

EXPEDITIONARY *PLEIN AIR* + PLUS

with

James Lancel McElhinney

BOSCOBEL
HOUSE AND GARDENS



October 24, 2025

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**TRAVEL LIKE A PILGRIM
DRAW LIKE AN EXPLORER
EXPERIENCE THE WORLD**

TIPS FOR GETTING STARTED



Passcode: Sketchbook*2025

Getting A Grip



Lightest line



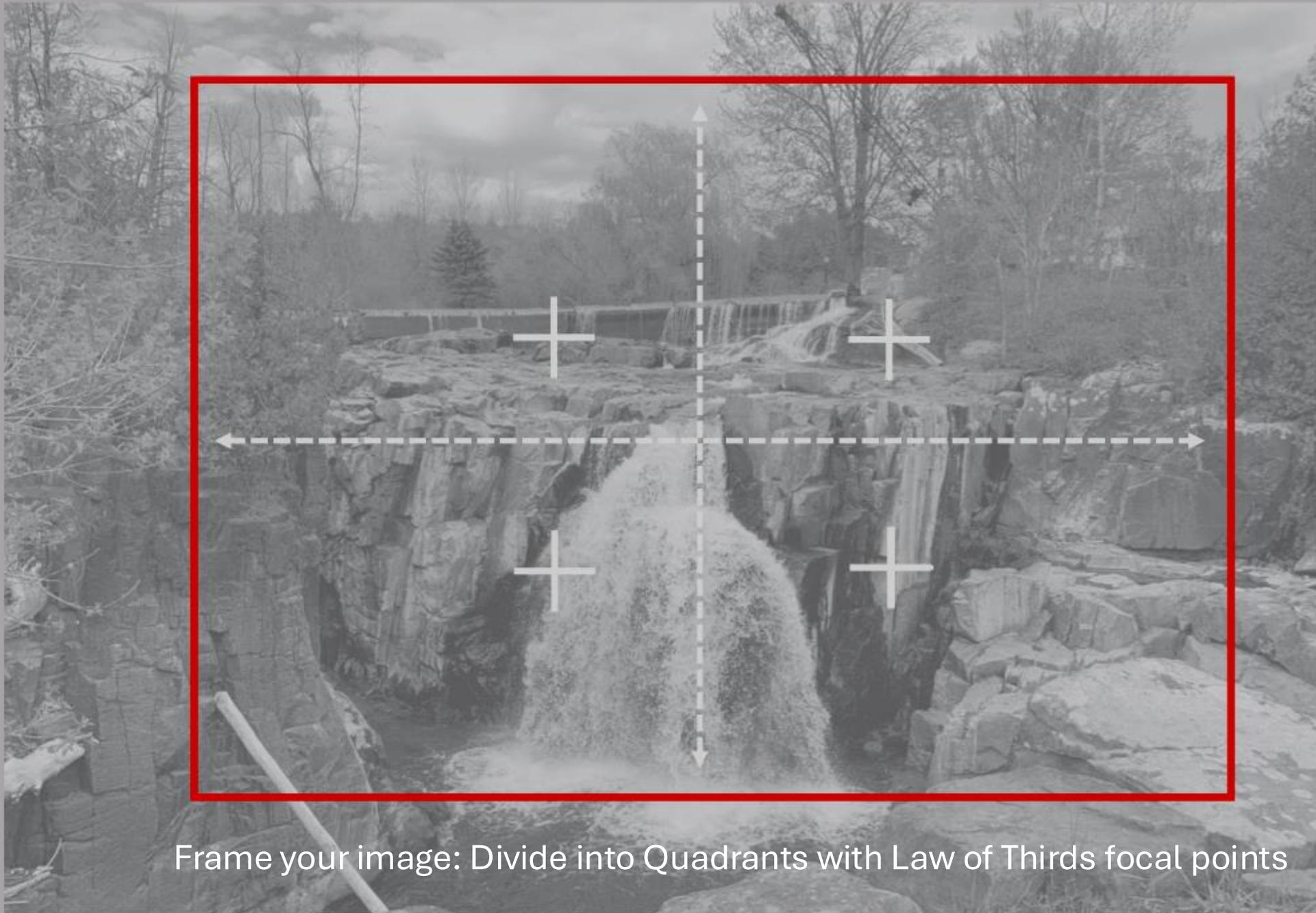
Medium Line.



