CHAPTER 1

PREHISTORY AND FIRST FORMS OF HOUSING

Achieved by: Dr BOUMAZA Ouafa the construction, from the most modest dwelling to the monument is a human creation and as such it always bears the mark of a collective psychology, and a particular talent or genius.

Certainly architecture seems less apt than other arts to express, since it is the result of a use and not a language.



Architecture is the art by which a people expresses itself most completely.

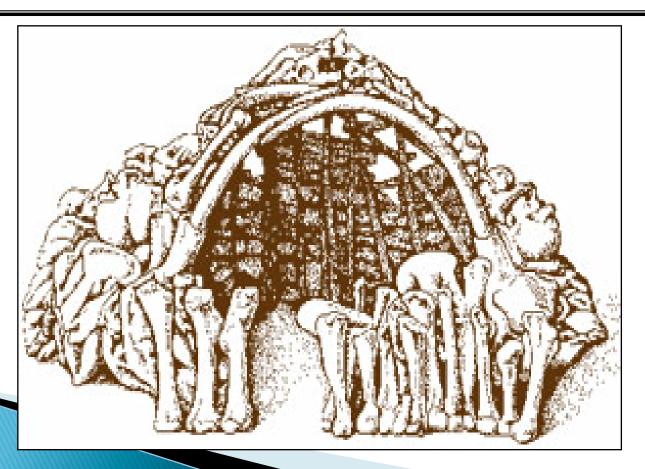
PREHISTORY: from 65000 to 3300 years BC

It refers to the period between the appearance of Man on Earth and the appearance of writing

le Paleolithic le Mesolithic le Neolithic

1. Paleolithic (3 Million years - 12,000 years BC)

The majority of Paleolithic habitats are characterized by monumental constructions made with mammoth bones and animal skins.



He preferred places close to water. The peculiarity of the man of this time, is his great capacity of acclimatization; each time he adapted and created a type of habitat typical to each region. The most widespread forms of construction of the time were often rocky shelters, tents of branches, bones and tusks of animals as well as leaves and skins of animals.



2. Mesolithic (From -10,000 to -7000 years)

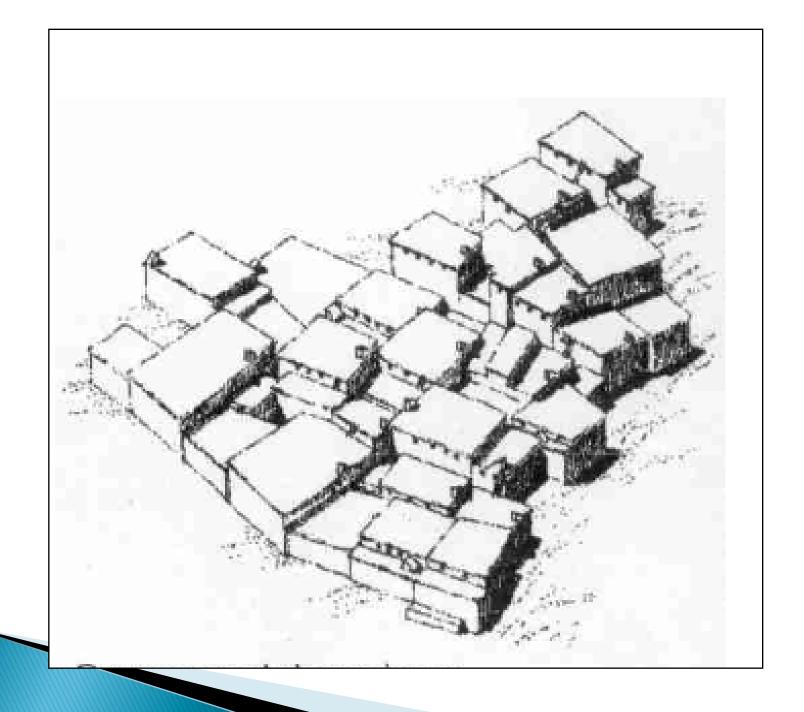
This period saw a number of innovations related to the use of the bow and arrow, in particular, becoming widespread on the European continent. The hunting frames are made of stone, then fixed on shafts of bone or wood to serve as projectiles. Hunting small mammals and eating molluscs (snails, etc.) develops.



