

Dark Room

DARK ROOM

CONTACT SHEETS

★ 1st Test Sheet.

- Nothing showed up
- 3 exposures
- 2 seconds each
- @ F8.

★ 2nd Test Sheet

- Better but still not enough detail.
- 3 exposures
- 5 seconds each
- @ F8

★ 3rd Test sheet

- Too dark
- 1 exposure
- 17 seconds
- @ F5.6

★ 4th Test sheet.

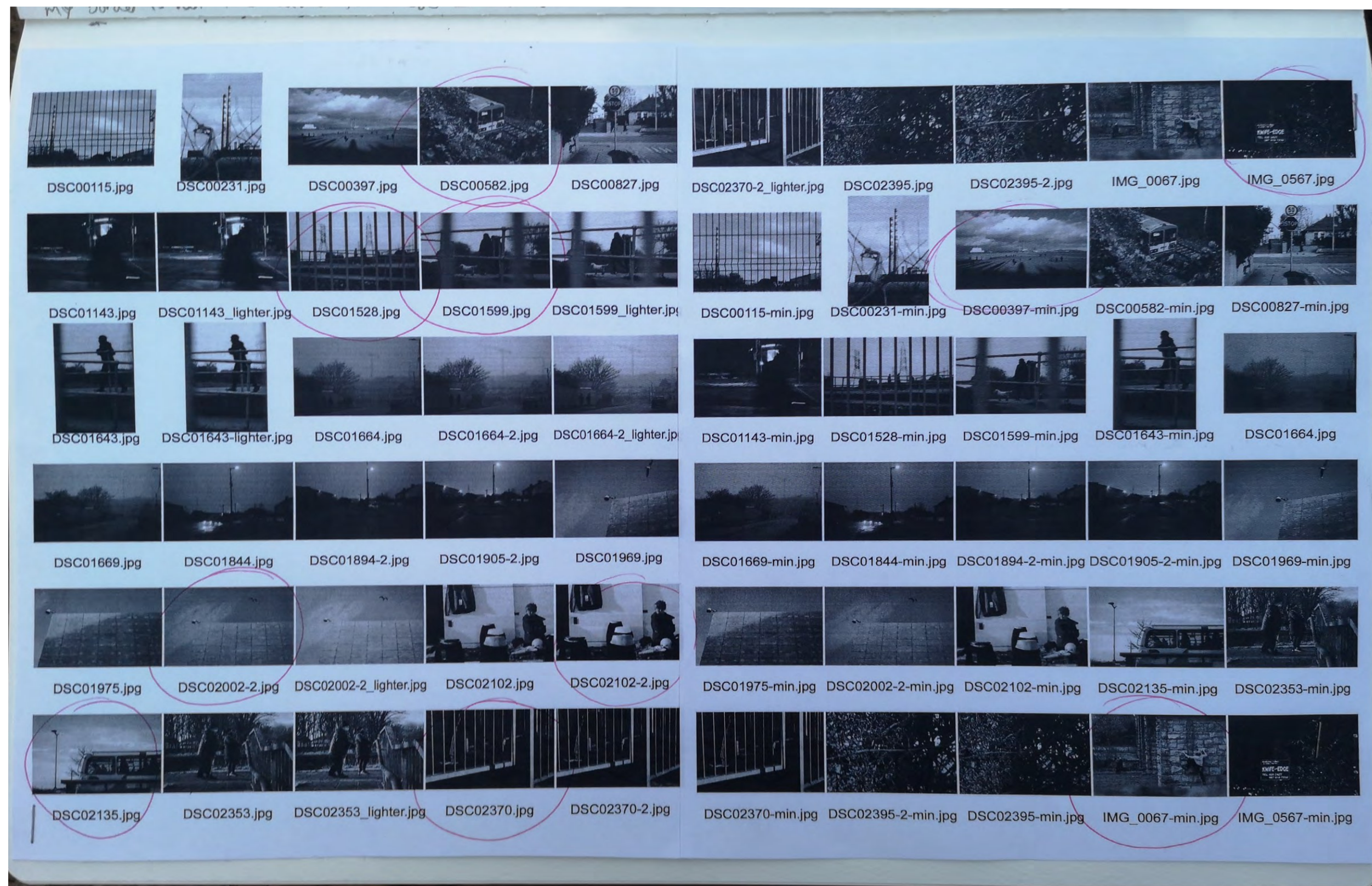
-
- 16 seconds
- @ F8

→ Happy with the 4th Contact Sheet.
More detail and plenty of contrast.
The image I want to print looks good so will stick to these settings and try another test strip on this one negative.



A darkroom contact sheet shown above is a simple way of making a one page document with the contents of one roll of film displayed for evaluation, critical analysis and technical scrutiny. It is made in the dark room by placing (in the case of 35mm film as seen above) six strips of film on top of a sheet of light sensitive printing paper, and exposing them to light and development chemicals (they are usually held in a special frame with glass to hold all flat.) A correctly exposed contact such as the one above is an excellent starting point for editing work.

The sheet above is from a work book by Edel Mc Grath from here workbook were it was used to show her process



A digital version of the contact sheet is generated in editing software and looks similar to the darkroom contact sheet and can have images laid out in any number of rows and columns.

