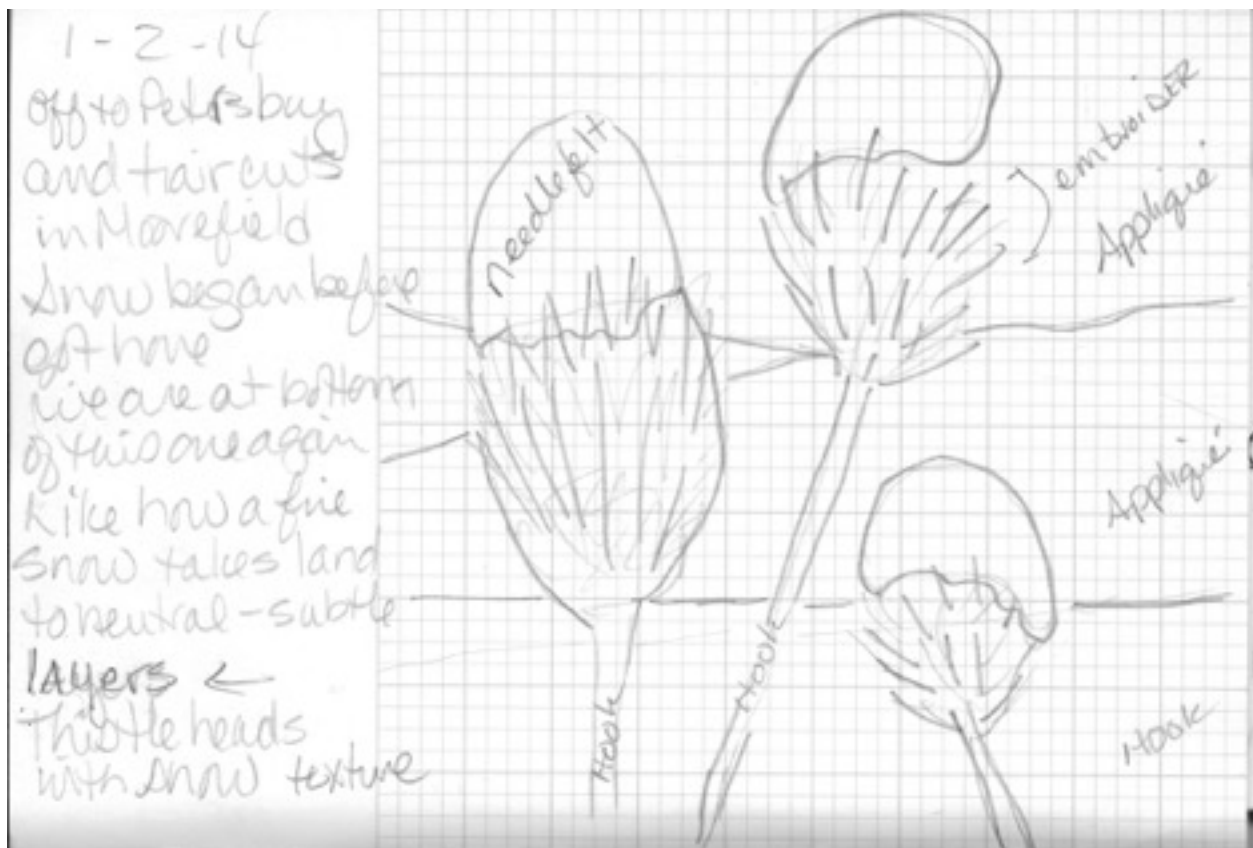


The stark image, crisp feeling being outdoors and viewing the constellations begged for similar treatment in executing the design.

Layers of fabric were selected and placed to mimic horizontal logs with a different texture for the roof sections. Using embroidery stitches you can see ridges in the metal roofing.

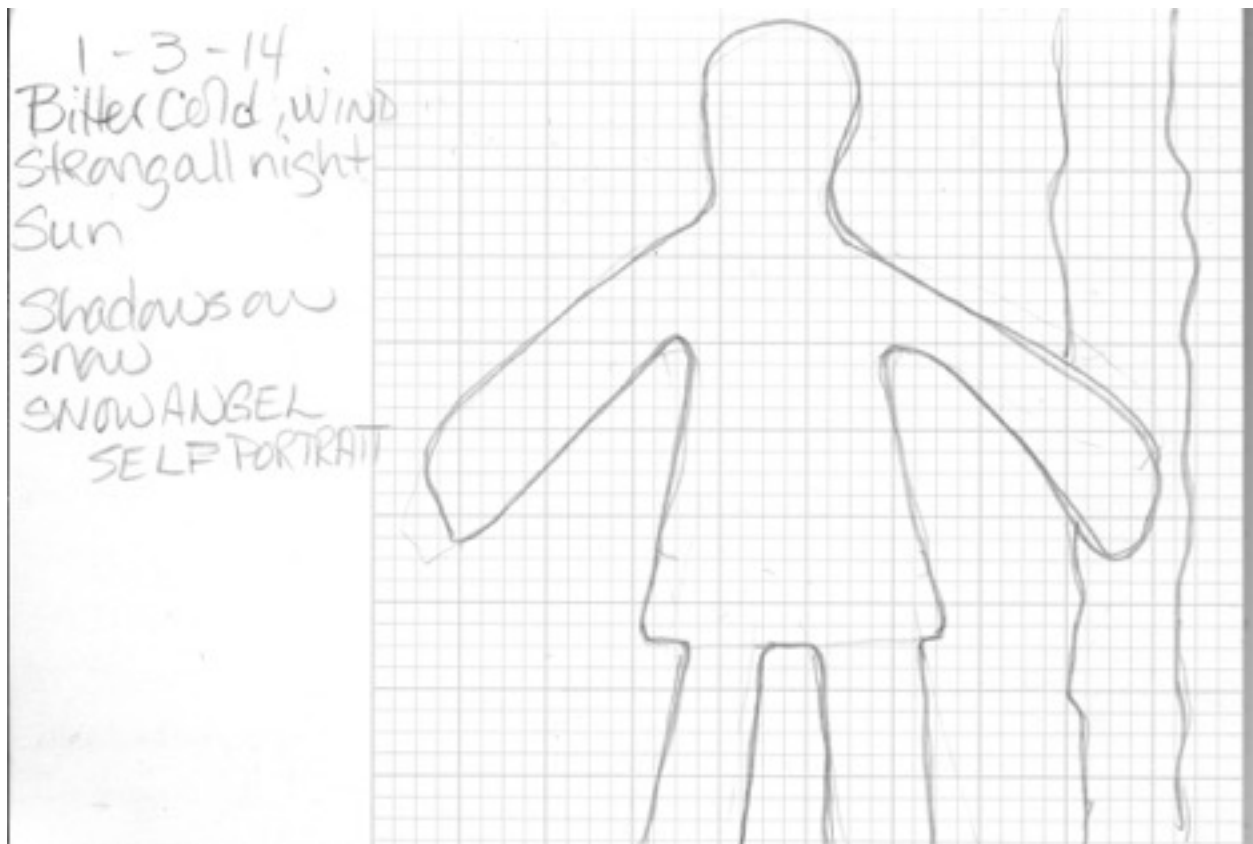
Stark white beads in shapes of flowers could easily look like bright stars. A small simple white button is the moon and embroidery floss adds smoke. The curving line for smoke personalizes the work inferring someone lives inside.



Teasel heads dry into spiky oval shapes on long stems in the fields. As light snow falls it nestles into the barbs and forms caps.

This design interprets the neutral fields with a variety of grasses presenting full snow cover or as in the case of the subject in foreground a dusting.

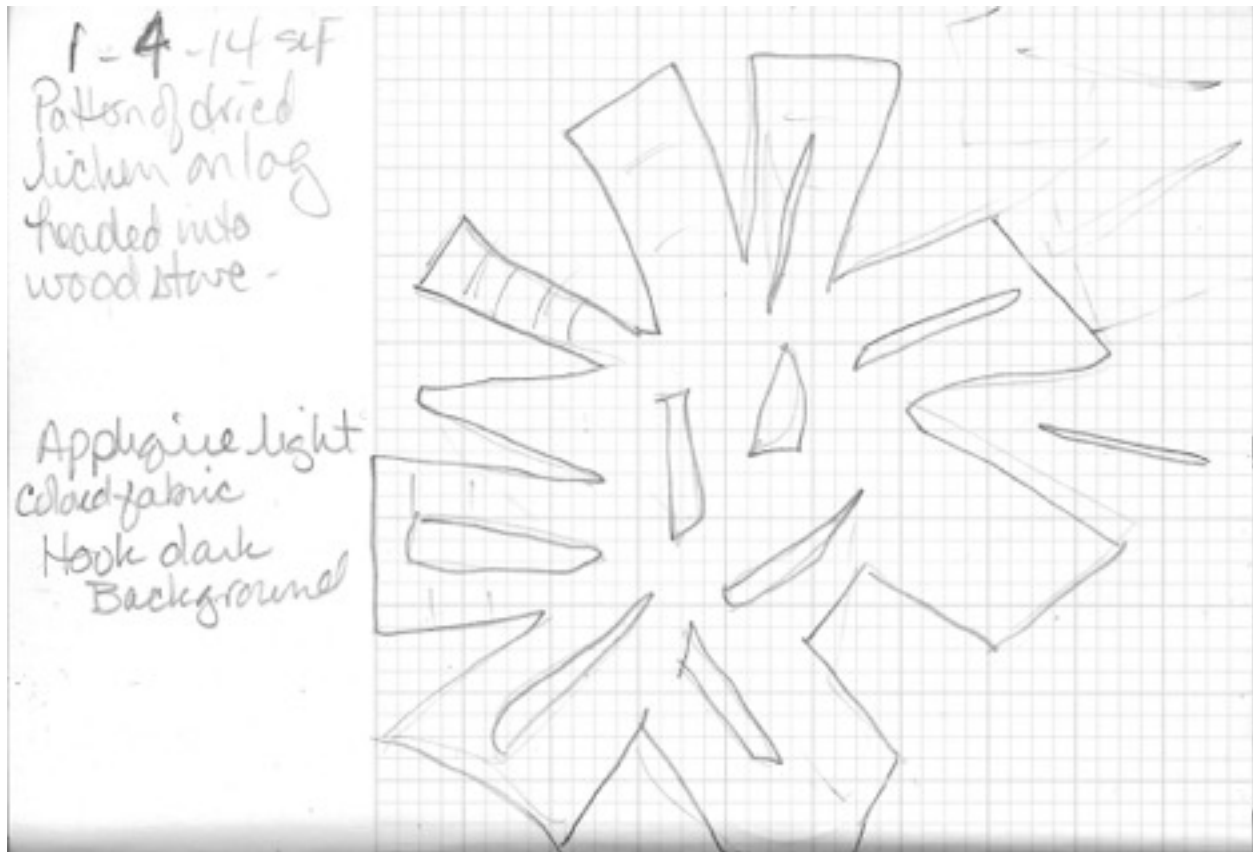
The completed work was done with a yarn that twisted into clumps. I selected different solid and textured wools to depict distance. The snow in sketch has not been included yet....



