

ROCK CREEK COFFEE ROASTERS

BILLINGS MT



MUFFIN & COFFEE

SKETCHED WITH JOEL, LISA,
RACHEL, AND CLARENCE. VIEW
OUT THE WINDOW OF THIS
GREAT COFFEE SHOP



JOHN LEUNEDY
2021.12.11

BILLINGS CITY HALL
2ND AVE N | N 2TH ST

SPUR OF THE MOMENT, TEMPS IN
THE MID 40'S AND THE SUN WAS
SHINING SO I HAD TO GET OUTSIDE.
FOUND A NICE BENCH IN THE SUN
IN THE GREEN SPACE ACROSS THE
STREET FROM CITY HALL. A NICE
QUIET SUNDAY AFTERNOON.



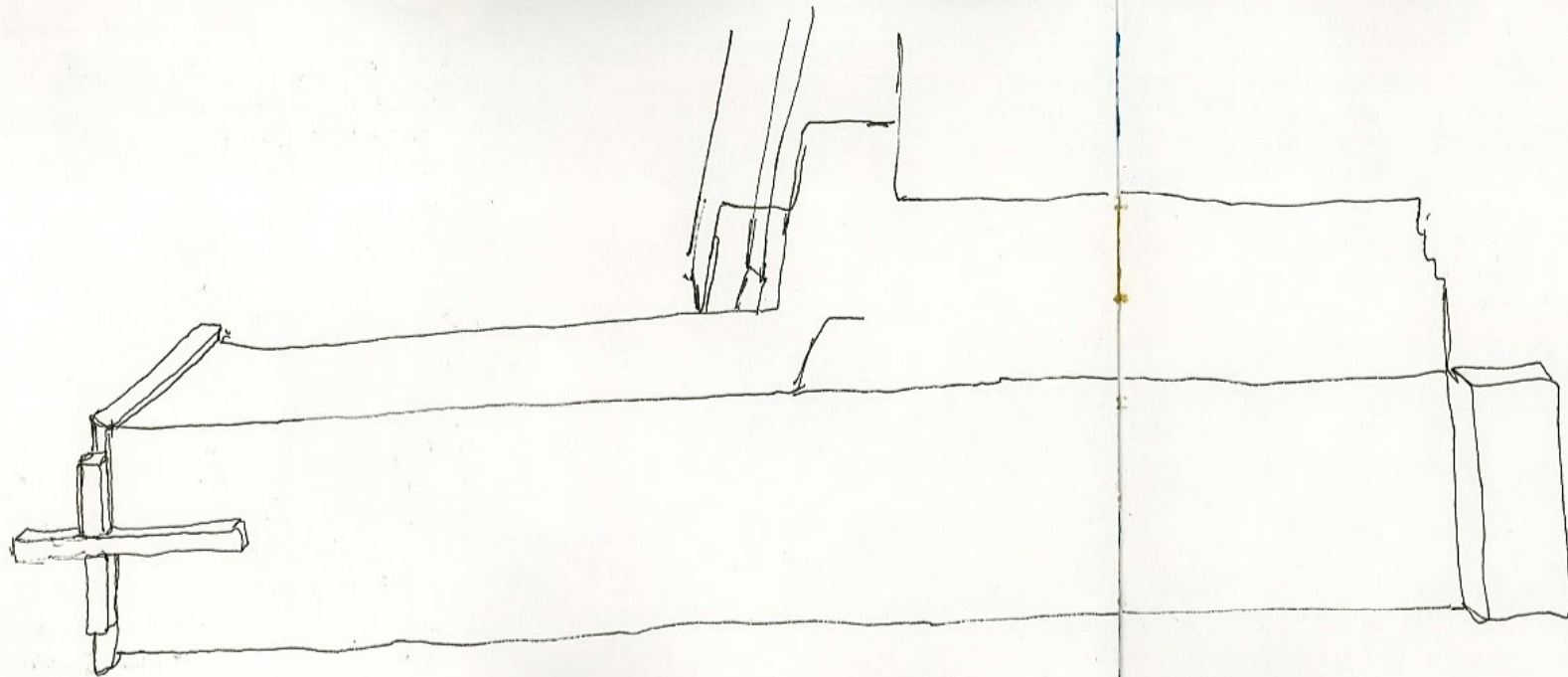
J KENNEDY
2012.12.12

3RD AVE N | 27th ST
MSU Buildings

I FOUND A NICE SPOT
IN THE SUN TO SIT AND WAS
HALFWAY THROUGH THIS SKETCH
WHEN A WORK TRUCK AND TRAILER
PULL RIGHT UP ON THE SIDEWALK
NEXT TO ME AND PROCEEDED TO
START SAW CUTTING THE CONCRETE.
I ASKED IF I WAS IN THE WAY, AND
THE GUY SAID "NO", BUT THAT IT WAS
GONNA GET PRETTY LOUD. SO I MOVED
ABOUT TWENTY FEET AND LOST MY
SUNSHINE AND FINISHED THIS IN THE
SHADE. STILL A NICE DAY, BUT
MUCH NICER IN THE SUNSHINE!



