Engineering Subsoil Characterization for Shallow Foundation Design in Ode Irele Area of Ondo State, Southwestern Nigeria

Olumuyiwa O. Falowo and Michael B. Amodu

ABSTRACT

Integrated geophysical and geotechnical investigations for foundation design have proved to be good veritable tools in effective foundation design and construction. Geophysical and geotechnical methods involving electrical resistivity and cone penetration test have been carried out to investigate the foundation soil conditions of Ode Irele, southwestern Nigeria. Six vertical electrical sounding (VES) were carried out along two traverses; which is complemented by two cone penetration tests with seven trial tests at different subsurface depths. The geotechnical results showed that the soils are sand and silt dominated. All the tested parameters fall within the Nigeria federal ministry of works and housing specification with liquid limit (< 50%), plastic limit (< 30%), plasticity index (< 20%). The geoelectric sections identified maximum of six geoelectric/geologic subsurface layers comprising the topsoil (red sand), weathered layer (made up of coastal sand/white sand), clayey sand (which is the major aquitard in the area), intermediate sand aquifer unit. However the coastal sand layer has moderately high resistivity at shallow depth to sustain foundation load with thickness greater than 2 m. The groundwater level measured from existing borehole records 17.5 m which may not or seriously affect the bases of the foundation footing. Consequently an average allowable bearing capacity of 150 KN/m² (ultimate bearing capacity of 450 KN/m²) would be appropriate for design of shallow foundation in the area, at a depth not less than 1.6 m in Ode Irele and 0.8 m at Ajagba. The foundation width of 0.6 m would produce minimum bearing settlement less than 25 mm. The appropriate (recommended) ultimate bearing and allowable bearing capacity for strip and square footings at depth levels of 0.6 – 1.2 m vary from 1486 – 1842 KN/m² and 495 - 614 KN/m²; and 2056 – 2489 KN/m² and 685 - 830 KN/m² respectively.

Keywords: allowable bearing pressure, cone penetration test, friction ratio, geotechnics, strip and square foundation

I. INTRODUCTION

Soil exploration has become an important preconstruction investigation especially in the face of incessant structural failure in Nigeria especially building structure [1]–[2]. The extent of the exploration depends upon the magnitude and importance of the project. Projects such as buildings, power plants, fertilizer plants, bridges etc., are localized in areal extent. The area occupied by such projects may be several kilometers. Transmission lines, railway lines, roads and other such projects extend along a narrow path. The length of such projects may be several kilometers. Each project has to be treated as per its requirements. The principle of soil exploration remains the same for all the projects but the program and methodology may vary from project to project. The elements of soil exploration depend mostly on the importance and magnitude of the project, but generally should provide the following: information to determine the type of foundation required such as a shallow or deep foundation [3]–[4] necessary information with regards to the strength and compressibility characteristics of the subsoil to allow the design engineer to make recommendations on the safe bearing pressure or pile load capacity. Soil exploration involves broadly the following [4]:

i. Planning of a program for soil exploration.
ii. Collection of disturbed and undisturbed soil or rock samples from the holes drilled in the field. The number and depths of holes depend upon the project.
iii. Conducting all the necessary in-situ tests for obtaining the strength and compressibility characteristics of the soil or rock directly or indirectly.
iv. Study of ground-water conditions and collection of water samples for chemical analysis.
v. Geophysical exploration, if required.
vi. Conducting all the necessary tests on the samples and construction.
of soil /rock and water collected.

vii. Preparation of drawings, charts, etc.
viii. Analysis of the data collected.
ix. Preparation of report.

Cone penetrometer testing (CPT) is a fast, effective, and relatively inexpensive system for collecting important soils parameters during a geotechnical site investigation or subsoil exploration [5]. When used in conjunction with conventional drilling and sampling methods, it provides a more complete description of the subsurface conditions, thereby reducing uncertainty in design and construction. CPT methods can be divided into two basic groups: geophysical logging and stratigraphic profiling; and specific test methods. Testing equipment consists of a cone on the end of a series of rods that are pushed hydraulically into the ground. CPT logging is fast and economical, particularly in soft soils. CPTs can also provide preliminary evaluations of soil parameters and provide quantitative estimates of various geotechnical parameters based on empirical correlations. Specific tests measure soil properties at a particular point, while some in situ CPTs can characterize specific engineering properties, including shear strength and modulus of elasticity [6]-[7]. They require the use of specialized equipment, however, and can be slower and more expensive. Because of the increased cost, they are best used in critical areas that have been previously identified. CPTs can be used to screen subsurface conditions during preliminary geologic investigations and locate borings for subsequent detailed geologic investigations. Soundings can be used to pinpoint changes in the lithology (stratigraphy) and identify areas to be sampled. CPT is particularly useful in non-uniform foundations and where undisturbed samples are difficult to obtain [8].