3. Neolithic (From - 7,000 BC - 3,300 BC)

It is a period marked by profound technical and social changes, linked to the adoption by human groups of a production economy based on agriculture and livestock, and most often involving sedentarization. The main technical innovations are the widespread use of polished stone tools and ceramic pottery.

The villages become cities, the society is structured, thus appear craftsmen, soldiers, merchants and rulers.



FUNERAL ARCHITECTURE: The burials

The level of civilization in the Neolithic age in terms of technique, the essential fact that cut stone was substituted with polished stone proves that humanity is engaged in a more continuously progressive path. The most representative elements of this period are the menhirs and dolmens.



Menhirs. Pierres Droites de Monteneuf (Morbihan, France).

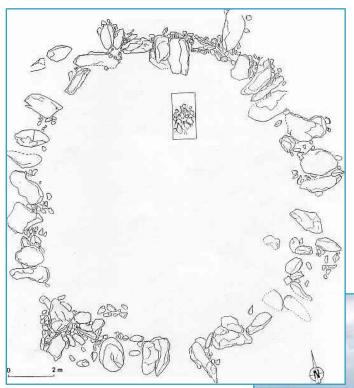


Menhirs de Carnac



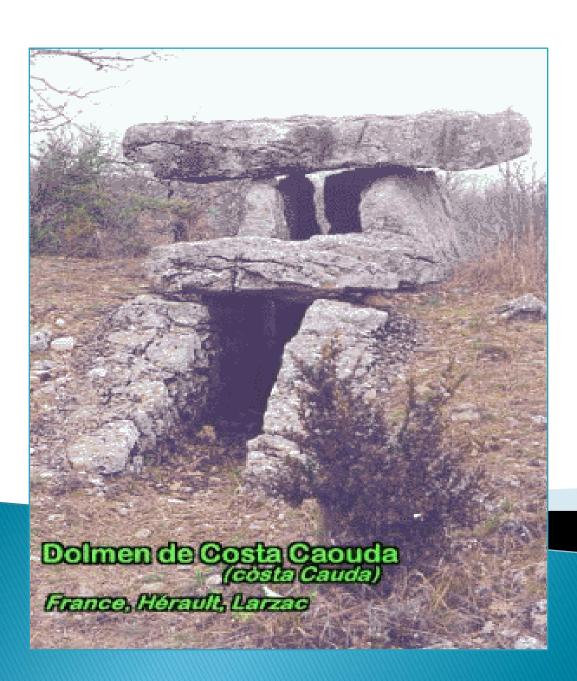


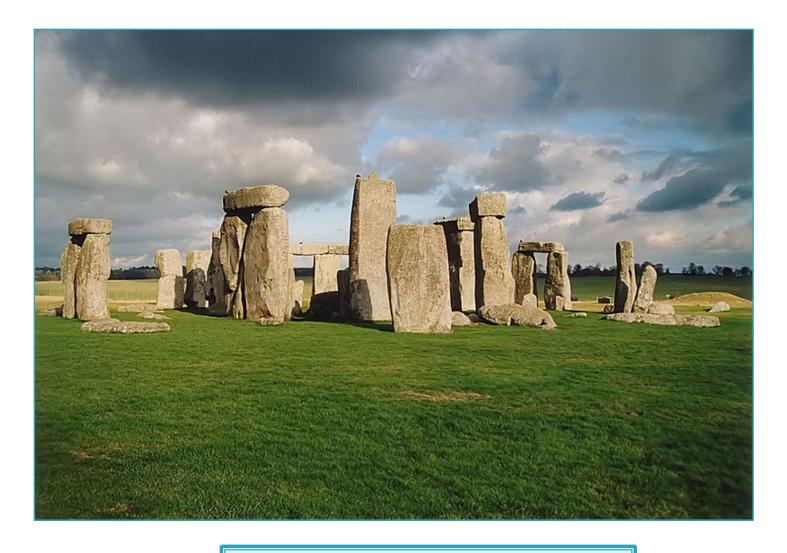
The menhirs are **«raw obelisks»**; their thick masses, stuck in earth, and which required prodigious efforts to be dragged sometimes very far, can be stored on an alignment, or form the circular enclosure, oval or rectangular of a cromlech.



