



Landscapes



*There are no rules for good photographs,
there are only good photographs.*

Ansel Adams

It's not about photographing a scene...

It's about
using elements
within the scene
to compose an expressive image



Tools of the Trade

Lenses

- Wide angle (under 50mm)
- Telephoto (over 50mm)
- Macro (lens, filter, extension tube or reverser ring)

Filters

- Polarizer
- UV
- Neutral density
- Graduated neutral density

Other Stuff

- DOF Master
- Live View
- Software
 - General editing
 - Panorama stitching
 - Depth of field stacking
- Tripod
- Cable release



Use lines and shapes within a scene
to create a pleasing composition



Lines, patterns, shapes, etc.



Lines, patterns, shapes, etc.



Lines, patterns, shapes, etc.



Lines, patterns, shapes, etc.



Look for gestures, flourishes, expressiveness...



Look for gestures, flourish, expressiveness...



Look for gestures, flourish, expressiveness...



Look for gestures, flourishes, expressiveness...



Look for gestures, flourishes, expressiveness...

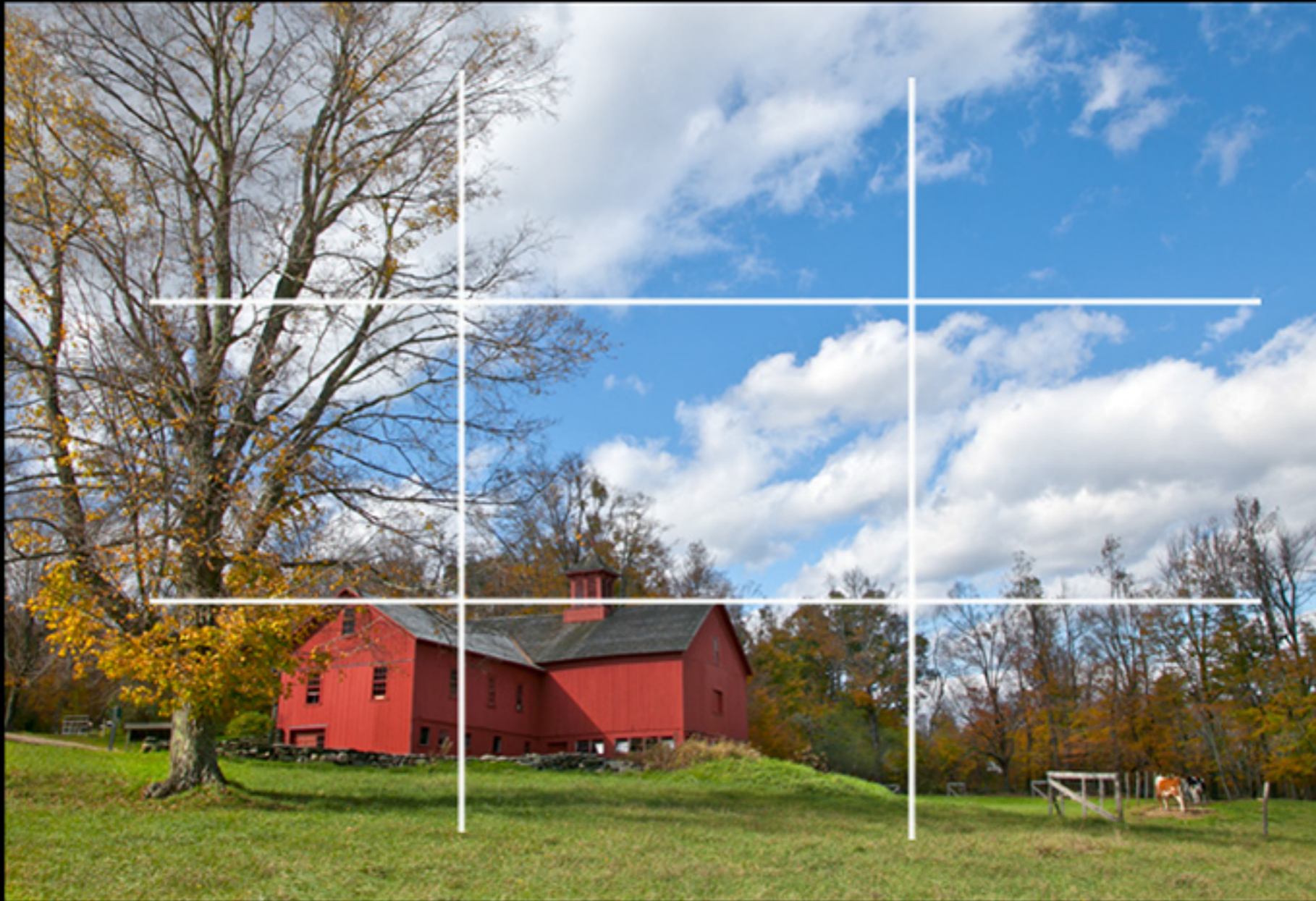


Look for gestures, flourishes, expressiveness...

Rule of Thirds



Rule of Thirds



Framing



Use elements in the scene to frame subject







Use your viewfinder as a frame

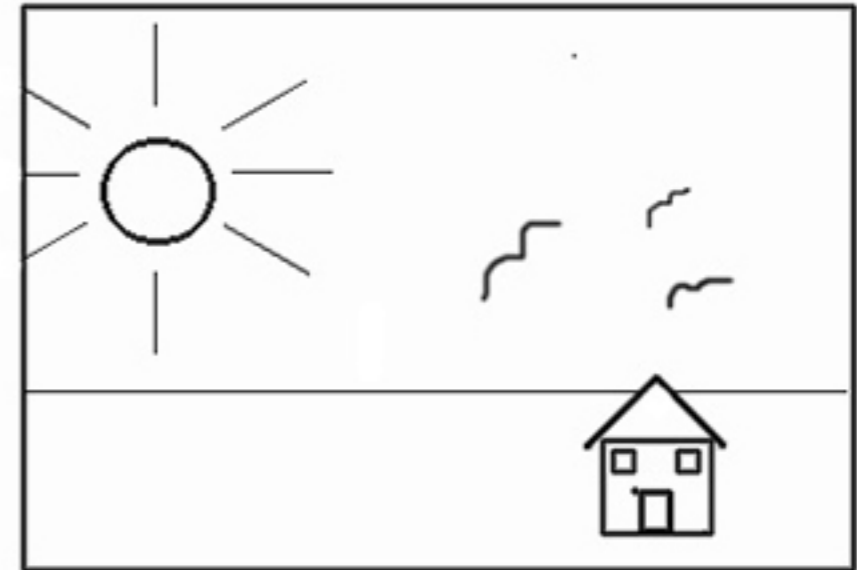
Whatever is within its borders
will be in the picture



Check the corners and edges
for unwanted elements and distractions.
Try to get it right in the camera
(but don't be afraid to crop).

Horizon

Put it Where You Want It



- What's more interesting – sky or ground?
- Position horizon accordingly
- Keep it straight
 - Use sides of viewfinder
 - Learn to straighten in Photoshop



There are always exceptions to the rule.
Any rule.

Use Depth of Field Compositionally



- High f-stops for max DOF
- Low f-stops for selective focus
- Wide angle/short lens for max DOF, create sense of distance
- Telephoto/long lens to compress distance



Long depth of field.
All (or most) of the image has an acceptable level of sharpness.

