AHRC/JPICH Workshop on Re-use and continued use of historic buildings, urban centres and landscapes

November 26th 2018

College Court Conference Centre, Leicester, United Kingdom

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1. Introduction

As part of the Joint Programming Initiative on Cultural Heritage and Global Change (JPICH), a free workshop on the Re-use and continued use of historic buildings, urban centres and landscapes was held in Leicester in November 2018. The workshop provided the opportunity to showcase current research in the sub themes of Conservation and Planning, Diversity and Communities, Immersive, multi-sensory engagement and virtual reality and Contested Heritage.

The workshop was also designed to act as a platform to generate discussion and thoughts about the long-term strategy of the Joint Programming Initiative on Cultural Heritage- jpi-culturalheritage.eu. Since 2010, 20 EU participating countries and 8 observer countries have participated in 4 transnational joint funding calls with the most recent being on Digital Heritage and Heritage in Changing Environments. There are further calls planned for 2019 and 2020.

The workshop aims were:

- To provide a platform to facilitate discussion about the long term strategy for the JPICH.
- To focus discussion around past, current and potential research into the Re-use and continued use of historic buildings, urban centres and landscapes.
- To bring together heritage researchers and stakeholders in the 2018 European Year of Cultural Heritage.
- To raise awareness of AHRC’s Heritage priority area.

This report provides a summary of the presentations and discussion from the workshop.
2. The Workshop

Welcome

Professor Roey Sweet, Director of Partnerships and Engagement, UKRI: AHRC

The welcome presentation provided delegates with an overview of the Joint Programming Initiative on Cultural Heritage and Global Change and the UK’s involvement in it. UKRI:AHRC has been a Member of the Executive Board and Governing Board from the outset of the JPICH. It set up a National Consultation Panel to feed into the development of the Strategic Research Agenda which was published in 2014. UKRI:AHRC has been involved in the delivery of European Commission JPICH Work packages and Tasks e.g. workshops, reports and monitoring, which includes this workshop, and since 2010, has directly contributed over £3.5m into four JPICH funding calls, resulting in UK involvement in 23 of the 38 funded projects. Successful projects have ranged from research into Wetland Heritage and Urban Planning to Magic Lanterns and the Heritage of Dance.

Professor Roey Sweet, Director of Partnerships and Engagement, AHRC
Keynote Speaker

Mari Solerød, Vice Chair of JPI Urban Europe and Special Advisor in The Research Council of Norway

Mari gave an overview of the Joint Programming Initiative on Urban Europe (JPIUE). She stressed the importance of JPIs working together and emphasised the cross-over with JPICH. 20 European countries participate in the JPI Urban Europe network, through which over 85 million Euros has been invested in joint calls, resulting in over 70 funded projects. Unlike the JPICH, the network has been extended beyond Europe, with joint calls with the Belmont Forum and the National Science Foundation of China in 2017 and 2018 respectively. The network has resulted in the creation of Urban Living Labs- arenas for co-creation and science-policy cooperation across Europe, good practice cases and communities of practice with regards to global urban challenges. The network strives to connect local action to global goals- especially the Sustainable Development Goals and the UN-Habitat New Urban Agenda. The JPIUE has been updating its Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda and there will be a policy conference in Brussels on February 12th 2019 where it will be launched. Strategic connections and potential partnerships between JPICH and JPI Urban Europe were proposed in areas such as: digital transitions, urban governance, urban robustness, sustainable land-use, urban infrastructures and inclusive public spaces. JPIUE has several funding calls planned for 2019-2021 related to research on Urban Migration, Sharing Economy, Smart Cities and communities and Circular economies.
Conservation and Planning

- Intro from Chair- Professor Simon Gunn, Centre for Urban History, University of Leicester

Professor Simon Gunn recalled the relationship between history and conservation/town planning. He noted how the histories of the past have shaped decisions about what should be conserved in the present.

