



# CABIN SKETCHES

BY MARK FOSTER



In 2015, my wife and I bought a cabin in Green Valley Lake in the San Bernadino Mountains, about an hour and a half from Los Angeles.

We fell in love with this tiny little town, which consists of a lake, a Post Office, a bar, a restaurant, a general store and a bait shop. We'd take long walks around and look at all the great cabins up there.

One day, while out on a walk, I shot a photo of a little fishing cabin near the Lake, it looked like it had been there a LONG time and had definitely seen better days, but it was really quaint, my wife said she wanted to have it for her ceramics studio one day.

When I got back from our walk, I decided to do a little sketch of this old fishing cabin, with its worn out wood and all the rocks in front of it. This was the first of my cabin sketches.



From there I drew more and more of the cabins in my town that caught my eye. Turns out that I wasn't the first artist to be inspired by this town, a famous painter called Robert E Wood lived in Green Valley Lake for a while and painted a water color of the exact same cabin that I started off drawing. It's know to locals as the most painted unpainted cabin because a lot of other artists have done their versions of it. I found it interesting that this is the one that started off my cabin sketches series. Here's where I'm up to with them so far.















I was on a deadline to make some boards for my skateboard company Heroin. I'd pitched doing a cabin mini series of these boards to a couple of other companies that I freelance for sometimes, but they'd passed. So I was trying to figure out if these could work for my own brand, I had riders that needed pro models, and so I played around with them. I laid out the Deer Man board first and I loved the juxtaposition of his name with the cabin, for some reason it gave the cabin drawing a new meaning, what was happening in the cabin? Anyone who knows Barrier Kult and their videos wouldn't have a hard time imagining something creepy going on. Then the others just fell into place after that one. They were a hit with the shops, and our sales guys had to re-order these. They even got voted one of the best graphic series of 2017. Glad those other companies passed on them.











First sketch of the "Unpainted painted cabin" dated 27th Dec 2015 penned, no pencil. This is down by the lake on Maple Street.



The Cabin across the lake dated 28th Jan 2015, penned, no pencil. Viewed from across the frozen lake.



A Frame. 2nd Jan 2016 This went on the market and we looked around it in late 2017, it wasn't for us though and there's a LOT of steps down to it.



Unpainted painted cabin I went back and drew the first cabin again from a different angle with some more detail using finer pens 14 aug 2016.



My cabin. I had so many false starts with this one, a total mental block for some reason, must have started this five or six times but I got there in the end. March 28 2016



**Church cabin.**  
This is an old cabin next to the church  
I pencilled this one out then inked it.  
3rd Jan 16



**Cabin 5**  
The fifth cabin I drew,  
This is close to the church. There's snow  
on the roof and ground 3rd Jan 16



**The Hidden Cabin**  
14th Jan 16



While not actually in GVL  
This is a store that our friend owns  
in Cedar Glen, that sells both  
my cabin prints and my wife Jens  
Black Mountain Ceramics line.  
May 16th 2017



I love this little A frame, its painted  
turquoise and is one of my favorite  
cabins in the town.  
25th March 2018

There's something very immersive about hanging out at the cabin and drawing.

A break from phone, emails and all the trappings of modern life. Just you and the pen and paper, maybe a Tom Waits album playing on an old record player in the background.

It feels almost meditative, you get really into the zone, drawing all these details one line at a time.

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