30 to 60 images per sheet would be useful to in the editing process, as if any smaller the images would lack clarity. you can see above that the images have been ringed if to be considered for the editing process

Again this is the work of Edel Mc Grath from her work book on here documentary project.

My initial proposal presentation.

My Sk

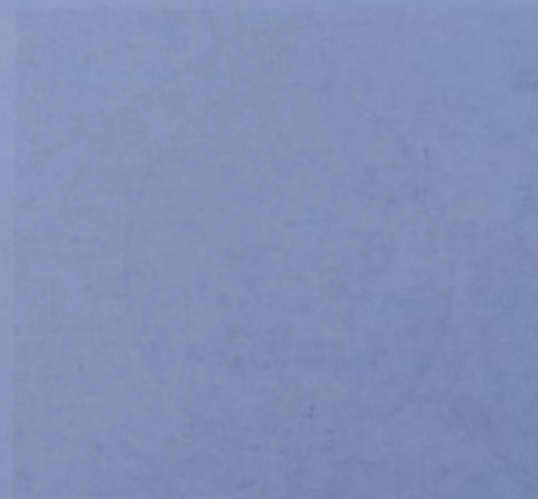
As a long term observer of borders I thought I would investigate my current skin lockdown border. A temporary and invisible "border" imposed on everyone for 3 weeks as a result of the current pandemic.

Borders are usually performed and have some historical and political meaning. They have a set of operating points that are often monitored. Some even have walls. This current lockdown restricts our movement within skin in hopes of curtailing the spread of Corona Virus. However skin lockdown borders are not permanent and do not have physical operating points. Each individual's skin is different depending on their actions. Even then there are plenty of ways to break through the skin.

Documentary Project

Borders

Some of the places I hope to visit over the next few weeks:
Riviera Park, Loughrea, Ballymore, Walsingham, Tenure, the
Garden, the Church, a dirt line (Sallymore/Sydney)
Peters, the River, the, Lough Park, Clontarf, Kildare, Dagenham,
Ballymore, Lough, Tollymore, the Royal Canal.



The workbook it self can be handwritten or generated in computer as a pdf (portable document format) Essentially it is a tool for development of a project through process.

