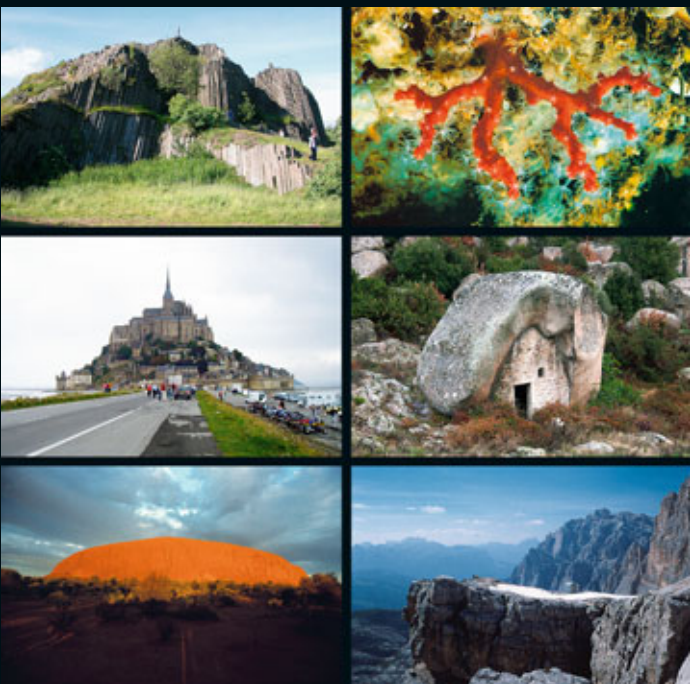


Geomorphosites

Emmanuel Reynard,
Paola Coratza
and
Géraldine Regolini-Bissig
(editors)



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Geomorphosites

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Geoheritage – that are the geological and geomorphological elements of nature worthy of being conserved – is an important component of the natural heritage. In most cases, it constitutes the skeleton of the landscape. The new interest of the scientific community for the geomorphological heritage – the so-called geomorphosites – has induced the International Association of Geomorphologists (IAG) to create in September 2001, at the 5th International Conference on Geomorphology held in Tokyo, a specific working group aiming to improve knowledge and scientific research on the definition, assessment, cartography, promotion and conservation of geomorphosites. During the last eight years, experiences were shared during workshops and international conferences and the main results were published in international journals. This book proposes a synthesis of the research on the geomorphological heritage, both at the conceptual and methodological level. The results presented here are based on numerous studies carried out by various researchers in different contexts (academic research, environmental impact assessment, conservation, geotourism) and countries. This book, written by a first class international team, will help researchers and students dealing with geotourism, geodiversity, geoconservation and geoparks in their tasks.

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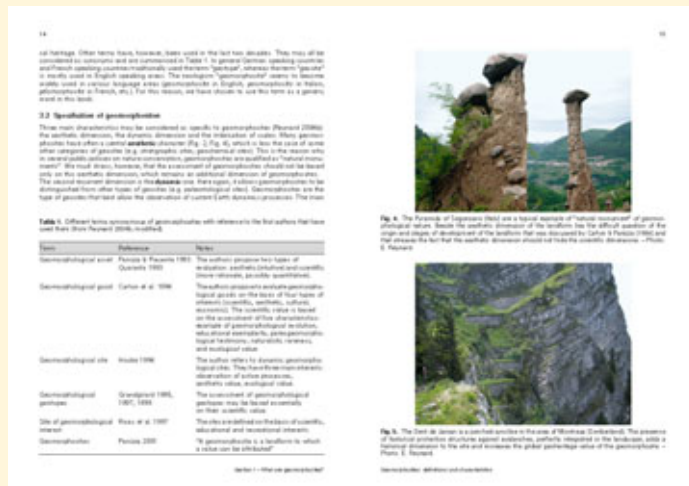


Fig. 4. The presence of a landscape that can be termed "geomorphosite" requires a process of geomorphological value. Besides the aesthetic dimension of the landscape, the cultural dimension of the site and the degree of endangerment of the position are also important in the assessment of the site. The aesthetic dimension of the landscape is the most important.



Fig. 5. The site at Jantar is a natural heritage site in the area of Wollsch (Czech Republic). The presence of a geomorphosite structure against existing, partially eroded in the landscape, adds a primary dimension to the site and increases the global heritage value of the geomorphosite.