

# Lavender Leonardos

## ERIC RAVILIOUS | CROSS HATCHING WITH COLOUR | PART ONE

This week we are going to be looking at artist Eric Ravilious and his beautiful landscape paintings. He worked in watercolour and used a printmaking technique called lithography to create subtle and beautiful colours. Let's find out more about this London born artist. This is a two part worksheet.

### YOU WILL NEED

- HB Pencil
- Rubber
- Ruler
- A5 Paper (You can use A4 paper if you have more time)
- Scrap paper
- Colouring Pencils (Red, blue, yellow & orange)

It may help if you have done work sheet 4 & 6 first. I will be explaining methods that we have already gone through.

Duration:  
1hr 30 minutes

# Who was Eric Ravilious?

Eric William Ravilious (22 July 1903 – 2 September 1942) was a British painter, designer, book illustrator and wood-engraver. He grew up in East Sussex, and is particularly known for his watercolours of the South Downs and other English Landscapes.



His paintings are often emotionally cool; his colours subtle, the paint application light, with plenty of white showing, and lots of hatching and stippling. There is a sense of detachment in them, as well as a hint of the mysterious or surreal.

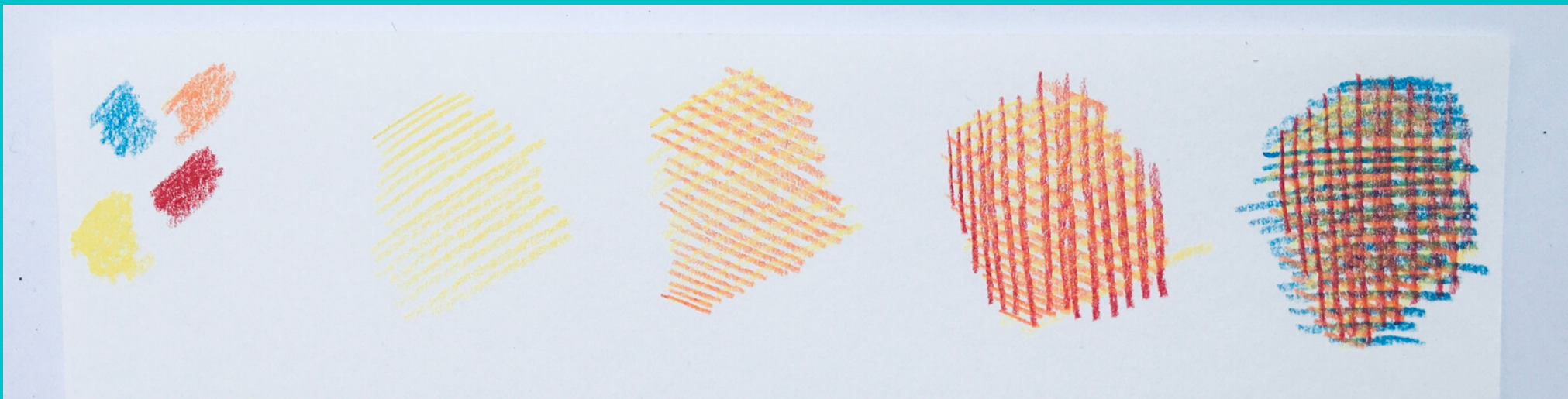
The watercolours have the absence of people in most of them, which can only partly be explained by Ravilious's confessed limitation when it came to drawing human figures. When people do appear, their faces are blanked out; they look like dolls or figurines.

# What's Colour Cross Hatching?

If you have completed our other worksheet (Cross hatching a bee) then you will know, cross hatching is the drawing of two layers of lines at right-angles to create a mesh-like pattern.

Colour crosshatching adds an extra dimension. We want to create depth in our drawing by building up different tones of colour. Below is an example of building up a dark tone and forming a new colour. We are going to use; yellow, orange, red and blue. To avoid getting a too darker tone, we are starting with the lightest colour and we can decide to stop when we have the tone we want.

For example:



Start with the lightest colour.  
(Yellow) In a diagonal stroke.

Adding orange in a different direction.

Vertical lines of Red.