Here we se the title page of Edel McGraths workbook on a project she did on the PDI course

MY 5K

March 27th 2020 seen the creation of individual borders for almost 5 million residents living in Ireland. It came 1 year, 1 month and 7 days away from the centenary of Partition on the Island. A division that created 1 border, 499 km long on May 3rd 1921.

border

noun

1. a line separating two countries, administrative divisions, or other areas.
"Panama's western border with Costa Rica"
Similar: frontier boundary partition borderline dividing line bounding line perimeter
2. the edge or boundary of something, or the part near it.
"the northern border of their distribution area"

lockdown

noun

the confining of prisoners to their cells, typically in order to regain control during a riot.
"the lockdown has been in effect since October 1983"

- a state of isolation or restricted access instituted as a security measure.
"the university is on lockdown and nobody has been able to leave"

POLITICO

Enter keyword

Q

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CORONAVIRUS IN EUROPE

BREXIT

U.S. TRANSITION

BRUSSELS PLAYBOOK

LONDON PLAYBOOK

Ireland announces six-week coronavirus lockdown

People told to limit movements to within a five-kilometer radius of their homes and to stay out of each other's houses.



BY SHAWN POGATICHNIK

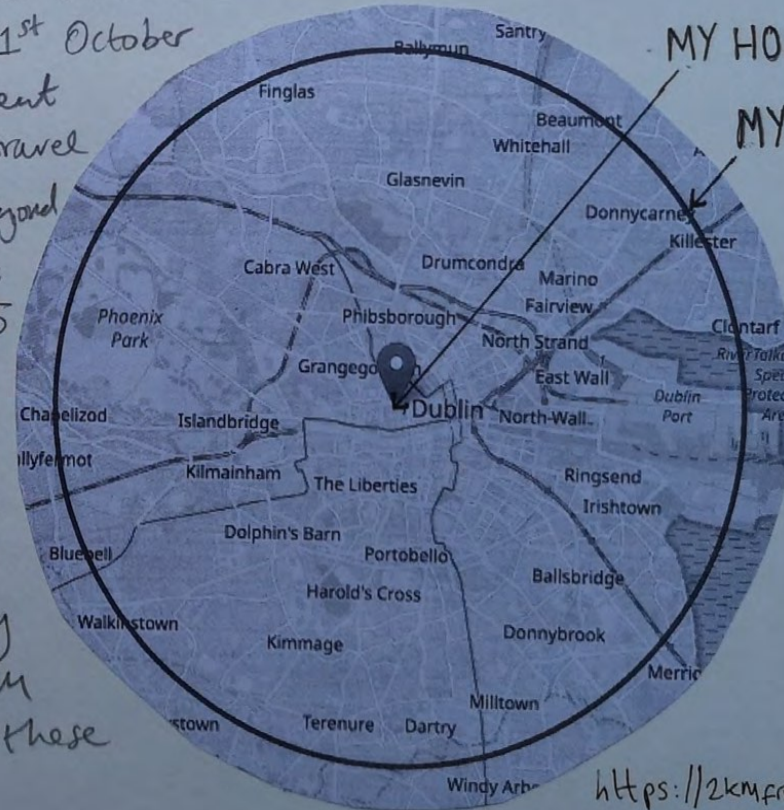
October 19, 2020 | 19:44 pm

f t in

These new borders appeared over night as a result of the Stay-at-Home order put in place by the Irish Government in hopes of containing the spread of the Coronavirus throughout Ireland. Initially the border radius started at 2km from each individuals home. On 18th May this expanded to 5km. It then relaxed on 8th July to allow travel beyond 20km.

Then on 21st October the government reintroduced travel restrictions beyond 5km as part of the Level 5 Lockdown.

It lasted for 6 weeks. This project examines My Personal 5km border over these 6 weeks.



<https://2kmfromhome.com>
Use this website to map my 5km. I can 'drop a pin' to my house and travel to the border.

