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by *Hannah McGurk*

This week's cover story is by CHRC PhD candidate Hannah McGurk shares her research exploring how and in what ways Caribbean heritage has been shaped by mobility, ecologies and coloniality through urban gardens.

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'A Garden of Hope' installation at Walker's Reserve, Scotland District, Barbados.

Photo by Hannah McGurk.

The ecological heritage of the Windrush generation

by Hannah McGurk



Image: 'A Garden of Hope' installation at Walker's Reserve, Scotland District, Barbados.

Photo by Hannah McGurk.

In this cover story, I explore how my master's thesis, 'An environmental history of the Windrush generation,' is informing and shaping my doctoral project on Caribbean herbal medicine as heritage. How and in what ways has Caribbean heritage been shaped by mobility, ecologies and coloniality?

The 'Windrush' generation refers to the million or so people who moved from the Caribbean to Britain in the postwar period, the majority of whom were Jamaican, with peak migration taking place 1948–71 (Drake 2001, 84). Critically, the Windrush generation came as British citizens, welcomed and invited by British businesses and state ventures, only to encounter a 'hostile' environment (GOV.UK, n.d.), itself a continuation of colonial dynamics. . The hostile environment took the shape of discriminatory policies and regulations across immigration, housing and employment. For my master's in Cultural History, I analysed oral histories, newspapers, visual culture and official archival material to argue that relationships with the natural and built environment defined the Windrush generation, in ways

that were both historically continuous and novel expressions of British coloniality.

While my research explored various facets of the built and natural environment that influenced the factors for and experience of migration, here I will focus on just one – the garden. Discriminatory housing practices led to people living in the most dilapidated parts of cities: in some cases bombed out buildings, places marked for slum clearance and even underground bomb shelters (Wetherell 2020; Green-Briggs 2022; Colonial Office 1948). In the face of this environmental injustice, people turned to gardening and growing. Participants in the Garden Museum’s oral history project recalled memories of their parents planting edible plants as soon as they could, even in one-room, shared and temporary accommodation. Morgan Joseph’s mother grew potatoes and vegetables in their first flat in Paddington; Sylvia Hylton’s parents grew tomatoes, potatoes and an orange tree from a pip while sharing a room in Brixton (‘Sowing Roots: Caribbean Garden Heritage in South London’ 2023, 30, 32). For Earline Hilda Castillo Binger, born in Trinidad, growing was synonymous with settling down:

“When I came to London here and got married, in the family home, I started planting some fruit trees. My husband loved flowers and I once said to him, “Listen, darling, I cannot eat flowers.” [...] I need to, if I’m going to have a home, to establish here and get married and have children, my two children, if I was going to have a garden here I wanted to have something I could eat, I could grow! (Castillo Binger 2021, 25.44).

As such, I argued that the idea of home for the Windrush generation included ecological entanglements; plants played an essential role in the making of homeplace. As bell hooks wrote (1990, 46), the task of making home for Black communities has not historically been a case of simply cleaning, washing or tending to a dwelling – ‘it was about the construction of a safe place where black people could affirm one another and by so doing heal many of the wounds inflicted by racist domination’. Putting down roots created a sense of belonging in and of itself. Making home (and garden) was therefore an act of resistance.”

Now a Heritage Studies student, my PhD is based on the Caribbean collections of the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology and University Herbarium. I am working with pre-Columbian materials of Indigenous communities (namely ceramics, shells and sculpted objects) and 18th- and 19th-century plant specimens from across from the anglophone islands. These materials, together with their collection histories, have the potential to tell a powerful story about Caribbean ecological heritage and its colonial legacies. After Jamaica Kincaid’s provocation (2024, 164) that ‘memory is a gardener’s real palette’, I ask: what is the significance of environmental heritage for Caribbean communities today? How do communities want to protect and preserve it for the future? What role can museums play in decolonising this heritage, if at all? Through collections-based, archival, ethnographic and participatory research with communities in the Caribbean and the diaspora in the UK, I aim to contribute to an understanding of the enduring role of West Indian gardens, yards and landscapes in a heritage of care.



Bio

Hannah McGurk is a PhD Candidate in Heritage Studies at the University of Cambridge and the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. She earned a BA in English Literature from the University of Edinburgh and her MA in Cultural History from the University of Liverpool, where she was awarded the International Slavery Studies Scholarship (2024) and Andrew Douglas History MA Prize (2025). A scholar-activist of British Jamaican heritage, Hannah has worked with various groups and initiatives concerned with legacies of British colonialism, most recently with the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh and the International Slavery Museum in Liverpool.

