

Abstract: Society's growing awareness of diversity and environmental issues is forcing memorial design practice to change drastically. Memorials must now reflect multiple viewpoints and help society realize that decisions made today have profound effects on future generations. Furthermore since societal and environmental issues require community engagement and concerted efforts, memorials must foster empathy across time, space, and cultural differences. The emerging field of anti-memorial design seeks to build collective memory through creating temporary, interactive, and community building experiences complemented by more long-lasting digital platforms. This project will develop a systematic process to evaluate the impacts of twenty-five anti-memorials. After analyzing the commonalities in the most impactful anti-memorials, this project will develop guidelines for how landscape designers can inspire social activism through anti-memorial design. Applying the guidelines to a case study, an anti-memorial design will be proposed to commemorate land subsidence in order to inspire reflection on the past and catalyze social change in the present and future.

DESIGNING AN ANTI-MEMORIAL TO LAND LOST

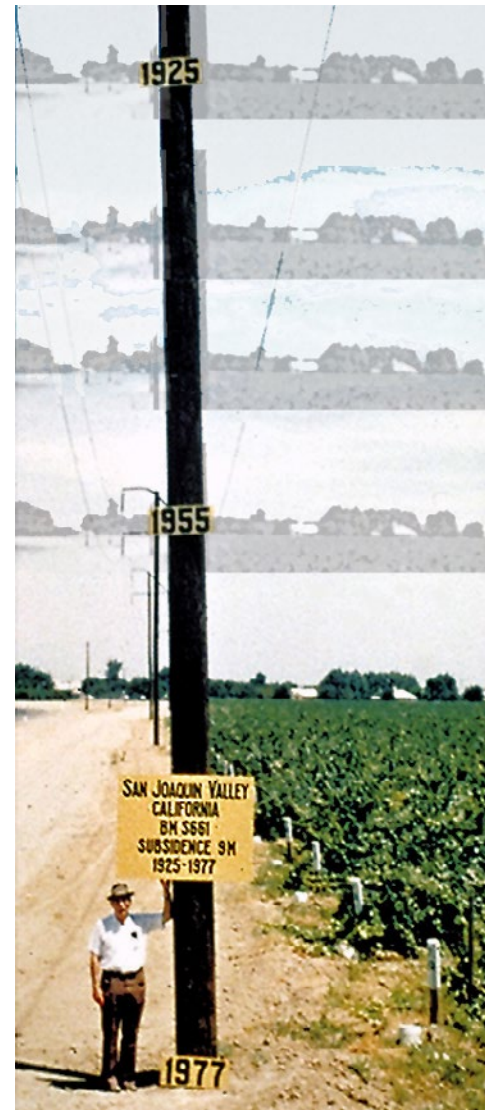
Kristi Lin Senior Capstone Project 2017 Senior Project Chair: Professor Claire Napawan

CALIFORNIA IS SUBSIDING, SINKING, DUE TO GROUNDWATER OVER-PUMPING.

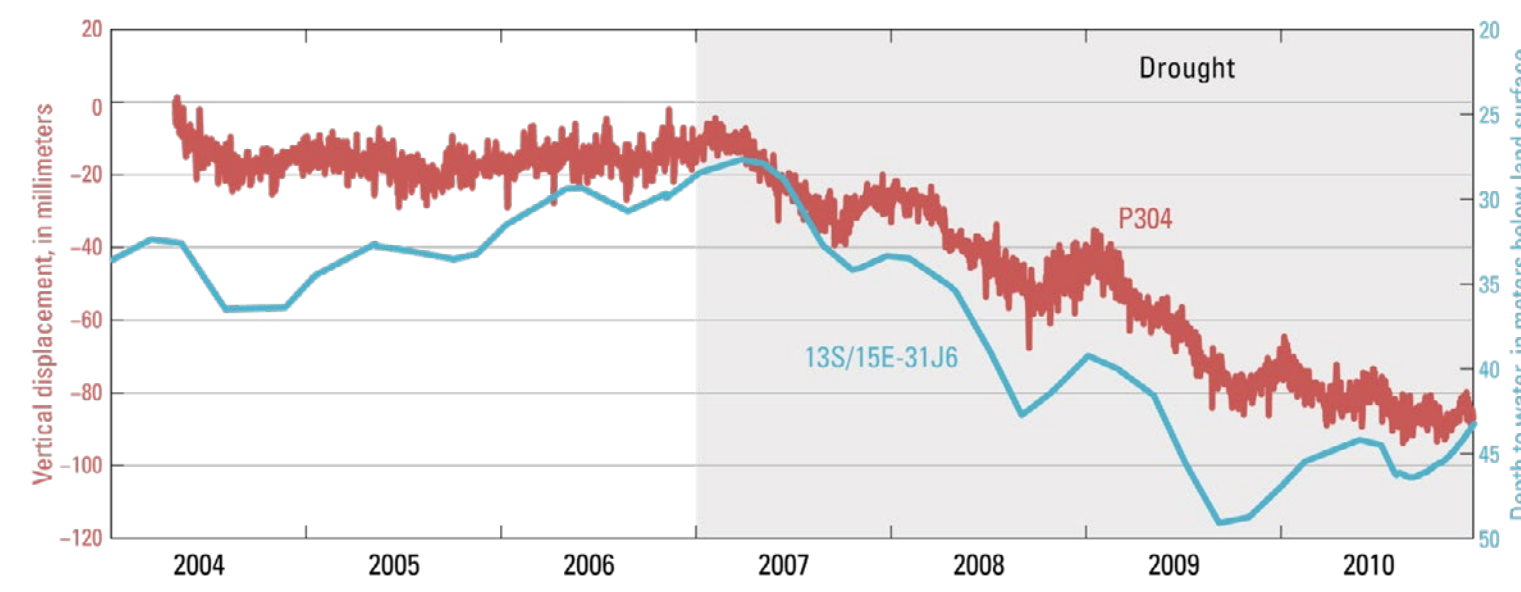
HOW CAN WE USE DESIGN TO TRANSLATE SCIENTIFIC DATA INTO AN EXPERIENCE THAT WILL INSPIRE PEOPLE AND STATEWIDE POLICIES TO CHANGE?



