

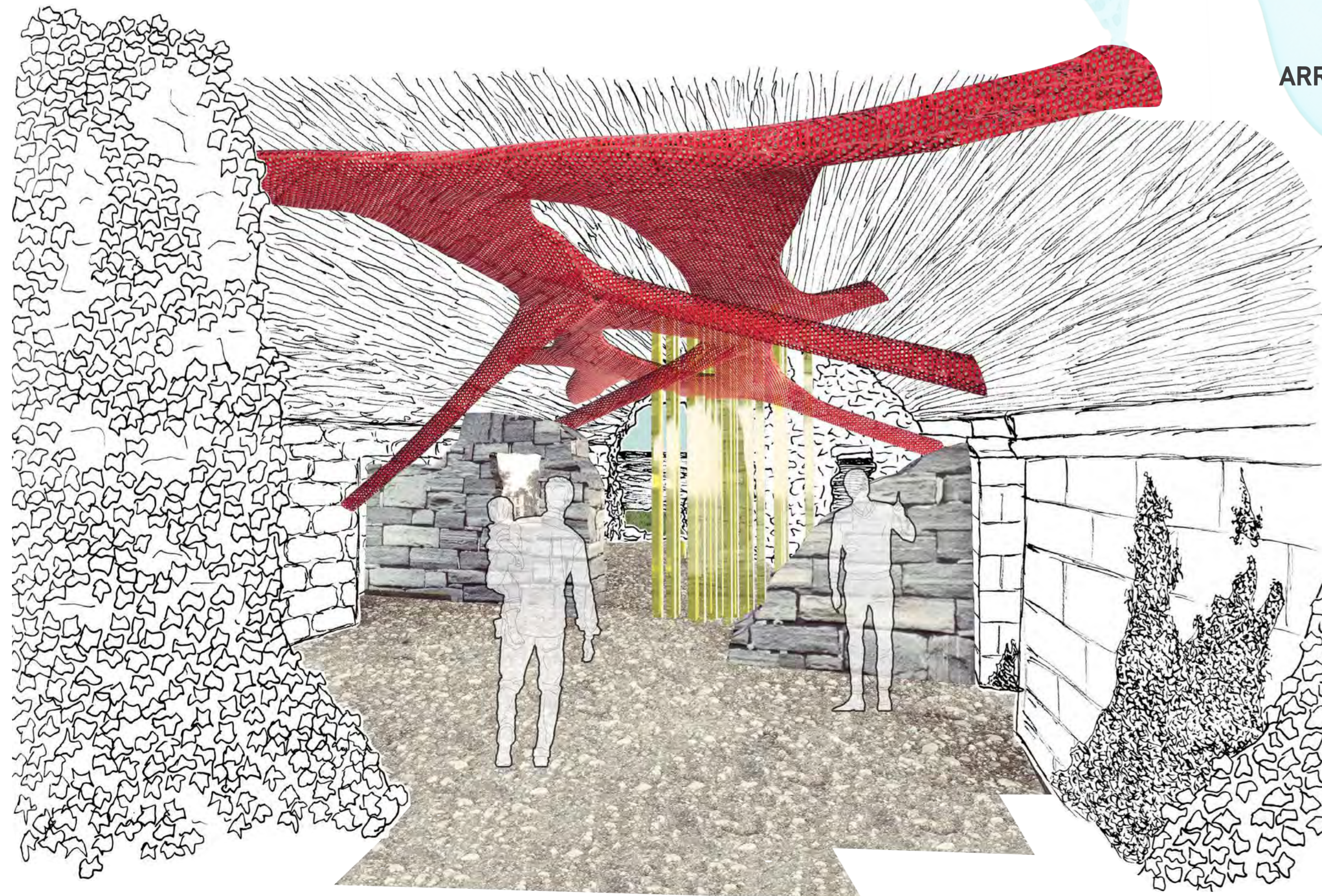
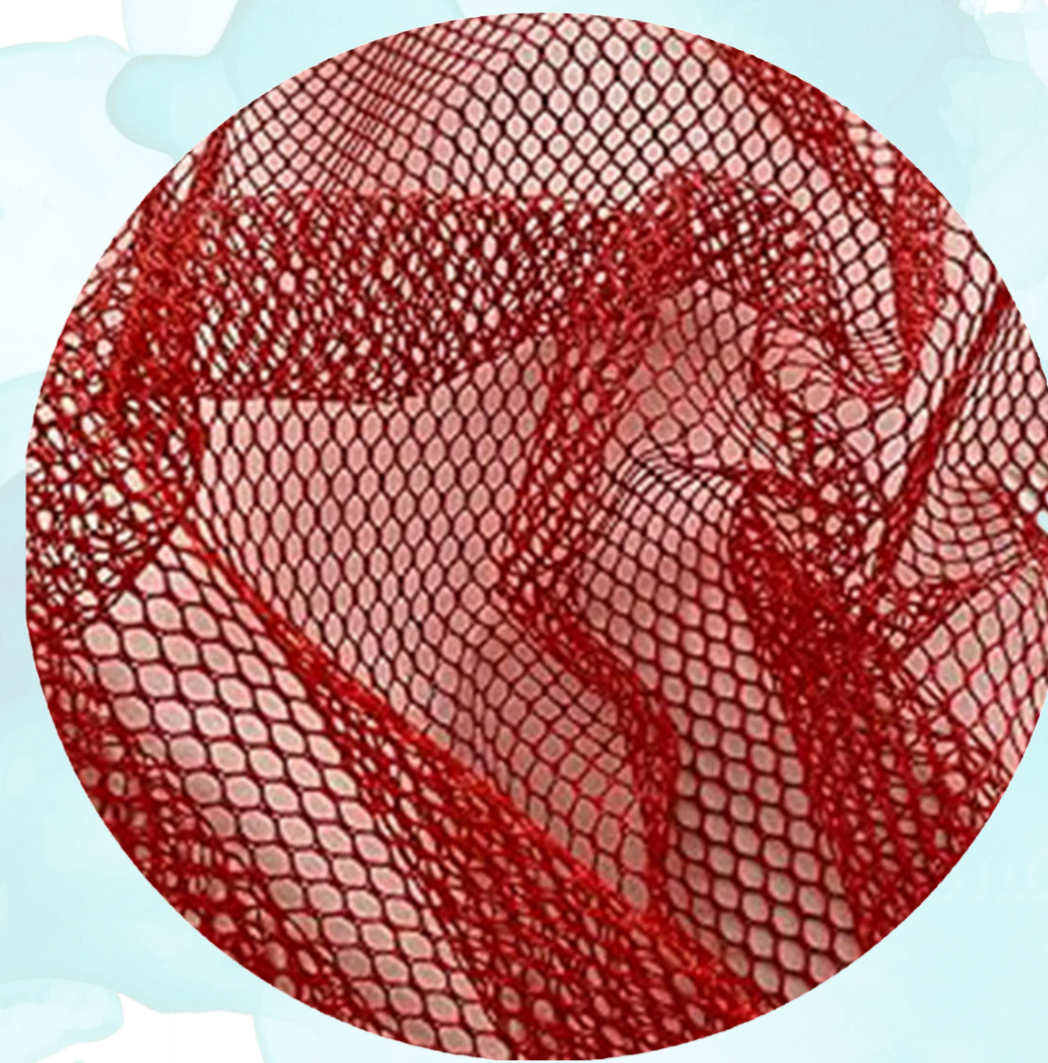
NATURE RECLAIMS RUINS

