William Henry Jackson and the Transformation of the American Landscape

William Henry Jackson (April 4, 1843 – June 30, 1942) was an American painter, Civil War photographer and one of the most famous landscape photographers in American history. His work is celebrated for its impact on how Americans viewed their land. Jackson's photographs, such as "The Great Wave" and "Old Faithful", are iconic images of the American West.

Jackson is renowned for his panoramic views of landscapes, which he captured using large-format cameras. His work helped to redefine the perception of the American West, transforming it from a frontier of unknowns to a land of beauty and grandeur.

Jackson was a pioneer in the field of landscape photography, and his work played a significant role in shaping the American aesthetic. His photographs were widely disseminated through prints and books, and they helped to popularize the idea of the American landscape as a beautiful and inspirational space.

In his book "William Henry Jackson and the Transformation of the American Landscape", Peter Bacon Hales examines Jackson's life and work, exploring the ways in which his photographs influenced American attitudes towards the natural world.

Hales' study highlights the importance of Jackson's work in the history of photography and the development of landscape as an art form. It also provides a detailed examination of the technical aspects of Jackson's photography, including his use of new photographic processes and his innovations in the field.

Overall, "William Henry Jackson and the Transformation of the American Landscape" is a comprehensive and insightful examination of a key figure in the history of American photography. It is essential reading for anyone interested in the history of photography or the cultural and artistic developments of the 19th century.

Acclaimed as one of the most famous 19th Century landscape photographers, William Henry Jackson made magnificent large-format photographs of the American Landscape. Front Cover. Peter Bacon Hales. Library of Congress American Memory Project