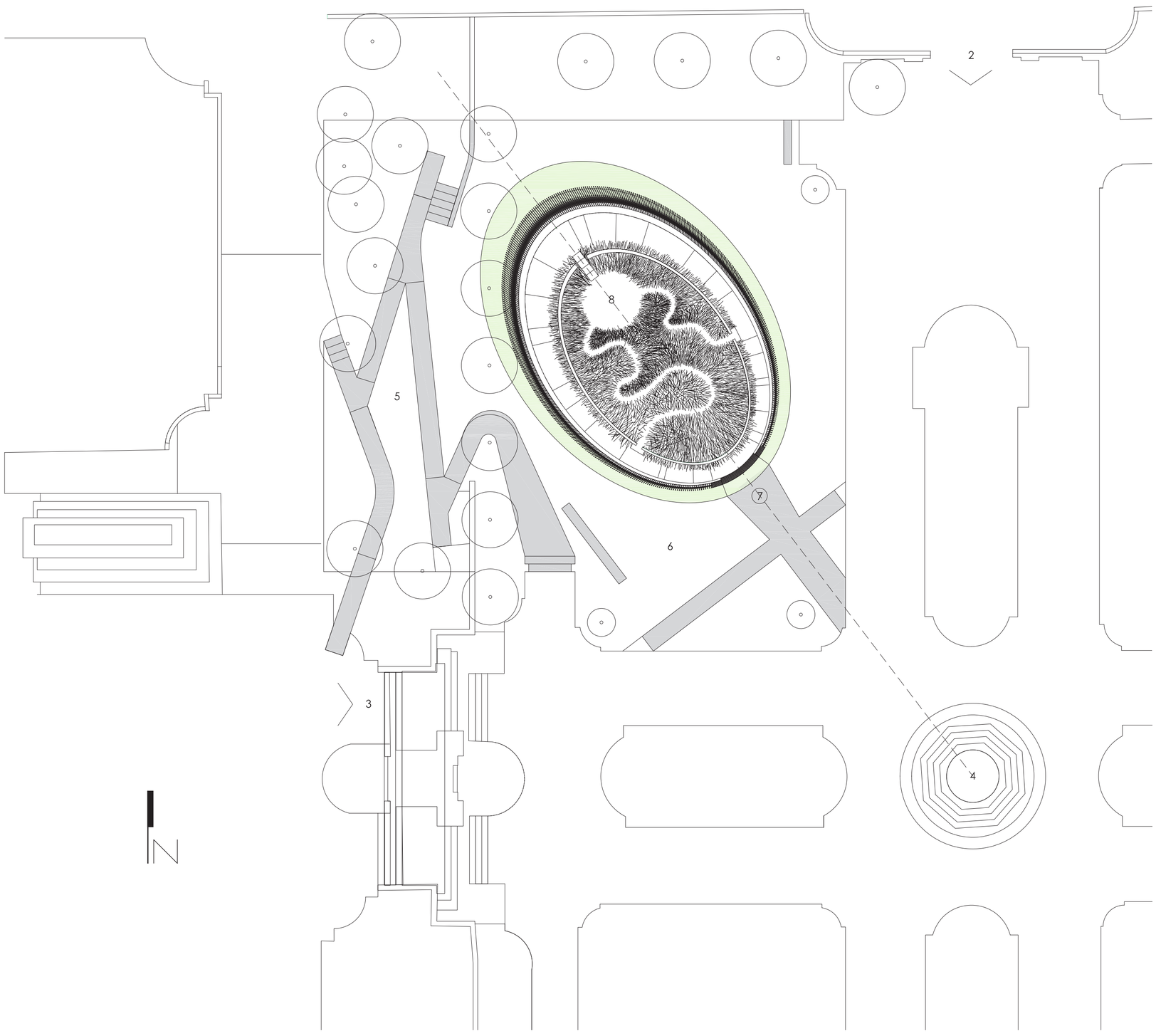
COMMONWEALTH WAR GRAVES MEMORIAL :

THE COMPANY'S GARDEN, CAPE TOWN



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SITE PLAN

REGROUNDING

Ramutloa, George. 19 July 1915. A labourer. Run over by a wagon while stationed in Kalkfeldt, Namibia.

Makhaleyane, Maeil. 15 April 1916. An ox-driver. Died on board the SS Aragon following an infection of Malaria, after serving in East Africa.