- Professor John Pendlebury, School of Architecture Planning and Landscape, Newcastle University

John began his presentation by proposing the distinct role of the JPI in facilitating research into conservation and planning. Through searching the RCUK database for research topics related to conservation and planning, he noted a disparity between coding, with most being categorised as Environmental Planning, whilst others were categorised as Heritage Management. John’s presentation provided an overview of two JPICH funded projects. The first was SHUC- A Sustainable Future for the Historic Urban Core, which was a partnership between Newcastle University, TU Delft and University College Dublin. The second was PICH- The impact of urban planning and governance reform on the historic built environment and intangible cultural heritage, a partnership between Newcastle University, TU Delft, NTNU (Trondheim) and IUAV (Venice). He stressed the importance of the JPI in being able to facilitate research and understand issues at a European scale. One of the findings in the delivery of these projects was that comparisons between different countries is not easy due to differences in institutional arrangements/planning systems and differences in cultural practices (understanding of heritage). Finally Newcastle University’s involvement in the 2018-2022 OpenHeritage H2020 funded programme was noted. This largescale research project aims to develop inclusive governance and management models for marginalised heritage sites. John ended his presentation by proposing that future research could be directed to better understand the conservation-planning assemblage, recognising it as social entity and the relationship between conservation planning and political philosophies such as liberalism and popularism. He also suggested more research is needed into how heritage can be used as a means to support marginalised places and communities- how it can be inclusive in a period of turbulent change and a need to understand what is happening to those spaces which can’t innovate due to capacity issues.

Professor John Pendlebury, School of Architecture Planning and Landscape, Newcastle University

- Dr Rebecca Madgin, School of Social & Political Sciences, University of Glasgow
Rebecca’s presentation was centred around the question ‘Are we asking heritage to do too much or not enough?’ She outlined the paradigm shift in the reconceptualisation of what heritage is, what it can do, how we manage it and who is involved. The evolution from monuments to places, preservation to conservation and the emergence of place making in planning. Through the examples of Govanhill Baths (the longest occupation of a public building in the UK) and the Southbank’s Under croft Skate park (the world’s oldest continually skated skate spot), Rebecca illustrated the disparities between the formal place making system and processes related emotional attachment and placemaking. She proposed that places aren’t solely the result of rational planning but rather are created and re-created through cumulative lived experiences that over time lead to emotional attachments. Rebecca concluded by asking if our planning system was fit for purpose, and pointed to new mechanisms to support the recognition of community value and in the process of place making (for example asset transfer and community shares).

Dr Rebecca Madgin, School of Social & Political Sciences, University of Glasgow

– Professor Peter Larkham, School of Engineering and the Built Environment, Birmingham City University
Peter’s presentation began by asking if there was a lack of publications on conservation and planning and to consider the reasons for this, for example is there a lack of interest in this area of research? Peter then went on to deconstruct the research theme by identifying the challenges in understanding conservation and planning: the differences in scale, scope, characteristics and attributes. Through the examples of Birmingham’s Brutalist Central library and the Rotunda, he raised questions about whose values are making the planning decisions and what are the limits of conservation—how far can you strip a listed building back before it loses its authenticity and significance. Peter concluded by calling for more research into understanding the relationship between the everyday and heritage, and in understanding the short, medium and long term attributes and interests which shape the conservation/planning system.

During the Q&A the delegates and speakers reflected upon the challenges of managing the tensions between private and communal interest in heritage, for example, at the properties of the Historic Houses Association. They also discussed the process of managing change and the tensions which are a result of social value/community value being excluded from the formal designation process.
Diversity and Communities

- Dr David Wyatt, School of History, Archaeology and Religion, Cardiff University and Dave Horton, Action in Caerau and Ely- ACE

