

Close Casual Acquaintances (a series of pictures taken in-town)

I have photographed the South East, now, going on twenty five years, perhaps more. I have over that time cultivated a sense for the rural. I have done studies of cultural artifacts remaining in the land - their structure, their personality, and the relationships to their native, country surroundings. Originally a Black and White picture taker, I have in recent times come to understand color, how it creates its own quality of light, how it can be used as understatement, how it can be softened and tapered into pictorial expressions that can speak to a viewer in undertones of pastel, and tactile possibilities.

I have also come to appreciate the availability of similar light and color and tactile opportunities, in-town.

“Close Casual Acquaintances” is about relationships between architecture and environment in more urban settings. It is about color and context. It is about complimentary alliances. For example, the simple, porched house could not stand alone in “Morning Across The Way” without the momentum of the early day light on its side porch and oak trees. “Sunshine Portico” could not do without the light on the crape myrtle and the brick wall corner at its sidewalk edge. And “Downspout” could not be the same without the soft yellow of its lamp window and its water stained sidewalk.

Without immediate context, and the subdued qualities of light and color, I’m not sure the relationships between content and context in these pictures could be close and not so much more than casual acquaintances.

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