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Renditions of a Changing Landscape in Lancaster County

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Renditions of a Changing Environment in Lancaster County

Tanner Simon



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The Experimental Wetland at Big Spring Run, Lancaster, PA. This project is revolutionizing the understanding of single channel streams in the Northeast part of North America. The result of early mill-damming, streams were preceded by wetlands, which is the basis for this restoration.



A Powerful Storm Near the Masonic Village, Elizabethtown, PA. Houses and farmland litter this once forested landscape.

Abstract:

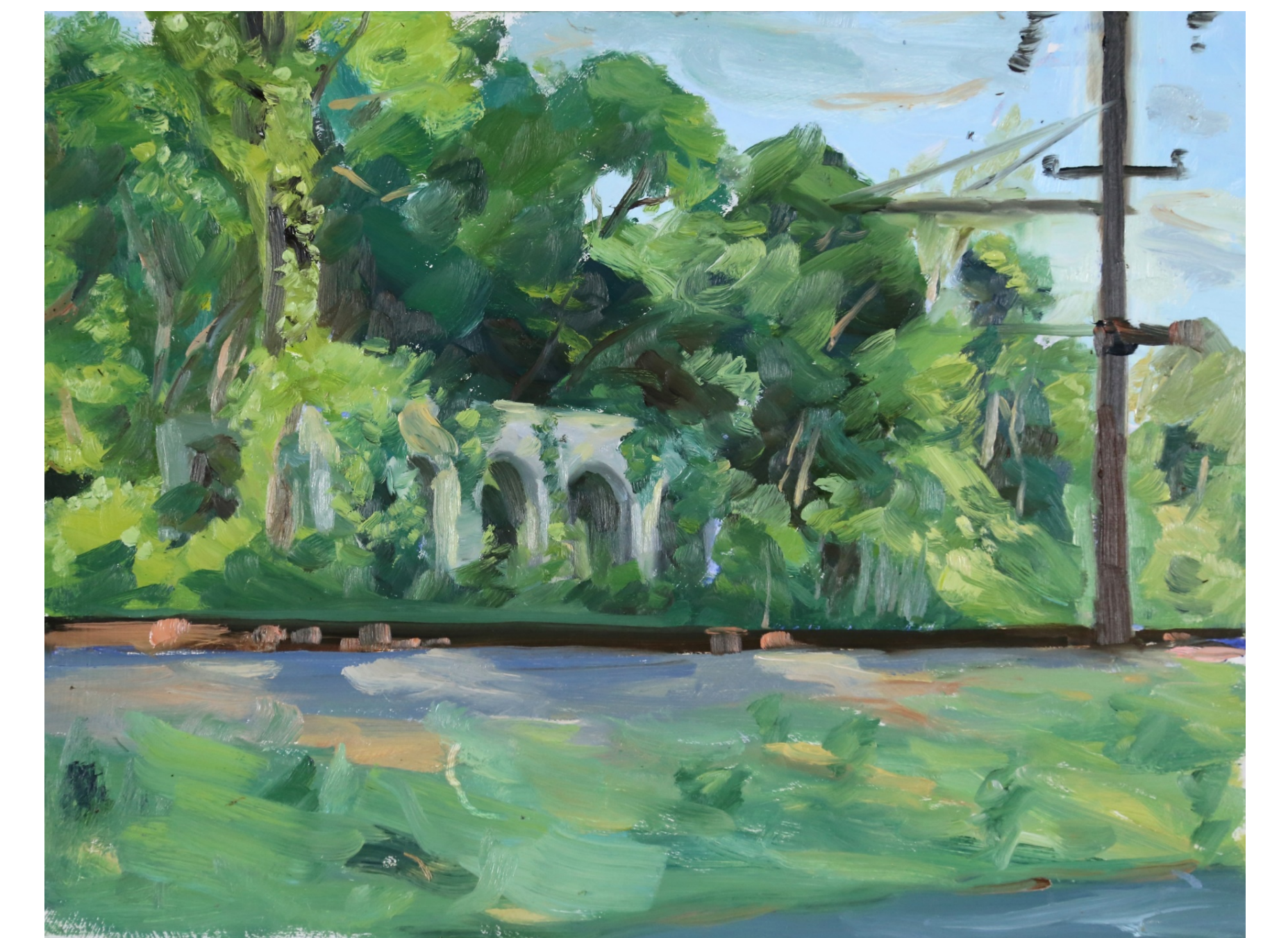
Focusing on man-made land cultivation, this study implores paintings to capture the changing environment of Lancaster County using the similar methods and motivations as Post-Impressionists—painting *en plein air*. However, instead of only relying on emotion and nostalgia for inspiration, the environmental sciences are also referenced to provide context.



A view of Three Mile Island from the Nissley Dairy Farm, Falmouth, PA. This composition pulls together contrasting means of production—a community farm and a corporate nuclear power plant; tradition and taboo; ancient and modern—yet all the while the abandoned towers to the left foreshadow the impending shut down of TMI.

Bibliography

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2. "Three Mile Island Runs Out of Time." *Earth Journal* 34 (2019): 12. EBSCOhost.
3. Walter, Robert C. and Dorothy J. Merritts. "Natural Streams and the Legacy of Water-Powered Mills." *American Association for the Advancement of science* 319 (2008): 299-304. JSTOR.



Billmeyer ruins along the Northwest Lancaster County River Trail. Although this land is still an active trail and railroad, nature is reclaiming this once vibrant, but now abandoned, rail-stop, showing that land alterations are a two-way and reversible process.



A Worker Casting off a Boat for a Delivery Run to a Nearby Island, Tri-County Boat Club, Middletown, PA. The simple lifestyle of this worker sharply contrasts the complicated facility downriver and the cumbersome lifestyle it provides via electricity. Power companies also have a large impact on the Susquehanna river in terms of water level and quality.