This joint presentation was about the CAER Heritage project which is being led by Cardiff University and Action in Caerau (ACE). The project is focussed on the Caerau hillfort on the edge of Cardiff which has 6000 years of history in 6 square miles. The presentation reaffirmed how the project has taken a holistic approach to raising interest in discovering and valuing local heritage, creating new life/educational opportunities and in providing opportunities for co-producing research with communities. The project started back in 2012 through an AHRC Connected Communities grant of £19,934, and has subsequently grown through the inclusion of new partners and funding opportunities. For example there was a Time Team excavation and television programme in 2012, an exhibition in partnership with the National Museum of Wales and the Welsh Government, higher education archaeological field schools and since 2017 there has been the CAER studio which is an arts, cultural and social enterprise. The project has resulted in new research papers, over 2,500 active participants, 15,000 visitors, 15 institutional partners, the involvement of 1,500 pupils and in winning the 2017 Times Higher Education award for Outstanding Contribution to the Local Community. The team have just submitted a £1.65m bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund to create the Hidden Hillfort Heritage Centre, turning a currently vacant building on the edge of the hillfort into a multi-purpose centre for the community which would become the gateway to the hillfort. The centre would build on the legacies of the project, further strengthening the community engagement which has improved people’s mental health, wellbeing and sense of belonging.
This presentation outlined the recently funded JPICH Community Archaeology in Rural Environments Meeting Societal Challenges (CARE-MSoC) project. The project was funded through the Heritage in Changing Environments call. The project is focussed on enhancing the capacity of community archaeology to benefit rural communities in inhabited historic settlements. The strength of the project is in members of the public working with archaeologists to make new discoveries about the historical development of the rural settlement they live in. The project which will start on 1st Feb 2019 will run for 3 years and involve partners in the Czech Republic, Netherlands, Poland and the UK. The project aims to advance the understanding of how community archaeology approaches can deliver benefits in different social and cultural contexts, to develop recommendations and toolkits to enable these benefits to be achieved more widely and to disseminate outcomes to practitioners and policy-makers internationally. It builds on earlier work in the UK in rural communities and deprived environments, some funded by AHRC and European grants. In the presentation an outline of the development of community archaeology in the Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Poland and the UK was provided. Carenza stressed the importance of this being funded through the JPICH as it allowed for the research to be undertaken at a European scale and to join up existing research in different countries.
This presentation reflected on heritage as a route to regeneration and questioned who gets to make decisions and whose stories get told. Through examples of creative arts projects which were part of the Remaking Society (2012-2014) AHRC Connected Communities grant and the 2014-15 AHRC grant titled Challenging Elites: rethinking disconnection and recovering urban space, the role of creative interventions was discussed. The relationship between artists and activists was discussed and the relationship between conversation and conservation was considered within the context of regeneration and heritage occurring through rapid transitions/transformations. Ben Parry/Lee Ivett’s Riverside Solidarity Project which resulted in temporary interventions at Govan and Gdansk illustrated how such initiatives open up conversations about the past, present and the future. Graham called for greater methodological innovation especially new interdisciplinary practice-led methods which could have the potential to reach much broader audiences than conventional academic research.

Due to time limitations, there was no panel discussion/Q&A for this session.
Contested Heritage

- Intro from the chair: Kate Clark, Deputy Director, Heritage Policy & Engagement at Llywodraeth Cymru / Welsh Government

Kate started the session by asking delegates to reflect on the relationship between Heritage and Values based practice. She proposed that it could be considered as consisting of three components: what is heritage (significance), why should we sustain it (sustainability) and how do we manage it (practice). She asked delegates to consider this when listening to the presentations by the three speakers.

- Professor Keith Lilley, School of Natural and Built Environment, Queens University Belfast

