

THE LIPKA JOURNAL

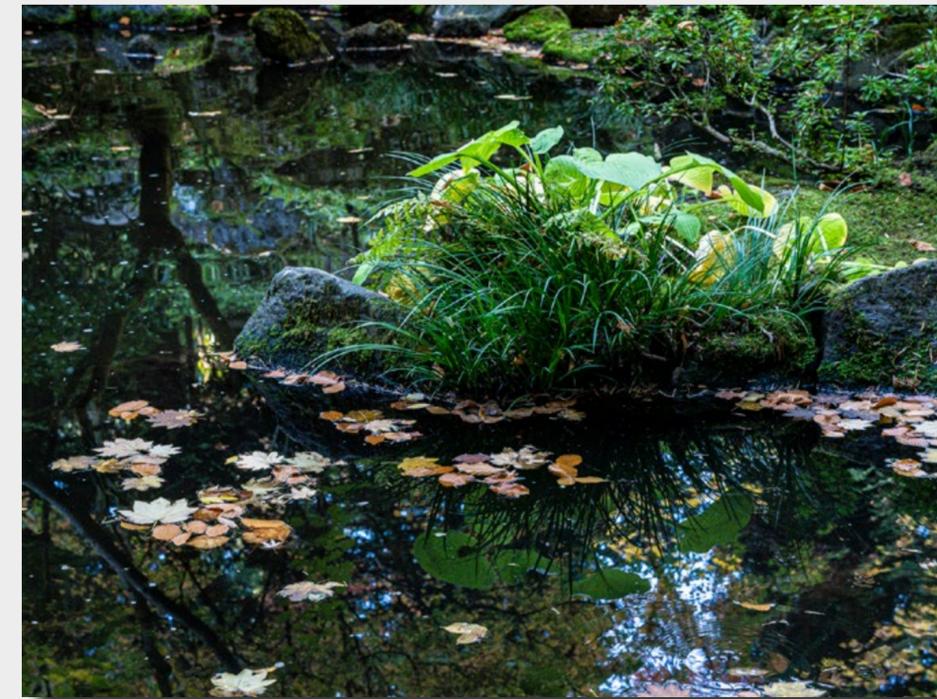
PHOTOGRAPHS / STORIES / OBSERVATIONS

JOE LIPKA

NOVEMBER 2022



WELCOME TO THE JOURNAL NOVEMBER 2022



Autumn Reflections



A Lasting Presence



A Conflict Between Head and Heart

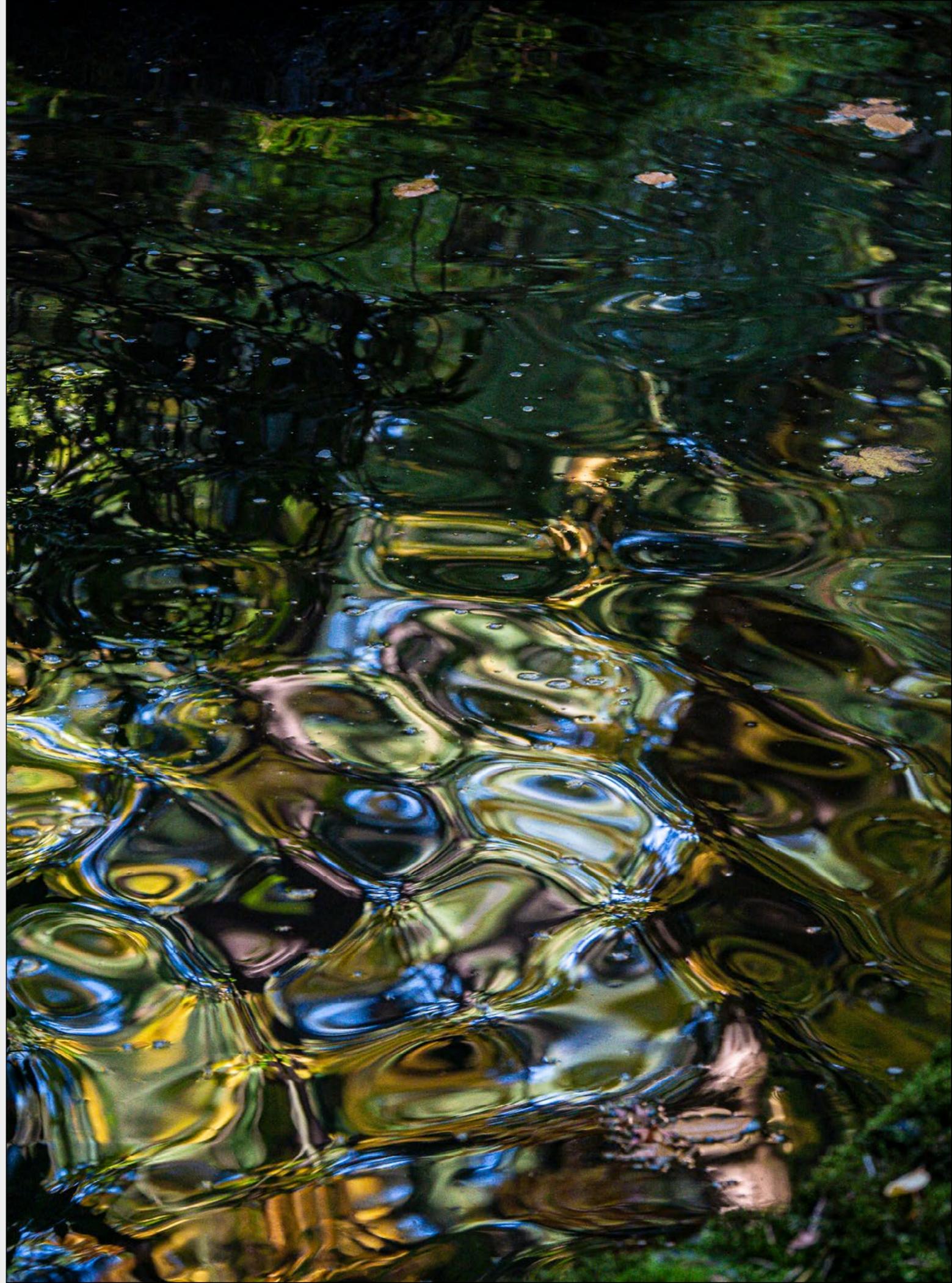
Well, it's about time. Autumn is the time we begin to think of the past and wonder about the future. The colored leaves of autumn are the signature of the season. We look at structures of the past and what promise holds for today's structure in the future. It's about time to think on that.