(Borchers and Carpenter, 2014)



(Poland, edited by author)



The most subsidence is occurring in the Central Valley. The most drastic subsidence has been 28 ft near Mendota, CA, the site where this photo was taken with the telephone pole. Subsidence continues in Mendota and is represented in the graph (Source: USGS) above.



The Central Valley provides 1/4 of the nation's food supply, yet this agriculturally productive region is subsiding most due to irrigation demands. (Source: Leah Mills, The Chronicle)

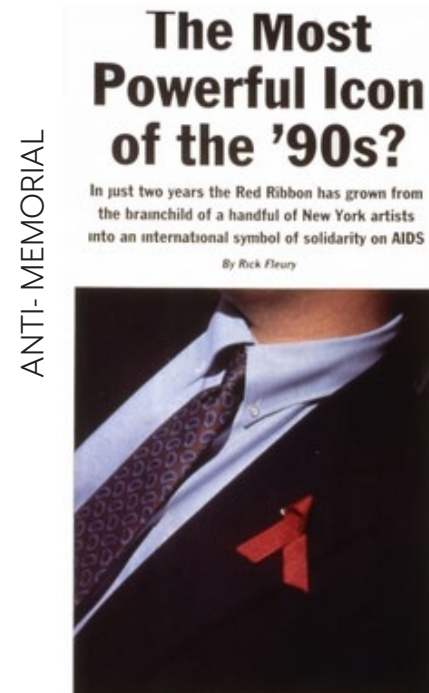


Subsidence affects urban areas too. This is Long Beach, CA subsiding due to oil mining. (Source: Borchers and Carpenter, 2014)



Lincoln Memorial: statue form, massive scale, and permanent (nationaljournal.com)

TRADITIONAL MEMORIAL



AIDS red ribbon memorial human scale, personal making, and impermanent. (VisualAIDS)

MEMORIALS ARE MEANT TO INSPIRE REFLECTION ON OUR PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE.

HOWEVER, TRADITIONAL MEMORIALS MADE OF PERMANENT MATERIALS SUCH AS STONE HAVE A LIMITED CAPACITY TO INSPIRE REFLECTION ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES, WHICH ARE CONTINUALLY CHANGING. IN CONTRAST, ANTI-MEMORIALS COMMEMORATE ONGOING MARGINALIZED ISSUES USING IMPERMANENT MATERIALS.