< AN ECOLOGICAL SCAFFOLD >

'Nature Reclaims Ruins' is an installation piece and innovative landscape design located at Balmerino Abbey in Fife, Scotland. The site which was previously left to decay at the hands of climbing ivy has been revitalised allowing nature to become an architect of time and reclaim the land in a less destructive manner, preserving the history of the site. This has been achieved with a series of organic biomaterials such as live bacteria infused concrete and bioactive compressed boards made from derooted plants to allow for natural ecological growth where the installation will naturally progress and expand over time.

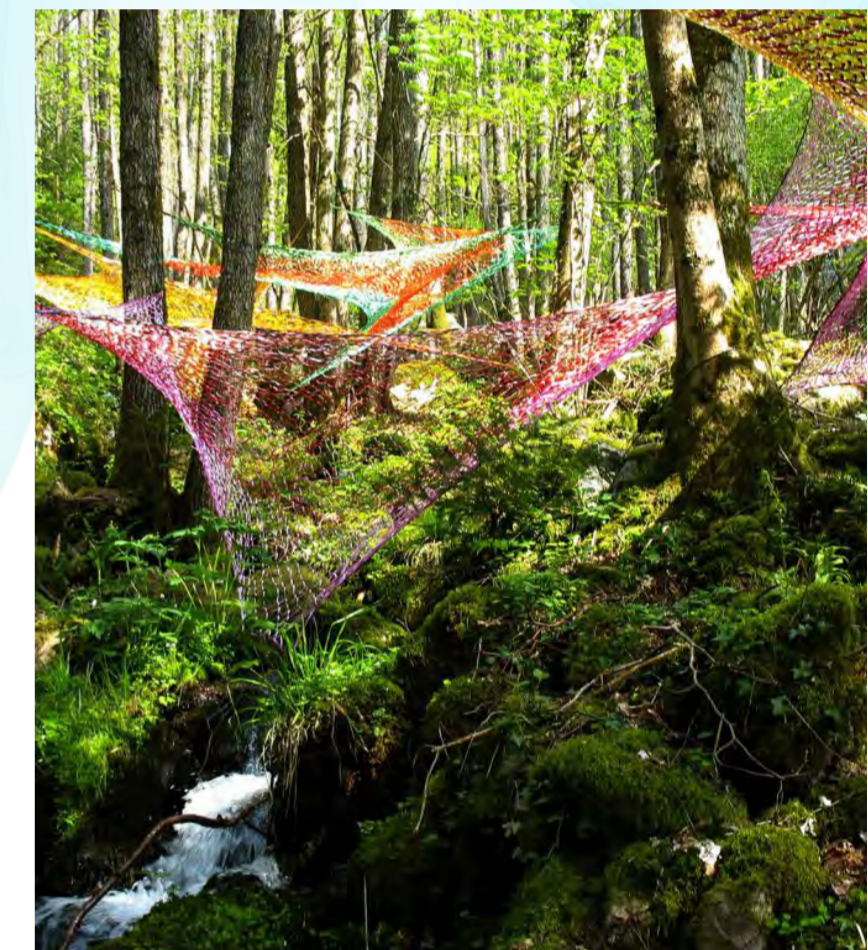
FIBRE SILK MESH

'FIBRE SILK MESH' made from mulberry silk fabric and polyester plastic corrugated for an biomorphic overhead structure representing the passage of time and stretch from past to present. The fibre mesh is renowned for its strength which is nailed to the ruins which secures installation room.



ARRIVAL

'ARRIVAL' is all about the 'Human Architecture' and exploring the relationship with the historical context of the site, Balmerino Abbey; focusing on the 'THEN'. Being inspired by the texture and decay of the building, this zone is about understanding and creating a sense of nostalgia through the exploration of the site's history.



