



# The Big Picture Part 1

# Nazca (Nasca)

Nazca is a city and system of valleys on the southern coast of Peru. It is also the name of the largest existing town in the Nazca Province. The Nazca culture flourished in the area between 100 BCE and 800 CE.

[https://www.ancient.eu/Nazca\\_Civilization/](https://www.ancient.eu/Nazca_Civilization/)





# Cahauchi Temple Complex













# Irrigation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MuluiE26rEw>





**Puquios** are an ancient system of subterranean [aqueducts](#) built by both the [Paracas](#) and [Nasca](#) cultures in the region of present-day [Nazca](#), [Peru](#). The former group occupied the area roughly between 800 BCE and 200 BCE, and the Nasca from 200 BCE to 650 CE near the city of [Nazca](#), [Peru](#). Of 36 known puquios in Peru, most still function and are relied upon to bring fresh water into the desert.



# Nazca Textiles

The **Nazca** are also known for their technically complex **textiles**. The **textiles** were most likely woven by women at habitation sites from spun cotton and wool. The dry desert has preserved the **textiles** of both the **Nazca** and Paracas cultures.























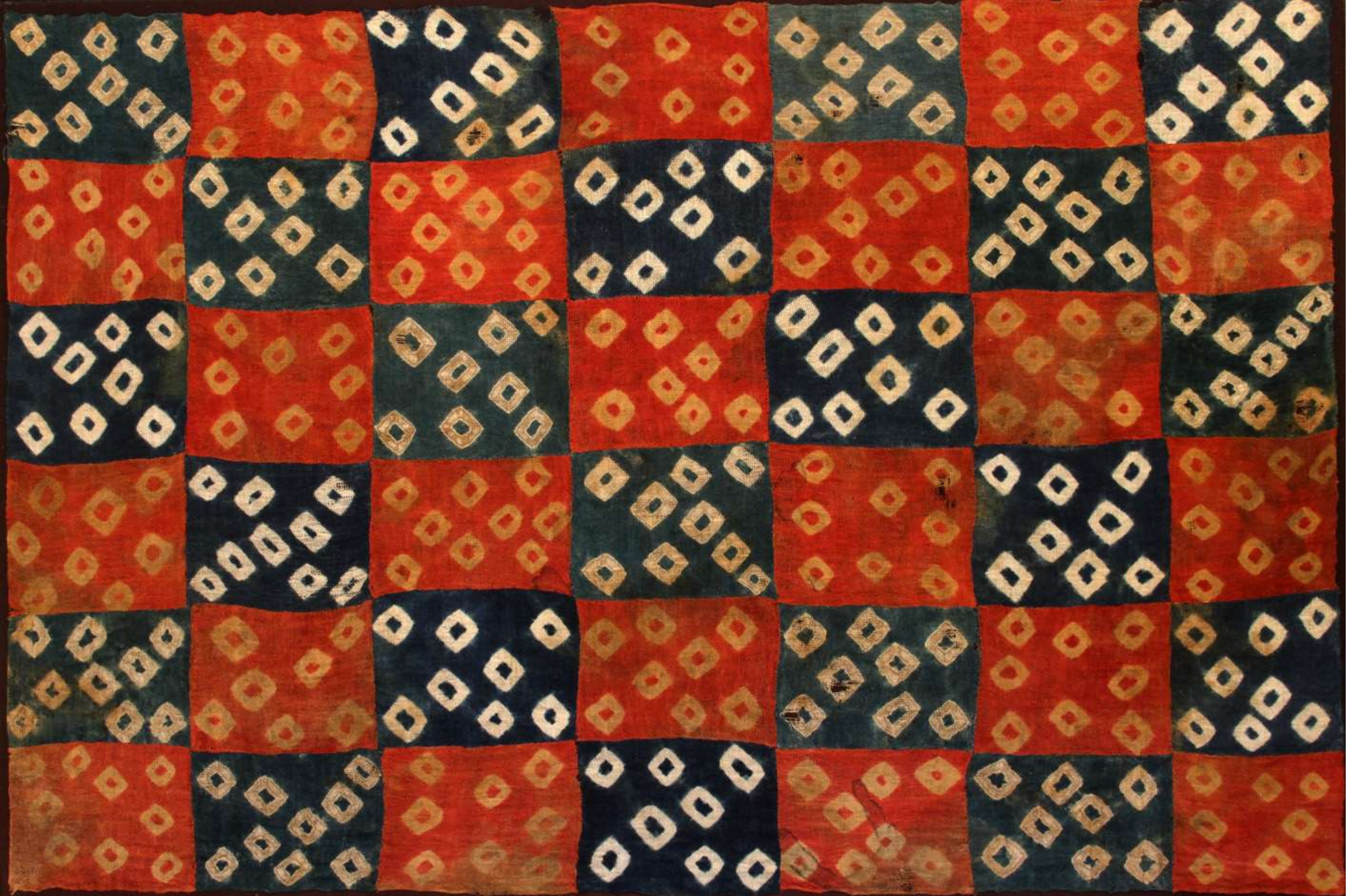














# Nazca Pottery

The use of pre-fire slip painting to produce certain colors. Major pottery shapes include [double-spout bottles](#), bowls, cups, vases, [effigy](#) forms, and mythical creatures. Archaeologists have excavated highly valued polychrome pottery among all classes of Nazca society, illustrating that it was not just the elite that had access to them. Commoners were able to obtain these goods through feasting and [pilgrimages](#) to [Cahuachi](#).































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# Nazca Lines

Nazca Geoglyphs are among the world's largest drawings.

The hummingbird measures over 300 feet in length. Among the other celebrated geoglyphs of mammals, birds and insects are a monkey, killer whale, spider, and condor. Various plants, geometric shapes (spirals, zigzag lines and trapezoids), abstract patterns, and intersecting lines fill the desert plain, known as the Pampa, an area covering approximately 200 square miles near the foothills of the Andes. The zoomorphic geoglyphs are the oldest and most esteemed. Each appears to have been made with a single continuous line.