Finally horizontal lines of blue.

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# Our Study: Dangerous Work at Low Tide

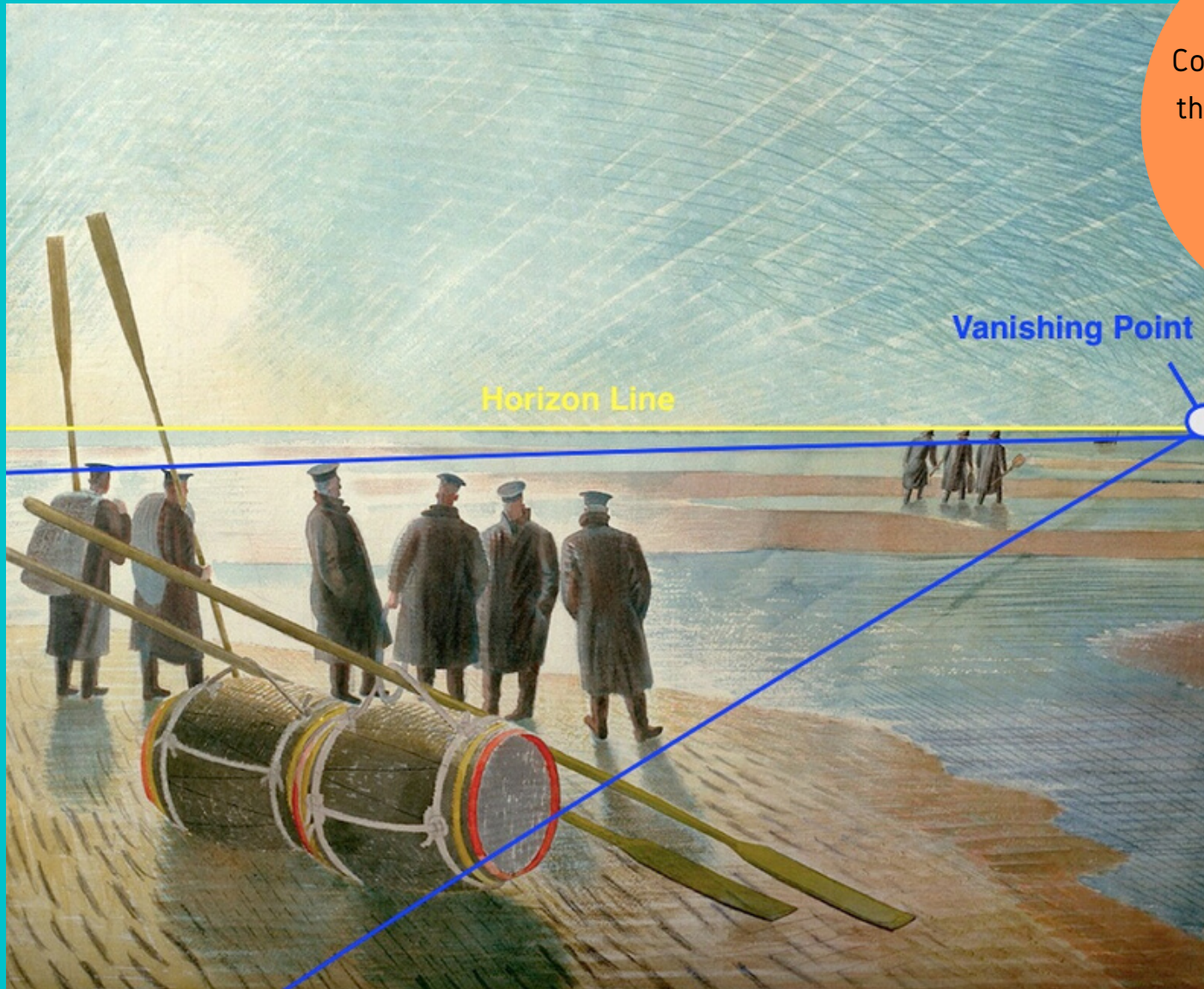
'Dangerous Work at Low Tide'. Watercolour (1940). This is a rare Ravilious work, because Ravilious seldom depicts people in his paintings.



