

# The Camera in The Cathedral: Photography of the Natural World

Jeff Curto – February 18, 2008 – Mayslake Nature Study and Photography Club

A Timeline...

<p><b>The Picturesque - 1790s</b> A desire to make pictures (paintings) look “real, right &amp; beautiful”</p>	
<p><b>Romanticism - 1830s</b> Paintings that communicated...“Not in choice of subject nor exact truth, but in a way of feeling.” (Baudelaire)</p>	
<p><b>Photography’s Invention - 1839</b> The Camera’s influence on “the real”</p>	
<p><b>Landscape &amp; Travel Photography - 1850s to 1880s</b> Photographers view the natural world</p>	
<p><b>Pictorialism - 1900s</b> Photographs that stressed emotion, atmosphere and artistic quality over realism (note similarities to romanticism)</p>	
<p><b>Modernism/Precisionist - 1930s</b> A desire for exact renderings of the world (Group <i>f/64</i>; Adams, Weston, et al.)</p>	
<p><b>The New Topographics - 1975</b> An exhibition of photographs that changed how “Nature” was seen and photographed</p>	
<p><b>Our Time:</b> Redefining “Nature Photography”</p>	

**Painters:**

Jacques-Louis David

The Rev. William Gilpin

Thomas Cole

John Constable

William Bliss Baker

Thomas Moran

Théodore Gericault

Richard Wilson

**Photographers & Photographic Ideas:**

Photogram

Fox Talbot - Fuzzy but Reproducible

Daguerre - Sharp but one of a kind

Glass Negatives – 1851

Stereoscopic Photography – 1850s on

Travel & Survey Photographers

Timothy O’Sullivan

Carleton Watkins

Edward Muybridge

William Henry Jackson

Edward Steichen

Francis A. Bolton

Paul Strand

Edward Weston

Ansel Adams

Eliot Porter

Eric Meola

Ernst Haas

Pete Turner

Art Wolfe

Galen Rowell

David Muench

New Topographics: Photographs of a Man-Altered Landscape

Robert Adams

Joe Deal

Frank Gohlke

Steven Shore

Alec Soth

Jeff Wall

Brad Moore

**Resources:**

History of Photography Class Website (Lots of History Resources):

<http://www.cod.edu/photo/curto/1105>

History of Photography Podcast (Recorded lectures from my Photo History Class):

<http://photohistory.jeffcurto.com>

Camera Position – My “personal” podcast about the creative side of photography

<http://www.cameraposition.com>

Deborah Bright’s Article *The Machine in The Garden Revisited: American Environmentalism and Photographic Aesthetics*:

<http://www.deborahbright.com/PDF/Bright-Machine.pdf>