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Cambridge Heritage Research Centre

# BULLETIN

9 June 2020

## CHRC News

We hope that all our subscribers are safe and well. We continue to produce and distribute the Cambridge Heritage Research Centre Bulletin regularly, however, the circulation date may vary over the next few months as centre staff get used to working remotely. The content may slightly change as well since the number of event notices and opportunities will be few in number. We still aim to create quality content regularly for those who are interested in Heritage Studies.

## COVER STORY

The Cambridge Heritage Research Centre supports the Statement for Anti-Racism in UK Heritage

On 3rd of June, The Heritage Alliance joined leading membership bodies representing museums, heritage sites and archives in the UK in supporting a joint statement of intent to end racism in the heritage sector. As a member of The Heritage Alliance the Cambridge Heritage Research Centre fully supports the commitments set out in the statement.

A copy of the joint statement has been reprinted on page 2.

# COVER STORY

## Joint statement of intent for the heritage sector

The Black Lives Matter movement began in America after a series of killings of black people in or following police custody. The movement has resonance in the UK, not least because of our nation's history in which racism has become entrenched.

As the leading membership bodies representing the UK museums, heritage and archives we take responsibility for ending racism in the heritage sector. This work is overdue. This work is non-negotiable. It cuts across all aspects of our sector, from the collections we curate and preserve, the people who make up the heritage workforce, to the learning programmes we deliver.

The conversation and the action is ongoing.

We commit to pro-actively support :

- representing our members across the heritage sector, acknowledging that our nation's history and heritage is an invaluable tool in the fight against racism and discrimination.
- anti-discrimination debate and discussion in the care of and access to heritage collections.
- seeking, and taking care of the needs of a diverse heritage workforce.
- members to develop diverse collections.
- asking questions and challenging practices that support racism in all of its forms.
- that now is the time to be anti-racist.
- doing the work involved to end discrimination here and now.

Signees:

- The Group for Education in Museums (GEM)
- The Association of Independent Museums (AIM)
- The International Council of Museums UK (ICOM UK)
- The Museums Association
- The Heritage Alliance
- Engage
- The Archives and Records Association (UK and Ireland)

# REFLECTIONS

## The difficult urban heritage of colonialism in the UK

The memory politics of the UK differs from the memory politics of Eastern Europe, as to date British governments have not generally removed the country's public statues representing difficult pasts. Aleida Assman made the distinction between active and passive forgetting: the former acts in order to demolish the unwanted memory, while the latter waits until it slips out of the public consciousness (2008). Memory politics in the UK practices the second option, while most of the continental countries chose the first one.

The reason for the difference is less geographical, more historical: it depends whether a given nation was an occupying power or an occupied territory. In states going through occupation or coup d'etas, most regimes want to clear the memory of the previous one. As an incoming regime, the Germans entering Paris attacked memorials of the Franco-Prussian War, and when occupying Prague, they destroyed the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier which memorialised the fallen during the First World War. The same has happened during communist regimes: the early communist regime in Budapest actively erased the memory of the former Habsburg monarchy from the urban landscape. In many cases, war and occupation itself help the coming regimes remove unwanted memories, therefore, it is enough not to choose to reconstruct a heritage site.

However, states being liberated from oppressing power often use the same "damnatio memoriae" tactic as the oppressors. The first step in most of the post-communist countries of Eastern Europe was to remove the statues of the former regime. Some destroy them utterly, as in Prague where the statue of Stalin was blown up, while some just relocated and/or disarmed them. The most telling example of the latter approach is the creation of the Hungarian Memento Park, which, located on the outskirts of Budapest, serves as a ridiculous exhibition of the communist statues since the regime change.



The communist statue park in Budapest.

However, due to Britain's uninterrupted regime, it has no external pressure to revise its memorialscape, but rather it should come from an internal need: modifying the memorialscape in the UK can be a powerful way of facing with its own historical mistakes which have a clear impact in the present society.