Jenniker, Dolly, and Madhliwa, Zulu. 23 January 1915. Two labourers. Drowned during boat service on the flooded Orange River near Upington.

World War I, thousands of Black South Africans enlist for non-combatant service around the African continent

Their stories untold, unremembered, uncommemorated.

Their graves scattered, or non-existent.

1650 names brought to the surface from a deep dive into the archive

How many more will emerge?

Displaced to the Company's Gardens in the Table Valley in Cape Town, a historically contested territory

In conversation with the longstanding Delville Wood Memorial

Colonial geographies are engaged

The memorial disrupts the geometry of the colonial gardens with a single curved line in the grass, from which a series of tilted planes are articulated.

New ramped pathways are carved to navigate topographic tensions; Indigenous fynbos reclaims the manicured landscape

Arranged shoulder-to-shoulder to form a large ellipse, the names of the fallen are sandblasted into individual black stone slats, and stitched into the landscape

Unsettled ground, settled.

Gently shaped ground. Earth, stone, and memory

1. Queen Victoria Street
2. Pedestrian access into Company Gardens
3. Pedestrian access from upper terrace
4. Delville Wood Memorial
5. Proposed ramp system through existing gardens
6. Existing lawn
7. Entrance to CWGC memorial
8. CWGC Memorial

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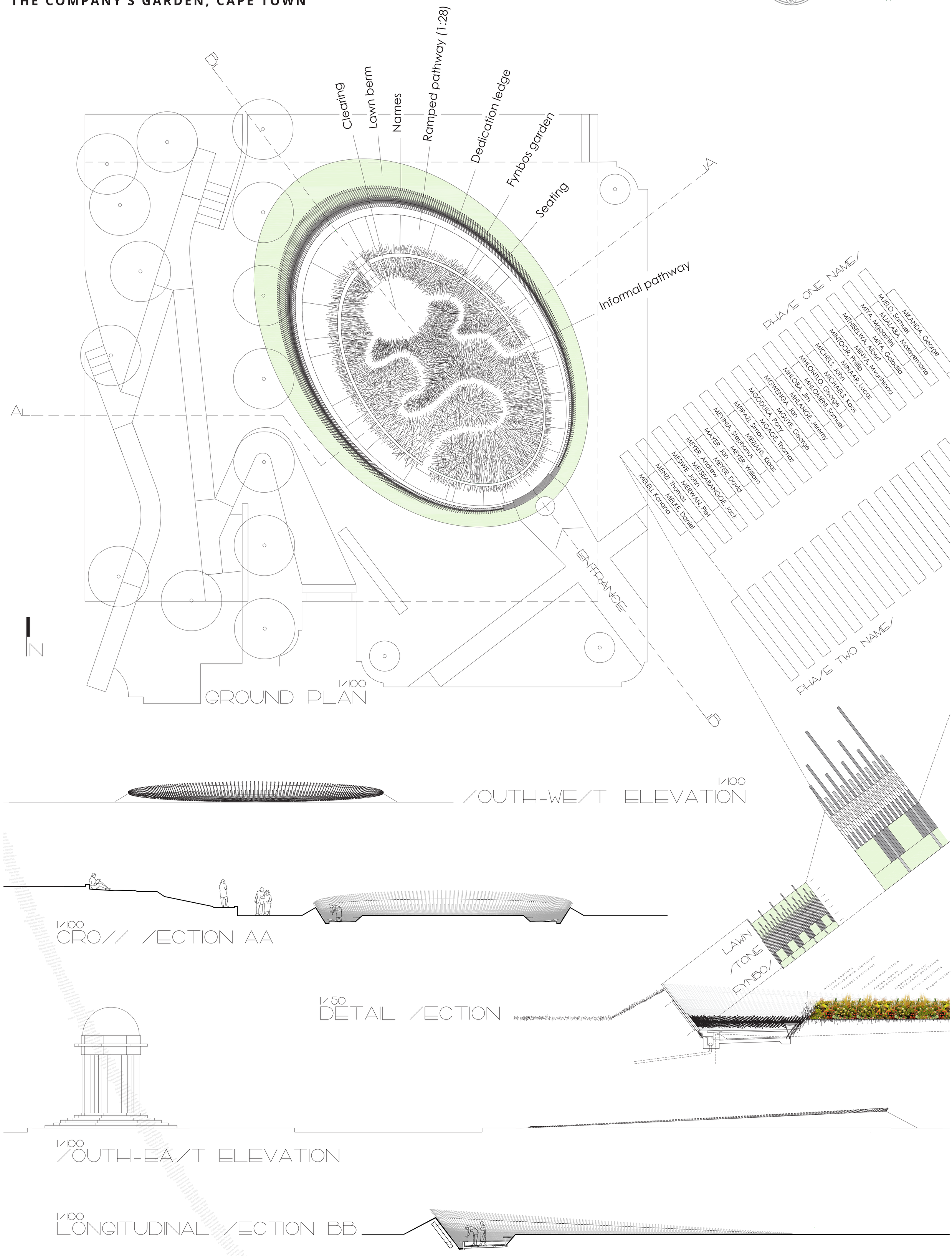