Take a few minutes to study this painting.

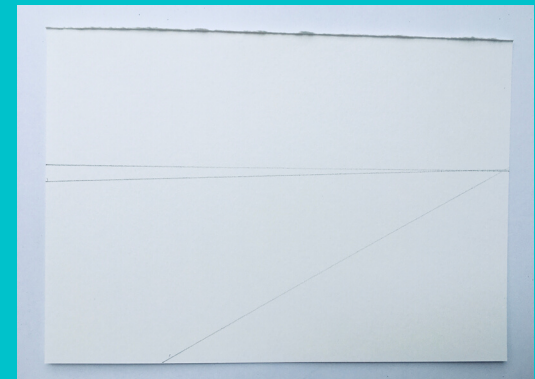
# Step 1: Let's break this down!

Draw your horizon line, vanishing point and guidelines with a ruler on your A5 paper.



REMEMBER:

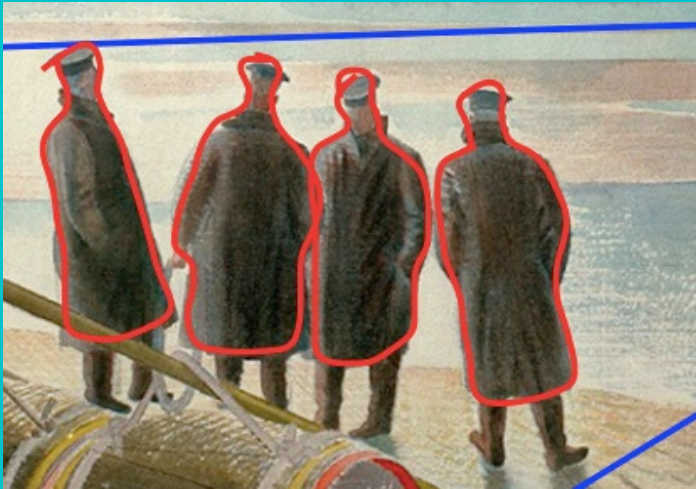
Compare your lines, look at the distance between the horizon line and your guideline.



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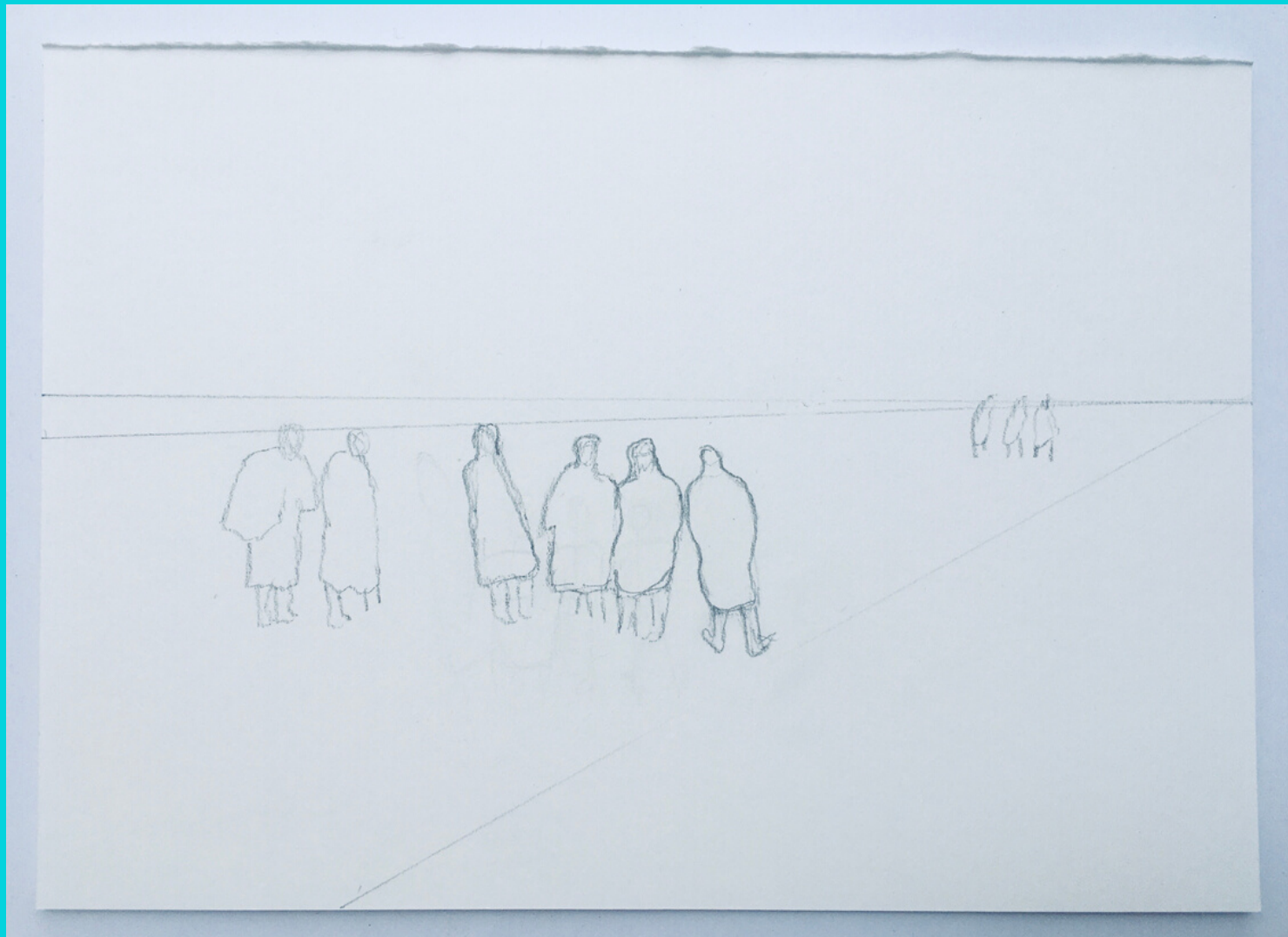
## Step 2: The figures

