

## Lecture 3: New Stone Age Architecture . . . Rocks!



### Prehistoric architecture: ca. 10,000-1,500 B.C.E.

1. Palaeolithic Age (Art of the Old Stone Age) ca. 30,000-8,000 B.C.E.  
*palaios*=old; *“lithos”*=stone; lit. *old age of the stone*=OLD STONE AGE  
Mesolithic Age

(from *“meso”* =in the middle; *“lithos”* =stone; Palaeolithic-Neolithic overlap, ca. 9,000-4,000 B.C.E. / today Mesolithic architecture often grouped under the Neolithic architecture)

2. Neolithic Age (Art of the New Stone Age), from ca. 8,000 B.C.E.  
*neos*=new; *“lithos”*=stone – NEW STONE AGE

### Neolithic Architecture, from ca. 8,000 B.C.E.

Vernacular architecture / profane architecture / secular architecture; Housing - villages

\*\**Lepenski Vir*, Serbia, ca. 6,500-5,000 B.C.E.

\*\**Skara Brae*, Scotland, ca. 3,100-2,600 B.C.E.

Monumental architecture

-- *megalithic structures* – dolmen, menhir, alignment, circle (cromlech or henge)

\*\**Carnac*, Brittany, France, ca. 4,500-2,000 B.C.E.

Funerary architecture

\**Bisceglie*, Southern Italy, dolmen, ca. 4000 BCE

\**Barnenez*, France, cairn tomb, ca. 4500 BCE

\*\**New Grange*, Boyne Valley near Dublin, Ireland, ca. 3,200 B.C.E.

Sacred architecture

\*\**Ġgantija Temple Complex*, island of Gozo near Malta, Malta, ca. 3,600-3,000 B.C.E.

\**Temple Complex of Hagar Qim*, Malta, Malta, ca. 3,200 – 2,500 B.C.E.

\*\*\**Stonehenge*, England, ca. 2,750-1,500 B.C.E.

\**Avebury*, England, ca. 3,000 B.C.E.

Urban architecture

Some of the first cities not in Europe but in Anatolia and the Near (Middle) East:

\*\**Jericho*, Israel, ca. 8000–7000 BCE -- the oldest known city

\*\**Çatal Höyük*, Turkey, ca. 7400–6000/5900 BCE.

### Terms:

Neolithic architecture

Megalithic architecture

Tension and compression

Structural system

Post-and-lintel system (trabeated system)

Cantilever

Corbelled arch / vaulting

Solstice

Floor plan / ground plan

Façade

Orthostat

Oracle / sanctuary / shrine

Apse / conch

Courtyard house

Fortification (wall)

Vernacular architecture (profane, secular) architecture

Monumental architecture

-- *megalithic structures* – dolmen, menhir, alignment, circle (cromlech or henge)

Funerary architecture

Sacred architecture

Urban architecture