Autumn Reflections



Autumn Reflections

Autumn is a time of reflection. There is the obvious, the reflections of leaves on still water and the reflections of the plants along the water's edge. There are also the personal reflections on our lives and what we have done or not yet done so far this year. We can think on what our future holds or what we would like it to hold for us. It is a time for quiet reflection and that is assisted by the calm and quiet of the Japanese Garden.



















Six Word Project

Once this was our family's home

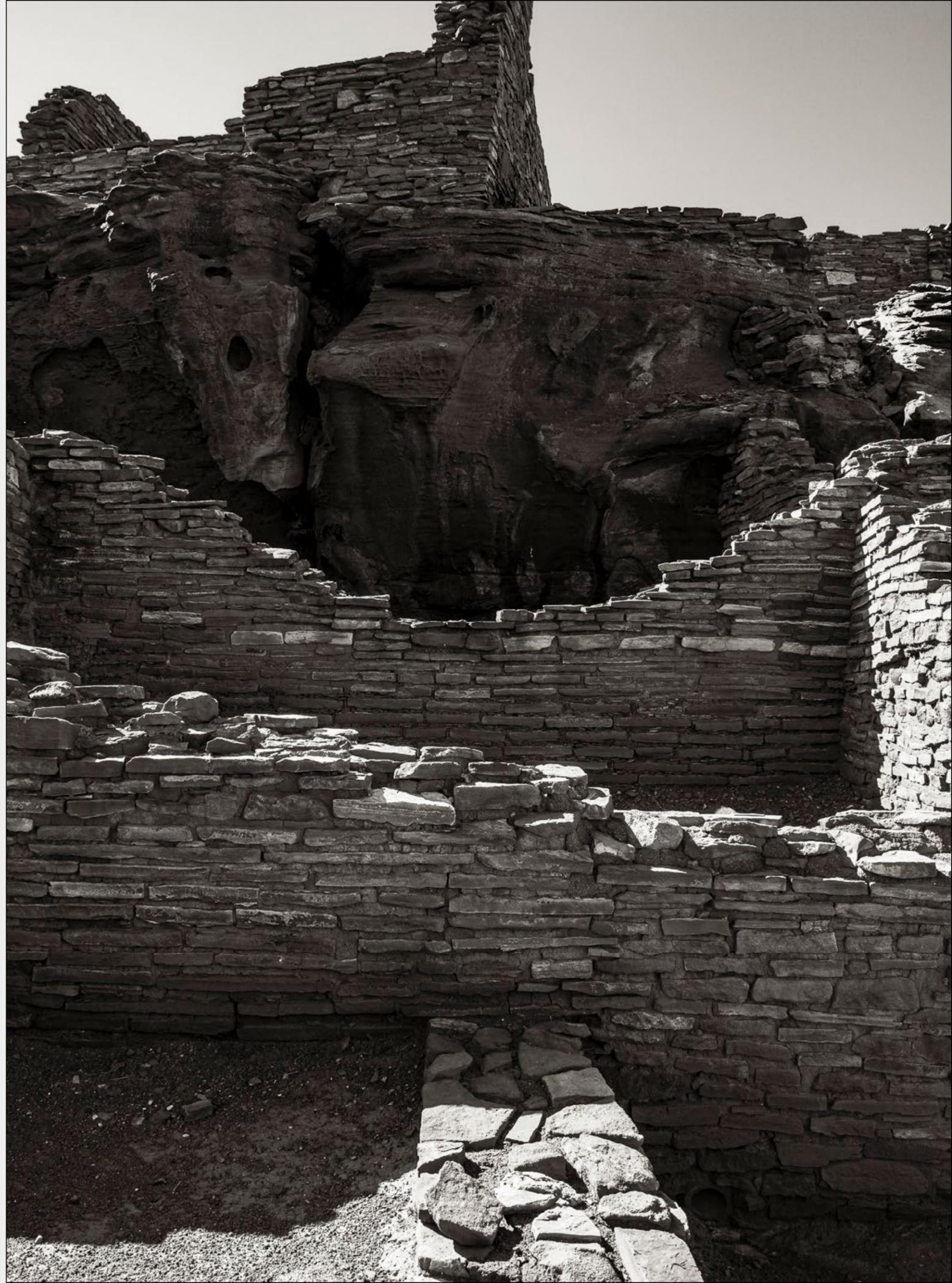
A Lasting Presence



A Lasting Presence

Over eight hundred years ago, these structures were home to about a hundred Native Americans. This settlement lasted about fifty years. Archaeologists estimate the last people left in the 1200s. The people have disappeared, but the remains of their structures are still with us.

Modern domestic structures will probably not last as long as these stone structures. We like to think of ourselves as advanced builders with sophisticated design and technology, but I am willing to bet anything built today will probably not be existing eight hundred years in the future.