This presentation reflected on the Living Legacies 1914-18 Engagement Centre (2014-2019) based at Queens University Belfast which was funded by the AHRC, working in partnership with the Heritage Lottery Fund. The centre was funded to act as a focal point for connecting academic and community researchers in how the First World War lives on in the twenty first century world. Keith stressed that the past is not dead as it lives on today as ‘heritage’ as he provided examples of how the activities of the engagement centre enabled it to become both a bridge between the past and present, as well as between the academics and communities. He revealed how the centre supported 197 events between 2014 and 2017, engaged 6,700 community participants and resulted in the addition of 2000 objects and stories into a digital archive. Coproduced research was recognised as being essential in order to build and maintain trust and it was proposed that through diversifying the Centenary, sharing personal stories (rather than promoting a shared history) and connecting communities, for example, through the Poppy Trail Murals, the Engagement Centre has encouraged the development of an inclusive heritage.
The presentation outlined how Historic England, as the government’s lead advisor on heritage, are broadening historical narratives to include LGBTQ, women’s history and other under-represented histories on the Heritage buildings and monuments list. Through examples from Bristol, the presentation considered how slavery abolition and colonialism have been recognised and managed at contested heritage sites. Examples include the production of a Sites of Memory map in 2007, the listing and revision of existing listings of sites to commemorate the abolition of slavery, the struggle for racial equality, the post-war Afro-Caribbean community, and re-contextualising sites of contested heritage, for example, through the Immortalised exhibition in 2018. Sandra reflected on how the organisation is addressing the practical and policy responses to contested heritage and outlined the steps being taken to ensure that they are better informed and a more representative organisation. She questioned how can you continue to produce work in this area when the workplace doesn’t reflect society? She stressed the importance of having a conversation about the contested heritage and conflicting values and of having a measured approach. The importance of supporting staff in this was illustrated by examples of hate mail sent to Historic England in response to their Heritage Training Placements programme which was designed to improve the diversity of staff within the organisation. Finally, class was recognised a representative area where more work needs to be done both internally and externally.
This presentation discussed the Changed Utterly project by the Library of Trinity College Dublin which was focussed on commemorating the 1916 Easter Rising in Ireland. The project aimed to raise awareness of the 1916 collections and to complicate the narrative through telling stories of multiple identities from differing political viewpoints and uncover previously unexplored stories. The project was based around a blog and social media campaign, as well a physical and online exhibition. This digital humanities project also included web-archiving and digital recording. The project received significant media attention and resulted in a number of broader engagement activities, for example, archive material being promoted by Google and Ulster Bank. The project is one of many within the decade of commemorations in Ireland which reflects on not only the Easter Rising and the First World War but also the Civil War. Going forward the Library is also leading on the Beyond 2022 project which aims to digitally reconstruct the Irish national archive and archival material lost in the 1922 destruction. Estelle stressed the importance of not avoiding the conversations and proposed that all heritage is contested.
Panel discussion Q&A (Chair)

In the discussion, delegates returned to the notion of class and the relationship between its representation in heritage and research. The Museums as Muck initiative was recognised as being an example of how the sector is working to address this barrier. The discussion also centred on the difficulties of language, for example, can heritage be shared? Questions were also raised about if higher education was providing adequate skills for the next generation to deal with these issues. Finally, delegates agreed that whilst these issues were difficult to deal with, it is important to go ahead and tackle them, not shy away from them.
Immersive, Multi-Sensory engagement and Virtual Reality

– Intro from chair: Professor Mohamed Abdelmonem, School of Architecture Design and the Built Environment, Nottingham Trent University

In opening the final session, Mohamed asked delegates to consider how digital technology can empower/facilitate everyday life. He noted how the three speakers reflect the key skill areas needed for digital heritage research: architecture, archaeology and computer science. The importance of the public benefit from research into digital heritage was recognized and discussed.

– Professor Dawn Hadley, Department of Archaeology, University of York

Dawn presented the results of the 2018 AHRC Immersive Experiences funded project ‘Digital Engagement for Heritage-led Urban Regeneration’. The project resulted in the development of a 3D model of the long destroyed Sheffield Castle. The reconstruction model was created from recent excavation records and the digitisation of archival excavation records. The project also included architecture students who worked with the community heritage group, the Friends of Sheffield Castle, to draw up plans for the site of the castle which is part of the city of Sheffield’s urban regeneration aspirations. The reconstruction was tested in augmented reality through a mobile app thereby allowing users to be outside and see the site in its original location. Through testing, the team revealed issues with the GPS tracking software which meant that there were challenges in locating the user, accurately detecting the orientation of the mobile device and integrating the virtual castle with the real world. An installation in Sheffield’s Millennium Galleries allowed groups to engage with the virtual model and proved popular with both young and older visitors and revealed that digital technology was not a barrier but an opportunity for engagement.
This presentation outlined the results of the Virtual Romans project. The project was developed by De Montfort University – Digital Design Research Group, Leicester Arts and Museum Service – Jewry Wall Museum, University of Leicester Archaeological Services and the University of Newcastle – Department of Museum Studies. Through both virtual reality and augmented reality, the project reconstructed 3D buildings, digitised artefacts and created avatars to allow users to explore virtual reconstructions of Roman Leicester. This was possible through a website, mobile app and an interactive museum kiosk. Evaluation of the project revealed that participants welcomed the freedom to explore, the interactivity led to an increased enjoyment, there was an improved understanding between the past and present and that the educational potential of this application was made clear. The research faced problems with integrating the GPS tracking functions, however it was recognised that advances in hardware such as Magic Leap and I-Beacons will make this possible in the future. It was noted that the AHRC funded Heritage Network hosted by De Montfort University provides a forum and support for both academics and community partners working on Connected Communities and Digital Transformation Heritage Projects.

