



FALLEN FIVE MEMORIAL

WREATH OF HONOR

INSPIRATION | MARKING SACRED GROUND



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The Riverpark site was made sacred by the attacks that occurred on July 16, 2015, at the nearby US Navy Operational Support Center, but also by the tremendous acts of kindness, support, and strength that occurred following July 16th in the form of makeshift memorials and vigils held at the Tennessee Riverpark.



INSPIRATION | MARKING SACRED GROUND

Our memorial concept is inspired by the transcendent form and symbolism of a wreath. For many cultures, wreaths represent notions of eternity, continuity, and memory. Within military history, wreaths carry special layers of meaning: victory, bravery, peace. In the military tradition of wreath-laying ceremonies, this reverent gesture recognizes honor and sacrifice.



INSPIRATION | CONNECTING THE FALLEN FIVE WITH THE COMMUNITY



As artists, we wanted to take a different approach than many veteran and military memorials by dynamically connecting the Fallen Five to the community in which they lived and worked, serving their country.

INSPIRATION | VOICES OF THE COMMUNITY



Sample of some of the words of tribute from the community following the tragic and heroic acts on July 16, 2015.

**WE WILL NEVER FORGET -
NOOGA STRONG!**

WE HONOR THE FIVE

**YOU ARE IN OUR PRAYERS
ALWAYS**

**HOME OF THE FREE
BECAUSE OF THE BRAVE**

**CHATTANOOGA STANDS
WITH YOU ALWAYS**

MEMORIAL ENTRY

Not touching the ground below, a suspended wreath creates a powerful gesture that marks the Riverpark site made sacred by the attacks, eternally embodying a ritual of remembrance. In our proposal, the sculptural wreath hovers above a circular granite plaza, equally suspended by five monumental limestone pillars, each representing a different member of the Fallen Five.



THE MEMORIAL PILLARS

The pillars will be engraved with the name and biographical text of each of the Fallen Five, giving visitors a personal glimpse into the lives of these heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation.



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THE MEMORIAL WREATH

The sculptural wreath is composed of interlacing, brass-finished metal arc bands waterjet cut with the powerful words of tribute from the community. At the center of the plaza is a circular limestone bench that provides seating and a contemplative place to look upwards through the wreath to the sky above. The words and circular form of the wreath become a powerful symbol of unity for Chattanooga. The relationship of the pillars and wreath become a metaphor for how Chattanooga will forever be connected to the Fallen Five, and how the Fallen Five will always stand as beacons of hope, honor, valor, and sacrifice.



POWERFUL WORDS OF TRIBUTE
REVEAL THEMSELVES LIKE
A CHORUS OF COMMUNITY
VOICES AS ONE MOVES AROUND
THE SUSPENDED WREATH

ENTRY APPROACH

The main approach to the Memorial is from the Northeast of the site where the large open greenspace is located, although the Memorial can be seen around the Riverpark and is accessible from various pathways. Along this main pathway is a low, brass-finished metal, title wall that marks the entrance of the Memorial. This element is engraved with interpretive text presenting a narrative of the tragic and heroic events that took place on July 16, 2015.



VIEW FROM SOUTH PATHWAY

A semicircle of flowering dogwood trees is planted around the Memorial. Other species of trees and plantings we propose for the site include white cedar, eastern white pine, and white forsythia.



VIEW FROM EAST PATHWAY

A semicircle of flowering dogwood trees is planted around the Memorial. Other species of trees and plantings we propose for the site include white cedar, eastern white pine, and white forsythia.



VIEW FROM PATHWAY NEAR PARKING LOT

The existing trees of the site imbue the Memorial with a living quality as the color and density of the leaves change from season to season.



VIEW FROM RIVERBANK

The Memorial is located on Site 1 of the Riverpark. There the elevated landscape of trees provides topographic prominence and a feeling of quiet contemplation, appropriate for a memorial experience that evokes both heroism and memory.