MY 5K

All work books will have the following basic elements

1. A proposal to do a particular thing



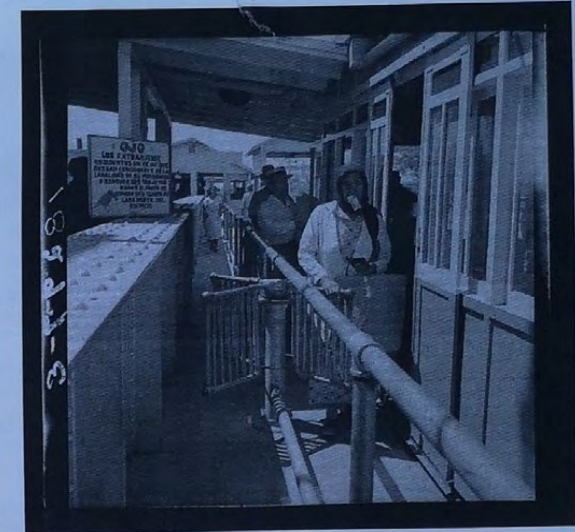
Land borders

- Flags
- Blockades / checkpoints
- Barriers / divides
- Law enforcement
- Cameras / surveillance
- Weapons
- Bridges
- Markers
- Differences in terrain
 - Road surfaces
 - tarmac colours
 - road paint & colours
 - Signs kms & miles
- Water / Rivers → natural borders.
- People / cars / buses / lorries

PHOTOGRAPHERS WHO LOOKED AT BORDERS

→ Dorothea Lange
1937 - 1938

An American documentary photographer, traveled to El Paso, Texas to photograph the US / Mexican border. This border is almost 2,000 miles long and it was established in 1848. It is one of the most crossed international borders in the world and according to the Washington Post, it is the "most heavily reported on area!"
- Washington Post.com



"The inspection of goods. The impatience and eagerness of waiting. The anticipation of opportunity. The determination. Lange's images, while uniquely of their time, capture both the recognisable signs of bureaucracy and the timelessness of life on the periphery."
- Karly Domb Sados, The Washington Post, Feb 6 2017

→ BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHY

ROBERT FRANK

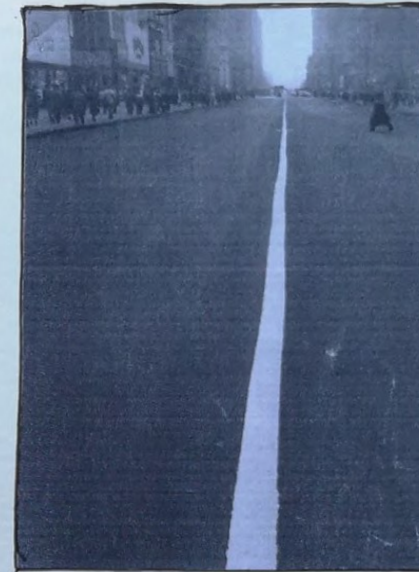
→ The Americans

- Use of lines
- High contrast
- Lighting
- Humour

"Frank's cutting perspective on American Culture, combined with his carefree attitude towards traditional photographic technique, shocked most Americans who saw it at the time"

- lcp.org

I like the idea of showing contrasting lines to represent divisions and the 'hypothetical' borders around my skin.



Points of interest along my 5k.

- landmarks & places of interest
- Things that I would recognise as a border
- Natural borders and divides

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| • Phoenix Park | • Dublin Port Tunnel |
| • Chapelizod | • Ballymun |
| • Bluebell | • Poppingtree Park |
| • Walkinstown | • Finglas |
| • Terenure | • Ashtown |
| • Dartry | |
| • Milltown | • Canals - Royal & the Grand Canal |
| • RTE Campus | |
| • Dock Line - Sydney Parade | |
| • Sandy Mount | • River Tolka |
| • Irish Sea | |
| • Irish town Nature Park | • Motorways |
| • Poolbeg | • Bridges |
| • River Liffey | • Gates |
| • Docks / Port | • Hedges |
| • Clontarf | |
| • Killester | |

PHOTOGRAPHERS WHO LOOKED AT BORDERS

KIRSTEN LUCE → 2014-2015

Luce's comprehensive body of work covers diverse aspects of immigration on both sides of the border - from illegal border crossing to border patrol agents, stash houses where migrants are kept on arrival in the US. She is well aware that, as a journalist, such access is hard to come by. Over the years, Luce has maintained good relations with several local law enforcement agencies and they have grown to trust her. And while she is not always allowed to ask migrants about their stories, Luce appreciates the law enforcement officers that give her a chance to document the situation while they do their jobs.

