

The Art of Deconstruction



Over the past couple of years, Toronto artist Michael Brown has built installations using bricks dumped as lakefill in Lake Ontario. The material, shaped by the waves, is rich both in color and in history. Clay from this part of North America is made into bricks for household use. For forty years, as buildings were torn down, the material was dumped at the lake, slowly adding to the Leslie Street Spit—a man-made peninsula originally constructed to provide a breakwater for a shipping harbor. Today the three-mile-long spit is an urban park that is important habitat and a migration stopover for over three hundred bird species.