Darkest line



Practice making marks quickly and slowly with varying line pressure

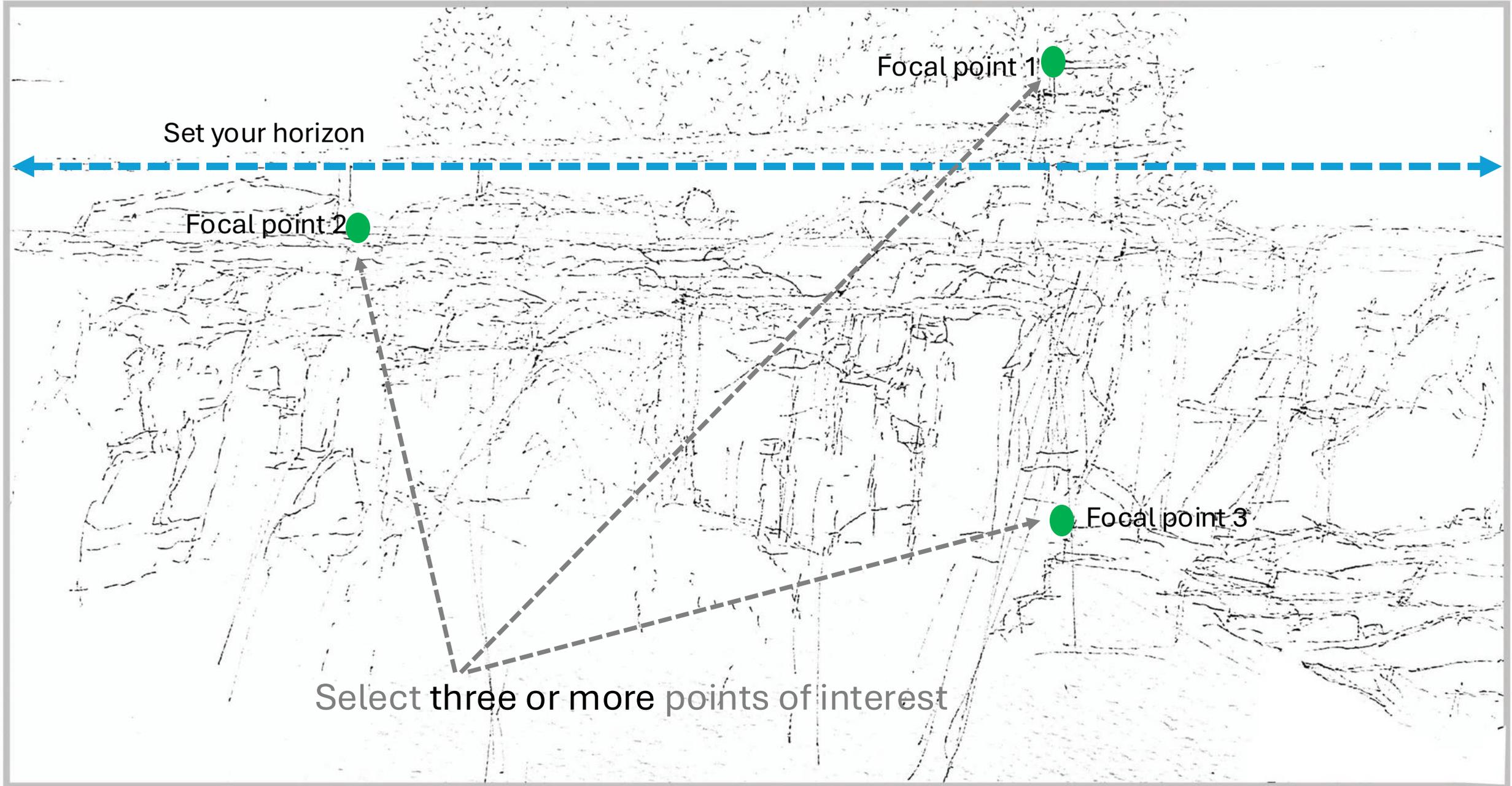


Frame your image: Divide into Quadrants with Law of Thirds focal points



Horizon

