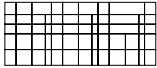


RECLAIM A PLAYGROUND

It is an interdisciplinary art project that aims to tackle the pressing issues of urbanization, the diminishing availability of outdoor spaces, and their impact on our physical and mental well-being. The project serves as a creative response to the recent petition by the Trellick Tower community against the proposed housing plan by the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (RBKC), which poses a threat to existing public spaces.

Drawing inspiration from the Brutalist architecture movement and the post-war emphasis on outdoor play spaces for children, *RECLAIM A PLAYGROUND* strives to generate a thought-provoking dialogue about the importance of preserving public spaces and the need to reevaluate urban planning policies in the face of contemporary societal challenges.

BRUTALISM AND URBANIZATION



Initially, the intention was to explore the adverse effects of modern warfare on people's living spaces and natural environments, building upon the anti-war theme of the recent project "Go to the Shelter." The goal was to extend the narrative of individuals forced to dwell in underground tunnels during the London Blitz in World War II and delve into the stories of those returning to the surface in the post-war era.

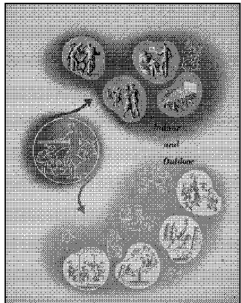
In the summer of 2022, a visit to the remarkable Unité d'Habitation in Marseille, designed by Le Corbusier, left a profound impression. Upon entering this epitome of Brutalist architecture, the architect's original vision for community planning remained evident. Following World War II, Europe was left in ruins, and the urgent need to rebuild homes arose. Brutalist architecture emerged during this period, characterized by rough concrete and low-cost construction, providing affordable housing and ensuring a high quality of community living for the post-war working class, ultimately reshaping society.

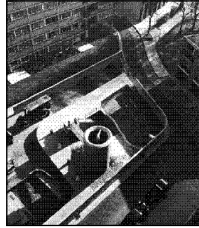
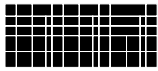
While examining the archives of Brutalist architecture, it was discovered that major British cities like London had embarked on extensive demolition and reconstruction projects over the past decade, primarily due to deteriorating communities and escalating crime rates. This led to new regeneration plans aimed at revitalizing these areas. However, the contentious demolition

of the renowned Robin Hood Garden project and the subsequent construction of the Blackwall Reach regeneration project, which increased housing units nearly sixfold with 50% being affordable council homes, seemed to address the quantitative aspect of affordable housing but raised concerns regarding the preservation of historical, cultural, and social values.

A similar approach was taken in Southwark's recent Aylesbury Estate regeneration project, where only up to 50% of the new buildings were designated as affordable housing. Conversely, more affluent communities like the Barbican Estate received preferential treatment, as they were initially designed for young professionals, families, and retirees.

Numerous Brutalist architecture communities face significant pressure, and several buildings are forced to undergo changes. Some Brutalist structures, such as the Unité d'Habitation, have been renovated and converted into private residential properties and luxury hotels. In East London, the Balfron Tower stands as an example of extreme renovation, with original residents compelled to vacate and the building transformed into designer luxury apartments, offering no opportunity for the original residents to return. In contrast, the Trellick Tower, also designed by Ernő Goldfinger, followed a different path, with the building designated as council housing and gradually evolving into a mixed-tenure



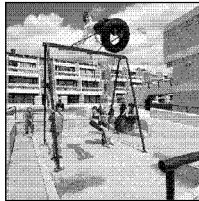


community. The Golden Lane Estate, constructed by the same architects responsible for the Barbican, transitioned from 100% to 50% council housing, they made compromises in the face of urbanization while preserving their architecture and communities.

Trellick Tower, a West London landmark and Grade II* listed building, contends with ongoing urbanization. The affluent Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (RBKC) introduced The New Homes Delivery Programme in the borough's underdeveloped north. This plan includes renovating the Trellick Tower community playground and graffiti area.

Within Brutalist Architecture, numerous architects incorporated outdoor spaces and playgrounds into their designs. Ernő Goldfinger's post-war reconstruction sketches reflect this trend, picturing recreational spaces for promoting post-war healing and growth. Goldfinger's successful incorporation of outdoor spaces is evident in the Balfron and Trellick Towers.

Originally, RBKC intended to use all Trellick Tower's outdoor areas to build new homes. Following three negotiation rounds and community resistance, RBKC revised its proposal in July 2021. While offering a seemingly improved community vision, it continued to exploit outdoor spaces and increase housing density. The alleged compensatory area, located in the original public garden, further encroaches outdoor space without genuinely addressing residents' concerns.



