

Suzanne Rose | Blind Spot *visual key*

The project is the pairing mid-19th century photography with the overture of New Topographics. Together they become integrated into a single statement of what we have valued and what we have forgotten to protect - illustrating the presence of Anthropocene in the rural Midwest.

The portfolio is divided into two main categories - *The Portrait of Man* and *Allegory of Nature* - with each having two subcategories of symbolic identifiers: *Mindset* and *Human Condition, Impact and Adaption*.

Portrait of Man

"We mirror the world. All the tendencies present in the outer world are to be found in the world of our body."

–Mahatma Gandhi



Mindset

Turning inward, hunting blinds represent the interior self, protected and stealth. While simultaneously reflecting a false sense of anonymity that circumvents accountability.



Human Condition

Anthropomorphized, the tree illustrates how we mirror the world. The state and characteristics speaks to a universal narrative of individuality.

Allegory of Nature

"Nature does not hurry, yet everything is accomplished"

–Lao Tzu



Impact

Once vital and sacred – mounds, piles, and stacks represented work ethic, subsistence and honor. Now, outsized and overreaching, mounds have become a distilled symbol of the ongoing sprawl, mass harvest, and dissipation. They stand as testimony to the impact of current consumption and waste that are unsustainable.



Adaptation

Overgrown structures symbolically represent nature's ability to benignly reclaim agency when the opportunity arises. By example, the organic regrowth hints that adaptation is one path to reconciliation in this age of Anthropocene.