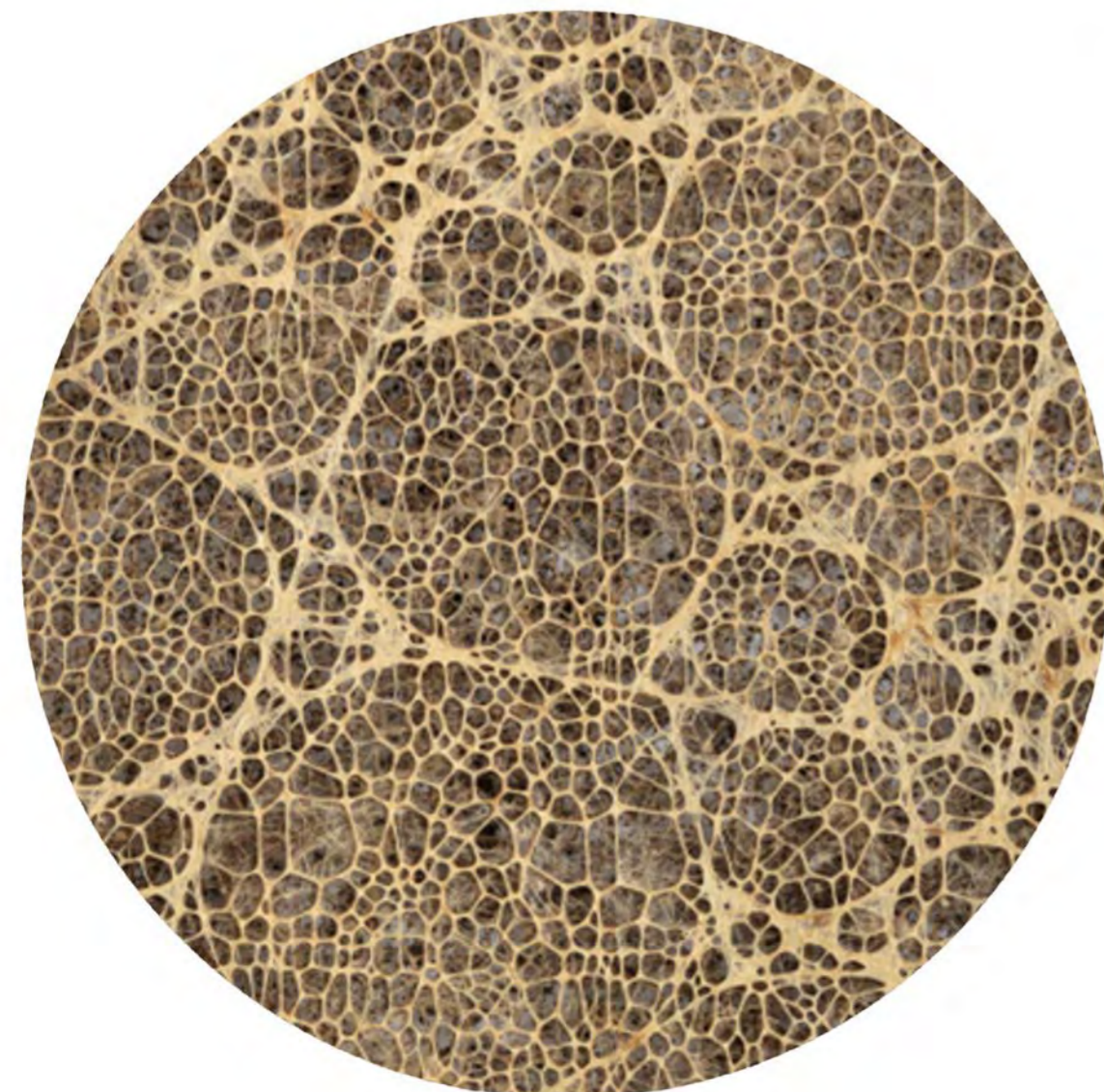
