

Bulletin Cambridge Heritage Research Centre





In the News

CHRC Annual Heritage Lecture

The CHRC is pleased to welcome Professor Aleida Assman for the 8th annual heritage lecture this Friday 28 February.

Page 2

Member Update

CHRC member Josh Bland (University of Cambridge) gives us an overview of his coming plans as he completes the final writing up stages of his PhD.

Page 2

Heritage News in Cambridge and Beyond

New exhibition 'Rise Up: Resistance, Revolution, Abolition' opened at the Fitzwilliam Museum this week

Page 3

Cover Story

(re)Developing industrial heritage: Mill Road, Cambridge

At present, many formerly industrial urban areas across the UK are hotbeds of residential re-development schemes.

In this cover story, CHRC member Kieran Gleave (University of Cambridge) focuses on two examples of residential re-development in Mill Road, Cambridge, and discusses how they have grown into an unlikely form of local industrial heritage in the absence of 'traditional' heritage interpretation.

Read more on Page 4

News

Cover Story

Events

Calls

Opportunities

Contact

Cover photo: The frontage of the Cam Foundry development.
Kieran Gleave 2025



CHRC welcomes Prof. Aleida Assman

It's that time of year again! The CHRC is honoured to be hosting Professor Aleida Assman for the annual heritage lecture on 28 February. Prof. Assman's scholarship on individual and collective memory, forgetfulness and how societies work through traumatic pasts has defined the field of memory studies and remains one of the most influential frameworks through which we make sense of our present today.

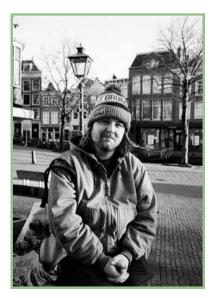
On Friday, Prof. Assman will discuss how the decline of the temporality of modernity has given rise to new ways of imagining the future. With the notion of continuous progress seeming increasingly spurious, Prof. Assman provides a new perspective for how to deal with the past through the framework of an 'ethics of repair'. In the context of increasing social polarisation and fragmented perceptions of history, Prof. Assman shows how the past, present and future narrative directions of collective memory can help us recover a sense of solidarity and shared identity.

MPhil students and PhD students at the CHRC will benefit from the chance to share their research and enter engaging discussion in masterclasses with Prof. Assman in the run up to the lecture this week. The lecture this year follows Robert Bevan in 2024 and Prof. Michael Herzfeld in 2023. The launch of the CHRC was marked with Dr Helaine Silverman's inaugural lecture back in 2018. Looking back, we also look forward to what will undoubtedly be an exciting week for members of the CHRC and beyond.

In-person tickets have been booked out. Please register for online attendance and find more information here.

Member update: Josh Bland

"I'm delighted to announce I'm taking on a new position as Director of Research at *The Deep Creative*, a sportsfocused creative agency who work with sports clubs to help them develop commercial strategies, fan engagement programmes and heritage initiatives. I've specifically been appointed to lead *The Deep's* research process, in which capacity I'll be developing and running a patented, sector-leading "cultural and heritage audit" service for sports clubs. This position will draw on my personal research expertise in sports cultures and heritage, building on the research skills I've honed working right here in the Cambridge Heritage Research Centre. . As I complete the final stages of writing up my PhD over the coming months, I will initially be taking on







a consultancy basis. However, as I move further forward with my academic career, I am hoping my work with *The Deep* will provide an exciting new avenue for me to heighten the public impact of my research."

The CHRC wishes to congratulate Josh and wishes him all the best in his new role.

'Rise Up: Resistance, Revolution, Abolition' opened at the Fitzwilliam Museum last Friday

Following one of the first exhibitions of its scale in Cambridge 'Black Atlantic: Power, People, Resistance' in 2023 to 2024, the Fitzwilliam Museum opened its new exhibition on 21 February. Like the previous exhibition, inspired by Paul Gilroy's seminal work The Black Atlantic: Modernity and Double Consciousness (1993), this exhibition traces the story of abolition in Britain by shining a light on forgotten figures from across the Americas, Caribbean and Europe. It comes at a time when institutions like the University of Cambridge, its museums and the wider heritage sector reflect on their links to the transatlantic slave trade and imperial networks, as with the British Museum's recent exhibition 'What have we hear?' (closed 9 February). Like the British Museum's collaboration with artist Hew Locke, 'Rise Up' tells the story of abolition, resistance and revolution using contemporary artworks and historic objects from its collection and coincides with Glenn Ligon's ongoing artistic interventions in the museum, entitled 'All Over The Place', on display until 2 March 2025. The Fitzwilliam Museum is also leading a commission for a new public artwork to be displayed in the grounds of the University of Cambridge in celebration Black scholars and their contribution to Cambridge, as part of the University's response to its Inquiry into the Legacies of Enslavement.

