

## Extreme Events

### A Physical Reconstruction and Risk Assessment

The assessment of risks posed by natural hazards such as floods, droughts, earthquakes, tsunamis or tropical cyclones is often based on short-term historical records that may not reflect the full range or magnitude of events possible. As human populations grow, especially in hazard-prone areas, methods for accurately assessing natural hazard risk are becoming increasingly important.

In *Extreme Events* Jonathan Nott describes the many methods used to reconstruct such hazards from natural long-term records. He demonstrates how long-term (multi-century to millennial) records of natural hazards are essential in gaining a realistic understanding of the variability of natural hazards likely to occur at a particular location. He also demonstrates how short-term historical records often do not record this variability and can therefore misrepresent the likely risks associated with natural hazards.

This book will provide a useful resource for students taking courses covering natural hazards and risk assessment. It will also be valuable for urban planners, policy makers and non-specialists as a guide to understanding and reconstructing long-term records of natural hazards.

JONATHAN NOTT is Professor of Geomorphology at James Cook University in Queensland, Australia. His broad research interests are in Quaternary climate change and the reconstruction of prehistoric natural hazards. Other research interests include long-term landform evolution, plunge pool deposits (terrestrial floods) and reconstructing tropical cyclone climatology from deposits of coral shingle and shell. He is a member of the National Committee for Quaternary Research, Australian Academy of Science. His research has been published in many international journals including *Nature*; *Earth and Planetary Science Letters*; *Geophysical Research Letters*; *Journal of Geophysical Research*; *Marine Geology*; *Palaeogeography*, *Palaeoclimatology*, *Palaeoecology*; *Geology*; *Journal of Geology*; *Quaternary International*; *Journal of Quaternary Science*; *Quaternary Science Reviews*; *Environment International*; and *Catena*.

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To Monkey, Blue Eyes and Curly Tops

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