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Brighton and Hove Museums announce return of artefacts to Botswana



Image: The 45 artefacts will be repatriated to the Khama III Memorial Museum in Serowe. Photo by Gase Kediseng, Khama III Memorial Museum.

Brighton & Hove Museums has announced the forthcoming repatriation of 45 cultural artefacts from its collection to Serowe, Botswana. It is believed to be the first substantial return from a UK museum to Botswana in response to a repatriation claim.

The return is part of a partnership between Brighton & Hove Museums and Khama III Memorial Museum in Botswana. Relationships were established through the 'Making African Connections' project led by the University of Sussex that undertook collaborative provenance research in 2019 to 2021.

In 2022, Khama III Memorial Museum formally requested the return of the artefacts, a collection of clothing, accessories, hunting implements and domestic items originally acquired in the late nineteenth century from the Gammangwato region of Botswana. With support from the James Henry Green Charitable Trust, Brighton & Hove Museums will fulfil this request and contribute to the development of a new permanent exhibition in Serowe, where the items will be displayed for the first time.

The Khama III Memorial Museum, located in Serowe, has been identified as a fitting home for the collection. It is the closest museum to Old Palapye, where the items were originally acquired, and serves a diverse community connected to the histories represented in the collection.

[Learn more](#)

‘Arts Everywhere’ government fund provides £130m for English cultural venues



Image: The Royal Shakespeare Company is one of the cultural centres to benefit from the scheme. Photo by [kitmasterbloke](#) (CC2.0).

More than 100 cultural venues, museums, and libraries will share £130m extra funding as part of the largest cash injection into the arts for a decade, ministers have announced.

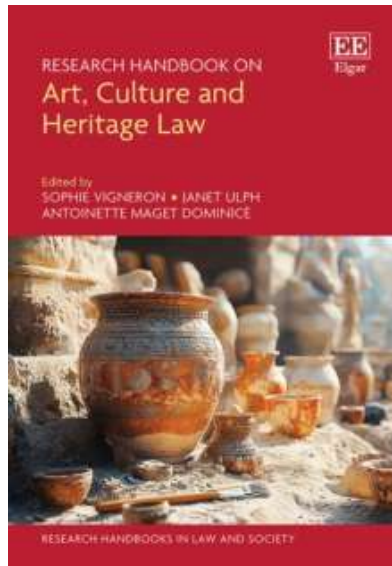
The investment forms part of the Arts Everywhere Fund, a £1.5bn package to support cultural infrastructure projects over the course of this parliament, which was announced by the culture secretary, Lisa Nandy, [earlier this year](#). The fund aims to save more than 1,000 arts venues, museums, libraries and heritage buildings across England.

The Arts Council England (Ace) chair, [Nicholas Serota](#), said: “Arts organisations, museums and libraries are the beating heart of our communities. After significant financial pressures in recent years, this vital investment will help organisations to secure futures where they thrive and not just survive. “We look forward to seeing these cultural spaces flourish as they continue to provide access to excellent art and culture for everyone, everywhere, for many years to come.”

The funding package is primarily designed to repair the UK’s [creaking cultural infrastructure](#), and Nandy previously said it was the biggest reset in the arts for a generation. It represents a huge injection into a sector where Ace funding was [cut by 30%](#) in 2010, and follows a previously announced £270m.

[Learn more](#)

Publication | *Research Handbook on Art, Culture and Heritage Law* by Sophie Vigneron, Janet Ulph and Antoinette Maget Dominicé (eds)



This interdisciplinary Research Handbook brings together leading scholars from different disciplines to explore art, culture and heritage law, their definition, protection and contestation. It critically assesses legal frameworks and ethical practices through four challenges: sustainable development, intergenerational equity, decolonisation and cultural rights.

