



Slowin' Down to Take a Look

(full mural)

[Enlargement \(JPG, 82K\)](#)

Award Project

International Competition for Town Center Park

Winslow Arizona 28'x 40'



Detail of lower left window. [\(JPG, 66K\)](#)

Located along historic route 66, Winslow Arizona has built a Park dedicated to that famous Eagle's song 'Take it Easy'. The Trompe L'oeil "windows" that are secured to the brick facade of the hotel conjure up reflections of that immortal moment when "a girl, my lord, in a flat bed Ford slows down to take a look at me." For more on the park itself visit the web site; [Take it easy in Winslow, Arizona.](#)



The 'bird' looking into the illusion which itself is an illusion could be symbol for Americana or even a



In the middle of the day?

[Enlargement \(JPG, 56K\)](#)



Good thing she's slowin' down, she's looking right at me. [\(JPG, 45K\)](#)

singing group. (JPG, 89K)

<http://www.illusion-art.com/winslow.asp>

<http://www.roadtripamerica.com/murals/Arizona-Winslow.htm>

**"Standing on a Corner in Winslow, Arizona" Illusionary Mural
by John Pugh**

Photographed by [Gerald Thurman](#) of Tempe, Arizona



Close-up details of different parts of the mural and a discussion about the inspiration of the work based upon Jackson Browne's song "Take it Easy" and made famous by the popular rock group, "The Eagles." In that iconic song there is a line attributed to a hitchhiker who is standing on a corner in Winslow, Arizona who sings "...when a girl, my lord, in a flat bed Ford slows down to take a look at me...". The city has built a park featuring a six-foot tall bronze sculpture that depicts this fictional character. John Pugh's murals can be found throughout North America and some of his most famous can be viewed by [clicking here](#). John Pugh's studio is in Los Gatos, California.

He appears frequently at symposiums and festivals celebrating the muralist traditions.



[Gerald Thurman](#)



The interior of the building upon which the mural is painted was destroyed by a fire in November, 2004. When Gerald Thurman visited the site November, 2005, he found a real "flat bed Ford" parked in front of the mural.

Photographed by [Gerald Thurman](#) on May 30, 2004 and November 9, 2005

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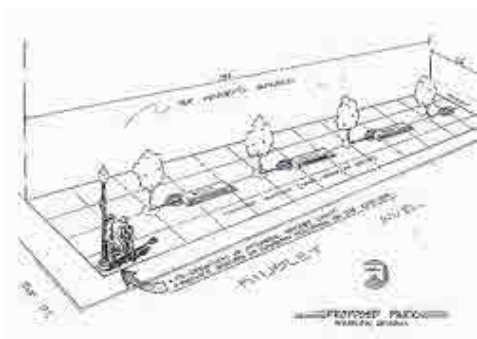
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Standin' On The Corner Park

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Our History - Standin' on the Corner Park



The Standin' On The Corner in Winslow, Arizona Park has unfolded segment by segment; first with the land donated by the Kaufman family, next a two-story mural by Trompe L'oeil artist [John Pugh](#) and finally a life-sized bronze statue created by sculptor [Ron Adamson](#) depicting a 1970's man standing on the corner wearing jeans, boots, shirt and vest with a guitar standing on the toe of his boot. All of this is surrounded by ground-set inscribed [donor bricks](#) each telling its own story of a fondness for Winslow by all who have stood on this famous corner and now have a permanent place there. Forever branded in the mind are the lyrics "Well I'm standin' on a corner in Winslow, Arizona, such a fine sight to see; It's a girl, my Lord, in a flatbed Ford slowin' down to take a look at me."

Until the 1960's, Winslow was the largest town in northern Arizona. The town enjoyed a prominent location on Route 66. Yet this prominence faded and nearly disappeared when I-40, a trans-continental highway, by-passed the community in the late 1970's. Tourism based businesses felt the crunch and downtown business closed their doors. For the next twenty years, downtown Winslow was frozen in time.

But no more. Commencing in 1994, the Standin' On The Corner Foundation (formerly La Posada Foundation), a non-profit corporation dedicated to the rebirth and restoration of historic downtown



Winslow, provided leadership in locating funding for the acquisition of La Posada, a former Fred Harvey Hotel and Restaurant, designed by famed architect Mary E. J. Colter, which first opened for business in May 1930. With the recent renovation and reopening of La Posada Hotel by private investors, downtown Winslow has reawakened.

Building on that success, The Foundation recognized the importance of creating a park in the heart of downtown Winslow. It tapped fourteen business men and women who volunteered to put together a design concept and construction plans. That was on May 29, 1997. The unpaid and energetic volunteers, now identified as the Standin' On The Corner in Winslow, Arizona Park Committee determined the Park would focus on the song "Take It Easy." If it wasn't in the song, it wouldn't be in the Park.

As the design concept evolved, requests for proposals went out to dozens of artists and sculptors. The committee was well rewarded with an abundance of creative ideas and proposals submitted by artisans across the continent. A mural design was selected, then the bronze. Two artists were commissioned. Winslow architect Loren Sadler joined the committee in developing the design concept and construction documents.

Multi-level planters with built-in seating, native landscaping, trees, lighting and more inscribed bricks were in place for the dedication celebration on September 10 & 11, 1999. After two years of dedicated effort, it all happened as planned!

<http://www.standinonthecorner.com/history.htm>