



Quern stone

Quern stones were used to grind grain to make flour for many thousands of years.

We have two types in the Museum:

- The **saddle** quern, where the top handstone is used to rock and roll over grain in the saddle-shaped base to reduce it to flour



- The **rotary** quern has a stationary bottom piece and a top handstone that is turned with a wooden handle. You can see one in action here:

bit.ly/2PwGGtx



Iron Age Houses

Roundhouses: The circular wall was made of daub (straw, mud and dung) and the conical roof of straw. Inside there would be one open room often shared with farm animals and a large central fire in the middle of the roundhouse for cooking and heating.





Iron Age Houses

Crannogs: A roundhouse but built on a platform on a lake or loch. Each crannog was connected to the shore by a long narrow ramp, which made it easy to defend.

Crannogs were in use from 400BC – 800AD.



Iron Age Houses

Broch: The Picts also constructed brochs, a type of massive, circular house. They were built using a drystone construction method with walls typically 4 metres thick and an inside floor space of around 10 metres across.



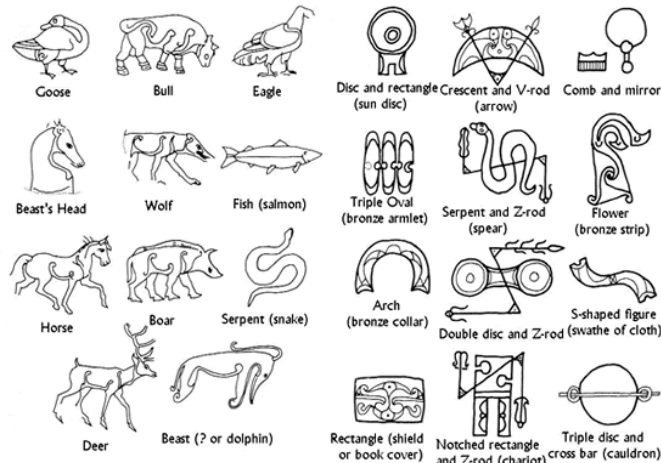


Symbol stones

One clue to the life of the Picts comes from their symbol stones, like the Dandaleith Stone you can **in the video here:** bit.ly/2FoLLUZ

There are many more still standing that can be visited in Moray.

Each stone was ornately carved, often with mysterious symbols such as discs, crescents and swirling circles. Others are illustrated with images of animals such as salmon, serpents and eagles.



Pictish warrior in trows and helmet with a 'buckler' shield, spear and sword. He may also have had tattoos or body paint.