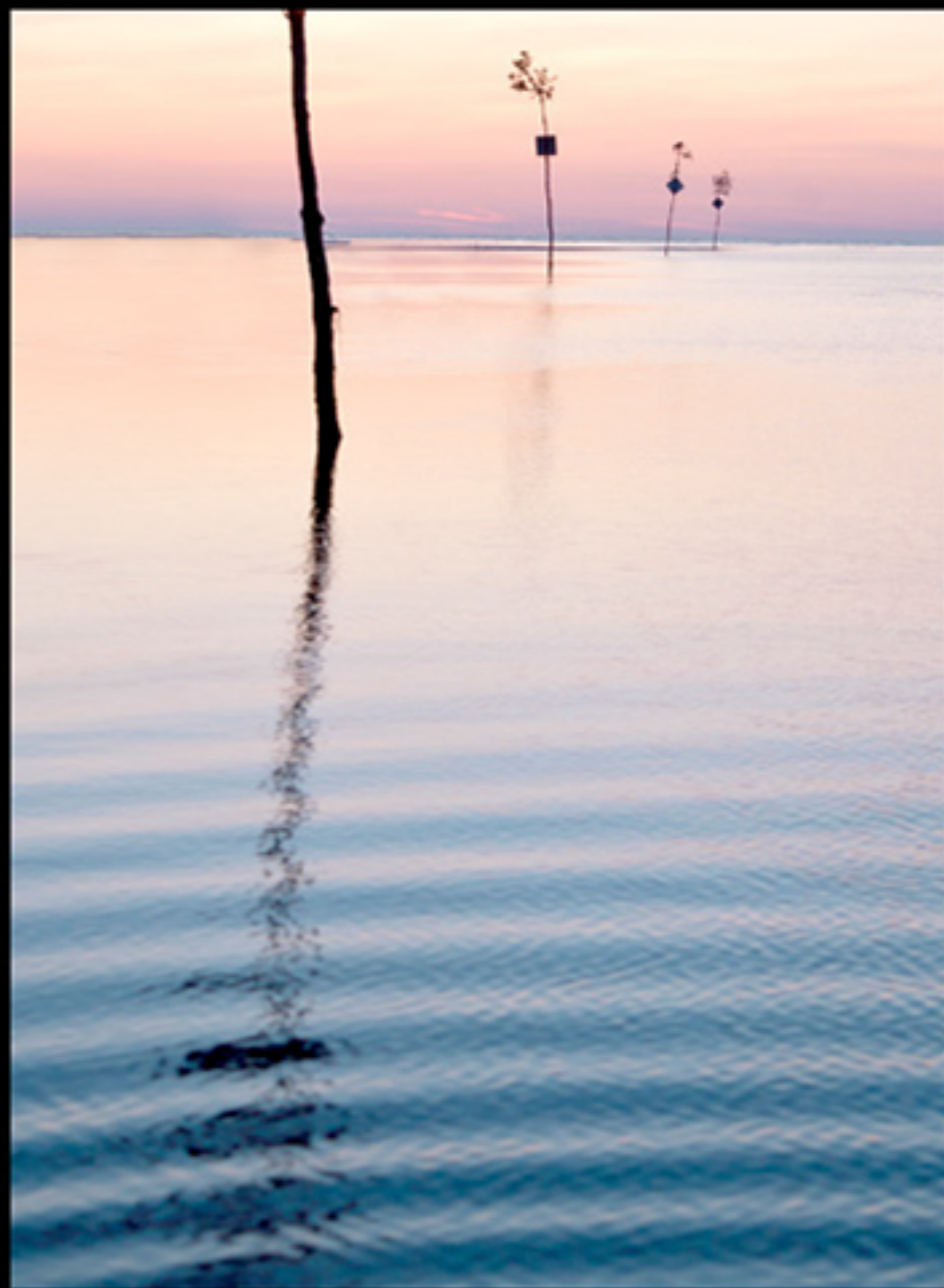


Medium

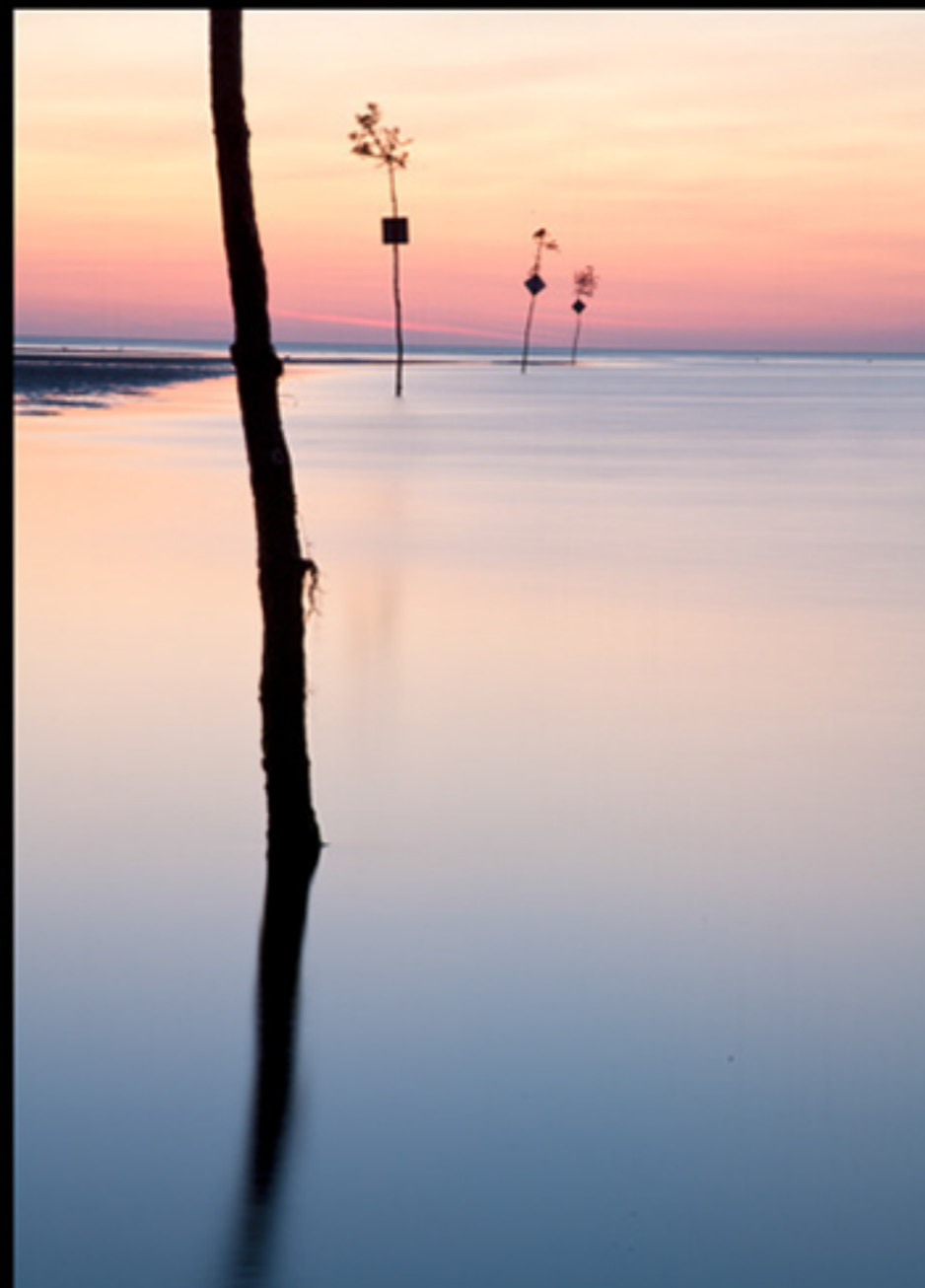


Shallow

Use Shutter Speed Compositionally



1/30 sec.