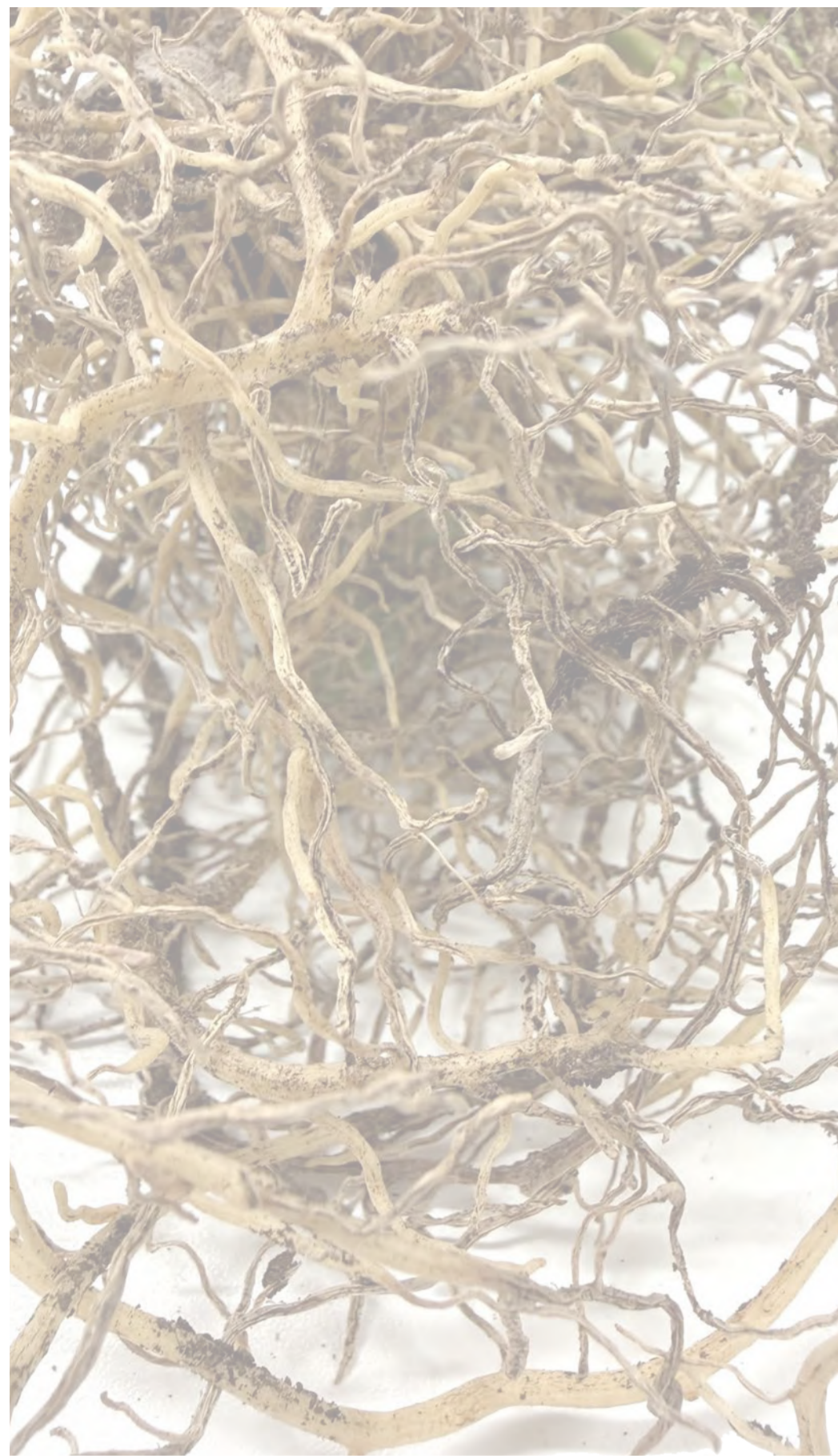
CASE STUDIES