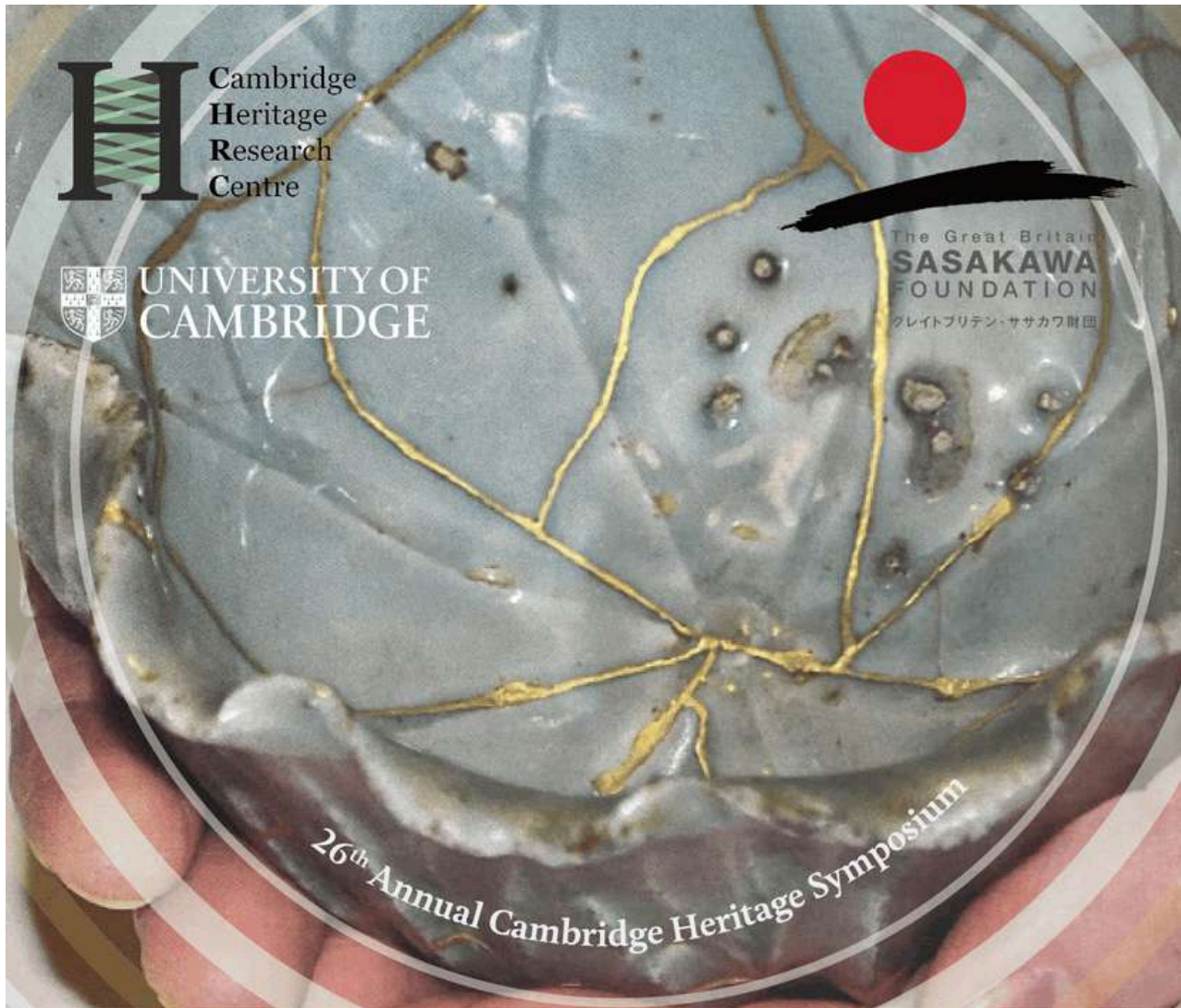
Adopting both a theoretical and practical approach, contributors debate the key areas in art, culture and heritage law, including the nature of cultural heritage, ethics and the art market, the development of international norms on the protection of cultural heritage, repatriation and its consequences, trafficking in peacetime and the intentional destruction of heritage and looting in wartime. Chapters discuss the significance of provenance research from both legal and ethical perspectives, outlining the changeable nature of heritage objects and the connections they can forge. This Research Handbook ultimately underscores the significance of cross-disciplinary research and public participation in cultural and heritage issues, drawing insights from law, criminology and sociology.

The Research Handbook on Art, Culture and Heritage Law is a valuable resource for scholars and students of law, particularly those interested in the evolution of art and cultural heritage law. It is also a necessary read for those in related fields such as criminology, archaeology, museology and cultural studies.

The introduction chapter is open-access and can be read via the link below.