But what happens when the social tension represented by memorials explode? Time and again we see that these tensions get projected toward the symbols, to the "lieux de memoire". The French at the outbreak of the revolution attacked the sites of the Ancient Regime. The Czechs being dissatisfied with the foreign rule tore down the Marianna Column which symbolised the catholic Habsburg monarchy in Prague in the 19th century. The pacifist French in Jongieux, opposing WWI, cut off the head of the Jeanne D'Arc effigy from the war memorial and threw it in the Rhone. In 2014, the Euromaidan protesters toppled the Lenin statues during the 'Leninfall'. Most recently, on the 7th of July, the Black Lives Matter protesters tore down the slave trader Edward Colston's memorial in Bristol. While the context and motivations may

# REFLECTIONS

differ from the historic examples given above (and comparisons should not be drawn), it clearly shows that the removal of statues which memorialise painful pasts, can be a statement against both historic memory and contemporary injustice.

Why did it happen? Because British memory politics has not been following the dynamics of societal tensions. The removal of the Bristol statue did not come unexpectedly and were not only the result of worldwide protests opposing the violence and systematic racism towards black people. In 2016, the 'Rhodes Must Fall' campaign demanded the removal of Cecil Rhodes's statue from Oriel College, Oxford. It was part of a larger movement for liberating the institution and the curriculum from its own colonial past. The former director of the Victoria and Albert Museum, Sir Roy Strong commented on the case: "Once you start rewriting history on that scale, there won't be a statue or a historic house standing....The past is the past. You can't rewrite history." However, heritage is about how you handle the past in the present. The Rhodes statues make a statement not about the past, but about the present. Brushing it under the carpet will not stop the demand or the hurt.



*Klement Gottwald's tomb in the National Vítkov Memorial in Prague.*

Yet disarming is not necessarily equal to removal. There are in situ mementos successfully remembering dark pasts - if they are curated and reframed in a new context. For example, the mausoleum of Klement Gottwald, the Czech communist leader, has not been removed from its original location, the National Vítkov Memorial in Prague, but rather it was reframed with explanation by proper curation to remember the dead of the communist regime. This example meant to show that the emphasis is not on keeping or removing memories, but rather on curating or ignoring them. In the UK the troublesome

memory is left intact. So far it has not been regarded as a problem that the Prime Minister traditionally resides in a street named after a 17th-century slave trader. "In a year and a half, they will earn (with God's blessing) as much as they cost", wrote Sir George Downing about slaves in Barbados to his cousin in 1645. These statues and street names are material witnesses to the historic violence against people of colour which persists within society today, and this materialised memory has not been governmentally removed or disarmed so far. What Sharon McDonald calls a difficult heritage in connection with Nuremberg refers to the present's ability to face the past's mistakes (2008). The UK's inflexibility in actively dealing with the material representations of colonialism or the continued presence of social inequality along the lines of race within contemporary society shows it has problems with facing its own past.

Text and photos: Andrea Kocsis, CHRC graduate member (The author writes her PhD on the memorialscape of capital cities.)

## References:

Slave trader statue torn down in Bristol anti-racism protest. BBC NEWS. 07/07/2020. Online: <https://www.bbc.com/news/av/uk-52954994/slave-trader-statue-torn-down-in-bristol-anti-racism-protest>

Everywhere Sir Roy Strong looks, the thumbscrews are tightening, *The Sunday Times*, 3 September 2017

Sir George Downing's letter to John Winthrop, Jr, 26 August 1645, Winthrop Paper V, 43.

## Bibliography:

Assmann, A. (2008). Transformations between History and Memory. *Social Research: An International Quarterly*, 75(1), 49-72.

Macdonald, S. (2008). *Difficult Heritage: Negotiating the Nazi Past in Nuremberg and Beyond* (1 edition). Routledge.

