

Jasper F. Cropsey

"America's painter of Autumn."

1823 - 1900



# Agenda

- Motto/Logo: (Dana Yodice)
- Thesis: (Group)
- Biography: (Dana Yodice)
- Historical Context: (Tessa Carpico)
- Overall Influences: (Jenn Rickerd)
- Hudson River Valley Influences: (Jen Rickerd)
- Slide Show of Works: (Megan VanDervoort)
- Place: (Jenn Rickerd)
- Lesson Plan: (Jenn Rickerd, Tessa Carpico, Dana Yodice)
- Conclusion: (Megan VanDervoort)
- Itinerary: (Group)
- Website: (Dana Yodice/Jen Fowler)



# Thesis

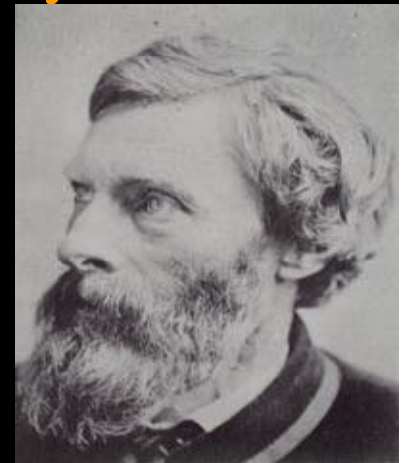
## Echo Lake

Known as “America’s painter of autumn,” Cropsey was most inspired by the Hudson River Valley and its scenic fall foliage. His paintings portrayed the vibrant changing colors of the trees and the reflection of the mountain ranges in the Hudson River. Because of this inspiration, Cropsey was best known as “America’s painter of autumn”.



# Biography

- Born in 1823
- Received early training as an architect & set up his own office: 1843.
- National Academy of Design: 1844
- Hudson River School
- Traveled in Europe from 1847 to 1849
- Founded the American Society of Painters in Water Colors
- Exhibited at :
  - National Academy of Design
  - Boston Athenaeum
  - Royal Academy in London
- Died in 1900



# Historical Context

**Monroe  
Doctrine**

**& Cropsey's  
Birth**

**Victorian Era**

**California Gold  
Rush**

**slavery  
outlawed**

**Cropsey's  
Death**

**1823**

**1849**

**1865**

**1900**

**1830's**

**1861**

**1898**

**civil unrest in  
south**

**Civil War**

**Spanish  
American  
War**

**strikes in  
industrial  
north**

**Romantic Era**



# Victorian Era: Romanticism

- Post civil war
- Preoccupation with:
  - nature
  - beautiful things
- Panoramic imagery
- Ignored industrial setting
- Aesthetic symbols
- Romantic realist



Queen Victoria



# Overall Influences

- Architecture
- Reverence for Nature
- Landscape paintings by
  - Thomas Cole
  - Claude Lorrain
- Trips to Europe
- Philosophers and Aestheticians:
  - Ralph Waldo Emerson
  - Sir Joshua Reynolds



"Notch in the White Mountains" by Thomas Cole



"Seaport at Sunset" 1639 - by Claude Lorrain

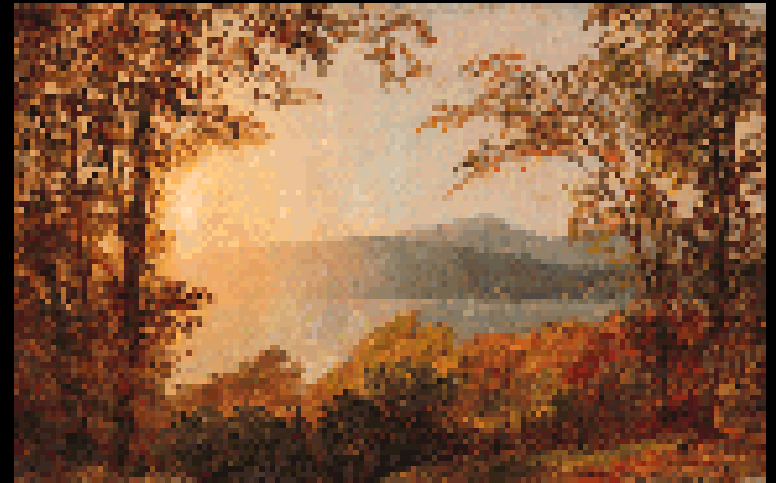
“To the dull mind all nature is leaden. To the illuminated mind the whole world burns and sparkles with light.” - Ralph Waldo Emerson

