



THE ELEMENTS OF

UNDERSTANDING AND CREATING SOPHISTICATED IMAGES

PHOTOGRAPHY

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TEARS OF STONE: WORLD WAR I REMEMBERED

ARTIST STATEMENT

While on a research trip to France, I was deeply moved by the sheer number of monuments created in honor of those who died in World War I. The unprecedented number of wartime casualties introduced the concept that when a country loses a huge portion of its population in wartime, it has a need to acknowledge and defend the sacrifice in a public manner. In Western Front countries, the thousands of national, local, and private memorials that were built became, and continue to be, places of pilgrimage and remembrance, along with the hundreds of military cemeteries where soldiers lie buried.

A desire to examine the manner in which these men are still memorialized today became the catalyst for the body of work titled *Tears of Stone: World War I Remembered*.

Undertaking acts of remembrance to lost loved ones can be a profound experience, regardless of culture or era. As long as the objects of remembrance that came to be built after the Great War continue to exist, it is my belief that the memory of those who fell will continue to be honored. In that sense, these photographs act both as a reminder of the ongoing cost of historical events and as a mirror to the human heart.

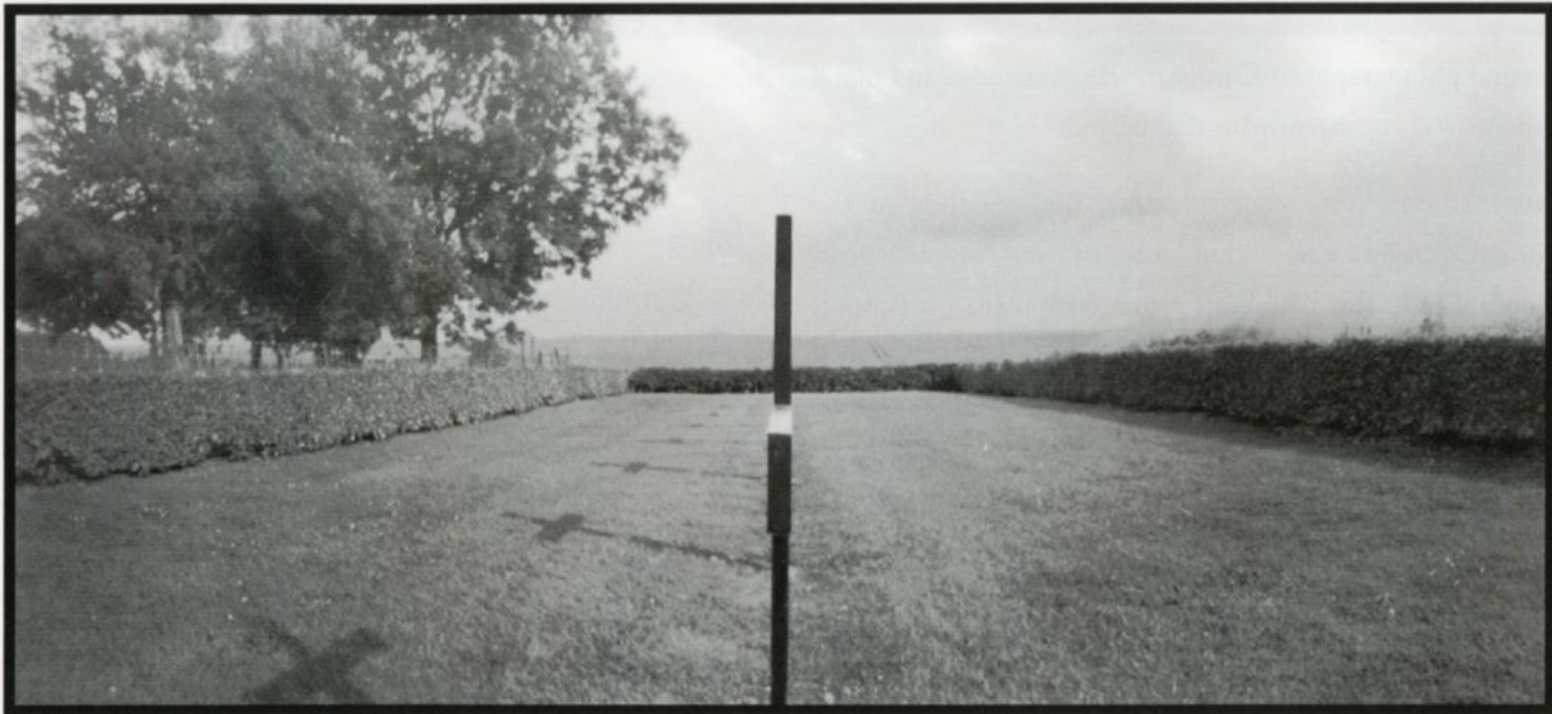
Process Information

Two medium format panoramic cameras, a Pinoramic 120, and a Noblex Pro 6/150 U, were used to photograph *Tears of Stone: World War I Remembered*. Working in a panoramic format allowed me to make pictures that did justice to the

nature of my subject. I chose to include a black border around each photograph in part to lend visual gravity to their content. However, it is customary in many European countries to include a black border around obituary notices and photographs of the deceased. Including a black border around photographs of European war cemeteries and monuments was consistent with that custom.