The color blue evokes the feeling of cold to many. What do the other colors “feel” like to you?

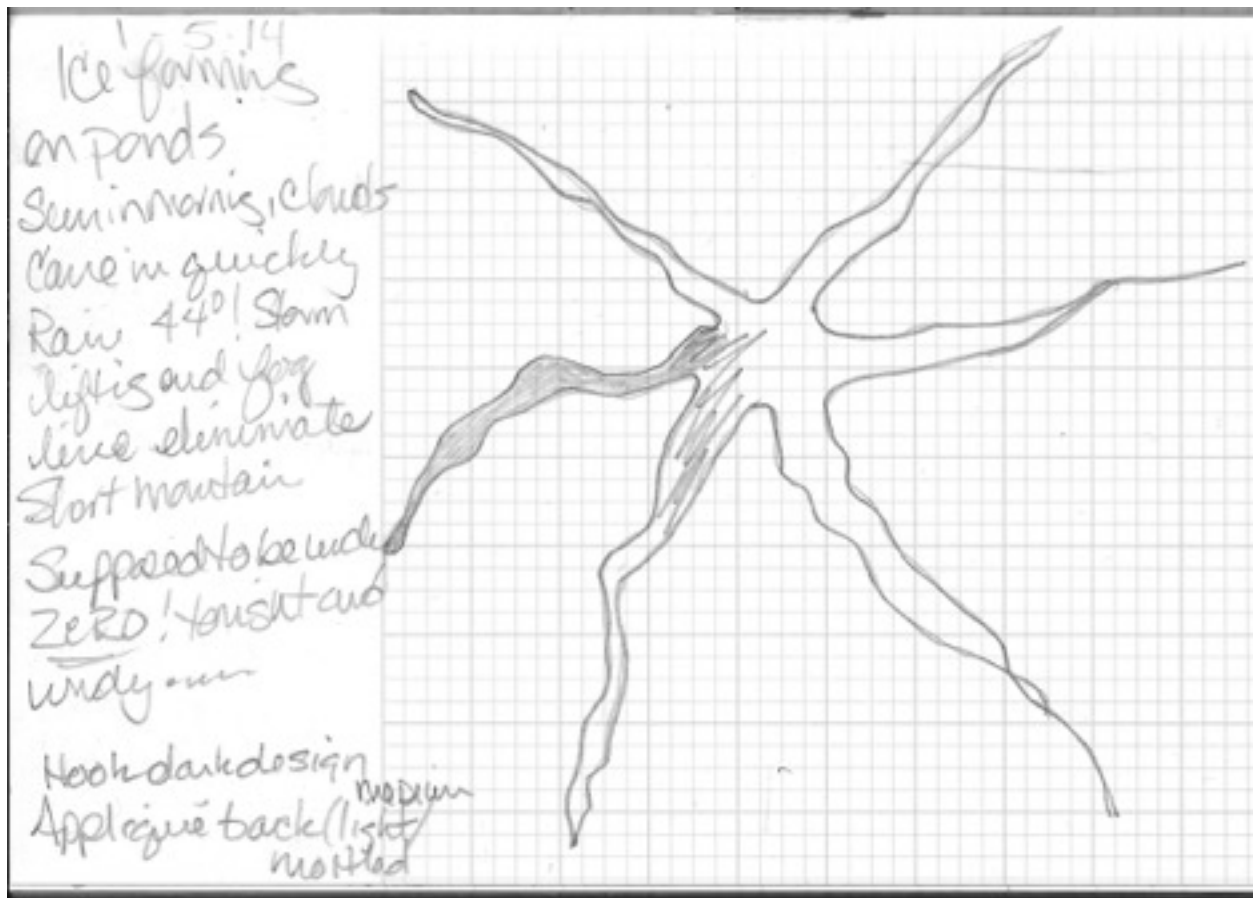
By using pale, light values of a slightly yellow/blue the sunshine is conveyed yet the temperature remains frigid. The vertical wide line on right depicts a car tire track. Was the person in the road or did the artist want to create tension and intrigue in the composition?

A happy childhood game of making “snow angels” in this could be interpreted by others to have sinister undertones depending on how observant they are. Similar to authors writing stories for wide audiences.



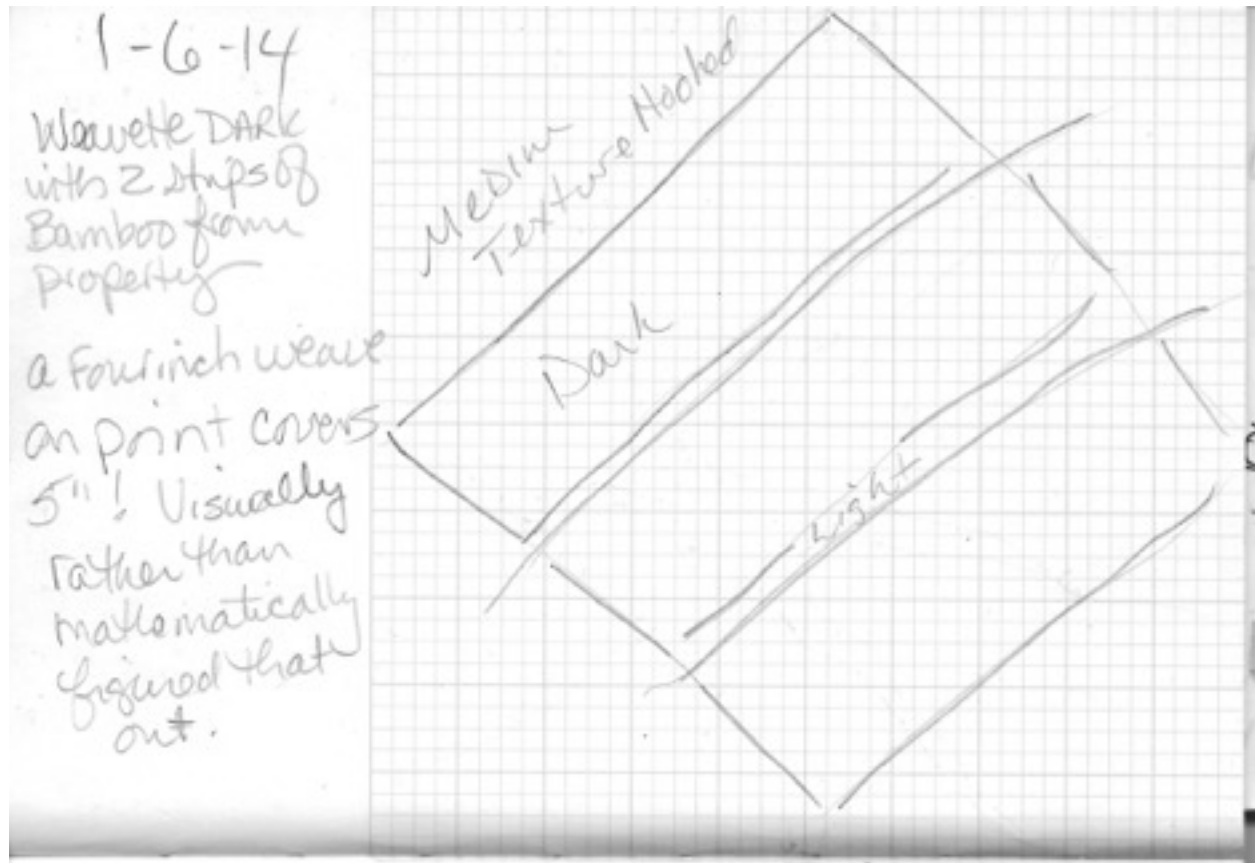
The angular lines gave interest to the lichen which was my subject. Using a wool dyed with puddles of darker values allowed a similar natural effect to be achieved easily.

The piece has a mysterious tone because of the dark background which pokes through in spots of the design.



Following 1-4, the dark and light values are reversed for the spidery design still evoking mystery.

Notice similarity in patterns today on your journey. Can you find two which are reverse the values in like shapes?



A different craft, continuous weaving on “**pin looms**” allows exploration of weaving with handheld tools.