Set your horizon. Identify points of interest. Measure angles between them



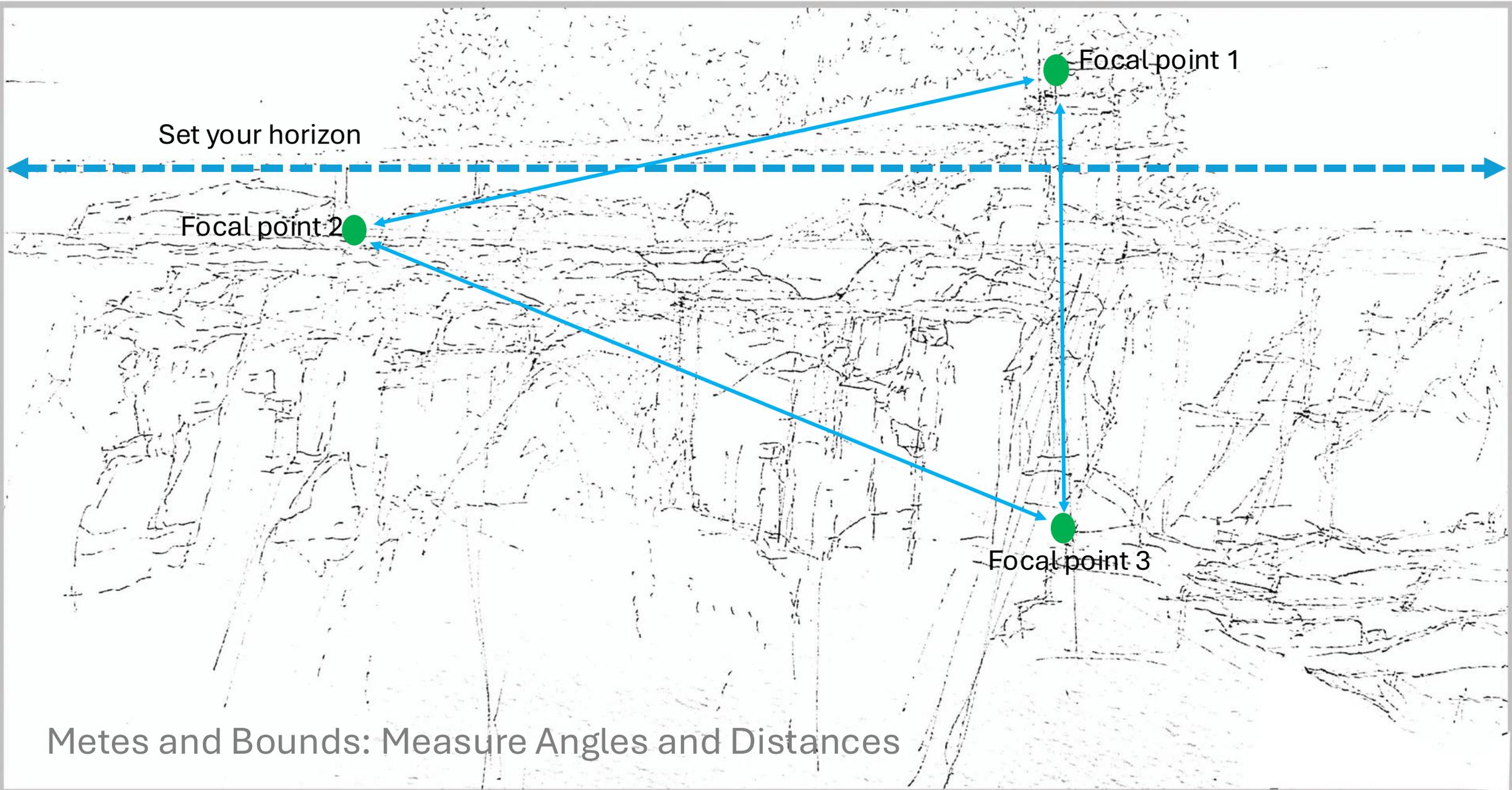
Set your horizon

Focal point 1

Focal point 2

Focal point 3

Select three or more points of interest



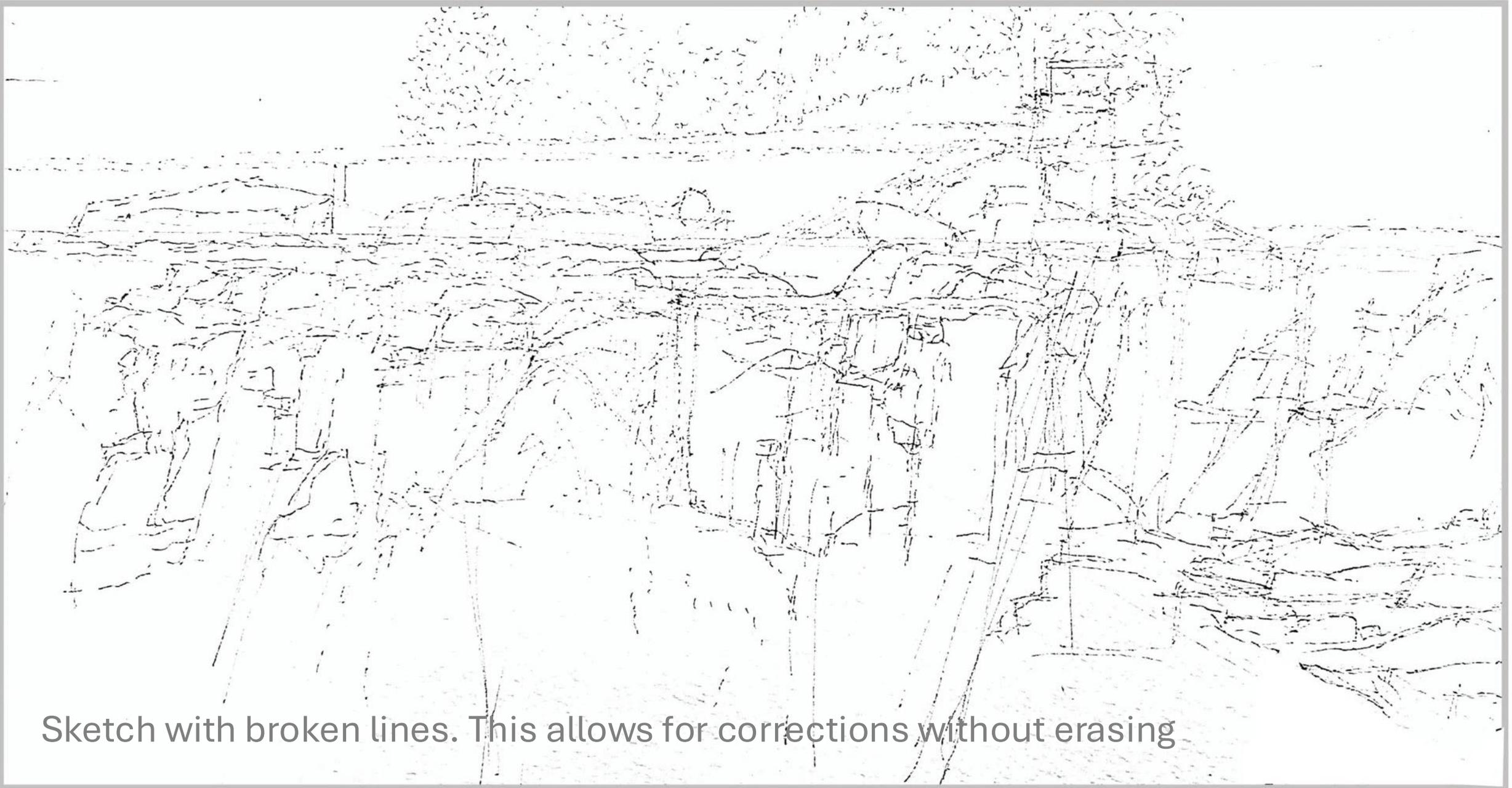
Set your horizon

