



AMES MONUMENT

Instead of turning north at exit #329 to Vedauwoo, turn south and take a short drive to an unusual 60 ft. pyramid-shaped monument. This haunting limestone mass stands alone on the prairie and watches over the lonely remains of the one-time rail town of Sherman. This monument was built in 1881 to honor the Ames brothers, Oliver and Oakes, who were influential leaders in the construction of the transcontinental railroad. The Union Pacific built the monument despite a scandal about the brothers and mismanagement of railroad money.



Flyer produced by the Albany County Tourism Board
1-800-445-5303
www.visitlaramie.org

ABOUT... VEDAUWOO

the towering rocks of Vedauwoo (pronounced VEE-da-woo), an Arapaho word meaning “earth born.” Ancient Indians believed that these magnificent rock formations in the Pole Mountain area of the Medicine Bow National Forest were created by playful spirits.

The area was considered a sacred place where young Indian men went on vision quests. The area was also used for hunting, fishing, gathering food, medicine, and lodge poles. These oddly jumbled rocks form all sorts of shapes—mushrooms, balancing rocks, rounded knolls, lizards, faces, turtles—anything you might dream up!

Vedauwoo provides excellent backdrops for picnics, sight-seeing, hiking, mountain biking, camping, rock climbing, fishing, snow shoeing, and cross-country skiing. There is a small fee for entrance and camping in Vedauwoo.

If you are interested in a picnic at Vedauwoo, they offer several picnic sites with tables, grills, and parking areas. Remember to keep Vedauwoo “Clean, Green and Pristine.” While you are enjoying your picnic, take some time to enjoy the wonders that surround you. Vedauwoo is a great place for pictures of beautiful sunsets, unique formations and colors, flowers, and wildlife. Take your camera for unforgettable memories of cliff climbs and breathtaking scenery. Vedauwoo is considered to be among the best rock climbing in the state with difficulty

ranging from 5.0 to 5.14, with many places to practice crack climbs. Vedaauwo also offers maintained trails. The Vedaauwo Glen Trail is a 3/10 mile steep trail with great views to the east and west. Turtle Rock Trail is 2.8 miles and is an easy hiking or biking trail. The Turtle Rock Trail offers a wide variety of scenery, such as, beaver ponds, wildflowers, wildlife, and other rock formations. Vedaauwo offers 11 camp sites that allow units up to 32 feet long. The camp sites are equipped with fire pits, picnic tables and grills.

Rock climbing at Vedaauwo can take on many forms: scrambling, belaying, or repelling. Some of the challenges for climbers are the faces that they climb.

For example flat, steep rocks with flakes and knobs for finger and foot holds. There are cracks with openings just wide enough for finger or foot holds and others large enough to chimney up with your whole body. Vedaauwo offers winter activities such as snowshoeing, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling.

Vedaauwo was created approximately 1.4 billion years ago from magma under the earth and weathered by wind, water, snow and ice. The rocks are mostly Sherman Granite, made of pink feldspar, white quartz, black specks of hornblende and other minerals. The rock formations rise up to 500 feet and they stretch for 10 square miles. Vedaauwo stands at 8,200 feet with rainfall of 5-10 inches and snowfall of 60-80 inches annually.

