

COMMISSION: PENDLETON STATE OFFICE BUILDING.
CAFETERIA WALL. PENDLETON, OREGON

I limited the image to migratory water fowl. First for their shape, solidity and markings and secondly for their inherent transitory quality (migration)

In dealing with the Pendleton geographic area I chose the contour plow lines. They create a flowing pattern which appears never ending yet changes or alters with crop, season, and the hill. The third image, also transitory, was cloud formations. Their appearance is very imposing in an area which extudes spaciousness.

It was my intension that these three the migratory birds, the contour lines, and the clouds when combined create an active yet restful pattern - one that changed - had abstractions - yet real images which could be contemplated. I wanted a total image that denoted space yet restated the flatness and verticalness of the panel and wall.

It was important that these 3 subjects change their importance and position in space as the viewer scans the panels. In some cases this was accomplished by juxtaposition (placement) of image. The birds appear to sit between contour plow lines - resting or eating. As the viewer's eye raises towards the top of the panel the birds begin to float while the contour lines either recede into space (giving the appearance of an aerial perspective) or becomes flat arabesque pattern. The latter (the flat pattern) might then restate the verticalness of the panel. There is another juxtaposition that comes into play - that of the strong hard-edge handling of the plow line against the soft modeled cloud formations. The placement of various cloud formations (shapes) encourage this aerial perspective and yet change the dimension and visual scale.

The outer border which appears to be rich cross marks was derived from close up studies of piles of cut grain shafts and grass stems.

The color in the panels is very low keyed due to the color already present in the cafeteria, the size of the five pieces, and the size of the room. The intention was to create a more restful piece. A slight tint of blue is present in the center of the panels and a yellow/orange can be found in the border.

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