7 secs.



Shutter Speed:
Fast for details



Shutter Speed:
Slow for effect



Focal Length



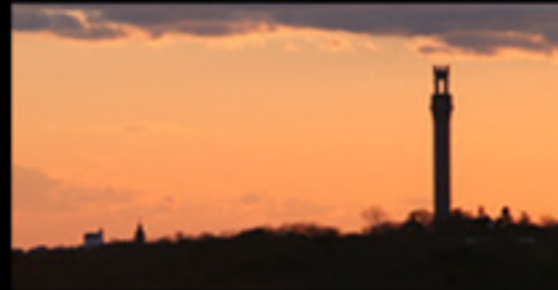
Long zoom compresses DOF

Focal Length



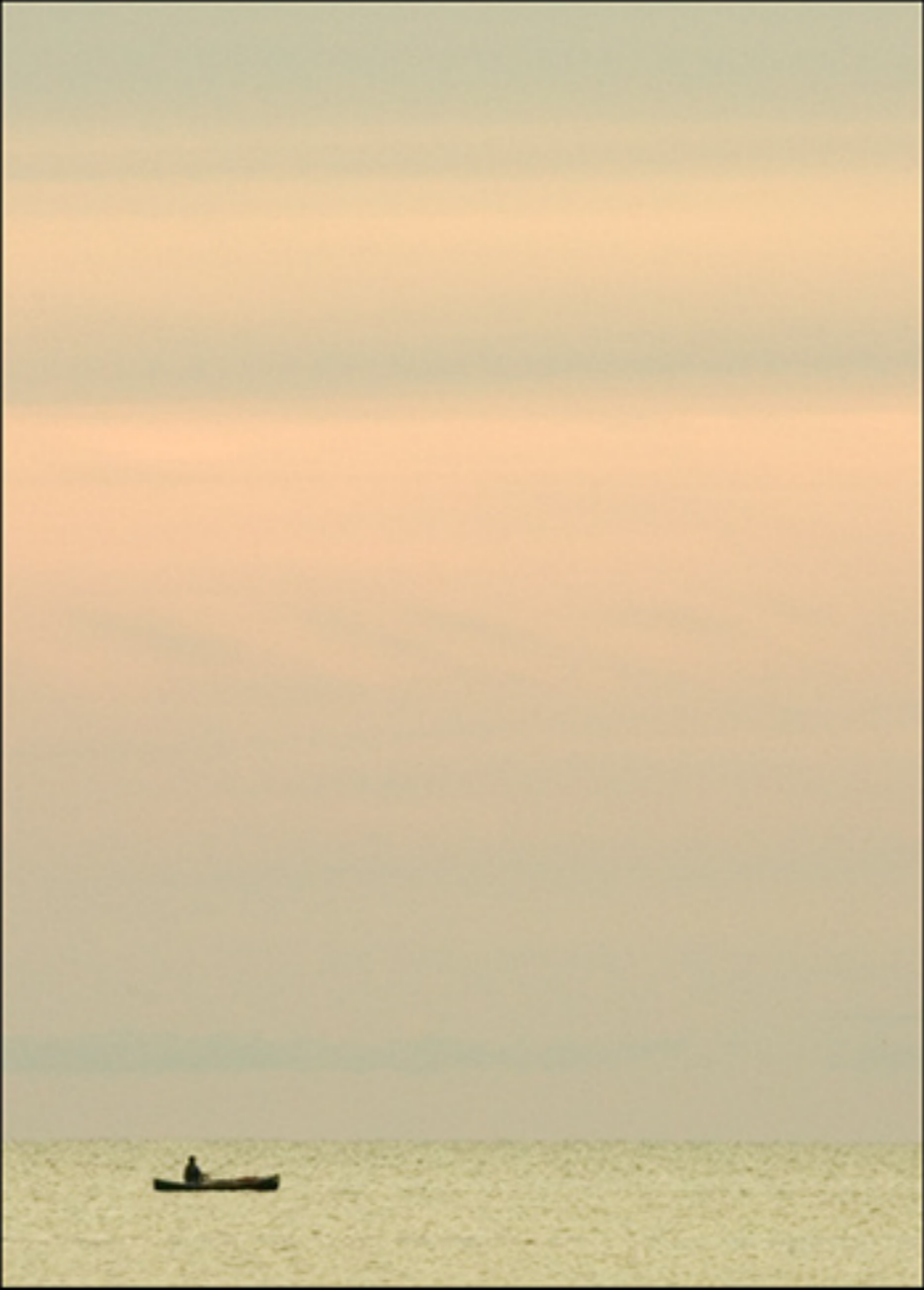
Short lens expands DOF

Time of Day & the Color of Light





Look for the light







Return to the Scene



Another Day
Another Time of Day
Another Season

Weather:
Good weather
isn't always the best weather



Weather:
Mist and light rain creates
interesting light.



Weather:

Interesting light can occur
before and after a storm



Weather:

Interesting light can occur
before and after a storm



Find a Focal Point
- Tree, rock, boat, etc.



Find a Focal Point
- Tree, rock, boat, etc.