For more information:
http://www.heritagenetwork.dmu.ac.uk/ and https://www.facebook.com/HeritageNetwork
Dr Richard Brook provided an overview of the 2018 AHRC Immersive Experiences funded project the Life of Buildings. This project aims to digitally preserve the physical fabric and social history of our urban environments. The project is a partnership between Manchester Metropolitan University, Oxford Archaeology, Fablr, The Modernist Society, Archives + at the Manchester Central Reference Library and The Jewish Museum. The project has combined archive collections with 3d scans to develop an immersive experience for users through virtual reality, augmented reality and mixed reality spaces. The Schneller Orphanage, Geevor Tin Mine Museum and The Reform Synagogue in Manchester were discussed as examples of the project case studies. Archive plans were layered with photogrammetry and LIDA point cloud data, as well as audio and visual material to allow visitors to have a fully immersive experience of the heritage site. The project has revealed a technological gap in the processing of large meshes made by laser scan and photogrammetry and their downsampling to VR environments, new deep mine algorithms are needed to advance this. It has also revealed that the geo-location of data is not yet accurate enough or accessible enough to enable a first person mixed reality experience of a building in real space. Future research is needed to address this technology gap however new hardware such as the Microsoft HoloLens could allow for improved visitor experiences. The project illustrates how technology enables researchers to give a building ‘back’ to the community in a different form which allows for new forms of collaboration and curation.
In the panel discussion shared issues surrounding the technology gap were identified and discussed, for example, GPS tracking/Geo-location, data processing, and battery drain for the user. There was recognition that given these barriers, web based solutions were preferred for optimal user experience over mobile apps. There was frustration that researchers are pushing the boundaries of current technological abilities as further advancements was dependent on the mobile hardware and software developers. The perception that older demographics engage less with digital interfaces or find it challenging was not experienced by the projects. The delegates then considered what are the steps needed to move research and experimentation in digital heritage from temporary interventions to ones which are part of the permanent heritage visitor experience. Here the realities of digital interpretation and barriers to access were weighed up. Finally, digital preservation was discussed, as there remains challenges in maintaining and curating digital hardware, software and metadata.
Summary Session

In the summary session, each of the session chairs as well as Professor Roey Sweet provided reflections on the sessions and the day as a whole.

- The summary discussions revealed the showcased research projects had all identified limits to heritage, technology, conservation, conversations.
- A recurring question had been are we asking too much or too little of heritage?
- Coproduction was identified as being an important research and engagement approach across the projects showcased during the day.
- The paradigm shifts from understanding heritage as being about monuments and preservation, to being about emotions, place making and managing change/conflicting values, as well as the authorised heritage discourse to an inclusive heritage discourse was recognised by the speakers and delegates.
- The catalyst of research funding was recognised, as AHRC grants had led to spin offs and broader engagement which went beyond their original scale and scope, and added greater depth.
- Values led practices within the heritage sector was leading to real change both in terms of what is defined as heritage and who is represented.
- Not shying away from contested heritage was agreed as being crucial as we have responsibilities as a sector and as researchers. As one session chair noted, we held up a mirror to ourselves and what we saw was not very nice.
- Complicating the narrative was identified as being important in engaging with contested heritage.
- Partnerships and working collaboratively is at the heart of a successful research project and building and keeping trust with partners is essential.
- One delegate noted that although values based practice has opened a Pandora’s Box, we have to deal with it and work in new ways and take advantage of new opportunities, for example, technology. The showcased projects revealed that heritage research is pushing the boundaries of digital technology and whilst it is evolving all the time, new hardware and software is needed to further advance our ambitions.
- JPICH are working on a long-term strategy, including revising the Strategic Research Agenda and exploring a more global approach comparable with the JPIUE. Further funding opportunities are being planned for 2019 and 2020 and delegates were advised to follow the JPICH and AHRC websites about the funding calls.
Further information

