

Passages and Portals: 1990 to 2015
Photographs by Joe Lipka





Passages and Portals

We walk through many doors in our life. Do we notice them as we pass through them? Do we take note of what happens when we go through a doorway? We do not stop, we do not notice, we just walk through. Sometimes a sensor will automatically open and close the door to ease our passage. We might hold a door open for people as a gesture of courtesy and we close the door behind us to leave it as we found it. We knock before entering, even when the door is open. We follow proper door etiquette and honor local customs. Like many of life's experiences, we are aware of doors, passages and portals, but we do not pay attention to their significance.

Where does the door lead a photographer? Doors are a photographer's way of asking a question of his viewer. There is never enough information shown to completely answer the question, "What's just past the door?" The viewer might get a partial glimpse, but the clever photographer never quite reveals the answer. He may venture beyond the threshold to determine how much of the answer he wants to reveal to his audience. What is shown and what is hidden is in the control of the photographer. He uses lighting and camera placement to ask his question to open the door of his viewer's imagination and maybe to remind his viewer to watch and pay attention to portals and passages.

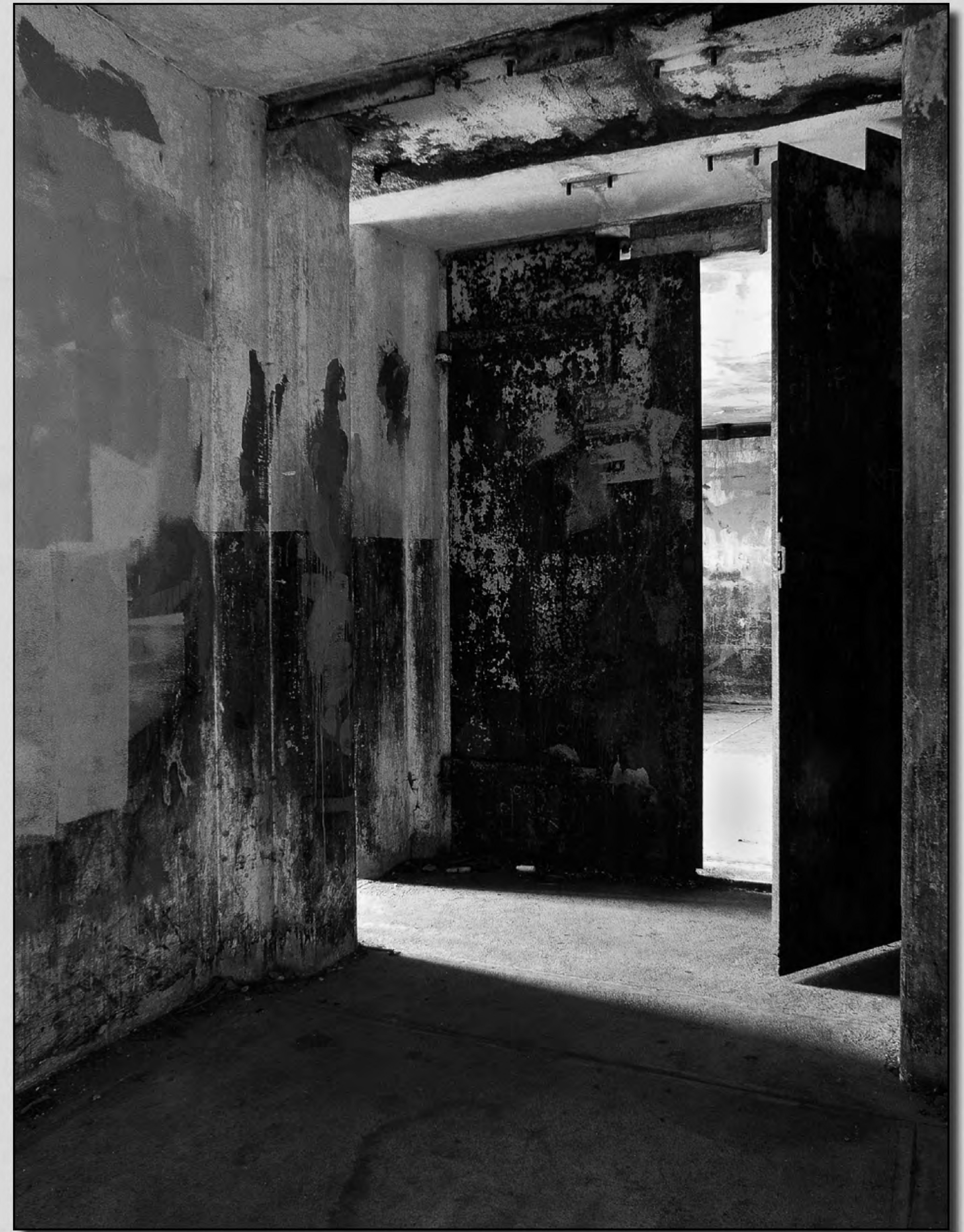


Valentine, Montana 2004



Fort Worden, WA 2005

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Fort Worden, WA 2005

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Port Townsend, WA 2007

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Alkabo, ND 2004

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Wallace, Idaho 2010

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Fort Worden, WA 2005

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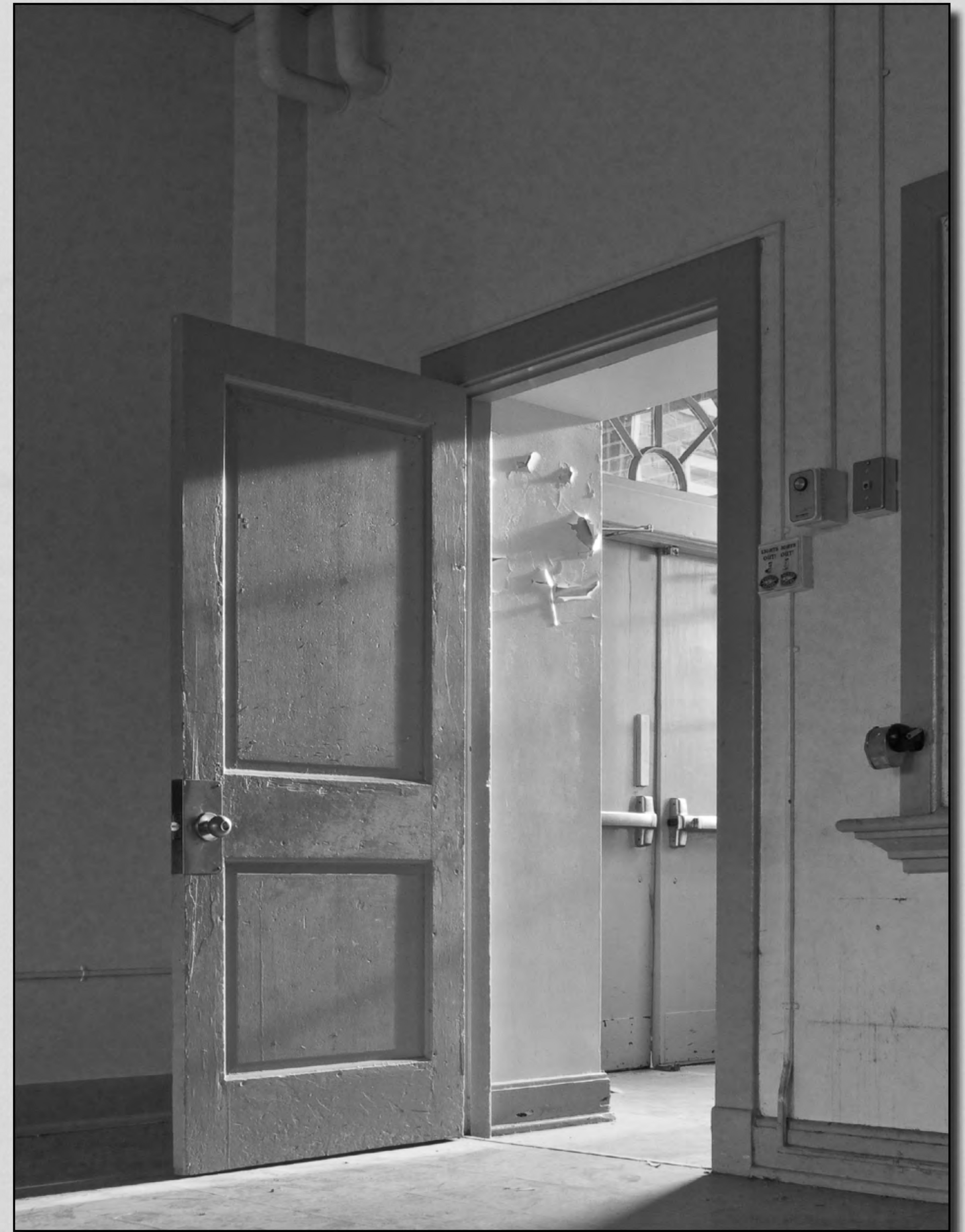
London, 2012

