

# THE LIPKA JOURNAL

PHOTOGRAPHS / STORIES / OBSERVATIONS

JOE LIPKA

MARCH 2023



# WELCOME TO THE JOURNAL MARCH 2023



Magic Garden



Familiar Ground



Sentimental Journey

Photography is an experiential activity. We have to be in a certain spot at a certain time to make a photograph. We strive to make images that transcend time and place to connect with an audience we do not yet know. We hope our images will be a symbol of our feelings, thoughts and expressions.

A quiet place, an urban canyon and an old warplane are places where we make photographs to share our feelings.





Magic Garden



## Magic Garden

A place to relax and remove the pains of everyday life. The ground is shaded from the glare of reality, the noise of everyday is muted and replaced with the gentle gurgling sound of small streams. Urban air cannot make it past the aroma of the flowers and bushes. The harried pace of life is slowed to a meditative pace, better to escape the pressures of city living.

The senses are given a respite from the chaos of city life.







































## The Spot

The Internet Photographer touted the beauty of The Spot (even specifying where to stand at the edge of the parking lot). We drove for a couple of hours to find The Spot. Upon arrival we made The Photograph from The Spot.

We spent an inordinate amount of time and effort making one photograph that looks just like everyone else's photograph.

We should have spent the time looking for something to photograph that we can call our own.

Lesson learned.





Familiar Ground



## Familiar Ground

Exotic locations excite photographers. Inaccessible places with uncomfortable accommodations and barely edible food are burdens photographers welcome to photograph unique locations. The one time visit to the exotic locale often disappoints because we tread on unfamiliar ground.

Instead of the exotic, we should be thankful and happy with familiar ground.

Familiar Ground is a learning experience. It is a place to experiment, learn, and evaluate what you have learned. It is easy to come back and improve your vision.

Mistakes can be made and there is no disappointment because you can always return.

























# More Memories Than Dreams

I started developing and printing my own photographs in 1972 while in college. Last year, I decided to create my own “Fifty Years of Photography Book”. (It took Google .75 seconds to return 126 MILLION results for the search term “Fifty Years of Photography.”) Rather than concentrate all that effort at one time to do something millions of others have already done, I decided to make More Memories Than Dreams a feature in the Lipka Journal.

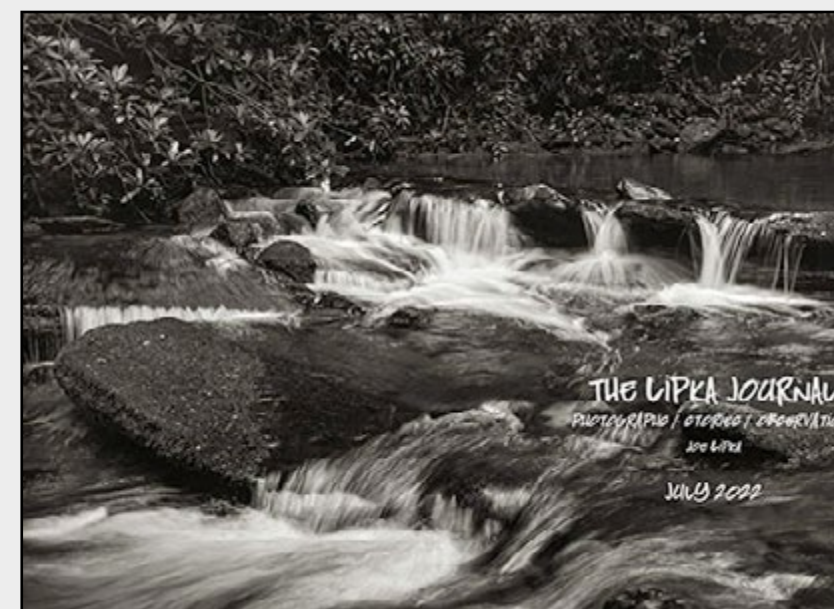
The first decade 1973-1983 is filled with the struggle to master the technical aspects of developing and printing photographs. Technical learning was the foundation of photography because without technical skills the aesthetic vision could not be brought to life.