Consequently the results of CPT can be used to make reliable estimates of settlement and undrained shear strength in areas where some basic information about the engineering properties of the soil is available [9]. Results, however, should always be confirmed or correlated with laboratory analyses of actual samples. Fewer physical samples are required if the geology of the area and some of the engineering properties of the soil are understood. While the CPT equipment cannot obtain a sample, some samplers can also be pushed into the ground using CPT equipment. Undisturbed soil sampling is vital to the success of a geotechnical investigation and should be considered a companion of CPT. CPT data complement undisturbed sampling and provide a significant volume of in situ information that is difficult to achieve in the lab. Comparing lab results of both shear and consolidation tests with CPT data reduces the uncertainty of either set of data [10].

Geophysical investigation offers a cheaper and faster means of getting detailed and credible information about the subsurface. Different geophysical techniques possess ability to image the ground in terms of soil/rock association, distribution and structural deformation, which offer credible information regarding the support in term of strength that a foundation rock is likely to offer to engineering structures [11]-[13]. Electrical Resistivity Imaging (ERI) technique has been very effective in illuminating the subsurface and apt at providing information about the rock physical properties for economic, environmental and engineering purposes [14]-[16]. Different electrical data acquisition technique as well as electrode and profile configurations have been described to present different desirable subsurface imaging abilities [17]-[18]. Three dimensional (3D) ERI geophysical investigation approach offers ability to characterize the subsurface as well as determine heterogeneity in measured rock properties along the vertical (z) and the two orthogonal horizontal (x & y) directions [17]. The determination of variation in foundation rock’s properties along the three orthogonal directions affords the ability to evaluate the spatial variation in rock strength as imposed by the heterogeneity of rock properties as they vary from place to place [17].

II. DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY AREA

The study area is Ode Irele local government of Ondo State, which falls in within southwestern Nigeria (Fig. 1). It covers an area about 300 km2 between 705000 and 735000 mE and 695000 and 735000 mN. Major part of the study area is devoted to fishing and agricultural activities. The people of the area depends on government boreholes due to deep aquifer system associated with the area. The area is within the tropical rain forest region of Nigeria characterized by wet and dry seasonal variations, with a mean annual rainfall of 180 cm, mean temperature of 24 °C, and mean humidity of 80 % [19]. The study area is generally characterized by flat and gently undulating topography. Topographic elevations vary from about 50 to 120 m above sea level in the mainland and 2 to 10 m in the coastal area (Fig. 2). The area is drained by many perennial streams and rivers such as Ominla, Akeun, Ufara, Okomu, Ofara and others, which form a network of dendritic drainage pattern and empty their waters into the Atlantic Ocean to the south [20].

The mainland of the study area is incised by few motorable roads and several feeder roads and foot paths. These rivers and streams are being fed by several lagoons, ponds, canals, creeks and small streams scattered across the study area. The area is characterized by heavy annual rainfall averaging about 2,000 mm. Rainfall is distributed virtually over all the months of the year with the minima occurring between November and March [19]. Plant type is generally mangrove in the costal part of the study area, typical of swamp forest, while the mainland area is characterized by oil palm, rubber plantation and other broadleaved species, typical of rainforest vegetation. The different ethnic groups that live in the area are the Egabados, Ikales, Ilajes and Ijaws. They live in hamlets, villages and towns which are closely separated from each other although mostly connected by fairly-good to poor roads [20].