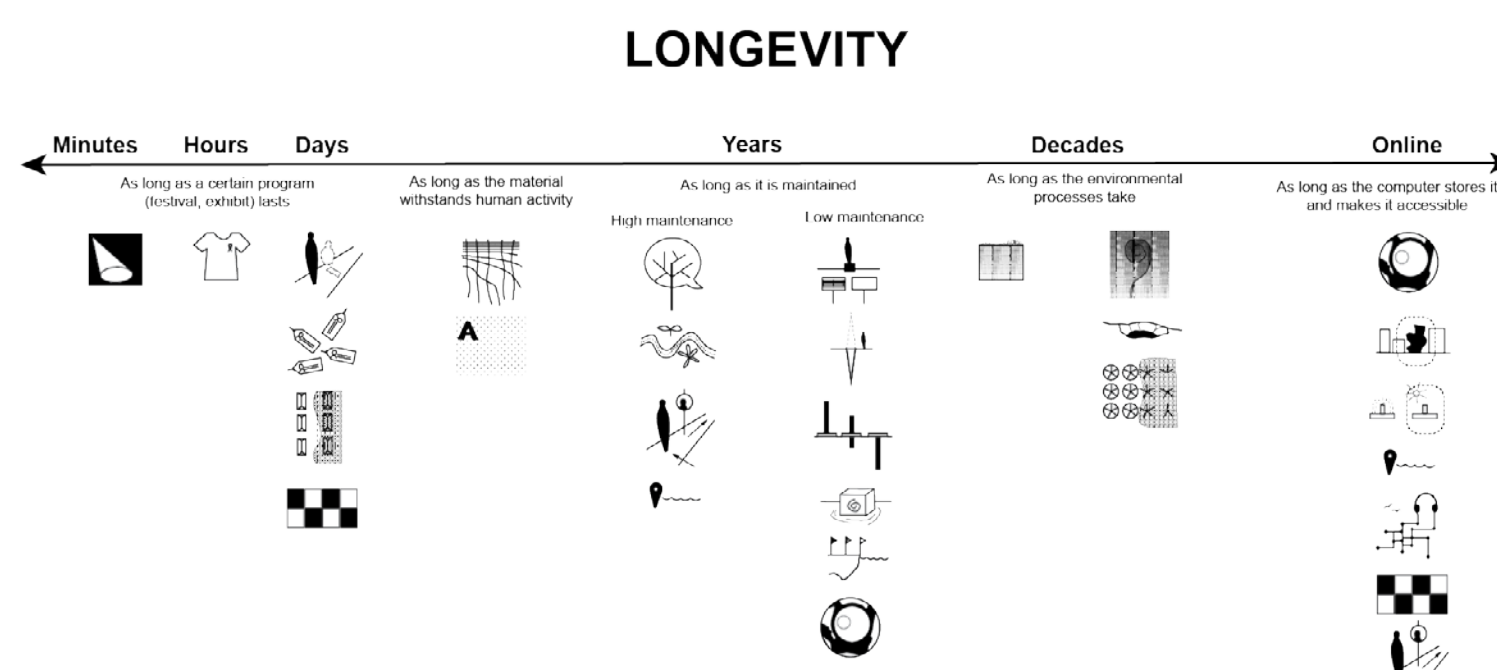
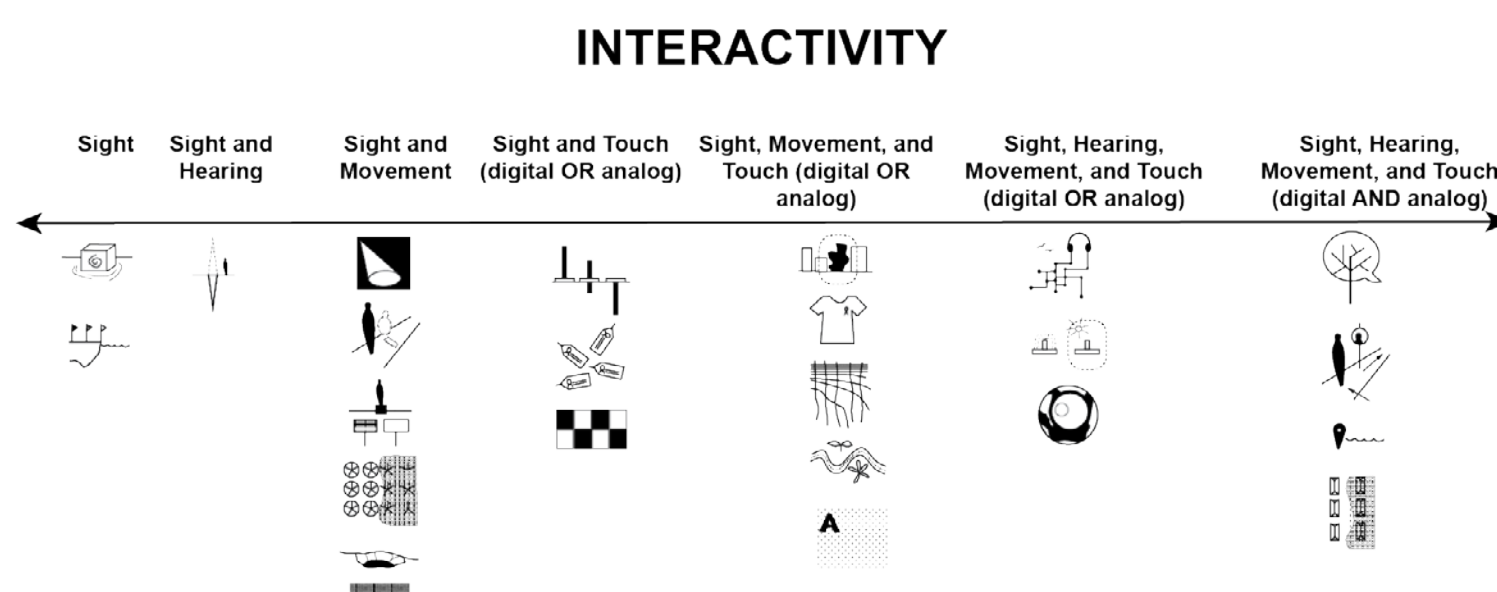
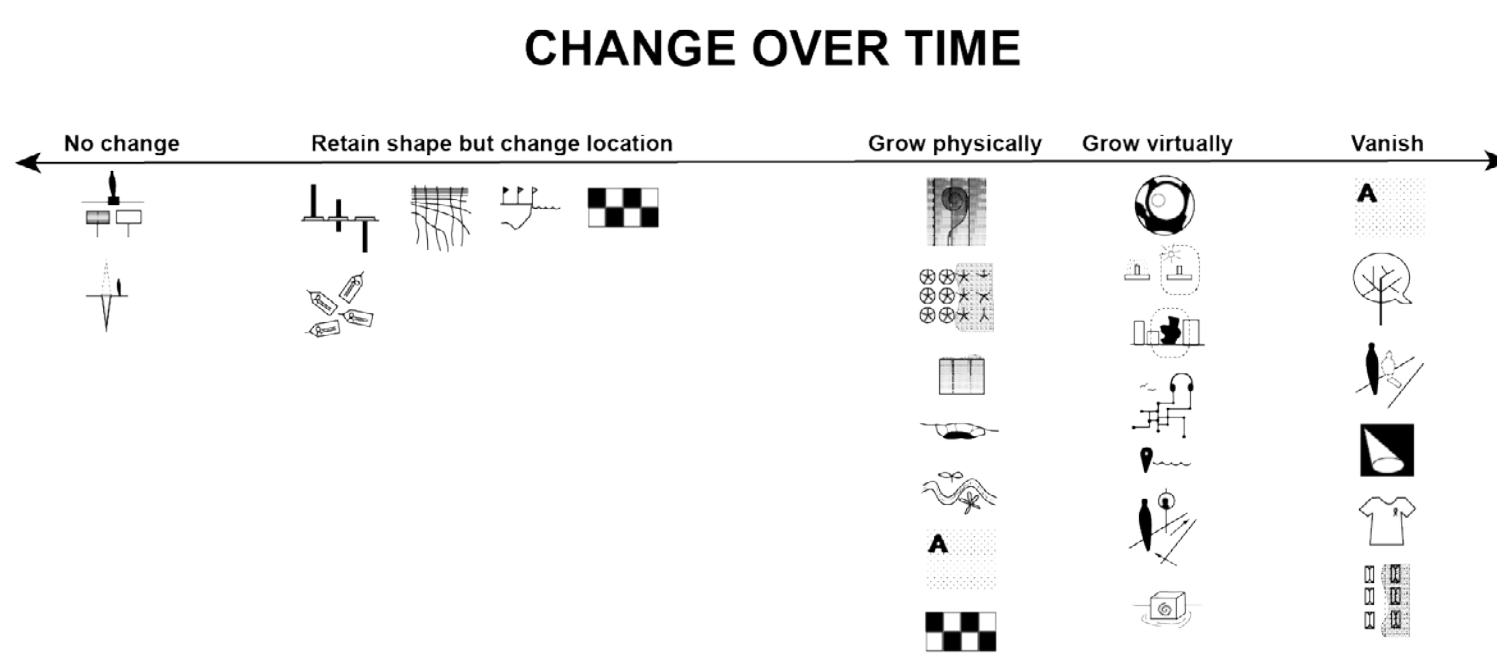
Anti-memorials aim not to console but to provoke, not to remain fixed but to change, not to be everlasting but to disappear, not to be ignored by passers-by but to demand interaction, not to remain pristine but to invite their own violation and not to accept graciously the burden of memory but to drop it at the public's feet.
-James Young, architectural historian