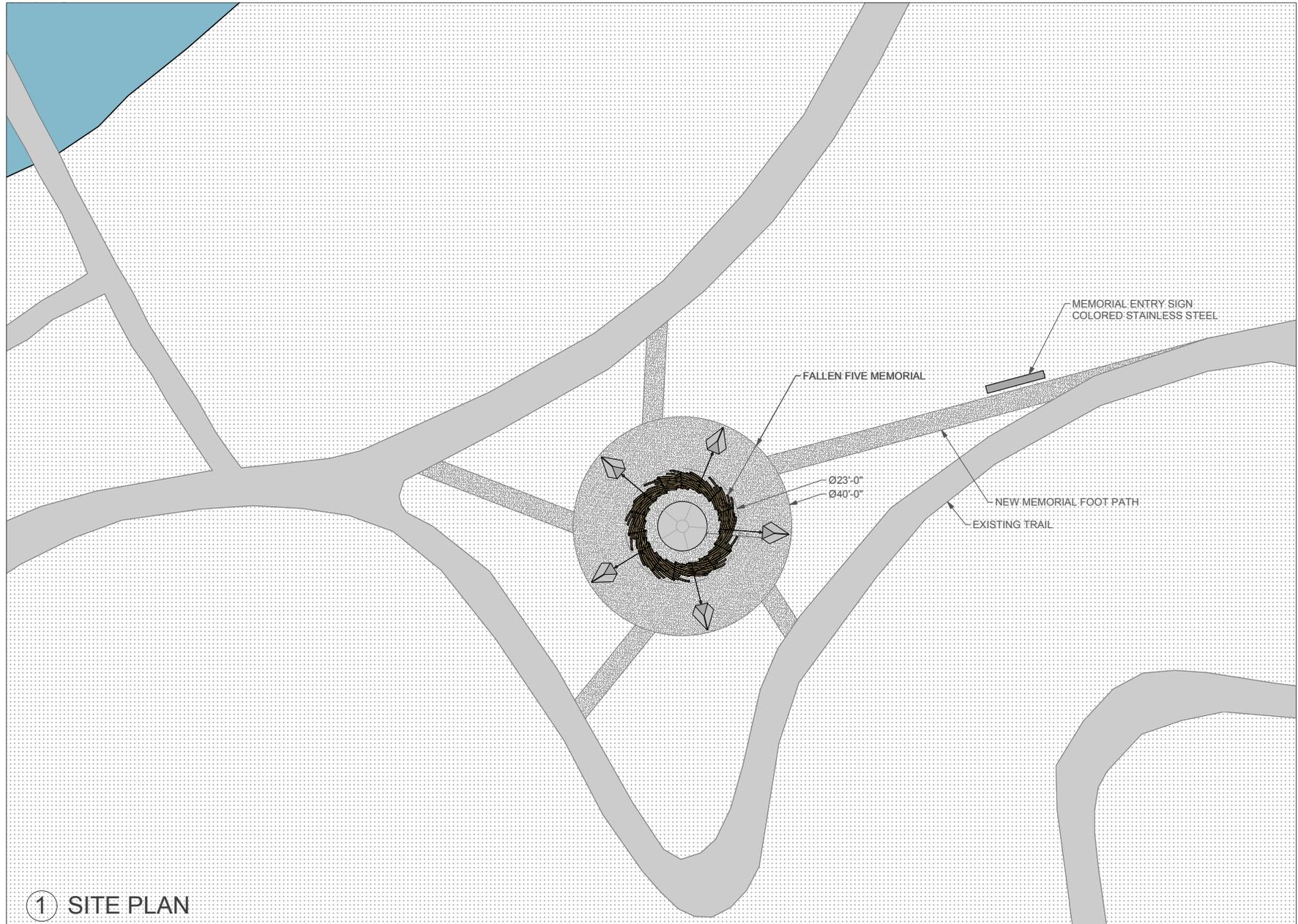
ENTRY APPROACH | NIGHT



MODEL



SITE PLAN