*ROYAL BOROUGH OF
KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA*

*TRELICK TOWER
LONDON, UK*

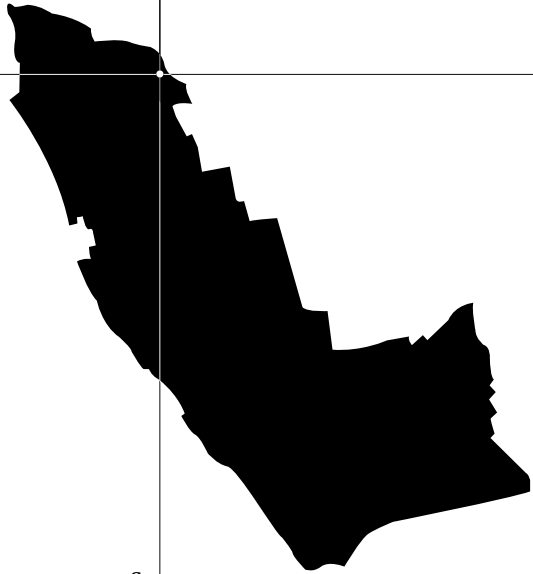


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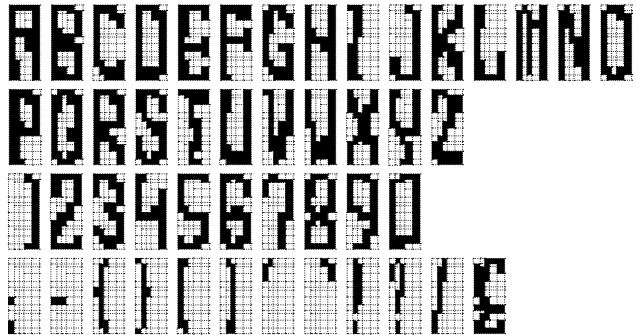
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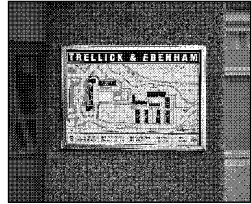
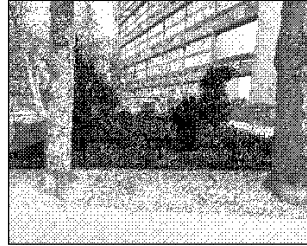
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THE PLAYGROUND AREAS



Trellick Tower, currently called Edenham in The New Homes Delivery Programme, will form part of Phase 2 of the NHDP.

In the third round of consultation, the government decided to occupy one around 9 x 12 metres green space as a part of new playground as compensation for the existing 20 x 34 metres wide playground, and it's only a small part of the occurring building plan. But this plan was following paused the scheme at the end of December 2021 due to residents' concerns.

PLEASE SIGN OUR PETITION

PROTECT TRELICK TOWER'S ART AND OUTDOOR SPACE AND SAY NO TO MORE LUXURY FLATS

MIRIO GOLIJANIN
started this petition to Royal Borough
of Kensington and Chelsea Council