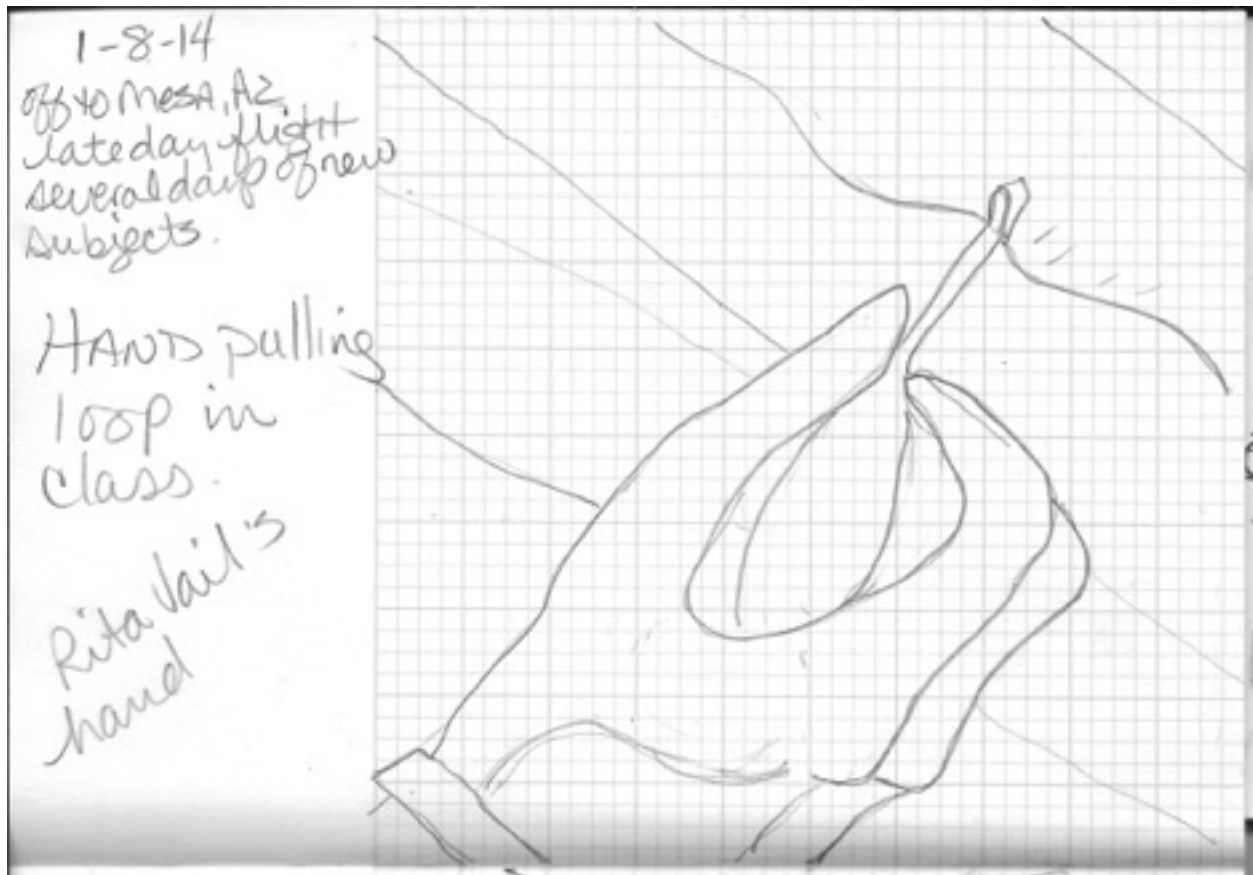
By using dark yarn to weave the square and placing the four inch piece on point an interesting design was created. Inserting the thin pale bamboo slivers angling upward emphasizes movement.

This piece will be mounted onto a light natural tightly woven linen and framed using matte black metal.

No journal entry for January 7, 2014

The design is titled Yoga Breath. How to create a design depicting an extended calming breath was the challenge. Using cool (blacks, greys, whites) colors and the full range of values along with a gentle arch a pattern was created. The striping design has high contrast from lightest to darkest depicting strength and the repetitive movement of breathing.

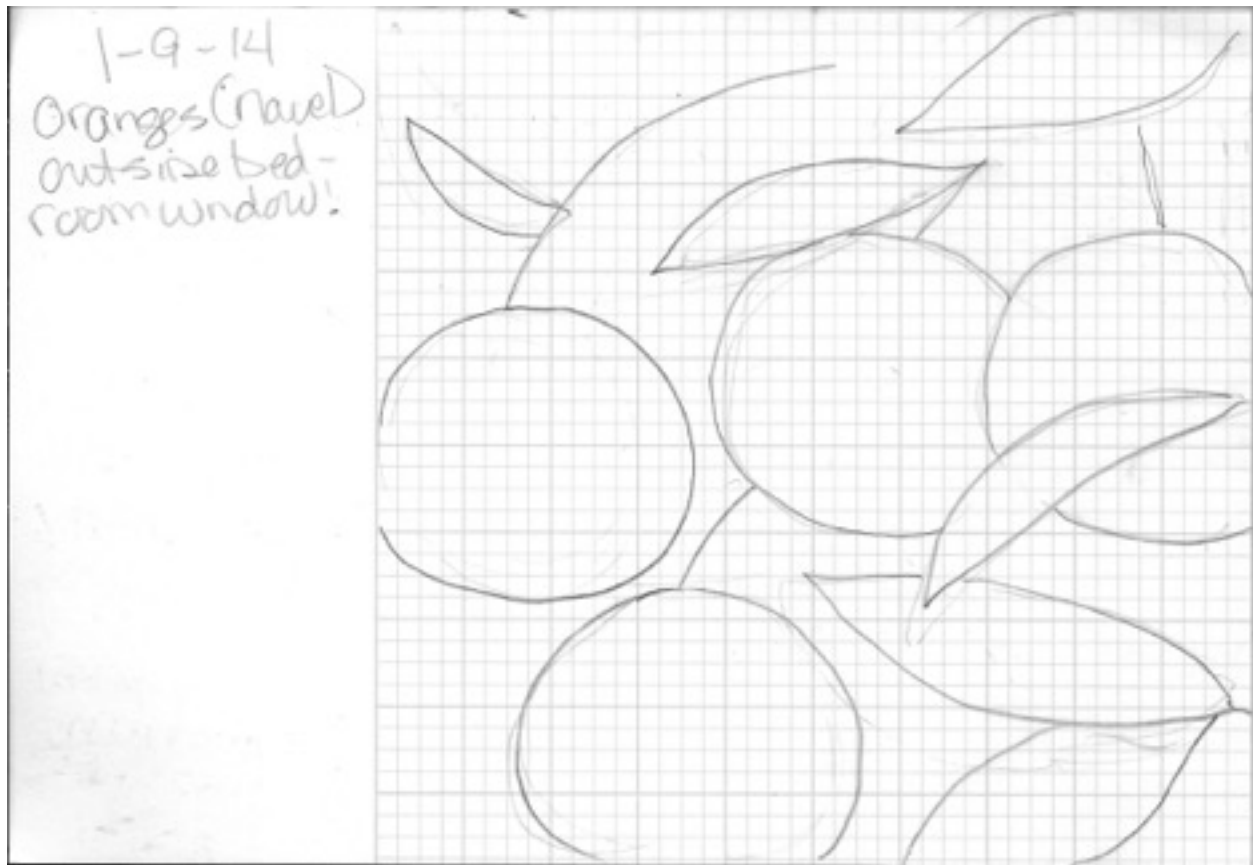
This design will remain in this shape rather than being squared off.



This sketch was not used on January 8. Instead a repeating design **Meditating** using cool grays became the square.

Beginning in the center and working outward the spiral changes values yet continues on an unbroken path.

Loop pulling slows down our 21st Century frantic world and leads many to mediate while creating.



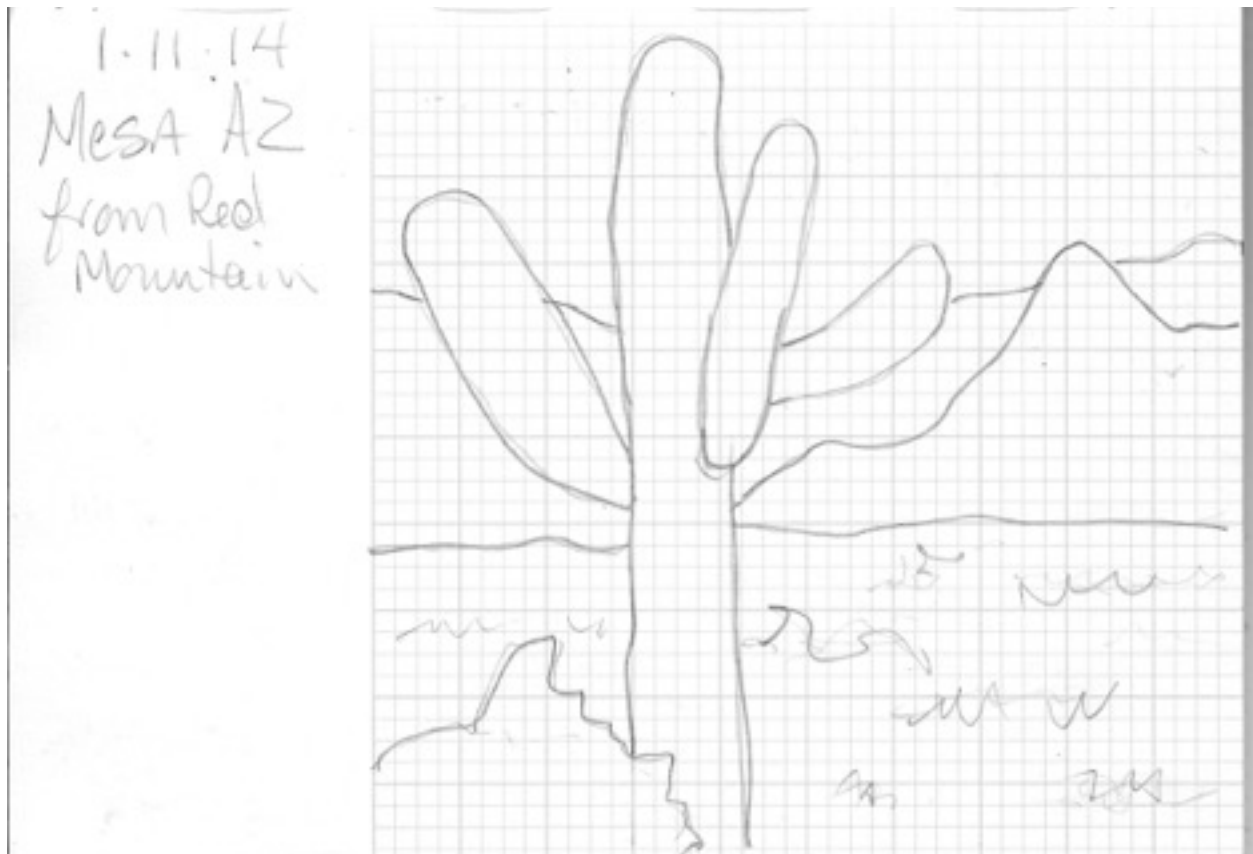
What a surprise to look out my window in the morning and be greeted with large ripening oranges. The design is all about that moment. Large circular shapes created in a variety of techniques - sculpting, stuffed wool (trapunto), quilling (strips on end coiled then stitched to each other and the backing) and hooked in a circle all in the same orange.