J Kennedy
2021.12.14



2022.01.03

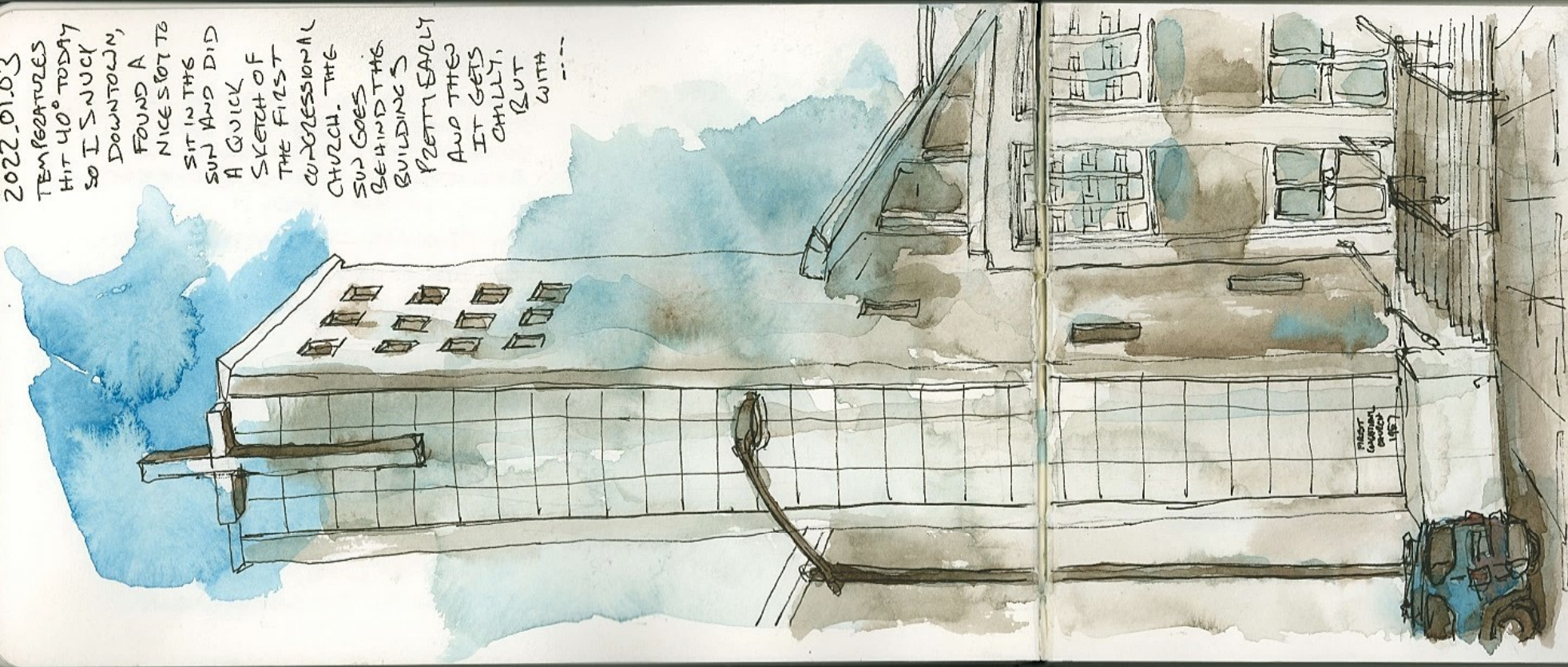
THIS IS A FAILED SKETCH. I STARTED IT IN PEN, AND GOT SOME OF THE LINES WRONG. I ABANDONED IT, AND REWORKED IT ON THE NEXT PAGE.

MY ORIGINAL INTENTION WAS TO RIP THE PAGES OUT OF MY SKETCHBOOK AND HIDE THIS EVIDENCE OF MY FAILURE.

BUT OVER TIME I'VE COME TO APPRECIATE MY DECISION TO LEAVE IT, AND TRUTHFULLY IT HAS BECOME ONE OF MY FAVORITE PAGES. NOT BECAUSE IT IS A BEAUTIFUL SKETCH, BUT AS A REMINDER THAT FAILURE IS A PART OF LIFE, AND SHOULD NOT BE AN EMBARRASMENT.

2022_01_03

TEMPERATURES
HIT 40° TODAY
SO I SNUCK
DOWNTOWN,
FOUND A
NICE SPOT TO
SIT IN THE
SUN AND DID
A QUICK
SKETCH OF
THE FIRST
CONGRESSIONAL
CHURCH. THE
SUN GOES
BEHIND THE
BUILDING'S
PRETTY EARLY
AND THEN
IT GETS
CHILLY,
BUT
WITH



Skennedy 2022

FIRST
CONGRESSIONAL
CHURCH
3rd Ave N
N 27th St
1957

--- CLOUDS
WEATHER AND
SNOW COMING IN
THE NEXT FEW
DAYS I FELT
I NEEDED TO
BE OUTSIDE.
MY FIRST URBAN
SKETCH OF 2022.



N BROADWAY

N BROADWAY
AND
2ND AVE N
BILLINGS
MT



FROM THE WINDOW AT
THE ROCK CREEK
CAFEE SHOP ON BROADWAY,
NOEL AND I STARTED
SKETCHING.

A COUPLE QUICK
VIEWS OF THE STREET,
A LITTLE BIT OF
ARCHITECTURAL DETAIL
OF THE MONTANA
POWER BUILDING,
AND A STREET SIGN
I JUST THOUGHT
LOOKED INTERESTING.

JOHN KENNEDY
2022.01.17



NEXT STOP, OUTSIDE
SITTING IN THE
SUNSHINE ON 2ND
AVENUE AND LOOKING
ACROSS THE STREET
AT THE OLD BARBOCK
THEATRE BUILDING.
MY FAVORITE PART OF
THIS SKETCH IS
THE THREE POWER
TRANSFORMERS
FRAMING THE ALLEY ON
THE RIGHT SIDE OF
THE BUILDING - I
DON'T KNOW WHY, EXCEPT
I JUST LIKE THE "FEEL"
OF THEM, AND I LIKE
THE SIZES COMING
OFF THE INSULATORS.

JOHN KENNEDY
2022.01.17



2022.01.21
ROOTS / BLACK DOG
COFFEE ON POLY DRIVE
LOTS OF INTERESTING
THINGS AND PEOPLE
TO SKETCH.



WITH SOEL
FLOWERS, A
RELAXING
AFTERNOON.

2022.01.21
JOHN KENNEDY



THE REX HOTEL
2401 MONTANA AVE
BILLINGS MT



BILLINGS
DEPOT
SIGN



JOEL, RACHEL, AND I SAT
ON THE EMPTY PATIO OF
BAR MT TO SKETCH. I
SKETCHED THE REX HOTEL
ACROSS THE STREET AND
RACHEL FOCUSED ON THE
TRAINS AND RAILYARD
BEHIND US. JOEL DID
SOME INTERESTING ABSTRACT
ON HIS TABLET. THE BAR-
TENDER CAME OUTSIDE AND
LIT THE GAS FIRE-PIT FOR US,
WHICH PROVIDED SOME MUCH
APPRECIATED WARMTH ON
A COOL WINTER DAY.
SUCH A NICE THING TO DO
FOR US. WHAT A NICE DAY.
I LOVE BILLINGS.

2022.01.23
JOHN KENNEDY

2022.02.04
STARBUCKS
IN THE
BARNES + NOBLE
24th STREET
WEST END

A TRIO OF
MEN DEEP
IN
CONVERSATION
ON THE OTHER
SIDE OF THE
CAFE.



2022.02.04
JOHN KENNEDY

BARNES
AND
NOBLE

RANDOM
PEOPLE



A GOOD TURN OUT
LISA, JOEL, RACHEL,
CLARENCE, ANNIE,
AND ME SKETCHING
AT STARBUCKS.
BARNES AND NOBLE ON THE WEST END

2022.02.13

"BUT I DO LIKE CHURCHES -
THE WAY IT FEELS INSIDE.
IT FEELS GOOD WHEN
YOU JUST SIT THERE, LIKE
YOU'RE IN A FOREST AND
EVERYTHING'S REALLY
QUIET, EXCEPT THERE'S
STILL THIS SOUND
YOU CAN'T HEAR."

