



West on Novotny, acrylic on wood, 16" x 8"

Brenda J. Clark

## The Effect of a Story.

This cozy painting, "West on Novotny"—16" x 8", acrylic on 3/4" woodblock—has a story. Do you know this view, or can you imagine it? A spectacular panoramic view of the mighty islands surrounded by big blue, introduced with orchards (Manitou Islands and Lake Michigan in Leelanau County)! Last fall, I was working on a "cottage" commission on North Lake Street in Leland and the neighbor friend chatted with me several times as I painted. She shared a story about a view her grandmother used to tell her about as a child. A view up on Novotny. She said I must go check it out. Large orchard trees had recently been replaced with new saplings and this change, opened the view back up. So I did go up to Novotny and I did paint! Lush and fallish with mood and my mission complete to capture the story. The frame even has a story... our custom shadow box which plays host to the painting allows all the edges to breath. Of course, the coloring and style of moulding had to be perfect and offer transition. A one-of-a-kind story. I love living in an area where stories can be shared so easily. The effect of a story taken on in paint... thank you Mrs. Gentile for sharing your story with me.

