

The Prehistoric Landscape

- the cave
 - paintings and carvings
 - ritual use, sympathetic magic
 - hunting
 - Mother Goddess, womb
 - burial (constructed caves = dolmen, barrow)
 - cosmic astronomy (sun spirals)

Ex: Lascaux Caves; New Grand passage tomb; Pueblo Bonita kiva

- the stela/menhir
 - “standing stone”
 - correlation with appearance of sky gods, symbols of male authority
 - cosmic astronomy

Ex: Stonehenge; Avebury Circles; Carnac Menhirs; Easter Island Moai; Egyptian obelisk

- the sacred mountain
 - one of most common ur-forms

Ex: Ur-Nammu Ziggurat; La Venta pyramid; Cahokia Mounds

- cosmic patterns
 - inscribed on ground or raised above it
 - gods/goddesses
 - fertility figures
 - animal effigies
 - abstract geometries
 - sun spirals

Ex: Uffington White Horse; Cerne Abbas Giant; Ohio Serpent Mound; Nazca lines