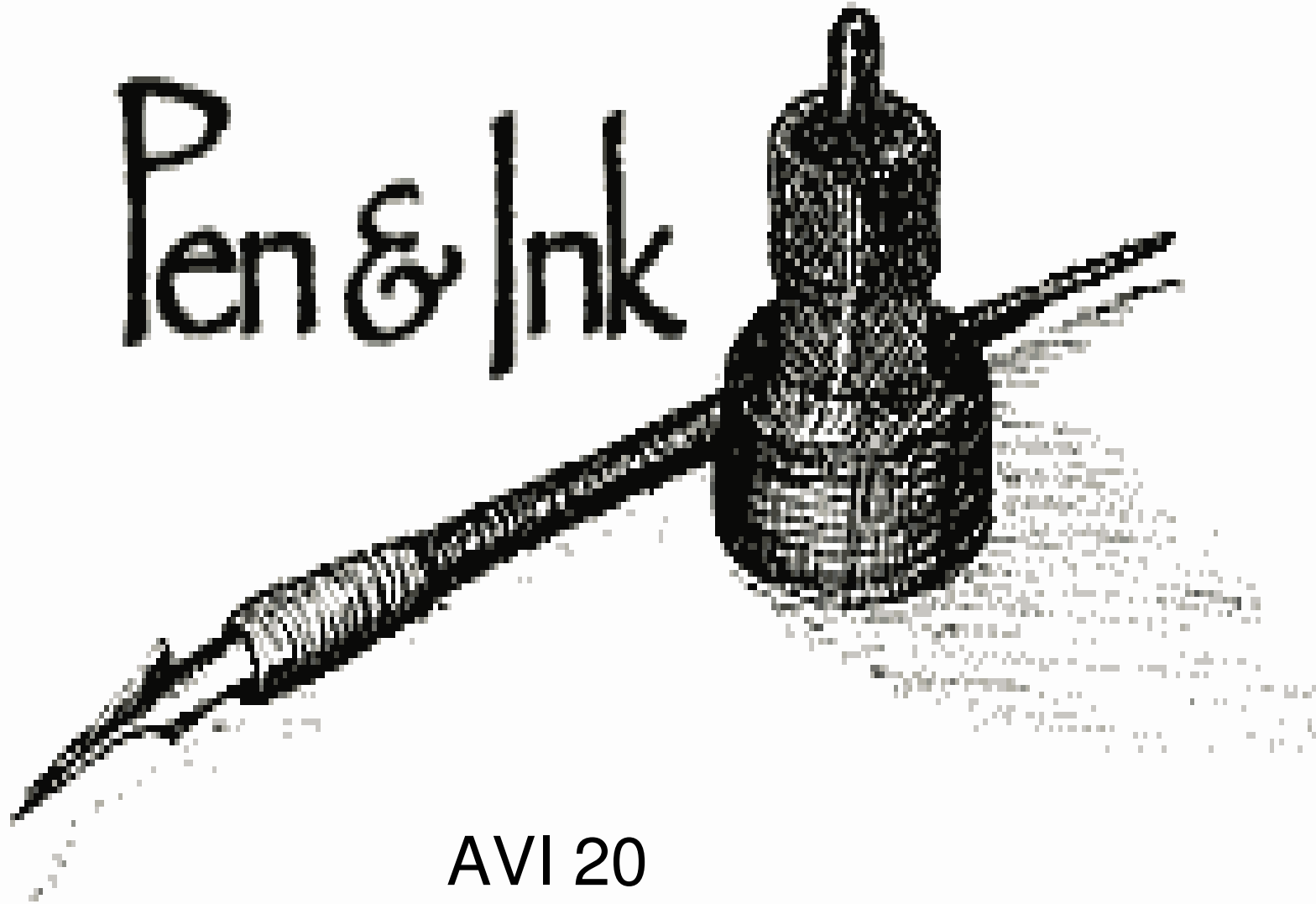


# Pen & Ink



AVI 20

- History of Pen & Ink
- Architecture Project

# Pen & Ink

**Definition: Pen and ink** refers to a technique of drawing or writing, in which colored and/or black **ink** is applied to paper using a **pen** or other **stylus**. It may be used as a medium for **sketches**, or for finished works of art. Pen and **ink** also lends itself to fine writing and **calligraphy**.



# The History of Pen & Ink

In the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> centuries, pen and ink **calligraphy** was raised to a high level in **Arabic** and **Hebrew** writing. Since **Islam** forbids the representation of living beings, some letters of **Arabic calligraphy** were delicately formed to suggest an image related to the meaning of the phrase being written, without being an actual image of a living being.





