

# Pacific Junction Rest Area

## Honoring Native Americans



**Mills County**  
**I-29 Northbound at Milepost 38**  
**Tribal Artists:**  
 Tamara Faw Faw, (Mihaxege)  
 Jessica Moore Harjo, (Weomepe)  
 Kayle L. Kent, (Mahiskami)  
 Lance M. Foster (Iroge)  
**Public Artist:** Chris Bennett

This site is significant to Iowa history as well as many Sovereign Native American Tribes and Nations. These indigenous people lived in earth lodges along the Loess Hills, near this area which today is identified as Glenwood. A large part of their culture functioned within the Missouri River Basin along the Loess Hills about 600 years ago.

The interior of the rest area building displays unique original tribal art as well as public art elements.

The exterior commemorates this rich cultural heritage. An overlook structure highlights the adjacent Loess Hills and the alluvial floodplain and wetlands where the Glenwood people settled. The pedestrian walks mimic the meandering of the Missouri River.

A representative earth lodge was incorporated on the north side of the rest area, this feature helps visitors understand the architectural components of the Glenwood peoples' homes. Lodges were constructed mainly of wooden support posts, woven wood, reeds and grass walls with grass and loose earth roofs.

Interpretive signage helps inform visitors of the rich history of the Glenwood culture, materials used in everyday life and the legacy they left in the area.

For this site, a public artist as well as tribal artists with ancestral ties to the Glenwood culture and area were retained to help celebrate the region's rich tribal history and ties to the surrounding landscape including the Missouri River, local flora, fauna, and the Loess Hills.