The eastern Dahomey basin, geologically where the study area located (Fig. 3), as beginning with the Abeokuta Group [21], made up of three Formations from oldest to the youngest namely; the Ise, Afowo and Araromi Formations (Table 1). The Ise Formation unconformably overlaps the basement complex of southwestern Nigeria and consists of conglomerates and grits at base and in turn overlain by coarse-to-medium grained sands with interbedded Kaolinite. The conglomerates are unimbricated and at some locations ironstones occur [22]. The age is Neocomian to Albian.
Overlying the Ise Formation is the Afowo Formation, which composed of coarse to medium grained sandstones with variable but thick interbedded shales, siltstones and claystones. The sandy facies are tar-bearing while the shales are organic-rich [23]. The lower part of this Formation is transitional with mixed brackish to marginal horizons that alternate with well sorted, sub-rounded sands indicating a littoral or estuarine near-shore environment of deposition.

Using palynological assemblage, Billman [24] assigned a Turonian age to the lower part of this Formation, while the upper part ranges into the Maastritchian. Araromi Formation overlies the Afowo Formation (Fig. 3) and has been described as the youngest cretaceous sediment in the eastern Dahomey basin [25]. It is composed of fine to medium grained sandstone at the base, over lain by shales, siltstone with interbedded limestone, marl and lignite. This Formation is highly fossiliferous containing abundant planktonic foraminifera, Ostracods, pollen and spores. Omatsola and Adegoke [25] assigned a maastritchian to palaeocene age to this Formation based on faunal content. The Ewekoro Formation overlies the Araromi Formation in the eastern Dahomey basin. It is an extensive limestone body, which is traceable over a distance of about 320 km from Ghana in the west, towards the eastern margin of the Dahomey basin in Nigeria [26]. Elueze and Nton [27], has reported that the limestone is of shallow marine origin owing to abundance of coralline algae, gastropods, pelecypods, echinoid fragments and other skeletal debris. It is Palaeocene in age. Overlying the Ewekoro Formation is the Akinbo Formation, which is made up of shale and clayey sequence [28]. The claystones are concretionary and are predominantly Kaolinite [27]. The base of the Formation is defined by the presence of glauconitic band with lenses of limestone [22], [28]. The Formation is Palaeocene to Eocene in age. The Oshosun Formation overlies the Akinbo Formation (Fig. 3) and consists of greenish grey or beige clay and shale with interbeds of sandstones. The shale is thickly laminated and glauconitic. According to Okosun [30], the basal beds consist of any of the following facies; sandstones, mudstones, claystones, clay-shale or shale. This Formation is phosphate-bearing [22], [26]. The Ilaro Formation overlies conformably the Oshosun Formation and consists of massive yellowish poorly, consolidated, cross-bedded sand stones.
Benin Formation in the Study Area

The youngest stratigraphic sequence in the eastern Dahomey basin is the Benin Formation (Fig. 3). It is also known as the coastal plain sands [26] and consists of poorly sorted sands with lenses of clays. The sands are in parts cross bedded and show transitional to continental characteristics. The age is from Oligocene to recent.

### TABLE 1: SUMMARY OF THE GEOLOGY OF THE STUDY AREA [29]

| Group  | Formation      | Lithology                                             | Age          |
|--------|----------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Benin  | Poorly sorted  | Poorly sorted sands with lenses of clay               | Oligocene-recent |
|        | sands           | cross-bedded sands                                     |              |
| Ilaro  | Massive, yellowish | poorly consolidated cross-bedded sandstones          | Eocene       |
| Oshosun| Greenish or beige clay     with interbeds of sandstones | Eocene       |
| Akinbo | Shale and clayey sequence | Limestone with presence of coralline fossil          | Paleocene    |
| Ewekoro| Limestone with     | Medium fine grained sandstone                          | Paleocene    |
|        | presence of coralline | interbedding of shales, siltstones and               |              |
|        | fossils          | claystones                                             |              |

**Abeokuta**

- Shales, siltstone with interbedded limestone, marl and lignite
- Medium-fine grained sandstone
- Coarse-medium grained sandstone; interbedding of shales, siltstones and claystones
- Coarse-medium grained sands
- Conglomerates and grits

