

Pictographs - a form of communication

Images on rock or rock art were produced by many cultures worldwide. Petroglyphs are pecked or incised into the rock and pictographs are painted. Both types are found in this region, displaying images of animals, people, geometric designs, and natural features.

Pictographs can serve a variety of purposes. They are visual reminders of events or serve to transmit information about the environment. These images may be communication between human(s) and the supernatural or between two or more people.

Perhaps the images here were created during a healing

ceremony, a vision quest, or a prayer to the creator, to a spirit helper, or to hunted animals. They might be symbols or a sign marking the way, reminders of a vision and not meaningful to any other individual.

These pictographs were identified in 2003 by a park ranger and have been professionally documented. This documentation included the photographs below, taken with polarized light to capture pigment not visible to the unaided eye. Still unknown are the originator(s), age of the images, and the material used to paint the rock.

Can you find the designs in the photographs on the rock?