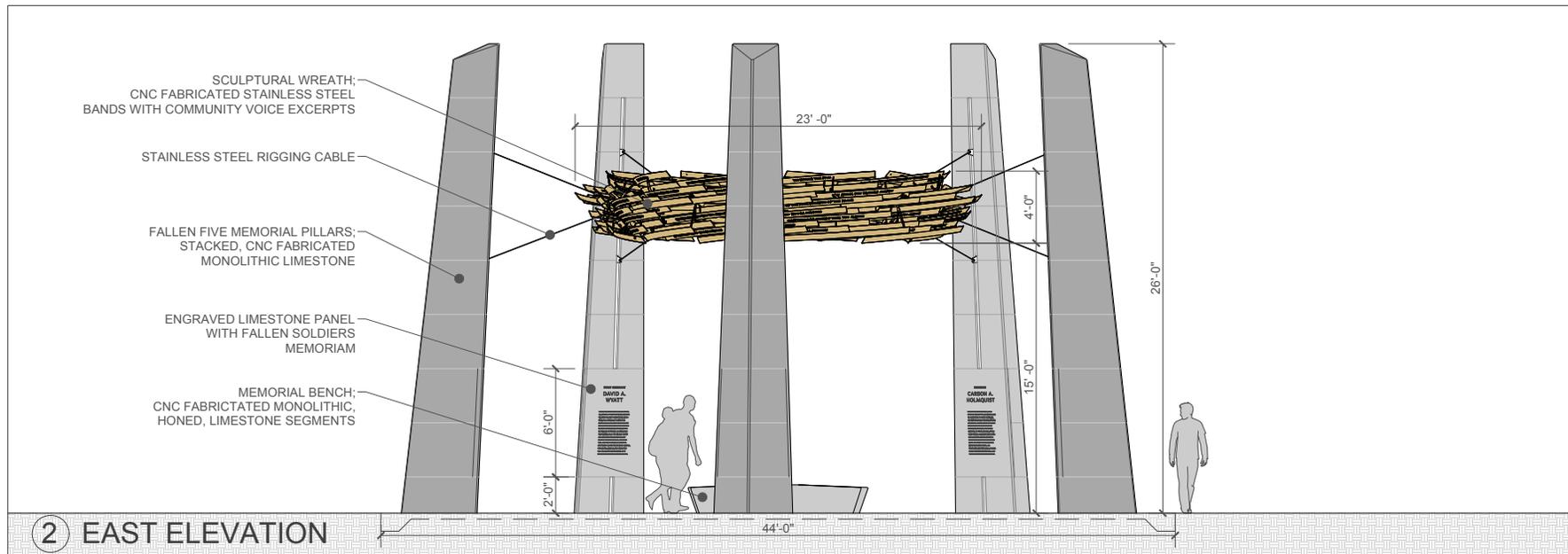
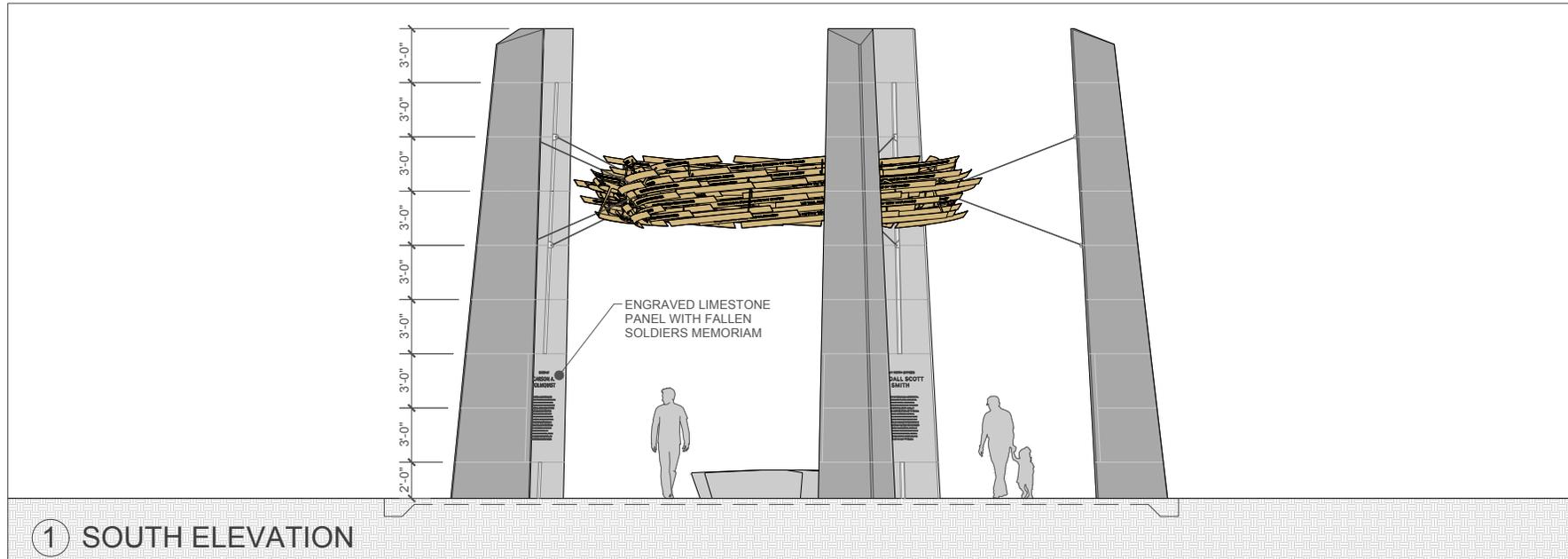
PLAN



