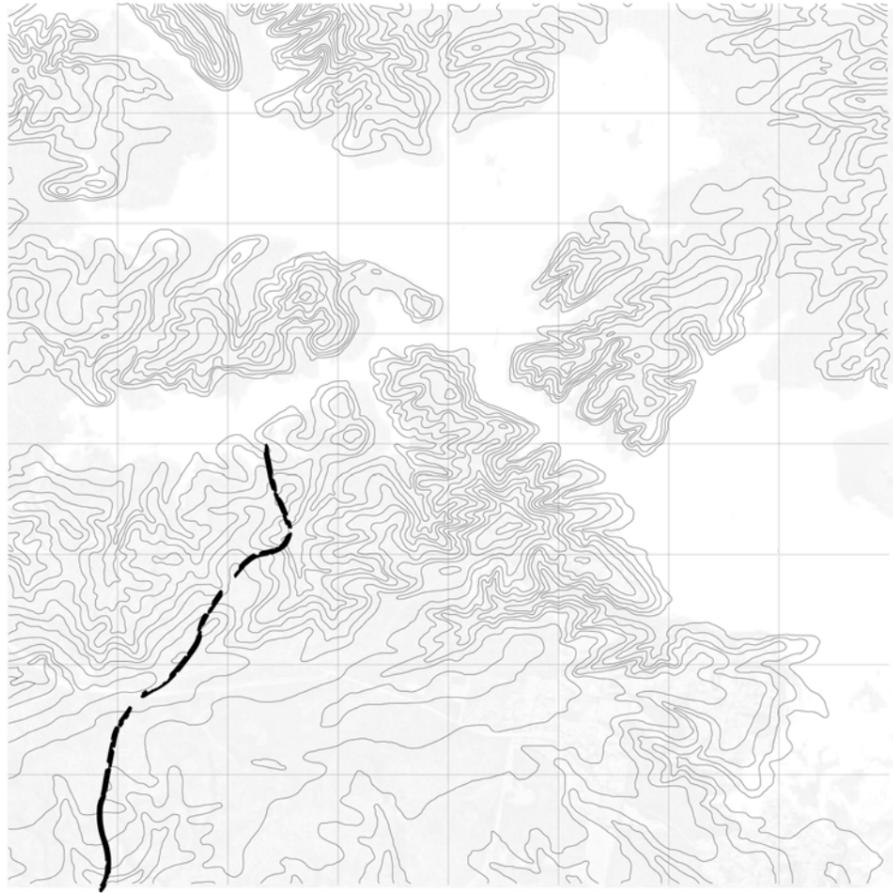


## Charcoal Scars

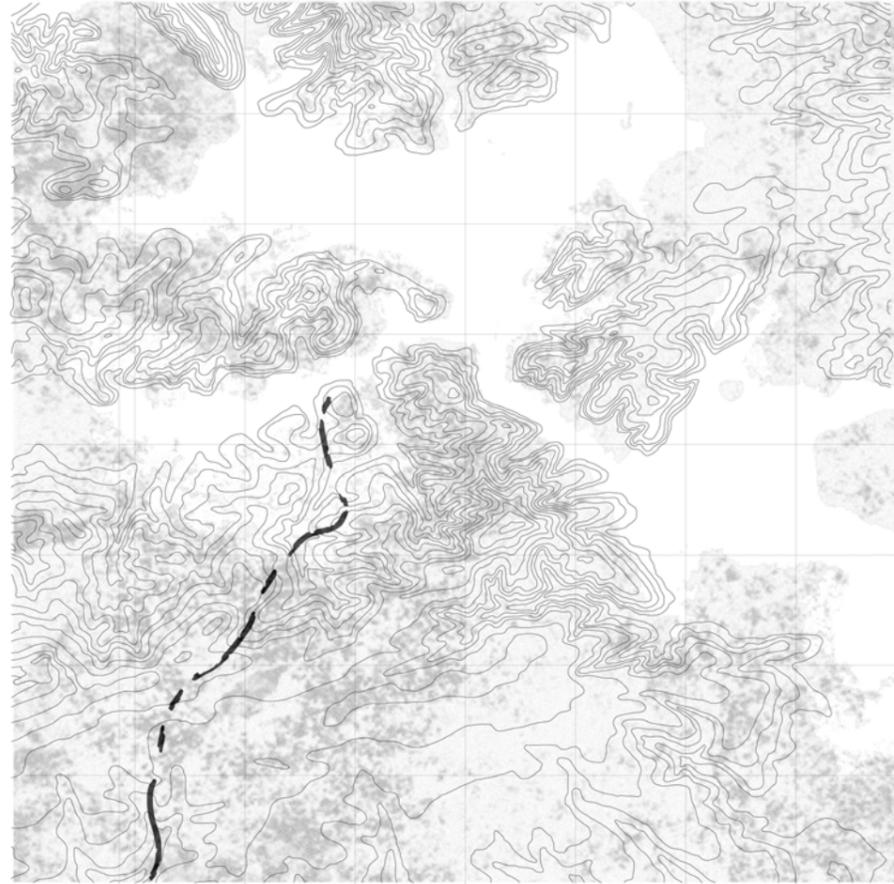


*Monashtrouonauts: Andy Nguy, Enzo Lara-Hamilton, Haroula Karapanagiotidis & Sithij Cooray*