-TIM O'BRIEN-

ST PATRICKS
CATHEDRAL
BILLINGS MT
300 AVENUE
N 31st ST

"GOING TO CHURCH DOESN'T MAKE YOU A
CHRISTIAN ANY MORE THAN GOING TO A
GARAGE MAKES YOU AN AUTOMOBILE"
- BILLY SUNDAY



ELIZABETH KUELER-KOSS - "THERE'S A LIGHT FROM WITHIN" - THEIR TRUE BEAUTY IS REVEALED ONLY IF THERE IS A LIGHT FROM WITHIN

"PEOPLE ARE LIKE STAINED-Glass WINDOWS, THEY SPARKLE AND SHINE

"THE CHURCH IS NEAR BUT THE
ROAD IS ICEY. THE BAR IS
FAR, BUT I WILL WALK
CAREFULLY"
- RUSSIAN POOVERS -

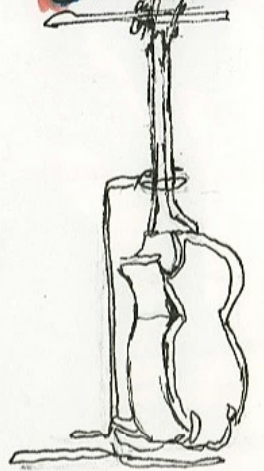
WHEN THE SUN IS OUT, BUT WHEN THE DARKNESS SETS IN,

A QUIET LOCAL
PUB, SKETCHED
WITH REBECCA.
THE MUSICIAN
DID A QUICK
SOUND CHECK
SO I SNAPPED
A PICTURE AND
ADDED HIM IN
LATER GHOST LIKE.



