

THE LIPKA JOURNAL

PHOTOGRAPHS / STORIES / OBSERVATIONS

JOE LIPKA

SEPTEMBER 2024

WELCOME TO THE JOURNAL SEPTEMBER 2024



The Old Ways



The First



Overlooked

This month I'm trying not to forget or overlook the world in my photographic life. Photography is a way to remember and preserve what we see around us. This month the images keep the crafts of the Moravians alive, take a look at an overlooked stream in Yosemite and wonder about what seeing Yellowstone for the first time felt like. The images are reminders to help you think about what life is about, not what it looks like.



T. BAGGE MERCHANT
THE OLD SALEM MUSEUM STORE
626 S MAIN ST
HOURS 9:30 - 5:00 MON-SAT.
SUN. 11:30 - 4:30

The Old Ways

The Old Ways

Old Salem, North Carolina preserves the ways of the Moravians who settled North Carolina in 1753. Old Salem continues the traditions of the Moravians by keeping their crafts and history alive. Spinning, dying, weaving, baking bread and their renowned Moravian cookies. We have to keep photographing the places where the past is kept alive because it is so easy to forget how much the world has changed in over two hundred fifty years

More Memories Than Dreams

More Memories than Dreams is an episodic segment of The Lipka Journal. publishing images created during fifty years of my photographic career.

This group of images is among the first from the second decade of photography.

Images from the first ten years of my photography have been collected in a PDF publication on my web site [here](#).