**Araromi**

- Maastrichtian
- Paleocene

**Afowo**

- Turonian
- Maastrichtian

**Ise**

- Neocomian
- Albian

**Basement Complex**

- Precambrian

### III. MATERIAL AND METHODS

Adopted approaches used in this study involved the geological, geophysical and geotechnical investigations. These were followed by desktop and reconnaissance studies for the purpose of site identification by confirming and updating of existing information. Geologic study involves location of outcrops identification, description of featured characteristics, collection and labeling of samples. Geotechnical investigation involves collection of disturbed representative samples from trial pit. Properties tested include the particle size distribution, Atterberg limits, strength, and consolidation. The 1-D vertical electrical resistivity sounding data (VES) was obtained using the Schlumberger electrode array [30] with the Allied Ohmega Resistivity meter. Two traverses of 120 m each were established within the premises of the study area, which runs W-E respectively (Fig. 4). Six vertical electrical soundings (VES) were occupied along the traverses with electrode spacing (AB/2) ranging from 1 to 750 m were conducted within the study area using PASI resistivity meter. The location of each of the sounding station was recorded with the aid of GPS Garmin-12-channel. The apparent resistivity measurement at each station was plotted on bi-logarithmic graph sheets. The curves were inspected visually to determine the number and nature of the layering. Partial curve matching was carried out for the quantitative interpretation of the curves. The results of the curve matching (layer resistivities and thicknesses) were fed into the computer as a starting model in an iterative forward modelling technique 1-D inversion program. From the interpretation results (layer resistivities and thicknesses), two geoelectric sections were produced.

The trial pit was conducted by digging a shallow pit and physical inspection of the subsoil (Fig. 5). Seven samples were collected at different depths and put into a plastic bag and transported to the soil laboratory, the soil was air dried and lightly crushed into smaller pieces for classification, strength and specialized tests according to the British Standard [30]. The CPT data used in this report are those acquired by an apex angle of 60° and a base area of 10 cm² friction cone penetrometers. In these tests the total cone tip resistance (qc) and sleeve friction (fs) were recorded and no pore water pressures were measured. The study was carried out for about a week in September 2019. There are three main aims of this investigation: to locate very dense bearing layers with qc >50 kg/cm² at two selected locations; to identify and classify the type of soil on each location; and to estimate the allowable bearing capacity of each bearing layer on each location. Using the soil classification developed by [31], the friction ratio RF % or the ratio between side friction and cone friction (fs/qc) derived from the CPT was used in soil profiling.

**Fig. 4. Data Acquisition Map**

The layer sequences were interpreted from the variation of the values of the cone resistance with depth. The allowable bearing pressure of the soil layers on each location was calculated using Meyerhof [32] and Schmertmann [33] direct method equations for estimating ultimate bearing capacity (qa) from cone resistance for

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square and strip footings, using (1) to (5):

\[ q_{ult} = q_c \left( \frac{B}{2R} \right) \left( 1 + \frac{D}{B} \right) \]  

(1)

\[ q_c = \text{cone resistance value} \]
\[ D_f = \text{Depth of footing} \]
\[ B = \text{Width of foundation} \]

Factor of safety at least 3 is recommended by [32] to obtain the allowable bearing pressure.

For cohesionless soils:
- Strip: \( q_{ult} = 28 - 0.0052 \times (300 - q_c)^{1.5} \)  
(2)
- Square: \( q_{ult} = 48 - 0.0052 \times (300 - q_c)^{1.5} \)  
(3)

For clay:
- Strip: \( q_{ult} = 2 + 0.28q_c \)  
(4)
- Square: \( q_{ult} = 5 + 0.34q_c \)  
(5)

All samples obtained in the field were carefully preserved and subjected to more detailed visual inspection and descriptions at the laboratory. Thereafter, representative samples were selected from each stratum for laboratory analysis in accordance with relevant geotechnical engineering standards including BS 1377 [30]. The disturbed soil samples were appropriately subjected to the following laboratory classification tests: natural moisture content; Atterberg limits (liquid and plastic limits); grain size analysis; and unconsolidated undrained triaxial tests at different cell pressures. Sieve analysis of cohesive soils were done by soaking oven-dried samples in water overnight and washing through sieve No. 200 (75 microns opening) while remnants retained on sieve No. 200 were oven-dried and sieved mechanically. Materials finer than sieve number 200 were analyzed using the hydrometer method based on Stoke’s law.