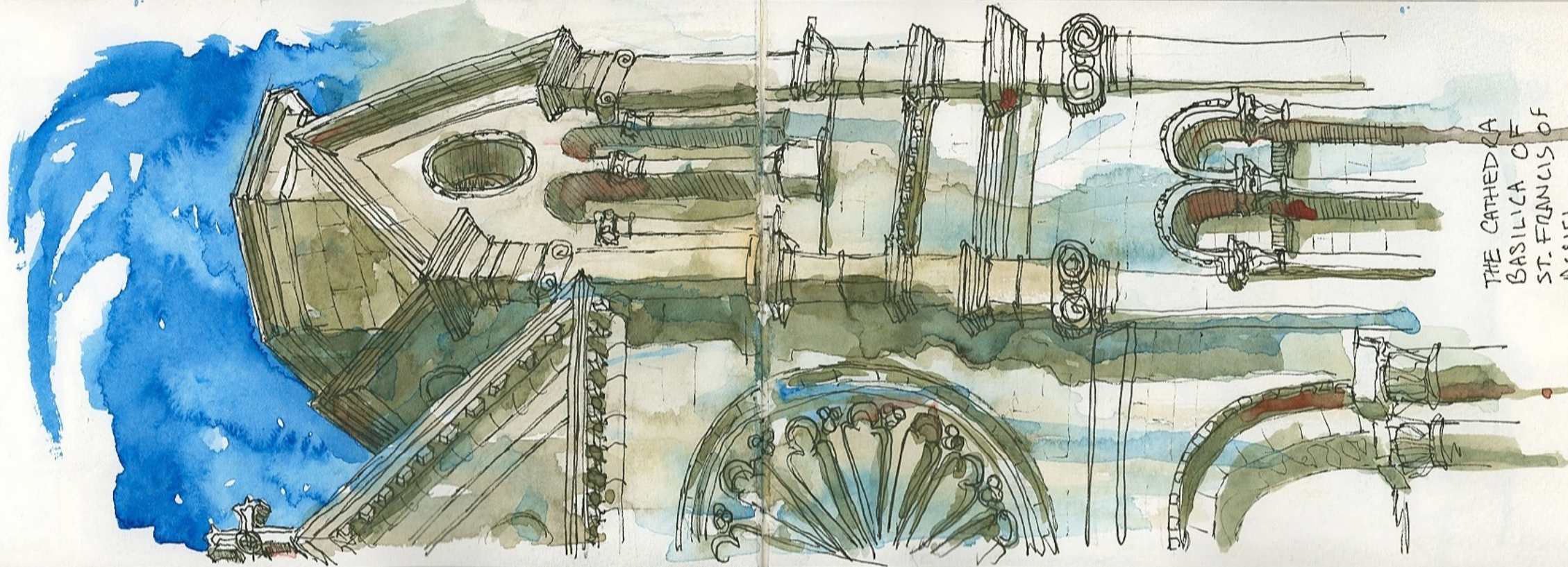
CRAFT
LOCAL

2413
MONTANA
AVENUE
BILLINGS
MONTANA



JOHN KENNEDY
2022.02.17

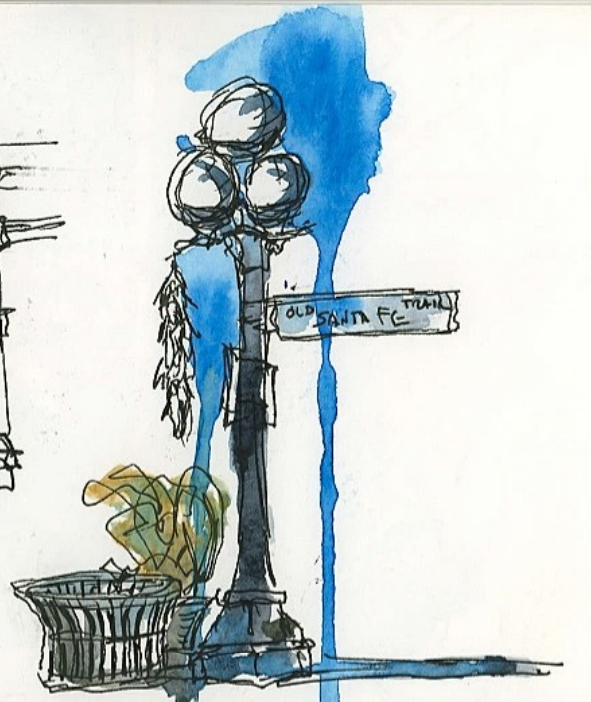
2022.02.25
JOHN KENNEDY



THE CATHEDRA
BASILICA OF
ST. FRANCIS OF
ASSISI
SANTA FE NM



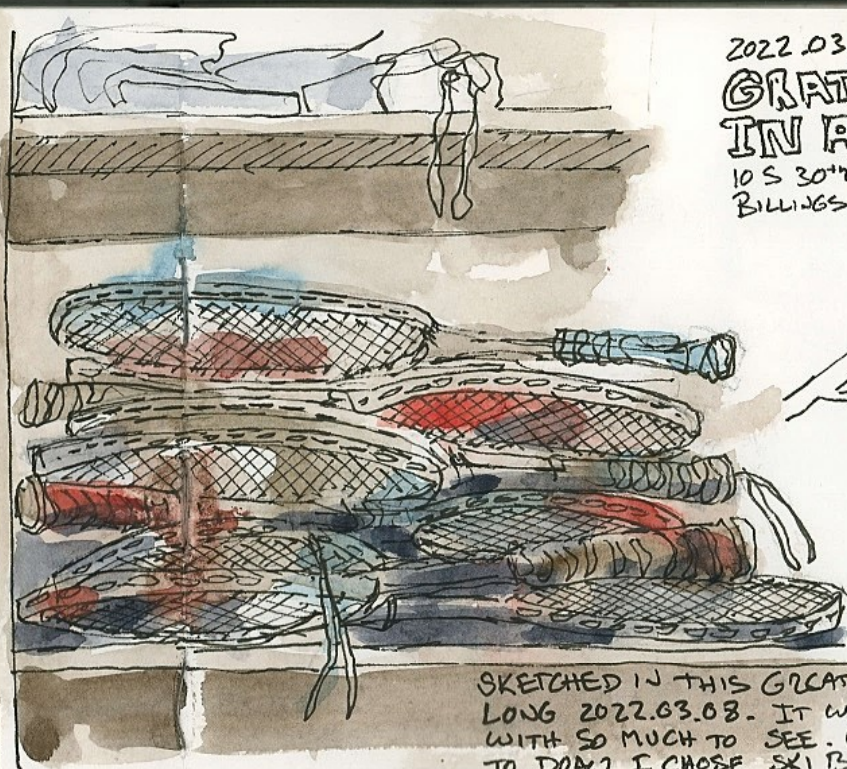
JOHN KENNEDY



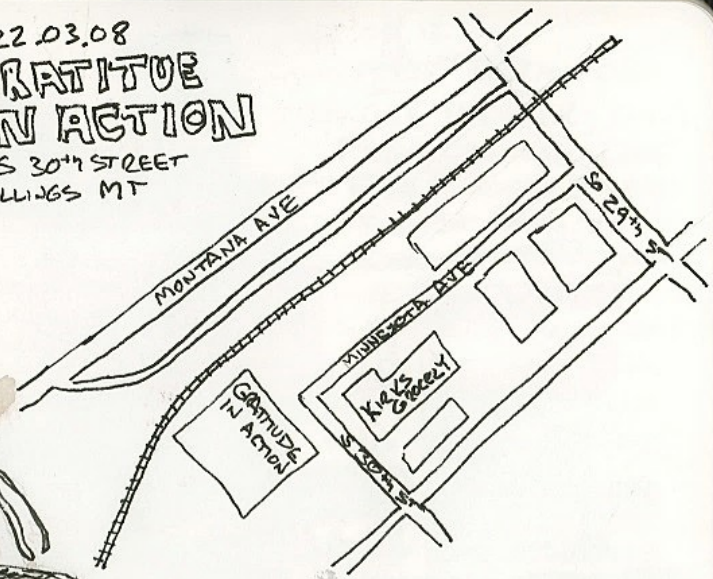
2022.02.27
SANTA FE NM
OLD SANTA FE TRAIL & PLACE AVE



JOHN KENNEDY



2022.03.08
**GRATITUDE
IN ACTION**
10 S 30th STREET
BILLINGS MT



SKETCHED IN THIS GREAT THRIFT SHOP WITH RACHEL LARSON LONG 2022.03.08. IT WAS AN AMAZING PLACE TO SKETCH, WITH SO MUCH TO SEE. OUT OF HUNDREDS OF BINS OF STUFF TO DRAW I CHOSE SKI BOOTS, BIKE HELMETS, AND TENNIS RACKETS - DEFINITELY NEED TO GO BACK THERE!!



JOHN KENNEDY

THIS GUY WAS WALKING
BY AS I WAS PONDERING
WHETHER OR NOT
I WAS DONE WITH
MY SKETCH. SO
I TOOK A 2 MINUTE
BREAK AND DREW
HIS.



2022.03.12
DOWNTOWN BY THE OLD
BARBOCK THATER, DAN
FROM CROOKED LINE
HAD A BOOTH DURING
THE ST PATRICKS
DAY CELEBRATION.
I SAW A SCENE
DOWN AN ALLEY THAT
LOOKED INTERESTING,
ESPECIALLY THE OLD
FIRE ESCAPE. A GUY
STOPPED TO ASK ME
WHY I WAS PAINTING,
SKETCHING SITTING IN
AN ALLEY? PRETTY
GOOD QUESTION. ALL
I COULD SAY WAS THAT
I SORT OF LIKED THE WAY IT LOOKED.
THINKING ABOUT IT LATER, I FELT THAT
WAS A PRETTY GOOD ANSWER.

2022.03.12



SECOND SKETCH OF THE BABCOCK THEATER

JOHN KENNEDY

2022.03.19

MONTANA AVE AND
 BROADWAY, FROM THE
 US BANK PARKING LOT.
 I WANTED TO SKETCH A
 FIRE ESCAPE, AND HUGE
 ONE WAS. FUDGE RED
 WITH WATERCOLOR WASH.
 PLAYING WITH
 ODD COLORS -



