



Ode to Honey

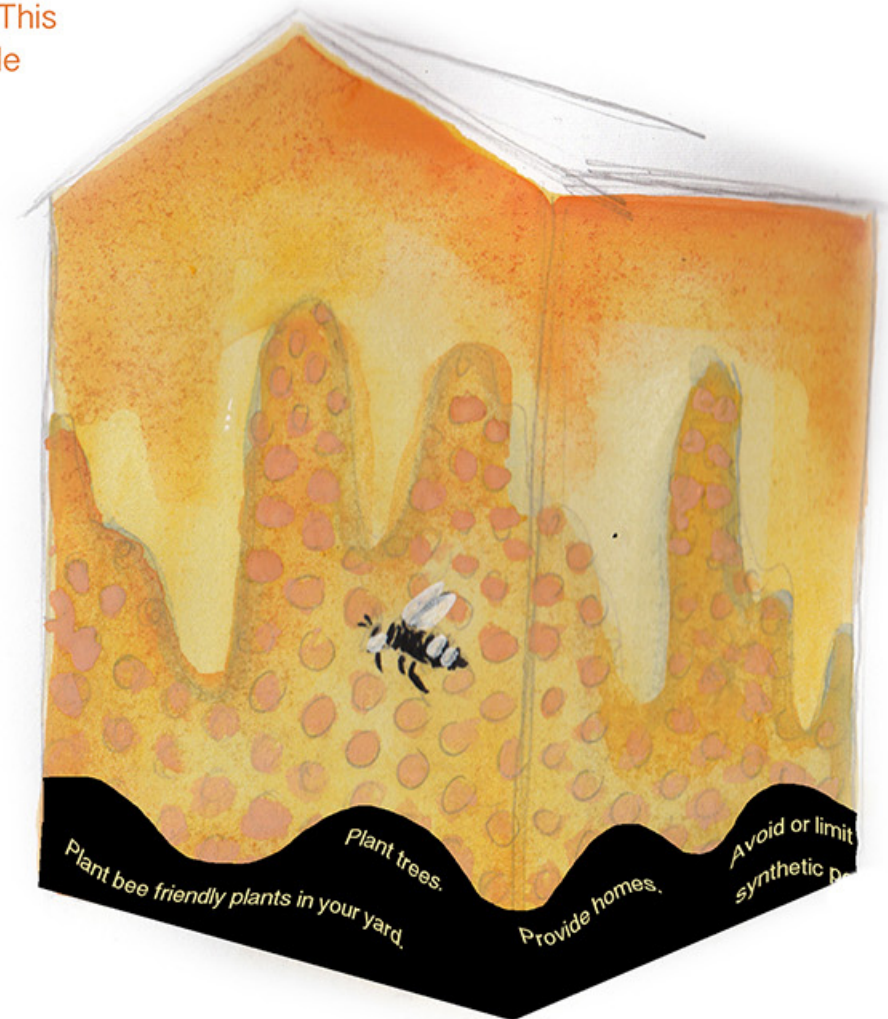
Location: Pump-house in Coulterville Park

Scale: Three walls each 6'3" wide and 6'3" tall plus 19" gable

Materials: Acrylic paint

"The more people who work on and with the land recognize its value, prioritize its health, and practice and teach [generational] stewardship. This potentially influences our public attitude toward environmental sustainability and conservation as an issue that is both relevant, active and a high shared priority for protection."

-Agriculture and Working Lands Conservation Plan



Fundamental to the pollination of our food crops, bees undoubtedly promote the county's ecological and economic vitality. They help us, so let's help them.

Below are simple phrases for promoting bees and honey. I'd like to incorporate them in the bottom third of the mural so they can be easily read. This is a call to action; save our bees!



Bees need our help...

Plant bee friendly plants like flowers in your yard.

Avoid or limit synthetic pesticides and fertilizers.

Provide homes for bees.

Plant trees.

Honey is healthy...

Honey is...antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, antibacterial, and anitidiabetic. Honey promotes healthier respiratory, gastrointestinal, cardiovascular, and nervous systems.

Bees are vital...

Bees literally have a hand in helping 80% of the worlds food crops reproduce.

Fire & Flood

Location: Back of stage in Coulterville Park

Scale: 24' wide and 10' tall

Materials: Acrylic paint

Fires and floods are common here; they are natural and necessary for the health of the land. While this can be catastrophic for humans, when disaster strikes people here act as one. We step in and help. What tears us apart keeps us together.

Coulterville was recently named one of the nicest towns in America by Readers Digest. The article talked about neighbors rushing to help each other during fires and folks with car trouble receiving a steady stream of locals offering assistance. It's all true. When fire reached the edge of our ranch last summer, we had ten calls within the hour wanting to know if we needed help evacuating animals. Local youth showed up with buckets, a simple act that still makes me cry to think about.

Like any community, we have ideological differences, but at the end of the day we can count on each other.

"We are a rural county with all of those rural values and traditions, particularly those of community. Ranching and farming are woven into the fabric of Mariposa County's identity, now and in the future."

- Agriculture and Working Lands
Conservation Plan





Pastureland

Location: Wooden fence in Coulterville Park running
from the pool to the playground
Scale: 6' tall and 122' long
Materials: Acrylic paint

There is an intense peace to be found watching animals live and graze freely on the land. Something deep within us craves a view that is teeming with plant and animal life. Mariposa County residents know the privilege of this view and the intrinsic joy it causes.

I live on a 6th generation cattle ranch where I get to enjoy a foothill landscape free from human encroachment. I get to photograph cowboys and cowgirls driving cattle to and from remote pastureland, making a living using old traditions, and I know it may all disappear within my lifetime.

Let us celebrate and encourage the pastureland we have left, so that future generations can come and experience the profound peace of this landscape.



"There is a deep-rooted generational component of agriculture that few industries hold as distinctly. It is a historically human lifestyle; a culture; a social network. We are inexorably linked to lands and living in a rural community where we are either in the ag landscapes, adjacent to them, or connected to people who work them, we are held witness to their activity, abundance and distress to some degree at all times." -Agriculture and Working Lands Conservation Plan



Due to the length of the fence, this mural can feature an enormous amount of varying elements. Students can choose to incorporate livestock, barns, or wildlife. This imagery may evolve to include native species of plants as well.

I will offer the owners of the Jeffery the choice to continue the mural to the end of the fence, or I can restore their section of fence using the existing yellow color.