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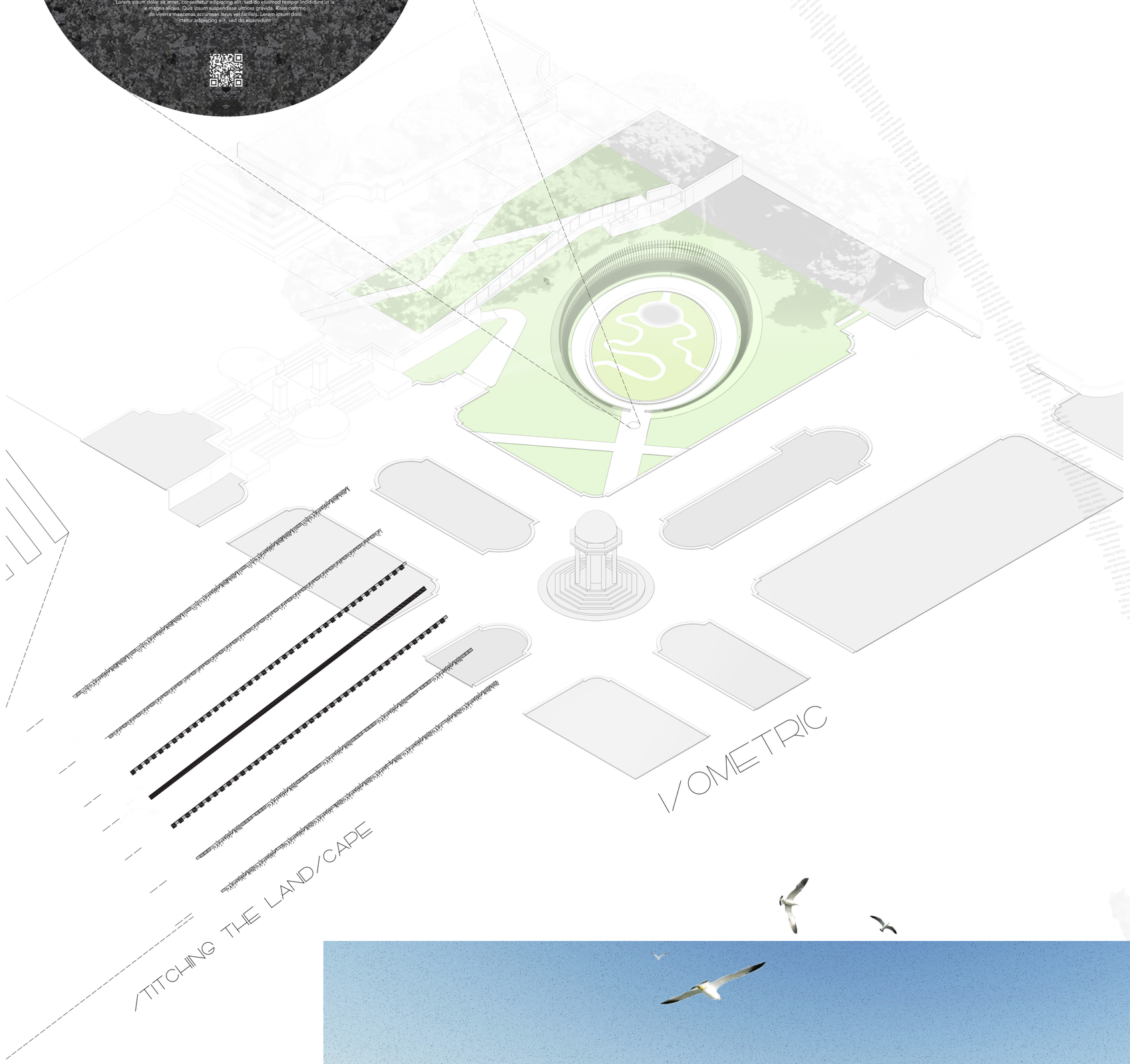