[Learn more](#)



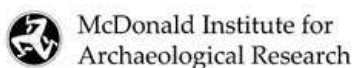


The Role of Heritage in Shaping Ontological Security in the Contemporary World

Friday 8th - Saturday 9th May 2026

JOIN US ONLINE

In person tickets now sold out.



[Book here](#)



PSSA | Sculpture in the Garden of Death:
Tendencies in Cemetery Memorials 1840-1940



May 7 | Online

Speaker: Dr Roger Bowdler FSA

This talk emerges from the newly published book, co-written with Brent Elliott, *The British Cemetery 1700 – 2020: Architecture, Landscape, Sculpture* (Historic England/Liverpool University Press). Little attention has been paid to the sculpture present in cemeteries and there are fine things to be seen. Outdoor conditions determined the choice of material and made bronze a preferred option, particularly in the age of the New Sculpture. Some sculpted monuments were bespoke: other marble memorials were mass-produced and imported in considerable numbers from Italy. The talk will also look at works in less common material including concrete and granite.



Roger Bowdler studied History of Art at Cambridge and completed his PhD there in 1991, on death-related 17th century church monuments. He joined English Heritage in 1989 as a historian in the London Region and rose to become Director of Listing in 2011 and a member of the Historic England executive team on its creation in 2015. Since 2019, he has worked as a partner at Montagu Evans, planning consultants, advising on heritage issues. A Commissioner of the Royal Hospital, he sits on the London Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) and is a trustee of the War Memorials Trust. He has written extensively on funerary art, and his short books *War Memorials* and *Churchyards* were published in 2019. Roger is a PSSA Trustee and a member of the PSSA's Specialist Advisory Board



Tickets: Members: free | Non-members: £3.50

[Book here](#)





7 MAY 2026



Celebrating African World Heritage

12:00 - 16:45 GMT +1

RESEARCHING THE DEEP HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY OF AFRICA AT CAMBRIDGE

Lightning talks (5 minute summaries of current projects from staff and students in the Archaeology Department, University of Cambridge) followed by brief Q&A

17:00-18:00 GMT+1

ANNUAL LECTURE

Mapping Africa's Endangered Archaeological sites and Monuments Project

**Dr Siyakha Mguni
University of Cape Town**

Unveiling the curtain with ukubuyisa or go lata: complicated roles of museums and nation states in the cultural repatriation discourse and practice in southern Africa



This presentation explores some cases of international repatriation and intra-national restitution to indigenous communities, and the growing importance of digital technologies and databases in preserving cultural materiality. Using a parallel indigenous notion of ukubuyisa (Nguni word) or go lata (Sotho-Tswana word), which is a widespread cultural practice among southern African Bantu-speaking people meaning to 'bring home the spirit of a deceased person', it critically examines the oft-unenlightened treatment of the intersection between tangible and intangible assemblages of materiality in restitution practice

Dr Mguni is a Senior Lecturer at the Michaelis School of Fine Art, University of Cape Town. His research focuses on San rock art, Khoe and San cosmology and the study of hunter-gatherer visual heritage through archives, orality, and ethnography. Dr Mguni brings African perspectives and indigenous knowledge systems into contemporary discussions on art, archives, curatorship, and cultural heritage.

UNESCO African World Heritage Day - 5 May 2026

Join us on 7 May to celebrate

12:00-16:45 Lightning Talks
17:00-18:00 MAEASaM Annual Lecture
18:00-19:00 Drinks Reception

TIMES
GMT+1

Online and in-person
McDonald Institute Seminar Room



Register



@MAEASaMproject



Department of Archaeology



McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research







[Book here](#)



10th East-West Workshop on Industrial Archaeology

(Cheers!)

 9 May 2026
 10.00 – 12.00 (London time)
 Zoom
 register for free scanning the QR code



Amber Patrick
Malthouse Developments (late 18th – mid-20th century)



Pablo Alonso González
Craft Vs. Industrial? A Critical History of Spanish Wine



Yuchen Wang
Luzhou Baijiu Heritage as an Urban Cultural Landscape



background image: Amber Patrick

[Book here](#)



National Portrait Gallery Annual Seminar 2026 |
Curating Historic Portraits: Transcultural Conversations



May 14-15 | Online & University of Plymouth



Places are free but booking is essential.