HOW DOES ONE DESIGN AN ANTI-MEMORIAL?

I INVENTORIED 25 ANTI-MEMORIALS AND COMPARED THEM ON SPECTRUMS BASED ON THEIR CHANGEABILITY, INTERACTIVITY, LONGEVITY, AND PROXIMITY TO INCIDENT SITE.

I defined an anti-memorial as an intervention that commemorates an on-going issue and provokes change in a certain direction through creating settings where visitors engage with the concept of impermanence. Since the term "anti-memorial" is new and perhaps defies definition, few designers or critics categorize works as anti-memorials. Therefore, this case study included projects categorized as memorials, anti-memorials, counter-memorials, public artworks, tours, environmental art, and reclamation projects. All 25 projects are listed below.

All 25 anti-memorials were inventoried using this format and all icons were created by the author. After placing them all onto the spectrums, it became apparent that these three anti-memorials changed the most over time, created the most interactive experiences, lasted for very short and very long amounts of time, and dispersed their messages globally. These three formed the basis of the anti-memorial design guidelines.



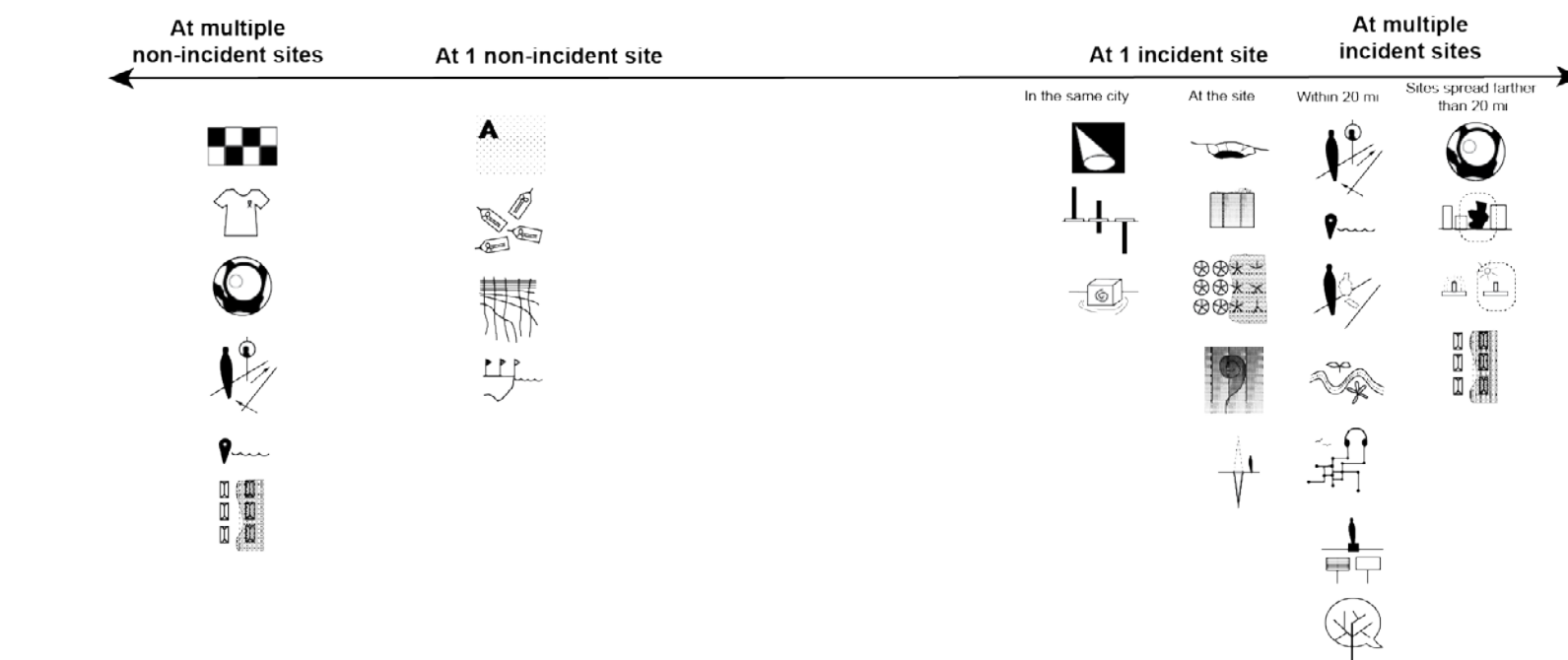
NAME	DESIGNER	SUBJECT
The Act of Uprooting	Damien Pericles and Annel Stanton	Stolen aboriginal children
AIDS Memorial Quilt	Cleve Jones	People who have died from AIDS
AIDS Red Ribbon	Visual AIDS	People with AIDS and their caregivers
Another View Walking Trail	Megan Evans and Ray Thomas	Lack of memorials to indigenous persons
Anti-Memorial to Heroin Overdose Victims	SusAnne Ware	Heroin overdose victims
Aschrott Fountain	Horst Hoheisel	Holocaust
B_mu	R&S(e)n	Dust
Bingham Copper Mining Pit	Robert Smithson	Mining contamination
Broadway: 1000 Steps	Mary Miss	Urban ecosystems
Climate Chronograph	Azimuth Land Craft	Sea Level Rise
CO2 Cube	Alfo Bonanno	Anthropogenic CO2 Emissions
The Curiosity Box	Liz Herbert	Stolen aboriginal children
FLOW (Can You See the River?)	Mary Miss	White River water system