2022.03.19
 JOHN KENNEDY

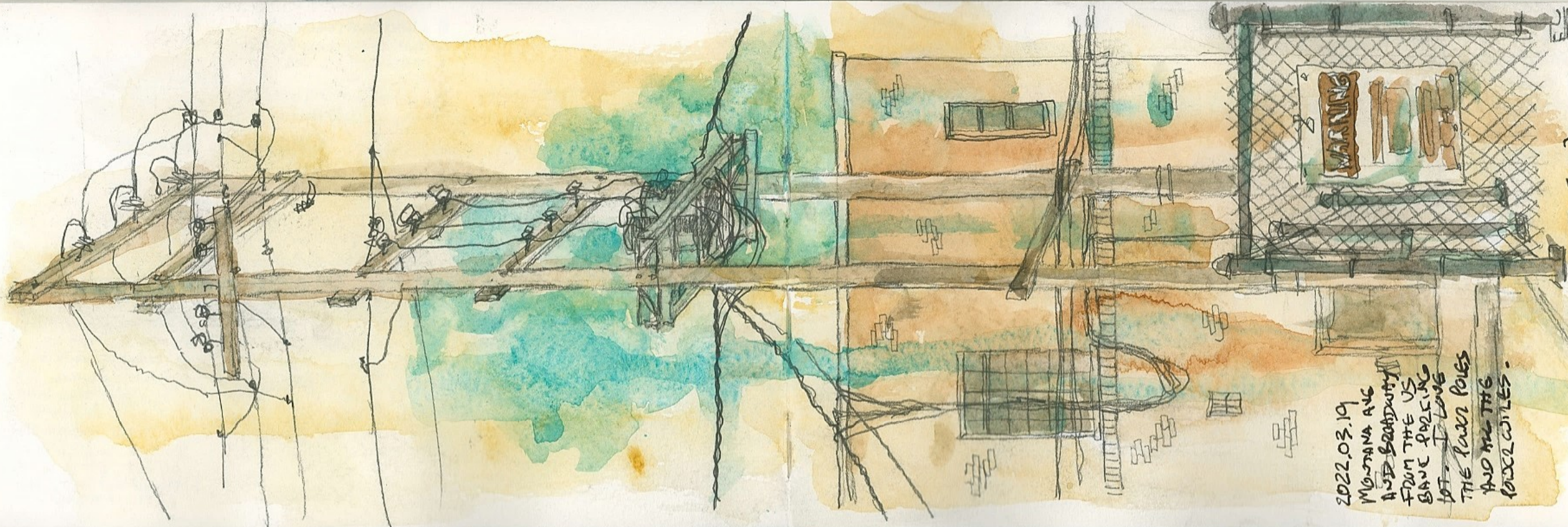


2022.03.18
JOHN KENNEDY

A LIGHT WATERCOLOR
WASH OVER THE PENCIL
LINES LOCKS THE
GRAPHITE AND
PREVENTS SMEARING
AND SMUDGING.

2022.03.18
VIEW BEHIND THE
RAILROAD TRACKS
THE BACK OF SOME
BUILDINGS LINING
MONTANA AVENUE

I WANTED TO TRY THIS
IN PENCIL, INSPIRED
BY THE ART OF
STEPHANIE BOWER
WHO SAYS PENCIL
GIVES HER MORE LINE
VARIETY AND IS A
BIT MORE SUBTLE THAN
PEN. I DO LIKE THE
AFFECT, BUT I THINK
THERE IS ROOM FOR
BOTH IN MY ART.



2022.03.19
MONTANA AND
A NEAR BORDER
FROM THE US
HAVE PARKING
LOT. I LOVE
THE POWER Poles
AND ALL THE
POSSIBLES.

JOHN
KENNEDY

THIS WAS A GREAT DAY,
WARM WEATHER, SUNSHINE,
A PERFECT DAY TO BE
SITTING OUTSIDE ENJOYING
THIS BEAUTIFUL OLD
ARCHITECTURE.



2022.03.23
ACROSS THE STREET FROM
KIRK'S GROCERY, 2920
MINNESOTA AVE, BILLINGS
59101 WITH RACHEL AND
HER FRIEND. MET SHAJE
DE LEON, THE OWNER OF
KIRK'S. A NICE GUY WHO
IS SUPPORTING THE ART
SCENE IN BILLINGS!!

BILLINGS MONTANA
SITTING IN A PARKING
LOT OFF MONTANA
AVE NEAR THE
WESTERN HERITAGE
MUSEUM

2022.03.26
JOHN KENNEDY



SITTING IN AN EMPTY
PARKING LOT ON A SATURDAY
AFTERNOON, LOVING THESE
POWER POLES AND THEIR
SHADOWS ON THIS OLD
BUILDING - THE SUN CAME
AND WENT, AS THE SUN IS
KNOWN TO DO, SO I FOUND
MYSELF AT TIMES SEEING
THE SCENE CHANGE MINUTE
TO MINUTE - WHICH WAS
A CHALLENGE, BUT FUN.

I'VE WALKED THE EDGES OF THIS
NEIGHBORHOOD NEAR DOWNTOWN
DOZENS OF TIMES, BUT SOMEHOW
I MISSED THIS FANTASTIC BUILDING.
RACHEL, SENNY, DAN, EV AND ME,
SKETCHING OUT FRONT OF THIS
BEAUTIFUL PLACE. EVERY ONE IN
A WHILE LIFE REWARDS YOU
WITH A BEAUTIFUL
DAY, GREAT PEOPLE
TO ENJOY IT WITH,
AND A SCENE
THAT TAKES
YOUR BREATH
AWAY.
THIS WAS
SUCH A
DAY!!



2022.03.30
SKINNER / BENNETT BLDG
622-N 29th ST
BILLINGS MT

John
Kennedy

2022.04.08
15 N 26th ST
BILINGS, MT



JOHN KENNEDY 2022

EARLY APRIL ADD TO
DEGREES. THE NEXT FEW
WEEKS TEMPS WILL
START DRIPPING AGAIN,
SO I'M GRATEFUL FOR
THIS NICE AFTERNOON
IN THE SUN WITH
KAREN TANNER. WE
HAD A BEAUTIFUL VIEW
OF THESE GREAT OLD
BUILDINGS FROM THE
CORNER ACROSS THE
STREET. AND A VERY
NICE COUPLE STOPPED
BY TO CHAT WITH US
FOR A FEW MINUTES
WHILE WE WERE
SKETCHING.

A GREAT DAY!

MCCORMICK CAFE

2419 MONTANA AVE
2022.04.18

TODAY I SKETCHED THE MCCORMICK
CAFE ON MONTANA AVE. I WAS
REALLY HAPPY WITH THE SKETCH,
BUT NOT SO MUCH WITH THE
WATERCOLOR WASH. MAYBE I
SHOULD HAVE LEFT IT BE, WITHOUT
COLOR. BUT I DIDN'T. WILL THERE
COME A TIME WHEN I AM COMPLETELY
SATISFIED WITH MY ART??