# OPPORTUNITIES

## Public Engagement Manager

### Historic England

**Location: Manchester, Greater Manchester**

**Salary: c£33,000+ Benefits**

**Closing date: 21 Jun 2020**

**Ref:9588**

Historic England is looking for an energetic and motivated Public Engagement Manager in the North West to work in our high-performing Communications and Public Engagement team. This role offers an exciting opportunity to help one of England's leading public bodies

You will be passionate about engaging the public and opinion formers in a two-way dialogue about the value of the historic environment and the benefits that it can bring to people and communities across the North West. You will have an eye for a story, an interest in local politics and be a natural at spotting opportunities.

Historic England is looking for someone who can build strong relationships externally with media and MPs and internally with colleagues. The Public Engagement Manager will be expected to advise and support colleagues working based in our Manchester office on communications and parliamentary affairs, helping to create a culture in which public engagement is understood and valued.

You will also need to horizon scan for potential issues and be confident working with senior colleagues to ensure that we are prepared on sensitive issues, such as planning cases, and deal with them professionally.

The successful candidate will be a self-starter, focused and able to manage a number of demands, be a supportive team-player, and able to build trusting relationships. You will report to a line manager who is based in London, and will be one of six Public Engagement Managers across the organisation.

You will be based in Manchester but part of a team that sits within the communications and public engagement directorate, largely based in London and Swindon. The directorate also includes campaigns, marketing, digital, education, inclusion and the Historic England Archive.

Historic England offers a wide benefits package including a competitive pension scheme, a generous 28 days holiday, corporate discounts, free entry into English Heritage sites across the county and development opportunities to ensure you achieve your goals. Having just won the Gold Award from MIND, they also recognise the importance of a healthy work-life balance. Therefore, they offer the flexibility in your working day to create a pattern that works for you.

Interviews will take via phone/video call.

Historic England is an equal opportunity employer which values diversity and inclusion.

URL: [https://historicengland.org.uk/about/jobs/vacancies/job/?title=Public+Engagement+Manager+\(North+West\)&ref=9588](https://historicengland.org.uk/about/jobs/vacancies/job/?title=Public+Engagement+Manager+(North+West)&ref=9588)

# OPPORTUNITIES

## 2 PhD Scholarships in Korean Studies

**University of Central Lancashire, Humanities,  
Language and Global Studies  
Closing Date: 20 August 2020**

The International Institute of Korean Studies (IKSU) at the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) is offering two fully funded PhD scholarships in Korean Studies. They seek highly motivated individuals who have excellent academic grades at Masters level and who are committed to original and high quality research in Korean Studies.

Applications are open to students of any nationality, but the scholarship covers the full value of UK tuition fees plus an annual stipend (currently set at £15,285 for the

academic year 2020-21). Non-UK fee paying students will receive a partial fee waiver to the value of UK tuition fees and will also receive the stipend. Successful candidates will be expected to work with our academics as research assistants. The duration of the scholarships is three years, subject to satisfactory progress.

URL: <https://www.uclan.ac.uk/schools/humanities-language-global-studies/iksu/iksu-upcoming-opportunities.php>

## 10 MA Scholarships in North Korean Studies

**University of Central Lancashire, Humanities,  
Language and Global Studies  
Closing Date: 20 August 2020**

The International Institute of Korean Studies (IKSU) at the University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) is offering 10 MA scholarships in North Korean Studies. They seek highly motivated students who have excellent academic grades at undergraduate level and who are committed to high quality critical study of North Korea.

Applications are open to students of any nationality, but the scholarship is for the full value of UK tuition fees (£6900). Non-UK fee paying students will receive a partial fee waiver to the value of UK tuition fees. Successful candidates will be expected to work with our academics as research assistants.

URL: [https://www.uclan.ac.uk/courses/ma\\_north\\_korean\\_studies.php](https://www.uclan.ac.uk/courses/ma_north_korean_studies.php)

# OPPORTUNITIES

## Simone Veil Fellowship, Call for Applications

**Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München**  
**Summer Term 2021**  
**Closing date: 31 August 2020**

In 2020, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München (LMU) established a new research center: the Project House Europe (PHE), which seeks to promote cutting-edge research from around the world on the history of Europe during the 20th and 21st centuries.