Below are links to the Journals with More Memories Than Dreams Projects. The title of each Project from More Memories Than Dreams is below the linked image.



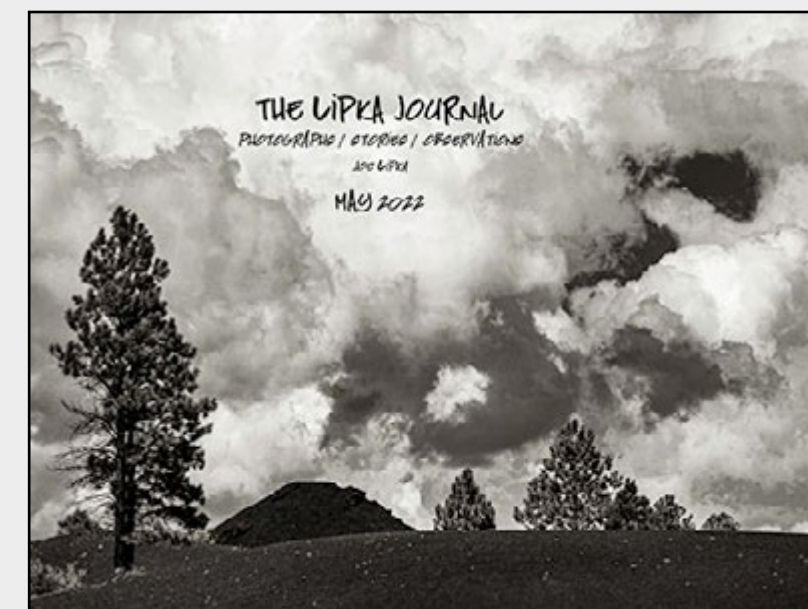
The Fieldhouse Project

page 13



A Place to Fish

page 28



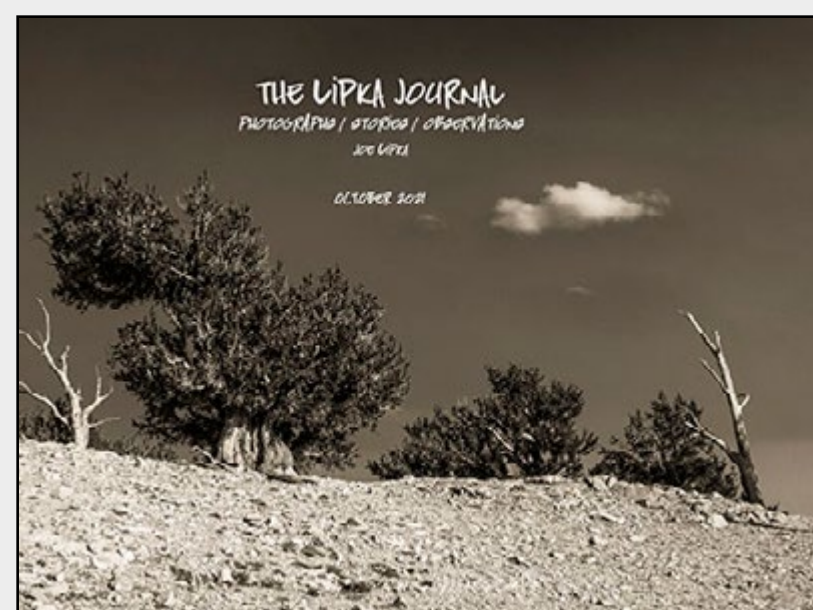
Geometry Games

page 14



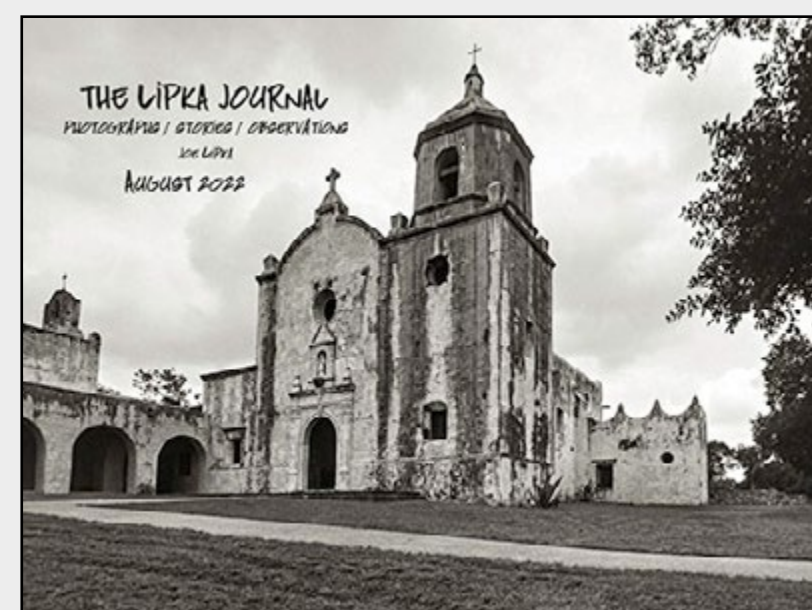
Waiting for the Ferry

page 23



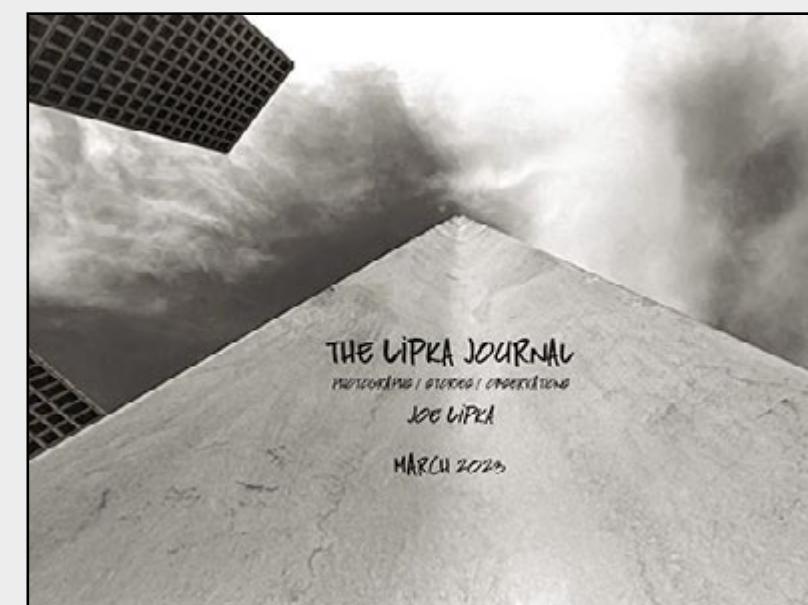
