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The Landscapes of MJ

There are numerous landscapes associated with Michael Jackson, the Moonwalk, Neverland, and now, sadly, the Staples Center. Of course there are facial as well as racial landscapes and excavations. From the time he was five years old, MJ was becoming a prime parcel of family real estate, The Jackson Five. In the late 60s he was an inspiration to many children rebellious against gender restrictions and divisions. With complex implications, he bent gender rules.

A few days before he died I stumbled upon another MJ landscape, not in real life, but in the virtual world of Second Life. I discovered that someone had created land in Second Life that was dedicated to him. A portion of this paper will recount some moments spent with his fans in Second Life. I will briefly consider the reception of MJ and the landscape of his memorial. I will include a few video clips that I made resulting from MJ's death and my search for him in Second Life.