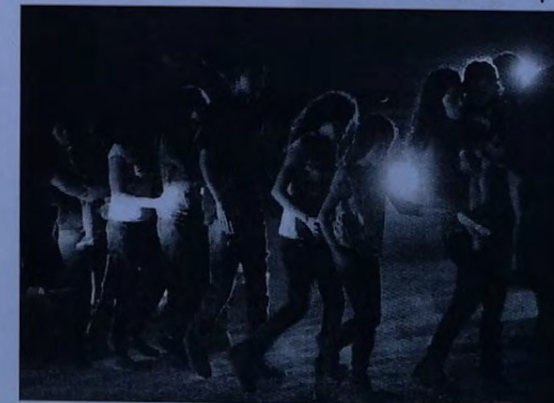
"My intention is to contribute to a dialogue on the current immigration system," Luce says. She has seen the complex narrative of immigration evolve for years, and stresses the importance of understanding this fluid situation and the people it affects on both sides of the border.



Checkpoints!

lines!

Searches!



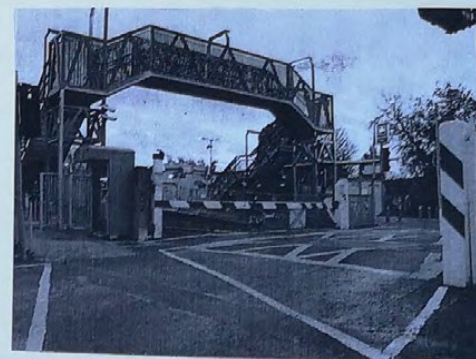
Day 1 exploring.

Ashtown village - close to Phoenix Park & Navan Rd. It has a Dart station, some shops and restaurants. The canal also runs through it.

→ Ashtown: about 50m back from border.



Not really happy with this. There is lots of contrast but to me it's a bit flat and dull. I will try this @ night with a flash instead.



→ Dart bridge & barrier. Too far from my actual border line. I like the idea & image but the distance is too much.

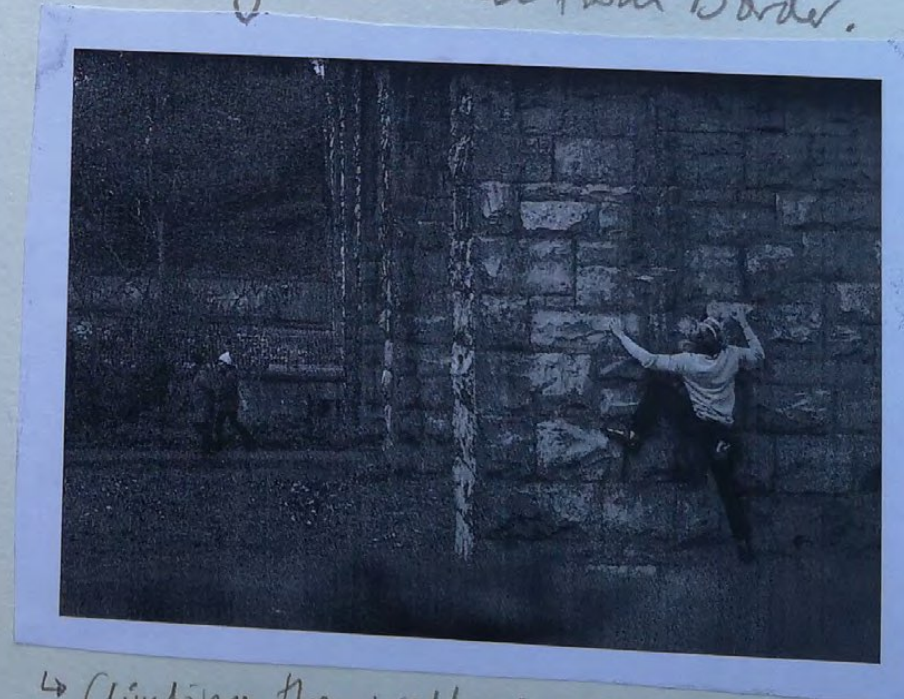


→ Actual border @ Ashtown
 • Nothing of much interest to me.
 • Road works taking place.
 Don't think I'll use this.