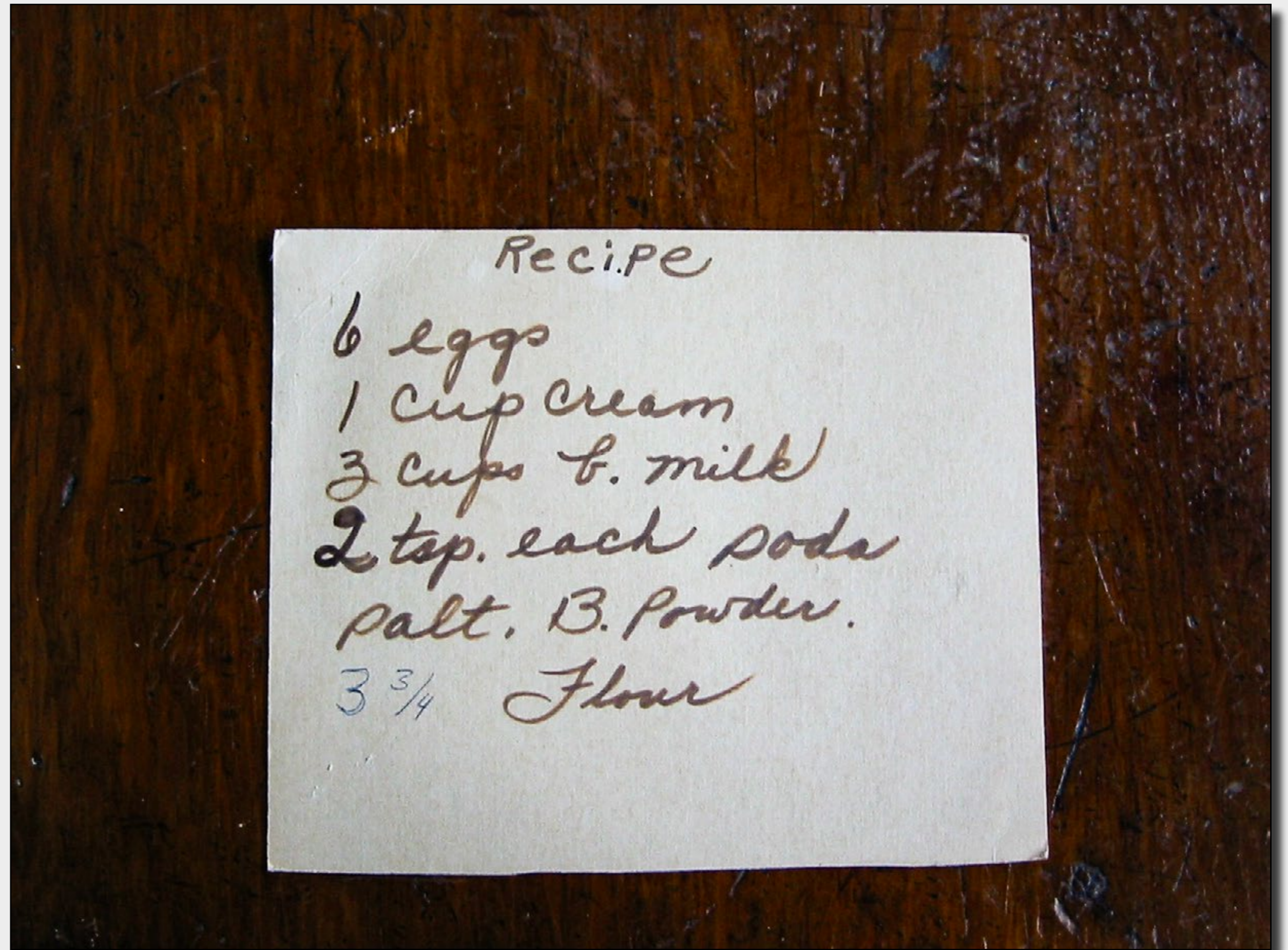




A Mostly True Story

To make a good impression with the Church Ladies Auxiliary Becky volunteered to help with the Pancake Breakfast. She was very nervous not only because the Church Sociable was the biggest event of the summer, but because she had never cooked for the whole town. Thora told her not to worry, the recipe for the pancakes was taped to the wall in the kitchen. All Becky had to do was read the recipe, mix the ingredients and then let the men make the pancakes.

Bolstered by Thora's instructions, Becky strode into the kitchen. She looked at the recipe on the wall and then wondered, "Three and three quarters **what** of Flour?"