# Hudson River Valley Influences

- Setting Sun on the Hudson River
- Autumn and vibrant colors of deciduous trees
- Greenwood Lake 1844
- Landscapes of the Hudson River Valley



"Cottage on Upper Greenwood Lake"



"Sunset, Hudson River (near Hastings-On-Hudson) 1897"



# The Works Of Jasper Cropsey

- **Unique autumn motif**
- **Realistic paintings**
- **Vibrant colors**
- **To create his works, Cropsey used several mediums:**
  - **Water colors**
  - **Oil**
  - **Pencil**
  - **Pen**





Spring in England



Springtime on the Hudson



Artist Painting the Hudson

# Showcase of Cropsey's Works



Hudson River Near Hastings



Evening on the Hudson



View of the Hudson with Piermont Pier

# "Catskill Mountain House"



Jasper F. Cropsey, 1855, Oil on Canvas

- Realistic detailing
- Muted colors
- Foliage



# “Springtime on the Hudson”



Jasper F. Cropsey, 1856, Oil on Canvas

- Differing hues
- Coloring of animals
- Depiction of water

# "Artist Painting the Hudson"



Jasper F. Cropsey, 1872, Oil on Canvas

- Use of water
- Brighter colors
- Majestic overtones



# "Spring in England"



Jasper F. Cropsey, 1860, Oil on Canvas

- Use of colors
- Small detailing
- Depiction of water

# "Evening on the Hudson"



Jasper F. Cropsey, 1885, Watercolor

- Use of water
- Darks & lights
- Majestic overtones

# "Hudson River Near Hastings"



Jasper F. Cropsey, 1886, Watercolor

- Muted colors
- Minimal detailing



# "Boats on the Hudson"



Jasper F. Cropsey, 1888, Watercolor

- Contrasting colors