- UKRI: AHRC Heritage Research- https://ahrc.ukri.org/innovation/heritage-research/
- AHRC Heritage Priority Area Team- https://heritage-research.org/
Speakers and Delegates

Speaker Biographies

Roey Sweet has been Director of Partnerships and Engagement since March 2018. Her role involves fostering and developing the AHRC’s relationships with both the higher education sector and external stakeholders. Roey Sweet is an eighteenth-century historian whose interests lie in urban history, the reception of the past in the eighteenth century and the history of travel. She studied at Oxford where she completed her BA and D.Phil and was a junior research fellow. Since 1998 she has been based at the Centre for Urban History at the University of Leicester where she is professor of urban history and co-editor of Urban History. She is currently working on the invention of the historic town between 1750 and 1850 and on the antiquary and topographer, Sir William Gell.

Mari Solerød is a Special Advisor in the Research Council of Norway (RCN), the Division for Resource Industries and the Environment. She is the Vice Chair for JPI Urban Europe and member of its Governing Board. Mari is also the Norwegian representative in the General Assembly of BiodivERsA and member of its Executive Board. Her educational background is within the humanities and social sciences, languages (Nordic and French) and social anthropology. She has worked for RCN for ten years, the last two years having made a shift from strategic communication work to international cooperation on science funding.

Simon Gunn is Professor of Urban History at the University of Leicester and co-editor of Urban History journal. He has published widely on European cities in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries and is currently co-authoring a book based on the Leverhulme-funded project, Motor Cities: Automobility and the Urban Environment in Britain and Japan, 1955-1973. He led the establishment of the MA Urban Conservation, based in the Centre for Urban History at Leicester, in 2012.

Dawn Hadley is Professor of Medieval Archaeology at the University of York, which she recently joined from the University of Sheffield. She specialises in Anglo-Saxon and Viking-Age England. In her many public engagement projects she has worked with digital heritage specialists and computer scientists to create digital methods of dissemination. Projects include the Viking VR installation in the Yorkshire Museum’s 2017 Vikings: Rediscover the Legend exhibition, with York’s EPSRC-/AHRC-funded Digital Creativity Labs. She has recently been leading an AHRC-/EPSRC-funded project to use Augmented Reality in the context of urban regeneration of Sheffield’s Castlegate district, with her former Sheffield colleagues in Computer Science and Architecture.

Keith Lilley is Professor Historical Geography at Queen’s University Belfast (UK). His expertise lies in exploring connections between landscape and mapping, using cross-disciplinary approaches drawn from geography, history, architecture and archaeology. For over twenty years he has led research projects employing digital technologies to analyse and interpret all kinds of cultural heritage, from the Gough Map of Great Britain to castle-towns of Edward I. He is director and PI of the AHRC-funded WW1 public engagement centre, ‘Living Legacies 1914-18’ that has spearheaded community-based coproduction research projects across the UK during the Centenary of WW1.

Graham Jeffery is Reader in Music and Performance at the University of the West of Scotland. His work is interdisciplinary with a focus on social justice, participatory and community oriented methods, creative pedagogies and public arts and media practices. Recent projects include the development of a long-term research and knowledge exchange project examining contested waterfront/shipyard heritages in Govan, Scotland and Gdansk, Poland, work on the representation of community, disadvantage and informal urbanism in Dharavi, Mumbai, funded by GCRF/AHRC, and a participatory
community history project in Ferguslie Park, Paisley. He keeps a blog at www.generalpraxis.org.uk and can be found on Twitter @grahamjeffery.

Estelle Gittins is Assistant Librarian within the Manuscripts & Archives Research Library of Trinity College Dublin, with 20 years'-experience as an archivist within the Galleries, Libraries and Museums sector. She was project lead on the 1916 digital humanities project Changed Utterly – Ireland and the Easter Rising, the Library’s flagship response to the centenary of the 1916 Easter Rising which encompassed a physical exhibition, online exhibition and various outreach events. She is leading on the Library’s response to the Decade of Commemoration and is focussing on archival collections relating to the War of Independence and the Irish Civil War.