Find a Focal Point



- Creates visual anchor
- Provides perspective, depth

Find a Focal Point



- Creates visual anchor
- Provides perspective, depth



Layering



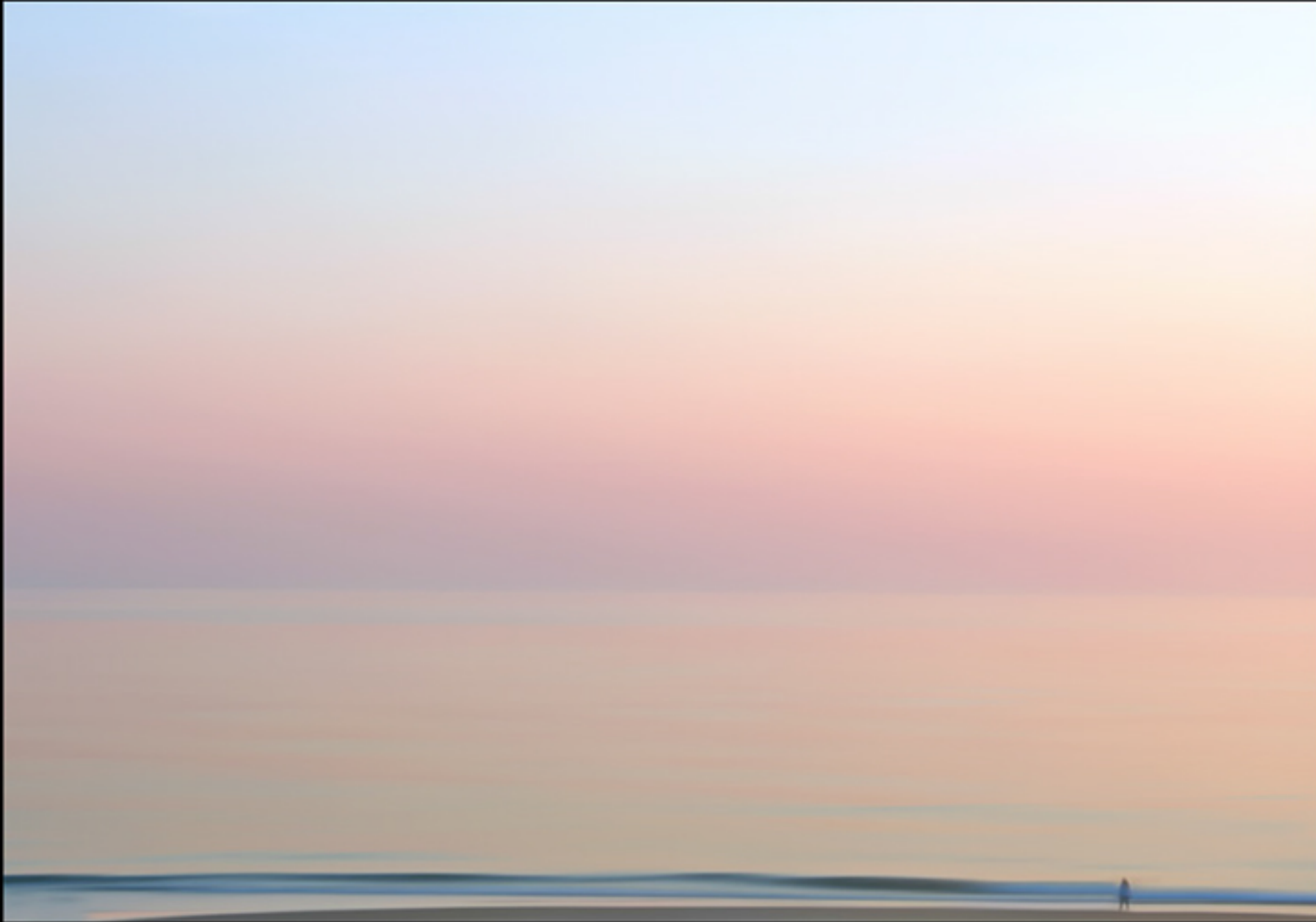
Use foreground, mid-ground & background elements to create sense of depth, distance, motion