Simone Veil Fellows will be based in the heart of Munich at the Project House Europe and have no teaching obligation. They are expected to spend their fellowship in residence, to work on a major project, and to participate actively in life at PHE, including a presentation of their work. The fellowship does not support field trips or archival research. Simone Veil fellowships can be granted for a period of one to three months. Fellowships may begin on 12 April 2021, or the first day of any of the following months; they end on or before 16 July 2021. PHE offers time, guidance, and space for dialogue to conduct excellent research. We provide an office space and access to LMU's facilities. The fellowship also covers economy travel to and from Munich, a monthly living allowance and an accommodation allowance. Health insurance and other social benefits are not part of the fellowship and remain the responsibility of the fellow.

Applications must be received by 31 August 2020. The application (in English) should include the following:

- Cover letter (750 words maximum), including preferred dates and duration;
- Curriculum vitae (3 pages maximum);
- Project description (1,000 words maximum);
- Names and contact information of three scholars as references. These should be people who know you and your work well. Please note that we do not initially require letters, and we will not necessarily contact your referees.

Please send all application documents electronically as a single PDF file to Thomas Süssler-Rohringer ([thomas.rohringer@lmu.de](mailto:thomas.rohringer@lmu.de)).

Enquiries should also be directed to Thomas Süssler-Rohringer ([thomas.rohringer@lmu.de](mailto:thomas.rohringer@lmu.de)) or to PHE's founding director Professor Kiran Klaus Patel ([patel@lmu.de](mailto:patel@lmu.de)). More information on Project House Europe can be found at <https://www.phe.lmu.de>.

# CALLS

## Rethinking the Politics & Practices of Print in Comparative Colonial Perspective

**American Historical Association Annual Meeting, Seattle, 7-10 January 2021**  
**Closing date: 20 June 2020**

What makes print colonial? Across varied colonial contexts, print inhabits a series of double-lives. It functions as a global technology linked within transnational circuits of exchange but also as one whose historical specifics – linguistic or legal, economic or cultural, intellectual or commercial – are, by necessity, articulated within the weighted power of imperial-colonial relationships. Consequently, much of the scholarship on print examines the medium through frameworks that focus on negotiations within particular networks of rule; given this, colonial histories of the medium are disproportionately focused on examining proto-nationalism in print circuits. Our experimental workshop proposes examining the logic of print in comparative colonial contexts, so that we can ask new questions about both print and colonialism that move beyond traditional intra-imperial framing. The organisers aim to do this by focusing comparatively on practices – the practices developed by the multiple actors inhabiting the world of print. These practices, we suspect, emerged out of very specific social configurations yet reflected how print's agents and protagonists recognized the “needs” of imperial information gathering, dissemination, and control.

Some of the themes participants are invited to explore include (but are not limited to):

- Legal frameworks (regulation, censorship, self-censorship)
- Commercial logics (creation of economic networks, including through privileges, patronage and/or market forces)
- Politics of circulation (of texts and information, technologies, technical knowledge, images and aesthetics; relationship between print made “here” vs. “there;” print's interface with other media/forms of communication/orality)

- Social formations (promotion or reorientation of literate culture, alphabetization of indigenous languages, intersection with religious power, print as an aspect of colonial subject formation)
- Political networks (use of print to support or challenge political regimes, as a component of colonial political culture)

Finally, they invite participants to think about how colonialism either remakes pre-colonial realities or lives on in post-colonial and contemporary print culture, including in legal systems, language politics, publishing realities/market structures, and cultural attitudes or issues of access.

The aim of this experimental seminar model is to develop a sustained conversation that spans a range of colonial contexts but can be clustered around thematic discussions of the various issues proposed. The seminar will include three sessions of four participants each. Each session will focus on a comparative conversation about one or more of the specific themes outlined in the proposal. The participants will not be giving formal papers but instead discussing short pre-circulated material, with the aim that the shared work and resultant conversation will yield new and fruitful insights on the topic and future collaborations.