un cromlech







Stonehenge en Angleterre

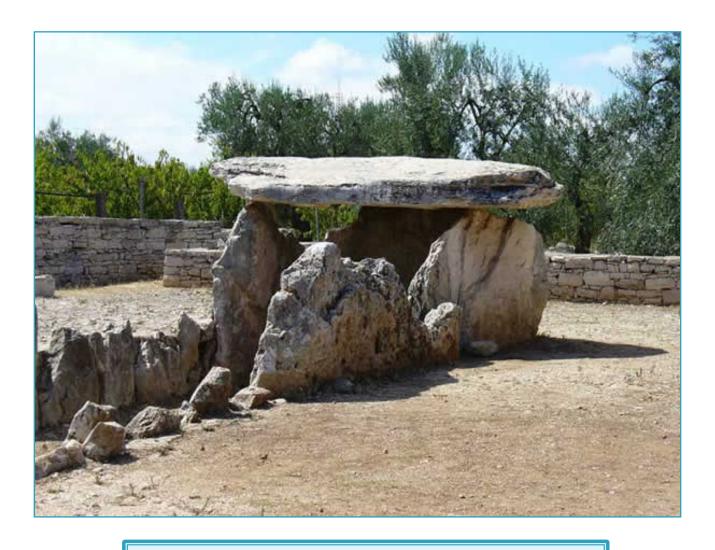


Dolmen de Poulnabrone, Irlande





The dolmens are "architraves (lintels, entablature) Brute". On two standing stones is laid a horizontal slab. A series of juxtaposed dolmens form a covered alley. All these monuments had ritual meanings. Under the dolmens are sometimes human remains. The dolmen is then a kind of primitive funeral temple.



Dolmen de la Chianta en Italie

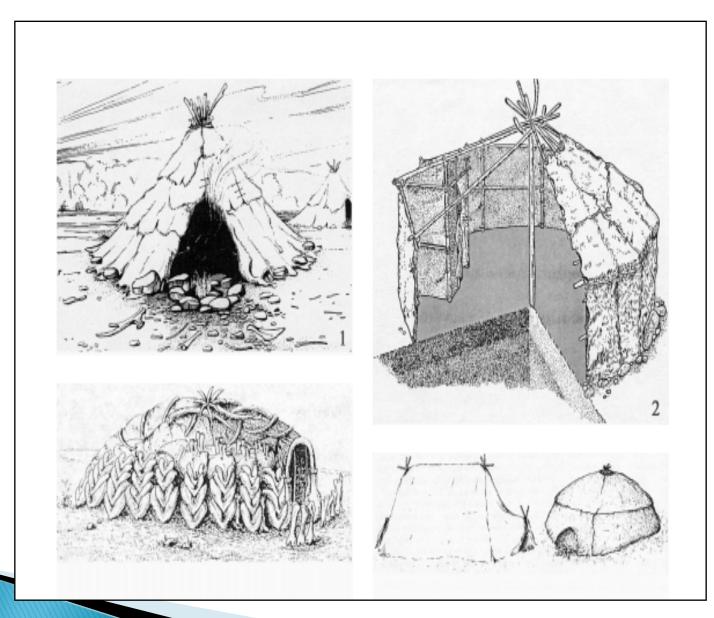
THE DOMÉSTIQUE ARCHITECTURE

The architectural act itself requires the establishment of a minimum of structure offering a possibility of evolution. The mastery of these structures allows art to emerge over a long history. They used the most practical, accessible element, omnipresent in the surrounding nature: Wood is the basis of the two original systems still in use:

the triangular structure



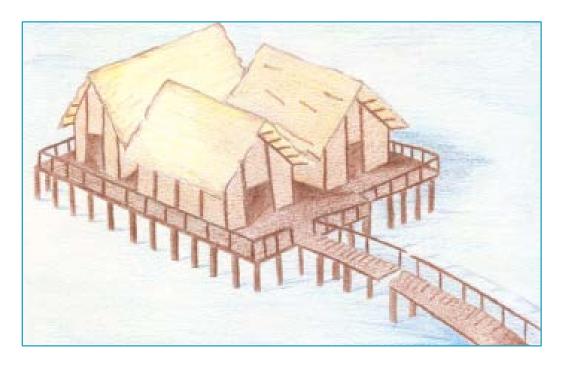
This is the easiest to do. Thin tree trunks are cut, roughly squared, arranged in a cone or pyramid, and covered with skin or branches. This was probably the first dwelling that came out of the hands of man.



The structure "vertical carrier-horizontal reach"

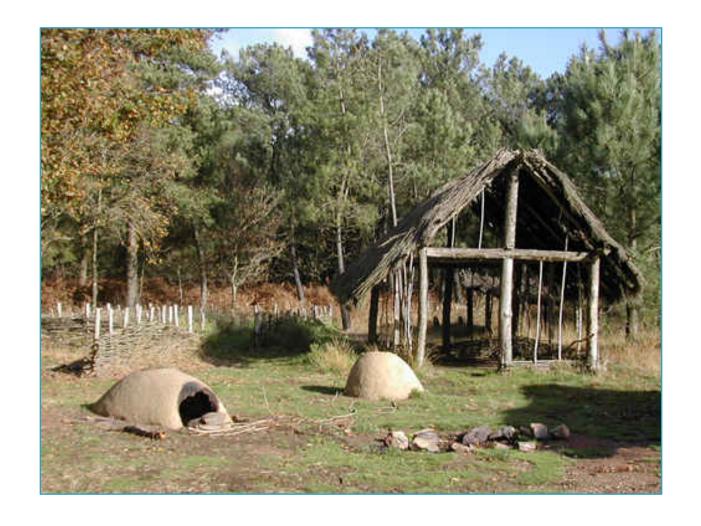


Very early on, another type of insulating structure appeared: **pilotis**. It made possible the installation of lake cities that were thus protected against attacks and wild animals or invasions of small rodents.



La palafitte





Reconstitution d'un habitat à Monteneuf



Cette période correspond à la sédentarisation des populations, ce qui va entraîner une amélioration de l'habitat, un développement de l'agriculture, des outils et de l'artisanat.

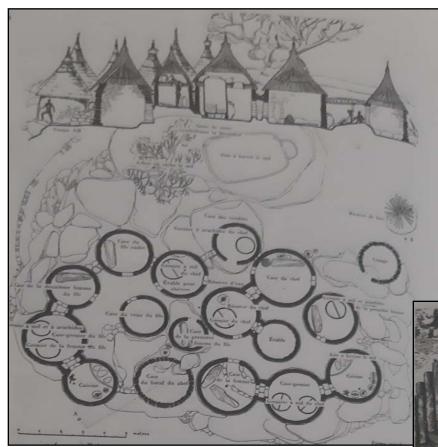
Des villages vont s'organiser



NEOLITHIC URBANISM

During this period, humans became sedentary, this activity called for the development of habitat, but also shelters for domestic animals, deposits to conserve food, land is also cultivated. Thus man reshaped the surrounding nature.

We find in the village <u>the embryonic structure</u> of the city with houses, a street, a public square.





Références principales

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