

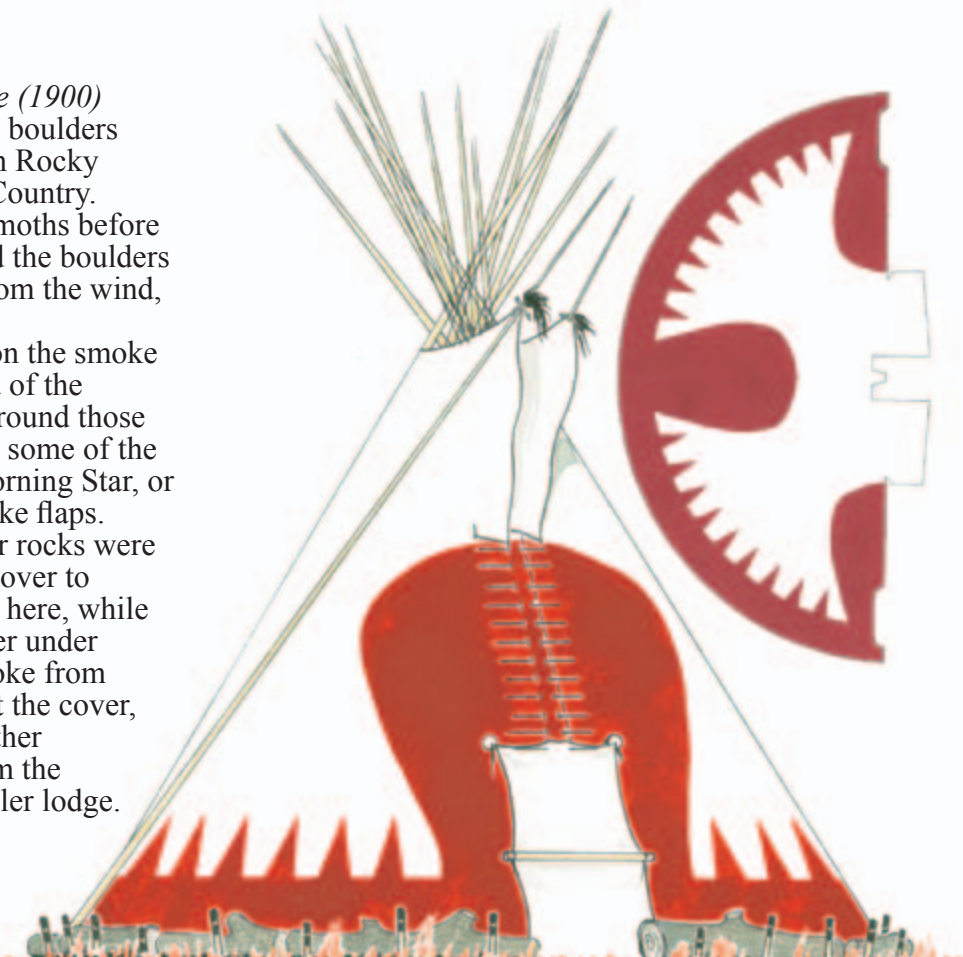


*Blackfoot Big Rock Lodge (1900)*

There are colossal glacial boulders at the base of the northern Rocky Mountains in Blackfoot Country. Buffalo, and surely mammoths before them, would gather round the boulders for shade or protection from the wind, and to scratch their sides.

Note the buffalo wool on the smoke flaps, associating the idea of the shed buffalo hair found around those boulders. This lodge, like some of the oldest designs, has no Morning Star, or constellations on the smoke flaps.

In winter camps, logs or rocks were used to weigh down the cover to keep out drafts, as shown here, while leaving enough air to enter under the cover to draw the smoke from the lodge. Logs would rot the cover, making it necessary to either renew the cover, or to trim the bottom, which left a smaller lodge.





*The Distant Blackfoot Lodges*

Some of the lodges, above left, can be identified: Horse Lodge, (note the horse tail hanging from the center of the Morning Star), Buffalo Head Lodge, Snow Lodge, Crow Lodge and a Striped Lodge, all from the 1900s.

Above right: three Otter Lodges (1990s), and the Black Buffalo Lodge, (1960s, see page 71).

*Blackfoot Buffalo Head Lodge (1940s)*

In summer camps, leafy branches were sometimes placed round the bottom of the lodge, as painted here, helping to keep out dust, and preventing uninvited dogs pushing under the cover. On very hot days large leafy branches might be cut and leaned against the cover for shade.

