

QUATERNARY ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

Physical and Human Dimensions

Ongoing climate change necessitates advances in our understanding of the inter-relationships between climate, landscape-shaping processes and human activity over long time periods, especially in areas that are already climatically stressed. Southern Africa is a key region in the story of human evolution during the last 2 million years but, until recently, relationships between human evolution, the archaeological record and environmental changes in this region have been poorly understood or connected.

This volume presents new ideas on macroscale landscape evolution; mountain, fluvial and aeolian processes; and environments in southern Africa during the Quaternary. Interdisciplinary in scope, it brings together an international team of experts to synthesise the latest research and understanding of landscape-human relationships in this region. It incorporates ideas and results from the emerging fields of geoarchaeology and cultural landscapes, and utilises the latest data and analytical techniques.

This is a key reference for researchers studying hominid evolution, geoarchaeology and environmental change, and provides a benchmark study of southern African landscape evolution during the Quaternary. It will also appeal to professionals and policymakers with interests in future human-landscape evolution in southern Africa.

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Physical and Human Dimensions

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