

# EVIDENCE OF PAST THINGS

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Survival, seasons marking time, isolation, glimpses of the past, strangers in a strange land, misplaced people and cleared landscapes dotted with exotic plants. These are some of the themes pondered in Evidence of Past Things. It is about living in a place full of the dust and decaying things left by settlers long gone and constantly being reminded of our mortality.

Marked Gate is a place where a house once stood between the cypress trees, one surviving and the other still standing but long dead. Curios comes from a found object, a photo which is another kind of evidence of the past. Here comparisons between the trees and the people suggest thoughts about survival of the fittest. In Passing Through a person walks through a moment in time past a more solid form and in Remnant a piece of a past newsagent remains without the glass or much of the building behind. There is an accepted tradition of photographing people in front of their home or shop highlighting the place where they belong and the things they seem to own.

Burning Light is a possible introduction to another series and a representation of the local environment. It is a thought about beginnings and endings, a faded, hazy out of focus gaze, a waking or sleeping moment, in and out of existence. It is arriving and parting, first and last.

Looking at Burning Light next to Pines I see another link. A much more distant past in the native landscape beside an image of an exotic planting, each in states of decay. The landscape is diminishing and the grassy paddock is spreading out towards it whilst the light burns behind. Here the seasonal rain makes mud and then the wind blows and the light burns everything to dust. Everything seems to be on its way in or on its way out and the present is difficult to see.