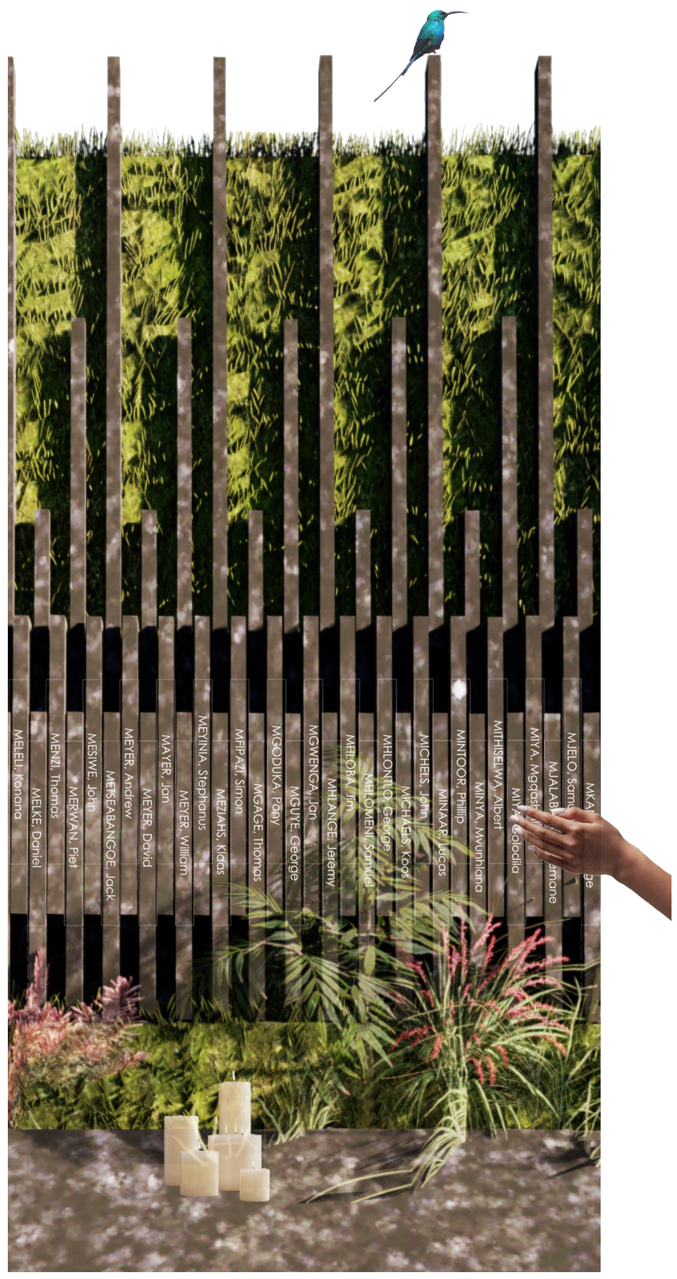
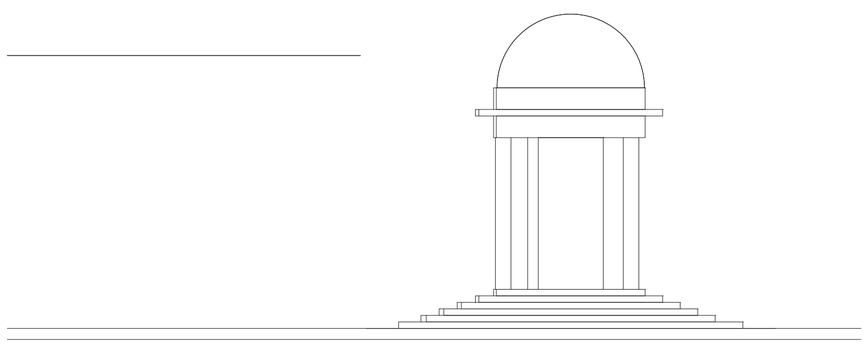
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