In Western art, pen and ink artwork can be traced back to the **Lindisfarne Gospels** and the **Winchester and Canterbury manuscripts** of the **9th** century, characteristic of which are lively precise figures and animals amid decorative foliage and fine calligraphy.

Many pre-modern cultures around the world developed the comparatively cheap and portable medium of pen and ink art to a **high** level of **sophistication**, notably the **Chinese** and **Japanese**. In late imperial China (1644-1912), of all the arts, pen and ink calligraphy was the most respected.





In the **Georgian (1714 -1830)** and early **Victorian (1837 - 1901)** periods in **England**, pen and ink was mostly used for quick sketches, often with a high degree of **abstraction**. **George Romney** produced a number of notable ink sketches in which he produced instantly recognizable figures with a dozen lines. Later English artists developed the pen and ink drawing into a **finished** art form, probably the finest examples of which are the **1825** series of visionary landscape drawings by **Samuel Palmer**.



George Romney, *Jupiter*. Pen and ink on paper. 18<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> century. (left)

Samuel Palmer, *The Herdsman's Cottage. Sunset*. Original etching in black ink. 1850. (right)



## Additional Notes

The following information is from pages 89-107 of the Exploring Drawing text book. Also, for projects ideas, look at the architectural images on pages 13, 50, 68 & 123

- ◆ Three forms ink comes in: Liquid, Solid, Paste
- ◆ Two basic types of ink available: Waterproof, Soluble
- ◆ Conventional and Unconventional tools used in pen and ink drawing:  
Conv. → Quills, brushes, reeds, pens...  
Unconv → Sticks, twigs, cardboard, straws...
- ◆ Ink drawings need to be planned carefully because ink lines are not erasable.
- ◆ Finest Speedball point: C-6    Boldest Speedball point: B-0
- ◆ Definitions of *Sumi*: Japanese black watercolour; uses solid ink and often involves drawing with ink as well.
- ◆ Line effects achieved with a brush: texture (dry-brushing), subtle tones and variances in value, bold and thin lines, washes, etc...
- ◆ Definition of *Wash*: Mixing water with ink to create a tonal value that is applied to work with a brush.
- ◆ Creating gray values through washes: Different values can be created based on the ratio of ink to water. The more water that is added to the ink, the more diluted (lighter) the colour.
- ◆ Markers were first introduced in the 1950's
- ◆ Four types of pen used in pen and ink drawing: Fountain Pens, Ballpoint Pens, Technical Pens & Calligraphy Pens



# Review Your Notes:

1. What is pen and ink?
2. What can the medium be used for?
3. In which centuries did Arabic and Hebrew calligraphy emerge?
4. Name two bodies of work that utilized pen and ink in Western art of the 9<sup>th</sup> century. Provide one characteristic of this art.
5. Who brought the portable medium of pen and ink art to a high level of sophistication?
6. What was pen and ink mostly used for in the Georgian and Victorian eras?
7. Name the English artist who developed the pen and ink drawing into a finished art form.