<https://video.nationalgeographic.com/video/travel-source/unesco-world-heritage-sites/00000164-3776-d915-a76e-b7fe043c0000>



# Maria Reiche

With the advent of flight, the Nazca Lines were rediscovered in 1939 CE. A year later, Dr Maria Reiche, began a lifetime of study and protection of these remarkable sites.

<https://www.ancient.eu/article/1395/the-nazca-lines-a-lifes-work/>

Astrological map

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WNt81TRC2aE#action=share>



# Paracas Designs

- On the surrounding hillsides



























# Nazca Lines

On the flat plain









[www.TravelingMark.com](http://www.TravelingMark.com)

















gettyimages

25 YEARS

DEA / L. ROMANO

























































The ancient inhabitants of Nazca removed the reddish stones that covered the desert to reveal the light colored floor. This way, they created furrows where the red stones contrast with the lighter floor to create lines.



<https://www.machutravelperu.com/blog/how-were-the-nazca-lines-made>

## TECHNIQUES - MARIA REICHE'S THEORIES

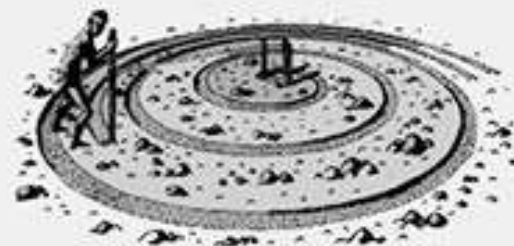


### LINES

The Nazcas used wooden stakes joined by a rope. They placed the stakes as a guide in a straight lines. This technique allowed them to repeat the process and draw very extensive lines and shapes.

### SPIRALS

The Nazcas tied a rope to two of three posts in triangular patterns. Then they spin around to draw an increasing spiral.



### FIGURES

Nazca geoglyphs were designed - and even painted - to scale on



# Robert Smithson (1938-1973)

Spiral Jetty is an earthwork sculpture constructed in April 1970 that is considered to be the most important work of American sculptor Robert Smithson. Smithson documented the construction of the sculpture in a 32-minute color film also titled Spiral Jetty.

It's 15 feet wide and coils for 1,500 feet near the lake edge.

