

EXPOSITIONS ARE THE TIMEKEEPERS OF PROGRESS

BY COLLEEN MULLINS

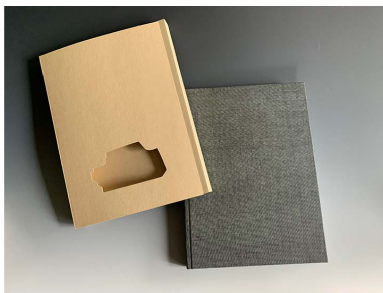
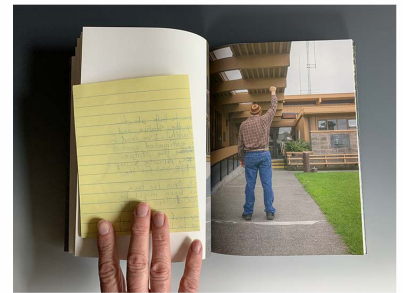
Expositions are the timekeepers of progress is an examination of monument removal, seen through the eyes of one Northern California town and its statue of William McKinley, removed in 2019. The book draws its narrative from conflicting stories and histories of the president, the statue, and the process of a community both coming together and falling apart over an effigy that arguably never belonged there.

Nationally, the debate surrounding monument removal oftentimes settles into clearly delineated talking points. The momentum of the removal movement in the past few years was a key factor in Arcata's decision to remove their statue. Yet, the narrative that emerged around McKinley as justification for removing his edifice was rife with historical inaccuracies, half truths, and distortions—including the erroneous claim he was a slave-owner, when in fact, he fought for the Union in the Civil War. Further, to many in the town the monument was not a historical symbol but a local landmark; many locals remain completely confused even now as to why the statue was removed.

To tell this ambiguous yet fascinating story, *Expositions* uses photographic symbolism to represent the missing and mutable histories concealed within the espoused story. Original photographs are complimented by extensive archival material, news clippings, and even re-created post-it notes used to share opinions at a meeting debating the statue's fate after yelling became a problem.

In total, *Expositions* presents a full and balanced consideration of both the good intentions and perils of seeking restorative justice through monument removal.

Video preview may be viewed at: <https://colleenmullins.net/artwork/4866157-Book-preview.html>



Edition 7 + 2 A/P

Archival pigment prints on 100gsm Hahnemuhle Rice paper, printed by artist with tipped-in reproductions of archival materials, note paper and Tops Ruled Paper inserts;

Dimensions are 21.6cm x 15.875cm x 1.9cm (8.5" x 6.25" x .75");

Wrapper hand-cut Bristol board with tipped-in colophon and artist statement;

Double-fan bound by the artist in San Francisco, CA, 2020

66 pages

\$1,400

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