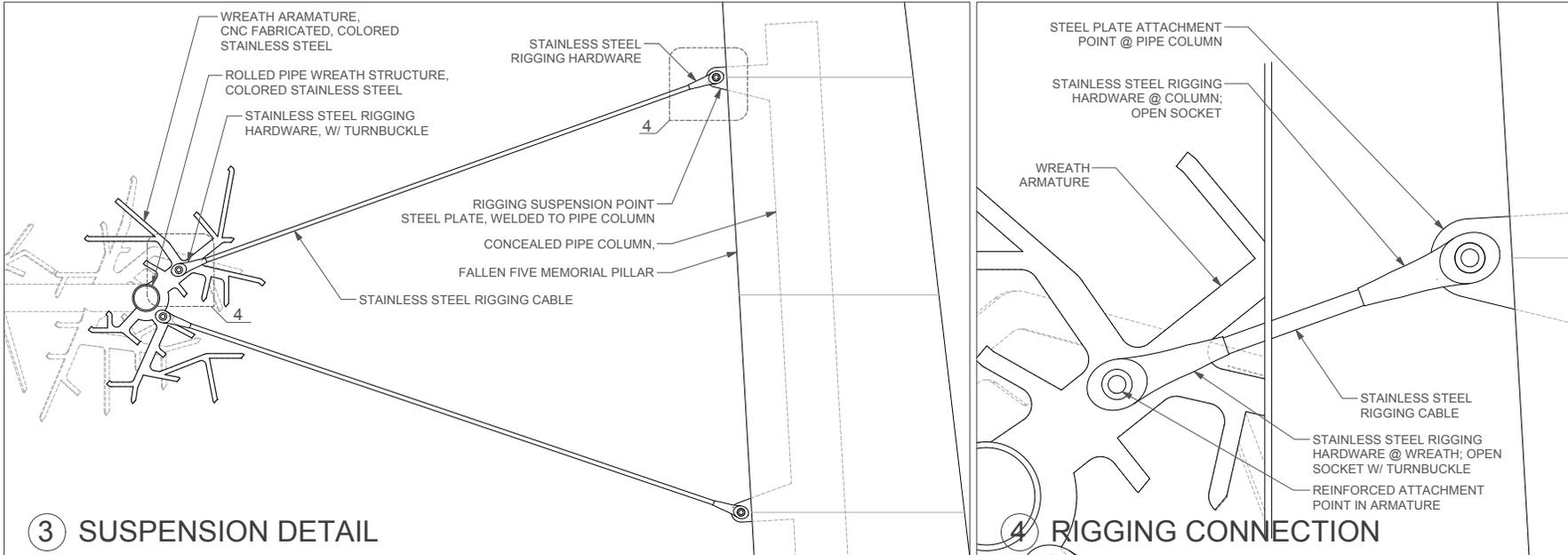
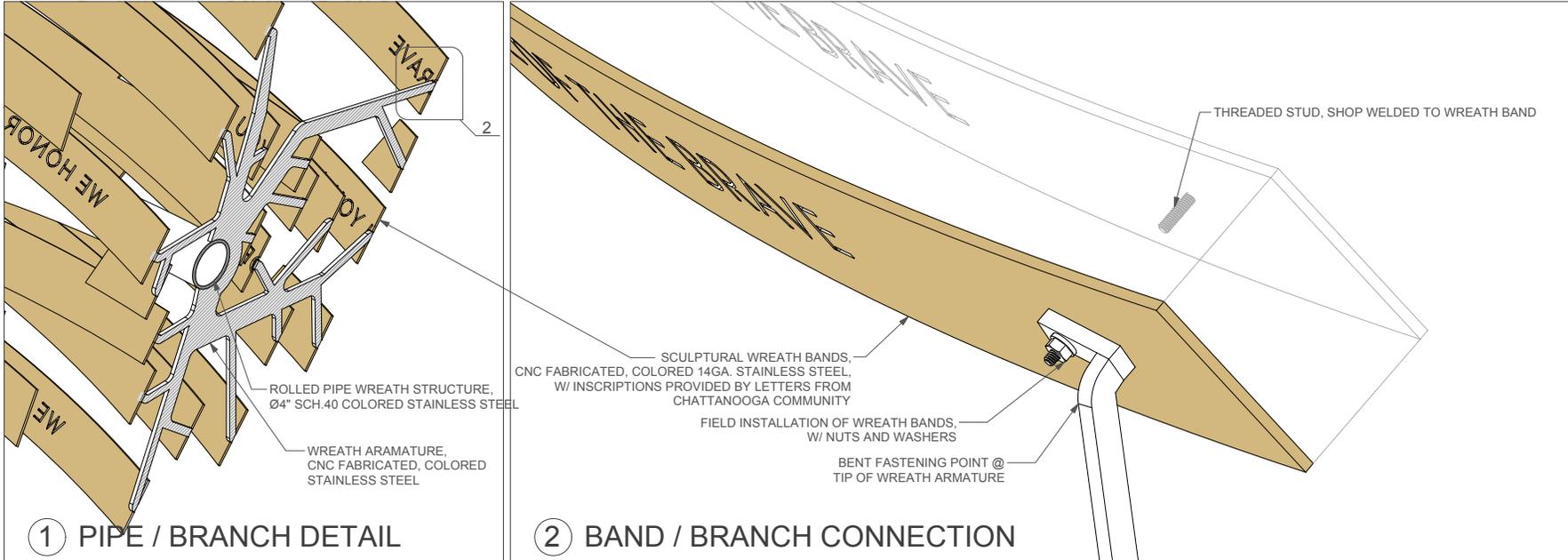
The relative configuration of the pillars also implies the shape of a star, which pays tribute to Gold Star families: relatives of US military members who died during military service.



