

Iowa Landscapes



Harold Allison, *The Wooded Hill*, circa 1935, Oil on board
Collection Muscatine Art Center



John Bloom, *Iowa Landscape*, 1931, Oil on canvas
Collection Muscatine Art Center

Overview

Harold Allison and John Bloom both attended the Stone City Art Colony led by Grant Wood in 1932 and 1933. Both artists studied art in college, painted Iowa scenes, and exhibited at the Iowa Art Salon in the 1930s. The two men would have known the same circle of Iowa artists.

Compare and Contrast

- What do these two paintings have in common?
- In which ways are they different?

Read the words and phrases below. Discuss if one or both paintings could be described using each.

Warm Colors

Biomorphic Shapes

Vivid Colors

Bold Line

Angular

Cool Colors

Symmetry

Subdued Colors

Coarse Line

Dramatic

Visible Brush Strokes

Balance

Harmony

Fine Line

Naturalistic

Geometric Shapes

Bird's Eye View

Delicate Line

Flowing

Flat Tones

Use Your Imagination

Imagine you could step into one of the two paintings. Which painting would you select? Explain why. Describe what you would hear, see, smell, and touch. How does the landscape make you feel?

Imagine you are an artist. Which of the two artists would you want as your art teacher? Explain why. Think about the landscape scene you would paint. Look again at the words and phrases above. Use those words and phrases to describe your imaginary landscape painting.