Focal point 2

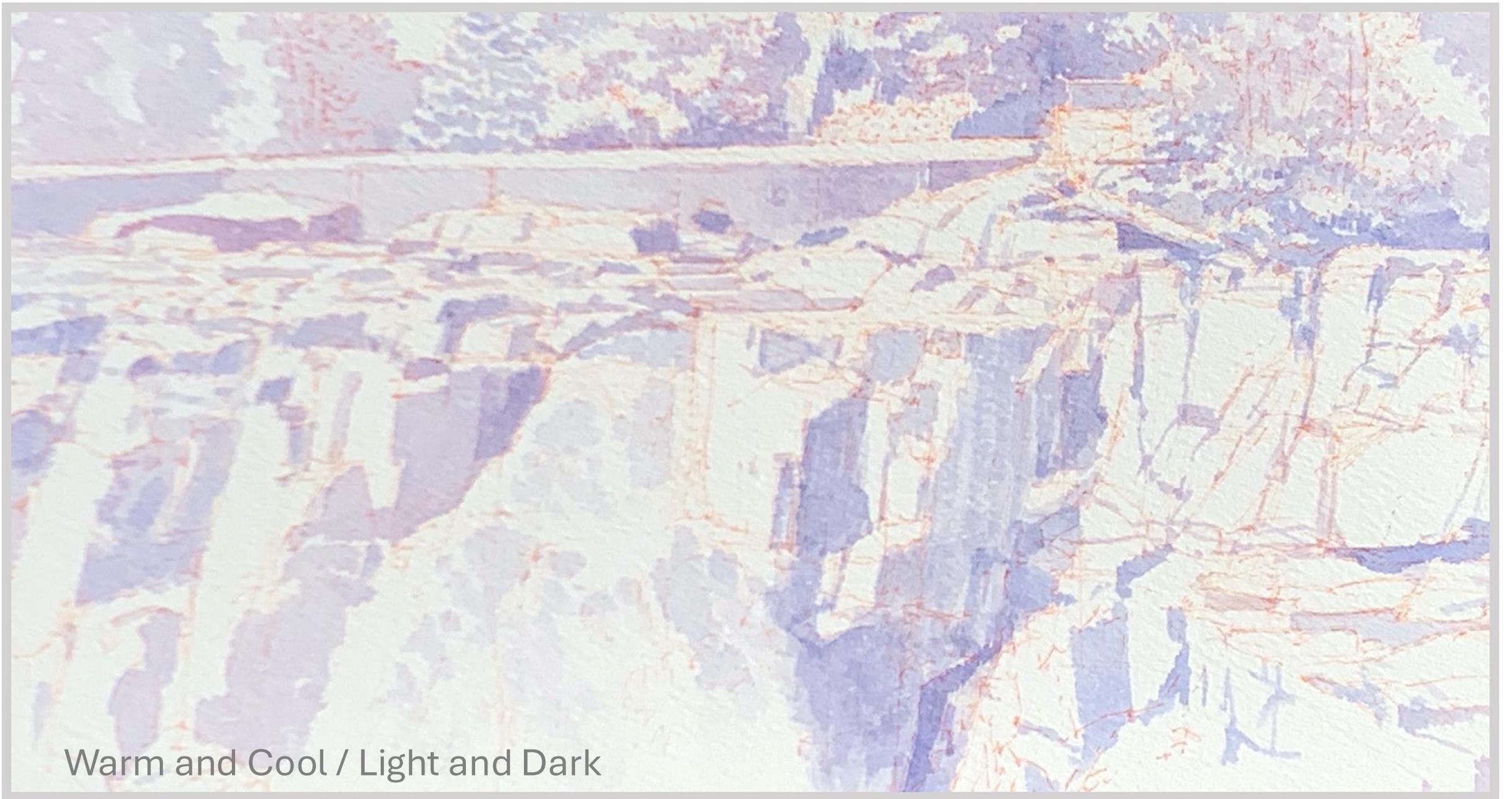
Focal point 1

Focal point 3

Metes and Bounds: Measure Angles and Distances



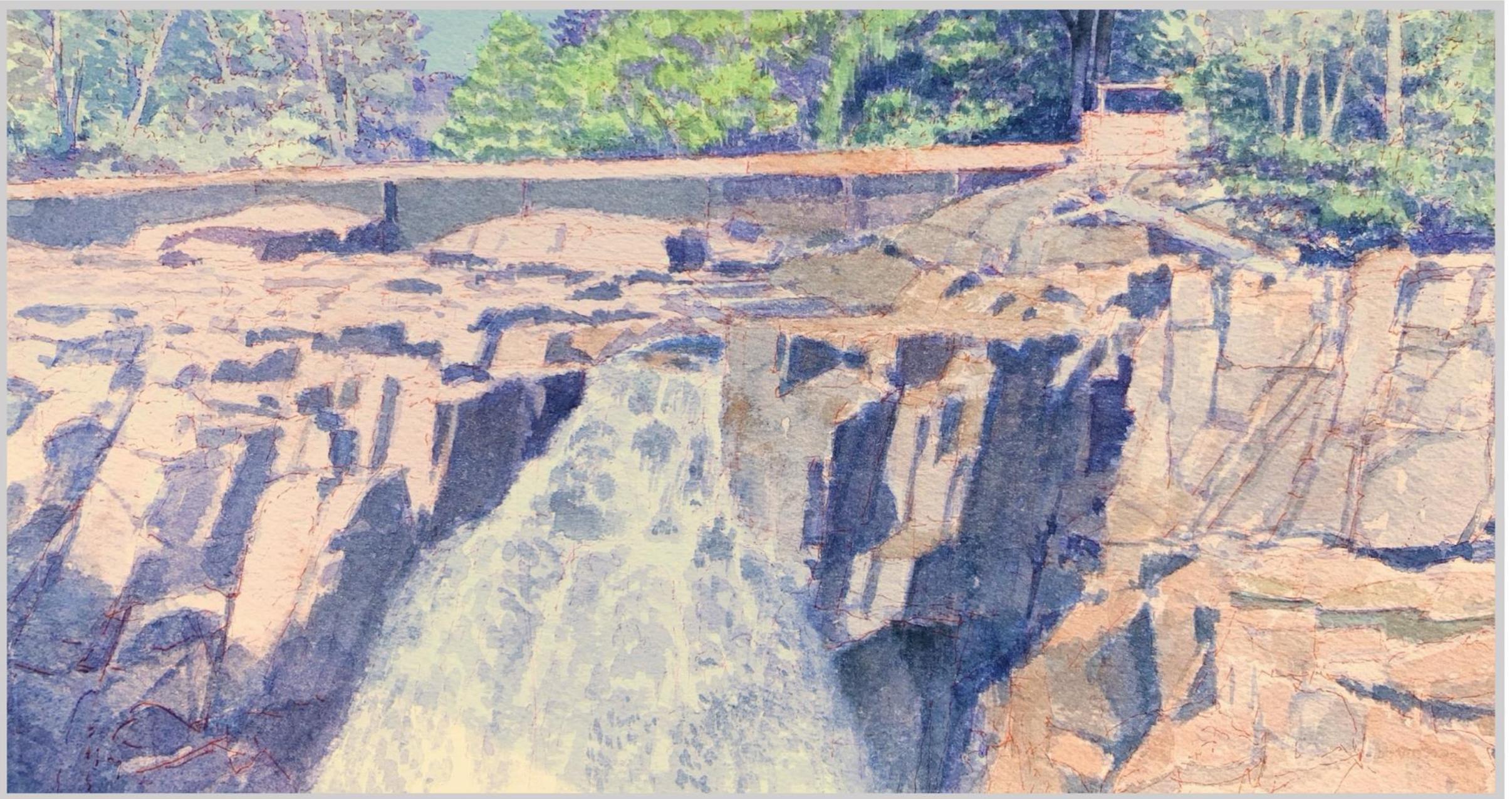
Sketch with broken lines. This allows for corrections without erasing