Total consolidation settlement \( s \) has been computed for foundation breadth \( B \) between 0.5 – 3.0 m, subjected to allowable bearing capacity of 100kN/m². The induced vertical stress \( \Delta \sigma \) at the center of the consolidating layer has been used in computing \( s \). The consolidation settlement has been computed from the expression below [34] in (6).

\[ s = m_v H \Delta \sigma^+ \]  
(6)

\( m_v \) = coefficient of volume compressibility
\( H \) = thickness of compressible layer
\( \Delta \sigma^+ \) = average increase in effective pressure

An \( m_v \) value of 0.125 m²/KN, which corresponds to the adopted net allowable bearing capacity was used in the settlement analysis and also corresponds to stiff clay in the range of (0.25 – 0.125 m²/KN).

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Electrical Resistivity

The geoelectric sections along Traverse 1 in Ode Irele is shown in Fig. 6, and identified maximum of six geoelectric/geologic subsurface layers comprising the topsoil (red sand), weathered layer (made up of coastal sand/white sand), clayey sand (which is the major aquitard in the area), intermediate sand aquifer unit. The topsoil is characterized by resistivity ranging from 112 - 797 ohm-m with thickness of 1.7 – 2.6 m. The weathered layer has resistivity varying from 822 - 4889 ohm-m, with thickness of 34.2 – 38.3 m. The clay sand underlying the weathered layer has resistivity varying from 425 - 622 ohm-m and thickness of 114.7 to 138.8 m. The intermediate sand aquiferous is characterized with resistivity in between 4118 and 5140 ohm-m, and depth range to this geologic unit is in between 150.7 – 178.8 m. The overburden thickness along this traverse is thick enough to dissipate effectively the structural load to the underlying soil units. However the coastal sand layer has moderately high resistivity at shallow depth (795 - 936 ohm-m) to sustain foundation load with thickness of 1.9 – 3.4 m. The presence of groundwater in the soil pores has a very significant impact on the engineering behavior or characteristics of the soil, and very important where deep excavation are to be carried out. The groundwater level along this traverse measured during the CPT survey under VES 1 records value of 0.5 m, which is believed to beconnate water trapped during sedimentation/lithification process.

The geoelectric section along Traverse 2 in Ajagba (Fig. 7) showed four distinct subsurface layering, comprising the topsoil (red sand), sand, clayey sand, and clayey material. The topsoil is made of tropical red sand with resistivity varying from 455 - 696 ohm-m and thickness of 1.1 – 1.4 m. The sand material underlying the red sand is characterized with resistivity values varying from 1220 – 3325 ohm-m, and thickness variation of 29.1 – 42.6 m. The clayey sand aquitard layer overlain the clay/shale material and has resistivity ranging from 715 – 860 ohm-m and thickness of 80.1 – 110.1 m. The depth to clay/shale which form the basement soil/rock in the area, varies in between 110.6 and 153.9 m. The existing borehole under VES 4 records groundwater level of 17.5 m. This depth is far below the targetted (maximum) foundation depth and width of 10 m for shallow foundation design in the area. This implies that the groundwater level may not or seriously affect the bases of the foundation footing along this area [4]. Hence the topsoil (tropical red sand) and coastal white sand are competent (judging from the layers resistivity and thickness) to harbor the foundation structure along this traverse.

![Fig. 6. Geoelectric Section along Traverse 1 in Ode Irele](image-url)
B. Geotechnical Investigation

Tables 1 and 2 show the summary of the geotechnical results. The % sand varies in between 40.3 – 87.3, silt varies from 4.5 – 35.6 %, and clay ranges from 8.2 – 35.3 %. Generally, the soil is dominated by sand and silt. The average clay content in the soil is less than 20 % which falls within 35 % recommended for subsoil material. The Robertson [37] soil chart classification shows wide ranges from 1.05 – 40 kg/cm² and 40 – 250 kg/cm². The plots of zones 5 to 7 corresponding to clayey silt to silty clay (0.2 – 0.8 m) and sandy silt to sandy silt (0.4 – 1.0 m) show high values in the range of 2.64 – 2.68. Consequently, it is expected that such soil will undergo immediate/elastic settlement. All the samples in Table 1, even though they show some overlap in their geotechnical properties. Location 2 shows better geotechnical properties than location 1, even though they show some overlap in their geotechnical properties. All the soil samples fall within the FMWH [36] recommended standard for foundation material. Hence, the soil can be adjoin as a good foundation soil.

