



The Turkey Creek Institute For Phenomenal Awareness was founded in 2014 by Timothy Amundson. We seek to raise phenomenal awareness in the public by fostering engagement with Turkey Creek. Some interesting frameworks for engagement have been photographic archiving, psycho-geographic exploration, local histories, and landscape ecology. Turkey Creek is a modest watershed that exists entirely within an urban environment. It can be found beside, beneath, or near Interstate 35 as it travels through Johnson and Wyandotte Counties in the Kansas City, Kansas metropolitan area. The valley formed by Turkey Creek has served as a navigation route for hundreds of years. Its current environment is dominated by light industry, commercial development, auto and railway infrastructure, suburban residential neighborhoods, and engineered flood control constructions. Despite the heavy traffic of the area, many native residents have never engaged with Turkey Creek, some admit to having no awareness of it at all. What would it mean to rethink this creek as a place for learning rather than ignoring, for immersion rather than evasion, for involvement rather than abandonment?

For more information or to set up a tour of the creek, please contact us at: turkeycreekinstitute@gmail.com or visit <http://turkeycreekinstitute.tumblr.com>

The Turkey Creek Diversion Tunnel is an ominous and breathtaking site of significant importance in Kansas City history. Located directly beneath Interstate 35, near the Rainbow Blvd exit, it is passed over with extreme frequency by much of the population, and yet remains invisible and nearly unknown by most Kansas Citians. When it was constructed in 1918 Popular Mechanics called it "the largest sewer in the world." It's construction allowed for the development of Southwest Blvd, and its shortcomings in 1951 caused the flooding that wiped out the West Bottoms stockyards. For over a million years Turkey Creek was separated from the Kansas River by the limestone bluff that the Diversion Tunnel was cut through. When the tunnel was completed, these two water ways were connected in a location that nature could never have accomplished on its own.

This installation consists of two photographs I've taken (from one spot, in either direction) at the tunnel location, that have been dissected into 6 vertical strips and printed on the curved banner flags. The two arrangements of advertising flags display fragmented views of an artificially lit waterfall and an foreboding manmade cavern. What exactly is it that these banners advertise? Hopefully, a glimpse into an unseen topology, the experience of personal discovery, or perhaps, the act of exploration itself. Exhibition of the photo-sculptures will culminate with a virtual tour of Turkey Creek performed in Oppenstein Park on July 28th, starting at 11:30 AM. Empty space between the flags will be activated for participatory exploration with an immersive soundscape and artifacts gathered at the creek.

Timothy Amundson, *Water Yield*, Dye-sublimation photo prints on Polyester feather flags and hardware, 2016
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