

FINDING PEACE

THE DUALITY

The 20th-century history of Argentina is deeply riddled with a fundamental **duality** of contradictions and unspoken truths. The «Dirty War» remains an unhealing wound on the nation's body out of 30,000 forcibly disappeared citizens, only 1,000 bodies have ever been found. The families of the remaining victims were left without answers. Unable to move forward, they cannot accept **the present** and continue to turn to **the past** desperately clinging to every single fragment of information.

The regime eventually changed, and the modern government of Argentina made attempts to investigate the crimes of the military junta. However, for the authorities, the priority became closing this dark chapter of history as quickly as possible for the sake of political stability. A quiet conflict of interest emerged: the state actively sought **not to know** and to consign the uncomfortable truth to oblivion, while the mothers of the disappeared demanded to **know** it entirely, refusing any compromising silence.

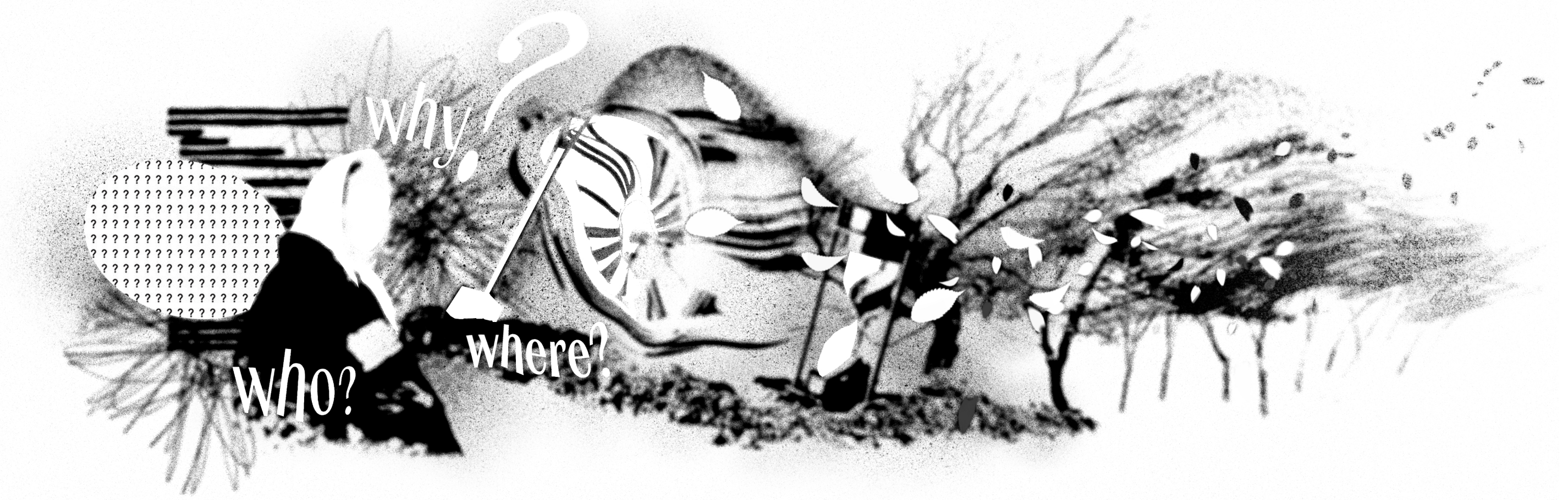
People vanished without a trace, without trial or investigation. The state apparatus pressured society, attempting to instill the belief that these citizens never existed and that their loved ones should forget everything as quickly as possible. The children of the disappeared, taken from their parents in infancy, live among us today, unaware of their true history. People are **here**, yet at the same time, they are **gone**.

This is precisely why the mothers are not ready to forget. For instance, the «Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo» movement actively protested against the opening of a memorial promenade in Buenos Aires. They did not want formal, state-directed mourning—they demanded justice. The oblivion of violence is inextricably linked to trauma, which is characterized by the inability to fully **remember**, yet completely unable to **forget**.

Today, loved ones are still unable to mourn the missing and accept reality as long as answers remain unfound. At the same time, a segment of society still denies that large-scale war crimes ever took place. With each passing year, we drift further away from historical truth, and under these circumstances—where some **deny** and others **accept** the fact of the tragedy—dialogue and cooperation remain the only ways to find mutual understanding.

Subsequent trials of war criminals, followed by amnesties and the dismissal of cases, failed to bring the long-awaited peace to society. Many officers and generals, as well as their families, still do not acknowledge their guilt to this day, viewing themselves not as perpetrators but as victims of the system and the communist threat. These events raise deeply uncomfortable but necessary questions about where exactly the line between **perpetrator** and **victim** is drawn.