NAME	DESIGNER	SUBJECT
Hessian Wall	Renee Romya	Stolen Aboriginal children
High Water Line	Eve Mosher	Sea level rise
THE IMMIGRANT: Honoring the Journey	Sahar Coston-Hardy, Janelle L. Johnson, Michelle Lin-Luse, Radhika Mohan	Diverse immigration stories
The Markers	Xavier Cortada	Movement over time
Monument against Fascism, War, and Violence, and for Peace and Human Rights	Jochen and Esther Gerz	Fascism, war, violence, peace, and human rights
Museum of the Phantom City	Cheng+Snyder	Unbuilt or hidden architecture
Norbret Radermacher	Norbret Radermacher	The Holocaust
Our Changing Climate	Claire Napawan, Sheryl Ann Simpson, Brett Snyder	Climate change
Road as Shrine	SueAnne Ware	Highway fatalities
Safari7	SCAPE Landscape Architecture	Urban ecosystems
Spiral Jetty	Robert Smithson	Prehistoric conditions of the Great Salt Lake
What is Missing?	Maya Lin	Species and habitat loss

Figure 26. Inventory of three most successful anti-memorials

NAME	DESIGNER	SUBJECT	SITE	MATERIALS	INTERACTIVITY	DESCRIPTION
Broadway: 1000 Steps	Mary Miss	Urban ecosystems	Broadway Street, New York City	Mirrors on green poles, colored pavement, app, maps, live events	Visitors see themselves in the mirror as part of ecosystem, guided walks	Green poles at 20 sites along Broadway Street each direct visitors' attention to urban ecology nearby and emphasize their connectedness. Schools and civic spaces along the route have opportunities to develop branching off tours and partnerships.
FLOW (Can You See the River?)	Mary Miss	White River water system	White River water system	Big dot markers, mirrors, app as part of ecosystem	Visitors see themselves in the mirrors and app as part of ecosystem	A unified marking system of physical and virtual red dots allows visitors to mark where the hydrologic cycle is in their daily lives and see where others living in areas marked the hydrologic cycle using an app. Collaborations with museums offer opportunities for panels, events, and tours.
High Water Line	Eve Mosher	Sea Level Rise	Worldwide	Chalk lines marking flood zone, action guide, workshops	Anyone can draw the line around their community and talk to drawers	The drawing of the line starts conversations among those living in areas intersected by the line. The sense of connectedness is harnessed in community workshops about climate change action.

PROXIMITY TO INCIDENT SITE



CONCLUSION: ANTI-MEMORIAL DESIGN GUIDELINES

- FRAMING:** THE ANTI-MEMORIALS HELPED THE PUBLIC RECOGNIZE THE ISSUE THROUGH FRAMING IT IN THE EXISTING ENVIRONMENT AND FRAMING THE CAUSE WITH THE EFFECT.
- MULTISCALAR:** THE ANTI-MEMORIALS INCLUDED MULTIPLE LOCATIONS, DIFFERENT SCALES, AND DIGITAL AND ANALOG COMPONENTS.
- PERFORMATIVE:** THE ANTI-MEMORIALS WERE MADE BY THE PUBLIC THROUGH MARK-MAKING, CONVERSATIONS, EVENTS, AND DEMONSTRATIONS OF THEIR PERSONAL ENGAGEMENT WITH THE ISSUE.

ANTI-MEMORIAL TO LAND LOST IS ON SUBTERRANEAN STAIRS, BUT ALSO EVERYWHERE

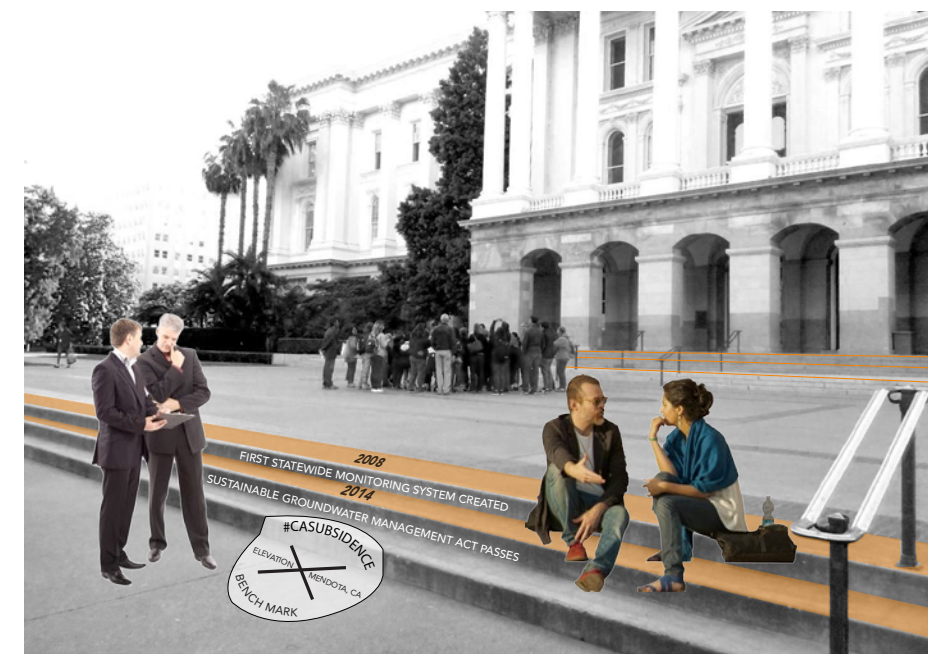
STAIRS CONNECT ELEVATION DROPS, TIME, AND POLICIES IN THE FORM OF A HUMAN-SCALED TIMELINE THAT CAN BE MADE BY ANYONE TEMPORARILY. THE ANTI-MEMORIAL ALSO INCLUDES LONGER LASTING DIGITAL COMPONENTS.