- Creation of waves
- Random Brightness

# "View of Hudson with Piermont Pier" with

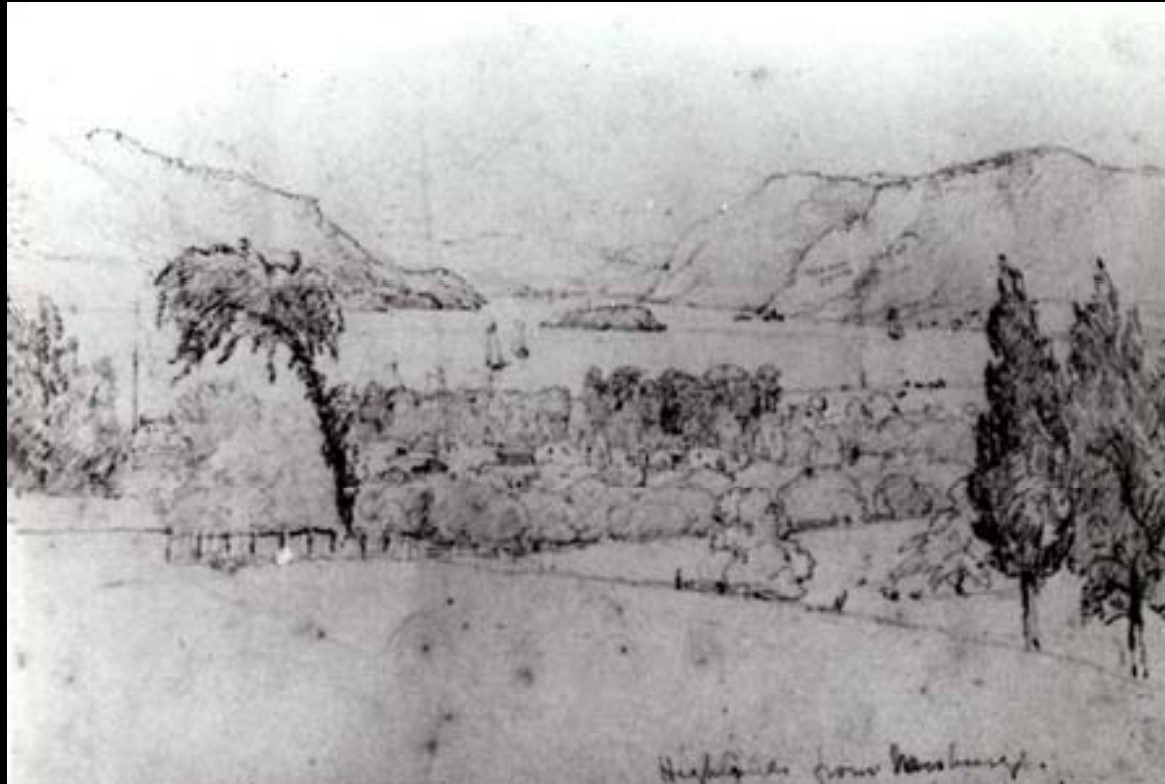


Jasper F. Cropsey, 1898, Watercolor

- Vivid Colors
- Distant Background



# "Hudson Highlands from Newburgh, N.Y."

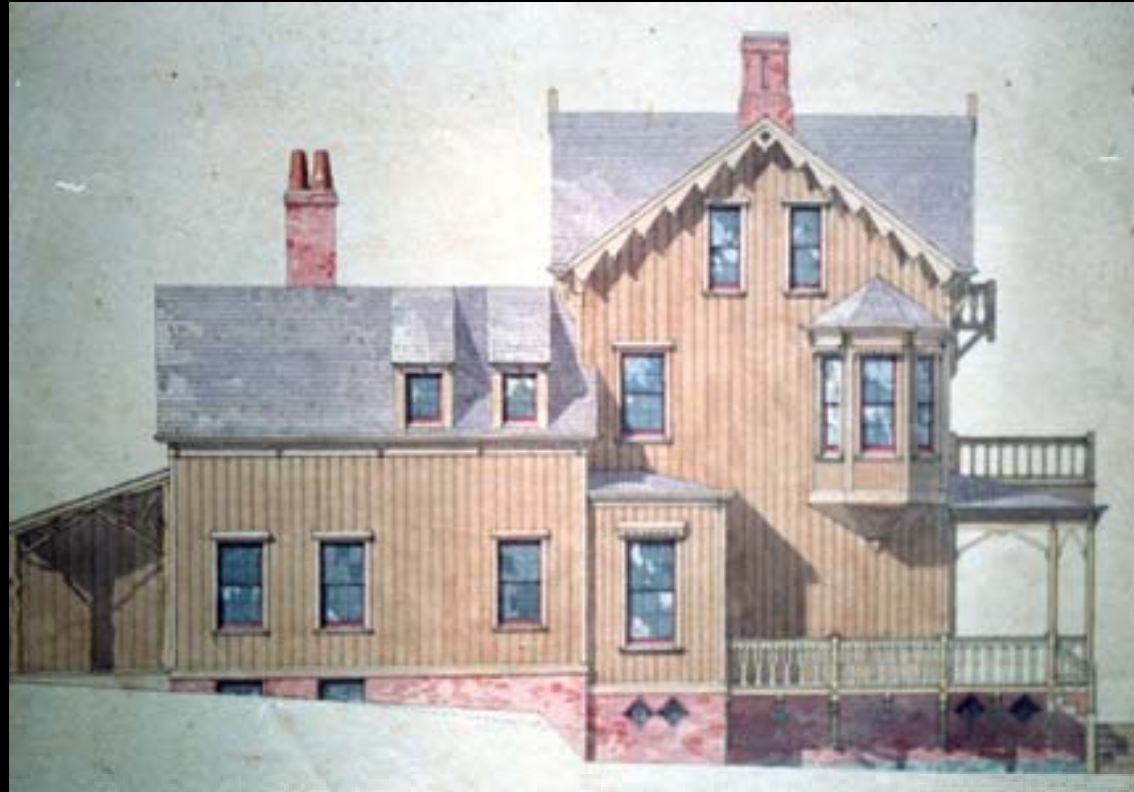


Jasper F. Cropsey, undated, pencil on paper

- Light detailing

- Focus on larger pieces

# "Detached Residence- Aladdin (Warwick, NY)"



Jasper F. Cropsey, (undated),  
pencil, pen, and watercolor on wash paper

- Precise detailing
- Focus on structure

# Place: Ever Rest

- Cropsey Residence
- Purchased in 1885
- Located in Hastings - On - Hudson, N.Y.
- Art Studio
- Inspiration for paintings

Ever Rest House



Parlor



Dining Room



Ever Rest House: rear view





# Come Visit....Hastings - On - Hudson

## Attractions:

- Jasper Cropsey Home & Studio – 49 Washington Ave.
- Cropsey Gallery of Art – 25 Cropsey Lane



Cropsey Home



Cropsey Art Gallery

# Welcome to Ever Rest

Location: 49 Washington Avenue

- Sawmill Parkway to Exit 12 - Stay on Farragut until the first traffic light. Take left at the light onto Main Street.
- At the end of Main Street take a right onto Warburton Avenue.
- Take the first left (about 200 yards) onto Spring Street
- At the end of Spring Street (about 100 yards) take a left and go down the hill
- Turn left onto Cropsey Lane and continue till gate house where the guard will instruct on parking.

Landscape:

- Front: shrubbery, flowers, small trees
