

2014

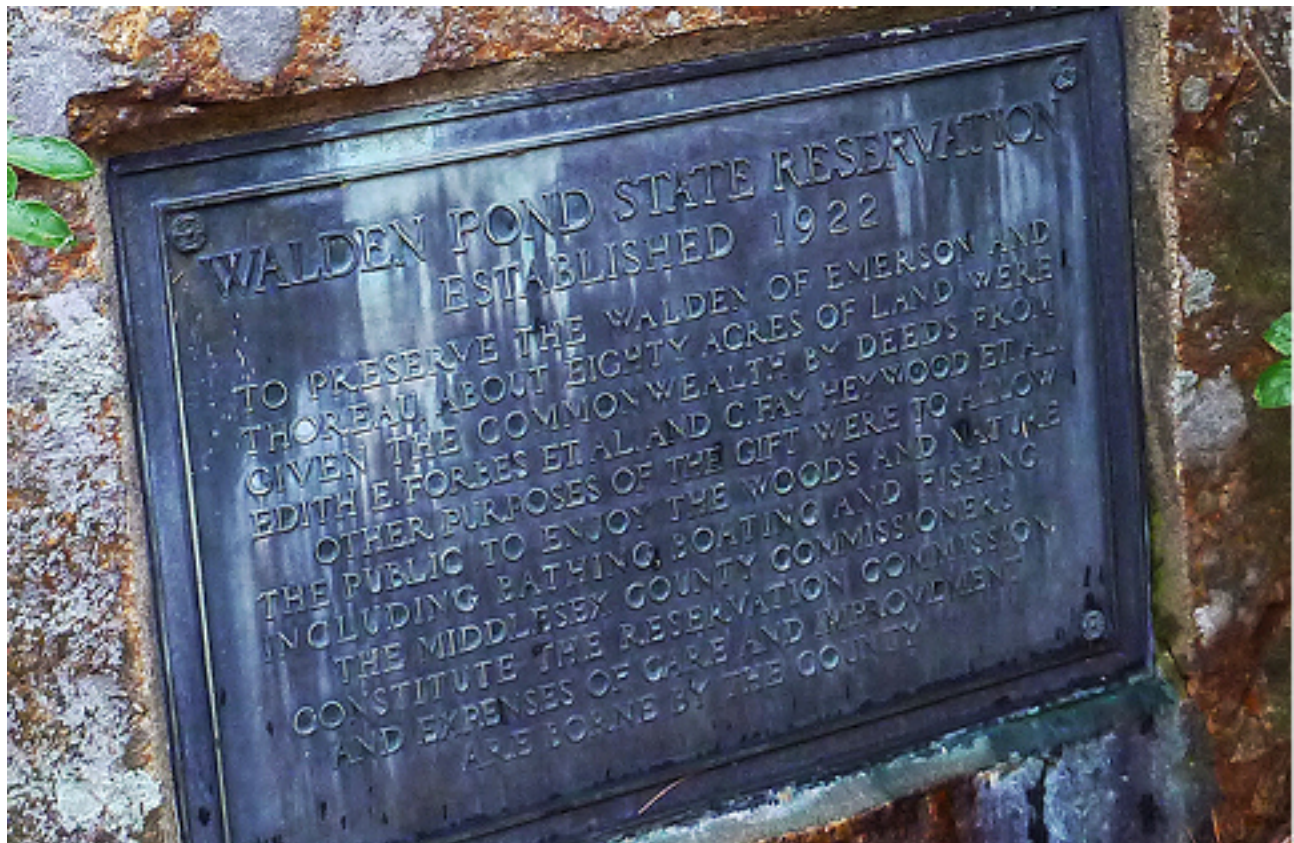
Myopic Wall Composition (with chainsaw-cut wood found at Walden Pond)

Chainsaw-cut wood found in historic
Walden Woods, MDF, paint, metal scaffold
Footprint dimensions variable; height 9'

Installation at deCordova Museum and
Sculpture Park, Lincoln, MA
October 2014 - April 2015



Walden Pond, October 2014;
Northwest corner of Walden Pond with floating
chainsaw-cut samples later collected.



(Top) Walden Pond State Reservation Plaque
(Bottom) Chainsaw cut wood under rock pile at Walden



This piece contains chainsaw-cut and hand-hewn wood collected from Walden Pond State Reservation and historic Walden Woods. Thus, what appears to be a “natural” object is in fact an object formed by culture. Much like the “wilds” of Thoreau, the wilderness is not a place void of culture, but intimately intertwined with it, although not always visibly so.

These irregular wooden forms are reduced to two-dimensional surfaces as they are embedded into museum-style walls. Yet the “back” of the walls reveal the elaborate scaffolding needed to support their precise locations, alluding to a rich world made invisible.

The installation proposes a myopic or shortsighted perception of the natural world. This is indicative of a paradoxical sentimentality that simultaneously values land conservation, often fueled by texts like *Walden*, while jeopardizing the very same environment through rampant consumerism.

—Excerpted from the artist’s statement



Installation views and details