The CHRC looks forward to hearing more about the exhibition from Prof. Victoria Avery of the Fitzwilliam Museum at the upcoming Heritage Research Group Seminar & Conversation Series this week (see more below).

'Rise Up: Resistance, Revolution, Abolition' is free to visit and open until 5 June 2025. See more <u>here.</u>





Cover Story

(re)Developing industrial heritage: Mill Road, Cambridge

Kieran Gleave

Balmy punt rides up the Cam, sprawling lawns and quaint colleges. All conjure a popular view of Cambridge and its University. With this in mind, it is often surprising to many that Cambridge was once a key regional centre for manufacturing and productive trade. From 18th-century iron founding to 20th-century telecommunication, scientific instrument and aircraft part manufacturing, Cambridge has a rooted connection to industry. The relics of Cambridge's productive past have long been conserved and interpreted at the Museum of Cambridge, the Centre for Computing History and the Cambridge Museum of Technology. However, residential growth and structural (re)development have given rise to unlikely mediums of industrial heritage.

This is seen almost exclusively in the Mill Road area of Cambridge, which has historic connections to iron founding, cement manufacturing, coprolite milling, the local railway and a range of smaller-scale domestic trades and industries. A walk around the area will reveal that little remains of these productive pasts today, save for a handful of buildings (such as Dale's Brewery or the old Romsey Labour Club) and streets of terraced houses. Compound this with the absence of any 'traditional' heritage interpretation panels or blue plaques, and it becomes clear that the area's deep connection to industry is not as immediately evident as it



Figure 1: The Romsey Town Labour Club, now derelict and facing an uncertain future.

Image: Kieran Gleave



Cover Story



might be elsewhere in the UK, such as Sheffield, Glasgow, or Birmingham.

Paradoxically, Mill Road's industrial past is most easily identified not in its surviving 19th and 20th century built environment, but in its recently completed residential developments: the <u>Ironworks</u> and the <u>Cam Foundry</u>, both of which occupy sites of former iron foundries. Each feature industrial-themed sculptures and artworks, have emulated the



Figure 2: A sculpture dedicated to historic iron founding at the Ironworks development. Image: Kieran Gleave

aesthetics of the area's other buildings, and have (of course) been named after local connections to ironworking.

In an urban landscape where the industrial past can be difficult to identify (especially for those who do not have familial connections to the area or an interest in local history), these developments are perhaps the most prominent way that local people and communities become acquainted with and learn about the area's industrial past in their daily lives. Based on interviews I have conducted with local communities in the area as part of my ongoing PhD fieldwork, it is clear that these developments have indeed informed a general local awareness of the area's industrial past. While they have certainly achieved success this front, their reception has been mixed. While there is a general consensus that attempts to interpret the area's industrial past are a positive thing, more people perceive developer evocations of the local industrial past as opportunistic, especially residents who are temporally rooted within the area or have familial connections to people who historically worked in local industries.

At the time I write this, the explosion of residential developments across formerly industrialised areas, especially those within urban centres, have become commonplace across the UK: the Ironworks and Cam Foundry developments are by no means a phenomenon unique to Cambridge. While the reception of these types of developments and their interpretations of the industrial past will inevitably vary on a case-to-case basis, it is important to recognise that they are often the key mediums through which people become acquainted with their immediately local industrial histories, as opposed to industrial heritage museums. Though developments such as the Ironworks and Cam Foundry are not what usually comes to mind when we think of 'industrial heritage', I think there is significant scope to begin regarding them as a such due to their volume and prominence across urban landscapes.