They welcome submissions from graduate students and scholars. Please submit a short abstract (max 250 words) and 1 page CV by June 20, 2020 to session co-organizers Ritika Prasad and Corinna Zeltsman:

[rprasad2@uncc.edu](mailto:rprasad2@uncc.edu) and  
[czeltsman@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:czeltsman@georgiasouthern.edu).

# CALLS

## Representations of Refugee, Migrant, and Displaced Motherhood in a Global Context

**Closing date: 20 June 2020**

Contributions are invited for a scholarly edited collection that aims to explore literary accounts of migrant, refugee, and displaced motherhood in a global context. The collection will look primarily at contemporary writings about migrant motherhood. In a world marked by forced migrations, climate change, and wars, the collection aims to examine writings about the displacement of mothers at the American borders, in the Syrian conflict, and beyond.

This book seeks to examine writings by and about the displaced mother in both fiction and non-fiction. Refugees and migrants are often unseen, or worse seen as an inconvenience or imposition. Migrant mothers in particular are often overlooked, with their experiences, their needs, and their lives nearly erased. This collection is particularly interested in analysis of first-hand accounts of migrant motherhood, while also recognizing that the migrant mother is often silent. Therefore, analysis of both fictional and non-fiction accounts may be of importance as the collection pieces together the fragmented lives of migrant mothers.

The journey of the migrant woman is made evermore complex by her status as a mother, a child-bearer, and a woman at-risk. The borders of motherhood to be examined in this collection can be linguistic, political, and geographical, along with the complex physicality of moving through liminal and transitory spaces. Chapters may explore a range of topics from the mother figure in refugee children's literature to ethnographic studies of migrant mothers in detention facilities.

The editor is in talks with several highly reputable academic publishers that are interested in the collection.

Possible topics might look critically at (but not limited to):

- Narratives about or by migrant or refugee mothers
- Fictionalized accounts of migrant motherhood
- Reproduction and migration
- Rhetoric of migrant motherhood
- Family separation
- Family resettlement
- Research and qualitative studies on women's experiences as migrant or refugee mothers
- Refugee children's literature and the mother figure

Contact Info: Maria Lombard

Northwestern University in Qatar

Contact Email: [maria.lombard@northwestern.edu](mailto:maria.lombard@northwestern.edu)

# CALLS

## Heroines of the Holocaust: Frameworks of Resistance

### Wagner College Holocaust Center

2-3 June 2021

Closing date: 15 August 2020

The activities of women during the Holocaust have often been forgotten, erased, misunderstood, or intentionally distorted. Jewish women and those of all faiths fought with dignity, compassion and courage to save others from the murderous Nazi regime in over 30 nations. Often overlooked, women as well as men played critical roles in uprisings against the Nazis in over 50 ghettos, 18 forced labor camps and 5 concentration camps, including Auschwitz. Women were critical to the Jewish underground and other resistance networks both as armed fighters and as strategists and couriers of intelligence and false papers. Women played essential roles operating educational, cultural and humanitarian initiatives. In other genocides, women also faced horrendous atrocities, yet distinguished themselves with resilience and acts of moral courage. This symposium hopes to create a new narrative around agency in the Shoah and other genocides, which may inspire transformative activism today. The organisers seek papers exploring women as rescuers and resisters of the Holocaust and genocide. Topics include, but are not limited to:

- Leadership Lessons of Women in Resistance Networks
- Women and Resistance in the Concentration Camps
- Women Rescuers and Resisters in the Ghettos
- Female Partisans in World War II
- The Psychology of Rescue and Resistance
- Women Doctors, Nurses and Social Workers
- Female Artists as Resisters
- The Power of a Photo of Women Resisters
- The Role of Women in Zionist and other youth groups
- Women as Resisters and Rescuers in Genocide
- Resilient Bonds: Mother/Sister/Aunt/Daughter/Grandmother
- Beyond Anne Frank: Women's Journals, Memoirs

and Archives

- Films and Music of Women and Human Rights
- Limits and Possibilities of Collection of Women's Oral Testimony and Archives
- Post-Holocaust Life of Female Resisters and Rescuers
- Historiography of Jewish and non-Jewish Resisters and Rescuers
- Illiberal Memory Politics and Selective Forgetting of Women
- Teaching about Women, Resistance and Rescue

Please submit abstracts of 300 to 500 words outlining the focus and approach of your paper. Abstracts must include full name and title, institutional affiliation and email address. Please also attach a copy of your CV.

