

In the Giant Mountains have been recorded 16 granite caves in total, they can be classified into 4 morphogenetic groups: crevice caves, crevice – collapse caves, talus caves and rockwall niches. The spatial distribution of caves is very irregular – 13 caves in the Pogórze Karkonoskie and 3 in the Giant Mts. ridge. Caves, associated with the rock blocks movements (crevice, crevice – collapse, talus caves), have formed in periglacial conditions by cryogenic and gravitational processes. Rockwall niches have formed by selective weathering along horizontal fractures. The most suitable granite of Giant Mountains is coarse – grained porphyric type, which has an irregular primary joint system and is less resistant to selective weathering. The investigation of a present – day development of Krakonošova klenotnice and Lomená caves in Pančavská jáma cirque should be focused on monitoring of recent rock blocks movements and on relative dating of joint planes.