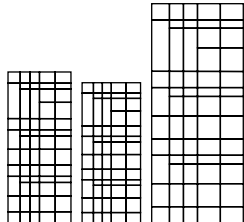


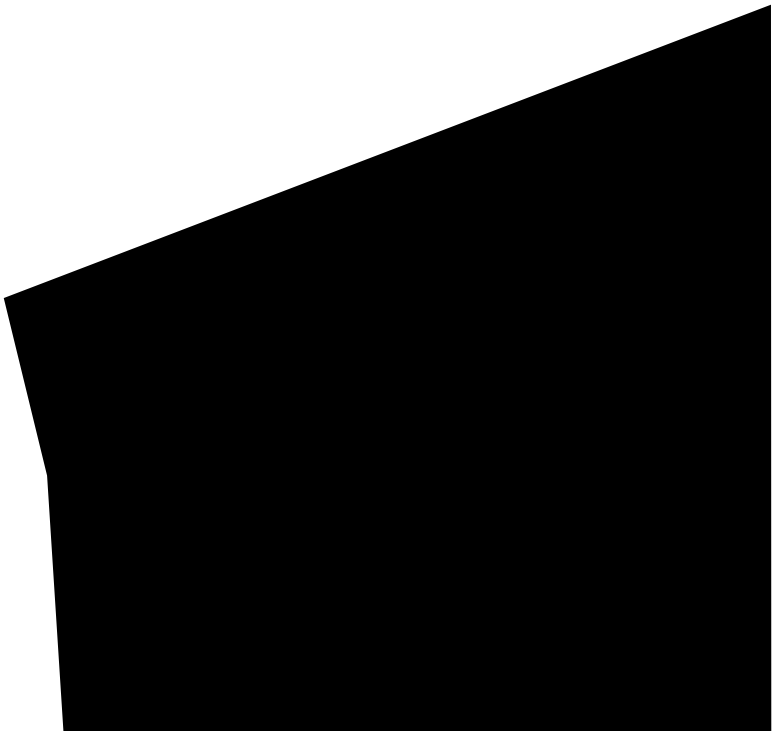
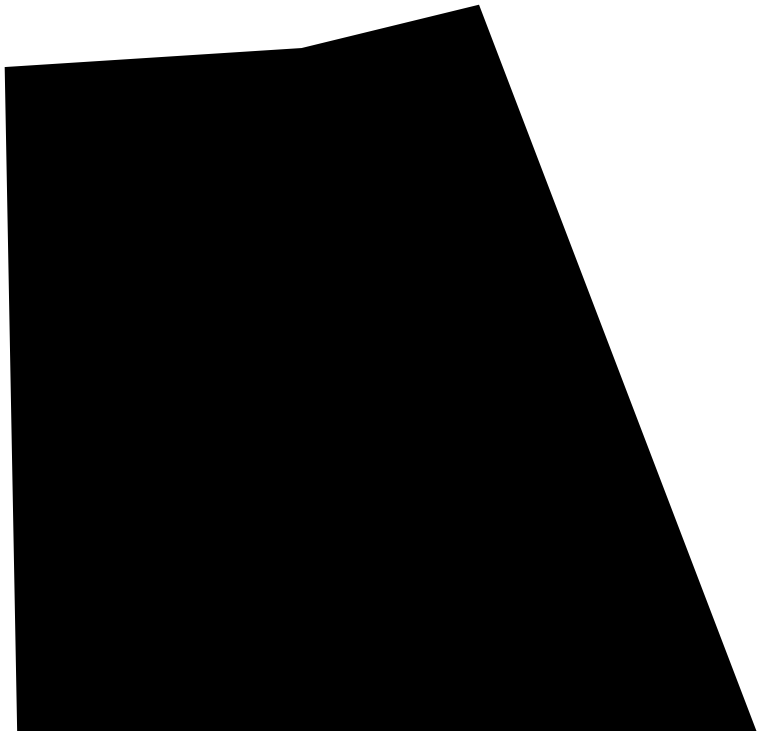
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea council are planning a massive housing development project on the grounds surrounding the iconic, Grade 2 listed, Trellick Tower. The plans, due to start in Spring 2021 will demolish the children's playing area, the football pitch, the walk way and the world famous graffiti hall of fame. The development aims to build 150 - 200 apartments, only a maximum 50% of which will be "affordable" housing. The development will contribute to the continued gentrification of North Kensington and the erosion of local colour and historic culture of the area.