Scale



Look for ways to convey scale and perspective

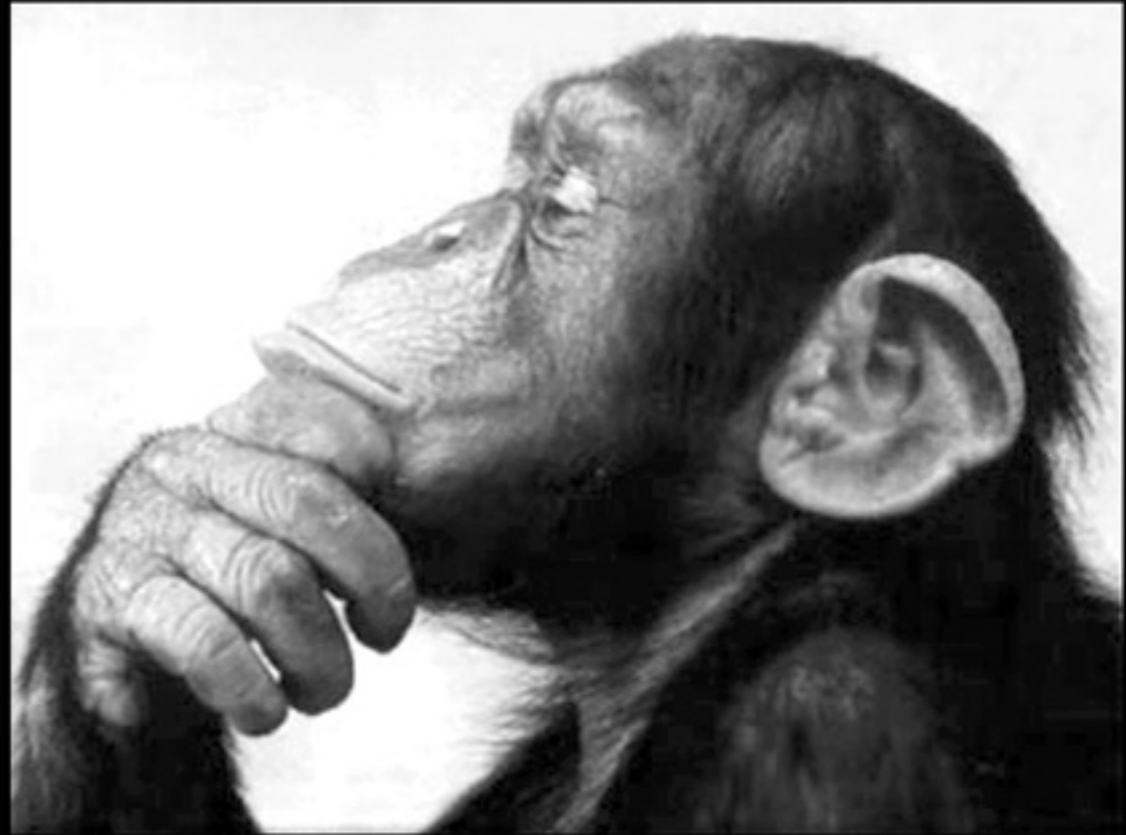
Scale



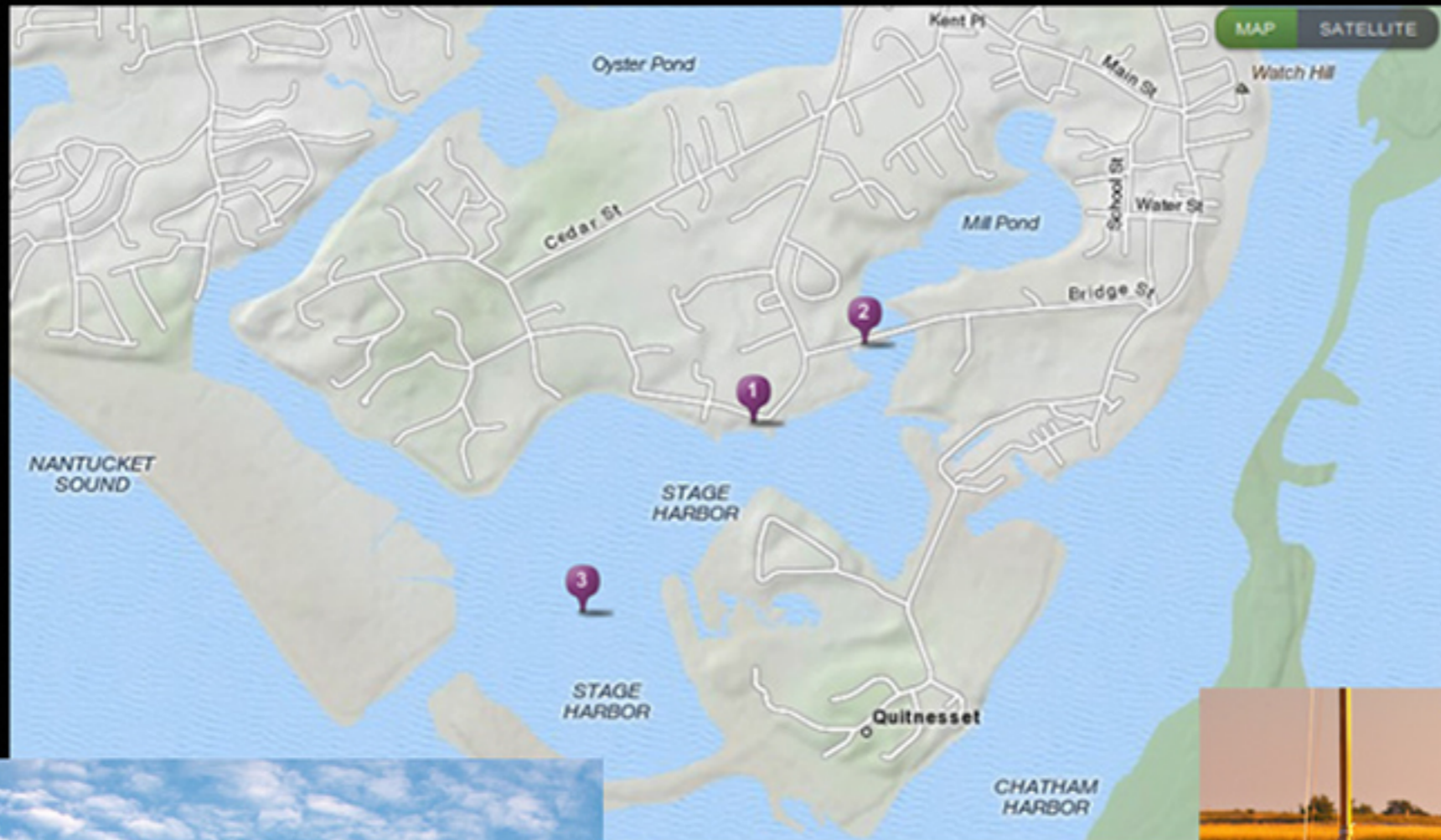
Look for ways to convey scale and perspective

Plan Ahead

Check the weather -
Tides -
Sunrise/Sunset times -



Use a map to scout locations



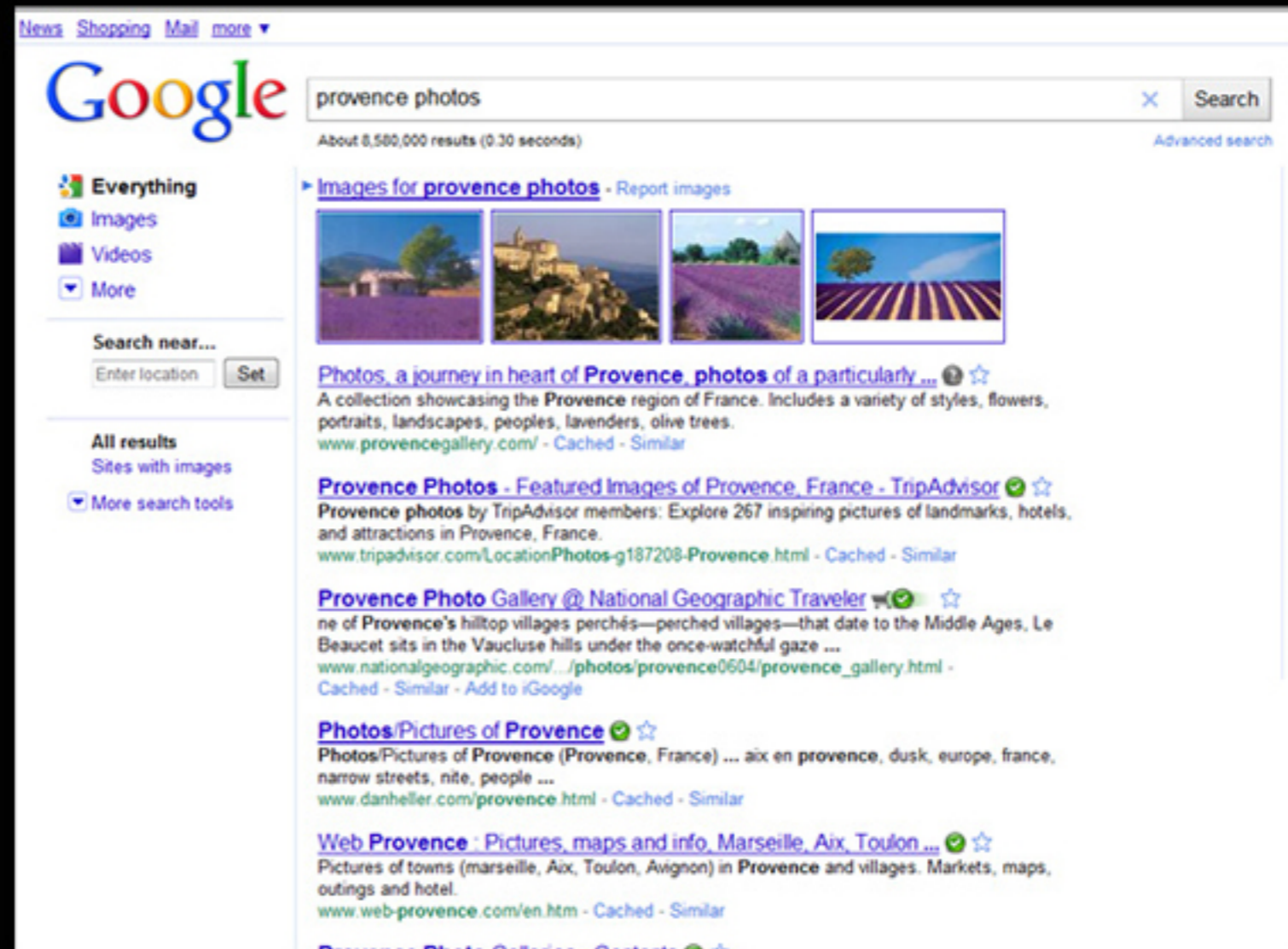
Plan Ahead

Use the Internet

See what others
have done

Books, magazines

Ask other
photographers



The screenshot shows a Google search interface for the query "provence photos". The search bar at the top right contains the text "provence photos" and a "Search" button. Below the search bar, it indicates "About 8,500,000 results (0.30 seconds)" and a link to "Advanced search".

On the left side, there is a navigation menu with the following options: "Everything" (selected), "Images", "Videos", and "More". Below this is a "Search near..." section with an "Enter location" input field and a "Set" button. Further down, there are links for "All results", "Sites with images", and "More search tools".