Commemorating land lost on an underground parking structure

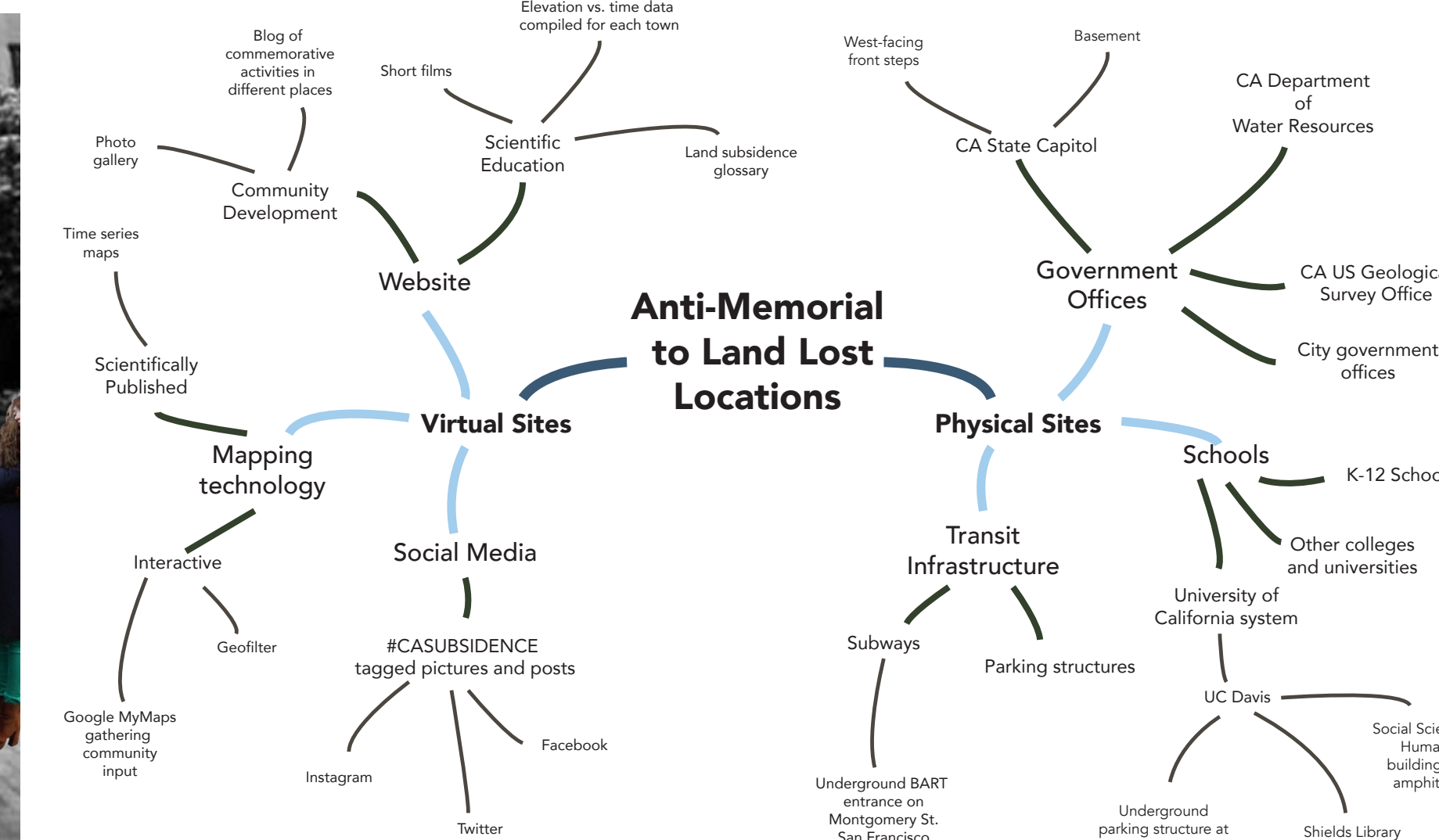
Visitors will first see the linkage between elevation and time as they descend the steps and see the dates become closer to present day. At the bottom of the stairs, they will be able to look back and read the policies on the steps. Seeing the policies framed with each elevation drop and orange chalk will help visitors understand how certain policies directly affected the rate of sinking.