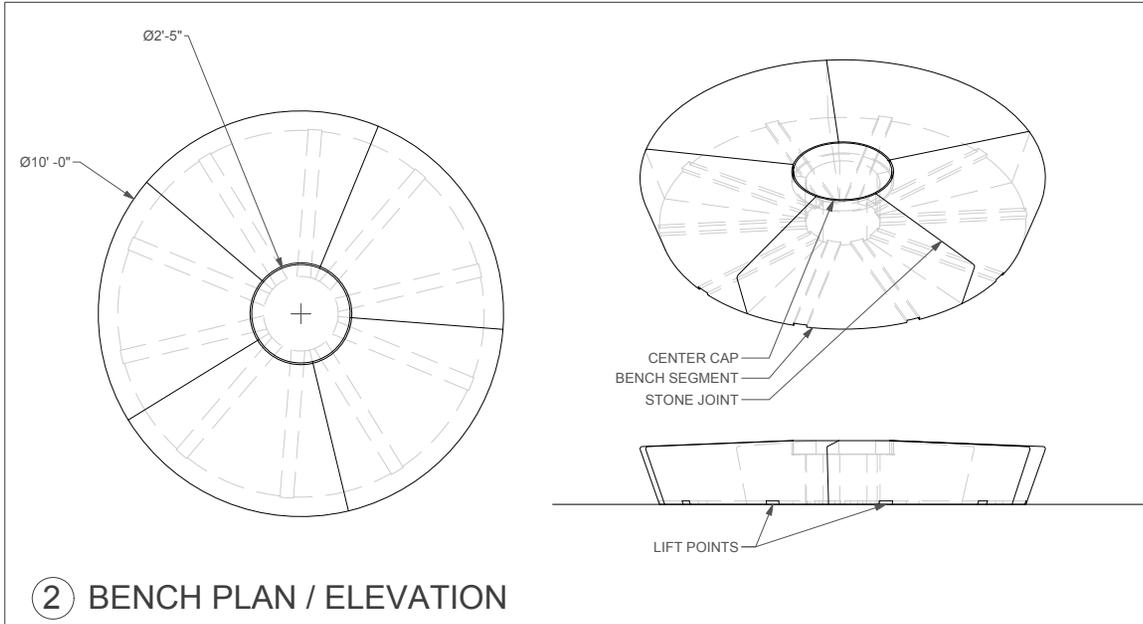
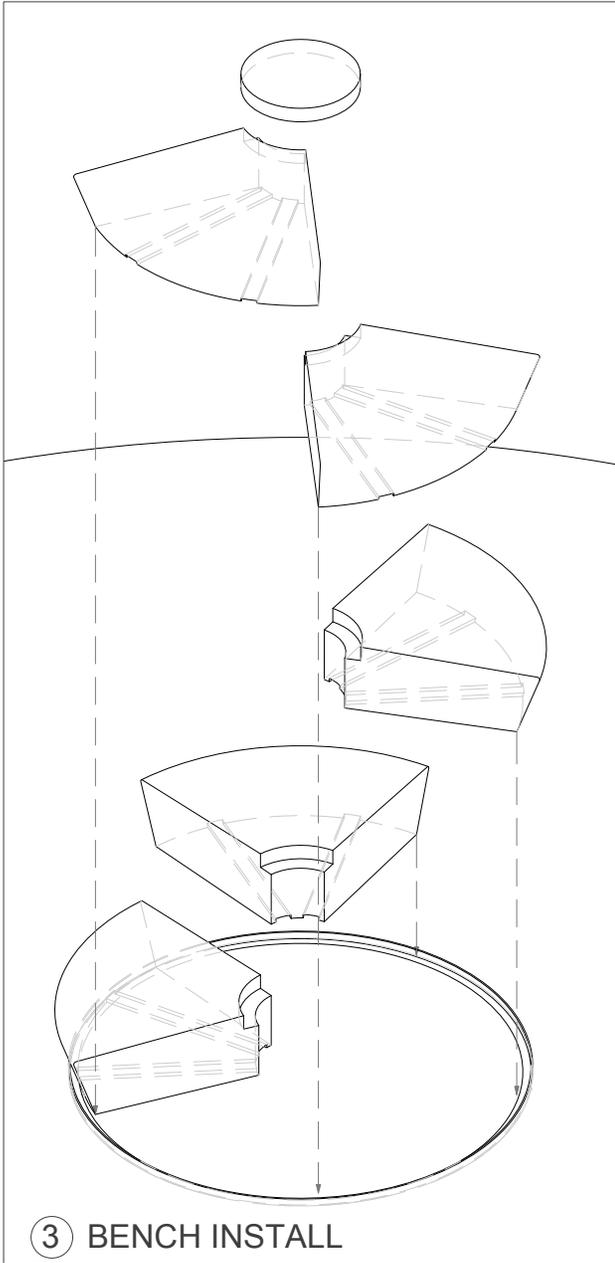