The main search results area is titled "Images for provence photos" and includes a "Report images" link. It displays four image thumbnails: a lavender field, a hillside with a stone building, a field of purple flowers, and a landscape with a tree. Below the images, there are several search results:

- Photos, a journey in heart of Provence, photos of a particularly...**
A collection showcasing the Provence region of France. Includes a variety of styles, flowers, portraits, landscapes, peoples, lavenders, olive trees.
www.provencegallery.com/ - Cached - Similar
- Provence Photos - Featured Images of Provence, France - TripAdvisor**
Provence photos by TripAdvisor members: Explore 267 inspiring pictures of landmarks, hotels, and attractions in Provence, France.
www.tripadvisor.com/LocationPhotos-g187208-Provence.html - Cached - Similar
- Provence Photo Gallery @ National Geographic Traveler**
ne of Provence's hilltop villages perched—perched villages—that date to the Middle Ages. Le Beaucet sits in the Vaucluse hills under the once-watchful gaze ...
www.nationalgeographic.com/photos/provence0604/provence_gallery.html - Cached - Similar - Add to iGoogle
- Photos/Pictures of Provence**
Photos/Pictures of Provence (Provence, France) ... aix en provence, dusk, europe, france, narrow streets, nite, people ...
www.danheller.com/provence.html - Cached - Similar
- Web Provence : Pictures, maps and info, Marseille, Aix, Toulon...**
Pictures of towns (marseille, Aix, Toulon, Avignon) in Provence and villages. Markets, maps, outings and hotel.
www.web-provence.com/en.htm - Cached - Similar

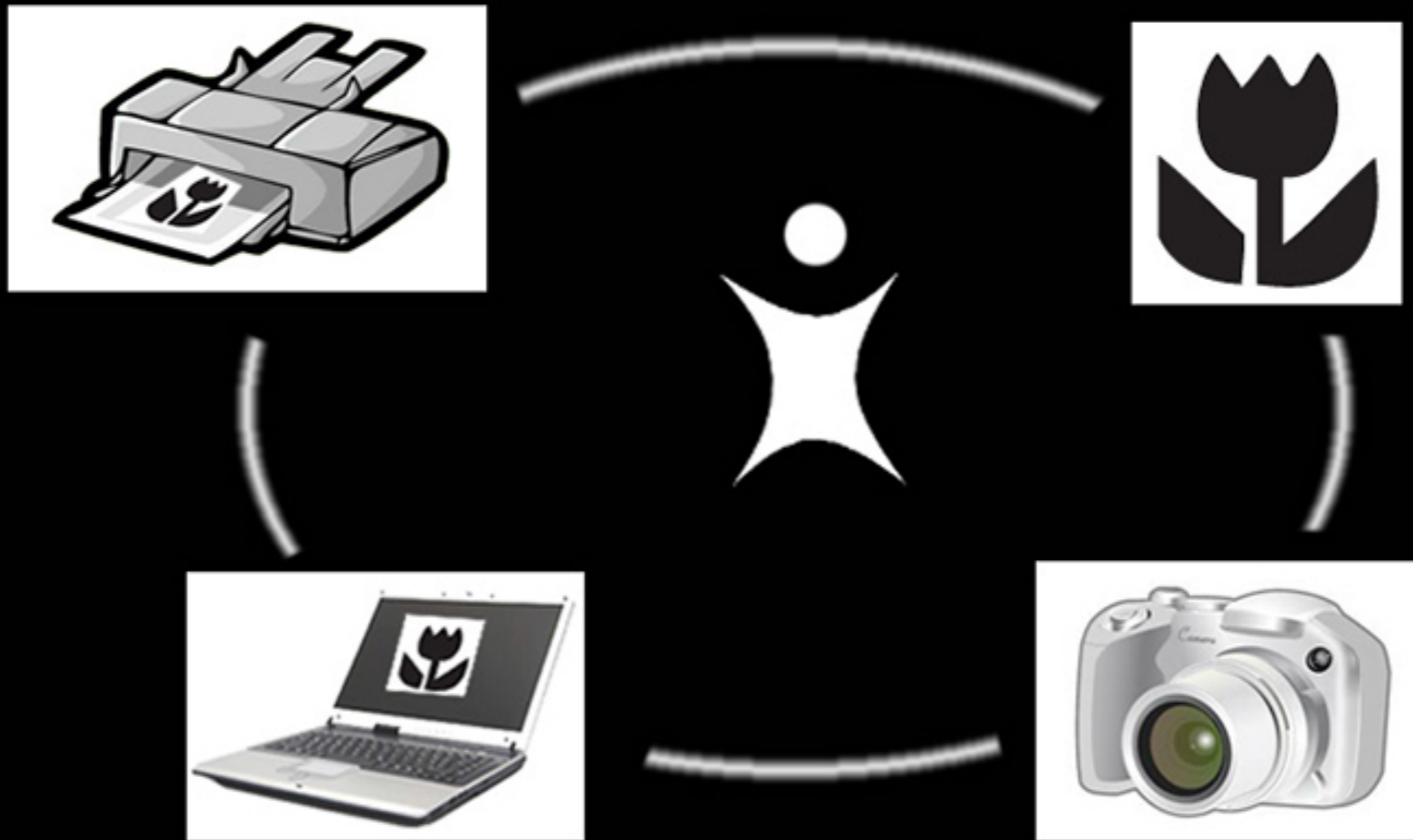
Landscape/Keep It Sharp

When Shooting . . .

- Use high aperture (F11+) for max depth of field
 - high aperture means less light, so longer shutter speed, so...
- Use a tripod
- Timer and/or remote shutter release
- Mirror Lock-up
- Focus 1/3 into scene

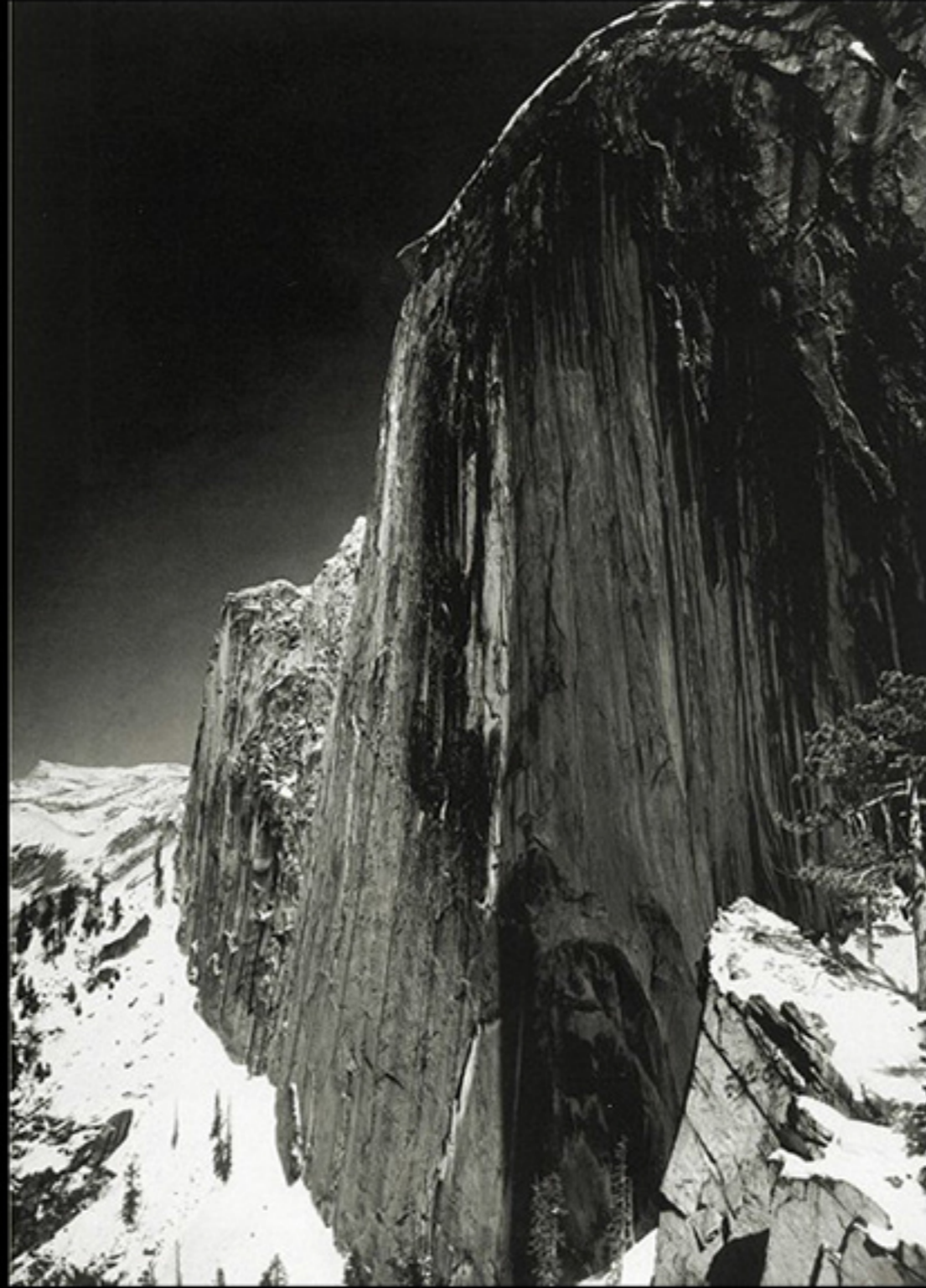
When Processing . . .

