

#05 : IN MY AREA (part 1).

8/11/21

Photographed and Written by Adrian Maidman.



Once again, this series of photographs is the result of little planning and boredom.

Now winter is closing in, muddy walks through the farmland and forests down the road from my house are becoming more of a regular event for me. I spend so much time at work, home,

and in London that I begin to miss the disconnect from industrial society that a rural environment provides.





Other than the farmland, the area is somewhat neglected. I personally don't have a problem with this. Unless it impedes accessibility, forests should be left almost entirely alone.





In contrast to my “leave it alone” belief, there is a massive housing development being built on what was previously empty fields.



I know practically nothing about the development other than that it is large, typical, and boring. It is also loud which I am sure will make my plan to photograph muntjacs even more difficult.



More housing is a good thing and who am I to say that large scale development is bad. But as someone who finds endless value in a good forest, something feels off about seeing it being cut down and pushed back.

I think I will explore this more in the future. One of my

favourite subjects is industrialism and the existence of a man-made totality. [Not that I think totalitarianism of any kind is a good thing, but I find it interesting in the same way humans find poisonous snakes interesting. Know thy enemy]. I am curious to find out why I want to explore and document both ends of this spectrum. The purely organic vs the purely fabricated.





The Shooting Hide





I've not seen many hides in my life but I can imagine this is not among the worst. Although it's definitely odd.



For anyone who is unfamiliar with what a hide is, it is a tower from which someone could shoot birds. Its childish, treehouse-like construction tied with its game-like utility only makes this structure appear even more ridiculous.











It resembles a throne. Think of that what you will.









Mushroom? Yes

Nipple? No

Mushroom nipple? I am not sure







As I left, I noticed a lorry trailer. Nothing much to report other than that it had clearly been shot with small calibre and birdshot pew pew gun bullets.





The large holes with small groupings were likely created by a close-range single birdshot while the more spread out holes are .22 groupings. The damage they can cause seemed very apparent on the side of this poor trailer.



I am not a fan of hunting as a sport. It's pointless and clearly cruel. I have little experience with it but I can't see any moral justifications for "shooting living things for fun".

The hunting mentality is something I will lightly explore in next week's article since I will have to locate and document some elusive creatures.







I have split 'In My Area' into two parts as there is something missing from this week's article. On this walk, I discovered many muntjac, fallow, and roe deer. Alas, I only had a wide-angle lens on me. Next time, I am packing a 400mm.





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I am gradually getting more used to writing in this format. I have done a bit of random and academic writing before but it has always been something I have lacked confidence in. I guess I see myself as a visual person.

Storytelling through writing is something I have never done before which surprises me since I love to tell a good story. Fiction writing on the other hand doesn't tickle my pickle,

so therefore I won't be adding any dragons to the next article.

Next week's title will be ...

#05 : IN MY AREA (part 2).

Photographs shot on a Leica SL 601.

If, for whatever reason, you wish to not receive any more articles, let me know and I'll remove you from the list, you wimp.