

Karst Topography (Erosional Landforms)

Pools, Sink holes, Lapsies and Limestone pavements.

(A) Swallow Holes

Small to medium sized round to sub rounded shallow depressions called swallow holes form on the surface of limestone through the process of solution.

(B) Sink Holes

It is an opening more or less circular at the top and funnel-shaped towards the bottom with sizes varying in area from a few sqm to a hectare and with depth from a less than half a metre to thirty metres or more.

Some of them solely through solution action (solution sinks) and others might start as solution forms first and if the bottom of a sink hole forms the roof of a void or cave underground, it might collapse

having a large hole opening into a cave or a void below (collapse sink). Quite often sink holes are covered up with soil mantle and appear as shallow water pools. Any body stepping over such pools would go down like it happens in quick sand and desert.

Doline

The term doline is sometimes used to refer the collapse sink. Solution sink are more common than collapse sink. Quite often the surface runoff simply goes down swallow and sink holes and flow as underground streams and re emerges at a distance downstream through a cave opening.