- Rear: wooded area, river view, defined shrubbery



Front View



Rear View



# Welcome to Ever Rest

## Occupants –Jasper Cropsey & Maria Cooley

- Hudson River Valley Painter
- Married Maria Cooley in 1847
- Sold “Aladdin” in 1884
- Bought house in 1885
- Built studio in 1885
- Lived there until his death in 1900



Jasper Cropsey



Maria Cooley

## Significance

- Residence of Jasper Cropsey
- Contains original sketches and art collection
- Inspirational location

# Welcome to Ever Rest

## Architecture

- Victorian Style
- Interior reflects Hudson River Valley atmosphere during the 19<sup>th</sup> century
- Interior contains:
  - period furniture
  - sketches by Cropsey
  - 19<sup>th</sup> century artwork and
- Preserved in original condition



Outside View – Ever Rest

Dining Room



Parlor

# Welcome to the Cropsey Art Gallery

## Location & Landscape:

- Newington Cropsey Foundation : 25 Cropsey Ave.
- Completed in 1994
- Wooded area to emphasize yellow color

## What is Here?

- Best pieces of artwork by Jasper Cropsey
- Contemporary galleries
- Conference rooms
- Administrative offices of the Jasper Cropsey Foundation
- Tour guides
- Exhibits and art shows



Outside of Cropsey Art Gallery



Inside Gallery

# Welcome to the Cropsey Art Gallery

## Architecture:

- Rotunda with 30 foot high hand painted ceiling
- Inlaid terrazzo floor
- Octagonal room in the Gothic style
- Designed similar to "Aladdin" and "Ever Rest"
- Embodies a nineteenth century parlor
- Main staircase in the center of the gallery

