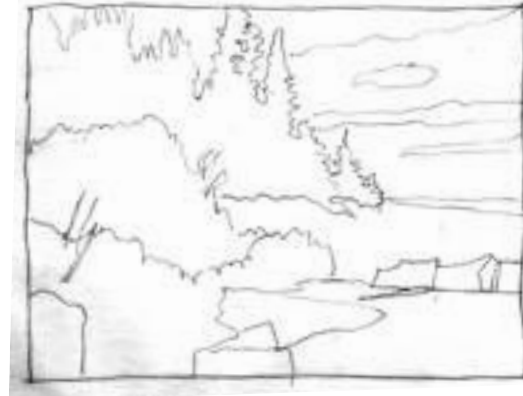


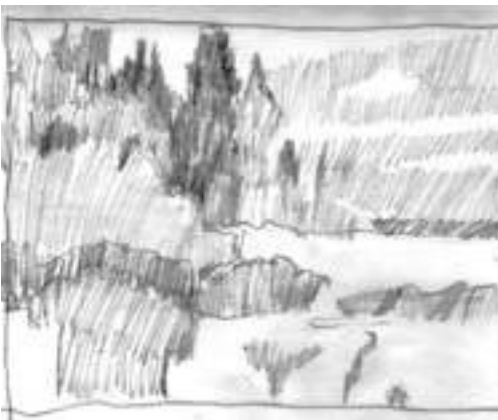
A photograph on a clear day may look something like this. There is a lot going on!



If the outline of photograph is copied or traced it would look like this



Here I've blocked in the lights and darks according to the photograph. It's better, but lacks strength.

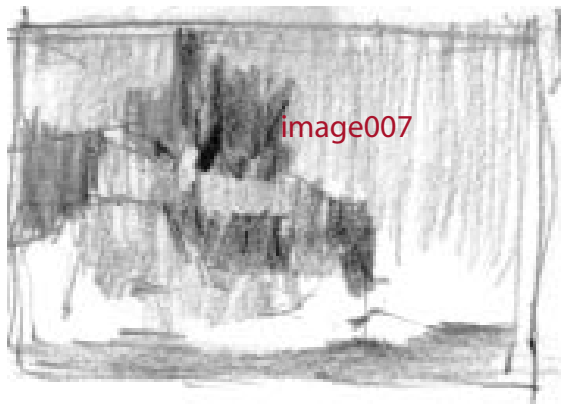


This next sketch shows further simplification of the masses and values

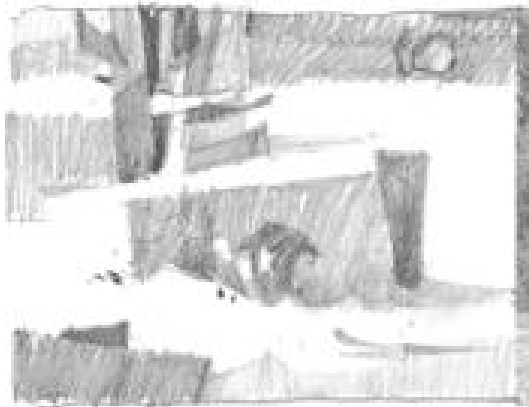


Lights and darks are modified and simplified for the sake of design. The sketch reflect a full control of the design.





A variation of design



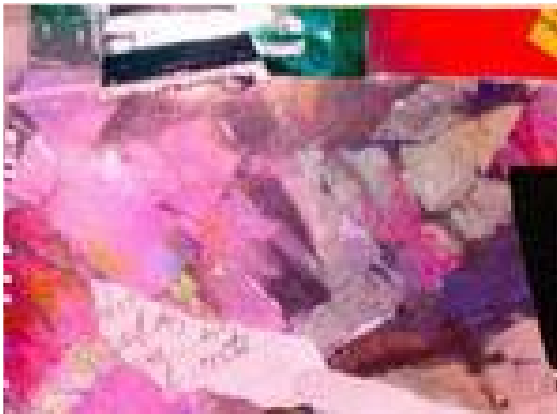
The Artist's Point, Grand Marais 22"x30"  
An on-location painting

This sketch is a more abstracted design. The degree of abstraction is up to the artist. This sketch retains a little resemblance to the photograph, but it is getting away from what we call "realism".