PERHAPS THAT IS A GOAL
BEST NOT ACHIEVED

JOHN KENNEDY

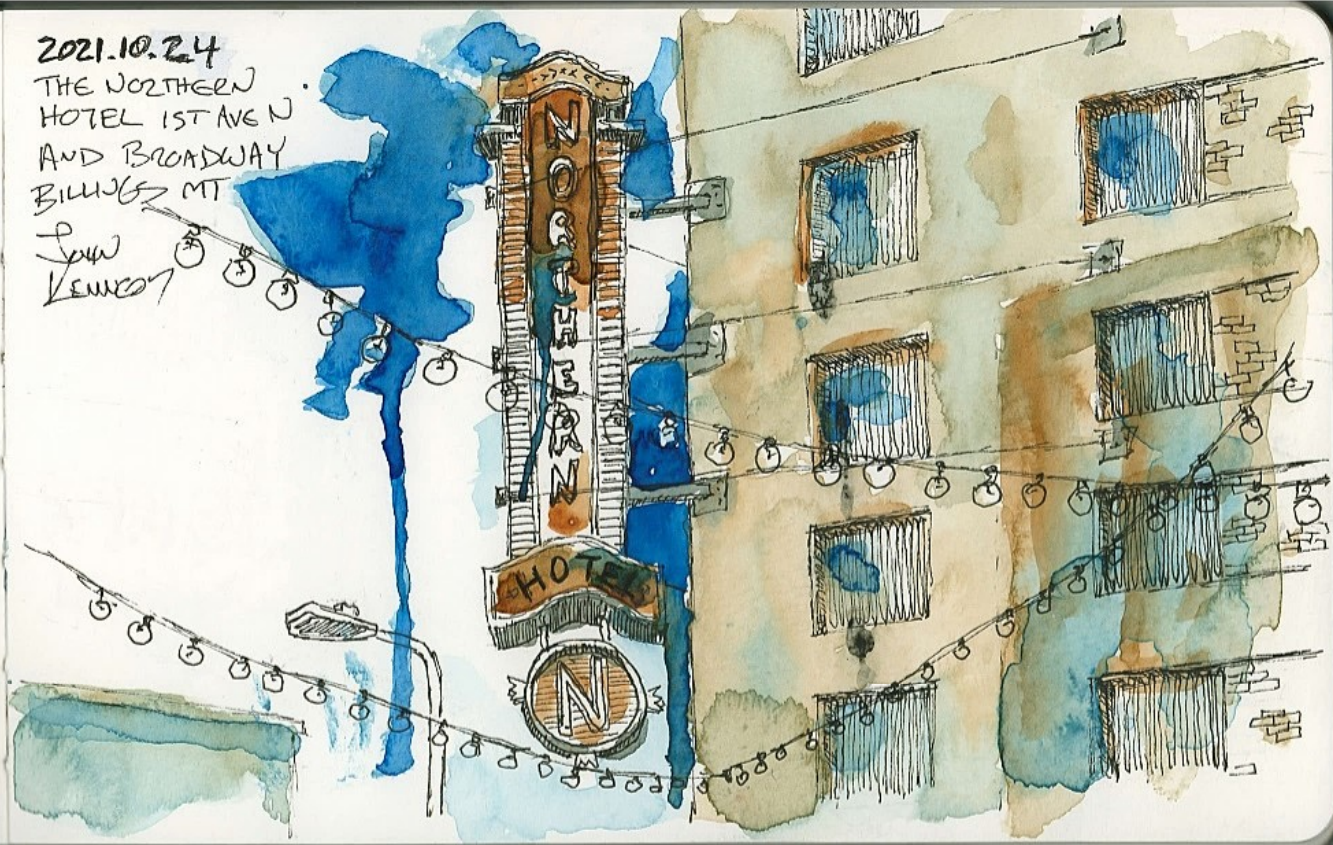


2021.10.24 SKETCHED
WITH DAN GRAGG
(CROOKED LUG STUDIOS)
AND HIS FRIEND SARAH.

I REALLY LIKE THE
WAY BOTH OF THESE
SKETCHES TURNED
OUT. IT WAS A
NICE EXPERIENCE
SITTING ON THE STREET
SKETCHING.



2021.10.24
THE NORTHERN
HOTEL 1ST AVE N
AND BROADWAY
BILLINGS MT
JOHN
KENNEDY



2021.11.02

SKETCHED TODAY WITH LISEL HUGO OF MONTANA AVENUE. LISEL IS A PHOTOGRAPHER DOWNTOWN AND MOVED HERE FROM SOUTH AFRICA 3 YEARS AGO TO BE CLOSER TO HER CHILDREN. SUCH A NICE PERSON TO SIT AND SKETCH WITH. IT IS SO AMAZING THE TWISTS AND TURNS THAT MY LIFE HAS TAKEN. THIS WAS JUST GREAT FUN.

