Lane Walbert

Alt Process

Final project artist statement

Artifacts

This series explores artifacts left behind by strangers. I used items from three different collections. The first was a box of photographs and documents belonging to a Mr. Clyde Walker of Pennslyvania, born in 1904. These photographs were cyanotyped onto the documents, creating a ‘blueprint’ of moments in Clyde’s life- each is accurate to the information I was able to find, but the viewer is invited to continue Clyde’s story beyond the artifacts on display.

The second collection is the personal photo album of a family from California, which spans several generations, beginning in the early fifties. Many of the photos feature the architecture of the family home, which was built sometime in the seventies; I took selections of these photos and printed them on tracing paper and then embroidered colored accents. They read as unfinished projects, perhaps the practice scraps of a young girl just learning embroidery; artifacts created out of artifacts.

The third collection is a set of stereo slide cards. They were presumably collected by an individual or family, and show a wide range of scenes, mostly travel photographs. In reinterpreting these slides, I wanted to imagine what they may have looked like if the technology of the time had been different; I digitally converted them into anaglyphs, and framed them in vintage lantern matts. They can now be viewed not with a stereoscope but with red-cyan 3D glasses. They are an artifact of an imagined version of the past— an alternate timeline..