The First



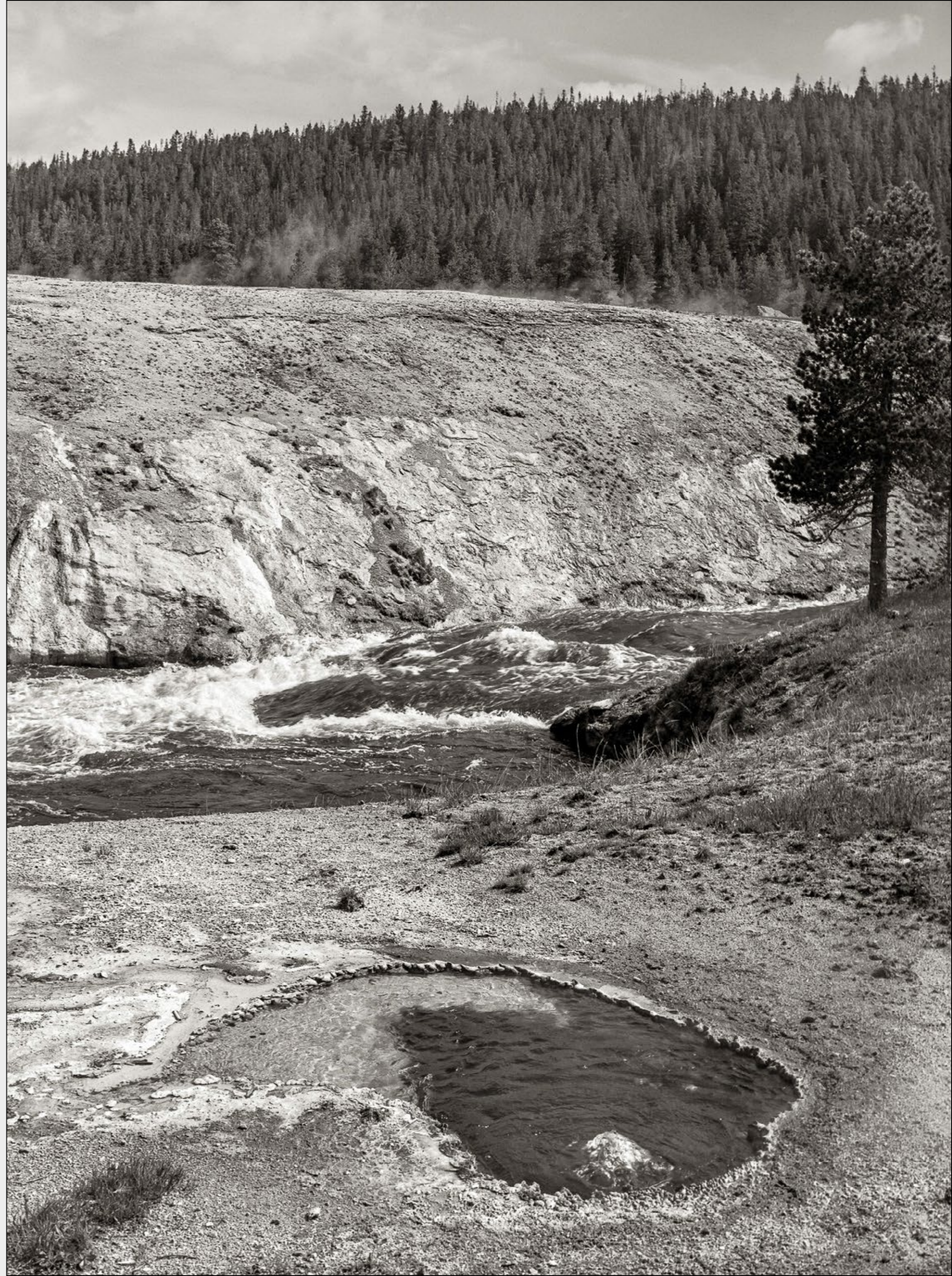
The First

American photographers have a penchant for venturing into the American West to document the natural wonders we find in our National Parks. We walk on elevated pathways to observe the natural wonders and make our photographs from these safe spots. But every one of us imagines being the first ever to photograph this amazing land. We hope the ground beneath us is strong enough to keep us from falling into boiling hot springs and return home with photographs to prove our tall tales were true.

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Prologue

Honey, we're not on the GPS.