55° F
SUNSHINE

WIND
← 10 MPH

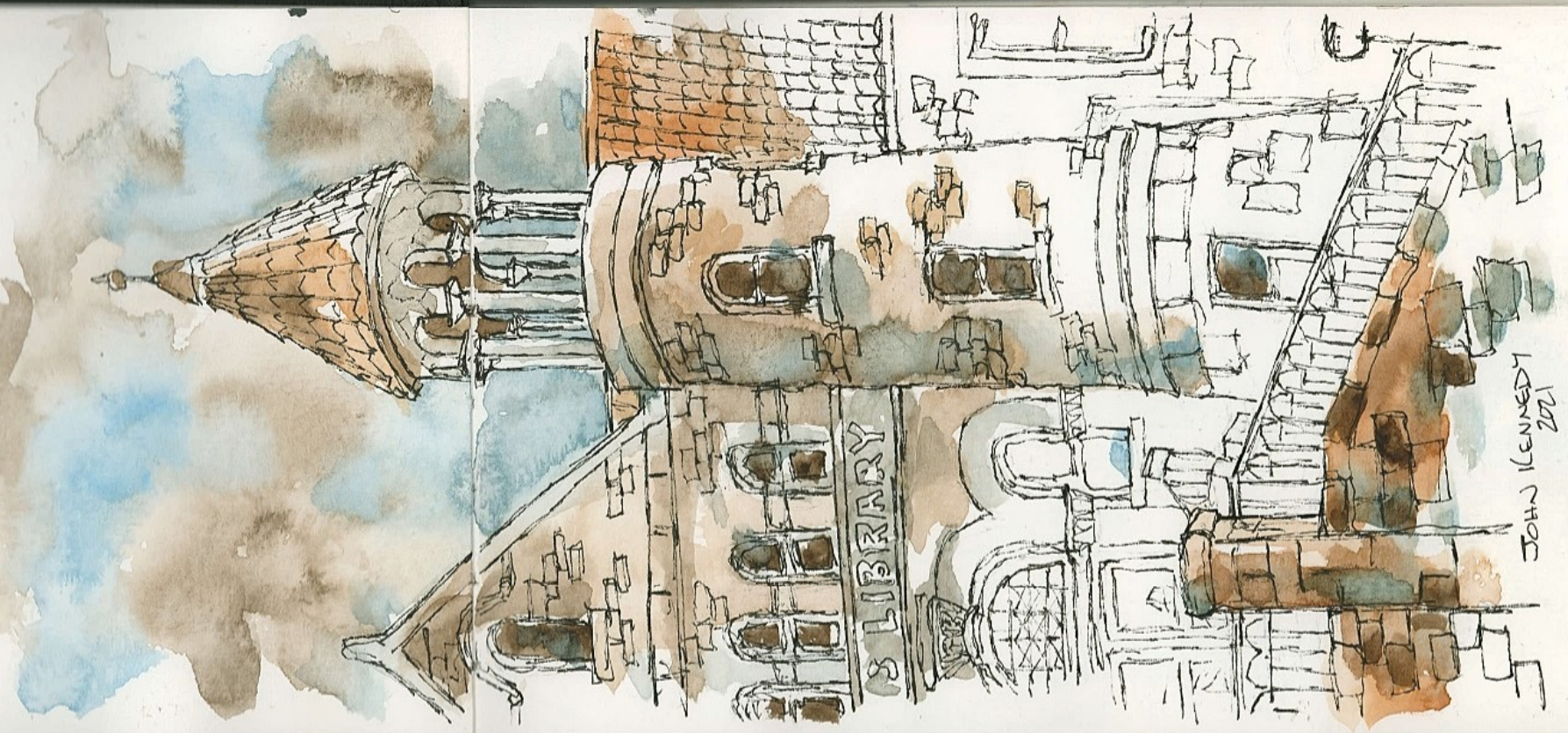
A PERFECT MONTANA
FALL DAY



2021.11.02
MONTANA AVE - OLD FAMILY BILLINGS LIBRARY

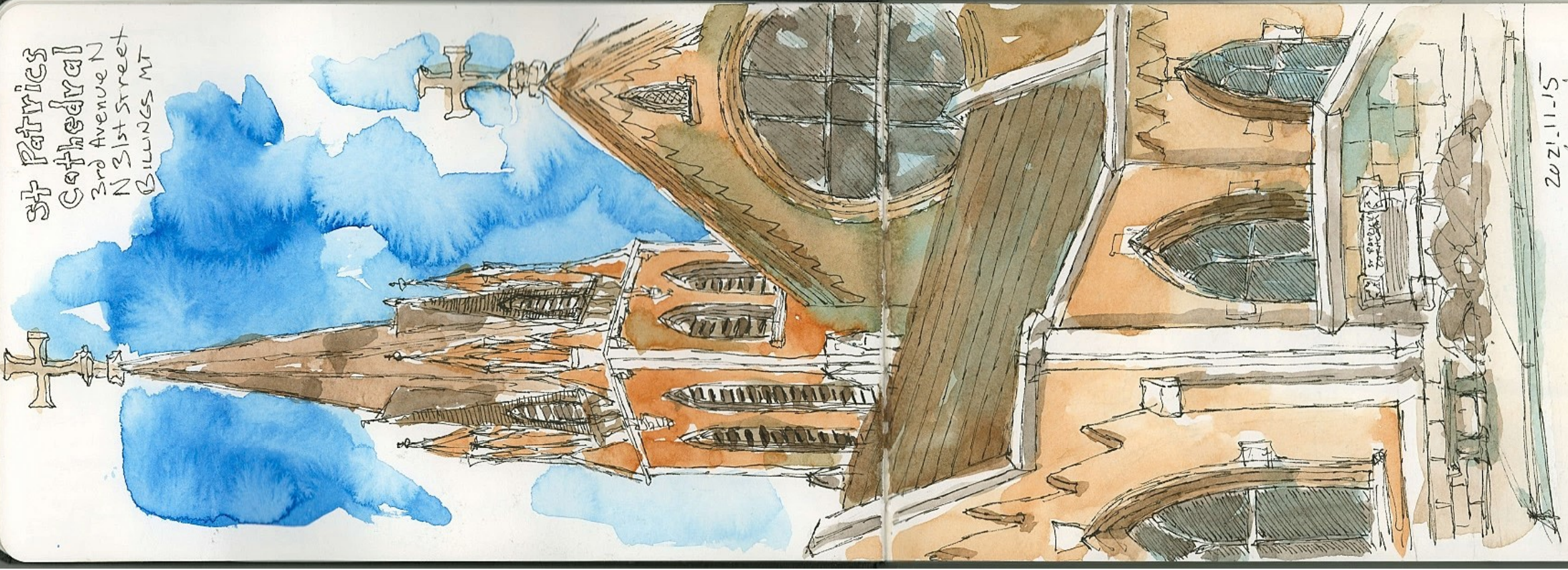
SKETCHING WITH ANNIE. AFTER SHE LEFT A HOMELESS GUY CAME UP AND ASKED IF I WANTED TO BUY SOME SHOES HE HAD IN A PLASTIC BAG FOR MY "LADY." I TOLD HIM MY "LADY" HAD DIED, AND THAT ANNIE WAS JUST A FRIEND. HE THEN OFFERED HIS CONDOLENCES, AND TOLD ME THAT SOME YEARS AGO HE LOST HIS OWN SON, THAT HIS SON DIED IN HIS ARMS FOLLOWING A TRAFFIC ACCIDENT. HE TOLD ME HE'D PRAY FOR ME, THAT HE PRAYED EVERY DAY BUT DIDN'T GO TO ANY CHURCH. I TOLD HIM THAT THE GOD I KNOW DIDN'T CARE MUCH ABOUT BUILDINGS. THIS WAS A GUY I MIGHT OTHERWISE LOOKED DOWN MY NOSE AT, BUT IN THIS MOMENT HE WAS A FELLOW TRAVELER.