## Significance

- Houses permanent collection of Jasper Cropsey's works



Main Staircase



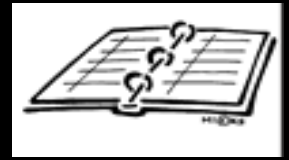
The Rotunda



The Gallery



# Trip Itinerary



✓ 9:30 A.M. - Arrive at Ever Rest in Hastings - On - Hudson

✓ 9:45 A.M. - Meet tour guide at Ever Rest - overview of Jasper Cropsey

\* Note: - life in the Hudson River Valley & travels to Europe

✓ 10:00 A.M. - Begin tour of Ever Rest

\* Note: - art studio - period furniture & décor - artwork & sketches

✓ 10:45 A.M. - Tour grounds of Ever Rest

\* Note - wooded surroundings & landscaping

✓ 11:00 A.M. - Hike to MacEachron Waterfront Park

\* Note - inspirational view of the Hudson River

✓ 11:15 A.M. - Picnic lunch at MacEachron Waterfront Park



# Itinerary Continued

- ✓ 11:45 A.M. – Walk to the Cropsey Gallery of Art
- ✓ 12:00 P.M. – Arrive at the Cropsey Gallery of Art & begin tour inside the gallery

\* Note: architecture of gallery – painting style, technique, and types – best works by Cropsey including:

“An English Roadside Scene”



European Scene

“Landscape in Early Fall”



Early Work – Pre 1848

“Days of Elizabeth”



Allegory

“Artist Painting on Hudson”



American Views

“Study of a Shepherd”