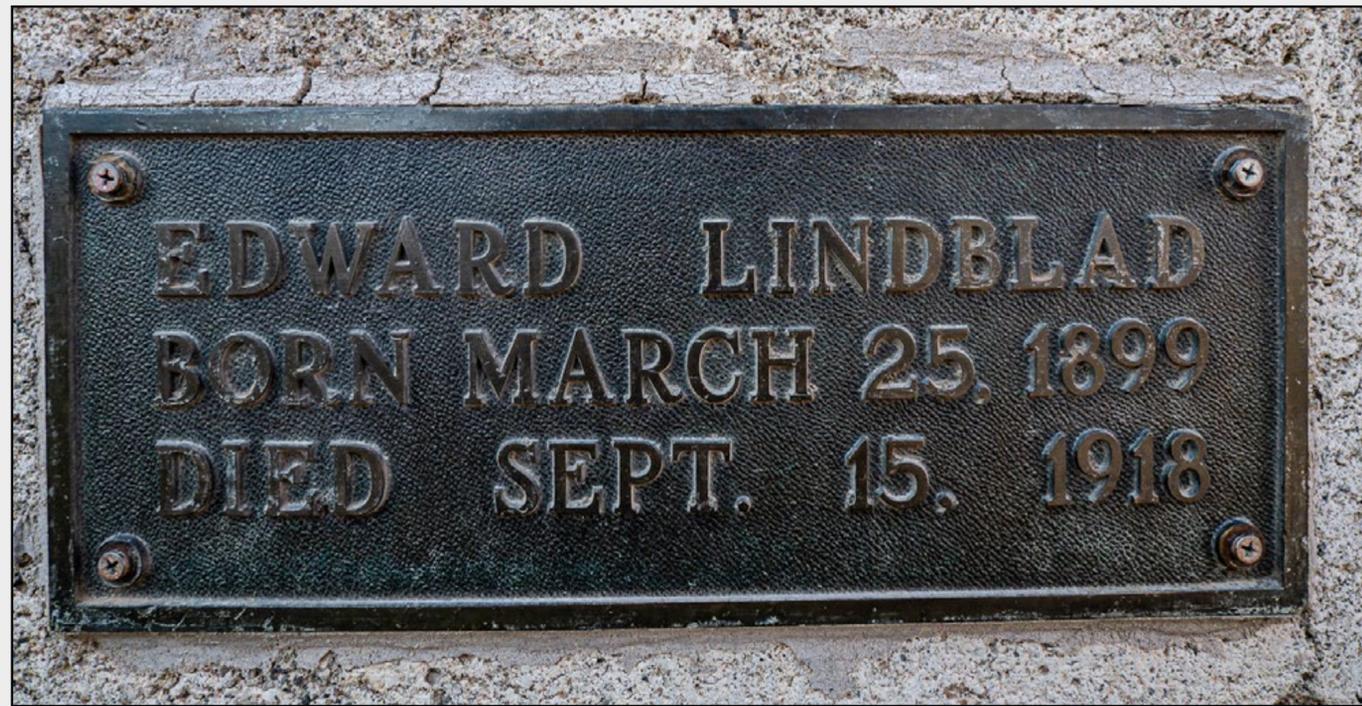












September 15

This past September 15 was a rare day in my photographic life. On this September 15 we were photographing the Stonehenge Memorial and Klickitat County Veterans Memorial, a monument to the young men of Klickitat County that died in the First World War. I noticed one of the brass plaques honored the sacrifice of Edward Lindblad who perished on September 15, 1918. Exactly one hundred and four years ago.

I wondered if his family remembered his service, his sacrifice and his honor in answering his Country's call to service. I wonder if my descendants will honor my memory in some fashion.

I thought more and wondered if I have done anything in this life that would be worthy of being honored more than a century after my passing.



A Conflict Between Head and Heart



A Conflict Between Head and Heart

These large machines fascinate me. It could be the size, elegance or the power they represent. The engineer in me loves them for those technical accomplishments.

On the other hand, I am conflicted by what they have done to the landscape. They are foreign and not of the place they inhabit. They intrude upon the land and cause a jarring discontinuity to the visual environment. I would be happy if they weren't on the land.

What will the future hold for these massive structures? What happens when they reach the end of their useful mechanical lives? Will they be abandoned in place or removed and replaced with a newer technology? In another eight hundred years will these structures still exist? Will people visit this place and wonder how and why these structures existed?

I have yet to reconcile the conflict between my intellect and my emotion. There are too many questions about the future for me to think upon. I don't know if or when I will be able to settle this difference between my head and my heart.



















Postcards from the Creative Journey

May 11, 2014



You Make Landscape Photographs?

Landscape photographs are not popular with the contemporary photography crowd. The really “with it happenin’ trendy types” don’t place much value on landscapes. It is possible landscape art is so far removed from the contemporary lifestyle as to be irrelevant and not interesting to the viewers. They may have not experienced the grand landscape or scenes of great natural beauty and thus cannot truly appreciate what they are seeing. Or maybe, just maybe, consideration of what the landscape actually represents is too challenging to the beliefs of the viewers.