John Pendlebury is Professor of Urban Conservation, Newcastle University. He researches how historic cities have been planned in the past as well as undertaking empirical and conceptual work on the interface between contemporary cultural heritage policy and other policy processes. Principal publications include Conservation in the Age of Consensus (2009) and the edited collections Valuing Historic Environments (2009 with Lisanne Gibson) and Alternative Visions of Post-War Reconstruction: Creating the Modern Townscape (2015 with Erdem Erten and Peter Larkham). He is currently Co-Investigator on the Horizon 2020 project Organizing, Promoting and Enabling Heritage Re-use through Inclusion, Technology, Access, Governance and Empowerment (OpenHeritage).

Dr. Rebecca Madgin is Senior Lecturer in Urban Development and Management in Urban Studies, University of Glasgow. Her work focuses on the values of urban heritage during the process of urban redevelopment and place-making initiatives in the late 20th and 21st centuries. She is currently working on an Arts and Humanities Research Council funded Leadership Fellows project that explores emotional attachments to the historic urban environment. Rebecca is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, an Associate Member of the Royal Town Planning Institute and an Affiliate Member of the Institute of Building Conservation.

Peter Larkham is Professor of Planning at Birmingham City University and has been researching aspects of urban change and conservation since his PhD which focused on conservation areas in the West Midlands. He was commissioned to report on “the character of conservation areas” for the RTPI and has advised local authorities. His recent work has examined how post-WW2 reconstruction plans dealt with heritage, and how reconstructed areas and buildings are now being interpreted as heritage.

Carenza Lewis is Professor of Public Understanding of Research at the University of Lincoln and an archaeologist specialising in medieval landscapes, rural settlement and the childhood. Formerly the founding director of Access Cambridge Archaeology, she is particularly interested in engaging wider publics in research in order to enhance well-being, developing programmes including ‘Higher Education Field Academy’ (2004-18); ‘Cambridge Community Heritage’ (2012-13) and ‘Unearthing Middlefield’s Utopia’ (2016-17). From 2019-22 she will lead ‘Community Archaeology in Rural Environments – Meeting Societal Challenges’ (CARE-MSoC), a JPI extending approaches used in the UK to explore trans-nationally the capacity of community archaeology to benefit inhabitants of historic settlements in the Netherlands, Czech Republic and Poland.

Dr. Richard Brook is a registered Architect and Reader at the Manchester School of Architecture. His research concerns the post-war reconstruction project in Britain. He is especially interested in the renewal cities of the North, Midlands and Scotland, as well as their attendant infrastructure. He has recently completed an AHRC funded project combining the planning and heritage sectors through the use of virtual reality technology and has worked in digital humanities for almost a decade. For 2019 he has convened a conference on the landscape and architecture of post-war infrastructure, which is funded by the Paul Mellon Centre for Studies in British Art.
Sandra Stancliffe has worked in the area of public engagement and heritage for 23 years. She has worked at museums in Derby and Carlisle and was at Bristol Museums Galleries and Archives for 12 years. She was then employed by English Heritage as Education Director and Head of Education and Interpretation. Since April 2015 she has worked for Historic England where her role as Head of Education and Inclusion includes overall responsibility for the Pride of Place project. She speaks regularly on the theme of increasing participation in heritage through learning and engagement programmes and is constantly striving to ensure the organisations she works for are inclusive in their approach. She is particularly interested in the role of heritage in shaping sense of place and identity.

Dr David Wyatt, CAER Heritage Project co-director and senior lecturer (Cardiff University). Dave Wyatt co-ordinates community engagement activities in the School of History, Archaeology and Religion at Cardiff University, developing formal and informal learning opportunities and promoting a culture of engagement. He is project PI of the CAER Heritage Project and is involved in the delivery and management of all key aspects of the project which works with the communities of Caerau and Ely to explore the area’s rich heritage and address contemporary challenges facing these communities through research co-production. Dave has published work on community engagement and research co-production strategies in relation to heritage and has extensive experience of heritage project management and activities relating to widening participation in higher education.