These figures are small within our drawing, with little detail and only a silhouette. There is no need to fully work out the whole figure, only an outline of what you see. Take your time on this part, compare where the figure starts and finishes against the figure next to it. Go back to the original picture to help you.



Add their legs at the end when you have all the figures in the correct place.

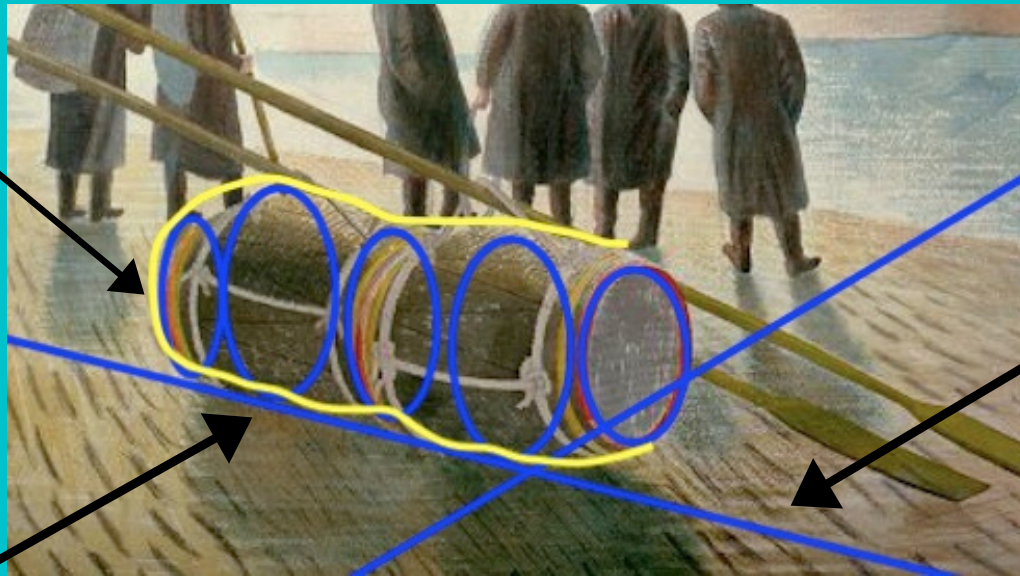
You should have something like this now?  
Double check your figures are in the right  
place and the right size.