Symposium Session One: Thursday 14 May, 13:00–17:00

Symposium Session Two: Friday 15 May, 10:00–13:30

About the Symposium

This symposium will examine how historic portraiture can be reframed to broaden access to lives and narratives that have been overlooked within traditional museum and archive structures. It will also consider new methods being tested to foster more meaningful and relevant connections with contemporary audiences. Taking *Journeys with Mai*, a national partnership tour led by the National Portrait Gallery, as its starting point, we will hear from project partners how a British portrait masterpiece was radically redefined by introducing Pacific Island perspectives, new research approaches and contemporary art responses across the successive venues.

The event will showcase innovative projects from the South West and across the UK to share recent curatorial and engagement work which has challenged or reinterpreted historic portrait collections to support more inclusive conversations. Papers and discussion sessions in this symposium will interrogate:

- How can contemporary artists' responses draw out parallels between historic portraits and today's most urgent challenges?
- How can portraits help explore themes of migration, belonging and identity?
- How can projects that centre a range of voices and perspectives lead to meaningful transcultural conversations?

[Book here](#)



Royal Geographical Society |
Britain and beyond: Discovering Islamic Heritage

Royal
Geographical
Society
with IBG

May 19, 7-8:30pm | Hybrid attendance



Join us for a panel discussion exploring the geographical and historical links that connect Britain with the Islamic world. Our discussion will draw on the Society's collections and our speakers' expertise including everyday intangible heritage, travel writing and material culture.

Speakers include Tharik Hussain (Travel Writer and Author of *Minarets in the Mountains and Muslim Europe*), Sadiya Ahmed (Founder of *Everyday Muslim*) and Imran Mulla (Journalist and Author of *The Indian Caliphate*).

About the Society: The Royal Geographical Society was founded in 1830 as an institution to promote the advancement of geographical science. Its headquarters lie within an iconic Grade II* listed building in the cultural quarter at South Kensington. The Society has one of the most notable geographical collections in the world. Of the two million items in the collections, one million are maps – the oldest a version of Ptolemy's *Cosmographia*, dating back to 1486 and once owned by William Morris. There are a quarter of a million books, half a million images and a rich resource manuscripts, diaries, letters and artefacts. Today, the Society runs a number of in-person and online events for Members and the general public.

Time and date: Tuesday 19 May, 7pm-8:30pm

Location: Royal Geographical Society (London) and online

Price: Online £5-6, In-person £10-£12. Students can attend free using code PANELSTUDENT at checkout.

[Book here](#)

Museums Association | All Inclusive: Championing Accessible Museums



May 20 | Online



Ableism – prioritising the needs of non-disabled people over disabled people – remains pervasive across the museum sector. Disabled people still face barriers in our buildings, policies and structures, and are chronically under-represented in our workforce and collections.

All Inclusive is the Museums Association’s annual online conference exploring how museums can become anti-ableist in everything that they do. Anti-ableism recognises abled privilege and actively looks to challenge and dismantle it through theory, actions and practices.

Come to ‘All Inclusive’ to hear provocations, case studies and panel discussions and discover...

- what an anti-ableist museum might look like in practice
- how to challenge and dismantle ableism in your museum
- ways to elevate the perspectives of D/deaf, disabled and neurodivergent people
- how to remove barriers in buildings and policies
- ideas to build a representative workforce.

This event is for you if...

- you work in any aspect of people or volunteer management
- your role involves engagement with the public
- you manage a small museum with wide-ranging responsibilities
- you have human resources responsibilities
- you are responsible for access, diversity and inclusion in your organisation.

Tickets: Members: £47 | Non-members: £69

[Book here](#)





Patrimonio, Cuidados y Personas
en un mundo resiliente

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

HERITAGE, CARE AND PEOPLE

in a Resilient World: Heritage
Networks as a Strategy for
Sustainability

MAY 27- 29 / 2026
MADRID



CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS – DEADLINES

Deadline for the submission of **open special session proposals**:
30 January 2026

Deadline for the submission of discussion **panels, papers, posters, audiovisual contributions and workshops** proposals:
20 February 2026

*Exceptionally, proposals for **special closed group sessions** will be accepted until **20 february 2026**.



ORGANIZES



PID2021-127248OB-I00



[Book here](#)



Call for Papers:

ISDG Symposium 2026

Please send your abstract to isdgcambridge@gmail.com

Submission deadline **20TH MARCH 2026**
ISDG Symposium **14TH MAY 2026**
Hybrid event



INDIGENOUS STUDIES
DISCUSSION GROUP
University of Cambridge



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE



Cambridge
Heritage
Research
Centre

[Book here](#)



ICOMOS TheoPhilos | Amazing city: historic public spaces in the age of climate change



Abstract deadline: June 15

Objectives & thematic scope

The aim of the conference is to create a platform for interdisciplinary discussion and exchange of experience between representatives of local governments, conservation authorities, academic communities and design practitioners – architects, urban planners and landscape architects – concerning contemporary conditions, principles, forms and limits for the shaping of historic public spaces, particularly in the context of their adaptation to climate change.