<https://holtsmithsonfoundation.org/>

[https://aaep1600.osu.edu/book/13\\_Smithson.php](https://aaep1600.osu.edu/book/13_Smithson.php)



# Spiral Jetty (1970)

<https://smarthistory.org/robert-smithson-spiral-jetty/>

Robert Smithson's earthwork *Spiral Jetty* (1970) is located at Rozel Point peninsula on the northeastern shore of Great Salt Lake. Using over six thousand tons of black basalt rocks and earth from the site, Smithson formed a coil 1,500 feet long and 15 feet wide that winds counterclockwise off the shore into the water.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vrbNsHs7ptE>



















# Serpent Mound

<https://www.ohiohistory.org/visit/museum-and-site-locator/serpent-mound>



The Serpent Mound extends about 1,376 feet, varies in height from less than a foot to more than three feet and has a width of 20 to 25 feet. Conforming to the curve of the land on which it rests, with its head approaching a cliff above a stream, the serpent winds back and forth for more than eight hundred feet and seven coils, and ends in a triple-coiled tail. The shape itself consisted mostly of a layer of yellowish clay and ash that was reinforced with a layer of rocks, and then covered with a layer of soil.<sup>[6][7]</sup> The serpent head has an open mouth extending around the east end of a 120-foot-long hollow oval feature that may represent the snake eating an egg,<sup>1</sup> though some scholars posit that the oval feature symbolizes the sun, the body of a frog, or merely the remnant of a platform. The effigy's extreme western feature is a triangular mound approximately 31.6 feet (9.6 m) at its base and long axis. There are similar serpent effigies in [Ontario](#) and [Scotland](#).



## **A serpent 1300 feet long**

The Great Serpent Mound in rural, southwestern Ohio is the largest serpent effigy in the world. Numerous mounds were made by the ancient Native American cultures that flourished along the fertile valleys of the Mississippi, Ohio, Illinois, and Missouri Rivers a thousand years ago, though many were destroyed as farms spread across this region during the modern era.

The Great Serpent Mound measures approximately 1,300 feet in length and ranges from one to three feet in height. The complex mound is both architectural and sculptural and was erected by settled peoples who cultivated maize, beans and squash and who maintained a stratified society with an organized labor force, but left no written records.

