Student Name: Sophie Hooper

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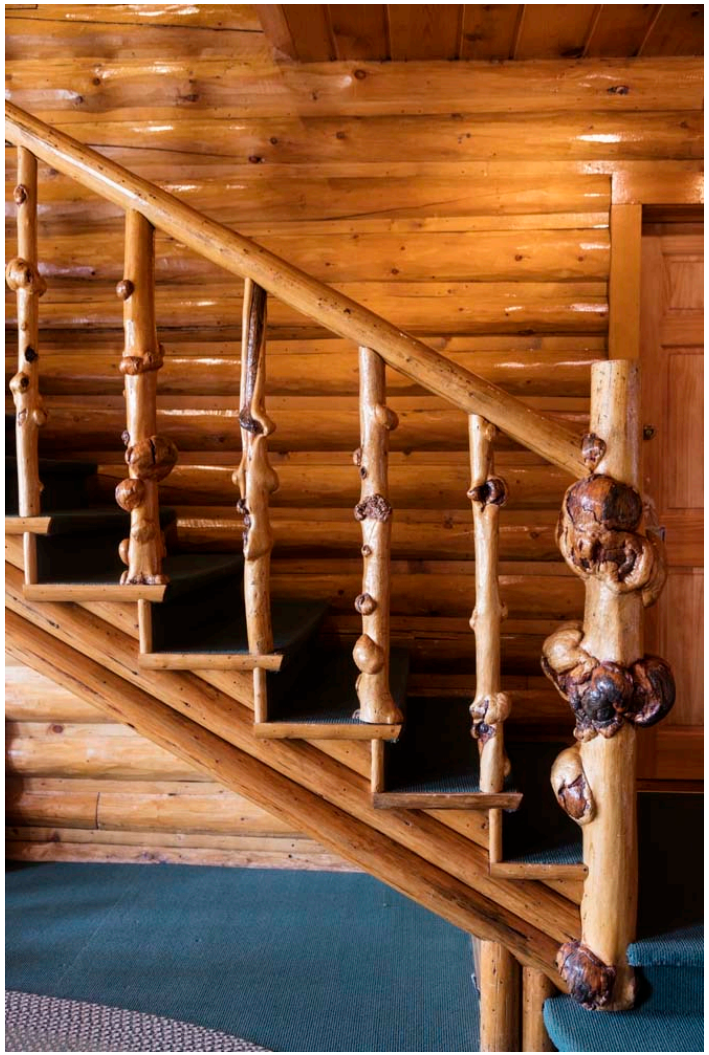
Programme of Study: Photography in the Arts

Module: M4X01706

Fugitive Testimonies Lecturer: Ryan Moule

Fugitive Testimonies

Sophie Hooper



For me this picture shows how mankind has used natural forms to enhance a mundane object/structure. The bumps on the wood are normally imperfections that people would remove.

- Mankind using natural forms/patterns (such as exposed wood doors)
- Natural forms/patterns in nature
- Imperfections(manly around the house)

Wabi Sabi/Kintsugi



Kintsugi is the Japanese art where instead of hiding and throwing away cracked pottery, gold paint is used to highlight them(Dayman, 2018). Personally, I like the look of Kintsugi, normally if a plate or bowl breaks you through it away but with Kintsugi it tells a story of that bowl or plate. The gold standout against the rest of the colours, making the ‘imperfections’ standout and be the first thing you notice about the object.

Joel Sternfield – Walking the Highline

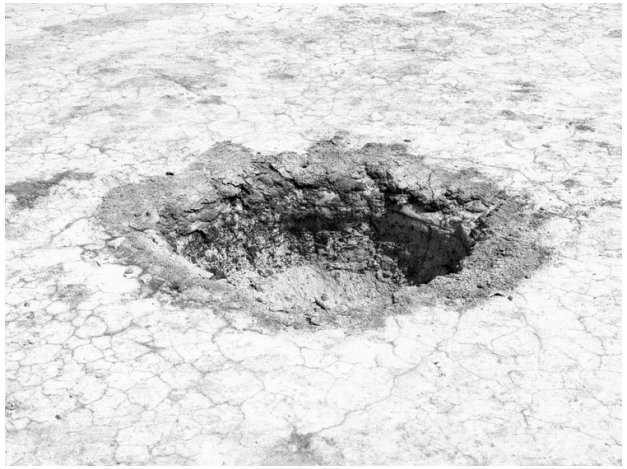




Joel Sternfield's 'Walking the Highline' shows over grown railways in New York. These very much show nature taking over mankind/manmade objects.
With these photos I like that you cannot even tell that they were once railways that were used in the pass, they just look like a path you would fine in the woods. I also like how the photos are taken from eye level making it look like you are actually looking down the paths given a sense that you are there. Having the contrast between the overgrown railway and then the building in front and beside them gives an interesting message about how nature is slowly taking over and reclaiming the land that it once inhabited.

