

Waldo Team 2023 Artist in Residence Project:

“Height and Size do not Reveal Age”

By Maren Greene

Maren completed a series of drawings of Mature ponderosaPines sampled this summer by the Waldo Canyon field research team. These drawings depict 3 pairs of trees. Each pair is the same age, but varies in relative size to one another. The comparisons made by these drawings reveal that conditions specific to the location of the growth of a tree impact the tree's size.

I was taking a technical drawing class when I started working as an Artist in Residence for the Waldo Canyon project. In this class, we learned about scientific illustration: the techniques for this drawing style, and its importance as a means of disseminating information. Scientific illustration became a broad jumping-off point for my project. After learning how to create multi-perspective architectural drawings, I felt inspired to transfer this method of displaying information to my work with State of the Rockies. The multi-perspective drawings allow a viewer to comprehend the size and shape of a tree (or other object) from several angles.

I realized this would be a compelling way to represent data comparing the range in size of trees of the same age, and that it would help illustrate how the qualities of a tree's environment affect its growth.

These illustrations also allowed me to highlight details of a ponderosa pine tree that make them recognizable: their bark, needles, and cone. Scientific Illustration is a vital part of conservation efforts, and I was thrilled to have this opportunity to develop my skills at the crossroads of artmaking and science.

-Maren Greene

Scientific Drawings By Maren Greene

Site 14S: low-grade slope, low severity burn, lots of Gamble Oak regrowth

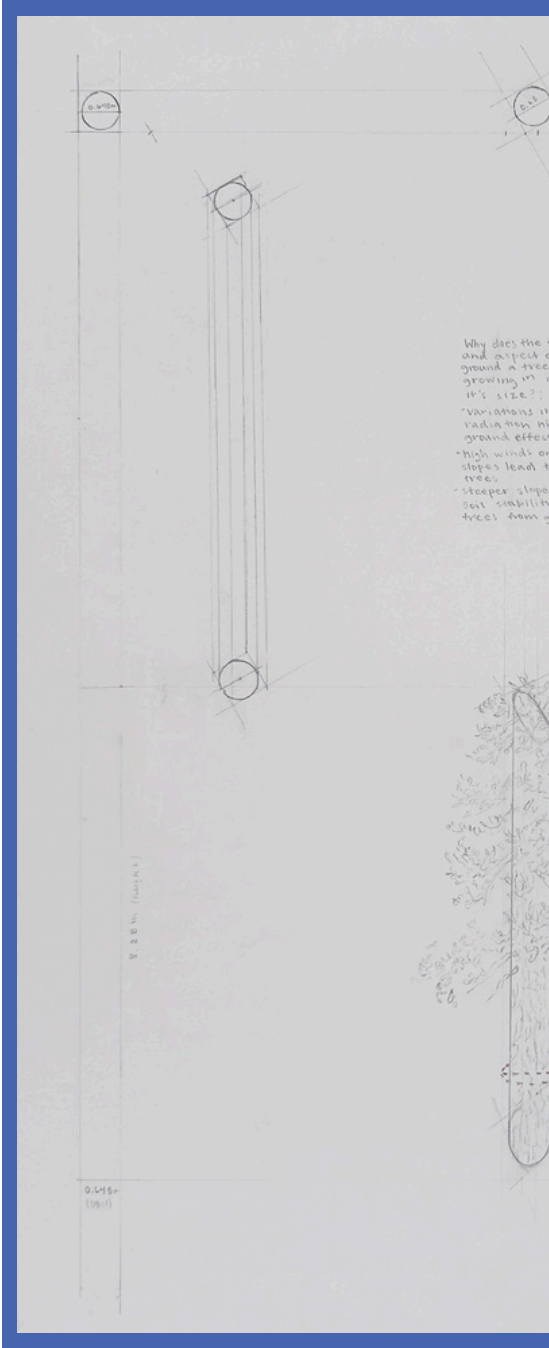
Tree 23 Scientific Drawing



On 20° E slope
Height: 9.29m
DBH (Diameter at Breast Height): 1.03m
Age: 150 years

Tree 14 Scientific Drawing (Left)

On 35° SE slope
 Height: 5.67m
 DBH (Diameter at Breast Height): 0.606m
 Age: 156 years