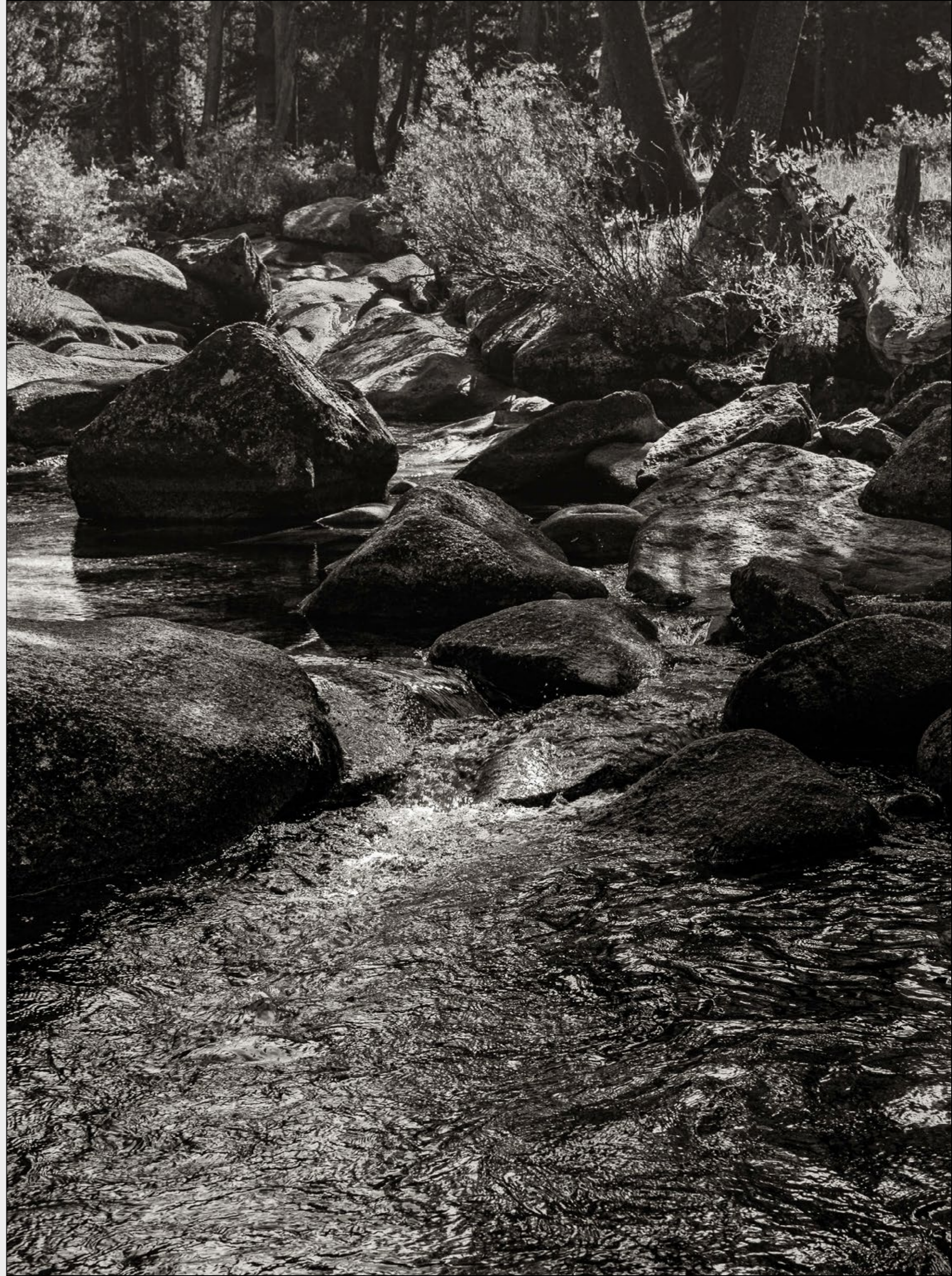




Overlooked

Overlooked

Sometimes something or someone is overlooked, and generally ignored. The easy photograph is made, the big painting is hung in the prime location, but there are worthy people and art overlooked all the time. Small and unobtrusive is also worthy of being the subject of art. Here is a small stream, definitely insignificant compared to the land around it. All the more reason to pay attention to the overlooked.



















Postcards from the Creative Journey

October 29, 2017

Artist With A Camera

It used to be that just making a photograph was a tough thing to do on a technical basis. Now, with auto-everything and digital captures, just about everyone can create a technically great image with everything from a smartphone to a ridiculously expensive digital camera. When everyone can make a technically acceptable photograph the photograph is no longer the end game. Whether we like it or not, if your artmaking includes a camera, the stakes have risen.

We may still be photographers, but we need to think of ourselves as Artists with a Camera. Artists with a Camera no longer look for the single photograph, but use multiple photographs, virtual exhibitions, text with images, and video capture. Then we use all the software we can lay our hands on to tell our story in the most effective manner to our audience.

Photographers need to expand their horizons beyond creating photographic prints. Many artists work in several media and as photographers it would expand our creative output if we considered other media for sharing our photographic visions.

Photography is now the beginning point for the art we create.



A FEW WORDS AT THE END OF THE JOURNAL



The Old Ways

The Old Ways

In 1989 a young photographer (not me) thought it would be great to jump on the "Day in the Life of ..." bandwagon and publish a "Day in the Life of North Carolina." Volunteer photographers were requested to pitch their ideas.

I pitched the idea of photographing Old Salem. My proposal was accepted, and I photographed Old Salem on the designated day. I was crushed to find none of my images were selected... until I saw the book. Then I was happy that none of my images were included.

These photographs are part of the *More Memories than Dreams* Project's second decade.



The First

The First

After visiting my in-laws in Eastern Montana my wife and I motored down to Yellowstone for a few days. Yellowstone was not as heavily visited nor was it as fenced off as it is today. I guess people had more sense back then.

These photographs are part of the *More Memories than Dreams* Project's first decade.

