Structures of the prehistoric period, although interesting for archaeological reasons, have little or no architectural value, and will only be lightly touched upon. The remains may be classified under:

i. **Monoliths**, or single upright stones, also known as menhirs, a well-known example 63 feet high, 14 feet in diameter, and weighing 260 tons, being at Carnac, Brittany. Another example is at Locmariaker, also in Brittany (No. 2 B).

ii. **Dolmens** (Daul, a table, and maen, a stone), consisting of one large flat stone supported by upright stones. Examples are to be found near Maidstone and other places in England, also in Ireland, Northern France, the Channel Islands, Italy (No. 2 F) and India.

iii. **Cromlechs**, or circles of stone, as at Stonehenge (No. 2 G), Avebury (Wilts), and elsewhere, consisting of a series of upright stones arranged in a circle and supporting horizontal slabs.

iv. **Tumuli**, or burial mounds, were probably prototypes of the Pyramids of Egypt (No. 4) and the beehive huts found in Wales, Cornwall, Ireland (No. 2 D, E) and elsewhere. That at New Grange (Ireland) resembles somewhat the Treasury of Atreus at Mycenae (No. 15).

v. **Lake Dwellings**, as discovered in the lakes of Switzerland, Italy and Ireland consisted of wooden huts supported on piles, and were so placed for protection against hostile attacks of all kinds.

Divided according to period as follows:

i. **Paleolithic Age**

ii. **Mesolithic Age**

iii. **Neolithic Age**

iv. **Chalcolithic Age**

v. **Bronze Age**