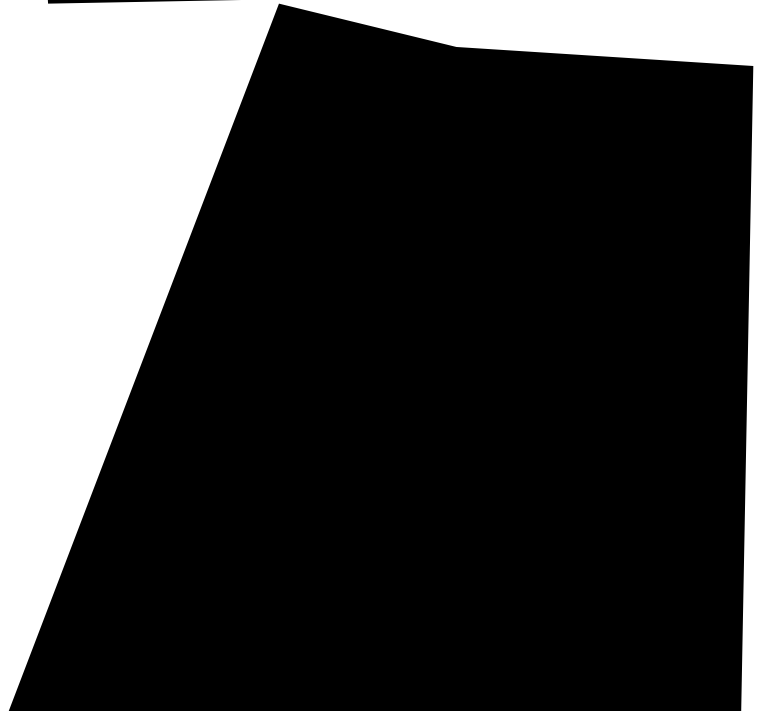
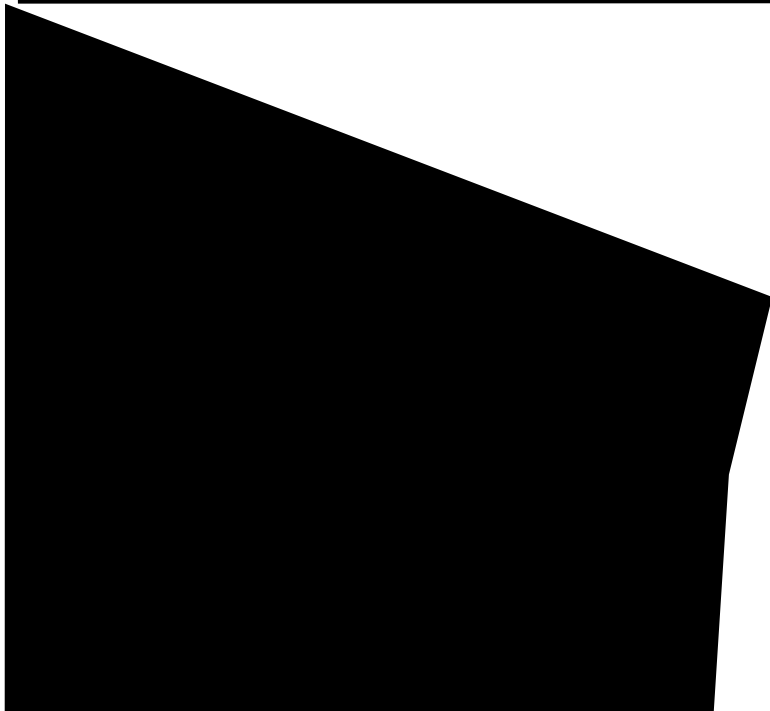
In particular, we ask for your support in protecting this unique outdoor space as both a much needed green space for local residents' and their families, and as a truly world class cultural landmark. The downstairs pitch is one of a few green spaces for residents' use in what is one of the most densely populated