

Petroglyph Canyon

Petroglyph Canyon is located in the higher elevations of eastern Washington County Utah. There are two main panels at this site with differing motifs. The panels are on a vertical wall with the glyphs near the soil level.

Left Panel

The left panel is all about sheep (Figure 1).



The panel is divided into two sections. The top section has glyphs pecked into dark patina (Figure 2 and 3). Most of the images in this section are sheep, with the exception of a “stick figure” anthro in Figure 3.



Figure 2



Figure 3

The glyphs in the bottom section of this panel (Figure 4 to 6) are all sheep. The sheep are shown as close together as possible (Figure 4). Figure 4, center, also shows at least one sheep with a very long “giraffe like” neck. Figure 6 shows a sheep (perhaps) or another type of animal with two small babies following the mother.

All of the glyphs on the bottom portion of the panel appear much eroded.

It is logical that sheep are a major topic of this panel because mountain sheep are known to congregate in this area today.



Figure 4



Figure 5



Figure 6

Right Panel

The symbols on the right panel (Figure 7) are more typical of petroglyphs in this area of Utah, with the exception that there are no sheep on this panel. Concentric Circles, Spirals, Serpents and stick figure anthros are the main design motifs. Three “hump backed” anthros appear to newer than the other glyphs and of a different style. These glyphs are generally not as eroded as those in the left panel. Figure 8 through 19 show details of the glyphs on the right panel.



Figure 7



Figure 8 – Concentric Circles



Figure 9 – Anthro



Figure 10 – Anthro stick figures, horizontal wavy line, four legged animal – perhaps a sheep



Figure 11 – Concentric Circles, Spiral, Anthro and a long wavy line (serpent)



Figure 12 – Spiral, 3 Stick figure anthros



Figure 13 – Long wavy line (serpent), 2 stick figure anthros, 3 “hump backed” anthros



Figure 14 – Close up of the “hump backed” anthros – they appear to be more recent – lighter patina and different style



Figure 15 – Two anthros in a “mirror image” design



Figure 16 – Concentric Circles and a stick figure anthro



Figure 17 – Wavy line (serpent) and dot pattern



Figure 18 – Stick figure anthro



Figure 19 – Turkey track and unidentified designs