CONCEPT

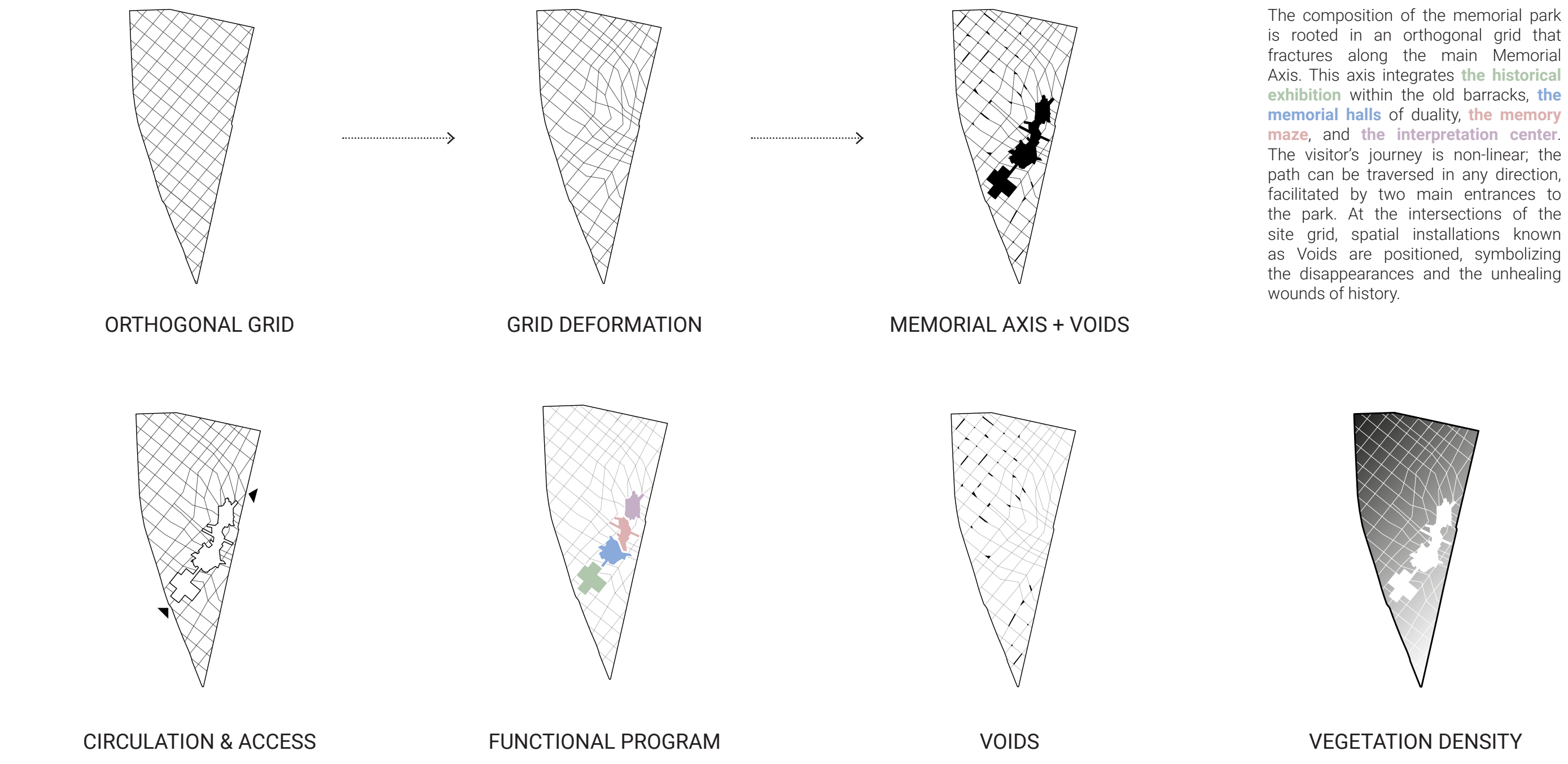


Yielding to nature, past pain turns into history, and history dissolves into silent eternity.

PRESENT ——— THE SEARCH ——— THE GRIEF ——— THE ETERNITY ——— FUTURE
 Interpretation center ——— Memorial ——— Park



CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT



The composition of the memorial park is rooted in an orthogonal grid that fractures along the main Memorial Axis. This axis integrates the historical exhibition within the old barracks, the memorial halls of duality, the memory maze, and the interpretation center. The visitor's journey is non-linear; the path can be traversed in any direction, facilitated by two main entrances to the park. At the intersections of the site grid, spatial installations known as Voids are positioned, symbolizing the disappearances and the unhealing wounds of history.

VOID TYPOLOGIES