boroughs in the world. Unlike other outdoor spaces in the area Trellick Gardens is enclosed, and free from traffic making it a valuable sanctuary for wildlife as well as for people. The space includes a football cum basketball pitch which is regularly used by

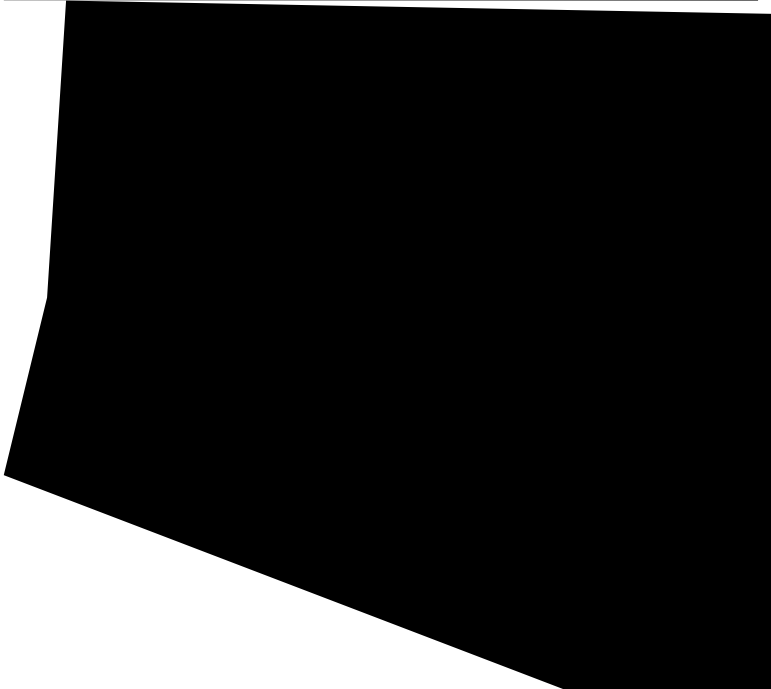
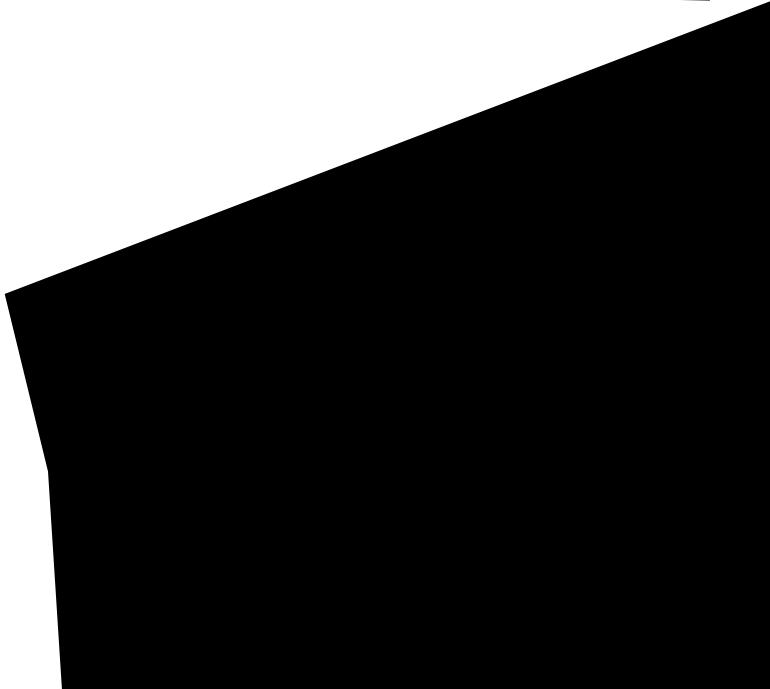
local children from the area to exercise and socialise.

