



Professional summary

Dr David Giles is a graduate of the University of Portsmouth Engineering Geology and Geotechnics degree with over 40 years' experience in academia and industry. His experience includes 28 years lecturing and researching in Engineering Geology at the University of Portsmouth. His principal areas of expertise and experience include glacial and periglacial engineering geology, engineering geomorphology, landslides, remote sensing and digital image analysis.

Dr Giles is an active member of the Engineering Group of the Geological Society, contributing to the Geological Society Working Parties on UK Geological Hazards, which he chairs and the Engineering Geology and Geomorphology of Glaciated and Periglaciated Terrains. In 2025 he was awarded the 25th Glossop Medal by the Geological Society.

He has published over 70 papers and supervised 7 PhD theses.

Education and Career

Since 2025: GCG, London

2019-2025: Technical Director, CGL
(Card Geotechnics Limited)

1991-2019: Principal Lecturer in
Engineering Geology, University of
Portsmouth

1989-1991: Mott MacDonald

1987-1989: British Geological Survey

1984-1987: Scott Pickford Associates

2019: Registered Ground Engineering
Adviser (RoGEP)

2014: Chartered Geologist

2014: PhD, University of Portsmouth

1980-83: BSc Engineering Geology &
Geotechnics, Portsmouth Polytechnic

Scholarships / Awards

2025: Geological Society Engineering
Group Glossop Medal

2023: Ground Engineering Awards –
Ground Investigation Project of the
Year

2023: Quaternary Research
Association Wiley Lecture

2013: Geological Society Engineering
Group Award

Specialist Expertise

Dr Giles has specialist expertise in the engineering geology of glaciated and periglaciated terrains, landslide hazards, geological ground model development, remote sensing, GIS, and spatial data modelling, LiDAR and InSAR, geological hazards and problematic ground conditions, geotechnical hazards and risk assessment, risk registers, geotechnical databases and data management, risk-based contaminated land assessment, engineering geology of chalk, digital geohazard assessment, engineering geophysics.

Specialist Project Management Expertise

Dr Giles has developed specifications for complex ground investigations, delivered client seminars and technical briefings, formulated the management of internal training programmes, been responsible for general large project management including financial management.

Expert Opinions

Dr Giles has delivered expert opinions and CPR Part 35 compliant expert witness reports, provided for slope and landslide-related claims, adequacy of investigations in relict glacial and periglacial terrains, instability caused by quarrying, clay extraction, slope removal, open-cast backfill, embankment failures, coal mining and tunnelling related ground failures.

Project Experience

Dr Giles has specific project experience of landslide hazard assessments for overhead power line and underground cable alignments, coal mining risk assessments, *Lines of Evidence* site investigations in Ripon including the provision of *Ground Stability Declaration* forms, ground investigations in chalk, digital imagery

2001: Geological Society Engineering Group Award

Service on technical / professional bodies

Chair Geological Society Working Party on Geological Hazards in the UK

Council Member & Trustee of the Geological Society

Secretary International Association for Engineering Geology Commission 22: Landscape Evolution & Engineering Geology

Member Geological Society Working Party on Glacial & Periglacial Engineering Geology

Scrutineer for Chartered Geologist applications for the Geological Society

Invited judge British Geotechnical Association Ground Engineering Awards

Invited judge New Civil Engineer Awards

Past Chair of the Engineering Group of the Geological Society

Past Member of the Association of Geotechnical Specialists Working Party on the Electronic Transfer of Geotechnical Data from Ground Investigations

Past Associate Editor of the Arabian Journal of Geosciences

Memberships

Fellow of the Geological Society

Registered Ground Engineering Adviser

Fellow of the Higher Education Academy

Member of the Quaternary Research Association

Member of the British Geotechnical Association

hazard assessments, complex ground investigations in areas of non-coal mining, geophysical surveys including passive acoustic, microgravity, electromagnetic conductivity, and electrical resistivity tomography, and the assessment of tunnelling-related geohazard problems.

Previous Experience

Dr Giles graduated from the Engineering Geology and Geotechnics degree at Portsmouth Polytechnic in 1983, being awarded a PhD in 2014 for a body of work on *Computer-Based Modelling and Analysis in Engineering Geology*.

His academic experience includes 28 years lecturing and researching in Engineering Geology at the University of Portsmouth, leading field trips across the UK and France.

Previous industry experience includes roles as a Technical Director at Card Geotechnics Ltd, Chartered Engineer at Mott MacDonald, computer applications support at the British Geological Survey and a Computer Mapping Geologist at Scott Pickford Associates.

Dr Giles has supervised PhD theses on the geotechnical and geochemical characterisation of dry oil lake contaminated soil in Kuwait, dust dispersion monitoring and modelling, geotechnical properties of chalk putties, application of airborne multi-spectral remote sensing and digital terrain modelling to the detection and delineation of landslides on clay dominated slopes, domestic property insurance risks associated with brickearth deposits of Southern Britain, the development of a knowledge-based system methodology for designing solid waste disposal sites in arid and semi-arid environments, GIS techniques as an aid to the assessment of earthquake triggered landslide hazards.

Dr Giles was a principal member of the then Association of Geotechnical Specialists working party that formulated the electronic transfer of geotechnical data from ground investigations leading to the AGS Data Format.

Field and Geological Experience

Dr Giles has an extensive field experience of both the UK and France having led trips to and including the Isle of Wight (Tertiary and Cretaceous terrains, engineering geology of the chalk, coastal landslides), Isle of Portland (Jurassic terrains, coastal landslides), Lyme Regis (Jurassic terrains, coastal landslides, slope stabilisation), Lulworth Cove (Jurassic, Cretaceous terrains, geological mapping), Malverns (Pre-Cambrian terrains, rock mass assessment), Cotswolds (Jurassic and periglacial terrains, engineering geomorphological, landslides), North Norfolk (Glacial terrains, coastal landslides), North Wales (Glacial terrains, complex geological models, engineering geology), Kent (Cretaceous, Tertiary and periglacial terrains, coastal landslides), Isle of Skye (Quaternary and igneous terrains, large scale landslides), Villerville, Normandy (Jurassic terrains, coastal landslides), French Alps (Tectonic and glacial terrains, landslides, engineering geology), Provence (Permo-Triassic terrains, engineering geology, geological hazards), Massif Central (Volcanic terrains).