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MCCLAIN, WILLIAM J.. American Landscape Constructions. (1978)
Directed by: Professor Carl Goldstein. Pp. 1.

This thesis consists of four sculptures which were exhibited in the Weatherspoon Gallery of Art from April 30 through May 15, 1978. A 35 mm. transparency of each work is on file in the Walter G. Jackson Library of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

AMERICAN LANDSCAPE CONSTRUCTIONS

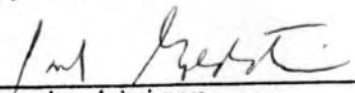
by

William J. McClain

A Thesis Submitted to
The Faculty of the Graduate School at
The University of North Carolina at Greensboro
in Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree
Master of Fine Arts

Greensboro
1978

Approved by



Thesis Adviser

APPROVAL PAGE

This thesis has been approved by the following committee of the Faculty of the Graduate School at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Thesis Adviser Paul Lambert

Committee Members Julian Tobias
Richard H. Reedman II
Paul Lambert
Joan Szymon
John Wiggins

April 20, 1978
Date of Acceptance by Committee

CATALOGUE OF TRANSPARENCIES

TITLE	SIZE
1. Tire Planter	14½"h X 32"diameter
2. Box O'Twigs	26"h X 32"w X 32"d
3. N.C. 54	39"h X 36"w X 36"d
4. Flagstone-Formal	½"h X 40"w X 17'd

This body of work is based on my observations of the American landscape. I want to make a coherent statement regarding the inherent beauty, both material and formal, of the rural American landscape. Both form and material should create a recognizable iconography of the landscape.

The iconography derives from a selective process of observation and evaluation of the landscape. This process entails the following:

1. Observation from an automobile
2. Historical research dealing with landscape gardening and architecture
3. Personal horticultural experience
4. The use of memory in reconstructing images which result in the chosen form

After the evaluative process, I chose objects or places to serve as key reference points. Value as historical documentation of the American landscape and intrinsic aesthetic value served as criteria in making these choices.

The choice of materials was self-conscious. I have incorporated into the body of work materials commonly used for both function and decoration in the landscape. By means of formal alteration and surface decoration, materials such as chain-link fencing, automobile tires, and sticks appear in a different context than normally viewed.