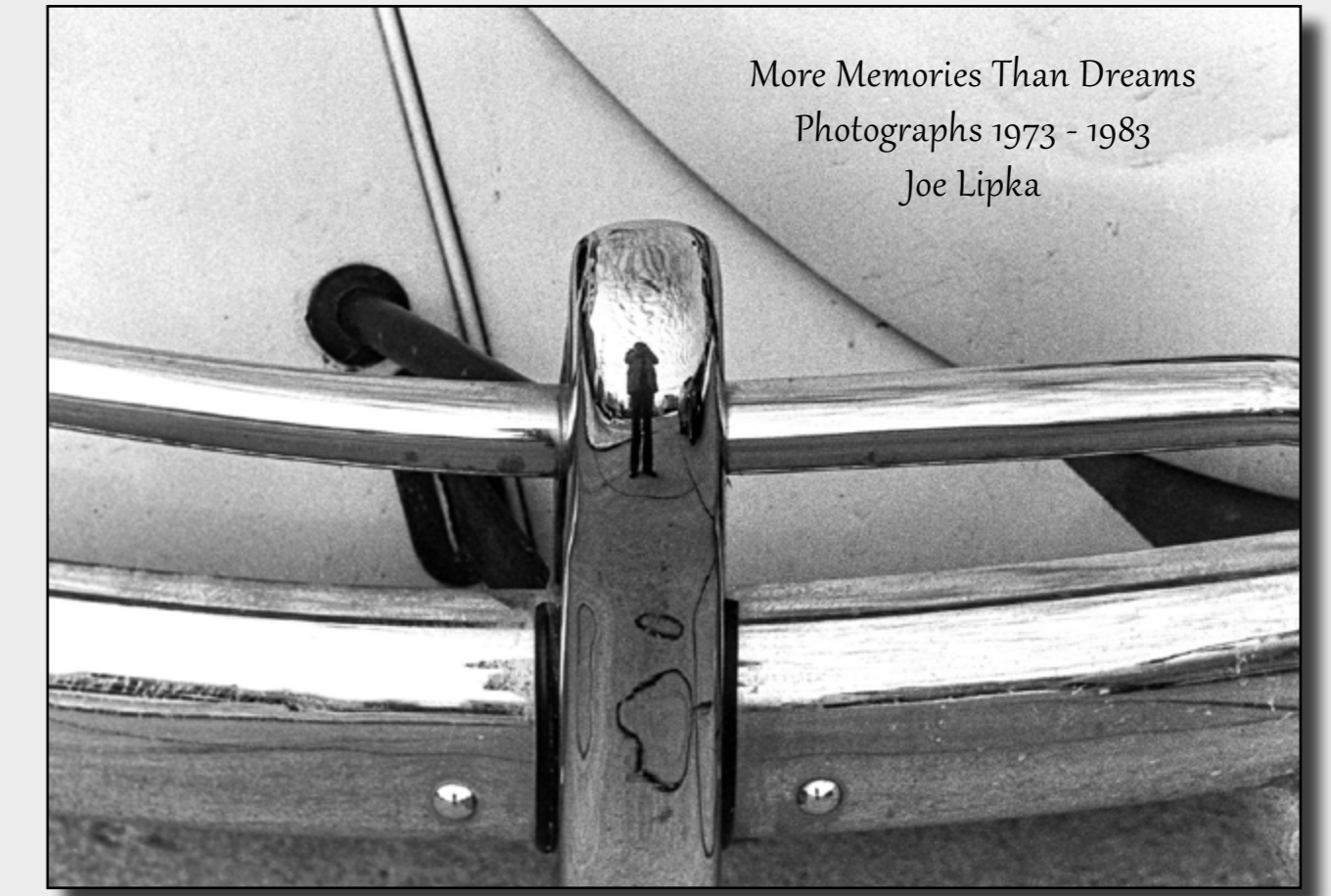


Overlooked

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Photographers elbow each other to get the grand views from the iconic viewpoints. Those are nice, but there is also great beauty in the small creeks in Yosemite. Here is a creek near the Tuolumne Meadows. Photogenic, intimate and usually ignored by those in search of the Grand Landscape.

This little creek deserves some photographic love.