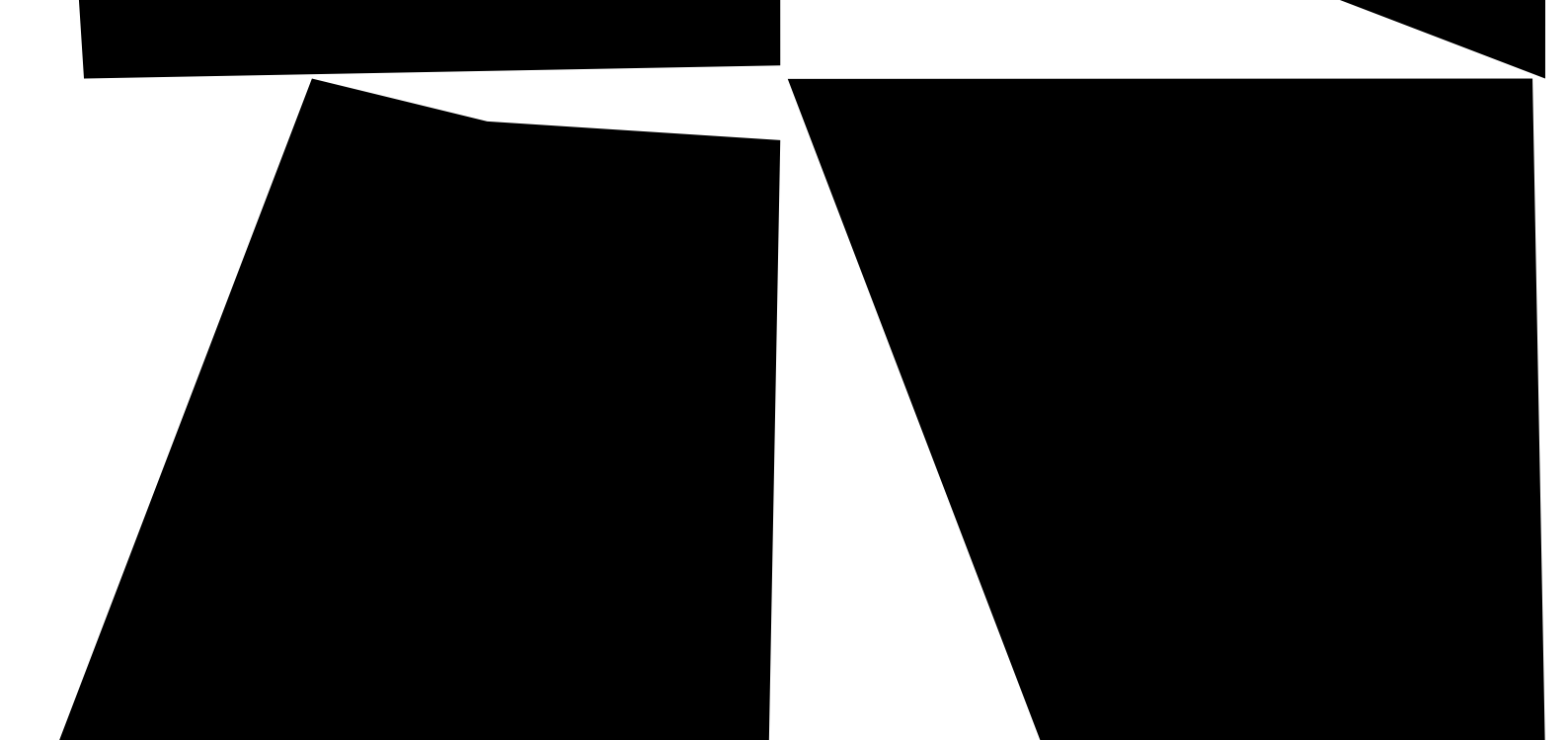
In addition, Trellick Tower Graffiti Hall of Fame is renowned globally as a centre for urban arts and attracts tourists and artists from all over the world. Trellick Hall of Fame has hosted numerous graffiti competitions, exhibitions and jams which provide fuel for this vibrant underground culture. In fact, the Hall of Fame and surrounding garden area have hosted many free community events and workshops for residents of the area and their families. It is an inclusive space, offering a safe haven for up and coming urban artists to express themselves and providing residents with an ever-changing "living gallery" right on their doorstep. We need your help to protect this space for both the residents and those who come to enjoy the area. Please sign this petition and help us protect this unique cultural landmark!