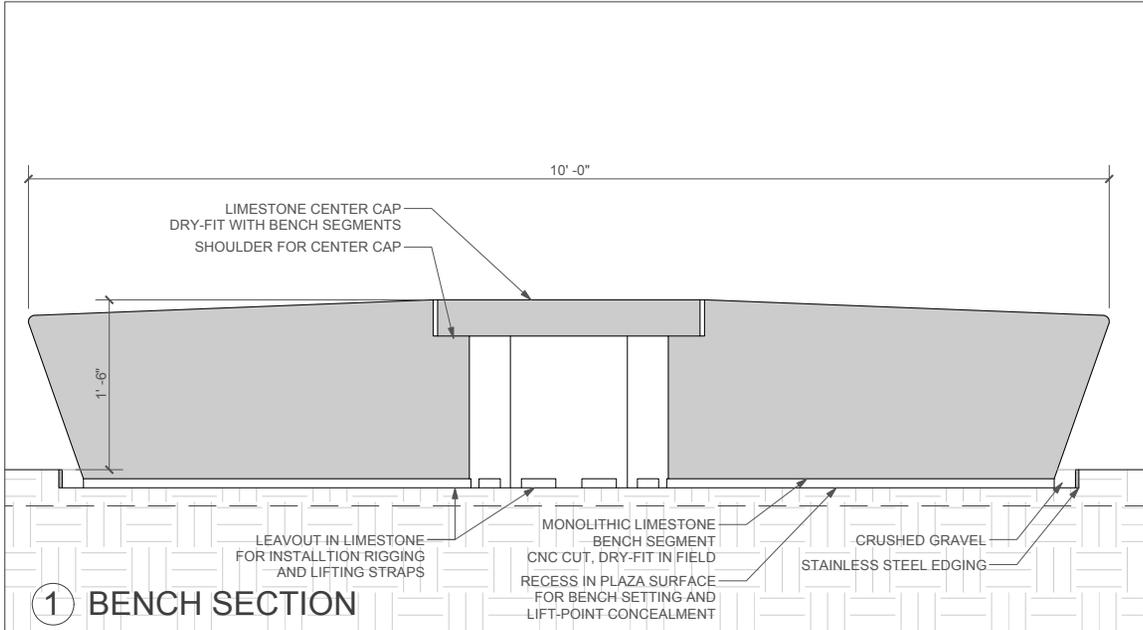
ELEVATIONS