2021.11.09
WESTERN HERITAGE CENTER
FORMERLY PARMLY BILLINGS LIBRARY
BILLINGS MT



JOHN KENNEDY
2021

St Patricks
Cathedral
3rd Avenue N
N 31st Street
Billings MT



2021.11.15
J Kennedy

2021-11-17
Great
Harvest
Bread
Co.
POLY DRIVE
BILLINGS MT



2021.11.20

N-BROADWAY AND
THIRD AVE NORTH
BILLINGS MT

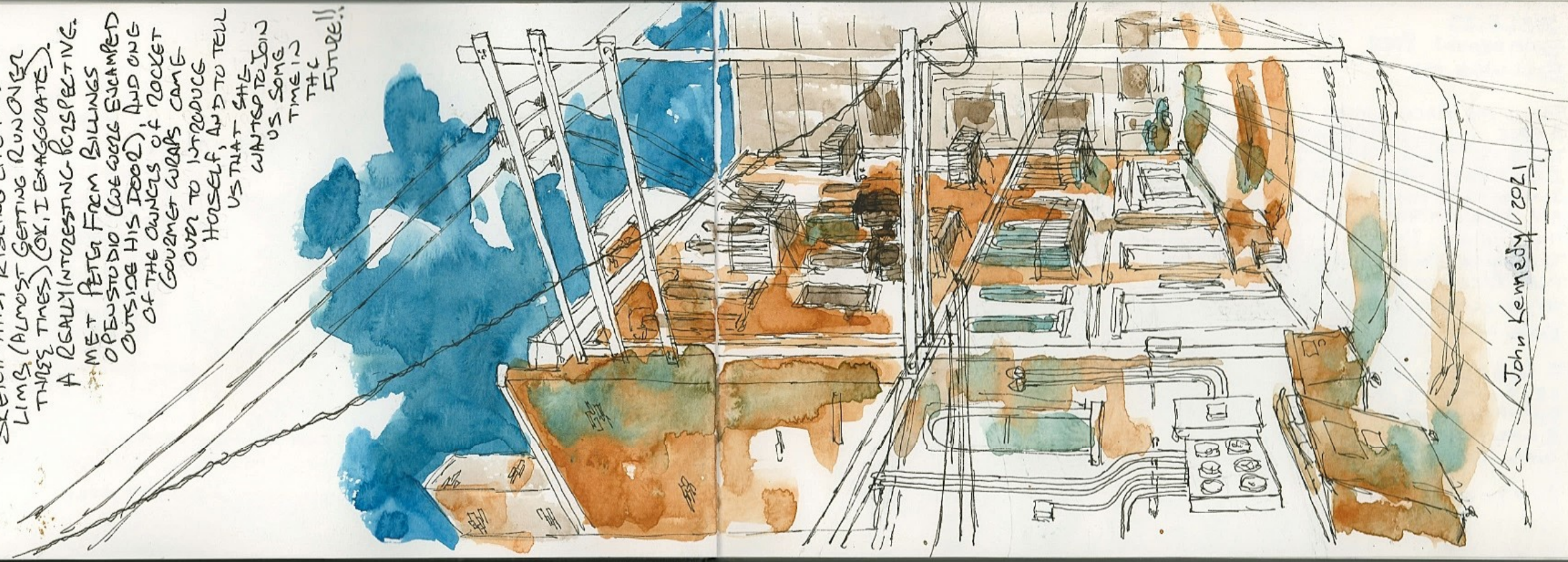
LIFECYCLE OF AN URBAN SKETCH

- 1) PENCIL SKETCH - THIS IS HORRIBLE, I HOPE NOBODY STOPS TO LOOK
- 2) ADJUSTING - WHERE'S MY ERASER?
- 3) REFINING SKETCH - WELL, I SHOULD JUST ERASE IT ALL AND GO HOME!
- 4) FINAL ADJUSTMENTS - OKAY, MAYBE THIS IS STARTING TO LOOK BETTER
- 5) INK - MAYBE THE PEN WITH BLACK INK WILL SAVE IT
- 6) REVIEW - NOT BAD, I HOPE SOMEONE STOPS TO LOOK AT IT
- 7) PAINT - GOD, I HOPE I DON'T RUIN IT NOW
- 8) FINISH - NOT BAD, BUT IF I DO IT AGAIN I'LL



2021.11.22
2814 2nd Ave N.
Billings MT

RACHEL AND I SAT IN AN ALLEY TO
SKETCH THIS, RISKING LIFE AND
LIMBS (ALMOST GETTING RUN OVER
THREE TIMES) (OK, I EXAGGERATE)
A REALLY INTERESTING RESPECTIVE.
MET PETER FROM BILLINGS
OPENSTUDIO (WE WERE SCRAMBLING
OUTSIDE HIS DOOR), AND ONE
OF THE OWNERS OF ROCKET
GOURMET WEARS CAME
OVER TO INTRODUCE
HIMSELF, AND TO TELL
US THAT SHE
WANTED TO JOIN
US SOME
TIME IN
THE
FUTURE!!



John Kennedy / 2021

2021-11-23
ZIMMERMAN PARK
BILLINGS MT

THIS IS THE PLACE WHERE I GO TO SIT ON
A ROCK, TO THINK (MEDITATE) PRAY. NO,
THAT'S NOT QUITE RIGHT! THIS IS THE PLACE
I GO WHEN I NEED TO BE OUTSIDE, WHEN
I NEED TO BE ALONE, WHEN I NEED TO BREATHE FRESH
AIR. ONCE I'M THERE, SOMETHING COMPELS ME TO DO
THESE THINGS. I'M STILL NOT SURE WHO I AM PRAYING
TO. I THINK I'M PRAYING TO MYSELF, BUT I DO CONFESS
THAT RECENTLY A LITTLE OF WHAT I AM PRAYING SEEMS
TO BE LEAKING OUT TO SOMEWHERE ELSE. BUT I DO
KNOW WHAT I AM PRAYING FOR.

I PROBABLY LOOK SILLY, AND SOMETIMES I EVEN
CRY A LITTLE - I STILL DON'T ALWAYS KNOW WHY!
BUT IF SOMEONE WERE TO STOP AND ASK ME IF
I WAS ALRIGHT, I'D TELL THEM YES, EVERYTHING
WAS ABSOLUTELY GREAT!

AND IT WOULD BE TRUE.

JOHN KENNEDY
2021





FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
4th AVENUE N. AND BROADWAY
BILLINGS MT

JOHN KENNEDY
2021-11-27

UNDER THE RIMS

A NICE AFTERNOON WITH SOEL AND LISA. GREAT COMPANY, GOOD SKETCHING, STIMULATING CONVERSATION, AND I THINK I'M STARTING TO TAKE A LIKING TO TEA. THE VIEWS FROM THE BACK PORCH ARE FANTASTIC AND SO VARIED THAT YOU ONLY NEED TO TURN YOUR CHAIR A FEW DEGREES TO SEE A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT LANDSCAPE.

MAYBE THERE IS A LIFE LESSON THERE. I'VE SAT MANY TIMES IN THE SAME SPOT AND LOOKED OUT AT THE SAME WORLD IN FRONT OF ME, WISHING IT WOULD SOMEHOW CHANGE. NEVER COMING TO THE REALIZATION THAT IF I WANTED SOMETHING TO CHANGE, IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN UP TO ME TO CHANGE IT. ALL I NEEDED TO DO WAS SIMPLY TURN MY CHAIR!!

A COOLISH AFTERNOON BUT WE SOLDIERED ON, AND GOT SOME GOOD SKETCHING IN. GRATEFULLY ABSORBED IN THE MOMENT. SO NICE! THANKS FRIENDS!!!



JOHN KENNEDY
2021.11.30

2021.12.02

HOW MANY MORE 60 DEGREE DAYS ARE WE GOING TO GET IN DECEMBER IN MONTANA. TODAY WAS JUST PERFECT FOR SITTING WITH JOEL AND SKETCHING THE STREET WITH THE OLD MONTANA POWER COMPANY BUILDING AS ITS CENTER PIECE. SITTING AND SKETCHING FEELS LIKE A KIND OF MEDITATION, WITH ALL YOUR ATTENTION FOCUSED ON WHAT IS IN FRONT OF YOU. FOR SURE I WALK AWAY WHEN I AM DONE WITH A GREATER SENSE OF CALM.

MET ONE INTERESTING GUY WHO IS STARTING SOME KIND OF PODCAST, AND TWO YOUNG GIRLS FROM THE CHURCH OF LATTER DAY SAINTS WHO INVITED US TO A TOUR OF THEIR TEMPLE AS A POTENTIAL URBAN SKETCHING OPPORTUNITY. I'VE PAINTED THE TEMPLE FROM ABOVE THE RIMS, BUT NEVER FROM GROUND LEVEL, SO THAT COULD BE GREAT FUN. SUCH NICE KIDS, MAKES THE WORLD SEEM LIKE A KINDER PLACE!