Marten Lange – Another Language
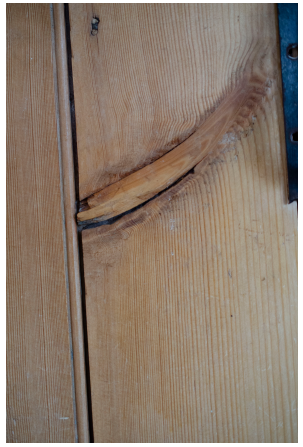




Another Language is a book made by Marten Lange of photographs he took of moments in nature/ natural world. Look wise, these two photos relate to my idea partially as both of them look like imperfections but natural imperfections. I like how you are unable to see fully into the holes in both images, this shows how even the image/angle of the image has imperfections as you would want to be able to see fully into them. Also I like how detailed they are and how you can see the texture of the rock in the first image and how dry the ground is in the second because of the amount of detail in them.

First Photoshoot

For my first photoshoot I decided to take some close up/ macro shoots of wooden doors that are in my home. I took photos of the natural patterns, nots and where the wood has started to split. I tried to take photos of different patterns so then I would have a variety of images.

Contact sheet










Mankind using natural forms/patterns











Second Photoshoot

For my second shoot I wanted to focus on imperfection around the house but also look at where nature as taken over man-made objects in the garden. I wasn’t too sure what I was going to be taken photos of, so I just walked around and took photos as I went.

Contact Sheet





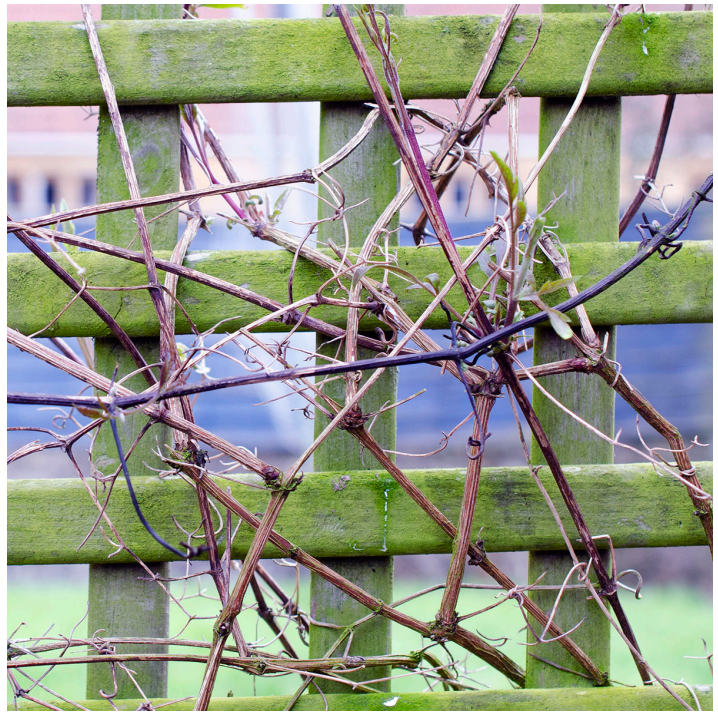





Natural forms/patterns in nature







Imperfections





Third Photoshoot

After doing the second shoot, I decided to focus on how man made objects are used in nature. I also took more photos of little imperfections around the house as I didn’t get enough when doing the second shoot. As with the second shoot, I didn’t have too much of a plan when doing the shoot as I wasn’t too sure what I was going to see when taking the photos in the woody/over grown area.

Contact Sheet













Third Shoot









Evaluation

Overall, I am pleased with how my final photos came out. I set out to produce a series of photos that responded to the image that was chosen for me, which I saw it mainly having imperfections.

When looking at the image, I first thought of mankind using natural structures, so I took close up shots of nots in the wood doors of my house, which you could see the natural patters of the wood. I then started seeing the image as having imperfections, so I took some photos little imperfections around the house, such as holes, cracks etc. I also then looked at how nature has taken over/ uses man-made objects.

For research, I looked at things that covered most of the themes that I was looking at. With looking at Wabi-Sabi it gave me a look on how other cultures deal with imperfections and how they highlight them instead of hiding them. When looking at Walking the highline and Another Language, it showed me how other artist see imperfections and nature.

When I was doing my photoshoots, I didn't have a fully set goal of what things I wanted to take photos of. For me, this means that I have more freedom of what I am taking photos of, meaning that if I see something that catches my eye, I'll take a photo of it. The first photoshoot was the more planned out one as I knew I was going to be taking photos of the doors in the house. I stopped with this idea as I didn't really lead anywhere else other than the doors. The second and third photoshoot lead onto one another as they were about imperfections and man-made in nature.

When editing the photos, I decided to have a square frame as it then meant that I could put the main focus in the centre without having too much around it. I also made the colours have more of a cool tone to them as that looks more natural than the warm tone the camera gives the images.

For my final photos, I have chosen between a mixture of the house imperfections and the man-made in nature photos. These photos can either be viewed all together or in their separate groups. I decided to just use these photos and not all, as these are the ones that I feel relate to the image for me more than the natural pattern photos I produced at the start of the project.

If I had more time, I would have liked to go to different places to get more of a variety of photos. I would have liked to have gone to a house that has been abandoned because of a fire a couple of years ago. This would have given me more of a range of thing to photograph and would have shown a deeper look into how nature takes over.

In conclusion. I am pleased with the way my photos came out.

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