## Step 3: The Barrels

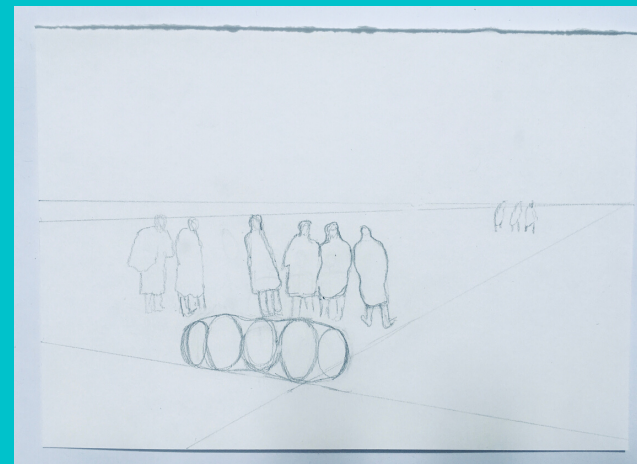
The picture is scattered with different sized objects, some sitting there, others interacting with a figure. Let's take a look at the barrels. We are going to break these up into different shaped ovals and circles. Read the tips below and have a go.

Step 2: Look at where each oval hits the lines.

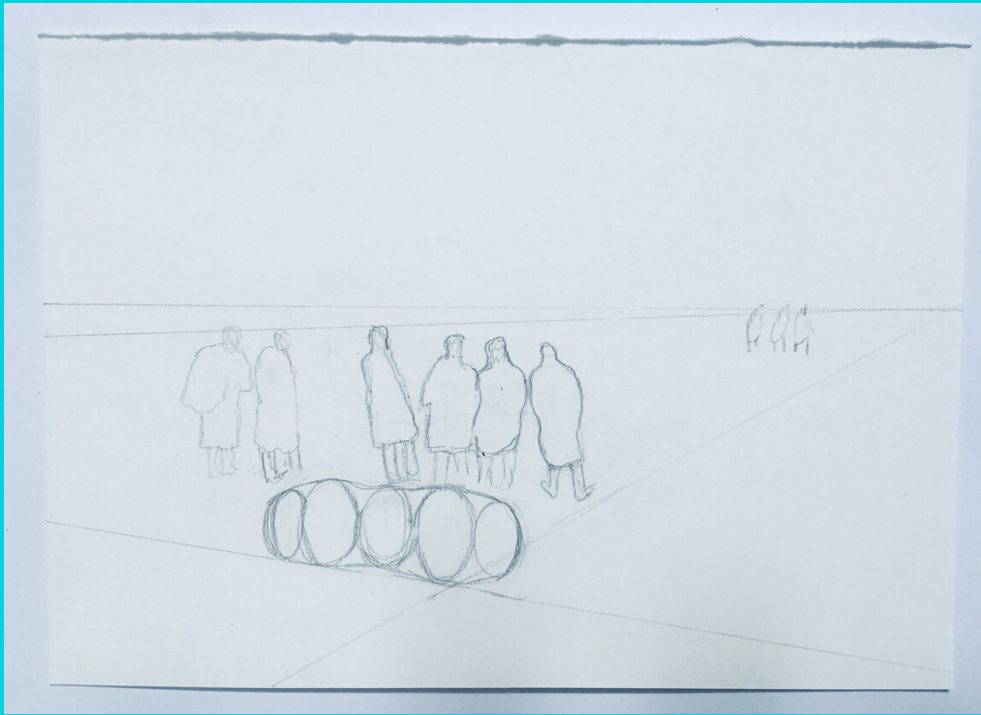


Step 1: One line is an original guideline, let's now add another guideline.