- Use “Clarity” slider in Camera Raw
- Sharpen before printing or saving for web/digital projection



The Digital Photography System.

Making a Picture



1927

Monolith, The Face of Half Dome

Ansel Adams

Making a Picture



1927



1980

Monolith, The Face of Half Dome
Ansel Adams

Making a Picture



Winter Sunrise

Ansel Adams

Making a Picture



Winter Sunrise

Ansel Adams

Editing is Part of the Process



*Dodging and burning are steps to take care of mistakes
God made in establishing tonal relationships.*

Ansel Adams



Editing is Part of the Process



Photoshop Edits:

Crop

Levels/Curves

Saturation

Remove spots

(clone and healing brush)

Dodge & burn on clouds

and boathouse

RAW Edits:

Clarity, vibrance



Before...



...after.



Crop

Tonal adjustments

- Brightness/Contrast (curves)
- Hue/Saturation
- Selective



Buildings
can be part
of the
landscape





Cities, too









Even people.



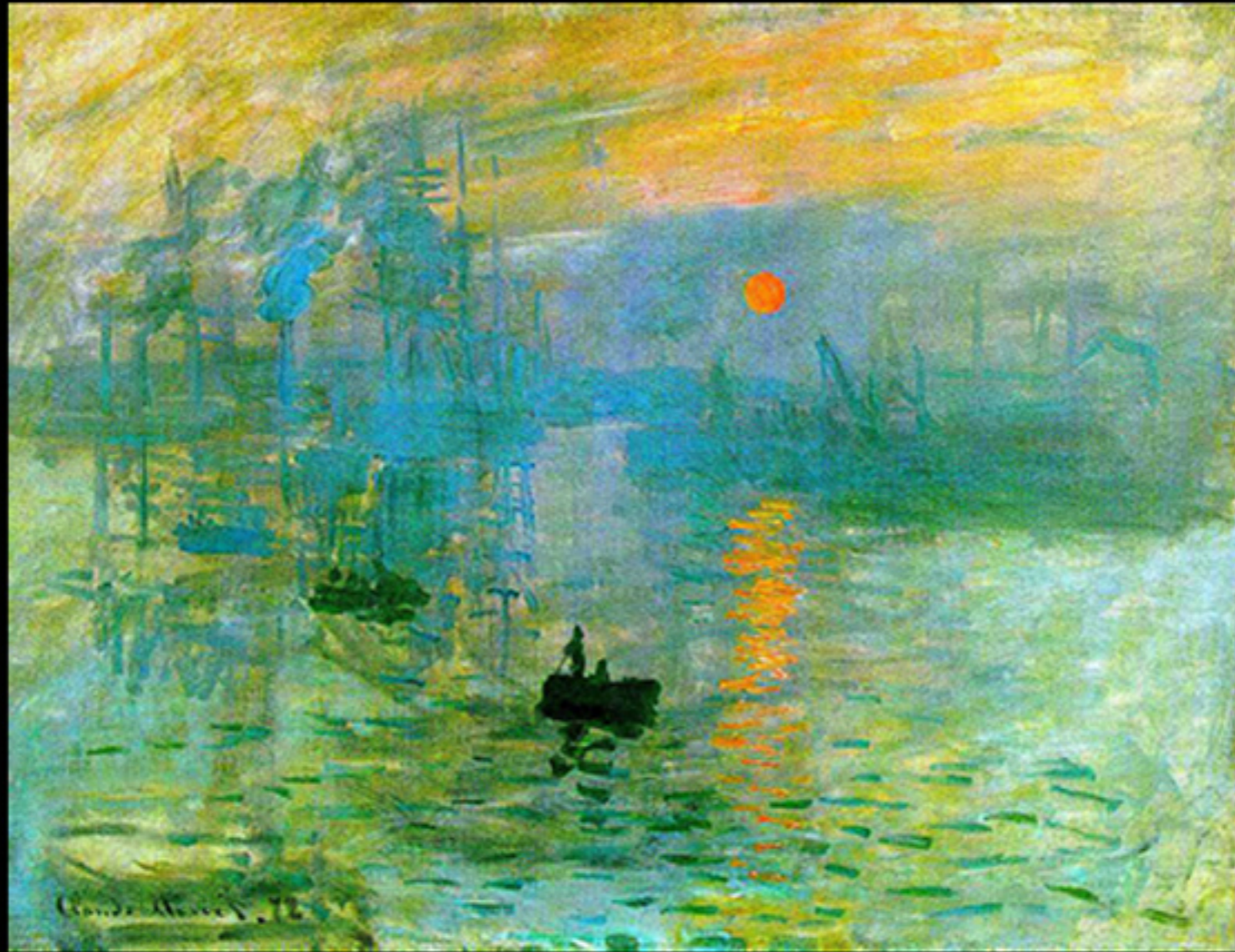
Even people.