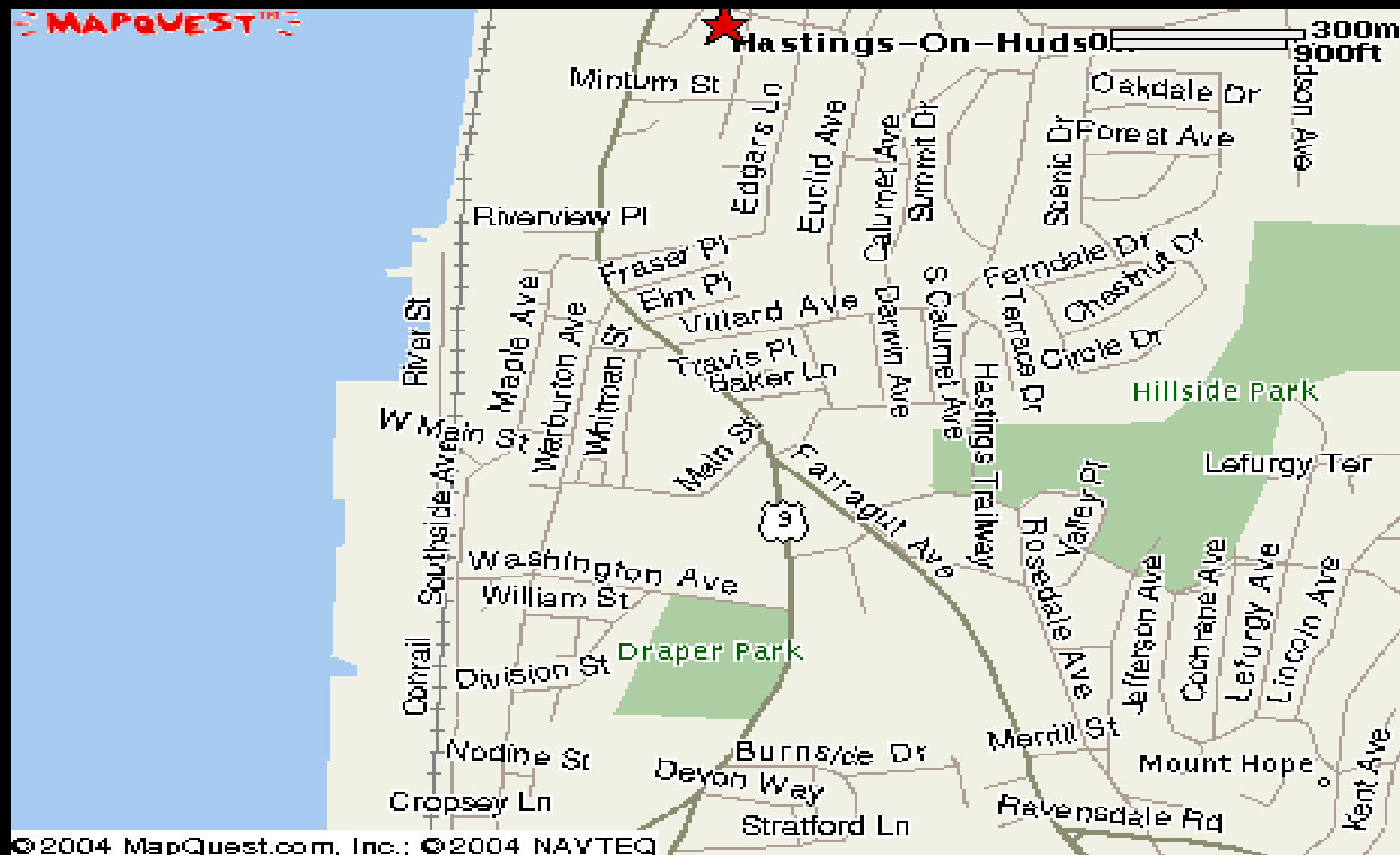
Oil

# Itinerary Continued



1:00 P.M. – End of Tour

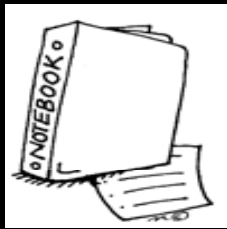
1:15 P.M. – Optional Historic Walk of Hastings - On - Hudson



NYS Learning Standard 1: Research and analyze the major themes and developments in NYS and United States History.

Objective: Students will evaluate the works of Jasper Cropsey to gain an understanding of his life.

Materials:



- Paper
- Art Textbook
- Paint Brushes
- Art History Textbook
- Internet Connection



Learning Styles: Visual - Spatial

Auditory

Bodily - Kinesthetic

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# Lesson Plan Procedure

## Pre-Lesson

- Research life and works of Cropsey using:
  - Textbooks
  - Online Resources
- With this information students will create a passport to Ever Rest that includes:
  - biography
  - pictures
  - influences

## During Lesson

- Students will tour Ever Rest and view:
  - The art studio
  - Surrounding landscape
  - Inside of the home and artifacts
- Students will then create an image reflecting their view of the Hudson River Valley as Jasper Cropsey would have seen.

# Procedure Continued

## Post - Lesson

- Students will share their paintings with the class, and discuss how Jasper Cropsey's life and works influenced their paintings.
- Students will create their own art gallery with their works in their classroom called "Just like Jasper"

## Evaluation

- Students will be assessed informally on:
  - participation and interest during fieldtrip
  - class discussion and relation of their painting to Jasper Cropsey's life and works.

# Conclusion



After learning about the life and works of Jasper F. Cropsey, one can see how significant his works have been on the Hudson River Valley. During a time when ideals of the Romantic Movement were being embraced by his contemporaries, Cropsey focused more on natural beauty, and is undeniably portrayed in the Hudson River Valley. During its peak season of autumn, Cropsey used his skills and insight, which he developed from the influence of the Hudson River School Painter Thomas Cole, to find the essence of the area and truly capture its beauty. In enjoying his beautiful paintings, one can see Jasper Cropsey justly earned his title of “Americas painter of autumn”.

# Bibliography

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White Mountain Art & Artists:

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Timken Museum:

<http://gort.ucsd.edu/sj/timken/t-crpsy.html>

Jasper F. Cropsey

[http://www.butlerart.com/pc\\_book/pages/jasper\\_f.htm](http://www.butlerart.com/pc_book/pages/jasper_f.htm)

150 Years of American Painting:

<http://www.byu.edu/moa/exhibits/Current%20Exhibits/150years/830025900.html>



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<http://www.antiquesandfineart.com/articles/article.cfm?request=438>