

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
UNITED STATES GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

BIBLIOGRAPHY ON LANDSLIDES, SOIL LIQUEFACTION, AND
RELATED GROUND FAILURES IN SELECTED
HISTORIC EARTHQUAKES

By

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this bibliography is to provide citations to original sources of data on ground failures in 40 selected earthquakes. The bibliography was compiled as part of a review of earthquake-induced ground-failure occurrence. A preliminary review paper has been published¹, and a final review paper is in preparation. Earthquakes covered by the review and bibliography constitute a sample of well-documented events with Richter magnitudes greater than 5 from most of the earth's major seismic regions. Significant ground failures occurred in each of these earthquakes. The bibliography, thus, provides a broad catalog of literature citations for researchers working on earthquake-induced landslides, soil liquefaction, and related phenomena. Citations are given for 10 earthquakes in California, 2 in Alaska, 7 elsewhere in the United States, 8 in mainland Asia or the Middle East, 5 in Central or South America, 4 in Japan, and 1 each in Italy, Canada, New Guinea, and New Zealand (Table 1).

The citations include (1) general post-earthquake reports in which ground failures are described with other earthquake effects such as the nature of ground shaking, surface faulting, and damage to civil works, (2) intensity reports, in which ground failures are used as evidence to determine ground-shaking

¹ Keefer, D. K., Wieczorek, G. F., Harp, E. L., and Tuel, D. H., 1978, Preliminary assessment of seismically induced landslide susceptibility: International Conference on Microzonation, 2d San Francisco, Proceedings, v. 1, p. 279-290, reprinted in Brabb, E. E., ed., 1979, Progress on seismic zonation in the San Francisco Bay region: U.S. Geological Survey Circular 807, p. 49-60.

TABLE 1: TYPES OF GROUND FAILURES IN HISTORIC EARTHQUAKES

- (1) M_S = Surface wave magnitude
 M_L = Local magnitude
 m_b = Body wave magnitude
(2) X = Numerous or significant ground failures reported
m = Small numbers of ground failures of minor significance reported
(3) Includes landslides in man-made fill
(4) C = Compaction and settlement of ground
F = Fissuring not caused by soil liquefaction or surface faulting
T = Cracks or falls in tunnels, mines, or other underground structures
H = Subsidence over caverns, mines, karstic sinkholes, or other underground openings
A = Snow avalanches

