

# THE LIPKA JOURNAL

A PHOTO EZINE WITH

PHOTOGRAPHS / STORIES / OBSERVATIONS

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# WELCOME TO THE LIPKA JOURNAL MAY 2026



Little Things



Feels Like Home



Next to the Road

This month I'm starting small and getting bigger. I'm looking at little things at Biltmore and then, we're heading to the wide-open spaces of the American West. I Feel Like Home in Central Oregon and then at the last minute I changed from a "close up" project to some more roadside structures all over the American West. That last folio was inspired by outtakes from Feels Like Home and just kind of magically appeared as I looked through my catalog of images. Art is like that. Sometimes is just happens without much of your input.

Little Things



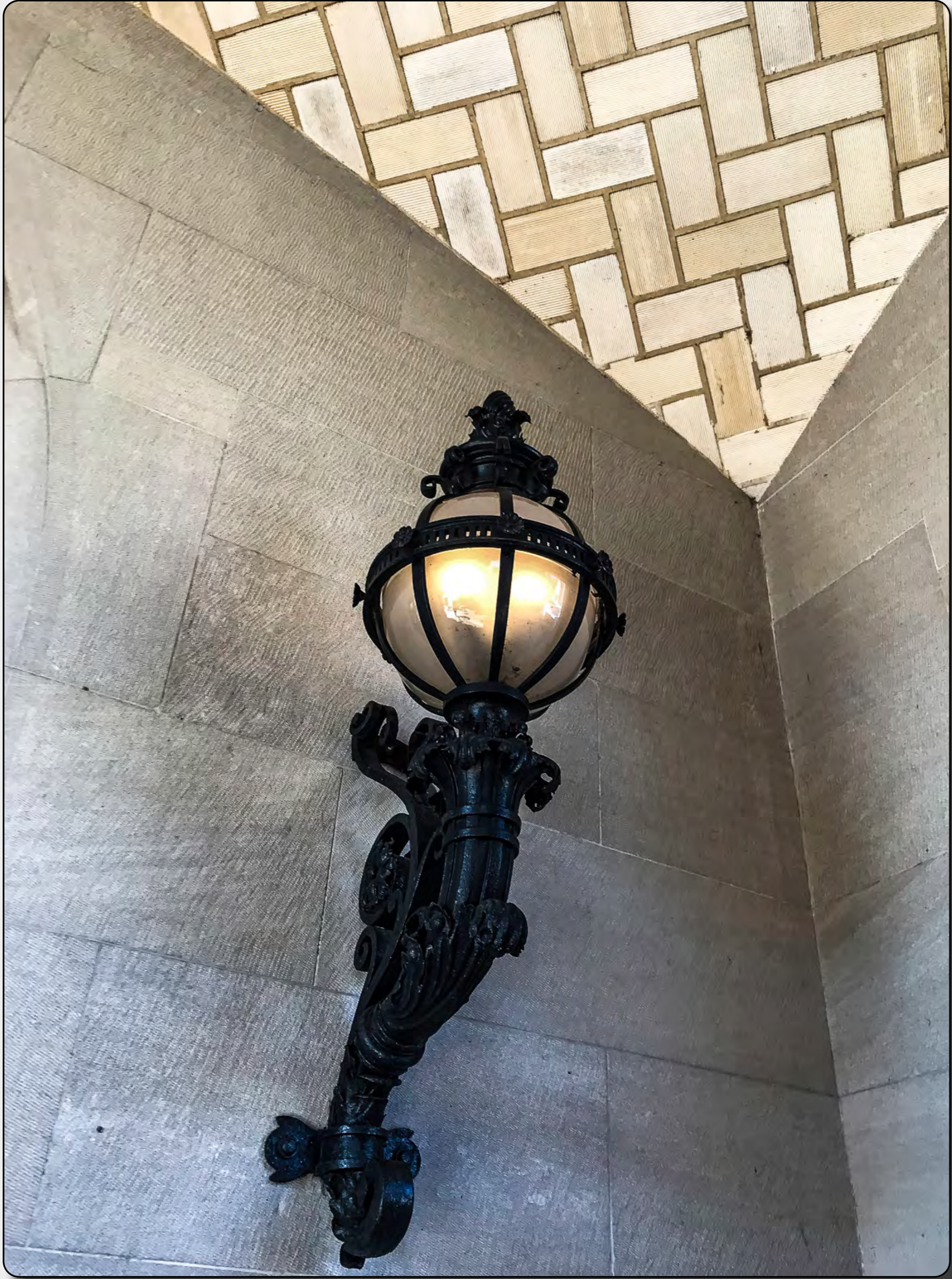
## Little Things

It all starts with the little things, the details of our lives. Coaches of many sports stake their reputation (and livelihood) on "attention to detail." If you take care of the little things, the big things fall into place seemingly without much effort. That's mostly true, because what looks effortless is the result of paying attention to the details over and over and over again. We don't always look at the details but are awed with the big picture, but we do know, instinctively, the little things have been cared for.











## A Mostly True Story

Prudence was certainly not living up to her name. She carefully rearranged two chairs in the corner of the ballroom. Now, when she sat in the corner any beau that came over to sit next to her would have to sit next to her knee to knee. She told me that the young Frasier boy was quite the catch, and she hoped to “accidentally” bump knees with him sometime during the ball.



Feels Like Home



## Feels Like Home

There are places where we live and there are places that feel like home. Sometimes we live in places where we pursue our careers and take care of domestic responsibilities. Then there are the places that beckon us in order to feed our souls. Happy are those that live in a place that meets both goals simultaneously.

The Pacific Northwest is my place that feels like home. I spent a few years living there and the affection I developed for that part of the world has deepened with time. I will travel cross country to be there and enjoy the solitude of its wide-open spaces that feel like home to me.















It was all that was left.

Prologue: A photo and six words.



# Next to the Road



## Next to the Road

Buildings by the side of the road. Sometimes we just drive on past and pay little attention to them. I am curious about them because they are full of questions without any answers. Why were they built in the first place? Why were they abandoned? Who takes care of them now? What are they used for, if no one lives there? I will make a stop and organize their existence into an image that says, "Yes, I will remember what you once were."

