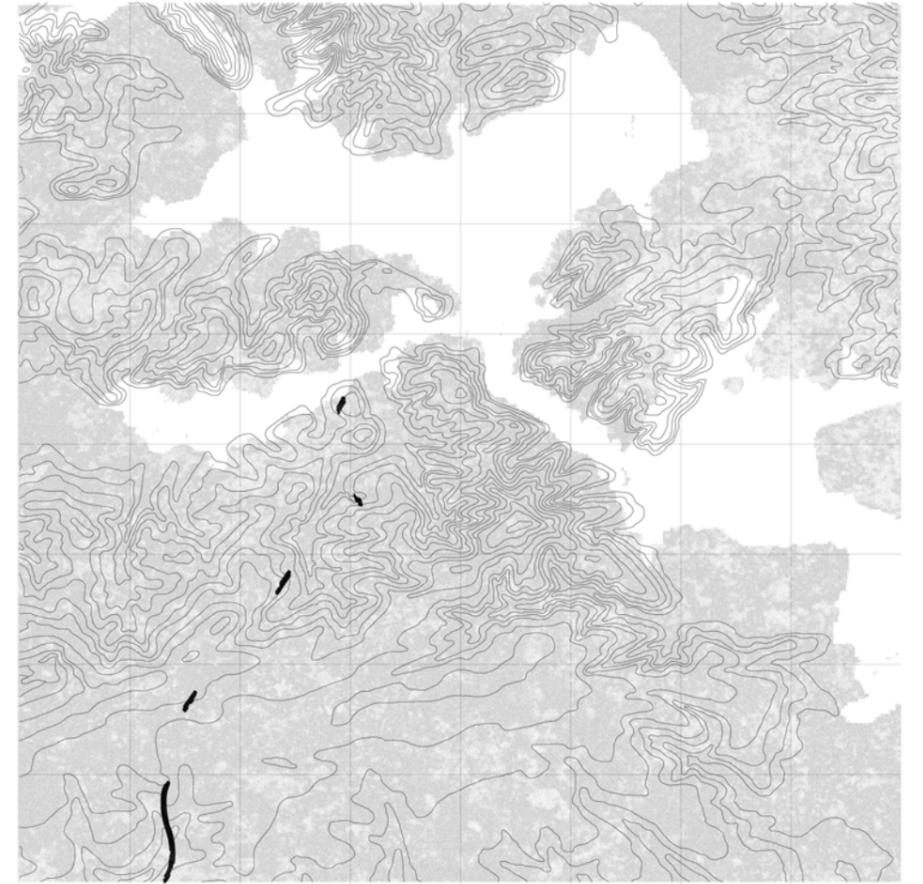




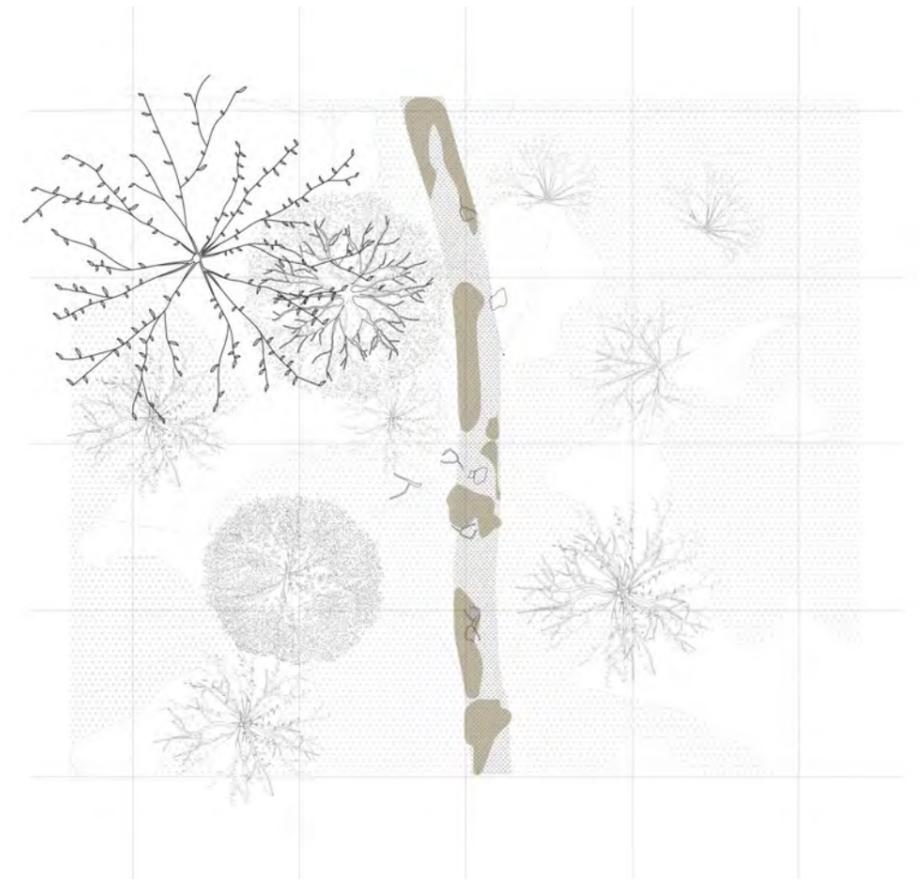
receptacle.