'ONE-SEATER CONCRETE TREE' - NACHO CARBONELL

'TEXTILE ART' - EDITH MEUSNIER

'VESTIGE 2009' - ROB MULHOLLAND





BIOACTIVE COMPRESSED BOARD

'BIOACTIVE COMPRESSED BOARD' is a biomaterial that explores the relationship between humans and the natural environment. The material is generated through plant roots growing in a mould and the sealed and compressed creating a sturdy and fully organic building material completely waterproof and non-harmful to its surrounding environment.

DEVELOPMENT

To develop the project further and bring back a wider sense of community to the Abbey, the fifth zone will include community gardening strips where people can come and plant their own vegetation in memory of passed loved ones.



CONTACT

'CONTACT' is where the concept of biophilia properly begins as 'Nature meets Ruins', where nature invading the structure starts to emerge. Taking inspiration from roots and invasive plant growth, this zone focuses on the 'NOW' by being a textural and relational experience, allowing visitors the opportunity to feel growth patterns.

BIOCONCRETE

'BIOCONCRETE' is a modified concrete material which has been infused with live bacteria pre-solidarity creating a hybrid mix of materials to help encourage plant growth and supports moss. Not only is this biomaterial easy to create, it also benefits our ecosystem allowing the structure constructed from bioconcrete to become 'green' using its materiality as an ecological scaffold.