The leaves applique'd on top and painted background in a flat, dull, warm blue make the work interesting.



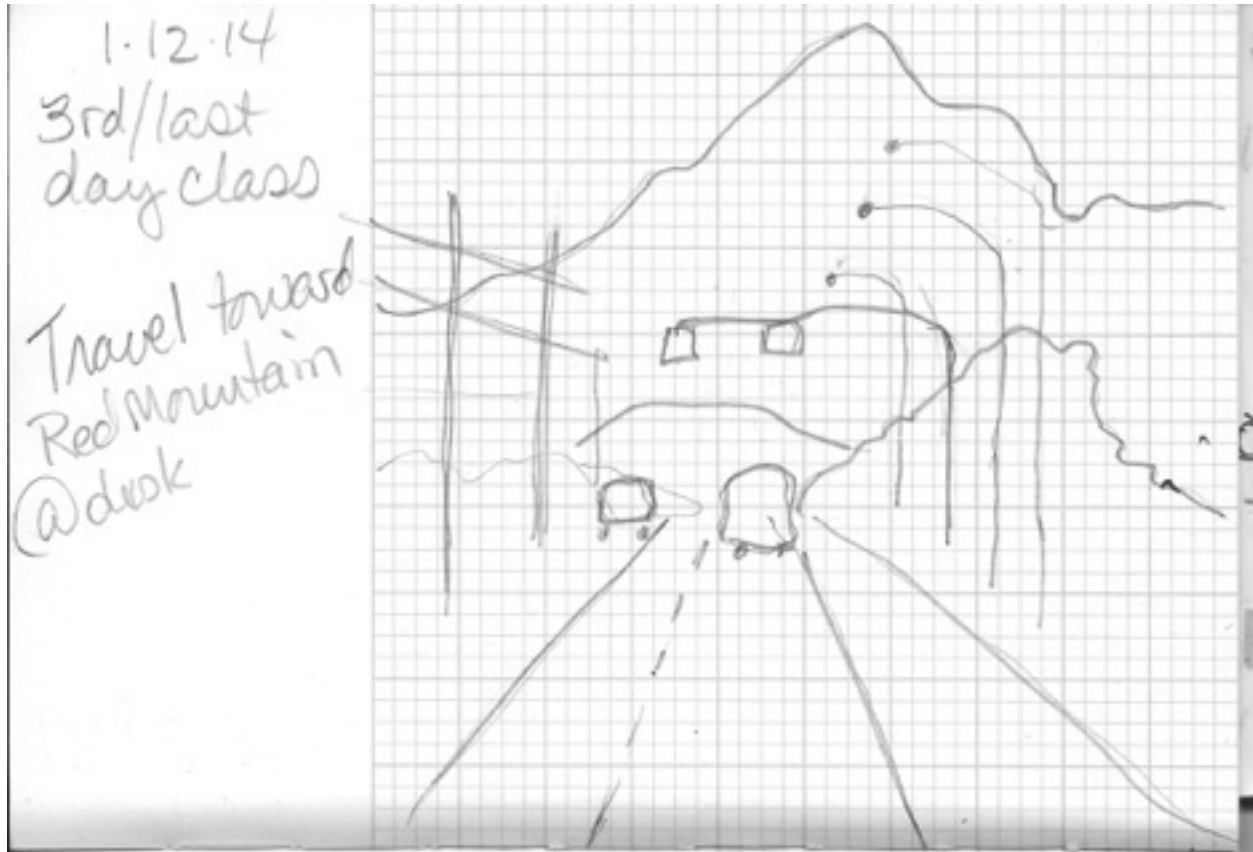
January and these shapes are outside! Tried to create depth with a row of objects across the bottom, then taller trees and low roofline.

When I actually began working on the square I decided to use color to set the mood. The design was simplified to a tree, bush and I added a mountain. Using the sari silk ribbon in long loops as the palm tree contributed interest and retained the simple approach.



Still in Arizona. The tall cactus symbolized this experience. Found a textured light green wool that rolled up nicely to create the focal point. A darker plaid was hooked for the left branch behind the trunk.

The cotton print of a graphic cloud line continued the mountain shape. Dimension was added by choosing to use a different technique for the sky.

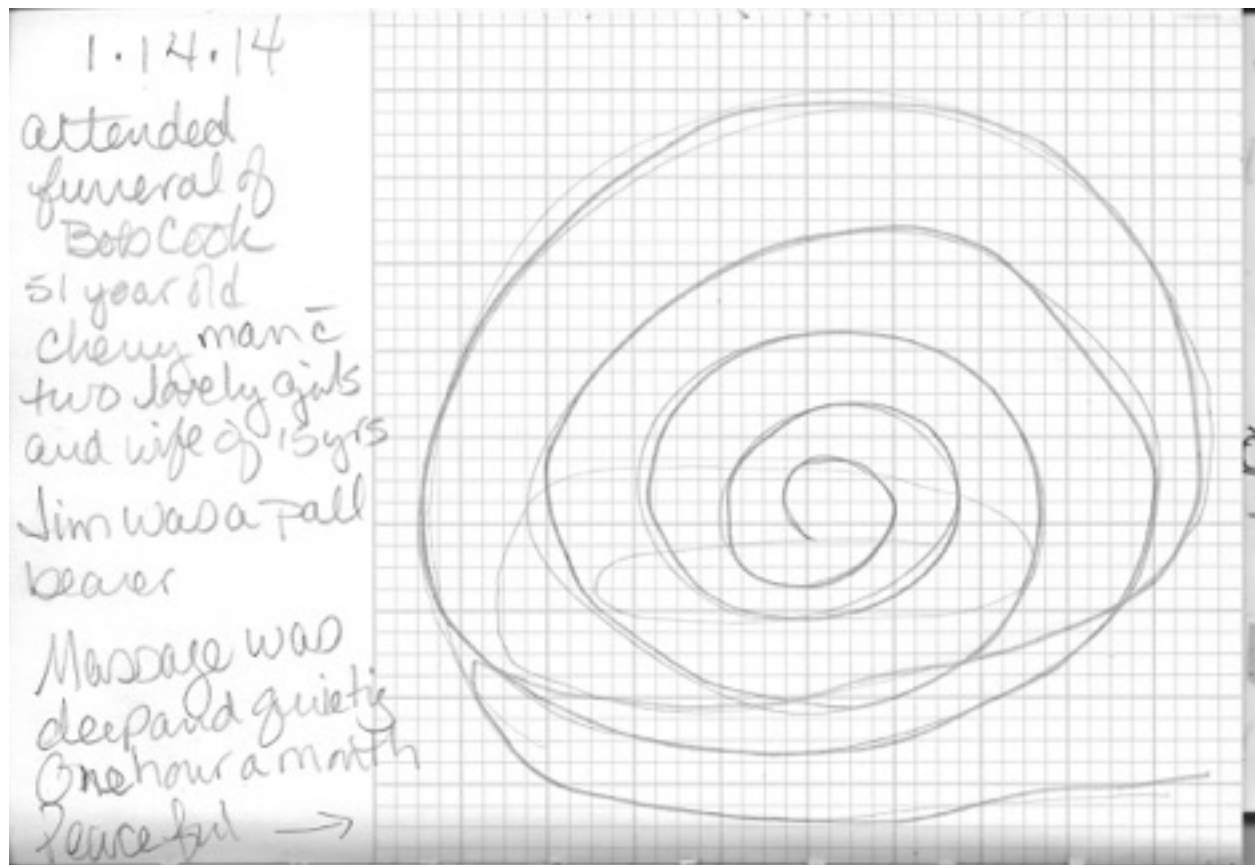


As the passenger I was able to sketch this design as we approached a traffic intersection.

In hooking I found it difficult to include the poles and supports for the traffic lights. The square has two red spots hanging over the roadway unconnected to a pole. Perhaps I will go back and embroider these lines in.