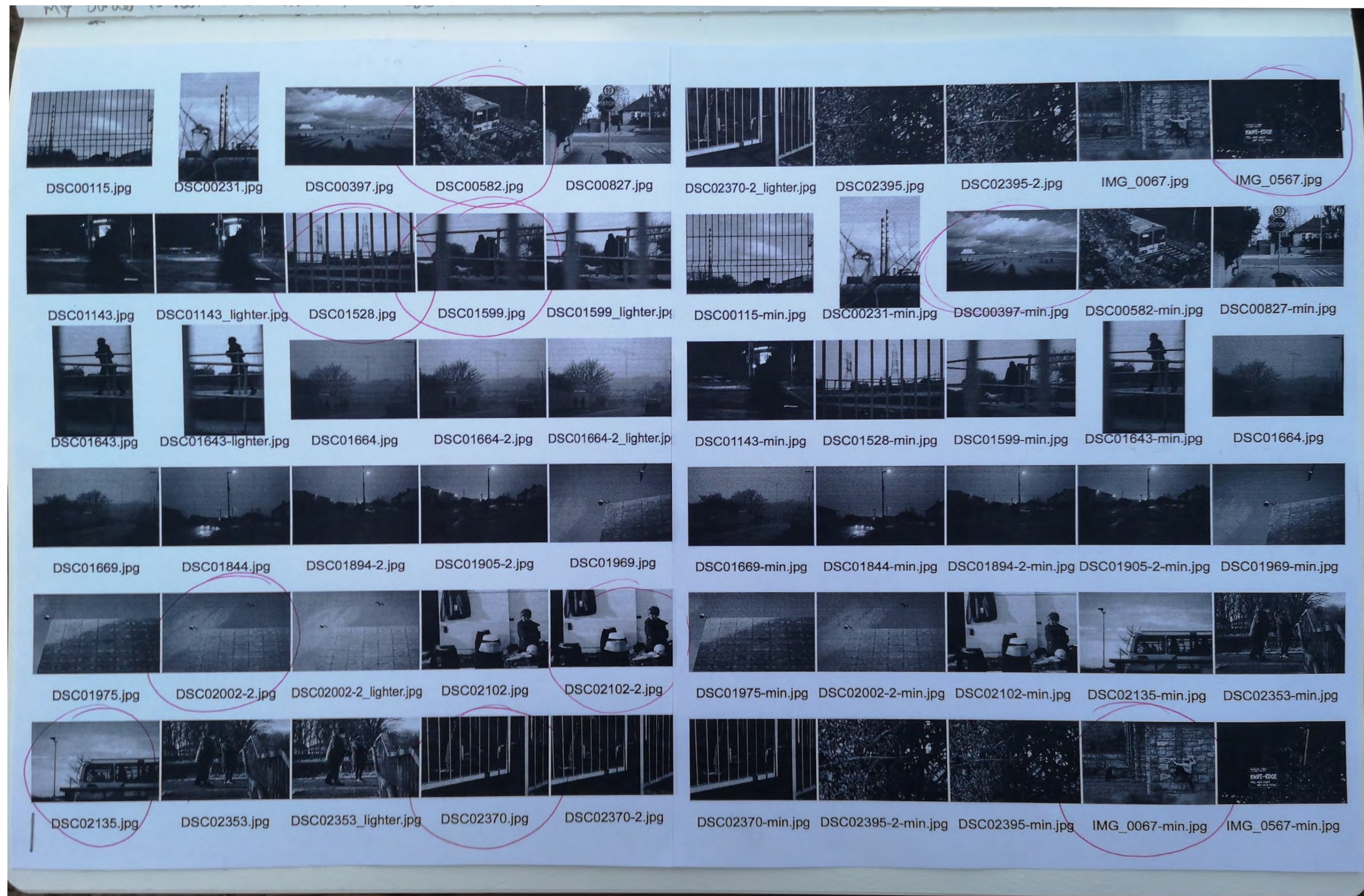
I like the Dart barrier and stop signs but overall I think it's too far from my actual border. I won't use these! This is a pity as I was hoping to find a physical barricade along my 5k border lines. (A more permanent and obvious barrier that is)

Milltown
 → Parting: 25m back from border.