The results of the CPT and laboratory analysis of samples collected during trial test/soil examination is presented in Tables 2 and 3. The result shows increase in cone resistance and sleeve resistance with depth, ranging from 15 – 70 kg/cm² and 25 – 105 kg/cm² at CPT 1, and 25 – 80 kg/cm² and 40 – 125 kg/cm² at CPT 2 respectively. The friction ratio ranges from 1.05 – 1.67 (CPT 1) and 1.08 – 1.67 (CPT 2). The Robertson [37] soil chart classification shows wide variation of zones 5 to 7 corresponding to clayey silt to silty clay, sandy silt to silty clay, and silty sand to sandy silt respectively (Fig. 8). The plots of cone resistance and sleeve resistance against depth (Fig. 10) showed a geological succession of clayey silt to silty clay (0 – 0.4 m) and silty sand to sandy silt (0.4 – 1.0 m). Consequently, depth of 0.8 m would be appropriate as founding depth for design and construction of shallow foundation and bases in the area.

C. Bearing Capacity Determination

The ultimate and allowable bearing capacity estimated from the cone resistance is presented in Table 4. The calculated bearing capacities could be used in determining the foundation type for structures [38]. The allowable bearing of the soil varies between 37 to 184 KN/m² for CPT 1, and 61 – 196 KN/m² for CPT 2. Consequently an average allowable bearing capacity of 150 KN/m² (ultimate bearing capacity of 450 KN/m²) would be appropriate for design of shallow foundation in the area, at a depth not less than 1.6 m in location 1 (Ode Irele) and 0.8 m at location 2 (Ajagba). Settlement and bearing capacity are the major factors that govern foundation design. The commonly accepted basis of design is that the total settlement of a footing should be restricted to about 25 mm [39]-[40] as by so doing the differential settlement between adjacent footings is confined within limits that can be tolerated by a structure. The settlement analysis for foundation width of 0.5 m at three depth levels of 1m, 2m and 3m produces relative high values (greater than 25 mm but less than 50 mm) settlement values. But foundation width of 1.5 – 3 m produces settlement less than 25 mm (Table 5). Although according to [32], [33] total settlement limits of 60 mm (clay) and 50 mm (granular soil) are still tolerable.

D. Settlement

Therefore foundation width not less than 0.6 m for depth not less than 2 m is therefore recommended. This foundation width would produce minimum bearing settlement less than 25 mm. The calculation of bearing capacities for strip and square foundation is shown in Table 6. For strip foundation, the appropriate (recommended) ultimate bearing and allowable bearing capacity for depth levels of 0.6 – 1.2 m vary from 1486 – 1842 KN/m² and 495 - 614 KN/m², while square footing varies in between 2056 – 2489 KN/m² and 685 - 830 KN/m² respectively.

V. CONCLUSION

The subsoil layers comprised the topsoil (red sand), weathered layer (made up of coastal sand/white sand), clayey sand (which is the major aquitard in the area), intermediate sand aquifer unit. However the coastal sand layer has moderately high resistivity at shallow depth to sustain foundation load with thickness of greater than 2 m. The existing borehole records groundwater level of 17.5 m that may not or seriously affect the bases of the foundation footing along this area. All the soil samples fall within the FMWH recommended standard for foundation material. Hence, the soil can be adjoin as a good foundation soil. Consequently an average allowable bearing capacity of 150 KN/m² would be appropriate for design of shallow foundation in the area, at a depth not less than 1.6 m in location 1 (Ode Irele) and 0.8 m at location 2 (Ajagba).
TABLE 2: GEOTECHNICAL/ENGINEERING PROPERTIES OF SOIL IN LOCATION 1

