**JOSEPH LUCAS AND THE TERM “HYDROGEOLOGY” – an annotation**

The author explains the first steps and the contribution in hydrogeology of the each founder of this term. The article consecutively shows us the moment of birth and development of hydrogeology, shows us a hard way of foundation of the hydrogeology. The first time the term “hydrogeology” appears in the work of Jean-Baptiste de Lamark in 1802. His work, named “Hydrogeology”, had little interest among his contemporaries and the term was used to describe the influence of water in the surface of the Earth.

The first practical implementation of hydrogeology was used by Joseph Prestwich and Joseph Lucas and was aimed to improve water supply of London. In order to achieve this goal the amount of groundwater and the structure of subterranean water basin must be received. After 18 months of observation of water-bearing formations in 1874 Lucas founded subterranean galleries many kilometers in length. Also the “height of water line” was measured and shown on the map.

Joseph Prestwich had a different manner. In 1851 he already produced a map of subterranean London, in which the relative positions of water-bearing formations were marked by permeability. In 1876, with the adding of “the positions of major springs which might be harnessed to supply Oxford”, he produced the same map for Oxford.

In 1876 Lucas “gave his first scientific presentation at the Institution of Civil Engineers” and after that time his work brought him a great attention from engineers involved in water supply.

The contribution of Lucas, the founder of hydrogeology, was that he made observations over about 200 square miles and had extended over 4 years. He collected previous observations from other scientists (Bland, Clutterbuck) and “bring these together in the form of map”.