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To cite this version:

Théophile Piau, François Betard, Fabienne Dugast. Methodological proposal for the inventory and assessment of geoarchaeosites: Application to the middle Eure valley (Paris Basin, France). European Geosciences Union General Assembly, Apr 2021, Vienne (virtual), Austria. 2021. hal-03183618

HAL Id: hal-03183618

https://hal.sorbonne-universite.fr/hal-03183618

Submitted on 2 May 2021
Methodological proposal for the inventory and assessment of geoarchaeosites: Application to the middle Eure valley (Paris Basin, France)

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1. Definition of geoarchaeosites
- Concept introduced by Fouache & Rasse (2009)
  - Sites located on a geomorphosite
- We propose to use it in a larger sense as a contraction of geo+archaeological sites
  - Sites of particular relevance for the understanding of past human-environment interactions
  - Geomorphological and archaeological components have the same level of importance

2. Methodology for the inventory and assessment of geoarchaeosites

Two main stages in our proposed methodology:

1. The inventory
   - Identification and selection of potential geoarchaeosites
     - Should be both representative
       - of the regional geomorphological setting (spatial axis)
       - of the archaeological periods (temporal axis)

2. The assessment
   - Divided into three main steps
     - Assessment of the scientific value
     - Assessment of the conservation need
     - Assessment of the potential use

3. Example of application to the middle Eure valley: first results

- A first selection of 20 “disconnected geoarchaeosites”
- With contrasted scientific values
- Which illustrate past human-environment interactions
- At various spatio-temporal scales