

Indian Rock Paintings

by

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In the summer of 1961 the author conducted a geological survey of an area of approximately 1200 square miles in northwestern Ontario for the Ontario Department of Mines. During the course of this survey the author and his party noted five new locations of Indian Rock Paintings.

An excellent book entitled "*Indian Rock Paintings of the Great Lakes*" was published in 1962. The authors, Selwyn Dewdney and Kenneth E. Kidd, have combined to present the known locations, pictograph tracings, photographs and the anthropological background of these paintings. The reader is referred to this book for detailed description and discussion of the Indian Rock Paintings. The area covered by this report represents a blank space in their coverage; so it is hoped that this addition will be of value.

The accompanying sketches were made by the author and they are as close a copy of the originals as he was able to sketch. The approximate and/or relative scale of the actual paintings is indicated where known. It is worthy to note that only the more clearly defined paintings were sketched and recorded by the author.

In his book, Dewdney classifies the paintings as: (1) abstractions; (2) man-made objects; (3) hands; (4) other human subject matter; (5) mythical creatures; (6) animals and birds, etc. Examples of each of these types are depicted in the accompanying collection.

LOCATIONS:

The area under discussion is bounded by longitudes 90° 07' and 90° 00' west and latitudes 49° 30' and 50° 00' north.

Harmon Lake: The paintings are located on a cliff face on the north shore, near the entrance to the large unnamed bay on the east-central shore of Harmon Lake.

Shikag River: The paintings are located on a cliff face on the east shore of the Shikag River, south of Blackbird Lake, where the creek from Redwing Lake flows into the Shikag River.

Moberley Lake: The paintings are on a rock face located on the east-central shore of Moberley Lake (a widening of the Brightsand River).

Shikag Lake: The two paintings are located on a rock face on the south shore of the east end of Shikag Lake near the entrance to Pipio Lake.

English River: The paintings are on a rock face located on the east shore about one and one-half miles north of the junction of the English and Arabi Rivers.

REFERENCE:

Dewdney, S., and Kidd, K. E., 1962, *Indian Rock Paintings of the Great Lakes*, Quetico Foundation Series, Univ. of Toronto Press, Canada.

