

Appendix 4. Visual NCC Markers in South Korea and the UK (Figure 5)

Figure 5: NCC – Comparative Visual Evidence from South Korea and the United Kingdom



Note:

Figure 5A. Neolithic pottery fragment from Gadeokdo, Busan, South Korea. Photographed by Dae-Jung Byun at the Gimhae Museum on 15 November 2019. This pottery fragment, excavated from the Gadeokdo site, exhibits the distinctive linear and dotted surface decoration characteristic of the Neolithic comb-pattern pottery (NCP) tradition. These deliberate markings reflect symbolic intent and aesthetic conventions widely shared within the Neolithic cultural sphere. Crucially, this fragment was recovered directly alongside human remains in a flexed burial position (see Figure 5C), aligning with the Linearbandkeramik Burial Custom (LBC) marker and reinforcing the NCC framework's emphasis on spatial and symbolic co-occurrence. **Figure 5B.** Dolmen near the Gochang Dolmen Museum, Jeollabuk-do, South Korea. Photographed by Dae-Jung Byun on 13 January 2020. This Korean dolmen, traditionally attributed to the Bronze Age in local educational discourse, displays the classic trilithon form of three upright stones supporting a horizontal capstone. Its structure closely resembles Dolmen F in Cornwall, UK. Notably, surrounding menhirs echo spatial arrangements commonly seen in British megalithic sites. This architectural and spatial convergence supports the statistical results derived from Ripley's K-

function and Moran's I analyses. **Figure 5C.** LBC from the Gadeokdo site, Busan, South Korea. Photographed by Dae-Jung Byun at the Gimhae Museum on 15 November 2019. This burial features a flexed posture, with limbs drawn tightly toward the torso—known in Korea as *guljang*. Seven such burials were unearthed at the Gadeokdo site, each oriented north or northeast. This burial style, previously undocumented on the Korean Peninsula, was found in direct association with NCPP ceramics (see Figure 5A). Similar configurations occur across LBK contexts in Egypt, the Levant, Anatolia, and Europe, reinforcing the idea of shared mortuary symbolism across Neolithic Eurasia. **Figure 5D.** Engraved cup-and-links motif from Dolmen No. 4, Sinae-ri, Miryang-si, South Korea. Photographed by Dae-Jung Byun at the Gimhae Museum on 15 November 2019. This engraved flagstone features a three-tiered concentric circle motif (~7 cm in diameter) interpreted as a cup-and-links design, alongside a stylised sword (11.2 cm long, 5.7 cm wide) with engraved separation between the blade and hilt. Additional engravings on nearby dolmens suggest anthropomorphic or zoomorphic motifs. Comparable designs have been recorded in Scottish megalithic sites, lending symbolic support to the NCC's proposition of a shared cultural vocabulary between Korea and the UK. **Figure 5E.** Grooved Ware pottery (2515–2470 BCE) from Woodhenge, currently housed at the Wiltshire Museum, Devizes. Photographed by Dae-Jung Byun at the Royal BC Museum, Victoria, Canada, on 22 December 2024. This vessel displays characteristic linear and dotted surface motifs consistent with the NCPP marker. As with the Korean example (Figure 5A), Grooved Ware pottery is frequently discovered in association with flexed burials (Figures 5C and 5G), reflecting the pattern of symbolic and mortuary co-occurrence central to the NCC framework. **Figure 5F.** Lanyon Quoit in Cornwall, UK (ca. 3500–2500 BCE). Photograph by Olaf Tausch, licensed under CC BY 3.0. This trilithon-style dolmen, comprising upright orthostats and a horizontal capstone, shows a remarkable resemblance to Korean dolmens (see Figure 5B). Despite the geographical and cultural divergence, the architectural similarity suggests shared symbolic logic within Neolithic funerary and ritual practices, reinforcing the spatial convergence documented in this study. **Figure 5G.** Flexed burial from Roundway Down, near Stonehenge (ca. 2450–1850 BCE), associated with Bell Beaker culture. Photographed by Dae-Jung Byun at the Royal BC Museum, Victoria, Canada, on 22 December 2024. This individual was buried in a contracted position alongside grave goods—including a bell-shaped beaker, copper pin, dagger (likely from Central Europe), and a flint arrowhead. A jade wristguard protected the forearm against bowstring recoil. The burial posture mirrors the LBC-type

configuration found in Korea (Figure 5C), and the associated beaker aligns with the NCPP marker (Figure 5E), underscoring the symbolic patterning defined in the NCC. **Figure 5H.** Cup-and-ring marked sandstone cliff at Ballochmyle, East Ayrshire, Scotland. Photograph by Rosser1954, licensed under CC BY-SA 3.0. This Neolithic or Early Bronze Age carving, discovered in 1986, represents one of the most extensive cup-and-ring sites in Britain. Remarkably, its concentric pattern—etched vertically into red sandstone—bears a close resemblance to the Korean cup-and-links motif (Figure 5D), further substantiating the cross-regional symbolic consistency posited by the NCC hypothesis.