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**Nackter karst.** (German.) See exposed karst.

**Nacktkarst.** (German.) See exposed karst.

**naked karst, bare karst.** Karst topography developed beneath a temporary cover. Some naked karsts develop beneath a temporary cover of snow (*nival karst*) or water<sup>[17]</sup>. Synonyms: (French.) *karst nu*; (German.) *oberflächlicher nackter Karst*; (Greek.) *gymnon karst*; (Italian.) *carso nudo*; (Russian.) *golyĭ karst* or *otkrytyĭ karst*; (Spanish.) *karst desnudo*; (Turkish.) *çiplak karst*; (Yugoslavian.) *goli krš*. See also exposed karst.

**NAPL.** Abbreviation for *nonaqueous phase liquid*. This term is used to describe the physico-chemical that exist between a bulk hydrocarbon and water which results in the two liquids being immiscible with one another (i.e. little or no mixing of the two liquids occurs.) The interface is a physical dividing surface between the bulk phases of the two liquids. NAPLs are divided into two categories; LNAPLs and DNAPLs. See also DNAPL; immiscible; LNAPL.

**nari.** Term used in the countries bordering the Eastern Mediterranean for caliche or hardpan<sup>[20]</sup>. See caliche, sabath.

**narrow.** A passage of restricted width between two caves or hollows in the karst underground; often not readily traversable<sup>[20]</sup>. Synonyms: (French.) *étroiture*; (German.) *Enge*; (Greek.) *steno perasma*; (Italian.) *strettoia*; (Russian.) *laz*; (Spanish.) *laminador, gatera*;

(Turkish.) *ağiz geçit*; (Yugoslavian.) *sutjeska, klisura, soteska*.

**native ground water.** Original ground water<sup>[16]</sup>.

**natural arch.** 1. A residual portion of the roof of a subsurface karst cavity which has not collapsed. Such a natural arch may occur as a surface topographic feature, or as a part of a cave system<sup>[20]</sup>. 2. A rock arch or very short natural tunnel; contrasted with natural bridge, which spans a ravine or valley<sup>[10]</sup>. Synonyms: (French.) *arche naturelle*; (German.) *natürlisches Gewölbe, Naturbrücke, Felsfenster, Felsbrücke*; (Greek.) *physike apsitha*; (Italian.) *arco naturale*; (Russian.) *estestvennij arka*; (Spanish.) *arco natural*; (Turkish.) *doğal kemer*; (Yugoslavian.) *prirodni svod, luk, naravni obok*. See also natural bridge.

**natural bridge.** 1. A residual portion of the roof of a subterranean stream which has not collapsed and is found bridging a valley. Normally a surface feature, but may be used to describe a similar occurrence in a cave system<sup>[20]</sup>. 2. A rock bridge spanning a ravine and not yet eroded away<sup>[10]</sup>. Synonyms: (French.) *pont naturel*; (German.) *Naturbrücke, Felsbrücke*; (Greek.) *physiki gefyra*; (Italian.) *ponte naturale*; (Russian.) *estestvennij most*; (Spanish.) *puente natural*; (Turkish.) *doğal köprü*; (Yugoslavian.) *prirodni most, naravni most*. See also natural arch.

**natural levee.** A river bank raised by the river's own depositions<sup>[16]</sup>.

**natural load.** Sediment carried by a stable stream<sup>[16]</sup>.

**natural tunnel.** A nearly horizontal cave open at both ends, generally fairly straight in direction and fairly uniform in cross section<sup>[10]</sup>.

**natural water.** Water with a mineral content occurring under natural conditions.

**natural well.** (Jamaican.) A vertical shaft in limestone, open to the surface and having water at the bottom; similar to a cenote<sup>[10]</sup>. Synonym: (Italian.) *pozzo carsico*.

**neck.** A volcanic pipe filled with lava<sup>[16]</sup>.

**necrophage.** A scavenger feeding on animal carcasses (not prey)<sup>[25]</sup>.

**neomorphism.** A microscopic texture. A complex of processes whereby a mosaic of finely crystalline carbonate is replaced by a coarser (sparry) mosaic without the development of visible porosity. Dominant reactions are the wet transformation of aragonite to calcite and recrystallization. The process is 'porphyroid' where some of the neomorphic crystals are conspicuously larger than those which surround them<sup>[20]</sup>. Synonyms: (French.) *néomorphisme*; (German.) *Neomorphismus* ?; (Greek.) *neomorphismós*; (Spanish.) *neomorfismo*; (Turkish.) *neomorfizm*.

**neoteny.** The condition of retaining larval form and behavior even as a mature individual. Certain salamanders in particular are neotenic<sup>[23]</sup>.

**neptunian deposits.** Younger sediment or sedimentary rock that infills pre-existing cavities, such as grikes, dolines or cave passages, in older rocks. The most common form is a fissure fill, known as a neptunian dike. Neptunian deposits occupy voids in non-karstic as well as karstic rocks, and the combination of void and fill may subsequently be buried by still younger rocks. They may thus become part of a paleokarst<sup>[9]</sup>.