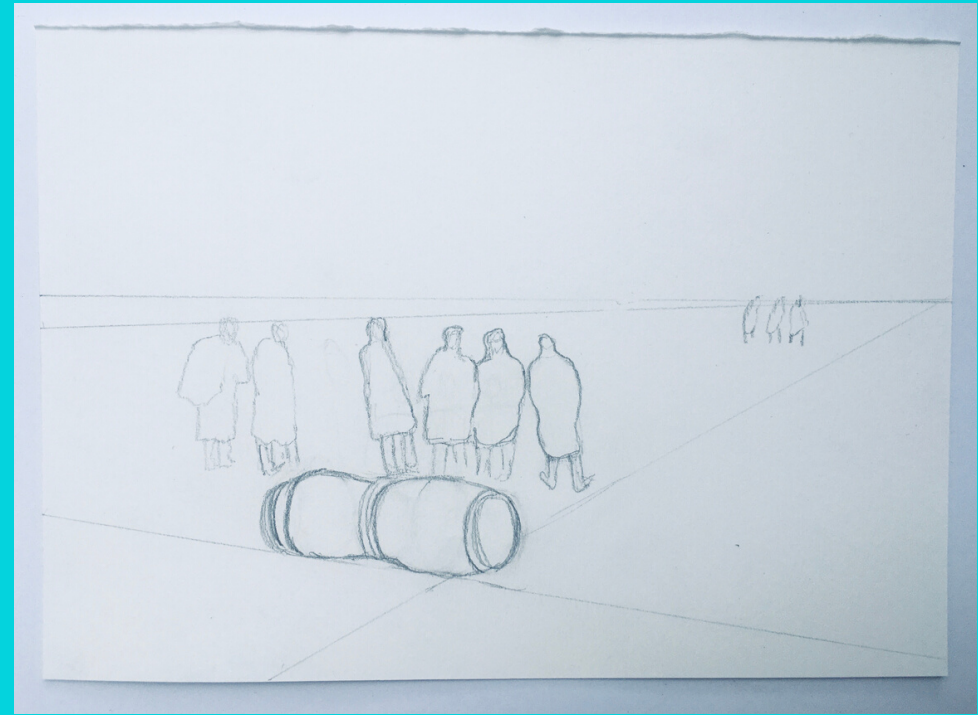
Step 3: When you have your circles start to join them up. You can see this with my yellow line.



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You should have something like this now?



Next, carefully rub out the circles inside your shape drawing back in parts of the circle where needed to show your barrels beginning and end. Remember there are two barrels here.

## Step 4: The paddles

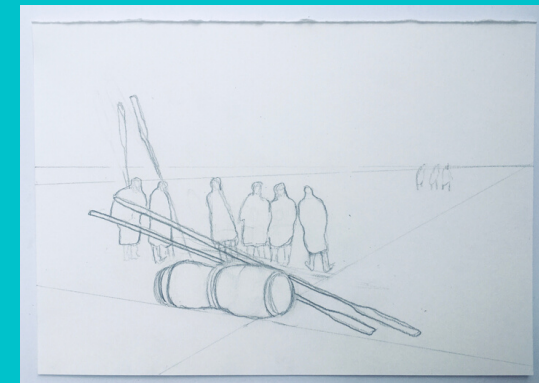
We have four main paddles in this picture, two of them are being held by the men. Two are lying on the ground. Our piece of paper is slightly more rectangular than the picture, so don't worry if you have more space on the left. Start with a simple line for your paddles, this will ensure you have them in the right place and at the right size.

Look at the angle of the paddles.

Look at where the paddles are crossing the men.