DETAILS



DETAILS



FABRICATION

The Fallen Five Memorial is primarily composed of a large ephemeral wreath form suspended between five stone pillars. The Pillars are composed of CNC (Computer Numerical Control) milled stone block, each approximately 30" tall, that are dry stacked with a hairline horizontal joint (no mortar). These stone blocks will be epoxy doweled together with 1" to 1-1/2" stainless steel dowels between each course to prevent any shifting over time. Each pillar is tilted slightly inward to create an intimacy of space below the wreath form. Within each pillar is a steel support column that is isolated within a void inside the stone blocks. Each support column will have steel plates at 2 discreet vertical connection points for the tension cable connections to the wreath. At the base of each pillar an engraved panel approximately 48" wide and 72" tall will recall the lives of the Fallen Five. Each Stone pillar is imagined to be limestone, though a final determination of stone type will be made in collaboration with the project team.

The wreath is composed of a structural stainless steel ring that will be made in five structurally symmetrical parts. The tension cable connections back to the stone (steel) pillars will be made at the flange connection between these five sections. Each section will also have three armature plates which support the upwardly spiraling bands that compose the wreath form. The armature plates will be 3/8" - 1/2" stainless steel, bolted to the structural ring. At the end of each of the armature plate legs, a slotted connection will receive a through bolt attaching the bronze colored bands of the wreath.

The bands of the wreath, will be varying hues of bronze tones, achieved by coating either stainless steel or aluminum, or by using patinated bronze or brass plates. We are actively researching the best and most effective material, and several options are viable for this application. Each band will work together to create a dynamic and upwardly spiraling wreath form. The bands themselves will be 5" in width and vary in length from 6' - 8', and roughly one third of the bands will have cut out text referencing writings of community support for the fallen and their families.

The Plaza will be either a matching or contrasting stone, again to be determined on collaboration with the project team, and will be 44 feet in diameter. At the center of the plaza is a 10' diameter stone bench, matching the plaza, that will serve as a place of reflection and contemplation. It is sized with a gentle slope and rounded edge to allow visitors to lean back and gaze upward through the spiraling wreath form. Walkways to the plaza will be an exposed aggregate concrete to blend with the color of the forest floor, allowing circular form of the plaza to stand in solitude.

INSTALLATION

The plaza will be conventionally constructed, with a concrete slab atop a foundation as recommended by a local structural engineer. Each pillar will have a large spread footing tied into a grade beam at the perimeter of the plaza. The stone pillars will be erected first by installing their internal steel columns and “leveling” them to the appropriate angle. Each stone piece will then be lifted and lowered to sleeve over the interior steel column, while being set with three epoxy dowels between each course. The central stone bench will likewise be installed in five pieces during this phase, and capped with a circular center piece. Installation of the five columns and bench is expected to take 2-3 days.

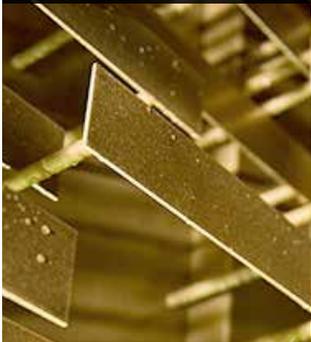
After the pillars are installed, the ring will be assembled in the center of the plaza on custom cribbing so that after connecting the 5 piece structural ring, the ribbons that compose the wreath forms can be carefully installed from a standing height. When the wreath assembly is finished, it will be lifted by five lifting points and transferred to the 10 cable connections back to the embedded steel columns. The assembly of the wreath will take 1-2 days, and lifting it into place will take 1 day.

After the columns, bench, and wreath are installed, the plaza uplighting and paving will proceed with a conventional placement of stone tiles, installation and aiming of the light fixtures at the base of each column, and placing the exposed aggregate concrete pathways to the plaza. This work will take approximately 1-2 weeks.