Consider the landscape as a visual representation of a value system that believes in a higher power responsible for the beauty of the world. Once one considers the grandeur of the natural world one must face the inescapable conclusion man is not all powerful on this planet. Some folks are fixated on the individual human and the “importance” of the human being as being the all-powerful force and “ruler of the planet.” Considering scenes of natural grandeur leads one to the conclusion there is a Greater Power working on a scale much larger than anything man can conceive and execute.

A FEW CLOSING WORDS



Autumn Reflections

I love photographing in the Autumn. The temperatures are comfortable, the sun is lower in the sky and the colors of the leaves relieve the boredom of the solid greens of the summer. The Portland Japanese Garden is always a great place to photograph the cooperation of man and nature. It provides a calm place to meditate on life while photographing.



A Lasting Presence

A recent Photo Safari found us in Northern Arizona. To most photographers that means the Grand Canyon of the Colorado, and to be fair, we did photograph there. But there are many more wonderful places to photograph in that part of the world. Near the Sunset Crater National Monument, the Wupatki National Monument caught our eye and we spent some time at one of the less visited wonderful places in Arizona.



A Conflict Between Head and Heart

There is no getting by Wind Turbines in Klickitat County. There must be hundreds of them dotting the Columbia River Plateau. They are simultaneously amazing and a blight on the landscape. The artist and engineer in me were at war for the two weeks we were in Goldendale.

High shutter speeds made all the compositions static. I did not even think of trying to show the motion of the blades. Spinning or still the turbines look the same. In the fourteen days we were there the turbines spun about one third of the time.



Joe Lipka has shared his vision since he began photographing.

In the last thirty 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 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.

COLOPHON

The Lipka Journal, November, 2022

Joe Lipka

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Web site: www.joelipkaphoto.com

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

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