Warm and Cool / Light and Dark

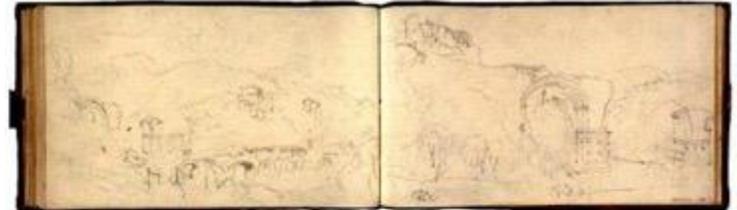


Develop a range of
light and dark values



Expand color range. Intensify warm-cool / light-dark contrast

HISTORIC EXAMPLES

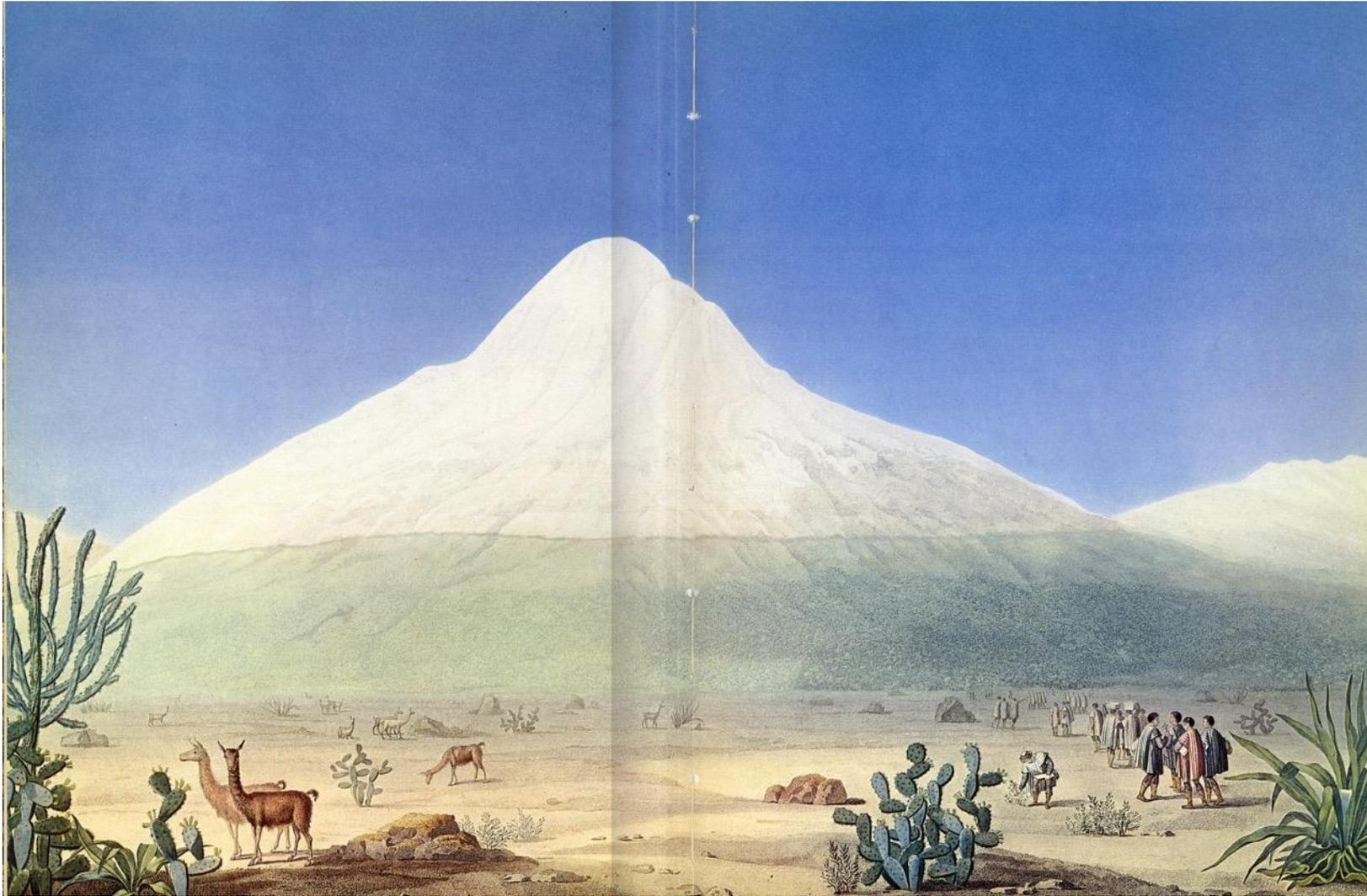


Claude Lorrain. & J.W.M Turner

American botanist William Bartram (1739-1823)



Alexander von Humboldt (1776-1859)



