Black Point

The petroglyphs at Black Point are located on a lava ridge at the start of the Red Mountains north of Cedar City. The site we visited faces southeast overlooking a flat plain that was once made by Lake Bonneville.

The area north of Black Point is known to have been occupied since 2000 – 3000 BCE. This area most likely was occupied by archaic peoples, Anasazi, Fremont and Paiute.

The rock art is carved into the lava rock. It appears to be from many time periods and styles.



Figure 1 – DAS members at Black Point

Panel 1 (Figure 2) is on a large horizontal rock at the cliffs edge. Can be seen best from above. The panel contains two areas that were most likely used as grinding areas. The panel contains a number of concentric circles (portals) with dots in the center (meaning that the portal has been passed through in the past). Some of the portals are connected to lines – perhaps a map. One set of circles with one of the circles having a cross over it (like cross hairs). There are two anthros on the rock – one is very complex (see Figure 23) and one is a simple stick figure (see Figure 20). There are also serpents on the rock and a pair of foot prints. The foot prints have been over written.



Figure 2 – Panel 1

Panel 2 (Figures 3 and 4) shows a large amount of over writing, perhaps three of four times. Some items appear to be rubbed out. There a re spirals, serpents, a foot print and also perhaps a badger clan symbol. There is also a two headed sheep. Finally there is a very unique anthro (Figure 18) that could be a corn maiden (?)

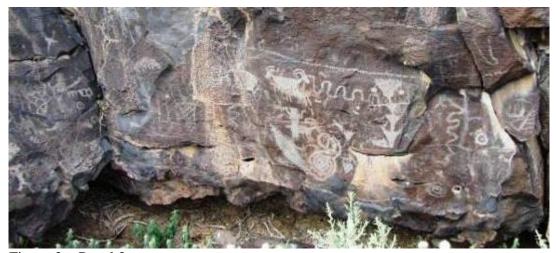


Figure 3 – Panel 2



Figure 4 – Close up of Panel 2

Panel 3 (Figure 5) is adjacent to Panel 2. The images have been over written at least 3 to 4 times. The oldest images appear on the bottom and the right middle (Figures 7 & 8). The dominant and newest image in the left middle (Figure 6) that shows a foot print, a two headed sheep (?) and a journey path with a double lined path. This path may connect to an earlier single lined path. The strangest images are on the top (Figures 9 & 10). These images over write earlier images and show something projecting off into the distance.



Figure 5 – Panel 3



Figure 6 – Close up of Panel 3 (Left Middle)



Figure 7 – Close up of Panel 3 (Right Middle)





Figure 8 – Close up of Panel 3 (Bottom)

Figure 9 – Close up of Panel 3 (Top)



Figure 10 – Close up of Panel 3 (Very Top)

Panel 4 is shown in Figure 11. This is an old panel showing a spiral, a rain symbol, a serpent, and some wavy lines (journey). At the bottom of the panel is an anthro that has a stick figure body with a very large head with earbobs (Figure 19). There are other vey weakly defined anthros associated with the anthro in Figure 19.

Figure 12 shows Panel 5. This is also appears to be old; however it has over written some earlier work. It shows a two headed sheep, a sun image, a sheep and a foot print or bear paw.



Figure 11 – Panel 4

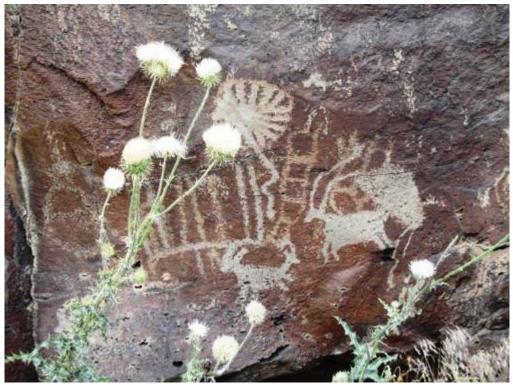


Figure 12 – Panel 5

Anthros

This site contains a number of images of anthro of differing styles and ages.

Figures 13 through 15 appear to be the oldest anthros and seem to have a similar appearance to barrier canyon style, making them archaic or early basket maker.





Figure 13

Figure 14



Figure 15

Figures 16 appear to be Fremont style because of the triangular shaped body and head and the earbobs.

Figure 17 could be Fremont because of its trapezoidal shaped body. Someone suggested that this could be a birthing scene.





Figure 16 Figure 17

Figure 18 through 23 are likely Paiute mainly because of the stick figure like bodies and the age of the patina on the glyphs.

Figure 18 is unique – it looks part Fremont but the body style is not consistent. This looks to me like a corn maiden (?) image.

Figure 19 is also unique – it has a large head with earbobs (Fremont) but a stick figure body (Paiute), although the panel appears to be one of the oldest on the site.





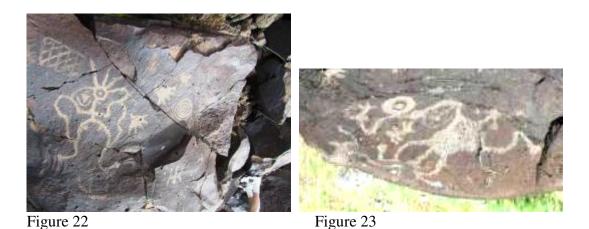
Figure 18 Figure 19

Figure 20 and 21 seem to be Paiute because of the stick figure body style.



Figure 20 Figure 21

Figures 22 and 23 are similar but appear on different panels. Again they appear to be Paiute because of the stick figure body style and the wavy arms and legs. Figure 23 has badger clan symbol associated with it.



Unique Images:

The image in Figure 24 is newer that the other images in the panel. They show sheep and a spiral and path along with a pair of foot prints (journey).

Figure 25 shows a bear clan symbol chasing rabbit and turkey clan symbols.

Figure 26 is an image of a serpent joined to a spiral (rattle snake).

Figure 27 appears to be a boar / javalina. This seems unique to this site, something not noted in other sites in southwest Utah.



Figure 24 Figure 25



Figure 26 Figure 27