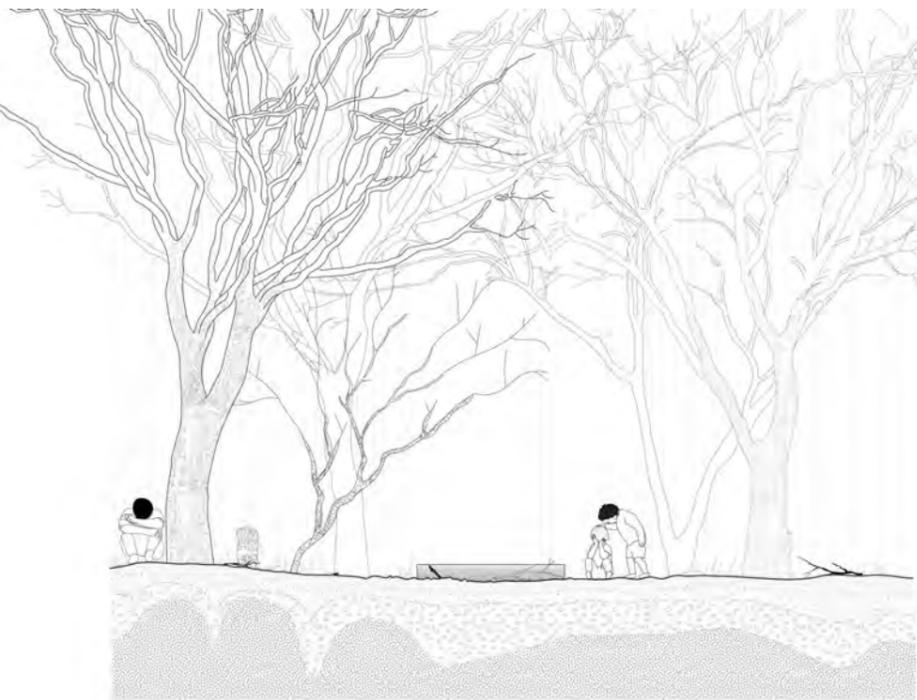
embodiment.



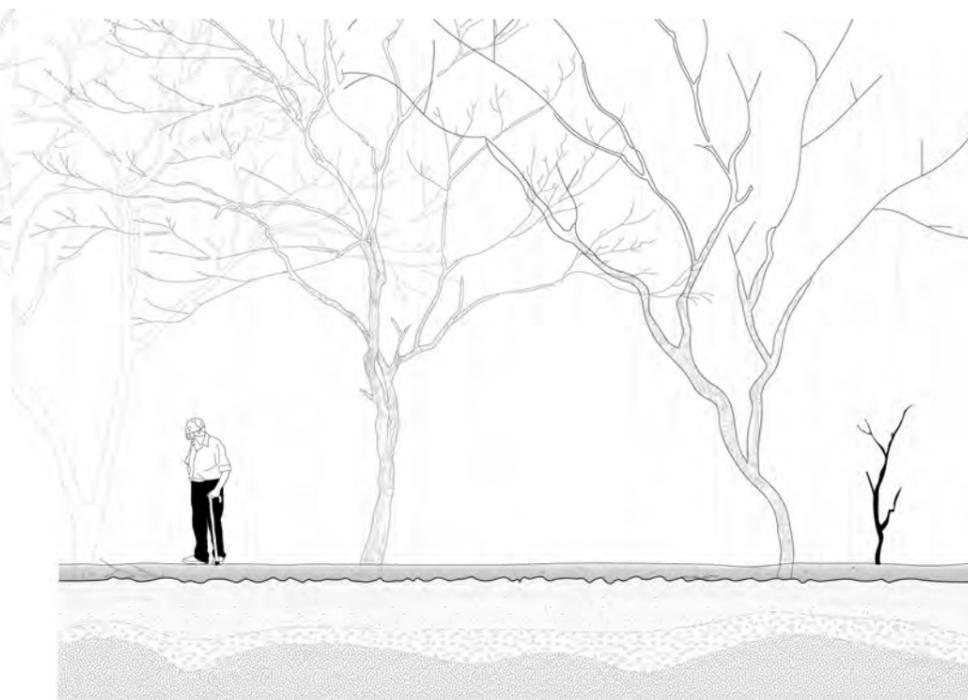
Scar.