8th Annual Heritage Lecture

Cambridge Heritage Research Centre



Changing concepts of the Future and the 'Ethics of Repair'

Professor Aleida Assmann

Professor of English Literature and General Literary Studies, Universität Konstanz

18:00 (GMT), Friday 28 February 2025 at Frankopan Hall, West Court, Jesus College, Cambridge, CB5 8BQ



Event is free but registration is required: www.heritage.arch.cam.ac.uk/events





With thanks for the support of:













HERITAGE RESEARCH GROUP SEMINAR & CONVERSATION SERIES

Thursdays, 1-2pm

Seminar Room, McDonald Institute for Archaeological Research, Downing Site, and Online You can find the link to register to attend any of the seminars on the CHRC website: www.heritage.arch.cam.ac.uk/events/hrg-seminars

27 FEB	Researching Legacies for 'Rise Up': Resistance, Revolution, Abolition	Prof Victoria Avery The Fitzwilliam Museum
6 MAR	Mutelu and the Heritage of Modern Magic in Thailand	Dr Alisa Santikarn Global Conservation Project, University of Vienna
13 MAR	Collection Objects as Sites of Divergent Legacies and Reconciliation	Geonyoung Kim & Rhea Tuli Partridge CHRC, University of Cambridge
20 MAR	Brewing with Ninkasi: Ancient Beer as Cultural Heritage	Prof Jeffrey Pilcher History Dept., University of Toronto
The state of the s		
CAMBRIDGE HERITAGE RESEARCH CENTRE		
2025 LENT TERM CARD		

To book and attend any of these advertised seminars, please visit the CHRC website: https://www.heritage.arch.cam.ac.uk/events/hrgseminars





Where is Amazonia on display (today)? A global approach to understanding Amazonian collections

27th February 2025

Niel Safer (Brown University) History and Philosophy of Science Departmental Seminar

Today, Amazonia is being presented and displayed like never before in its history: in the news media, in scholarly books and publications, in museums, in political discourse, and in visual art. How are we to understand this visibility historically, especially through the presence of Amazonian objects and collections in museums and art exhibitions, and given the multidisciplinary and transgeographical nature of the region? What historically have been considered the confines of 'Amazonia' as a concept and what kinds of discourses exist that place different kinds of objects, works of arts, and histories together under a single category of 'Amazonia' today? This presentation aims to present the broad outlines of an interdisciplinary research project that will examine Amazonia historically, materially, and ideologically in museum collections around the globe. As digital repatriation comes to be better understood, what role/place/function does it have for the Amazon River region in particular? How do these politics change across the range of media, across geographical frontiers, and distinct legal and ethical regimes of this megaregion? As we contemplate these questions, are there particularly good scholarly models we can use to understand the historical processes of collecting Amazonia in the present day?

More information: https://www.hps.cam.ac.uk/news-events/seminars-reading-groups/departmental

Palestinians and Postwar Regeneration, 1948 - 1967

27th February 2025

World History Seminar, Dr Mezna Qato (Newnham College, Cambridge)

Dr Mezna Qato is currently completing a book on the history of education for Palestinians.

Her research and teaching interests centre on histories and theories of social, economic and political transformation amongst refugee and stateless communities, the politics and practice of archives, and global micro-histories of movements and collectivities in the Middle East.





Her Cambridge: Reframing Women's Hidden Histories

13th March 2025

Museum of Cambridge

Delve into the untold stories of women in Cambridge with Uncomfortable Cambridge, and critically examine how we narrate their history! Inspired by Uncomfortable Cambridge's Hidden Histories tour, this lecture delves into the untold stories of women in Cambridge and critically examines how we narrate their history. Building on the tour's exploration of women's urban, academic, and family lives, the construction of gendered identities, and queer experiences, this talk addresses key questions: What gaps exist in the historical record, and how can we amplify silenced voices? Through case studies of pioneering women scholars, everyday lives, and communities, we'll explore their struggles, achievements, and the ways historical narratives have excluded or misrepresented them. Join us to discuss strategies for creating a more comprehensive narrative of Cambridge's past.

Book your place

Collections, Connections, Communities Keynote: Tapping Natural History Collections for Interdisciplinary Research: Perspectives from the Plant Humanities

26th February 2025

Sainsbury's Laboratory Lecture Theatre, Cambridge

What does it mean to use natural history collections to tackle research questions drawn from the world of the humanities? Join us for the Lent CCC Keynote Lecture, which will mark the launch of the Natural History Humanities Initiative.

