Building site

Shaping a piece of basalt with a quartz hammer stone to form a hand axe

Chopping wood with stone hand axe

Cut around the base and break the tree down for a clean cut

Cut to length

Hammer stake in to form a post hole

Remove stake and put post in

A vine

Lashing wood together with vine

Lashing rafters together

Rafters in place

"Potato vine" leaves. Use fallen dead leaves, green ones are weaker and shrivel

Skewer leaves onto sticks

Put sticks onto frame and tie with vine

Final ridge cap in place

Tying wall frame on

Uprights for frame

A simple bed

Splitting sapling

Weaving saplings into frame

Making fire with firesticks

Mining clay from the creek bank

Clay, water (in a cup shaped mushroom) and crushed fibrous leaves

Mixing fiber with clay gives it tensile strength to prevent it from cracking as it dries and during firing

A leaf is put down to stop the clay sticking to the stone

The clay is formed into a dish

Coils of clay are added to build up the sides

The coils are smoothed onto previous layers

Each layer should be left to dry slightly before adding new coils so that the pot stiffens and doesn't slump

Several pots

When the pot is completely dry a fire pit is dug to fire it . The pit is at least twice the width of the pot

The pot is put in and covered with leaves and sticks

Surrounding with stones to prevent wind changing the temperature sudenly

Animal skin drying on frame (bottom right corner)

Good sound indicates strong pot

Digging a trench around hut

Water from nearby creek

Mixing mud to coat walls

Collecting paper bark. Although this does not kill the Paperbark tree but it will kill most other tree species

A crossbar lashed to the tree forms a platform to stand on

Placing bark on the roof to cover the rotting leaves (this is a couple of months after putting the leaves in place)

Digging a hole in the wall for a nice fireplace

Stone foundation

Beginnings of firplace

Fire dries the mud out as it is built

Bridging over fireplace entrance

Wattle and daub for the back roof gable

The finished hut is a small but comfortable size