The “Memorial” of Narratives

University Square: Private or Public?

Since 1970, a master plan to include University Square as part of the expansion of the University of Melbourne has been speculated. The demolition of the Victorian Bowling Club is a reason for the expansion (and partly because of the decline of the usage).

The Carlton Residents Association has identified the University Square as an artistic pallet and public open space. However, the University Square under all the new university developments, now seems to be turning into a privatized area, with students as the prime group of users. As a space that is dedicated to be part of the link of the university and the city, the identity of this space, turning from a private bowling club into now a public plaza, plays a significant role.

Museum: One-Directional Narratives

We will add art installations or museums with a single narrative. You may need the description text placed next to the artwork, gaze at it, and contemplate. However, we are only learning about history with the view of a particular point on the timeline at a particular perspective. Traditional memorials have also demonstrated a generic way of how the public memorializes with statues and monuments.

Landscape: Continuous Narratives

In the landscape, we actively engage with our environment, creating memories through events and daily life usage. However, a lot of the site landscape narratives have been lost due to new design overlapping and taking over what was there.

Without any pre-defined program or experience to be achieved or a particular event to be remembered, the landscape will integrate different narratives layers. It creates links and traces with memories for different generations and ethnic groups to share and learn. Lost narratives will be discovered and reinterpreted with contemporary usage. These layers will co-exist on the site, and prospecting new layers to be integrated.