VIEW OF CHIMBORAZO

Pierre Franois Lonard Fontaine: *Journey to Chateau d'Eu*



Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York



Samuel Palmer Sketchbook of 1826



Schuykill Valley Sketchbook. Capt. Joshua Rowley Watson. R.N. a. 1816-17

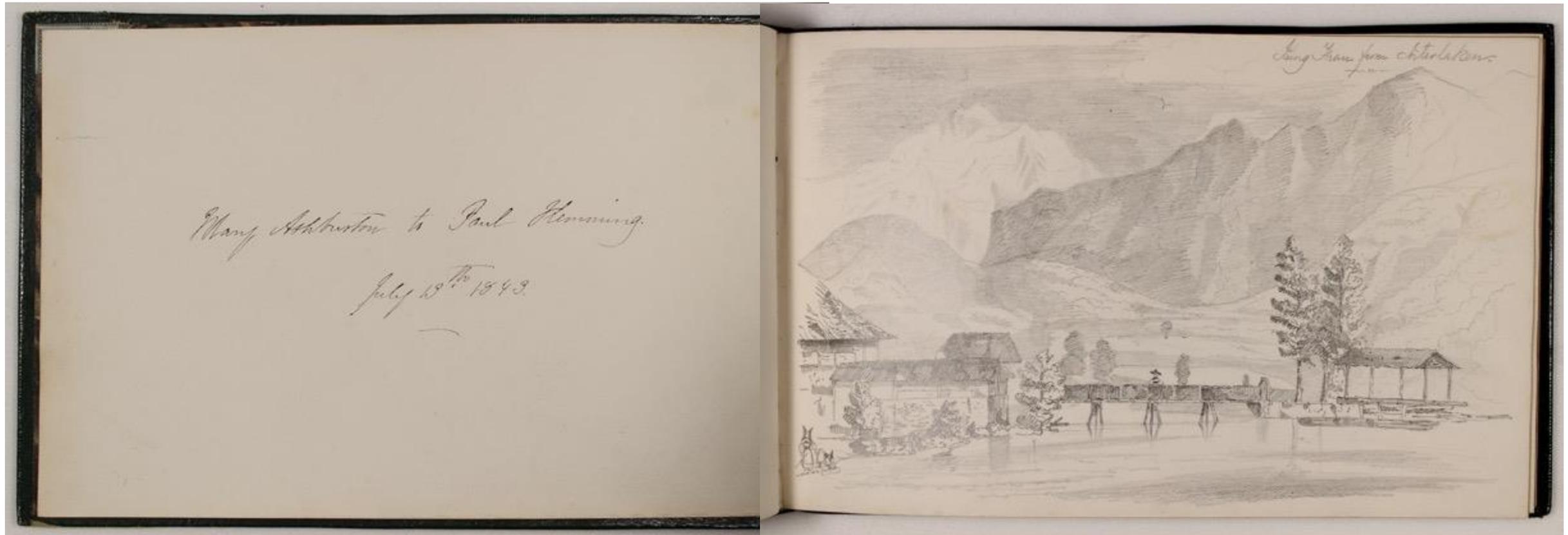