After editing from contact prints, the negatives of the chosen images were drum scanned and retouched in PhotoShop®. The exhibition prints were made on Epson® printers with Piezography™ BW software and quad black inks, on Wells River digital watercolor paper.

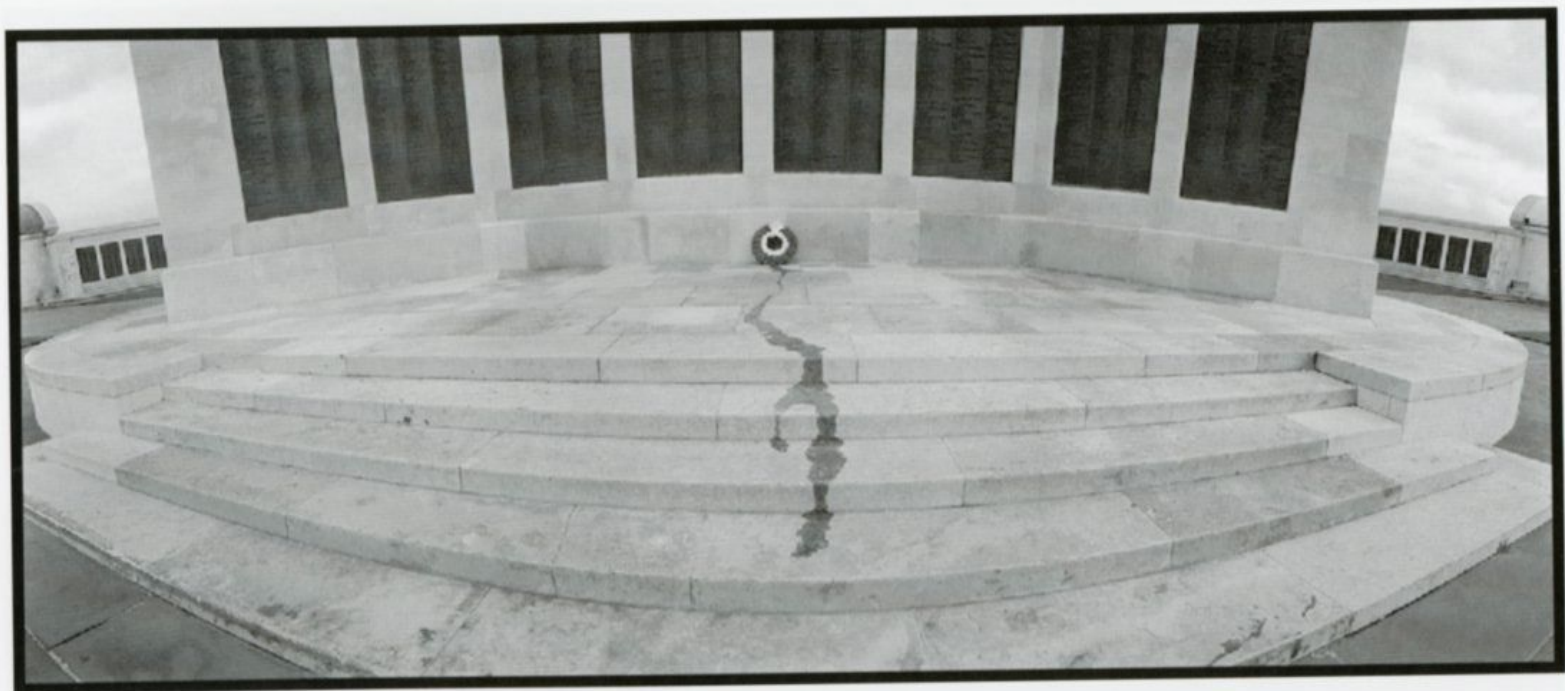
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Achiet-le-Petit German Military Cemetery, France.



Fort Douaumont, France.



Chatham Naval Memorial, England.



Voormezele Enclosures No. 1 and 2 (British), Belgium.

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