Passages and Portals: 1990 - 2015



Port Townsend, WA 2007

Passages and Portals: 1990 - 2015



Cary, NC 2009

Passages and Portals: 1990 - 2015



Cary, NC 2014



Curlew, WA 2009

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Cary, NC 2014

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Wallace, Idaho 2010

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Cottonwood School, OR 1990

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Alkabo, SD 2004

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Durham, NC 1994

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Cape Blanco, OR 2014

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Cary, NC 2014

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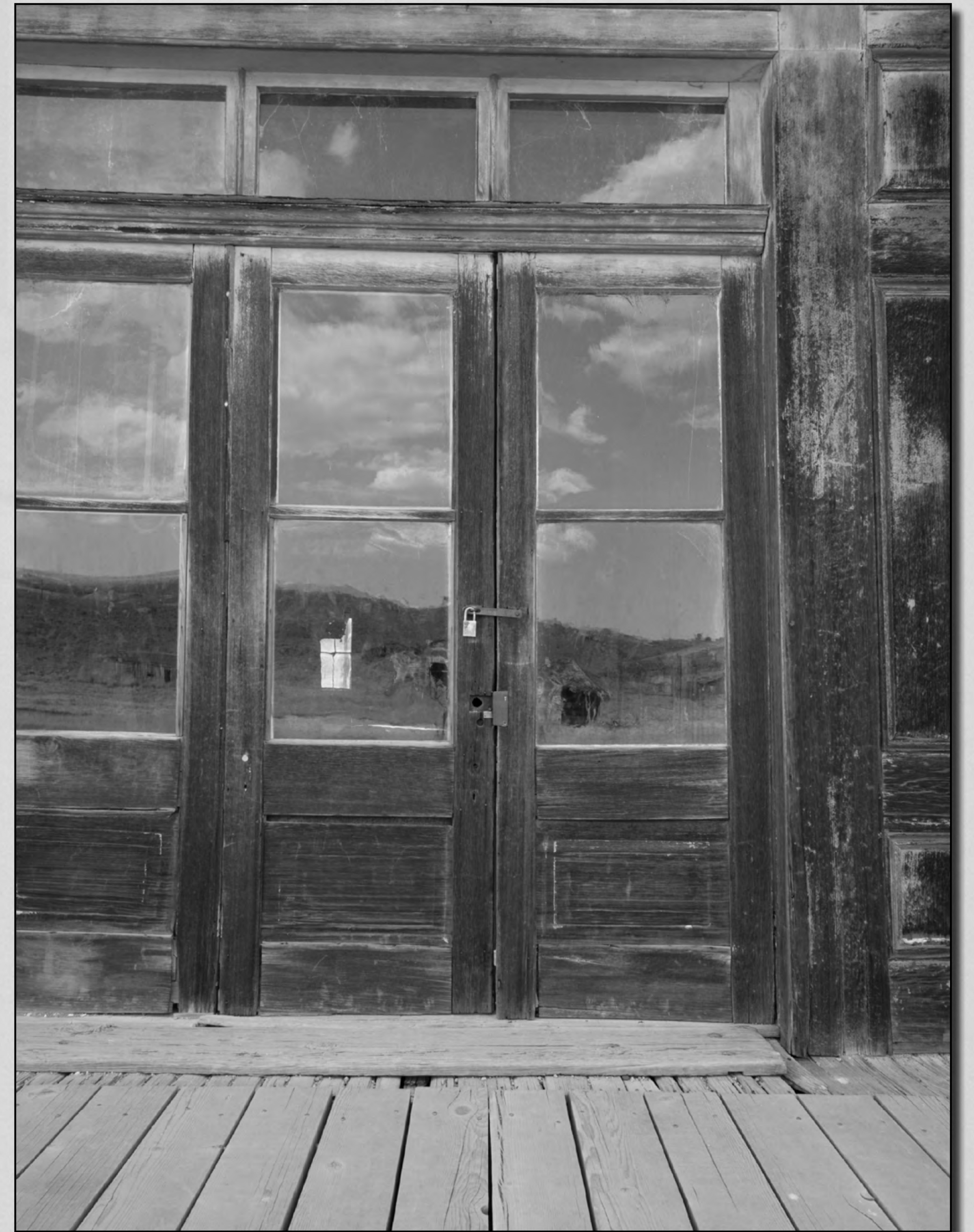
Port Townsend, WA 2007

Passages and Portals: 1990 - 2015



Wallace, Idaho 2010

Passages and Portals: 1990 - 2015



Bodie, CA 2015

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COLOPHON

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*The images in this portfolio
were made between 1990 to 2015.*

Myriad Pro and Myriad Pro Italic fonts were used for the text.

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