## Postcards from the Creative Journey



Albert,

Old is not outdated. There is significant merit in the tried and true, the classic, the traditional. Think of something simple as bread. Bread is old, it is basic and is very simple to make, yet deceptively difficult to make well. It is old and yet not outdated. Even today, we rely on something that is very old but not outdated.

I might be taken to task for being an unrepentant modernist in the world of post-modern photography. My images are a reflection (or maybe a projection) of the beautiful world I want to live in. Would you like to join me in my world?

**JOE**



Mr. & Mrs. Albert Mooney

Belfast City

United Kingdom

# A FEW WORDS AT THE END OF THE JOURNAL



## Little Things

The Biltmore House is wonderfully Golden Age over the top in terms of its decoration. It is a place that happened when Love, Incredible Wealth and Good Taste all collide in the mountains of North Carolina. Beauty and good taste start at the tabletops and extends to the horizon. You really need to see it to appreciate how beautiful it is.



## Feels Like Home

I've spent very few of my many years in the Pacific Northwest. But it feels like home to me. Maybe in a previous life I was a pioneer in the American West and am reliving memories of a past life. I just love the open spaces out there and am happy to be there and photograph.



## Next to the Road

This is another unintentional project. One of those bodies of work that shows up when you look in your Lightroom catalog and connections are subconsciously made. I was working on the Feels Like Home folio, and it made a subtle connection to my subconscious. Once that subconscious connection is made, a theme occurs to you and before you know it, a project emerges. Who knows why that happens, I just hop on and hang on for the ride.



Joe Lipka has shared his vision since he began photographing.

In the last forty years, his photographs have appeared in over one hundred and twenty-five juried exhibitions, and twenty five solo exhibitions. His images have been published in *LensWork*, *Black & White Photography* (UK) and *F-Stop Magazines*. His recent book project, *Mostly True Stories*, was featured as a LensWork Bonus Edition Publication in February 2024.

His website [www.joelipkaphoto.com](http://www.joelipkaphoto.com) has continuously evolved since it was launched in 2004. His blog *Postcards from the Creative Journey*, published weekly since 2010, is now part of *The Lipka Journal*.

His newest blog, *The Daily Photograph*, has migrated to Instagram. Don't forget to follow him on this new platform linked below.

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*Joe Lipka*

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