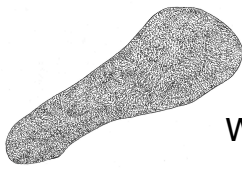
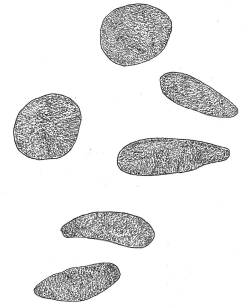


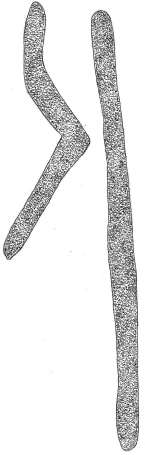
Looking way up.



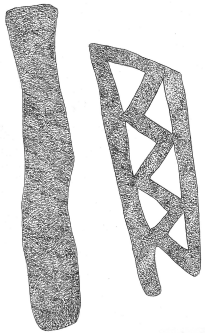
Walk this way.



Walking the sacred circle.



Narrow place.



Movement between to the top and back.

Medicine Rock

Medicine Rock is a Takelma vision quest site located above the Rogue River in southwest Oregon.

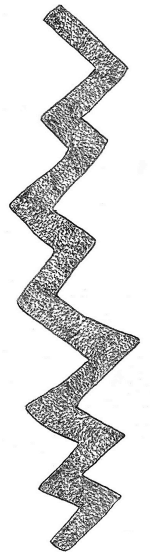
The pictographs are located in a natural gap between two massive rocks. Medicine people from traditional villages along the river came here for vision quests, seeking dreams and power for healing. They entered the gap and journeyed past symbols, through the exit and up onto the top of the rock. Here they fasted for five days and nights before returning by another path to where they had started.

Rock writings share information of many kinds. At Medicine Rock the writer explains the path to engage the powers of this sacred place. "Go up this narrow gap and follow the trail to the top of the rock. After five sunrises, walk down the other side to the starting place, completing the circle."

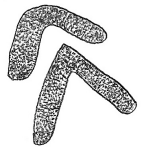
Not all of the symbols from the original site are included here. Many are faded and smudged by years of weathering. However, enough can be read to understand the story, and the symbols presented here dramatize that story.

The ancient power of Medicine Rock endures. Recently, a local resident said, "I get strange feelings and hear strange sounds when I am near this place."

Text, Photos and Drawings © 2008 by Thomas Doty and Roy Phillips.



Going down a crooked path.



Good place hidden below.

