

Thousand Hills State Park Petroglyph Shelter

Kirksville, Missouri

Positioned in a prominent Forest Lake location with the serene surroundings of Thousand Hills State Park, this shelter provides an effective and attractive enclosure for the park's petroglyphs — rock formations containing historic Native American carvings. The shelter allows park visitors to view the carvings while protecting them from erosion, inclement weather, and vandalism.

The building's octagonal shape provides an organized path that encircles the rocks. Spaced at equal intervals along the path are graphic signs that present information about the carved formations.

Native Missouri forests were



The deck (which is not shown) allows the visitors to view the petroglyphs without disturbing the rocks.

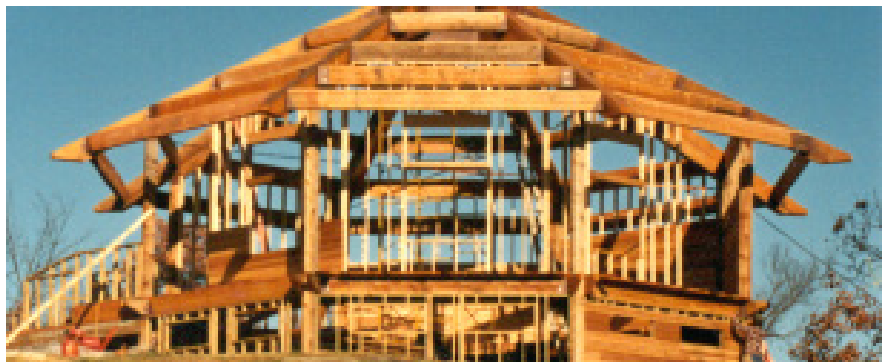


The petroglyph shelter stands upon one of the thousand hills for which the park is named. Inside are Native American rock carvings which the building protects.

used to construct the shelter. The main structure is comprised of heavy timber beams supported on wood posts. The walls are placed between the posts, floor decking and roof beams allowing expressions of the underlying timber structure both inside and outside the shelter.

Special care had to be taken

during construction in order to avoid damaging the petroglyphs. For this reason, the entire floor of the building is open ground. Concrete piers located at the corners of the octagon provide the support for the structure. Even the viewing platform is supported by the perimeter structure and suspended over the rocks.



The heavy timber and infill framing insure that this lasting structure will protect the petroglyphs.