Slightly humorous photo of man climbing wall of the Luas via duct @ Milltown

→ Climbing the walls in lockdown 2.0



Use contacts to refine, then select, make test prints and decide on your edit

Colour VS Black and White ?

These are some of the images I decided against using. I liked them in full colour as they were vibrant however once edited to black and white they ~~lost~~ lost their appeal. They became flat and dull. Some detail was lost. The lady playing the Saxophone was wearing very colourful clothes against the dark green trees and the golden brassy Saxophone really popped in the image, but once converted this detail was lost.

All of these images were taken very early on in the research for the project.

I think I started to realise what would and would not work as an image once converted to Black and White. I knew I needed more contrast in my chosen subjects.



↳ Sandymount / sea border



↳ Shipping Containers



↳ lady playing the Saxophone in Clontarf on the border



↳ Sea border.

Because one of the 8 final photos is printed in the dark room I would prefer to have all of the images to match the colour and tone. To me having a mixture of full colour and black and white images would be too much of a contrast especially as there are a total of 8 images. Perhaps if there was more then I would think about mixing media.

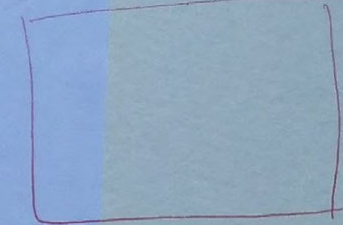
The final Selection of Nine Photographs
→ Need to cut 1 out!



4



6



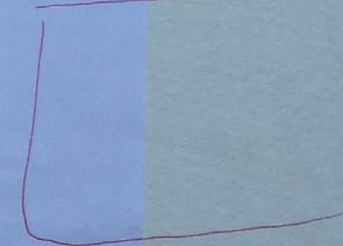
7



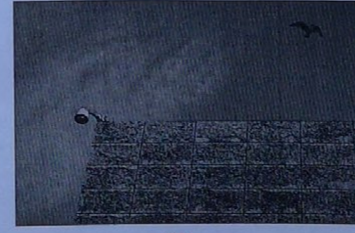
8



9



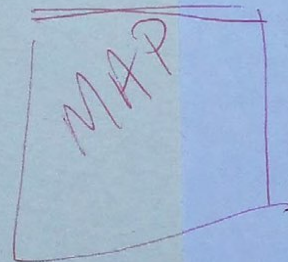
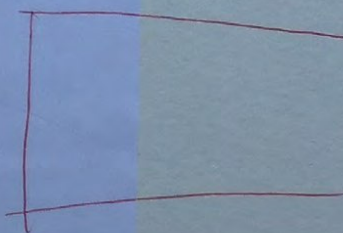
5



3



2



Map needs
to stand
alone and
apart from
the photos.
Surround map
in black &
have white
text!

Then mock up your selection and see what you think of it

Final layout.



MY 5K : A collection of photographs of the new and ever increasing borders on the island of Ireland. Images taken around my 5km temporary border during a government imposed 6 week lockdown in 2020. The distance in meters from the border line is listed under each photo.

Although the workbook has academic use in assesement process, it is most useful after the fact as a way of recording your process for yourself. A lot of the choices and key moments in a process would be lost if you left them to memory. By using a workbook you are making your work far more considdered and stable, but also re-visitable, you can experience the process again before setting of on the next leg of the photographic journey.

All of the work shown is an extract from a greater piece by Edel McGrath who shot this very beautiful work during the first lockdown 2020