

Nomination of Stevns Klint for inclusion in the World Heritage List

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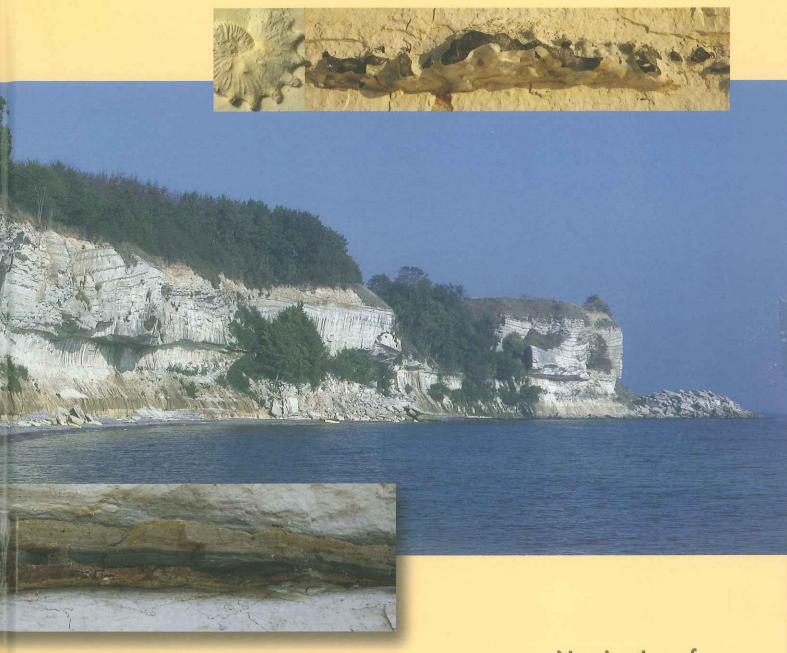
Publication date: 2012

Document version
Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Citation for published version (APA):

Damholt, T., & Surlyk, F. (2012). Nomination of Stevns Klint for inclusion in the World Heritage List. Østsjællands Museum.

Download date: 07. Apr. 2020



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Tove Damholt and Finn Surlyk





The present project has received financial support from the Heritage Agency of Denmark, the Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland and Nordea-fonden.







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Technical editor: Henrik Klinge Pedersen (Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland, GEUS)

Cover: Carsten E. Thuesen/Henrik Klinge Pedersen, (Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland, GEUS)

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Maps: Anka Nordvig Sonne (Stevns Municipality).

Photos: Source is given at individual photographs

Print: Rosendahl/Schultz grafisk

ISBN: 978-87-994430-2-4

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The scenic coastal cliff Stevns Klint comprises the most spectacular global mass extinction event in the history of the Earth: The Cretaceous—Tertiary boundary. The mass extinction that occurred 65 million years ago is particularly spectacular due to its association with an asteroid impact and because it marks the extinction of more than half of all species, including land-living dinosaurs and large marine reptiles.

At Stevns Klint the thin, black boundary clay found in the up to 40 m high, white cliff clearly marks the abrupt fall in primary production and makes the exceptional boundary visible even to the inexperienced eye. Stevns Klint is an outstanding locality representing a major stage in Earth's history and the record of life: The mass extinction at the Cretaceous—Tertiary boundary and is nominated for inclusion for the World Heritage List.