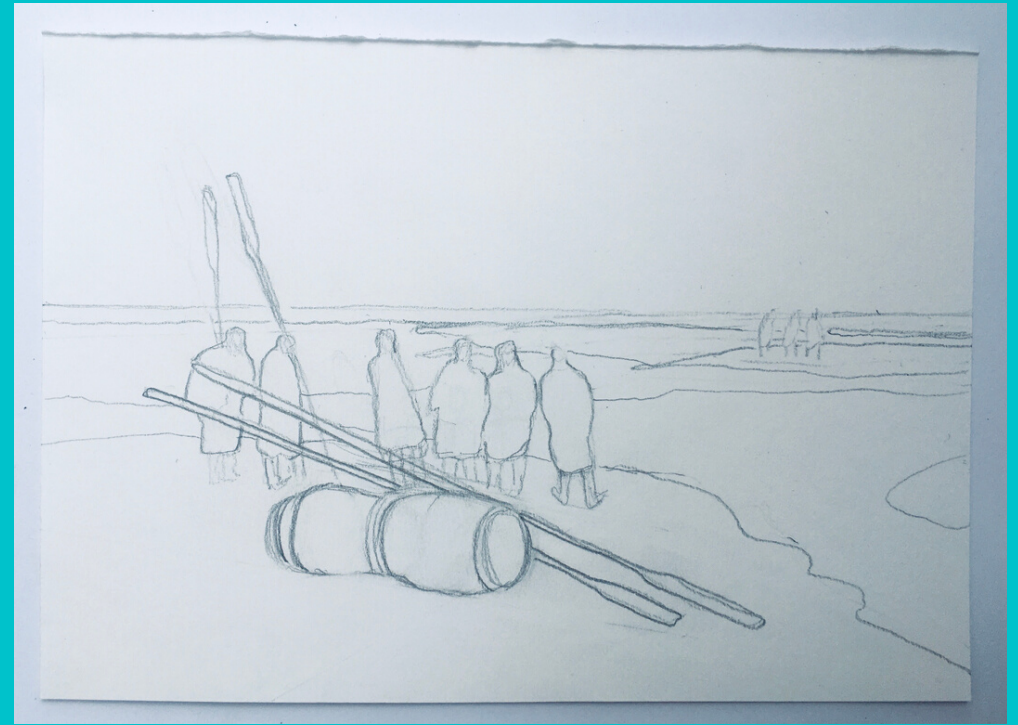
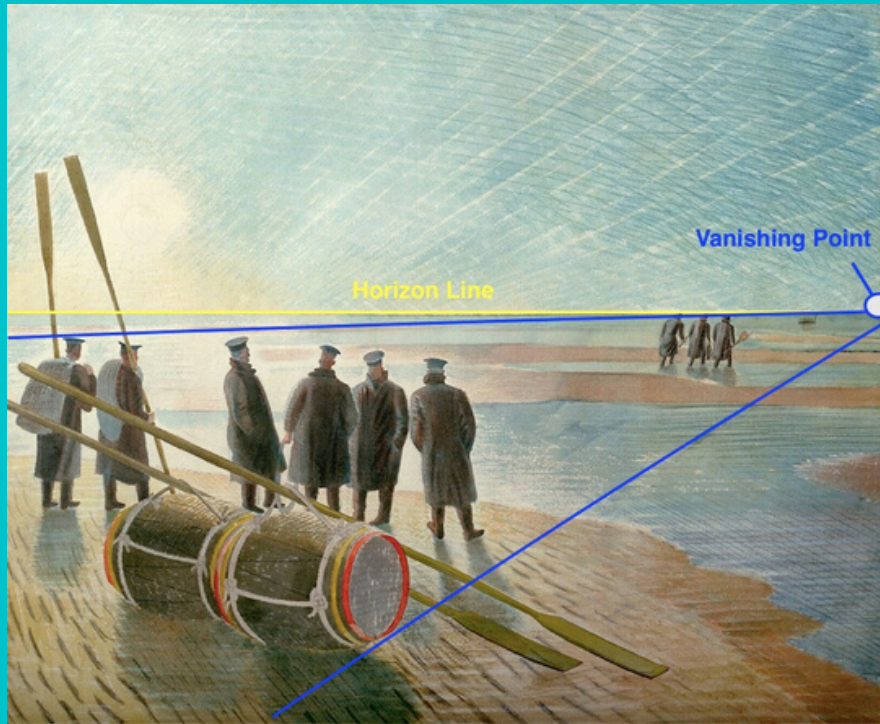
Look at the length and how one lays in front of the other.



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# Step 5: The Landscape

This is where we separate the water from the land. There are sections between the men in the distance and the ones closest to us. Let's start with the main shore closest to us and work our way out. Our guidelines will help us, so don't rub them out just yet.



When you have finished, carefully rub your guidelines out. Put your drawing somewhere safe and next week we shall be adding colour cross hatching.