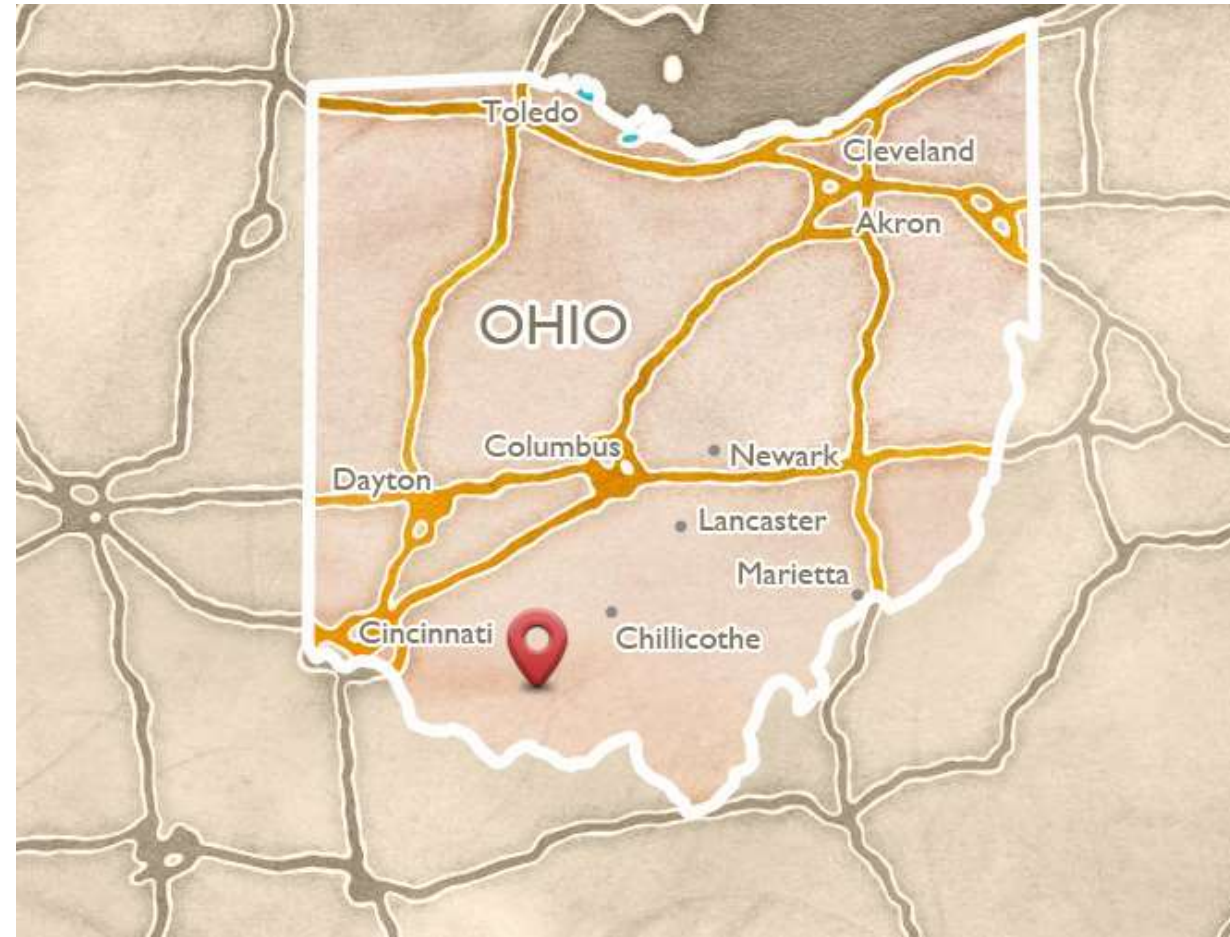




## Full Moon Rise Positions



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GH3l6RpAfFE>





# Maya Lin (1959-

**Maya Ying Lin** is an American designer, architectural designer, and artist who works in sculpture and [land art](#). She achieved national recognition as a 21-year-old undergraduate at [Yale University](#) when she won a national competition to design the [Vietnam Veterans Memorial](#) in [Washington, D.C.](#), considered to be one of the most influential memorials of the post-[World War II](#) period.

Lin has designed numerous memorials, public and private buildings, landscapes, and sculptures. Although she is best known for historical memorials, she is also known for environmentally themed works, which often address environmental decline. According to Lin, she draws inspiration from the architecture of nature but believes that nothing she creates can match its beauty.

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JW0Cbrlyhcg>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MB6yY-1hmgU>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R4wDml-aL4M>
- <https://www.arts.gov/video/maya-lin>



# 11 Minute Line—Somewhere between a line and a walk

Lin's interests range widely, from the most advanced concepts in science to the very earliest artists on earth. According to the artist, her objective in this 12-foot-high 1,600-foot-long curving line of earth was to make a three-dimensional drawing. This site-specific work was created for the pasture of one of the largest organic dairy farms in Northern Europe, near Wanas castle (now the Wanas Foundation). As an American abroad, Lin saw a captivating similarity between the early burial mounds of Europe and those in her homeland of the United States, and sought to elaborate on that connection. Lin had long had an interest in the Native American burial and effigy mounds in her home state of Ohio. Among the largest and most striking of these mounds is the so-called Serpent Mound of the Hopewell Indians (100 BC-700 AD). It is a visible source of inspiration for this work, part drawing, part sculpture, which Lin describes as, "somewhere between a line and a walk."

The artist used gravel (here again, her relationship to Robert Smithson, whose Spiral Jetty is composed of gravel, is evident) to make preliminary sketches on the grounds of the castle. She then created a topographic model of the site from which she transferred her gravel drawing to the permanent sloping pasture, an elaborate process that relied on her skill as a draftsman and cartographer (another one of her passions). Lin situated the final piece so as to be visible from multiple angles, from the road and nearby buildings.

- Earth and grass - Wanås, Sweden







# Assignment Suggestions

- Make [a continuous line drawing](#)
- Make an engraving or etching/or create a raised line drawing
- Create a blue print or model for an large earth work
- Use straight lines to create a design
- Create a contour drawing
- Create an artwork using string or wire
- Create your own zodiac/constellations
- Use the spiral in a design