The conference also aims to encourage deeper reflection on the relationship between the protection of heritage values and the need to introduce environmental and functional solutions. An important element of the debate will be to define the scope of permissible interventions in the substance and composition of historic public spaces, as well as to develop principles for balancing conservation, social, aesthetic and climate-related requirements. Another objective of the meeting is the identification of good practices in the management and modernisation of public spaces in historic cities, as well as the indication of models of cooperation between local government and heritage protection authorities.

An important component of the conference will be the presentation of theoretical studies and practical solutions developed within the Re-Public Spaces project, co-financed by the Interreg Central Europe Programme. The project concerns the adaptation of historic courtyards to climate challenges in Central Europe and culminated in the implementation of four pilot climate-oriented revitalisation projects in partner cities: Łódź (Poland), Pinerolo (Italy), Osijek (Croatia) and Velenje (Slovenia), addressing the most significant local climatic factors.

As part of the summary of the Re-Public Spaces project, recommendations concerning a document formulating the principles for the protection and modernisation of historic public spaces in the context of climate change – the Charter for the Modernisation and Protection of Historic Public Spaces – will be discussed, evaluated and subsequently adopted during the conference.

Submission information

Abstracts should be submitted by 15 June 2026 [by email](#). Abstracts should not exceed two pages of text (a structure in the form of separate points will help reviewers grasp the concept of the presentations).

[Apply here](#)



Heritage Call for Papers | Cultural Tourism, UNESCO Sites and 2030 Agenda: Where Are We At?

Abstract deadline:
August 31



Just 5 years from the 2030 milestone and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, our proposal intends to take stock of the codified good practices or, more simply, the experimental solutions still underway, to govern the economic development processes based on cultural tourism in sites with tangible and intangible values, starting from those recognized by UNESCO as World Heritage, to measure their carrying capacity and mitigate the impacts of their enhancement.

These could be some of the topics for which contributions could be directed:

1. Assessment of the carrying capacity of territories and sites and tools for mitigating pressures on local communities and cultural heritage;
2. Assessment of the impacts of cultural tourism;
3. Strategic planning and organization of the cultural-tourist offer;
4. Governance models, community involvement and redistribution of benefits;
5. Real estate dynamics;
6. Strategic classification of cultural assets for their enhancement as touristic resources (from a historical standpoint, too);
7. Networks;
8. New trends, new markets.

Keywords

Agenda 2030 | overtourism | best practices | UNESCO sites | cultural tourism governance | markets

Submission information

Manuscripts should be submitted online at www.mdpi.com by [registering](#) and [logging in to this website](#). Once you are registered, [click here to go to the submission form](#). Manuscripts can be submitted until the deadline. All submissions that pass pre-check are peer-reviewed. Accepted papers will be published continuously in the journal (as soon as accepted) and will be listed together on the special issue website. Research articles, review articles as well as short communications are invited. For planned papers, a title and short abstract (about 100 words) can be sent to the Editorial Office for announcement on this website.

[Apply here](#)



Opportunities

Collaborations, Connections, Communities |
Visiting Fellowship: Natural History Humanities



May 11

About the fellowship

We invite early career researchers to apply for Visiting Fellowships within our Natural History Humanities [N2H] research programme, to be held for up to three weeks in person, depending on funding. The goal of the N2H Fellowships is to foster long-term collaborations and knowledge exchange, and we will support Fellows remotely before they arrive in Cambridge and for the duration of the Academic year. We especially encourage applications from early career researchers from the Global South.

During their Fellowship, and with the help of a mentor, the N2H Fellows will develop their initial research questions by taking advantage of the University of Cambridge's collections across its museums, libraries, archives and botanic garden, and those of Collegiate Cambridge, as well as its vibrant research community. The aim is to provide the Fellows with a set of intellectual and practical tools that will support them longer-term in applying for fellowships or grant applications that will bring them back to the University of Cambridge, including support from the [N2H research facilitator](#).