# Pen and Ink Drawing - Architectural Studies -

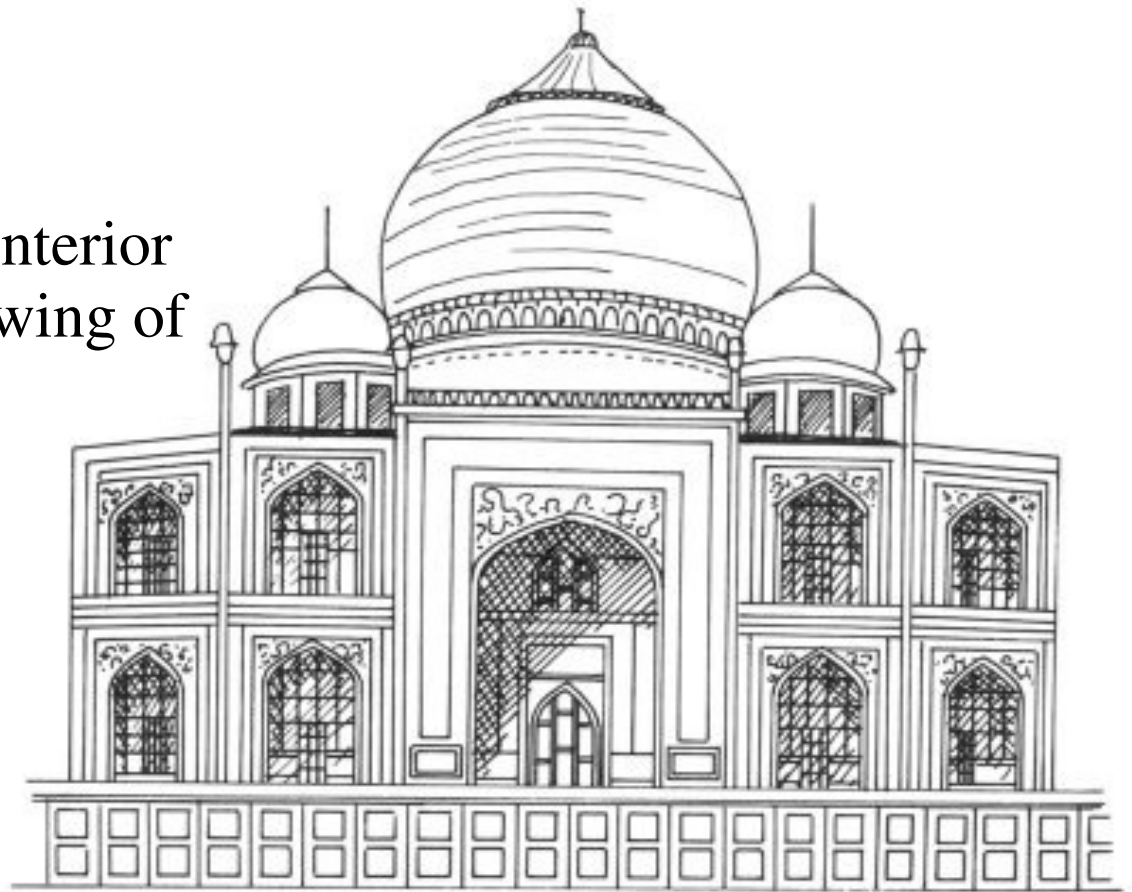


# Your Task...



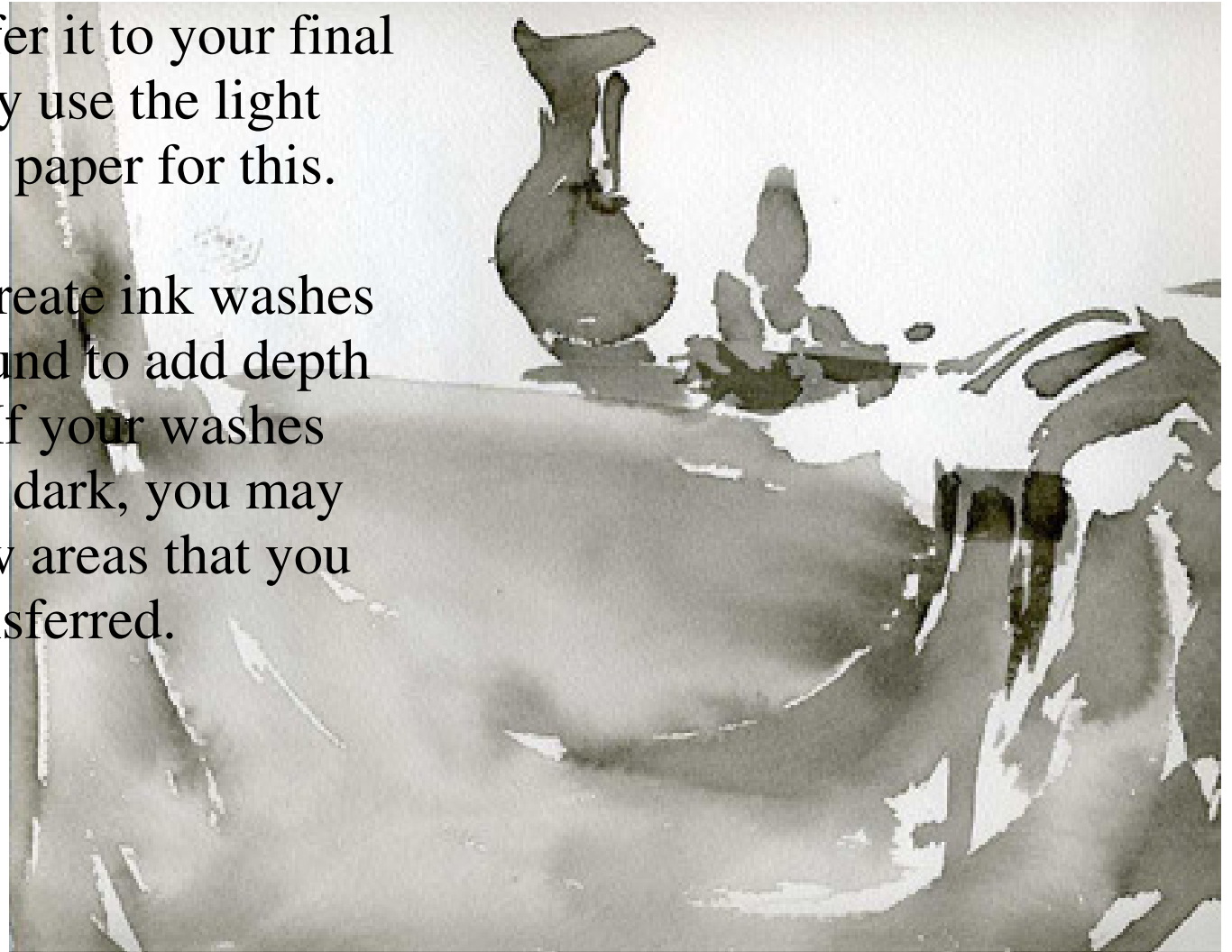
**Step 1: Research** - Look through images of buildings and various forms of architecture and find one picture that you are most interested in. This image will be used to create your pen & ink project.