Keynote Speaker: Dr. <u>Yota Batsaki</u>, Executive Director and Principal Investigator, Plant Humanities Initiative, Dumbarton Oaks. Introduced by: Professor Sam Brockington, Professor of Evolution at the Department of Plant Sciences, Curator of the Cambridge University Botanic Garden, Co-Chair for CCC

Register here





Centre for Material Culture: Tapa (Bark Cloth) Study Day

19th March 2025

Centre for Material Culture (MAA)

A study day examining the Museum for Archaeology and Anthropology's collections of tapa (bark cloth), led by Professor Nicholas Thomas (MAA, Cambridge), Eve Haddow (MAA, Cambridge), and Miriama Bono (artist and cultural consultant, Tahiti), held at the new Centre for Material Culture.

Book your place

Cambridge Industrial Archaeology Group | Film Studios: Infrastructure, Architecture, Afterlife

10th March 2025

Cambridge Museum of Technology, Pye Building

ilm studios are architectural spaces designed to support every stage in a film's production. Yet as physical environments and architectural spaces they've rarely featured as the subject of extensive analysis compared with film movements, directors and the genres of popular cinema.

This presentation is about a research project that investigated film studios in Britain, France, Germany and Italy in 1930-60, decades when cinema dominated mass entertainment, reaching a high-point of intensive, studio-based film production. Sarah Street and Richard Farmer describe the project's focus on the variety of Europe's many different studios, challenging the idea that illusory screen worlds were created in 'invisible' physical environments by those whose work also tends to be effaced. Studios resemble other examples of industrial archaeology in terms of their histories, locations and structures.

As well as discussing different types of studios, we focus on Denham Studios in the UK which operated for film production from 1936-52. We present research on its history and afterlife when the studios were adapted for different purposes. The presentation also demonstrates how we re-created four studios for a Virtual Reality experience of facilities no longer operating (Denham and Joinville) and those which remain in use today (Cinecittà and Babelsberg).

More information





25th Annual Cambridge Heritage Symposium Pathways of Afterlives: Tracing, Uncovering, and Researching Legacies of the Past

28th February 2025

Cambridge Heritage Research Centre

That heritage involves an interplay between past, present and future is today undisputed in Heritage Studies. We know that past events have shaped the present we inhabit either despite ourselves or due to a deliberate choice or interpretation of a past against which to position ourselves. Yet, determining the continuous causal chains that link the past directly to the present and future has posed methodological challenges. As heritage scholars and practitioners navigate the intersections of memory, history, and identity, there is a growing recognition of the need for innovative and reflexive methodologies to understand and engage with legacies. Despite this, the methodological challenge of tracing, uncovering and researching legacies remains.

The 25th annual Heritage Research Symposium invites researchers and practitioners from diverse disciplinary backgrounds to meet this challenge by contributing to this ongoing discussion, considering how we study the legacies of the past. We seek to both showcase the interdisciplinary research on legacies taking place at the University of Cambridge and bring together cutting-edge work on this topic from around the world. The Symposium will create an opportunity to reflect on innovative approaches, challenge (if needed) existing ones, and exchange experiences on effective methods for researching the complex issues of legacy and heritage across time, space, and culture.

This year's symposium is funded jointly by a grant from the University of Cambridge's School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS) for a project entitled Researching Legacies of the Past (PI, Dr Viejo-Rose). The project advances one of the themes of the SHSS' Research Framework: Legacies of the Past or Historical Transitions by bringing together researchers working on legacies, broadly understood, from numerous disciplines.

We aim to turn a selection of conference papers into a publication. Please submit an abstract of no more than 300 words by **Friday, 28th February 2025** to the organisers at chrcsymposium@gmail.com





Call for Papers: Past Tense, Future Imperfect: Temporalities as Mobilising Force

31st March 2025

European Association of Social Anthropologists

Conceptions of past and future are mobilised in contemporary public debates on major issues such as climate change, migration, technology, the economy and democracy, as well as in the more intimate processes of belonging and identity formation.