Reflections on a First Love

page 12



La Bahai

page 12



Familiar Ground



# Sentimental Journey



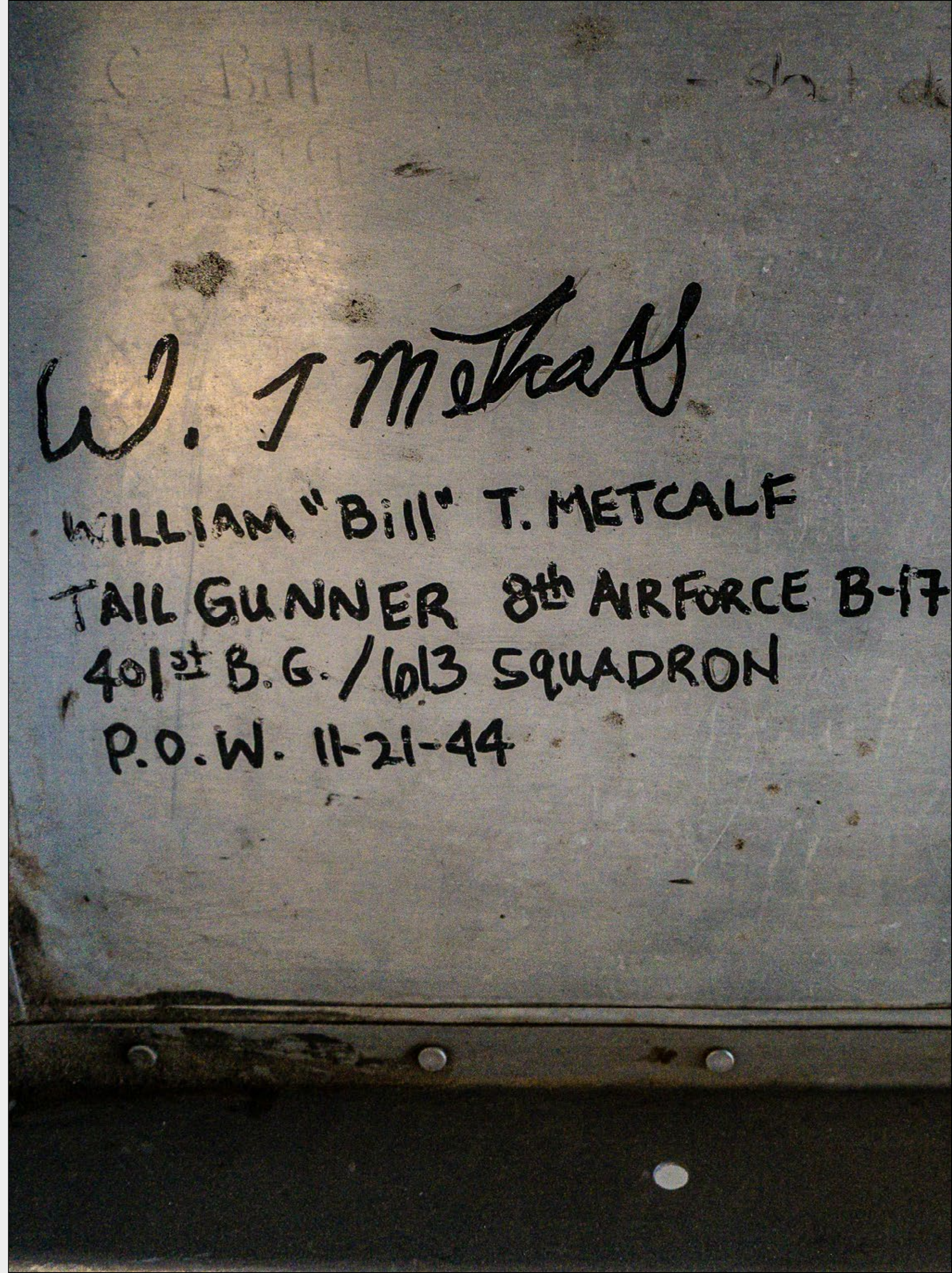


## Sentimental Journey

It was near closing time when the docent looked around the hangar and said, "Come inside the ropes, let me show you something." He pointed to the open bomb bay doors of the ancient B-17. I ducked under the open door and looked up at the inside of the airplane. He said, "Look at the signatures of the men who flew these planes. We rarely get original signatures anymore, but sometimes children or grandchildren will add a name to the inside of the bomb bay."

I looked inside the plane. I saw the names and dates. I longed to hear their stories.

"Go outside," he added. "There are more signatures inside the B-25."





Roland H. Martin  
First Pilot "The Iron Maiden"

379<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group 525<sup>th</sup> Sqn

