

**persimmon,
chipmunk,
hickory,
squash**

Persimmon, chipmunk, hickory, squash, moose, opossum, caribou.

Words taken from Algonquian languages populate the vernacular of the American landscape. They condition the designatory and descriptive capacity of American English in relation to the environs which it came to dominate as the lingua franca of enclosure. Words like these, of flora and fauna, bear a more complete assimilation than the Native words and names typically reserved for street signs, cities, states, and infrastructure. Those are different kinds of landscape words. Taconic, Seekonk, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and the like.

Here, there are persimmons, chipmunks, hickory, squash, moose, opossum, and caribou: both vegetation and animal. But these rest on the strata of minerals beneath our feet. Rocks crushed, overturned, buried deep, and fortified. Their names mean obduracy. Yet, as architecture, comprising buildings and walls, they enunciate the enduring but fragile physicality of property relations. The divergence between land and its overdetermination by capital expands in this interplay between figure and ground.

- L.E.



What's the difference between land and landscape?

Why would someone name a shopping mall Wampanoag Plaza?

Why paint or draw a place that you can walk?

How can slag on a river's bank be so beautiful?

What should you do with a view? What can you do with it?

When will this empire wither and die?

How could anyone even begin to believe that you can reduce a place and a landscape to capital?

What do you see when you look out through a window and what is there and what is the difference?

How does land resist capital? How can this enrich peoples' resistance to capital?

What does a western look like in New England?

Is the color of grass political?

When you look out, are you facing forwards or backwards? How can you know or affect this?

What does it mean to speak about this land in English? I.e. is north an accurate word here, a word that makes sense?

How many times a day do most Americans read or speak words from Algonquian languages?

- Eli Neuman-Hammond

A plane of color is a vast expanse. A nation is a vast expanse. A vast expanse is unbounded. A nation is a plane of color. A plane of color extends beyond its edges. A nation is bounded and extends beyond its edges, primarily through time. This nation is of roads. Open, so-called. Highways. Endless. Reality is bound up here. Signs. A vast expanse demarcated with the language of the colonized and so a nation is suddenly possible. Little towns. Rivers and their bridges. It is characteristic of our time and place that most of the world you will see in your life is through a car window, and that view will be sequenced by the metronome of the American Road Sign. It tells you that the land you are looking at is surely more than a landscape, regulated. Can't know a place by the slant of light dappling through deciduous leaves of some sort of perfection. Arrayed as if you were here to walk beneath them. Cannot know a place by the grade of a hill or the way it is traveled upon and has been traveled upon for millenia etc and why. Know this place by Exit 19 to merge onto NY-28 W toward Rhinecliff Bridge. Understand the rules of the road. Know this place by Gas, Restroom, Lodging. Do you know the slag on a riverbank is so beautiful? Beneath the paving stones, slag. To even have a scenic way you really gotta fuck some shit up first. Let's get right with it. Let's forget this place. Do you know the source of the Hudson? It's water.

- Nora Treatbaby



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- Eli Neuman-Hammond
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