

# Stone Age monuments



There are thousands of Stone Age monuments around the United Kingdom, which are made from earth and stone. Archaeologists believe that the earliest monuments in the United Kingdom were built around 6000 years ago, c4000 BC.



Pentre Ifan Neolithic tomb, Pembrokeshire, Wales



Silbury Hill, Wiltshire, England



Calanais standing stones, Isle of Lewis, Scotland



Newgrange passage tomb, County Meath, Ireland



# Long barrow



Neolithic long barrow, Wiltshire, England

Long barrows are some of the most ancient monuments that have been found in Britain. They were built around 4000 BC. Long barrows are a type of earthwork, which is a monument made from earth, with burial chambers inside. Long barrows were tombs where people buried their dead.



# Henge



Henges are ancient earthworks made up of a flat, circular area of land that is surrounded by a ditch and a bank. Henges usually have one or two entrances and many contain ancient structures, such as stone circles. Archaeologists believe that henges were used for religious ceremonies.

Thornborough henges, North Yorkshire, England



# Cursus



Dorset cursus is the longest in England and crosses a river and three valleys.  
The trenches of the cursus are outlined in white.

Cursus monuments are long, rectangular areas of land that are marked out by trenches at either side and banks of earth at each end. Archaeologists believe that they were first built c3000 BC and that they were used for religious processions or as barriers to separate important ceremonial land from ordinary working land.



# Standing stones and stone circles



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Drombeg stone circle, County Cork, Ireland

Standing stones are usually uneven, square or rectangular stones, which taper towards the top. The earliest examples date from around 3000 BC. They can be found on their own, but often appear in groups as stone circles. Standing stones and stone circles are thought to have been used for religious ceremonies or as meeting places.