This is a more abstracted design. Degree of abstraction is up to the artist. This painting retains little resemblance to the photograph, but it's expressive of a *feeling* about the coast.



tn.jpg



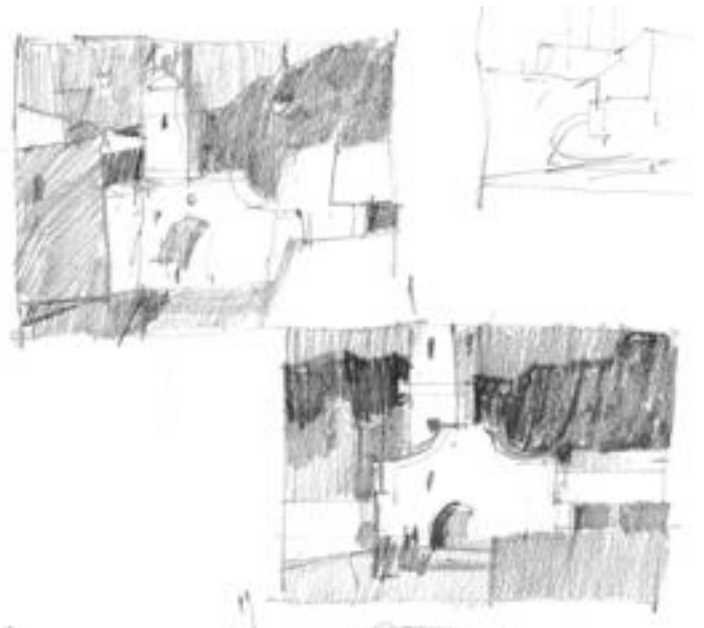
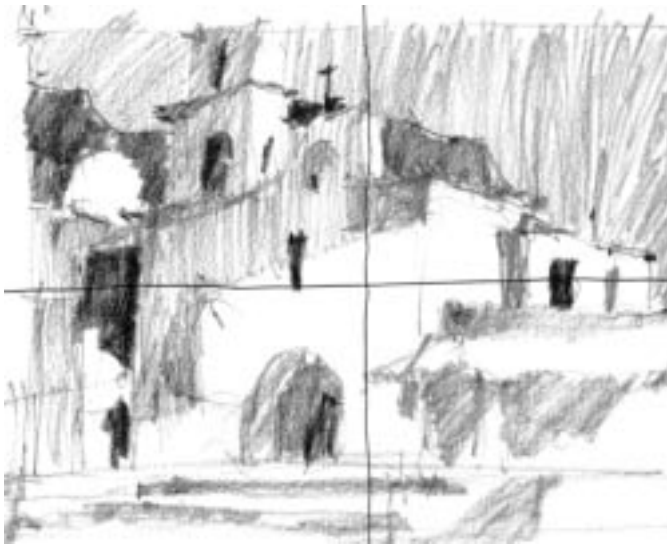
Still more abstract, a collage.

## Example #2: San Andres, Ajijic, Mexico



Degree of abstraction is almost always related to degree of simplicity. Leonardo da Vinci once said, "Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication".

I have painted the subject to the left many times with many variations of the theme. It never tires me.



After making several design sketches, I finally decided to work using the sketch below. I simplified all the shapes, eliminated all clutters, downplayed perspectives and concentrated on shapes and values. Direction of light source is ambiguous and arbitrary. This type of approach tends to flatten the picture (somewhat posterized) and has more direct impact to the viewer.

Final sketch



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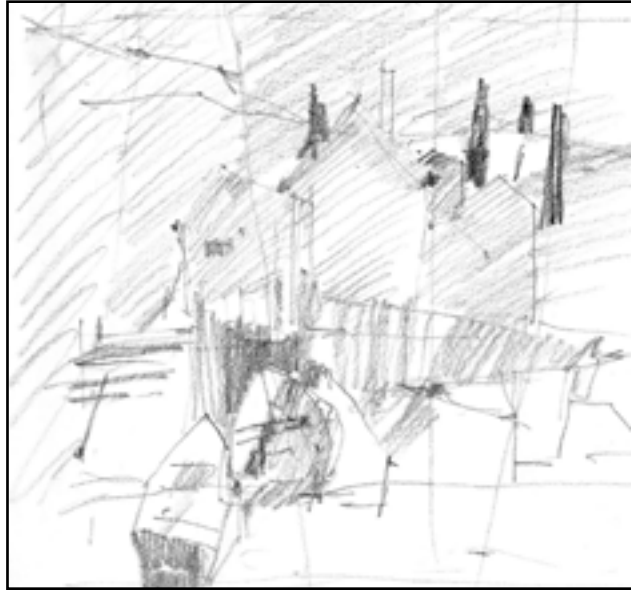
### Example #3: Waterfront

Here are two examples of photos taken on the waterfront. he used as source material for the painting below.

I think abstraction from objective world is a more contemplative process and it requires time and is generally well suited for studio work. I have attempted to paint plein air but was somewhat rushed . It was later finished in the studio.



final sketch



The Artist's Point, Grand Marais, 22" x 30" , An on-location painting.