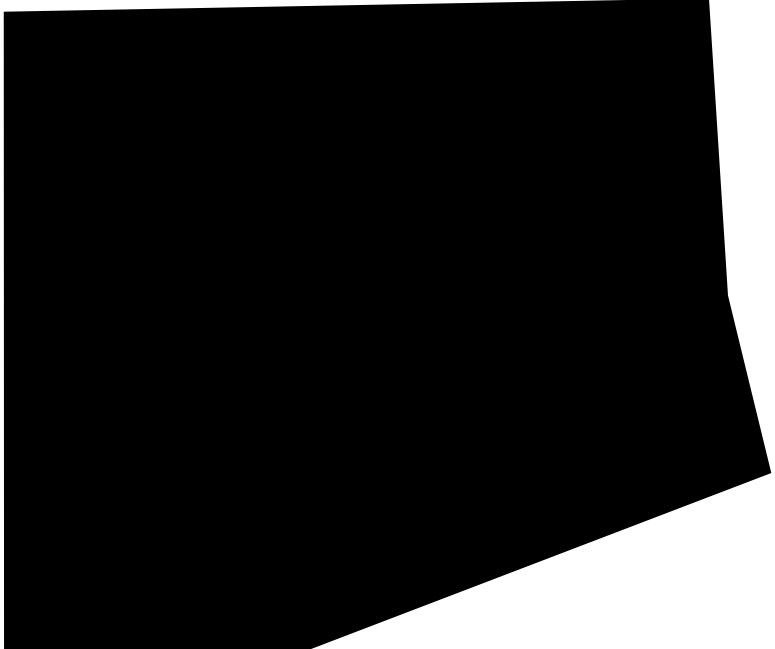


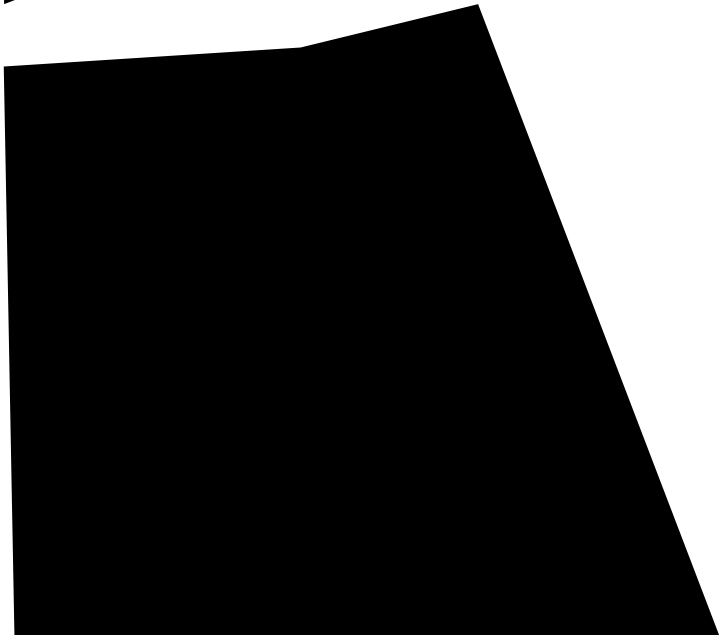
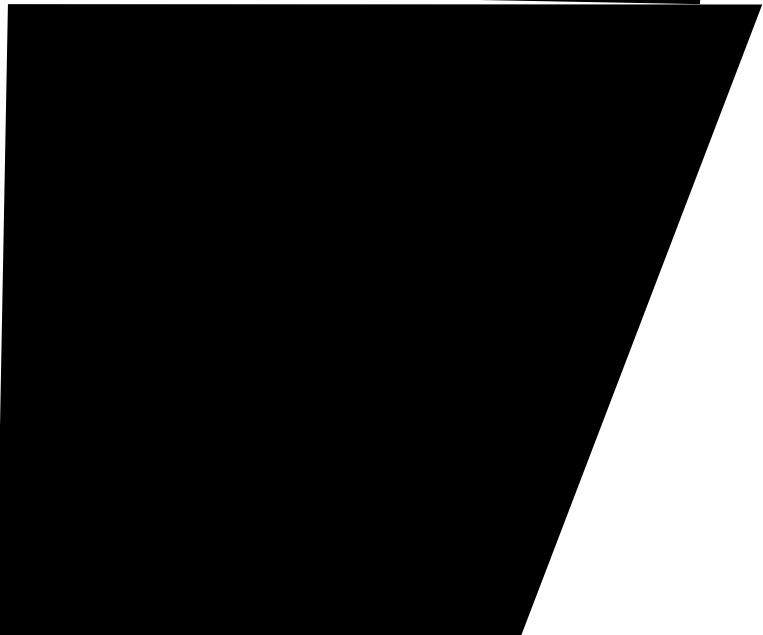


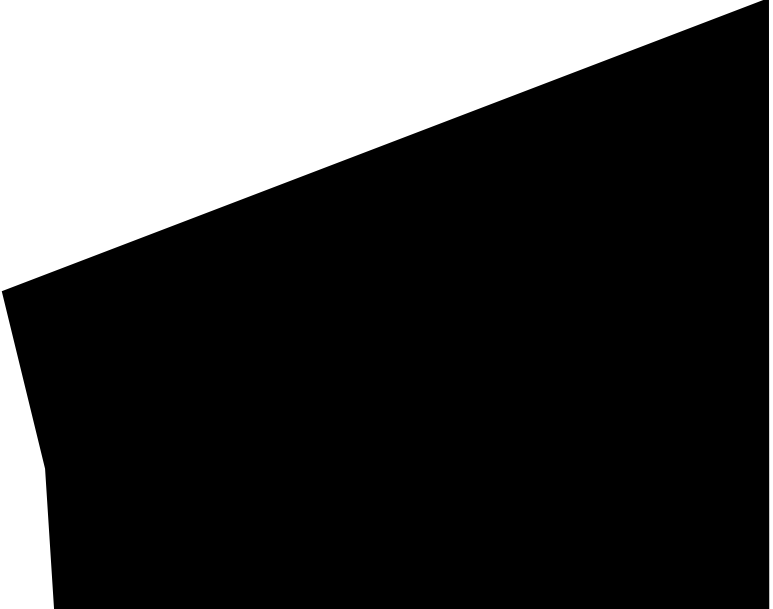
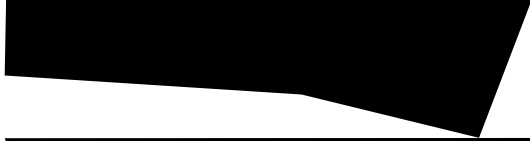