Eugene Delacroix. *Carnet de Voyage: Germany. 1855-59*



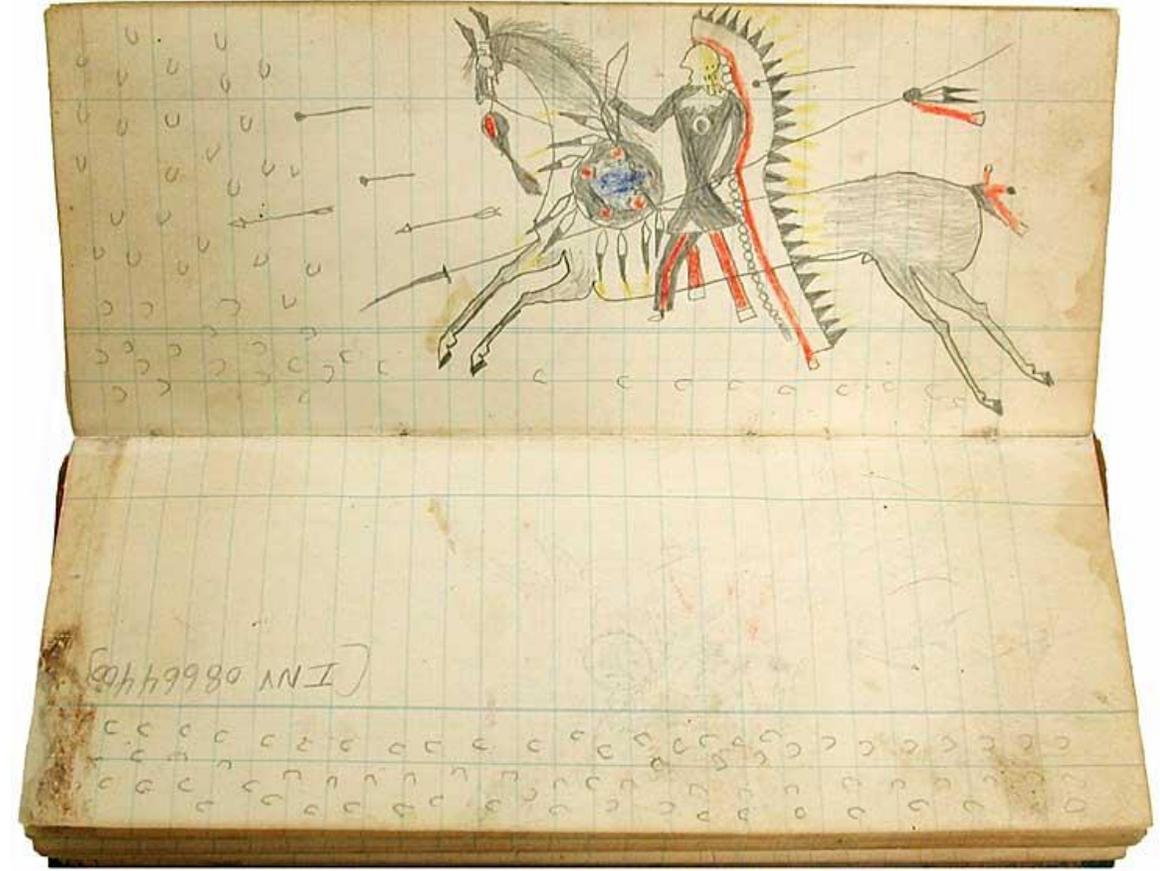
Eugene Delacroix. *Carnet de Voyage*. Normandy. 1829

Art in Pursuit of Personal Improvement



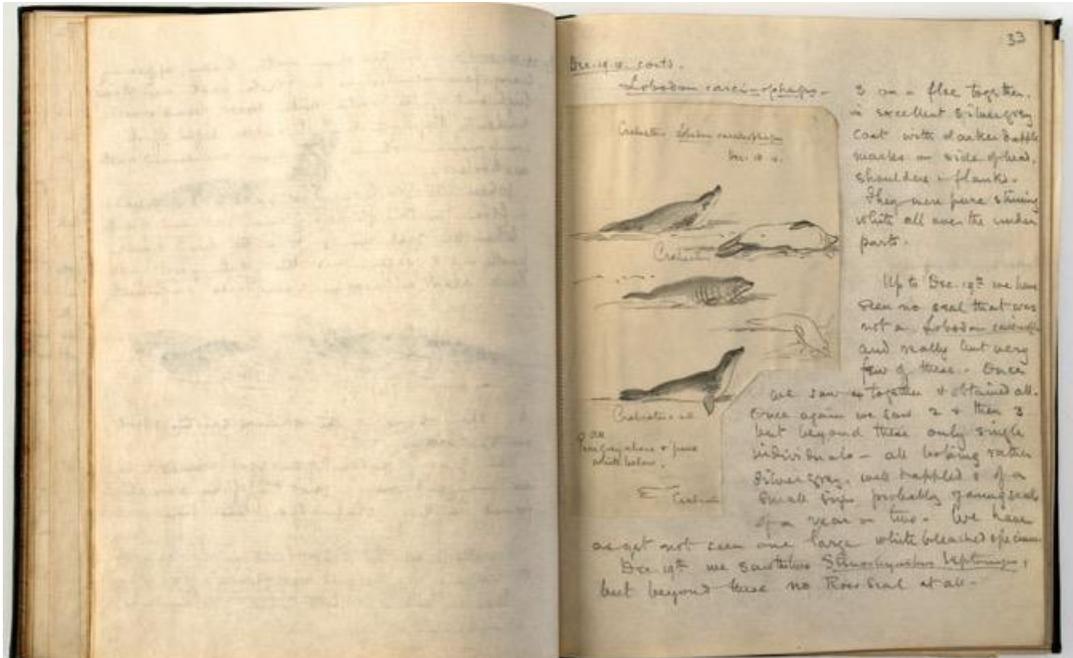
Frances "Fanny" Appleton Longfellow. Grand Tour Sketchbook.
1835-37

