



Enchanted Rock State Natural Area

ENCHANTED ROCK



TEXAS
PARKS &
WILDLIFE

Enchanted Rock got its name from the belief of Native Americans that the rock was inhabited by spirits.



ENCHANTED ROCK

Enchanted Rock is a part of the basement, or bedrock, structure of Texas. Around this core, the rest of the state slowly formed. The foundation is stable, it is hard, and it is ancient. One billion years old, Enchanted Rock stands as a silent landmark to a time before modern plants or animals existed, when the primordial forces of a younger earth created mountains and seas that have long since vanished. Twice buried since its initial exposure millions of years ago, erosion has again exposed Enchanted Rock.

It is a barren place to try to survive, yet the creatures that can live at Enchanted Rock have created a new world amidst the old. By adapting to a difficult environment, some plants and animals have become distinct, uniquely adapted to make the most of a harsh situation. Native and modern Americans have sensed the special qualities of this place and called it "enchanted." The first known groups of people to have periodically occupied the Enchanted Rock area were Paleo-Indians as early as 12,000 years ago.