No sketch for January 13, 2014, traveled back home from Mesa, AZ

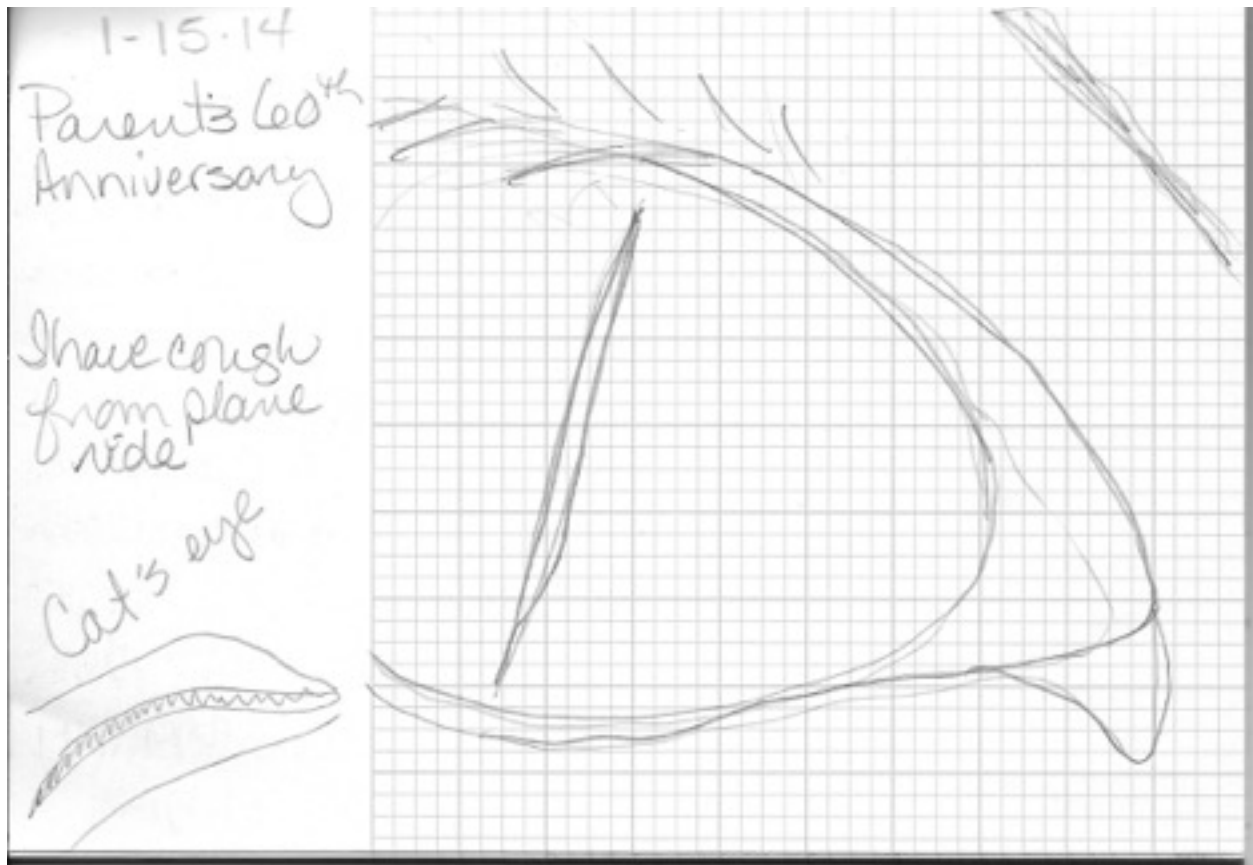
When I returned to spaces without designs I had an opportunity to fill in with series pieces. The first Grassy Lick School was built in the late 1800's and used afterwards as a mechanics shop. Hubcaps and license plates cover the outside of the building now. This design has circles and lines indicating these two motifs.



Two events during the day left me feeling centered and retrospective.

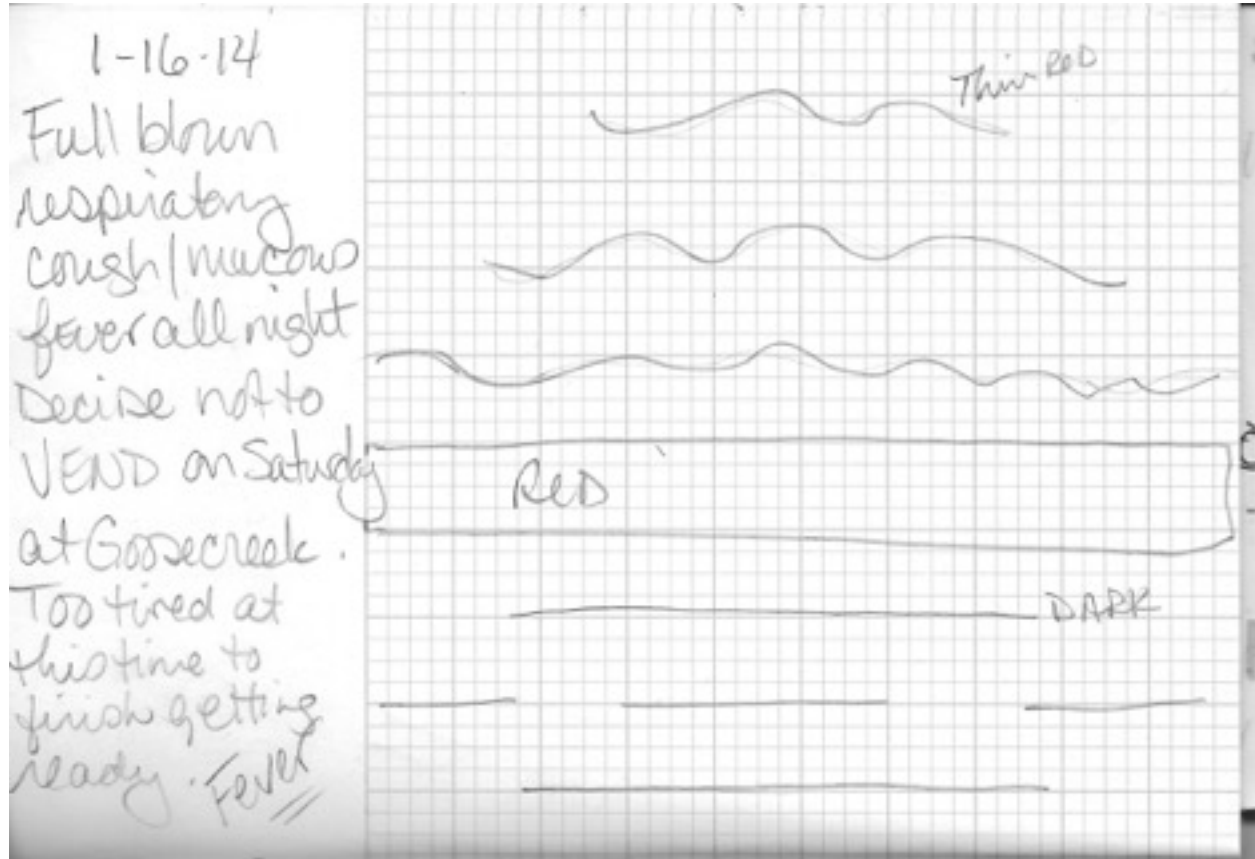
The drawing began in the center and evolved outwards running off the page to the right at bottom.

I reinterpreted this into an uplifting set of lines in the square. The palette emits my feelings - dark, medium and hints of light lifting Bob's spirit and quieting my body in calming blues.



The cat's eye did not inspire me to interpret it larger than life. But my trip did.

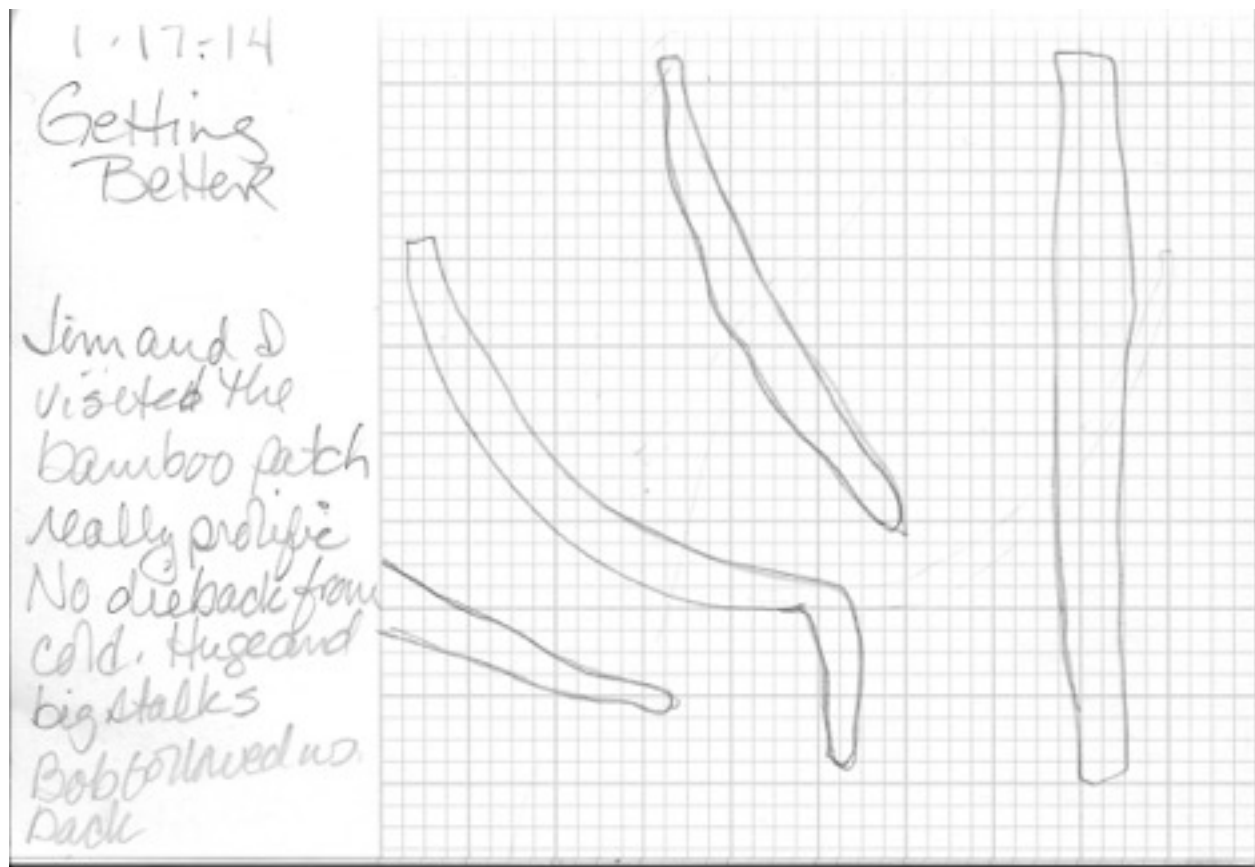
The vertical shapes and layers of desert hills are depicted using a style I continued to develop throughout the year - vertical or horizontal rows of hooking. By sorting the colors into value piles a particular shape can be defined. Bright and complicated in foregrounds, dull and less detail in distance. Alternating dark, with light and inserting overlapping lines for attention tell a story. Cactus in a vast hilly desert.