**nesquehonite.** A cave mineral —  
 $\text{Mg}(\text{HCO}_3)(\text{OH})\cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ <sup>[11]</sup>.

**nested sinkholes.** (American.) See uvala.

**net radiation.** The sum of incident and reflected sun and sky shortwave radiation plus incident and reflected atmospheric long-wave radiation<sup>[16]</sup>.

**network cave pattern.** A type of maze cave characterized by a complex pattern of repeatedly connected passages in a cave system. In map view, this type of maze cave appears similar to a city street map. It is typically formed by solutionally aggressive water infiltrating through fractures in an overlying insoluble cap-rock thus exhibiting a joint-controlled pattern. Synonym: labyrinth.

**neutrality point.** The separation point between acid and basic solution with a pH of 7.0<sup>[16]</sup>.

**neuromast.** One of the individual sense organs that make up the lateral line systems of fishes and amphibians<sup>[23]</sup>. See also *cupula*.

**nife cell.** A rechargeable alkaline battery for use with an electric-cap lamp<sup>[25]</sup>.

**nip.** An undercutting notch in rock, particularly limestone, along a seacoast between high and low tide levels along sea coasts and produced by solution and erosion. Most common along coasts with limited tidal variation<sup>[20]</sup>. Synonyms: (French.) *resserrement*, *étrangement*; (German.) *Kliff* ?, *Brandungsmarke*; (Greek.) *káto engopí vráchou*; (Italian.) *solco di battigia*; (Spanish.) *socavación marina*; (Turkish.) *dalga yarığı çentiği*.

**nīa.** See aisle.

**niter.** A white orthorhombic mineral —  $\text{KNO}_3$ . It is a soluble crystalline salt that occurs as a product of nitrification in most arable soils in hot, dry regions, and in the loose earth forming the floors of some natural caves<sup>[1]</sup>. Synonyms: saltpeter; potassium nitrate.

**nitrammite.** A cave mineral —  $\text{NH}_4\text{NO}_3$ <sup>[11]</sup>.

**nitrocalcite.** A cave mineral —  $\text{Ca}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ <sup>[11]</sup>.

**nitromagnesite.** A cave mineral —  $\text{Mg}(\text{NO}_3)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ <sup>[11]</sup>.

**nival karst.** Alpine karst<sup>[1]</sup>.

**nivo-karst.** A karst-like topography produced by the differential chemical weathering beneath snowbanks from snowmelt containing carbonic acid. It is found mostly in periglacial areas<sup>[1]</sup>.

**node point.** The intersection point on a grid<sup>[16]</sup>.

**nodule.** A small, irregularly rounded knot, mass, or lump of a mineral or mineral aggregate, normally having a warty or knobby surface and no internal structure, and usually exhibiting a contrasting composition from the enclosing sediment or rock matrix in which it is embedded (e.g. a chert nodule in limestone.) Most nodules appear to be secondary structures in sedimentary rocks they are primarily the result of post depositional replacement of the rock and are commonly elongated parallel to the bedding. Nodules can be separated as discrete masses from the host material<sup>[1]</sup>.

**noethphreatic flow.** A type of conduit flow that is always laminar<sup>[9]</sup>.

**nominal.** Used to describe standard sizes for pipe from  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch to 12 inches (3.2 mm to 304 mm.) The nominal size is specified on the basis of the inside diameter. Depending on the wall thickness, the inside diameter may be less than or greater than the number indicated<sup>[6]</sup>.

**nongraded.** An engineering term pertaining to a soil or an unconsolidated sediment consisting of particles of essentially the same size<sup>[6]</sup>.

**non-point source.** 1. Any source, other than a point source, which discharges pollutants into air or water<sup>[22]</sup>. 2. Source originating over broad areas, such as areas of fertilizer and pesticide application and leaking sewer systems, rather than from discrete points<sup>[22]</sup>.

**non-recording gage.** A standard rain gage (8 is standard in U.S.)<sup>[16]</sup>.

**normal depth.** The depth at which uniform flow occurs in an open channel<sup>[16]</sup>.

**normal fault.** A fault in which the upper block appears to have moved downward relative to the lower block.

**Northing.** 1. The distance of a point north of the point of origin of the grid of a map, or some abbreviation of it. 2. The south-north component of a survey leg, or of a series of legs, or of a complete traverse; north is positive and south is negative<sup>[25]</sup>.

**nothephreatic.** Referring to water moving slowly in cavities in the phreatic zone<sup>[25]</sup>.

**numbering.** Assigning an alphanumeric index to a cave entrance<sup>[25]</sup>.

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[www.utexas.edu/depts/tnhc/www/biospeleology](http://www.utexas.edu/depts/tnhc/www/biospeleology)

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<http://wasg.iinet.net.au/terminol.html>

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