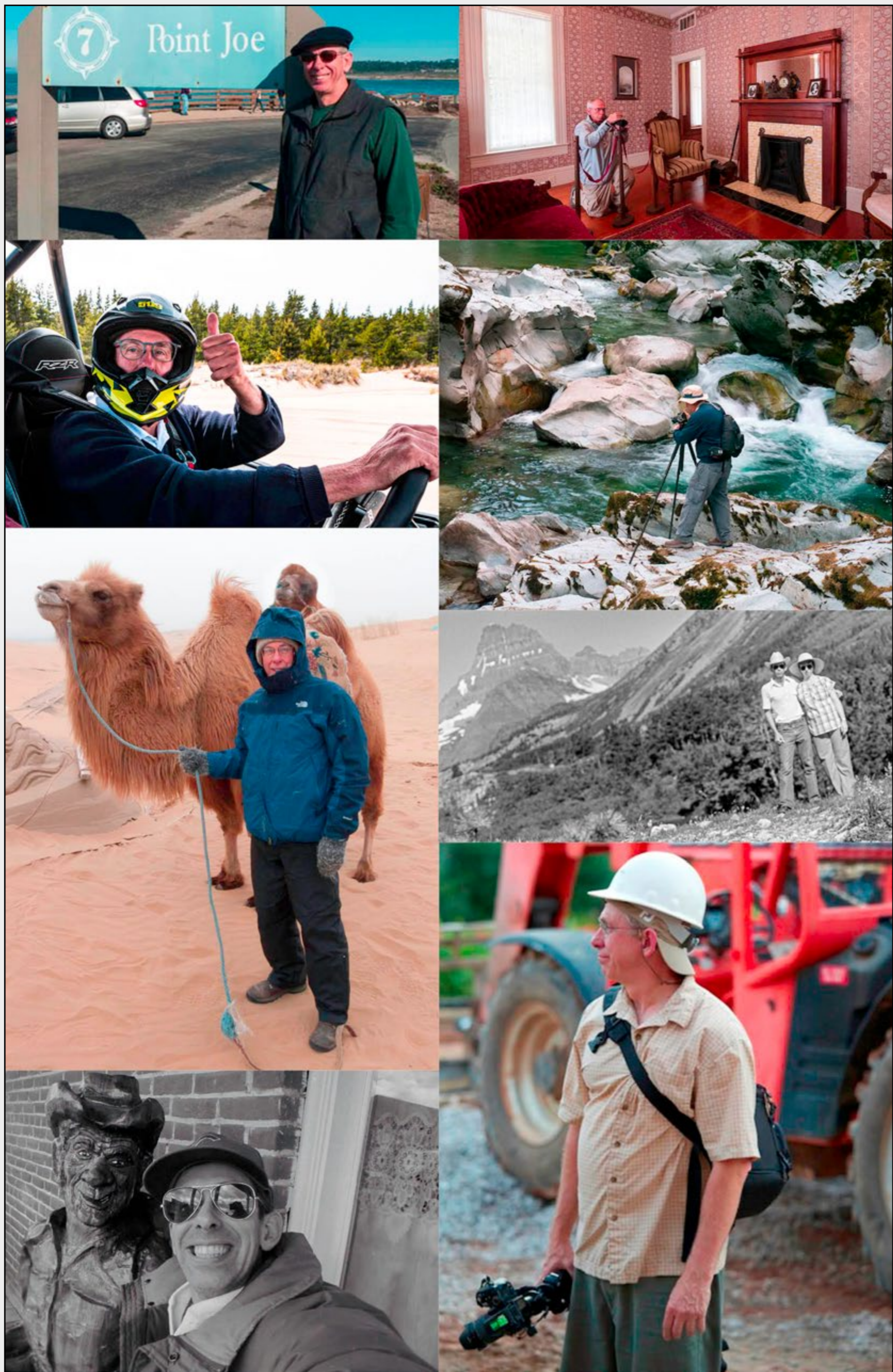


More Memories Than Dreams

More Memories Than Dreams

I started developing and printing my own photographs in 1972 while in college. In 2022, 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*.

Sadly, I have succumbed to the temptation to create that magnum opus of "My Greatest Photographic Hits" publication. Images from the first ten years of my photography have been collected in a PDF publication on my web site [here](#).



Joe Lipka has shared his vision since he began photographing.

In the last forty years, his photographs have appeared in over one hundred and twenty juried exhibitions, and twenty five solo exhibitions. His images have been published in *LensWork*, *Black & White Photography* (UK) and *F-Stop Magazines*. His recent book project, *Mostly True Stories*, was featured as a LensWork Bonus Edition Publication in February 2024.

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, features a photograph and a little bit of writing.

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

The Lipka Journal, September, 2024

Joe Lipka

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Web site: www.joelipkaphoto.com

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

Blog: https://joelipkaphoto.typepad.com/the_daily_photograph/

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