Barbara Westfall

The Longest Shadows of the Year, 1990
Gathering Places Gardens, Mt. Horeb, WI
Soil, red, yellow, ochre colored sands, oak branches 20'x20'

"The Longest Shadows of the Year", is an earth art sculpture built by artist Barbara Westfall to mark the winter solstice, a time of the year, which bears the longest shadows. The twenty foot wide basin, which is four feet deep, is painted in descending spirals of red and yellow colored sands with outside stakes designed to cast a long shadow through the center of the piece. Visitors were invited to participate—burn incense, bring a log for the nearby fire and thus return to a time when the movements of the sun had real meaning.