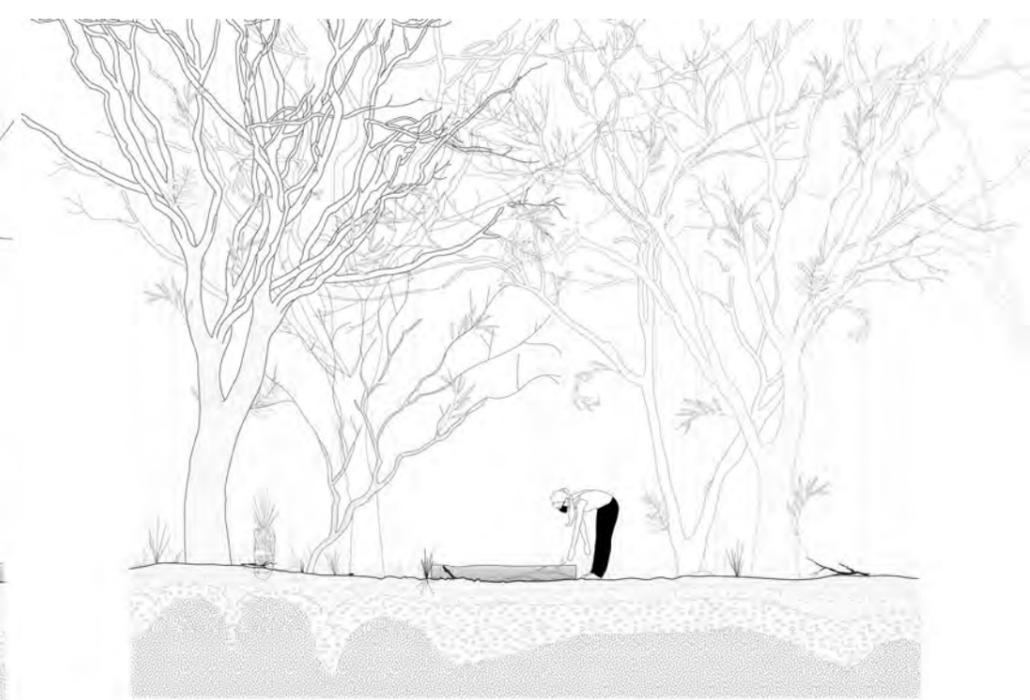
capturing the burnt matter of the fires in a translucent path. This path becomes a coping receptacle for those who need it.



This is the charcoal scar...



The scar is reflected upon by those who need it



The scar heals, symbolic, but with no guarantee of human healing.

## Charcoal Scars

Our approach seeks not to promise recovery but be a receptacle for grief. It archives the Mallecoota bushfires by capturing the burnt matter of the fires in an eco-resin and eucalyptus sap path. This path becomes a coping receptacle for those who need it. In providing a vessel for grief, an individual's passage along the 'charcoal scar' becomes an act of collective memory.

With each person anchoring their grief, loss, and heartache to this path, it provides potential for release. A collective scar that is reflected upon.

This project does not seek to 'fix' people. As displaced architects, we cannot fathom the grief these people are experiencing. We look not to impose our naivety, ignorance or bias but rather provide a potent gesture that provides potential for release and collective memory.

Our path operates through time. After initially capturing the charcoal debris, regrowth around the path begins to occur. The beginning of regrowth around the 'scar' is phenomenologically potent. When people continually return to the path, they experience Mallecoota's natural regrowth around the blackness.

As the fauna and flora continues to grow, the charcoal scar, now walked thousands of times, fades.

Bushfire grieving is problematised by the pandemic. The inability to embrace, the lack of home, hidden faces, and no place specific to grieve. However, even when alone and socially distanced, walking along is met with a collective memory...along a charcoal scar.

By Enzo Lara-Hamilton, Haroula Karapanagiotidis, Sith Cooray, Andy Nguy