Interperative Landscape



Turner

Interperative Landscape



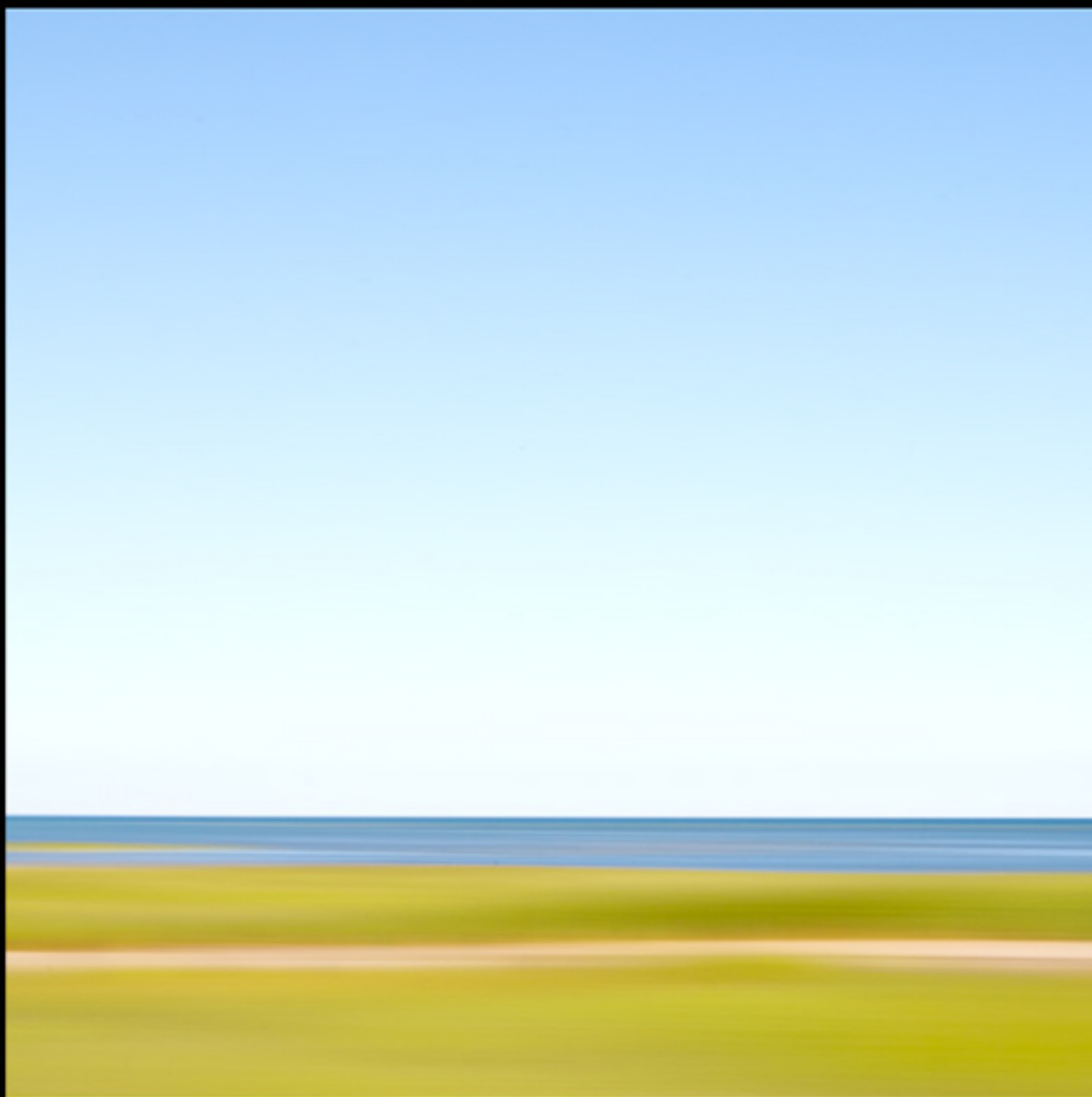
Monet

Interperative Landscape



Panning



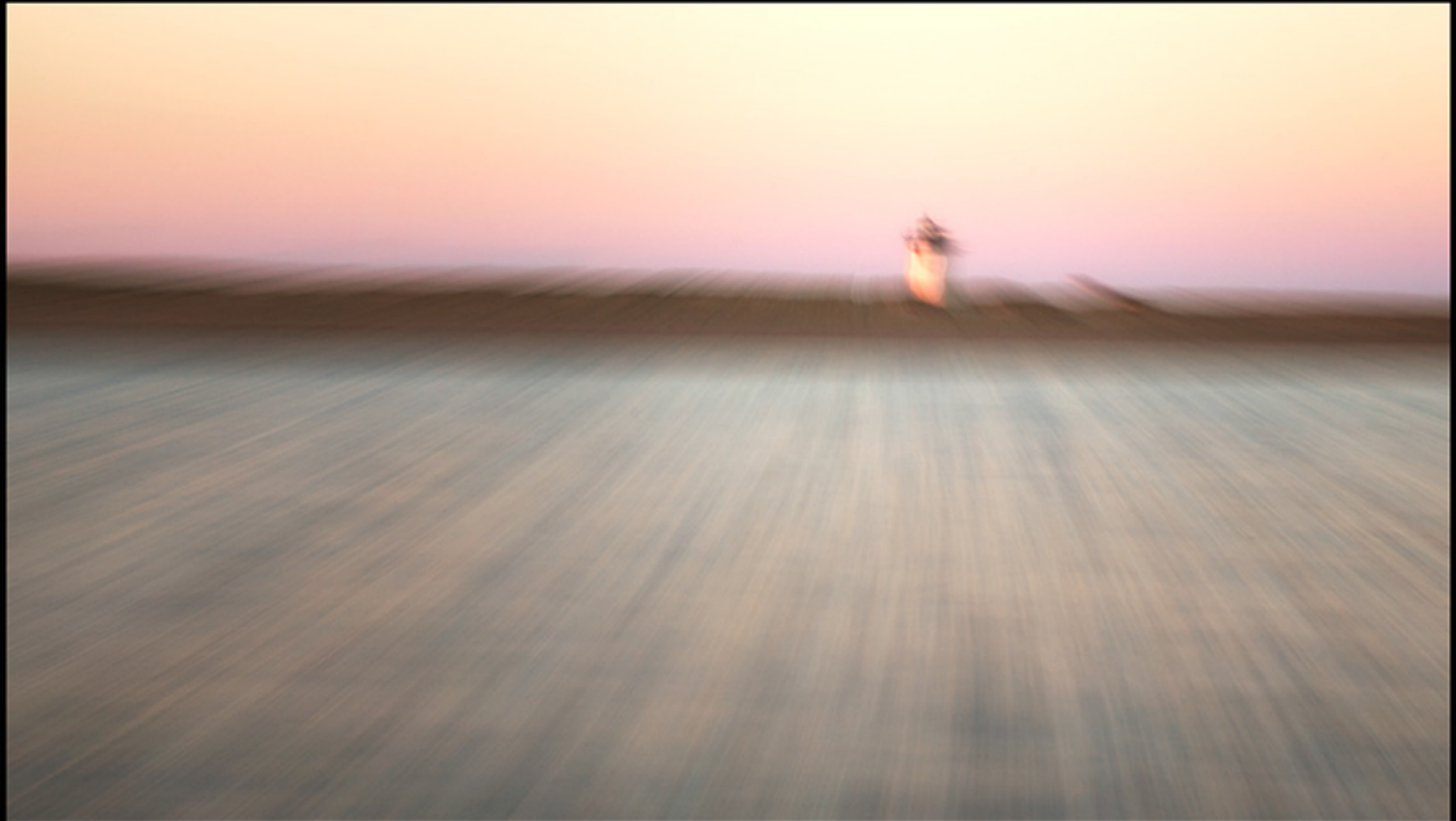




Composits -- combining two images









You don't take a photograph...you make it.

- Ansel Adams