Oversized US Geological Survey monitoring benchmarks are placed at the top and bottom of the stairs. The repetition of two identical benchmarks conveys the sense of site of one site sinking over time. The benchmarks also describe the name of the place commemorated, and different sites throughout California can be commemorated on different stairs.

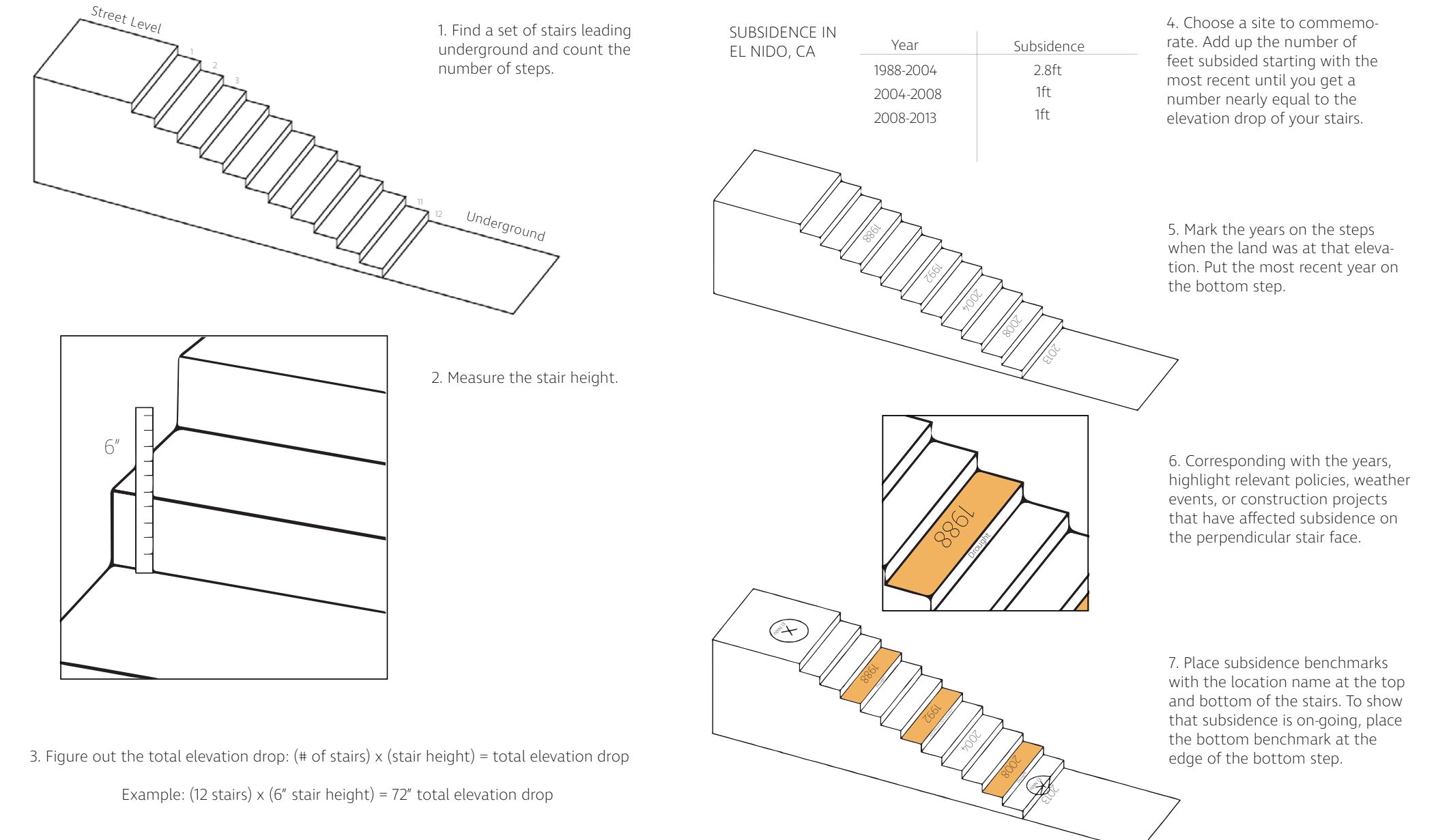


Commemorating land lost on the steps to the California State Capitol

The site map below shows the anti-memorial's many physical and virtual locations, which were chosen based on their ability to influence policy making and reach large audiences.



COMMEMORATING LAND LOST



The guide above provides instructions to anyone interested in creating the anti-memorial on stairs in their own community. The act of marking the stairs is performative and is meant to inspire unexpected conversations with people passing by.



Commemorating land lost at a BART entrance

Commemorating land lost at the UC Davis Social Sciences and Humanities amphitheater