EXPERIMENTAL MODELS

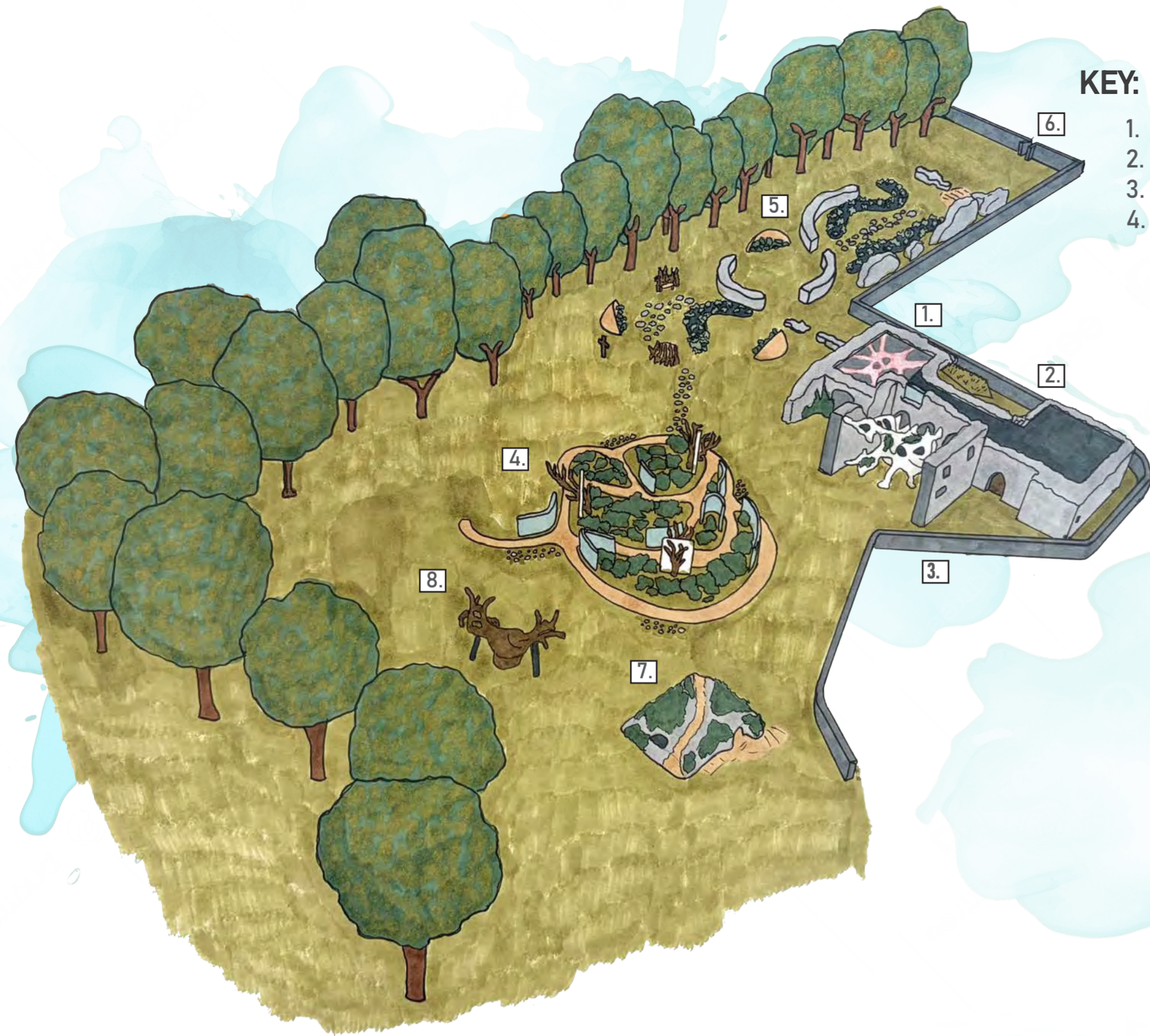


GROWTH

'GROWTH' is the main section of the installation and fully shows the 'progression of ecological growth'. Inspired by the historic Oak on site, this section focuses on the 'NEW' as a multisensory experience where visitors can view, climb, touch, smell and hear the structure, focusing on 'Sound and Movement'.