Earthquake Name/Location	Date	Magnitude (1)	Landslides in Rock (2)	Landslides in Soil (2, 3)	Soil Liquefaction Phenomena (2)	Other Ground Failures (4)
New Madrid, Missouri	16 Dec. 1811	7.2 (m_b) ⁵				
	23 Jan. 1812	7.1 (m_b) ⁵	m	X	X	
	7 Feb. 1812	7.4 (m_b) ⁵				
Charleston, South Carolina	1 Sept. 1886	6.8 (m_b) ⁶	m	X	X	C,F
San Francisco, Calif.	18 April 1906	8.25 (M_S)	X	X	X	C,F
Kansu(Haiyun), China	16 Dec. 1920	8.5 (M_S)		X		F
Bihar, India-Nepal	15 Jan. 1934	8.3 (M_S)	X	X	X	F
Imperial Valley, Calif.	19 May 1940	7.1 (M_S)		X	X	C,F
Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada	23 June 1946	7.2 (M_S)	X	X	X	C,F
Fukui, Japan	28 June 1948	7.2 (M_L)	m	X	X	
Puget Sound, Washington	13 April 1949	7.0 (M_L)	X	X	X	C,F,A
Khait, Tadjikistan, USSR	10 July 1949	7.6 (M_S)	X	X	X	
Assam, India	15 Aug. 1950	8.6 (M_S)	X	X	X	C,F
Daly City, California	22 March 1957	5.3 (M_L)		X	m	C,F
Southeastern Alaska	10 July 1958	7.9 (M_S)	X	X	X	F,A
Hebgen Lake, Montana	18 Aug. 1959	7.1 (M_L)	X	X	m	F
Chile	22 May 1960	8.3-8.5 (M_S)	X	X	X	
Alaska	27 March 1964	8.4 (M_S)	X	X	X	C,F,A
Niigata, Japan	16 June 1964	7.25-7.5 (M_L)	X	X	X	C,F,T
Puget Sound, Washington	29 April 1965	6.5 (M_S)	m	X	m	C,F
Parkfield-Cholame, Calif.	28 June 1966	6.2 (M_S)		X	m	C,F,H
Inangahua, New Zealand	23 May 1968	7.1 (M_S)	X	X	m	C,F,T,H
Peru	31 May 1970	7.8 (M_S)	X	X	X	C,F,A
Madang, Papua New Guinea	31 Oct. 1970	7.0 (M_S)	X	X	X	C,H
San Fernando, California	9 Feb. 1971	6.5 (M_S)	X	X	X	C,F
Honolulu, Hawaii	26 April 1973	6.1 (M_S)	X	X		C,H
Indus-Kohistan, Pakistan	28 Dec. 1974	6.2 (M_S)	X	X		
Kilauea, Hawaii	29 Nov. 1975	7.1-7.2 (M_S)	X			
Guatemala	4 Feb. 1976	7.5 (M_S)	X	X	X	
Khulm, Afghanistan	19 March 1976	5.5 (M_S)	X	X		C,F
Friuli, Italy	6 May 1976	6.5 (M_S)	X	X	X	F
Panama	15 Sept. 1976	6.0 (M_S)				
Panama	11 July 1976	7.0 (M_S)	X	X		
Tangshan, China	27 July 1976	7.7-7.9 (M_S)	m	X	X	H
Khurgu, Iran	21 March 1977	6.9 (M_S)	X	m	m	F,T
San Juan Province, Argentina	23 Nov. 1977	7.2-7.4 (M_S)	X	X	X	C,F
Izu-Oshima Kinkai, Japan	14 Jan. 1978	6.8 (M_S)	X	X	X	C,F
Miyagi-Ken-Okii, Japan	12 June 1978	7.4 (M_S)	X	X	X	C,F,H
Santa Barbara, Calif.	13 Aug. 1978	5.6 (M_S)	X	m	m	T,C,F
Homestead Valley, Calif.	15 March 1979	5.2 (M_L)	m	m	m	C,F
Coyote Lake, California	6 Aug. 1979	5.4 (M_S)	X	m		F
Mount Diablo, California	24 Jan. 1980	5.8 (M_S)	X	m		C
Mammoth Lakes, California	26 Jan. 1980	5.2 (M_S)				
	25 May 1980 (16:33 GMT)	6.1 (M_S)				
	25 May 1980 (16:49 GMT)	6.0 (M_L)				
	25 May 1980 (19:44 GMT)	5.8 (M_S)	X	X	X	C, A
	27 May 1980	6.0 (M_S)				

- (5) Magnitude estimated by Nuttli (1973) from relations involving attenuation of Modified Mercalli Intensity, attenuation of particle velocity, and magnitude
(6) Magnitude estimated by Bollinger (1977) from relations involving attenuation of Modified Mercalli Intensity, attenuation of particle velocity, and magnitude

intensities, (3) reports specifically describing ground-failure types and distribution throughout all or part of the region affected by an earthquake, and (4) reports of detailed geological and geotechnical studies at individual ground failure sites. In addition, the bibliography contains a few selected references that do not contain ground-failure information, but rather seismic information (magnitude, hypocenter location, source zone location and parameters, ground-motion characteristics, and intensities). These references are identified by an "(s)" in the left margin. In some cases, several citations are published in one document. In such cases a general reference is given to the entire document, and individual citations are listed under the document reference.

In the bibliography, citations are grouped by earthquake. Table 1 shows the earthquakes for which bibliographic information is compiled and the general types of ground failures that occurred in each earthquake. The four general types of ground failures are landslides in rock, landslides in soil, soil liquefaction phenomena, and other ground failures. Landslides in rock involve the failure and subsequent movement of material from slopes that, prior to failure, were composed of intact bedrock. Landslides in soil involve failure and movement of material from slopes made up of unconsolidated or poorly consolidated aggregates of mineral grains with or without organic constituents. Overlap exists between the landslides in soil category and the soil liquefaction phenomena category because some landslides in soil are caused by liquefaction.

Liquefaction occurs when dynamic loading of a saturated sand or silt causes pore-water pressures to increase to levels where grain-to-grain contacts are lost and the material temporarily behaves as a viscous fluid. In addition to some types of landslides, liquefaction causes settlement of the ground surface, settlement and tilting of engineering structures, flotation of bouyant, buried structures such as tanks and timber piles, fissuring of the ground surface, and flow of soil into water wells. A common manifestation of liquefaction is the formation of sand boils--short-lived fountains of soil and water that emerge from fissures or vents and leave freshly-deposited, conical mounds of soil on the ground surface.

Other types of ground failures are identified individually in Table 1. Among the most common of these are ground settlements caused by vibrational compaction of loose materials and ground fissures of non-tectonic origin².

² Ground fissures caused by surface faulting are excluded from this category.

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