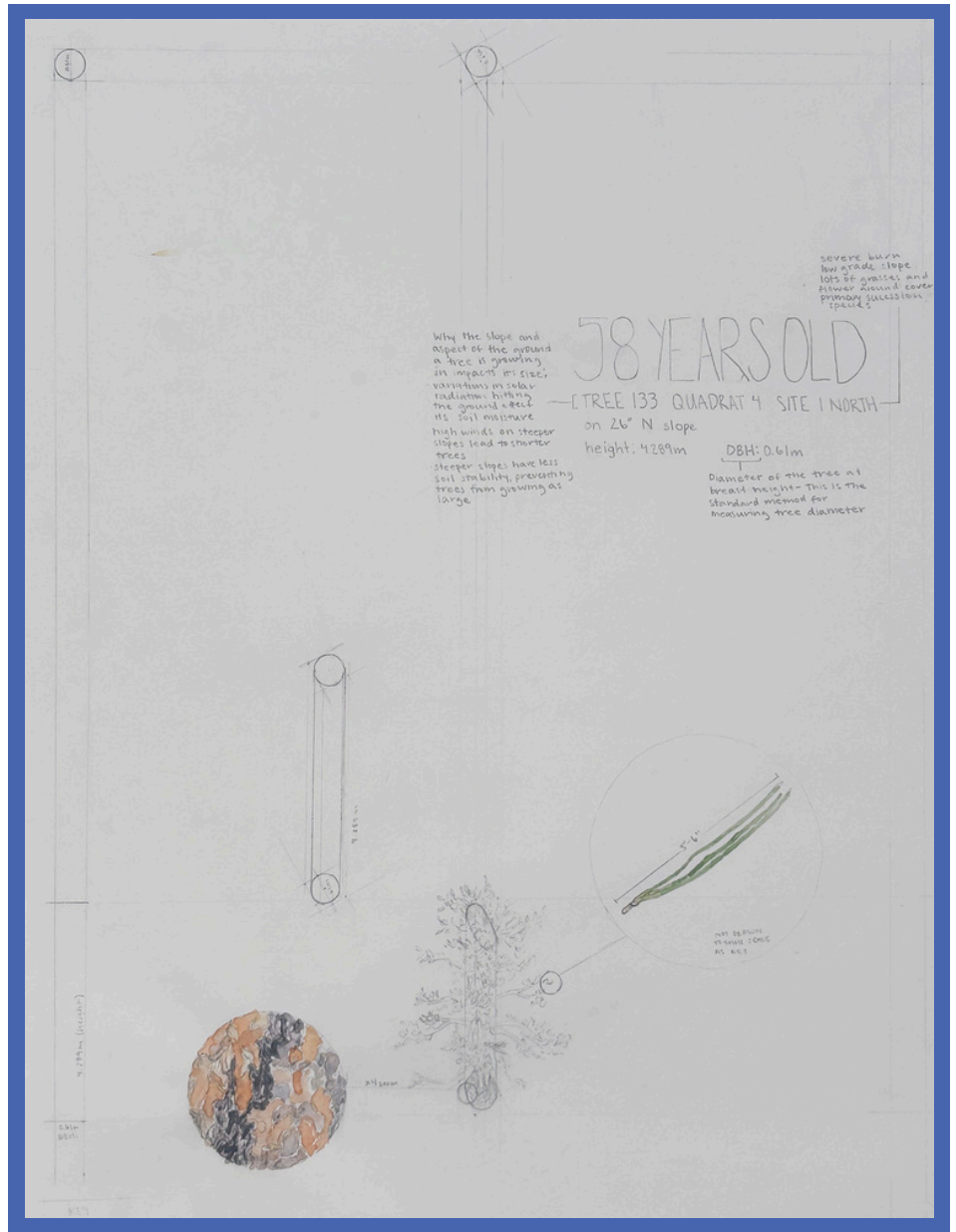
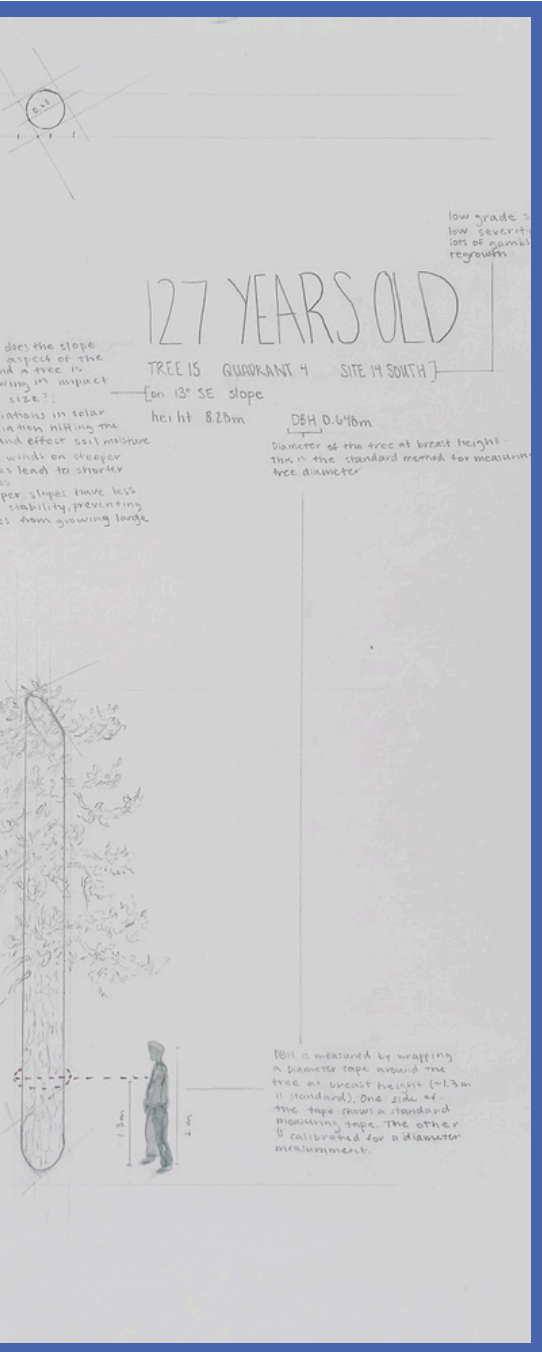


Above:
 On 13° SE slope
 Height: 8.28m
 DBH (Diameter at Breast Height): 0.648m
 Age: 127 years



Site 14S in Waldo Canyon, Photo by Maren Greene

Right:
 On 26° N slope
 Height: 4.829m
 DBH (Diameter at Breast Height): 0.61m
 Age: 127 years



Maren Greene, Studio Art, '24, works across a variety of media, focusing primarily on painting and photography. She has lived her whole life in Colorado and is passionate about preserving the natural spaces that helped raise her. She knows that the time she spends outdoors-- skiing and biking through mountains, walking around gardens, and lounging under trees-- is sacred: grounding her in life's chaos and inspiring her creative practices. As such, she is deeply motivated by discovering art's place in conservation efforts and using her work to give back to the land that inspired it.