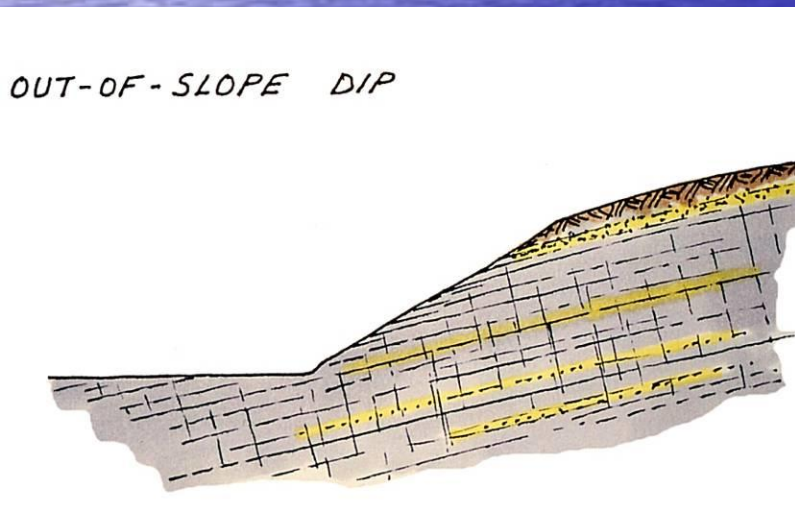
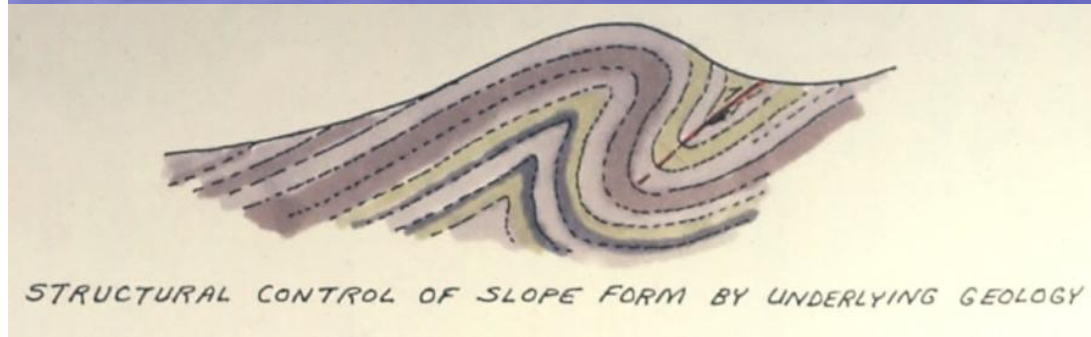
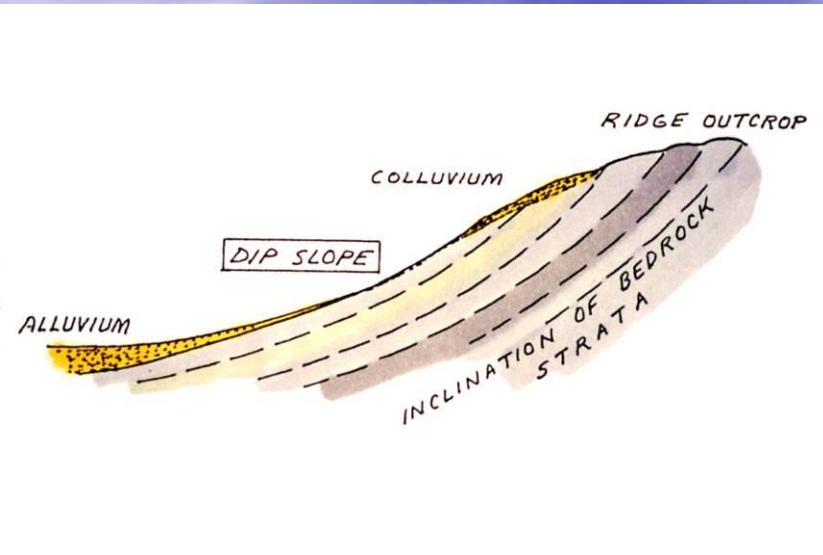
FILL OVER CUT SITUATION



More examples of graphic standards for grading and excavating from Mike's grading courses



Mike's Do's and Don'ts of Dip Slopes



Ireland

In June of 2004 Mike fulfilled a life-long dream when he visited Ireland with two of his three sons. He visited Scullin, where his ancestor Titus Scullin had been born before emigrating to America.





*Geology is my profession
but LOVE is my VOCATION*



- **Mike began life as a fighter, but went out an artist and a lover.**
- **His favorite joke was about the eloquence of an Irishman.**