What we will provide:

- Return (economy fare) travel, single ensuite accommodation for up to 21 days, depending on funding (subsistence not included)
- IT support, and full access to libraries and other collections at the University of Cambridge.
- Support will be provided to cover the cost of a standard visitor's visa, if needed.

Eligibility and Selection Criteria:

- Hold a PhD or being close to completing a PhD
- Interest in applying for further funding to pursue research in Cambridge
- Visiting Fellows will be selected on the basis of connections between their research and the goals of the [Natural History Humanities \[N2H\]](#) programme.

How to Apply

Please send an email to info@ccc.cam.ac.uk with the following documentation:

- A cover letter.
- A curriculum vitae and the names of two academic referees.
- A letter from a sponsor within the University of Cambridge.

[Apply here](#)

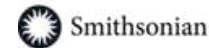




Opportunities

Smithsonian | Shirley Z. Johnson Curator
of Japanese Art

NATIONAL MUSEUM of
ASIAN ART



May 18

Hours: Full time

Appointment type: Permanent

Salary: \$85,447 - \$143,913 p.a.

About the role

The National Museum of Asian Art celebrates the art and culture of Japan through exhibitions, scholarly and public programming, and publications. As the museum enters its second century, it is growing and transforming. The candidate will join the museum at this moment of transition as it expands its engagement with Japanese and Japanese American communities in the U.S. and abroad and as it seeks to be a leader in ethical collecting practices.

The Shirley Z. Johnson Curator of Japanese Art will be a member of the Curatorial Department, shaping decisions about the care, identification, acquisition, preservation, cataloging, exhibition, and interpretation of works of art. The candidate will be a national and international leader in the study and presentation of Japanese art and culture. The candidate will perform scholarly research for publication and will furnish authoritative information about works in their field. They will develop original exhibitions and collaborate on cross-departmental projects and research initiatives. The curator will also shape and implement engaging scholarly and public programs.

Requirements

Basic Education Requirement (one of the below):

- A) Degree: museum work; or in an applicable subject-matter field.
- B) Combination of education and experience -- courses equivalent to a major, as shown in A above, plus appropriate experience (described below) or additional education.
- C) Four years of experience (described below) that provided knowledge comparable to that normally acquired through the successful completion of the 4-year course of study as shown in A above.

Experience:

To qualify at the IS-11 level, applicants must possess one year of specialized experience equivalent to at least the IS-9 level in the Federal service or comparable experience outside the Federal government.

[Apply here](#)





Opportunities

Ashmolean Museum |
CHRYSOS+ Project - Research Assistant



May 22

Hours: Part-time, 18.75 hours a week

Salary: £35,681 - £41,636 p.a. pro rata

About the role

The Ashmolean Museum, home to the internationally recognised Heberden Coin Room, offers an opportunity to contribute to CHRYSOS+, a research project exploring wealth transfer in the ancient world. You will work closely with the Principal Investigator to support the development of a structured, interdisciplinary research framework.

You will help consolidate and standardise numismatic datasets, review archaeological and textual sources, and support the integration of scientific analyses of coinage. The role includes contributing to digital research tools, preparing research outputs, and engaging with project partners and academic audiences.

This is a fixed-term (research project) post for 12 months, working part-time for 18.75 hours per week. The anticipated working pattern will be agreed with the line manager and includes up to four days of remote working.

About you

You will hold, or be close to completing by summer 2026, a master's degree in a relevant discipline such as Classics, Ancient History, or Archaeology, and have knowledge of ancient coinage and related sources. You will have experience working with structured data and demonstrate strong analytical and organisational skills.

You will have excellent attention to detail and communication skills, with the ability to work both independently and collaboratively within a research team. Familiarity with numismatics, museum collections, or digital research methods would be advantageous.

How to apply

You will be required to upload your CV and a supporting statement as part of your online application. Your supporting statement should list each of the essential and desirable selection criteria, as listed in the job description, and explain how you meet each one. CVs alone will not be considered.

[Apply here](#)





Opportunities

Swansea University | AHRC Doctoral Studentship in History and Heritage Studies



May 22

Hours: Full-time

Salary: £22,405 p.a.