Kimbolton, England

Shot down 2nd S

Weinfurt mission  
12<sup>th</sup> mission

October 14, 1943

POW Stalag Luft #1

37<sup>th</sup> Germany



SSGT ROBERT R. RILEY

15<sup>th</sup> AAF 99 BG 416<sup>th</sup> Squad

1943-1945 BALL TURRET GUNNER

30+ MISSIONS

L. Strickland

WW2  
AIR CORPS



Sgt RAY T. MATHENY

49th BG 525th Sq. Kim Bolton, ENGLAND  
SHOT DOWN ON 9th MISSION, KIEL, GERMANY  
6 MONTHS POW STALAG XXVII-B AUSTRIA

BORN 2/15/1925 AGE 94

MODESTO 9/2/19

B-24 / B-17F FIRST PILOT 1944-45

EUGENE MOULD

8TH AIR FORCE -

406TH BOMB SQUADRON  
NIGHT LEAFLET SQUADRON ~ 43 MISSIONS

Eugene Mould





9°E

MAID in the SHADE

42°N



12th RA Force  
Comd 1945

JAN 45 - July 45

50 MIBS  
UNIT 247 Tach A.R.  
RAF.

CPL David J. Thatcher

CREW #7

DOOLITTLE TOKYO RAID

APRIL 18, 1942

*Band of 7 men*

*in the air*

*in the air*

*in the air*



B-28 Tail Gunner  
497 mission, 1st. Comma.

97th Bomb Group 8th AF  
Philippines Tail Gunner B

Betty Nell Floyd  
Rusty The Rifleman  
1942-1944 K.C.

Tommy  
UG 314  
A 4th  
5/13/09  
5/19/61

6510139



MAJ. ~~Frank D.~~ Baird

PILOT B-25 WWII

B-24 1945

Bill E. ~~Wain~~

Pilot

1957



George Frazier Lt

1944 Pilot - Lt B-25J

345th Bomb Group

Bombing troop ships

6FF Laysan Island



TOKYO RAIDER  
Ed Saylor #15

John K. ...  
...





The whale watching cruise was successful.



# Postcards from the Creative Journey

September 13, 2020

## The Accidental Project

I didn't mean to start a new project, but it just sort of happened. While searching for images for the Daily Photograph Blog I started seeing some interesting images. A theme developed right in front of me. I saw a recurring subject in many places over many years. I had no idea that particular subject kept showing up over and over again. I had no particular vision of this theme happening, it just did.

I have no idea why it happened, but now I just have to finish the project. I don't know how it really started, but I do know that I will have to finish it.





# A FEW CLOSING WORDS



## Magic Garden

Back to the Japanese Garden in Portland, Oregon. This wonderful urban oasis has offered up several projects that have appeared in The Lipka Journal. One of these projects has been expanded and will be exhibited at the Herb Young Center in Cary North Carolina later this year. There is magic for me in the garden. The entire world disappears leaving me in a quiet and tranquil place to discover the harmony among the water, rocks and plants.



## Familiar Ground

I worked at Greenway Plaza in Houston, Texas in the mid 1970s. I worked in the office five days a week and spent some weekends "going to work" photographing the place I saw every day learning about seeing and composing photographs.

These images have a slight warm tone because I could not duplicate the faintly green hue of Kodak Polycontrast Rapid Paper.



## Sentimental Journey

A few years back I photographed the Erickson Airplane Collection for the project, "[A Boy's Dream](#)". When I had the chance to visit the Commemorative (nee Confederate) Air Force base in Phoenix, I did. Near the end of the day one of docents let me "inside the ropes" to show me the bomb bay of the B-17, Sentimental Journey." The bomb bay was covered with the signatures of the men who flew these beasts into war.

The B-25, Maid in the Shade," was parked on the tarmac. She also had signatures in the bomb bay.





Joe Lipka has shared his vision since he began photographing.

In the last forty years, his photographs have appeared in over one hundred twenty juried exhibitions, more than twenty solo exhibitions and his images have been published in *LensWork*, *Black & White Photography* (UK) and *F-Stop* Magazines.

His website [www.joelipkaphoto.com](http://www.joelipkaphoto.com) has continuously evolved since it was launched in 2004. His blog *Postcards from the Creative Journey*, published weekly since 2010, feature a photograph and a little bit of writing.

His newest blog, *The Daily Photograph*, is simply that. A new and interesting image posted every morning at 8:00 AM.

## The Lipka Journal, March, 2023

*Joe Lipka*

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Web site: [www.joelipkaphoto.com](http://www.joelipkaphoto.com)

Blog: <http://blog.joelipkaphoto.com/>

Blog: [https://joelipkaphoto.typepad.com/the\\_daily\\_photograph/](https://joelipkaphoto.typepad.com/the_daily_photograph/)

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