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TWO TINY BOOK REVIEWS

BY SHERRIE FLICK

Jane Alden Stevens / *Tears of Stone: World War I Remembered*



"A sense of lingering evil and desolation infuses the air of some of these places, as if the ground itself cannot shake off the burden of the lives lost upon it." This line from Jane Alden Stevens' introduction is as haunting as the photographs that follow. Stevens spent time photographing World War I memorial sites and the landscapes surrounding them in France, Germany, England, and Belgium — capturing the lingering ghosts of that incomprehensibly brutal war. All of the text in the catalogue is translated in English, French, and German. This project forces one to think about the implications of the world we're living in today — about what the atrocious war at hand could possibly become as time passes. A feather resting on a stone monument? A shell-hole, now a reflecting pond in an abandoned forest? Throughout the book, photographed entries from a guest log serve as powerful section breaks: "I have seen wonders today — what horrors did you see? Rest in peace." (2004, The University of Cincinnati Press, ISBN 0-9743338-0-8, softbound)