Red feels feverish to me.

A series of horizontal lines radiating upward in rich, bright reds emerge from the background of analogous red to orange to yellow horizontal rows lightening to isolate the fever lines.

Using sari silk yarn for the waves the frayed threads add interest.



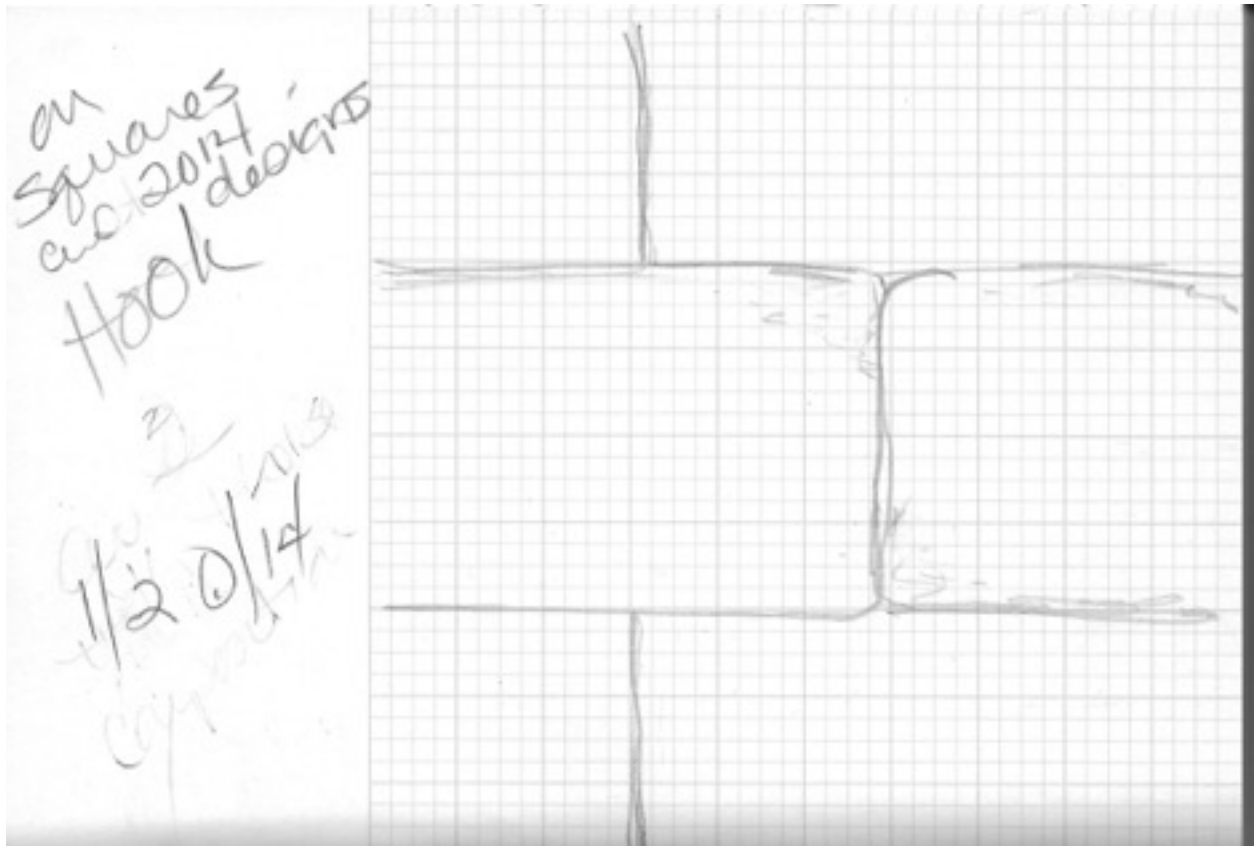
The drawing indicates activity or as I described, **getting better**.

Since it was a transition day the palette selected is neutrals, sort of blah.



Built up the inventory of bright hand dyed wools, new sari silk ribbons and pattern designs to vend. At least I commemorated the collection in this composition since we cancelled attending because of the illness from the plane trip.

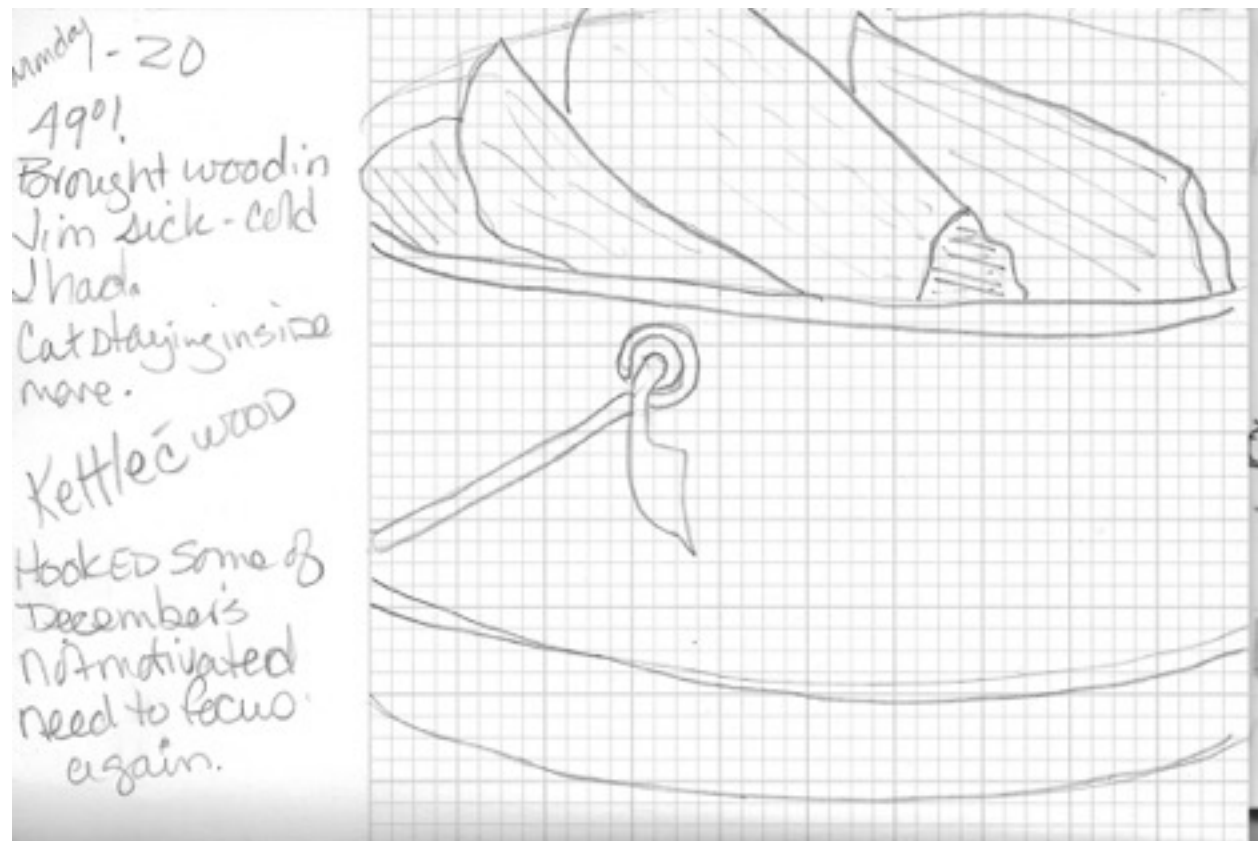
I decided to fold the wools and stitch them onto the backing to depict the stacked inventory. The photos were cut from an early promotional postcard and stitched to the linen snugged into the hooked spaces.



