

## Parowan Gap:

Parowan Gap is located about 5 miles north of Black Point at a location where there is a natural gap in the Red Mountains. The area has been found to have been occupied since 2000- 3000 BCE. The area was occupied by the archaic peoples, Anasazi / Fremont and Paiutes. The Hopi and the Paiutes consider this land sacred.

The rock art has some variations in style (Great basin curvilinear and Fremont / Anasazi) and age (differing levels of patina).

However the significant point is the very large amount of geometric linear / rectangular designs. Most unique is the “zipper glyph”, Figure 11 and the “lunar glyph”, Figure 2.

Archaeoastronomer Nal Morris and archaeologist Garth Norman determined that the Parowan gap site was an astrological observatory. They deciphered the “zipper glyph” to be a solar calendar depicting all 365 days, including one extra day for leap year. They also determined that the “lunar glyph”, Figure 11 depicts the lunar calendar including the 28 day monthly cycle, the 52 week cycle and the 19 year lunar cycle. They also have shown that there are glyphs that depict the nine year Venus cycle.

They believe this is one of the few places in the world where all of these observations can be made using natural features.



Figure 1 – Zipper Glyph Panel– Solar Calendar



Figure 2 – Top of the Zipper Glyph

The double crosses (center bottom) are associated with the Venus cycle.





Figure 3 – Bottom of the Zipper Glyph



Figure 4 – Lunar Glyph Panel





Figure 5 – Detail of the Lunar Calendar

The details of the solar and lunar glyphs are described in a number of publications:

- Parowan Gap Petroglyphs – Natures Journal – available at the BLM office in Cedar City
- Parowan Gap Archaeoastronomy Report Volume I, Space Time Light and Number, by Nal Morris, Published by Solarnetics, Inc., [www.Solarnetics.com](http://www.Solarnetics.com), 1988
- Parowan Gap Archaeoastronomy Report Volume II, The Path of Discovery, by Nal Morris, Published by Solarnetics, Inc., [www.Solarnetics.com](http://www.Solarnetics.com), 2007
- [www.parowangap.org](http://www.parowangap.org)
- [www.parowangap.us](http://www.parowangap.us)

However there are other images at the gap besides those associated with astronomy.



Figure 6

Fig Figure 6 could be very old because of its weathered appearance. It has curvilinear and rectilinear designs with one spiral.





Figure 7

Figure 7 is an Anasazi / Fremont appearing panel with cloud / mountain symbols, ladders, serpents turkey clan symbols among others.



Figure 8

Figure 8 also appears to be Anasazi / Fremont. It has a spiral with some wavy lines, a dot pattern, and a oval shape with vertical lines. Dominant is a double cross within a semi circle.





Figure 8



Figure 9 – Bottom right portion of the Panel in Figure 8.



Figure 8 has a large vertical serpent, some portals / concentric circles. At the bottom right (Figure 9) wavy pattern with an arrow (?) point toward it. Also there appears to be two spiders (spider woman) and an two anthros that appears to be Fremont (triangular body, broad shoulders) (top left and middle right).



Figure 10

Figure 10 is a continuation of the panel in Figure 8 and 9.





Figure 11

Figure 11 is a panel consisting of rectangular patterns of lines and dots.





Figure 12

Figure 12 is another panel consisting of rectangular and curved patterns. This panel is across the road from the other panels.



Figure 13



Figure 13 has a pair of foot prints with a wavy line / serpent (left), a set of concentric circles /dots (center), a stick figure anthro with some lines that make him appear to be falling (right) and a partial circle with wavy lines (comet ?) (right).



Figure 14

Figure 14 has an image with a line and a series of short lines underneath a partial image of the sun (circle with rays). Also are tick marks, a spiral, a wavy image with 3 parallel lines inside the figure and a foot print on the top surface.



Figure 15

Figure 15 is a tree of life symbol.





Figure 16

Figure 16 is a set of cloud / mountain rain symbols above a cluster of circular shapes.



Figure 17

Figure 17 is located across the road from the main panels. It consists of a sun image, a double pole ladder and a series of dots (stars / milky way).



Figure 18

Figure 18 is a series of rectilinear and curvilinear images. This panel is also located across the road from the main panels.





Figure 19

Figure 19 is a series of rectilinear and curvilinear images. This panel is also located across the road from the main panels. The center imagery is very complex.

In summary, there are images at the gap that are familiar as being either Anasazi or Fremont. It is believed both were in this area. Legend has it that the Hopi migration traveled through the gap. Among these images are many that have sun images (circles with ray radiating out from the center). There are also rectilinear and curvilinear images that could be attributed to earlier peoples from the Great Basin.

However, the predominate number of panels and images have unique rectilinear and curvilinear patterns that are not seen elsewhere. These are what make the gap unique.



Figure 13 – Sunset through the gap on the summer solstice in June 2009.

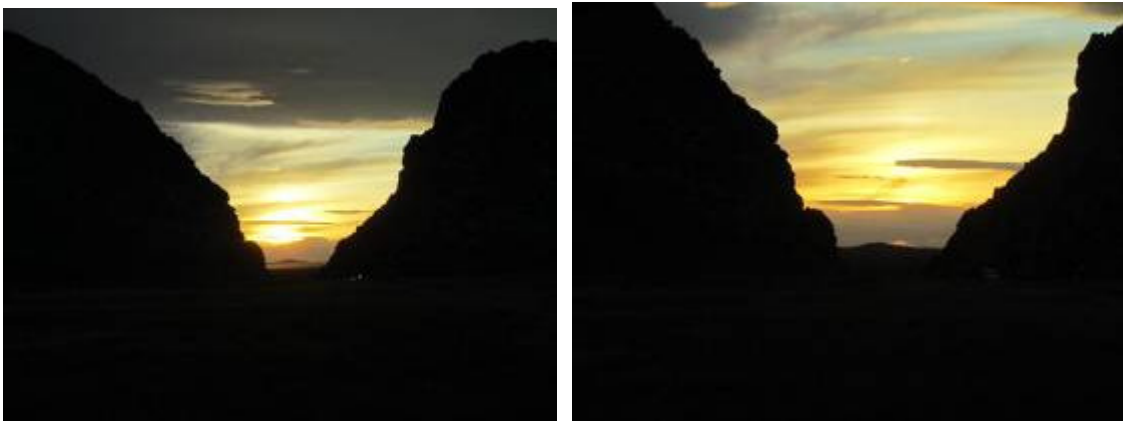


Figure 14 - Sunset on June 18, 2011 through the Gap as seen through the clouds.