MATERIALS



LAPD Memorial



Brass colored metal bands

National Museum of African American History



Bartholomew County Memorial for Veterans



Limestone engraved pillars



Granite plaza



Rough aggregate concrete path

MATERIALS

National Museum of African American History and Culture



An openwork cast aluminum panel of the type used to fabricate the cladding that covers the exterior of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, located on the National Mall in Washington, DC.

MATERIALS

LAPD Memorial to Fallen Officers



The new LAPD Memorial to Fallen Officers stands as a testament to the strength and courage of the Los Angeles Police Department created from brass alloy metal plates.

MATERIALS / MAINTENANCE

The maintenance of this project is designed to be minimal. The wreath and all of its components will be constructed exclusively of stainless steel, anodized aluminum, or other non-ferrous / non-corrosive metals. Brass finishing of the ribbons that compose the wreath form will be selected for minimal maintenance over many decades, and several options that are available and appropriate for this application will be discussed with the project team.

Although the metal bands appear to be tightly interlaced from the viewer's perspective below, there is more than ample spacing between bands that will not trap leaves or other debris in the structure. In addition, there are no horizontal surfaces that compose the wreath structure that will invite birds to nest.

Limestone that is proposed for the columns and benches will age gracefully with no horizontal surfaces to catch dirt and debris. The inner surface, pitched slightly forward and with the tops pitched back away from the plaza will ensure that the inward facing surface and engraved panels remain clean and legible for a lifetime. Limestone cleaning solutions, if desired, may be applied to the bench and or pillars every 10 years or more, which will return the limestone to its bright original condition. This cleaning however, is not required.

The cable hardware that will support the wreath from the interior steel columns will be sized and extreme wind events, with 5 tensile cables supporting the piece and 5 cables in opposition to prevent the piece from bouncing or swaying in the wind. These cables should be checked for proper tension bi-annually, which will take only a few hours.

Plaza flooring and walkways would require power washing, similar to any concrete horizontal surface in a wooded environment, and depending on the selected material, may be able to conceal dirt and stains more successfully than concrete.

Plaza up-lighting will be high quality LED fixtures designed for wet locations with an IP-68 exterior rating for high-pressure spray. LED fixtures will last about 7 years before replacement of the lighting elements is required. Regular cleaning of the up-light lenses will be required to maintain clear illumination of the engraved panels and the wreath, and will take only minutes per fixture.

LANDSCAPE

The site plantings have been designed to contribute to the overall experience of the memorial in a few significant ways. There are three primary plant types in the concept design: white forsythia shrubs (*Abeliophyllum distichum*) that will grow to approximately 5ft in height, fill the open spaces around the memorial plaza, and produce white blooms in the Spring; flowering dogwood trees (*Cornus florida*) that grow to approximately 15ft, will form a close ring around the memorial plaza, and also produce white blossoms in the Spring; and a mix of white cedar trees (*Thuja occidentalis*) and eastern white pine trees (*Pinus strobus*), both evergreen trees that can grow to over 50ft and will form an outer ring around the broader memorial site.

The white forsythia and flowering dogwoods were selected foremost for their striking white blossoms that will create a seasonal event each spring at the Memorial. White is a color identified with peace and understanding. These are values which speak to the larger values of the memorial project and how we remember the Fallen Five. The two plantings fill different roles within the site, but they complement each other in form. Whereas the forsythia will spread out along the ground plane and fill in the spaces between the paths and the plaza, the dogwoods will form a ring that embraces the plaza and add a level of intimacy to the space.

In contrast to the forsythia and the dogwoods, the evergreen trees were selected foremost for their consistent color throughout the seasons and their towering form. Located in a ring formation around the space of the memorial, the evergreens will provide a sense of constancy to the Memorial, a sense of protection, and they will define the larger space of the Memorial. Three of the four plant types in the landscape design are considered native to Eastern Tennessee. While the white forsythia is not native to the region, it will grow well and is not considered invasive.



Flowering Dogwood



White Forsythia



Eastern White Pine



White Cedar Trees

LANDSCAPE SITE PLAN





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WREATH OF HONOR

Artists: RE:site, Shane Allbritton + Norman Lee | Architects: Metalab | Landscape Architects: Asakura Robinson