About the role

The Amgueddfa Cymru (AC) and its Natural Science collections, comprising botanical, zoological and geological specimens, carry within them echoes of the British Empire. Although the Museum itself was not established until the twentieth century, several collections predate its foundation and reflect the collecting practices and erasure of the labour of indigenous and other non-privileged workers characteristic of eighteenth- and nineteenth-century natural history. Some collections came from overseas in the 1920s and 1930s, as part of efforts to gather the material resources of the empire, to understand them, to better exploit them, and display imperial power and wealth. Colonial associations came in many guises. Certain museum officials had direct commercial or personal links to the colonies. Others were indirectly linked through inherited family wealth, acquired via trade with the colonies, which they used to build extensive collections subsequently donated to the Museum.

Individual collectors closely linked to the colonies include George Henry Douglas Pennant (1876-1915) who donated several African trophy heads, and whose inherited wealth derived from Jamaican sugar plantations and exploitation of the enslaved. David Davies (1880-1944), Welsh politician, also gifted African hunting trophies. J. C. Melvill (1845-1929), grandson of the last secretary of the East India Company, and director of a firm of East India and China cotton merchants, collected molluscs and vascular plants. Some collectors were involved during the nascent years of the Museum, as trustees, council members, or patrons. T. W. Proger (1860-1947), museum council member and naturalist, had business interests in the Falkland Islands, and collected there and in other European colonies in the Americas. Proger's specimens are found across the Natural Science collections.

The Echoes of Empire project will develop a fuller understanding of the colonial histories of Natural Science collections at AC, and use participatory heritage practices to engage with and interpret those difficult legacies.

[Apply here](#)





Opportunities

American University of Rome | Summer Courses on Cultural Heritage Crime and Protection

July 13-17

Cost: €1,495



The American University of Rome is offering two courses in Rome in July 2026 on the illicit trafficking of antiquities in the MENA region and on cultural heritage protection. No prior knowledge of the subject matter is assumed. The courses are designed to appeal to professionals, aspiring professionals and those with an interest in museums, cultural heritage, archaeology, law enforcement, art/culture management, heritage tourism and security.

Looting and Illicit Trafficking of Antiquities in the Middle East and North Africa. Rome, Italy, July 6-10, 2026. Instructor Dr Samer Abdel Ghafour

This course offers a comprehensive introduction to the complex problem of antiquities trafficking, examining the motives and operations of looters, traffickers, and dealers focusing on the Middle East and North Africa. Participants will gain insight into how stolen artefacts are laundered through illicit supply chains before appearing in prestigious galleries and museums worldwide. By understanding these processes, participants will be better equipped to recognise and combat art and heritage crimes.

Protecting Cultural Heritage: Risks, Threats, Responses. Rome, Italy, July 13-17, 2026. Instructor Professor Valerie Higgins

The course examines the factors that present risks, threats and/or security issues for cultural heritage in the 21st century. These include overtourism, museum security, conflict, climate change, changing societal expectations and new historical narratives.

Each day will explore a new theme making use of contemporary examples and including some outside speakers. Participants will gain insight into underlying trends affecting cultural heritage, the different manifestations of these issues on the ground, and potential strategies to resolve or mitigate the risk.

[Apply here](#)





Opportunities

University of Liverpool |
MA Sustainable Heritage Management



UNIVERSITY OF
LIVERPOOL

September 11

Funding: Scholarships and bursaries available

About the course

If you are still considering your next steps after graduation, I would like to share a postgraduate opportunity that may be of interest to you. The Liverpool School of Architecture offers a Master's programme in Sustainable Heritage Management, fully recognised by the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC), the UK's leading professional body for building conservation and the historic environment. The programme also aligns with the educational frameworks of ICOMOS, UNESCO, and the Council of Europe.

This interdisciplinary Master's is suitable for graduates from a wide range of Arts, Design, and Built Environment disciplines, including (but not limited to) Architecture, Archaeology, History, Landscape Architecture, Urban Design, Interior Design, Fine Art, Civil or Structural Engineering, Project Management, Quantity Surveying, and Philosophy.

If you have an interest in heritage, conservation, and the management of historic environments, this programme could be a strong next step academically and professionally.

Funding schemes

[Aziz Foundation Scholarships](#) (University of Liverpool Widening Participation and Outreach Strategy): applications must be submitted via the portal on the Aziz Foundation website.

[Barakat International Studentship](#)

[Apply here](#)





Contribute

We would be especially interested in hearing from you about events and opportunities. Contributions in the form of short reviews of conferences, exhibitions, publications or other events/material that you have attended/read are also welcome. Please note that advertisements for any non-CHRC events, jobs, or programs do not imply endorsement of them.

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