Retrospection and anticipation (Knight & Bryant 2019) are crucial aspects of human existence.

The workshop is envisioned as the first 'instalment' of a long-term conversion on these overarching themes to foster further collaborative work among participants. From the methodology session, we plan to write a toolkit piece on ethnographic approaches to accessing the past and future for Allegra Lab's 'One shots'-series. From the theory session, we plan to work towards a special issue of a journal, potentially Social Anthropology/Anthropologie Sociale.

We invite contributions that explore these issues in a variety of formats including audiovisual and multimodal forms of communication. To participate, please submit your 250-word abstract or an alternative format –such as video abstract, podcast excerpt or portfolio–outlining your contribution.

Submit

Call for Papers: 26th Cemeteries Colloquium

2nd May 2025

The Cemetery Research Group

The Cemeteries Colloquium is held every year in person in York, and will next take place on the 23rd May, 2025. Scholars with an interest in disposing the dead will find an engaged and expert audience.

The event is international and interdisciplinary, covering subjects across the social sciences and humanities. Indeed, the very interdisciplinary nature of the papers and the audience makes for particularly fruitful dialogue. Past conference abstracts give a good indication of the breadth of interest represented here. This is an informal event with a strong emphasis on discussion, and is a particularly supportive environment for scholars new to this field.

A <u>call for papers</u> has been issued, and the deadline for abstracts is 2nd May.

Submit

Opportunites

Lecturer in Heritage

26th February 2025

The University of Edinburgh

£49,250 to £60,321 per annum (Grade 8)

We are seeking an ambitious and innovative Lecturer in Heritage to join our thriving research and teaching community within the School of History, Classics, and Archaeology at the University of Edinburgh. This is an exciting opportunity to play a pivotal role in delivering the MSc in Cultural Heritage Futures programme at the Edinburgh Futures Institute, while also contributing to undergraduate teaching and research in the Archaeology subject area. The successful candidate will deliver engaging courses on critical heritage topics, supervise dissertations, and develop original research in critical heritage studies.

This post is fixed term (15th August 2025- 31st August 2026) and full-time (35 hours per week)

Learn More

Paper Conservator

14th February2025

University of Reading

£29,605-£33,966 pro rata per annum

The University of Reading are looking for a Paper Conservator to conserve collections spanning a wide range of archive, museum, art and library material including three Designated collections of national and international significance. The Paper Conservator will be joining a multidisciplinary team to deliver a range of conservation treatments for paper and related collections to support curatorial and access needs. The postholder will provide specialist advice, monitor collections and assist in preparing materials for research use, display and exhibitions, as and when required.

Interviews will be held: 21 March 2025

Learn more

Post Sixth Form Museum Experience Internship

8th May 2025

University of Cambridge Museums and Botanic Garden

The Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, part of the University of Cambridge, houses around one million artefacts made by people across the world and throughout human history. The collection, covering nearly two million years of human history, has been open to the public since 1884. The Museum attracts visitors from all over the world, but also from the local area. Staff teach groups from preschool to postgraduate level, alongside family activities, adult courses and lifelong learning.

This is a unique opportunity to gain meaningful and valuable experience of the types of work activities that take place in a museum environment. This internship has been designed to give a person who has finished their A Level exam or equivalent, and is waiting for their results, the chance to try out areas of museum work, including museum learning, social media and collections management. From this, the intern will be equipped with an understanding of what area of museum work they are most interested in.



Opportunites



125th Anniversary Scholarship for Black British Researchers - Fanfic in the Archive: Ephemera, Ethics, Engagement

26th February 2025

The University of Birmingham

This project engages with a paradox: selfpublished and fanfiction communities and archives have historically been marginalised in academic research and library collection policies, yet also power Internet Search. Under-studied and under-archived in institutional contexts, the productions of fanfic online communities have nevertheless been accessioned into the datasets of Google Bert and other LLMs to optimise commercial Search and Generative Al technologies. This is often experienced as traumatic by communities who prioritise collaborative conceptions of authorship, compensation, attribution, etc. In this context, many fanfiction communities are reluctant to engage with institutional archiving or Legal Deposit, rejecting principles of ownership among mainstream publishers and cultural heritage collections, while remaining subject to voracious tech industry appropriation.

