Andrade outdoors

By Edith Newhall
For The Inquirer

Everyone who has followed the Philadelphia art scene over the past few decades has seen the Op-Art paintings of geometric patterns of Edna Andrade, who died at 91 in 2008. What they might not know of her output - unless they saw the 2007 retrospective of her works on paper at the Woodmere Art Museum - are her landscapes before she turned to abstraction. Andrade’s early watercolor and ink paintings, pastels, and drawings of forests and rocky outcroppings in Maine, Massachusetts, and Fairmount Park in “Edna Andrade: Drawings (1958–1993)” at Locks Gallery are wonderful to observe as they dissolve into the impressionistic daubs that eventually led to her taut, geometric abstractions.