No journal entry for January 19, 2014

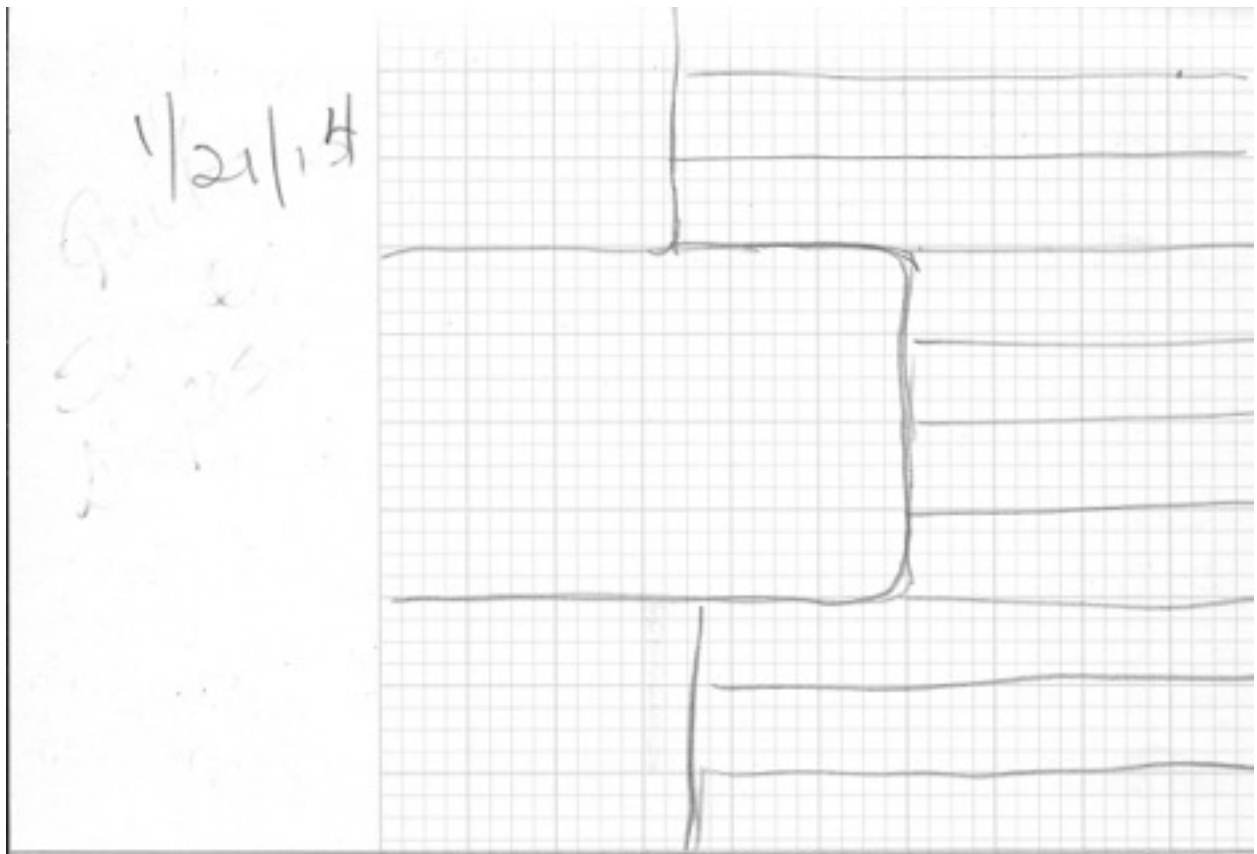
This design was drawn in early 2015 for the Grassy Lick School project. A group of artists in the area are interpreting the building and exhibiting during a community event.

The sides are covered with license plates from different states. One is covered exclusively with Maryland ones which are aging blue. Changing the colors and values of each rectangle shows the motifs in a simple manner.

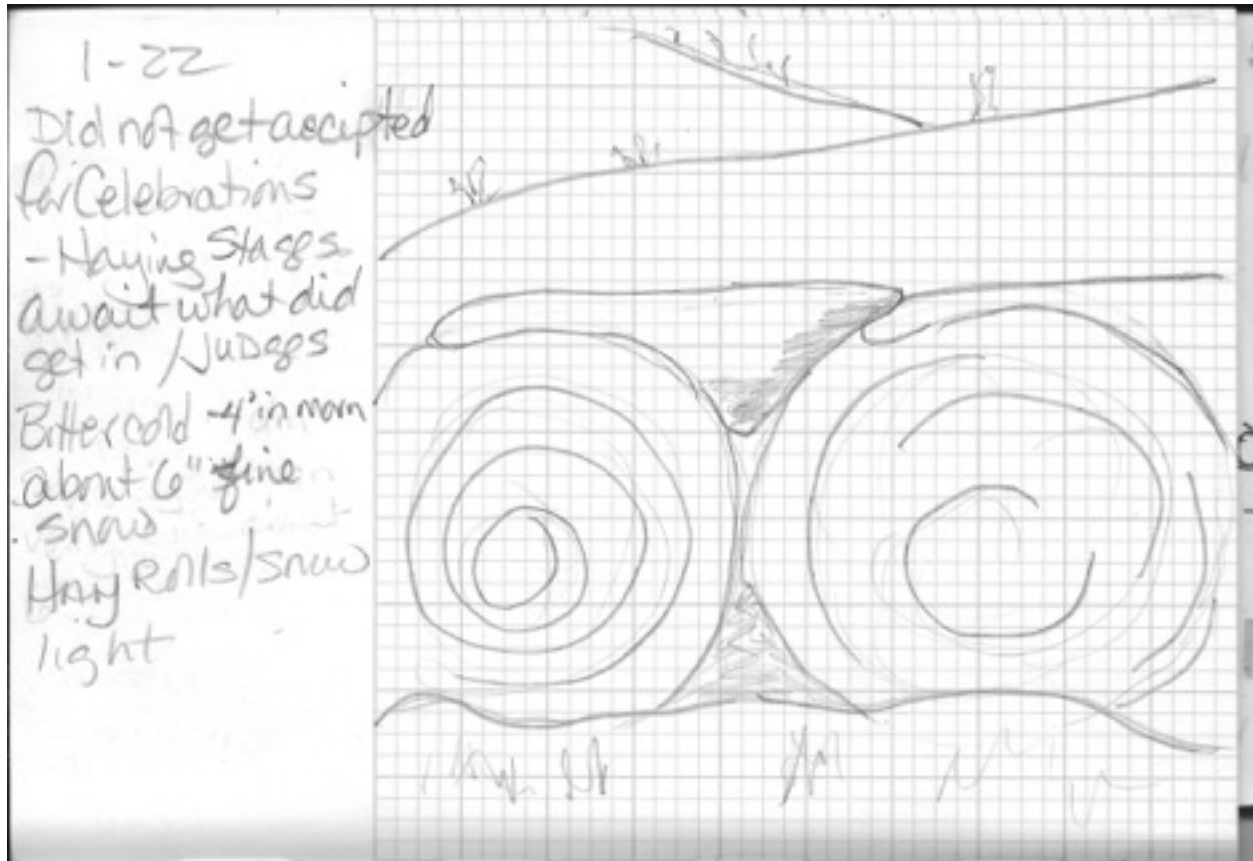


Sketching our wood in the large kettle next to the stove kept the exercise of looking and seeing active on an otherwise uninspiring day.

When it came to working up the square this design had not been transferred to the linen. Another in the Grassy Lick School series replaced this study. See the day before or after for explanation.

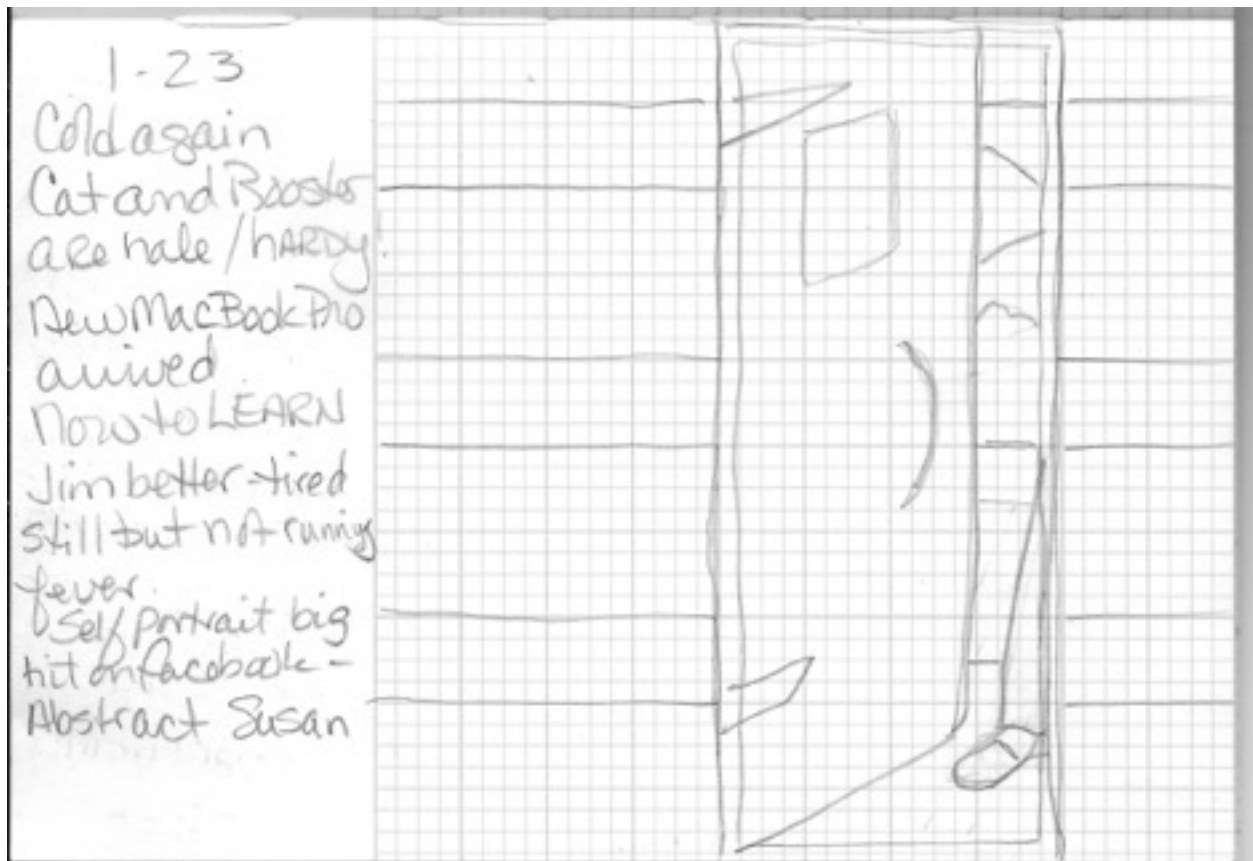


Another in the Grassy Lick School collection. A simple composition and endless variables. Change the values, colors, widths of lines outlining or filling in the shape with a solid color.



