

The Architecture of Traditional Indigenous Houses

Man protects himself from adversities of the weather and climate in different geographic zones by dwellings. If ABO groups represent a trans-species phenomenon uniting humans with primates, dwellings, surprisingly, provide a trans-continental criterion of comparison. Their patterns seem to be ‘trans-chronical’ because architectural archetypes seem to have persisted since Palaeolithic times up to now and modern indigenes. For instance, dome-shaped beehive dwellings unite Swazi people, Khoids, Maasai tribes, Berber and Basque funeral architecture, Irish or Scottish megalith-builders, Algonquian wigwams and Peruvian Quechua habitations. Their origin from Mousterians is demonstrated by Molodovo mammoth-bone huts and Eskimo whale-bone huts in Greenland. Mutual differences were removed by cave dwellings occupied by boreal hunters in wintertime. The following ordered chains do not sketch direct transitions but suggest stages that apply also to parallelisms in premortal and postmortal abodes:

straw beehive hut > stone *clochán* and cairn > cupolar mosque dome > citadel;
Khoisan heap-stone tomb > Berber tumulus > Mycenaean *tholos* > pyramid;
post-dwelling > *rondavel* roundhouse > conical tepee > columnal palace;
collective oblong longhouse > Amazonian *maloca* > Gothic half-timber *wurt*.

They demonstrate that evolution does not switch from one typological archetype to another but observes laws of inheritance that preserve genetic continuity pursuing one characteristic tradition. Such continuity links prehistoric tents with medieval folk huts and royal residences of monumental architecture. This means that cultural development proceeds forth in several independent lineages along different paths. Table 1 employs square brackets for tribal groups so as to indicate ethnic appurtenance.

GETIDS, GOTHS, FRISIANS

- **Longhouse** [dolichocephalous axe-tool people]: large oblong collective houses for great families; they are inhabited by *Zweiklassengesellschaft* ‘two-moiety communities’; their wooden framework is filled with straw; Haida-Tlingit shellfish eaters with middens; Tupí-Guaraní oblong long house *maloca*.
- ***Wurt, terp*** [Nordids]: Gotho-Frisian half-timber house with walls filled with straw and cow dung; its peripheral three aisles are used as cowsheds.
- **Wagon longhouses**: Iroquois Northeastern Woodland ‘longhouses’ of semi-cylindrical shape that are very similar to Viking huts in Island and Scandinavia.

CAUCASOIDS, ELAMITOIDS

- ***Tell-sites, tepe-sites*** [Elamitoids]: flat-roofed labyrinths with subterranean sanctuaries for rites bring offering of bull deities.
- ***Pueblos*** [Anasazi basket-makers, Elamitoids, Caucasoids]: multi-storied adobe houses out of sunburnt bricks that surround an open central plaza; it is accessed only through ladders lowered and removed by kinsmen so as to fend

off unwanted guests; they were built by Hopi-Zuni tribes in the Southwest.

PELASGIANS, TUNGUSIANS

- **Rondavel** [Kafirs and Pelasgoids]: conical roundhouse built by Pelasgoid lakeside fishermen (Zulu *rondavel*, Apulian *casedda* and *trullo*, Spanish *palloza*, Scottish *crannog*).
- **Tepee** [American and Far East Tungids]: conical dwelling with crossed poles common among the Tungids and Uto-Aztecan tribes in the Plains, residually preserved in the gables of *lavvu* log-cabins among Karelians, *Curones*, Ladogans and Saamic tribes.
- **Stilt-dwellings** [Aurignacians, Pontids]: seaside and riverside pole-dwellings and post-huts, abodes of Aurignacian Tungids preserved in the Polada and Lagozza cultures; seaside stilt-dwellings are peculiar to Oceanic and Polynesian sailors with Y-hg C; the Creek *chickee* is a stilt-dwelling derived from the *tepee*.
- **Alleys** [western lake-dwellers]: straight parallel rows of standing stones (*menhirs*) and streets of semidetached houses facing the waterside shore and adding parallel rows in offshore direction.
- **Columnal palace** [Greece, Cretans, *Latini*]: Cretan columnal palatial architecture is a derivation of Neolithic post-dwellings and Tungusoid tepees.

TURANIDS, CIMBRIDS

- **Tree-dwelling** [ancient Proto-Turanids]: Cimbroid summertime abodes in bogs and marshlands.
- **Rock-cut cave** [Hebroid, Iberoid and Dravidian Turanids]: Hebroid artificial cave hewn by antler pics; wintertime habitation under rock overhang shelters.

SCYTHIANS, ABASGOIDS, UGRIANS, ALGONQUIANS

- **Beehive** [Abasgoids]: cupola-shaped hut with a low entrance (Irish *clochán*, Scottish *cairn*, Moesian *gromila*, Mycenaean *tholos*, Mongolian *chum*, Eskimo *igloo*, Algonquian *wigwam*, Apache *wickiup*, Wampanoag *wetu*); it is made of straw mixed with cow dung but later developed into dome-shaped stone house with corbelled roof; its design is peculiar to all Abasgoid megalith-builders.
- **Citadel** [megalith-builders]: circular bastioned settlement with a central cupola-shaped castle with a leonine or feline sphinx at the gateway and circular enclosures (*kraals*) for domestic cattle; it is a derivation of a megalithic stone circle (*cromlech*).

SUMERIANS, URALIDS, SARMATIANS

- **Marquee** [Uralids, Sarmatoids]: four-pitch roof tent common to Tibetans, Arabs and Bedouins, Sarmatian *shater*; Patagonian Tehuelche lama-breeders have similar *toldo* tents.
- **Atrium house** [*Marsi*, *Volsci*]: Roman houses with a central open atrium and

impluvium for collecting raining water in a subfloor cistern.

- **Courtyard grange**: quadrangular courtyard grange with stalls for horses.
- **Oppidum** [Sarmatoid Celts]: hillforts and citadels on high rocky promontories over rivers.
- **Crenelled tower**: castle hillfort with castellated walls and crenelled bastions.

LAPPIDS, ALPINIDS

- **Lean-to** [Lapponoids, Pygmies, Negritos]: nomadic A-shaped two-sloped shelter in rainforest thickets.
- **Burdei** [Athapascans]: sedentary A-shaped semi-subterranean semi-dugout with two-slope roof, *zemlyankas* and earth lodges with saunas and sweathouses; Athapascan pit-house *qargi* called also *quiggly* hole.

Table 1. *Types of huts and dwellings*

Extract from Pavel Bělíček: *Ethnic Evolutionary Taxonomy. Systematic Theory and Classification*.
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