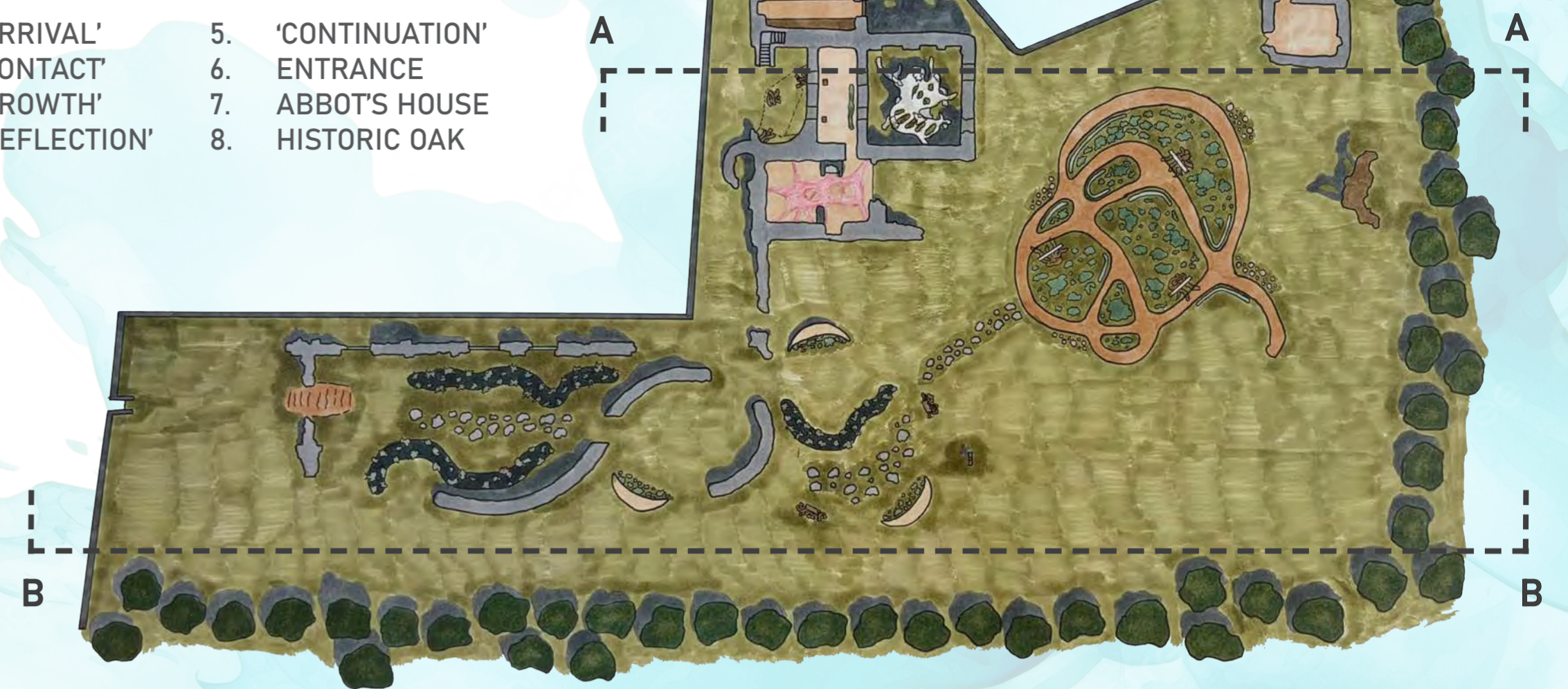
AXONOMETRIC



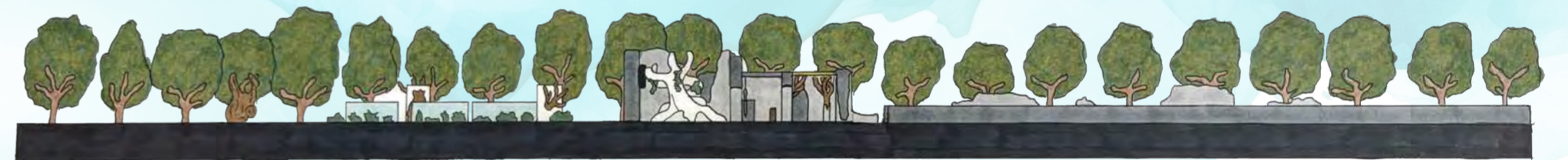
SITE PLAN

KEY:

- | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| 1. 'ARRIVAL' | 5. 'CONTINUATION' |
| 2. 'CONTACT' | 6. ENTRANCE |
| 3. 'GROWTH' | 7. ABBOT'S HOUSE |
| 4. 'REFLECTION' | 8. HISTORIC OAK |



SECTION AA



SECTION BB



REFLECTION

'REFLECTION' is where the visitor goes straight after the main installation within the Abbey. This zone is fully inspired by 'Removal and Regeneration' and has been designed to allow the visitors the opportunity to reflect on the installation, its meaning and their own thoughts in a small ecological path.





CONTINUATION

'CONTINUATION' is the final section and is designed to leave a lasting impact with a large scale garden space where future growth is encouraged. Influenced by 'Hybrid Futures', this section focuses on the 'FUTURE' where ecology can continue to reclaim the site in a controlled and non-destructive manner.

1:50 SCALE MODEL



1:150 SCALE MODEL