Longfellow House. National Park Service

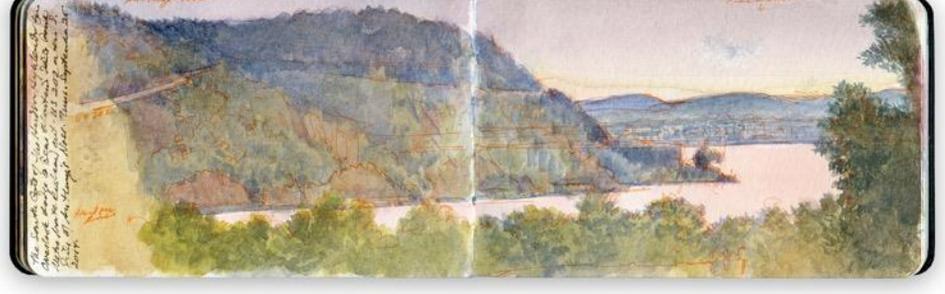
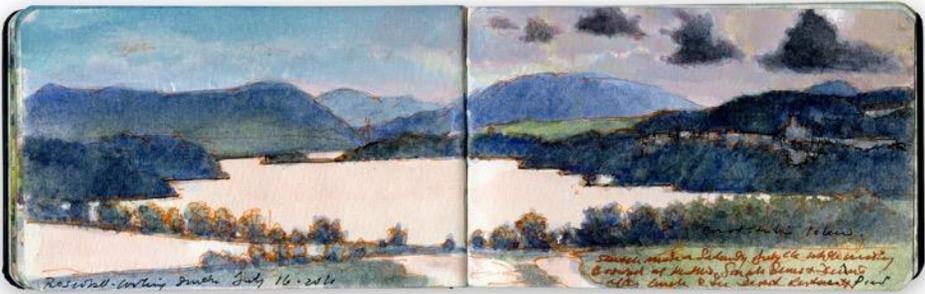
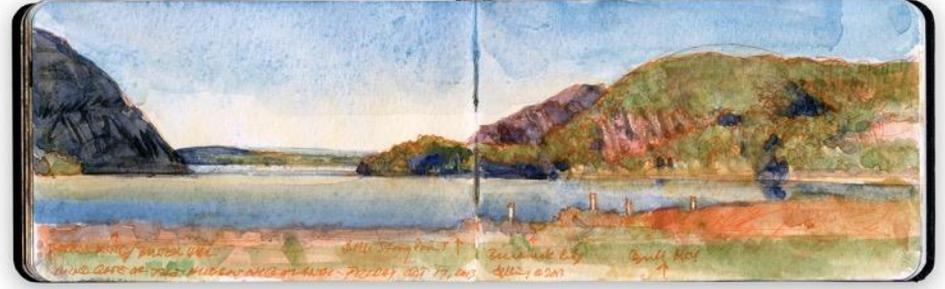
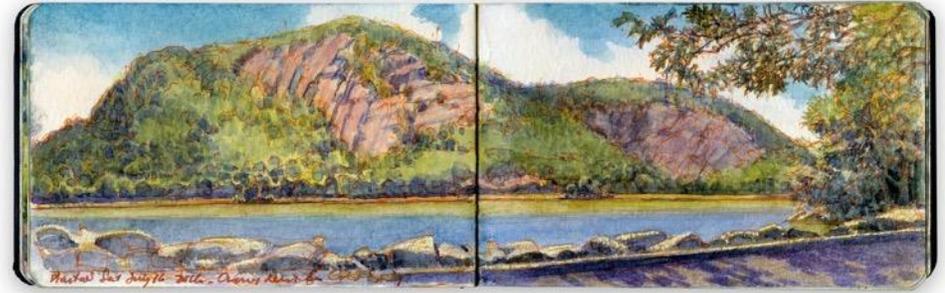


Indigenous Prisoner of War Ledger Art. Late 19th century

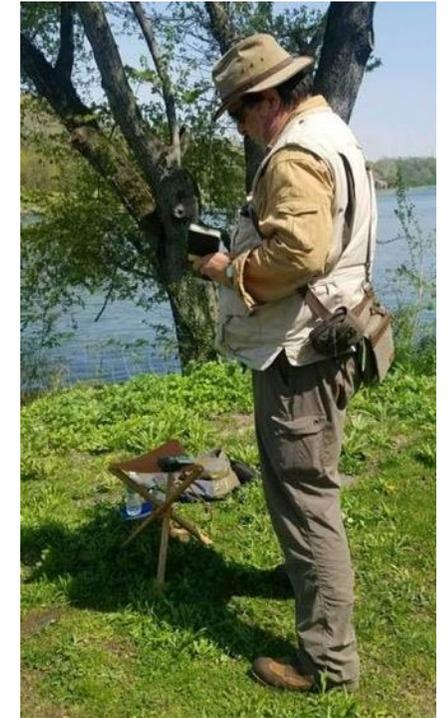
ROBERT FALCON SCOTT ANTARCTICA EXPEDITION: 1911-1912



Journal of Edward Adrian Wilson



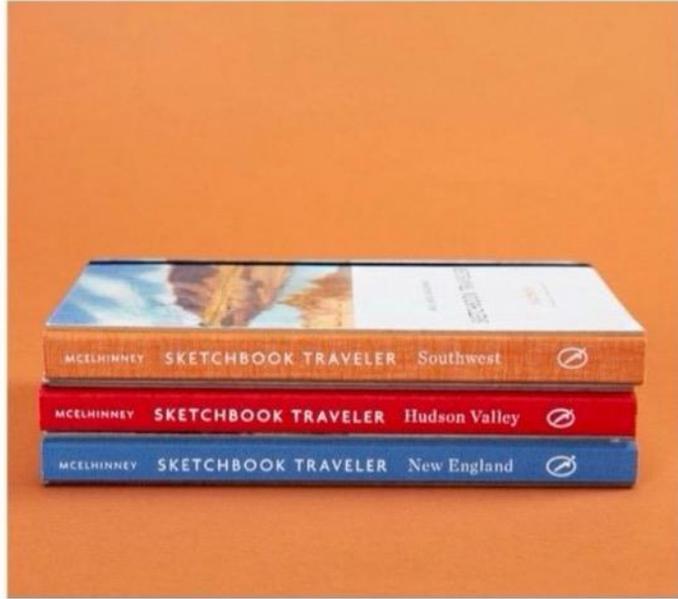
James Lancel McElhinney: Hudson Rier Sketchbook. 2016-17. Collection Hudson River Museum. Yonkers, NY



**Travel Like a Pilgrim
Draw Like an Explorer
Experience The World**



SKETCHBOOK TRAVELER



POCKET FIELD GUIDES TO MINDFUL JOURNEYS BY JAMES LANCEL MCELHINNEY



ecoartspace



“It’s not down on any maps; true places never are”
—Herman Melville, Moby Dick

TRUE PLACES on **SUBSTACK** 

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