Hayrolls sitting in the fields through the winter interest me. Depending on the weather, time of day and where they are, natural compositions can be found. The square format restricts typical landscape vistas and limits us in details.

A quiet palette and a couple of techniques come together in a peaceful piece. The ends of the two hayrolls are plaited (or braided) using wool strips found in the rest of the work. With the contrasting bits turning in the circles our attention is drawn to those shapes.



I had finished the two versions of my self portrait by this time. Then decided to draw one more. Our home describes both Jim and I. The logs and a door which opens came to mind. In the drawing my foot is coming into view.

For the square I painted a piece of linoleum brown (our door is orange) and hinged it to open by using the "door pull". I intend to insert a photo of the view outside when entering this room behind the open door.

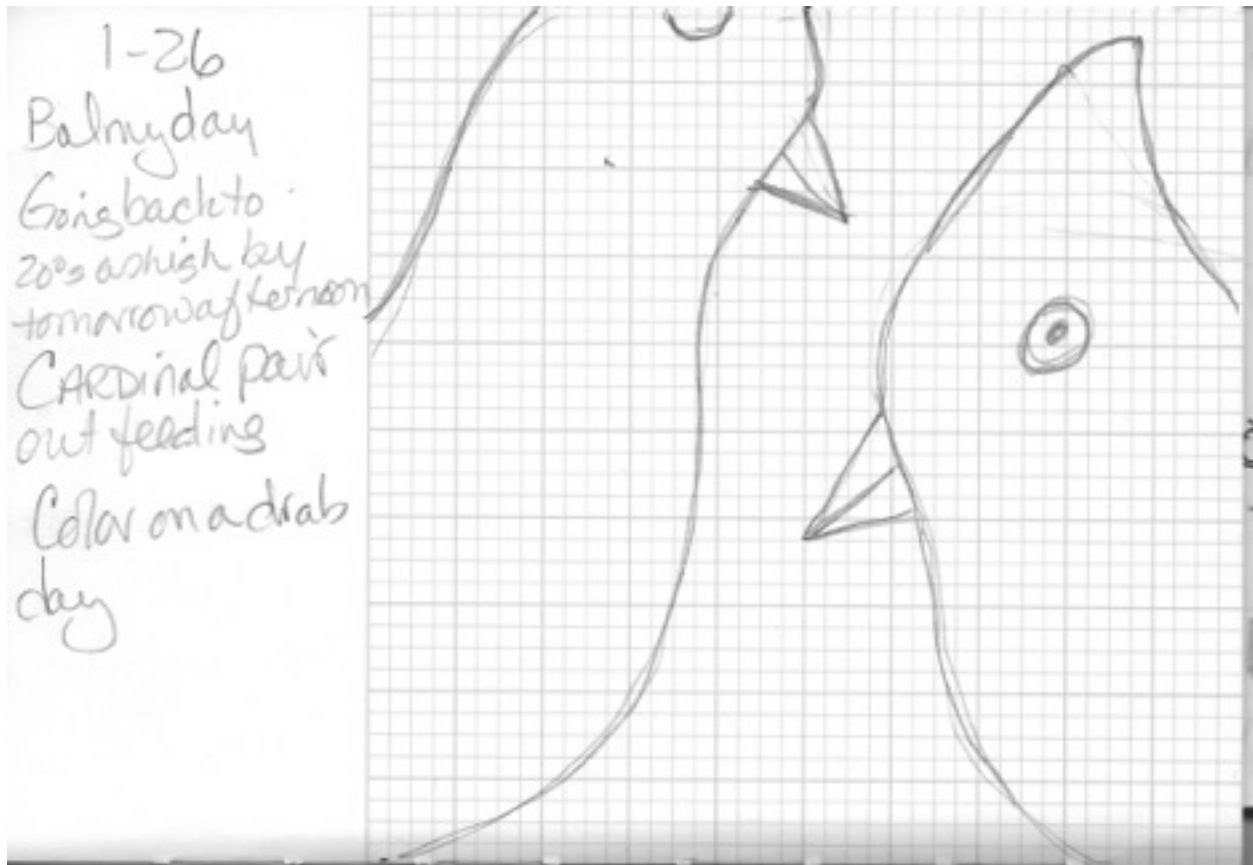
No entry in journal for January 24, 2014

Meditation #2

Opportunity to continue one of the previous motifs, exploring a different set of colors.

No journal entry for January 25, 2014.

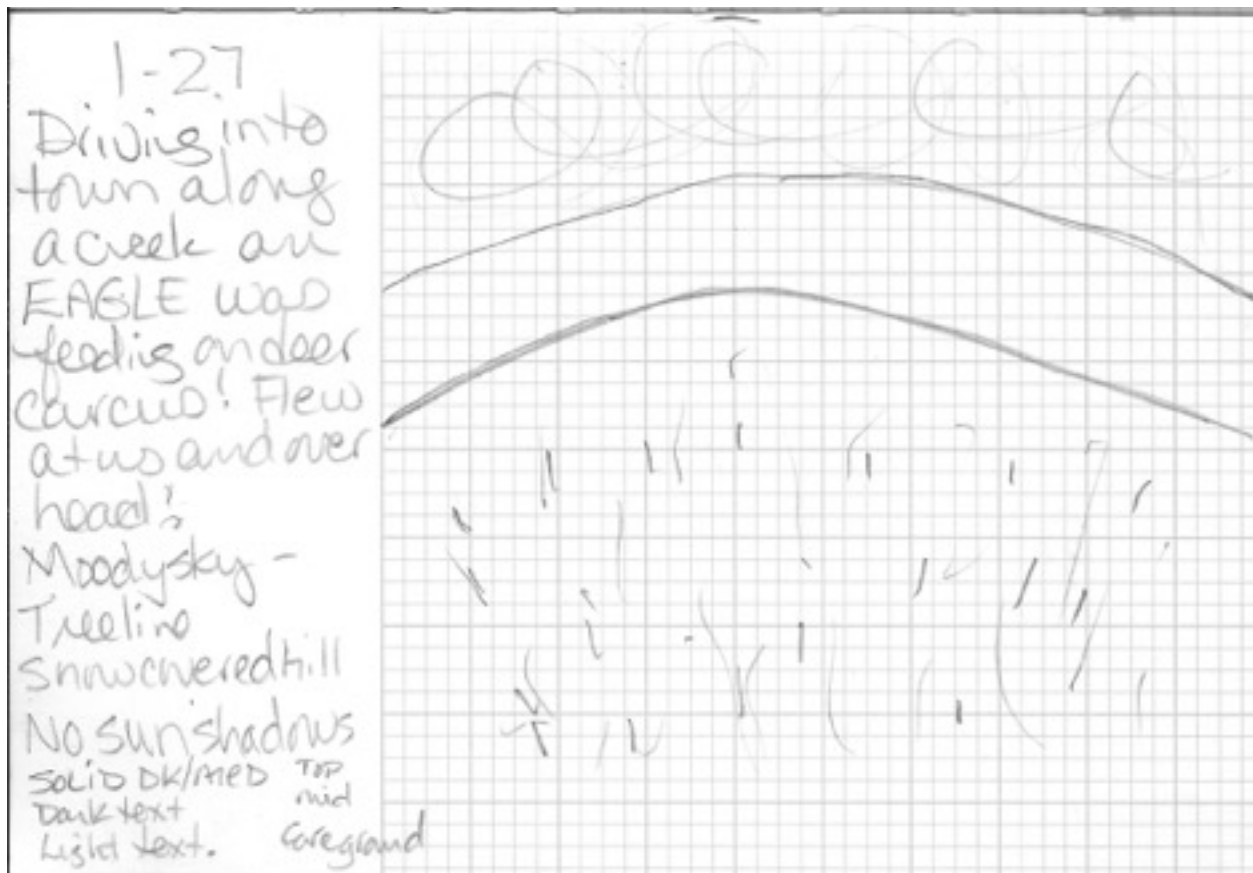
Meditation #3 closer values and bright cool colors in this interpretation.
Still a restful feeling.



What fun to see these jolts of color out in the drab winter landscape.

The composition exaggerates their importance or perhaps validates it.

A simple appliqué with some stitching to identify the species and hand dyed wool background fit into the square format.



This design of treelines standing out because of the snow on the ground catches my attention every snow fall. Noticing what we are able to see in this case because of the snow covering some of the busy wood tones, helps to isolate details.

Do you notice the shadows on mountains and open spaces on a cloudy day? Have you watched them move along darkening and drawing your attention to the section of landscape instead of viewing the full vista?

The square became a closeup treeline hooked in the simple vertical lines style I am developing with a winter palette.

No journal entry for January 28, 2014.

The Grassy Lick School series continues.