**Step 2: Draw** - In your sketchbook, create an interior & exterior contour drawing of your image.



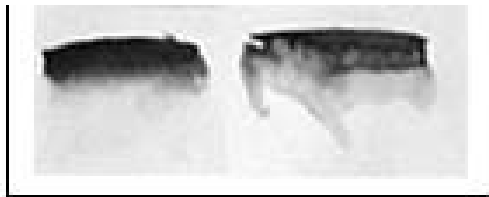
**Step 3: Transfer** - Once you are satisfied with your contour drawing, transfer it to your final paper. You may use the light table or carbon paper for this.

**Step 4: Wash** - Create ink washes in the background to add depth to your work! If your washes are going to be dark, you may have to re-draw areas that you previously transferred.



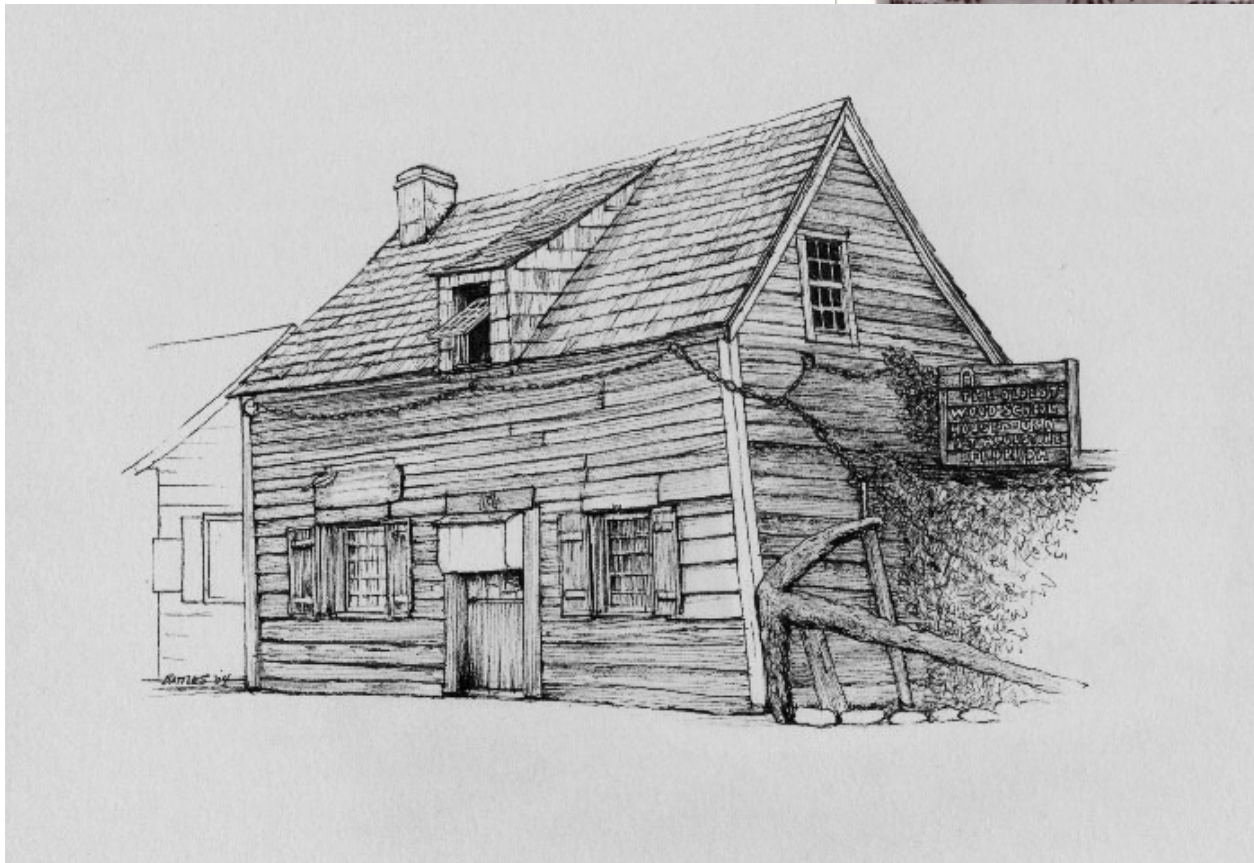
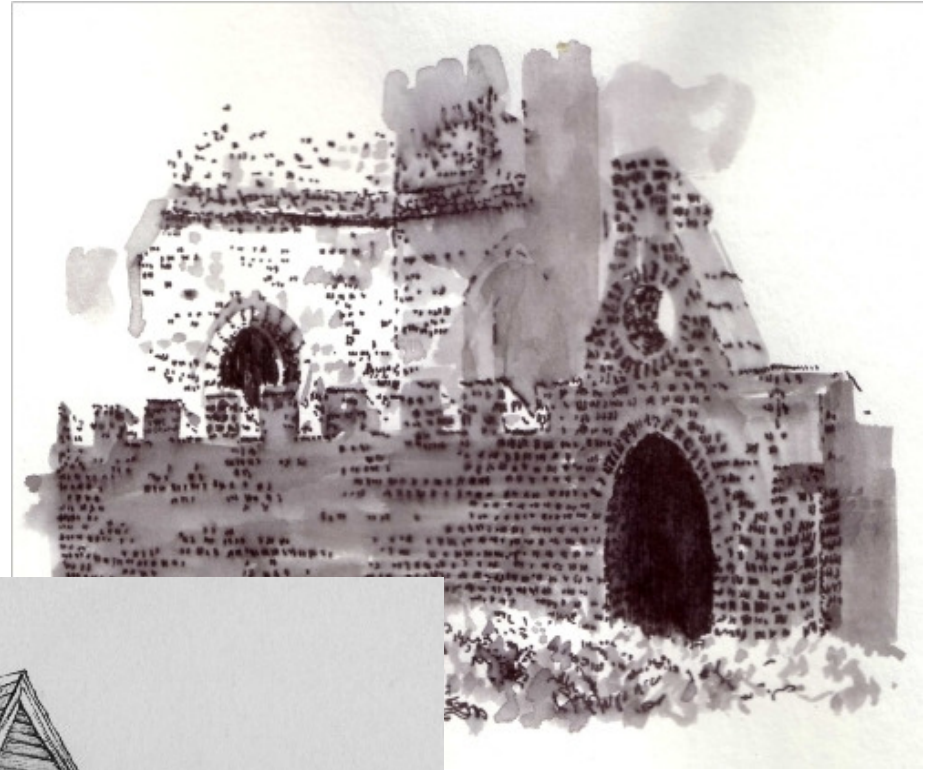
**Materials:** To create ink washes, you will need a piece of mayfair paper, ink, water and some brushes.

You may also wish to use a torn paper technique to block out some areas of your background – this gives a textured, organic feel. Be creative!



## Step 5: Pen & Ink Drawing -

Go over your pencil lines with ink. Be careful! Ink is not reversible and can be challenging to work with. Take your time.



## Step 6: Refine -

Once your ink drawing is complete, use a variety of ink techniques to add extra detail and depth to your architectural drawing. You may include outside elements as well (i.e. trees, grass, etc.)







# Pen & Ink

Warm Up activity: On the piece of Mayfair provided, lightly draw out a rectangle in pencil. Within the rectangle, draw (in pencil) the first letter of your first name. **Allow the edges of the letter to touch the the frame.**

Trace over letter with pen&ink and fill negative space in background with interesting lines and patterns. Try using shading techniques to add depth!

See example...



'K'

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