Subject line should be: LAST NAME Abstract Heroines  
Submit to both Conference Organizers:  
Laura Morowitz, Professor of Art History, Wagner College

[lmorowit@wagner.edu](mailto:lmorowit@wagner.edu)

And Lori Weintrob, Professor of History and Director,  
Wagner College Holocaust Center

[holocaust.center@wagner.edu](mailto:holocaust.center@wagner.edu).

Contact Info:

Professor Laura Morowitz, Wagner College

Professor Lori Weintrob, Wagner College

Contact Email:

[lmorowit@wagner.edu](mailto:lmorowit@wagner.edu)

URL:<https://wagner.edu/holocaust-center/survivor-collections/women-resistance/>

## Palgrave Studies in Mediating Kinship, Representation, and Difference

**Closing date: 31 December 2025**

This book series brings together analyses of familial and kin relationships with emerging and new technologies which allow for the creation, maintenance and expansion of family. We use the term “family” as a working truth with a wide range of meanings in an attempt to address the feelings of family belonging across all aspects of social location: ability, age, race, ethnicity, nationality, sexuality, gender identity, body size, social class and beyond. This book series aims to explore phenomena located at the intersection of technologies including those which allow for family creation, migration, communication, reunion and the family as a site of difference. The individual volumes in this series will offer insightful analyses of the representations of these phenomena in media, social media, literature, popular culture and corporeal settings.

Possible book topics include:

- the use of technology and migration and family composition and disjunction; the ways that technologies may both push and pull kin together/apart
- the range of technology use across literal and figurative space including intersections of geography, age, poverty, gender and beyond
- the impact of technological absence: the ways that technologies may be taken for granted in particular environments (privileged nations; privileged subject positions) and may be denied or inaccessible in other spaces or places
- technologies of family creation and maintenance: the use of alternate reproductive technologies; the use of communication technologies to share information;
- queer family creation and representation through technology; making queer family visible through traditional, popular and social media; alternate family connections including nonnormative parenting arrangements (more than two parents, multiple different shades of parenting); “new” family through donor sibling relationships;

- technologies of class mobility, including the impact of smartphone technology on mediating/curtailing aspects of the digital divide; shifting family relationships through generational moves in class status
- fat family: the ways that narratives of obesity have had impacts on the creation and representation of family (for example: obese women who are denied reproductive technologies or access to international adoption); the ways these rhetorics have shifted differently in different jurisdictions; representation of fat family; intersection of fat and working class identities in popular culture
- trans families: both in terms of gender identity but also in terms of other families that “confound”—families that do not “match” one another, or that otherwise transgress normative models
- technologies of disability: the use of technology to enhance or bolster independence, the ways that disabled people are seen as incapable of parenting; on the other hand, the technologies which come into play around parenting children with disability, both prenatally and once children are born; representation of disability and family (fetishization and the perceived martyrdom of parents)

Contact Info:

SERIES TITLE: Palgrave Studies in Mediating Kinship, Representation, and Difference

SERIES EDITOR/S: May Friedman, Ryerson University (Canada); Silvia Schultermandl, University of Graz (Austria)

CONTACT:

Please send inquiries to [may.friedman@ryerson.ca](mailto:may.friedman@ryerson.ca) AND [silvia.schultermandl@uni-graz.at](mailto:silvia.schultermandl@uni-graz.at)

# CONTACT US



## 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-HRG events, jobs, or programs do not imply endorsement of them.

### Our Editors

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Andrea Kocsis  
On behalf of the Cambridge Heritage  
Research Centre

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