| Depth (m) | Cone Resistance | Sleeve Resistance | Friction Ratio | L.L (%) | P.L (%) | P.I (%) | S.I (%) | M.C (%) | % Gravel | % Sand | % Silt | % Clay | S.G |
|-----------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|--------|--------|--------|-----|
| 0.2       | 15              | 25                | 1.67           | 36.6    | 22.1    | 14.50   | 7.9     | 11.8    | -        | 46.5   | 19.4   | 34.1   | 2.64|
| 0.4       | 20              | 30                | 1.50           | 31.0    | 19.5    | 11.50   | 7.2     | 12.5    | -        | 45.4   | 19.3   | 35.3   | 2.66|
| 0.6       | 30              | 35                | 1.17           | 31.0    | 19.5    | 11.50   | 7.2     | 12.5    | -        | 45.4   | 19.3   | 35.3   | 2.66|
| 0.8       | 35              | 40                | 1.14           | 31.0    | 19.5    | 11.50   | 7.2     | 12.5    | -        | 45.4   | 19.3   | 35.3   | 2.66|
| 1.0       | 40              | 42                | 1.05           | 30.7    | 20.5    | 10.2    | 7.0     | 15.8    | -        | 40.3   | 35.6   | 24.1   | 2.67|
| 1.2       | 48              | 60                | 1.25           | 30.7    | 20.5    | 10.2    | 7.0     | 15.8    | -        | 40.3   | 35.6   | 24.1   | 2.67|
| 1.4       | 50              | 65                | 1.30           | 30.7    | 20.5    | 10.2    | 7.0     | 15.8    | -        | 40.3   | 35.6   | 24.1   | 2.67|
| 1.6       | 75              | 90                | 1.20           | 30.7    | 20.5    | 10.2    | 7.0     | 15.8    | -        | 40.3   | 35.6   | 24.1   | 2.67|

TABLE 3: GEOTECHNICAL/ENGINEERING PROPERTIES OF SOIL IN LOCATION 2

| Depth (m) | Cone Resistance | Sleeve Resistance | Friction Ratio | L.L (%) | P.L (%) | P.I (%) | S.I (%) | M.C (%) | % Gravel | % Sand | % Silt | % Clay | S.G |
|-----------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|--------|--------|--------|-----|
| 0.2       | 25              | 40                | 1.60           | 28.4    | 21.2    | 7.25    | 2.9     | 13.9    | -        | 74.2   | 12.2   | 13.6   | 2.68|
| 0.4       | 30              | 50                | 1.67           | 27.4    | 20.4    | 7.00    | 2.9     | 13.5    | -        | 75.9   | 10.1   | 14.0   | 2.68|
| 0.6       | 65              | 70                | 1.08           | 27.4    | 20.4    | 7.00    | 2.9     | 13.5    | -        | 75.9   | 10.1   | 14.0   | 2.68|
| 0.8       | 68              | 75                | 1.10           | 27.4    | 20.4    | 7.00    | 2.9     | 13.5    | -        | 75.9   | 10.1   | 14.0   | 2.68|
| 1.0       | 80              | 125               | 1.56           | 27.4    | 20.4    | 7.00    | 2.9     | 13.5    | -        | 75.9   | 10.1   | 14.0   | 2.68|

Fig. 8. Robertson [37] Soil Classification Chart and Description of Different zones for soil in the study area
Therefore foundation width not less than 0.6 m is therefore recommended. This foundation width would produce minimum bearing settlement less than 25 mm. The appropriate (recommended) ultimate bearing and allowable bearing capacity for strip and square footings at depth levels of 0.6 – 1.2 m vary from 1486 – 1842 KN/m2 and 495 - 614 KN/m2, while square footing varies in between 2056 – 2489 KN/m2 and 685 - 830 KN/m2 respectively.

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Olumuyiwa O. Falowo was born in Ondo State Nigeria, and holds Bachelor of Science degree in Geology in 2006; Master of Technology in Exploration Geophysics in 2012; Master of Philosophy in Hydrogeology in 2015; and Doctor of Philosophy in Engineering Geology and Geotechnics in 2018.

He is presently a Lecturer in the Department of Civil Engineering Technology, Faculty of Engineering Technology, Rufus Giwa Polytechnic Owo Nigeria. Dr. O.O. Falowo belongs to so many professional bodies such as SEG, EAGE, NMGS, NAH, NAEGE, etc.