This project will utilise an interdisciplinary approach, engaging with disciplines such as Literary Studies, Digital Cultures, Black Studies, Media History, Library Science and Cultural Heritage. The project will be supervised by Dr Rebecca Roach and Dr Dorothy Butchard, based in the Department of English Literature, and supported by the Stuart Hall Archive Project and Centre for Digital Cultures at the University of Birmingham. The student will also have access to staff expertise and training at the British Library and undergo a placement there during the course of the PhD.

Resilient Traces: Investigating the Contested Heritage Significance of Recent Military Colonial Legacies - the Example of Former RAF Changi, Singapore

14th February2025

University of York, and the Royal Air Force Museum London

RAF Changi was occupied by the British Royal Air Force (RAF) from 1945 to 1971 but the legacies remain inscribed on the landscape and in memory. This project will assess the heritage significance of these resilient traces using mixed methods that combine archival research, field survey and oral histories. The project builds on John Schofield's previous work on the Cold War and postcolonial heritage (e.g. Malta, Berlin), and Megan Kelleher's research into commemorative landscapes. At the RAF Museum, the role of the RAF in East Asia has been underrepresented and this project would assist with providing insight into this aspect of the RAF's story.

Candidates will likely apply for this position from diverse subject backgrounds. We will ensure that the successful candidate's particular specialism can be pursued within the scope of this project. We would also welcome amendments to the list of research questions, to highlight other relevant areas of research and practice. While the emphasis will remain on Changi (because of the extent of available documentation, the site's iconic status and its position in Asia), we would be open to the idea of comparative studies.

Learn more



Opportunites

PhD Studentship: Changing Behaviours Empowering Community Engagement in Earth Heritage

5th March 2025

The University of Birmingham

£49,250 to £60,321 per annum (Grade 8)

This PhD project is based on supporting ethical and equitable Access to Earth Heritage, it will seek to co-develop innovative, localised, people-centred models for ethical and equitable access and sustainable development, aiming to safeguard Earth Heritage for local communities. The PhD research will examine how the application of behavioural science based and interdisciplinary approaches can help understand complex human behaviours at the Jurassic Coast, England's s only natural world heritage site.

Learn More

Programme Coordinator (Producer): University Art Commission to celebrate Black scholars

9th March 2025

University of Cambridge

£33,232-£39,105 pro rata

We are seeking an individual who has excellent interpersonal skills and are commitment to and ability to work to principles of anti-racist practice with a strong understanding of EDI and inclusion. They will have an interest in contemporary art and related practice while also having a knowledge of museum practice, and the requirements of collections, research, and historic buildings. The role will be suited to an individual who has experience of the processes involved in commissioning public art and have a demonstratable track record of producing with artists and curators.

<u>Learn more</u>

Impact Fellow: Decolonising Indigenous Collections

19th March 2025

University of Nottingham

£31,387 to £34,866

The purpose of this role is to support the AHRC Impact Award Accelerator-funded project Mapping the Indigenous North American Collection of Nottingham City Museums and Galleries (NCMG), which promotes the decolonisation of the NCMG's World Cultures collection. The role holder will work closely with the project researchers and on-site with the museum curator to support the identification and provenance of collection materials and create an updated digital archive of the Indigenous North American collection. The successful applicant must have an MA or equivalent in a relevant subject area, and experience of researching Indigenous histories, cultures, and material cultures and/or working with the museum and heritage sectors. A PhD in a relevant subject area or the equivalent in professional qualifications and experience in the research area is desirable.







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.

Subscribe

If you would like to be added to our mailing list to receive our bulletin, or if you have a notice to post, please contact the editor (heritage-bulletin@arch.cam.ac.uk).

For more information about the Heritage Research Group, visit the CHRC website:

www.heritage.arch.cam.ac.uk

Cambridge Heritage Research Centre Bulletin

Editor: Kieran Gleave & Charlotte Wood (PhD Researchers) Address: Downing Street, Cambridge CB23DZ, United Kingdom

Email <u>heritage@arch.cam.ac.uk</u> Phone: 01223-339291

Bulletin Archive: www.heritage.arch.cam.ac.uk/p ublications/bulletin Social Media: Instagram: <u>cambridge_heritage</u> Facebook: <u>cambridgehrg</u>