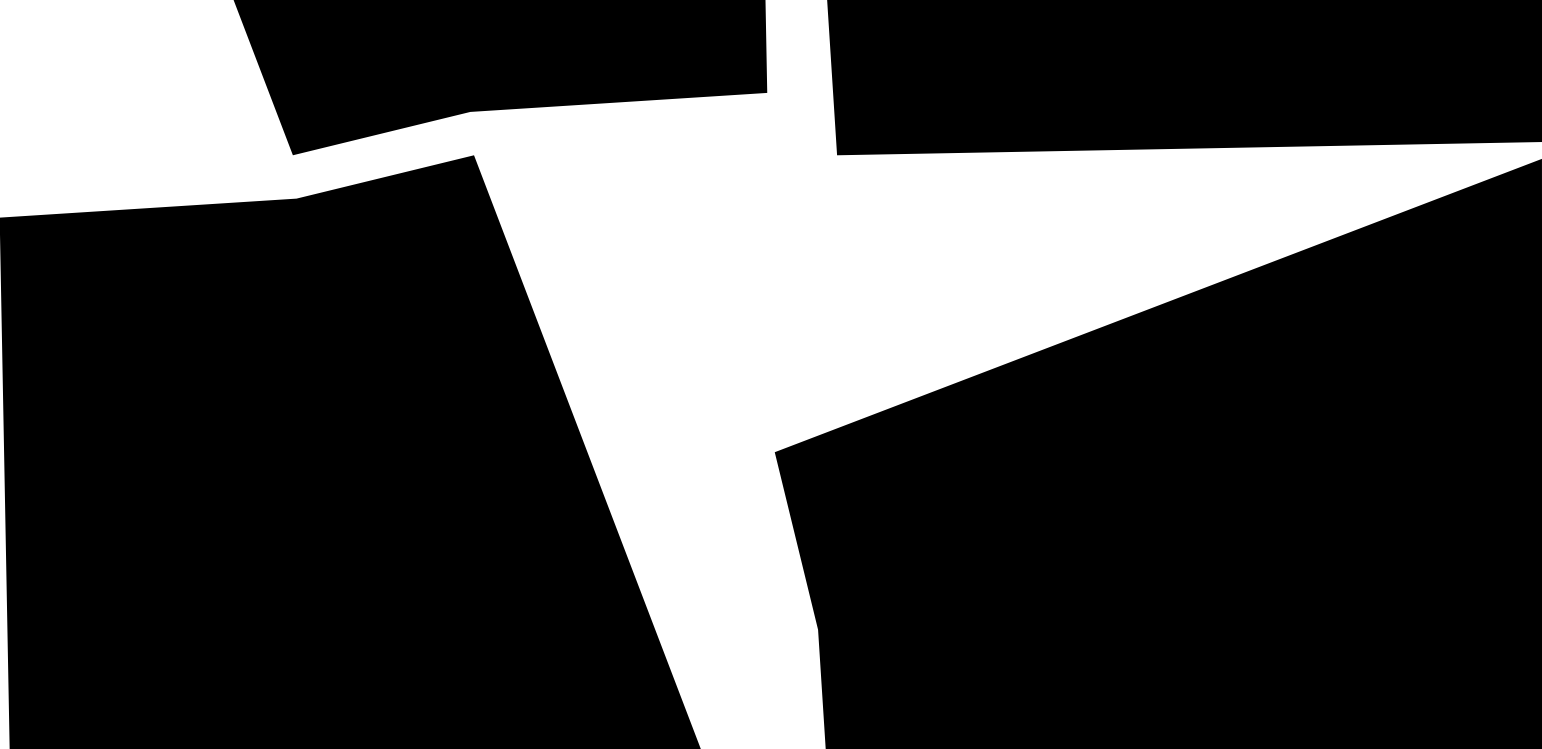


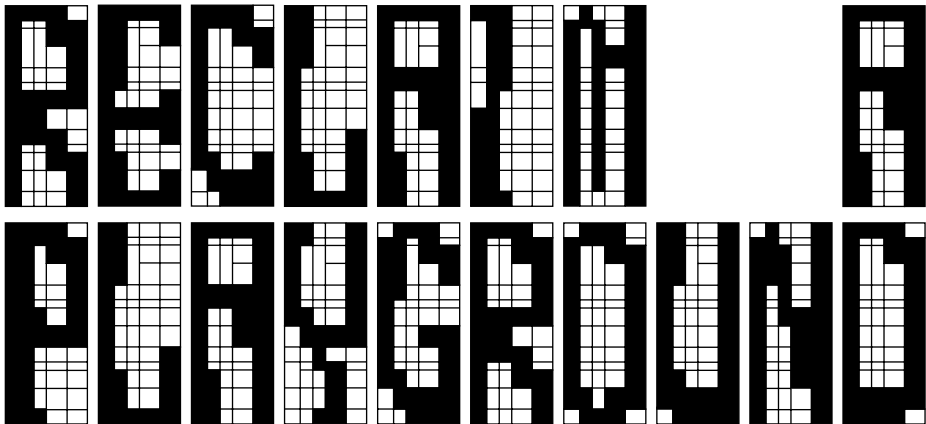












RECLAIM A PLAYGROUND
LONDON

***PROTECT TRELICK TOWER'S ART AND OUTDOOR SPACE
AND SAY NO TO MORE LUXURY FLATS***

JOIN THE PETITION
@SAVETRELICKHALLOFFAME
<https://linktr.ee/savetrellickhalloffame>