Dave Horton has over 18 years development experience in communities known for multiple deprivation and associated social exclusion and disconnection. He supported local people to establish ACE as an independent, community led organisation with a membership of 950 and an annual turnover of £1 million. He oversees the development and management of new projects within ACE’s portfolio. He is a key member of the award winning CAER Heritage Project management team and has been involved in all aspects of the delivery and strategic planning of the project.

Nick Higgett was until recently Associate Professor at De Montfort University in Leicester running their MA in Digital Design. His main research interests include 3D Visualisation and Digital Heritage. He was leader of the Virtual Romans project in Leicester http://www.romanleicester.dmu.ac.uk/ and has managed the development of a number of AHRC funded mobile heritage apps incorporating Augmented and Virtual Reality (AR/VR). He is a peer reviewer for the AHRC and EPSRC and also leads the AHRC Connected Communities Heritage Network. http://www.heritagenetwork.dmu.ac.uk .Nick is currently teaching part time and acting as a design and research consultant.

Professor Mohamed Gamal Abdelmonem is Chair in Architecture and the Director of the Centre for Architecture, Urbanism and Global Heritage (CAUGH) at Nottingham Trent University. A Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and the 2014 recipient of the Jefffrey Cook Award of the International Association for the Study of Traditional Environments (IASTE). Gamal was a Visiting Professor at the Royal Academy of Arts in London and the University of California at Berkeley. He has a forthcoming book “Architecture, Space and Memory of Resurrection in Northern Ireland” (Routledge 2019). Most recently he guest edited a Special issue of the International Journal of Architectural Research (IJAR, 2017) on “Architectural and Urban Heritage in the Digital Era”. He led a number of research grants on virtual heritage of Middle Eastern Cities, including Virtual Reality of Medieval Culture (AHRC, 2016-2017) and Labyrinth (AHRC 2018-2021) amongst many others.
Kate Clark is Deputy Director for Policy and Engagement across Culture, Tourism and Sport in Welsh Government and Visiting Professor of Heritage Valuation at University of Suffolk. She is an industrial archaeologist whose career spans heritage and museums, working in the public, private and voluntary sectors. She has held senior roles with Cadw, Sydney Living Museums and the Heritage Lottery Fund, and has also worked with English Heritage and Ironbridge Gorge Museums. Her work focusses on values in all aspects of heritage practice, but she also writes about heritage and sustainable development, buildings and industrial archaeology, conservation and heritage policy.
Delegate Biographies

Peter White Director, Fresh Life Consulting. A planner by profession, he has worked in the third and private sectors throughout his career as a project manager and consultant. Originally involved in housing and regeneration, in the 1980’s he recognised the value offered by historic buildings in place-making, especially when creative re-uses could be found for them. Since then his historic building work has involved: project initiation, concept development, market research, project appraisal, business planning, fund raising (£26m from the HLF alone) and project management. He has recently completed the project management of the £7.5m restoration and re-use of Hartlebury Castle Worcestershire, an 8 year project.

Coralie Acheson is a heritage consultant and researcher of tourism and heritage. Her research concerns the communication of World Heritage values to tourists at Ironbridge gorge, focusing on the tensions between industrial heritage and ruralness and the issues of communicating value when it appears to ‘go without saying’ in the case of an iconic monument. She is in the final stages of a PhD in Cultural heritage at the Ironbridge institute for Cultural Heritage at the University of Birmingham and works as a heritage consultant at Arup.

Bhadravarna Bongsasilp is a PhD Candidate at Ironbridge International Institute for Cultural Heritage, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom. Her current research focuses on uses, management and conservation of religious heritage in the urban centre of Bangkok, Thailand. She has been a professional archaeologist at Office of Archaeology, Fine Arts Department, Ministry of Culture, Thailand. She has experienced in various heritage management and conservation projects at national and international levels, especially urban heritage sites in Bangkok, when she acted as the secretary teams including Academic Committee for Conservation and Development, Committee of Historic Parks and Cultural World Heritage Committee of Thailand.

Dr Seán O’Reilly is Director and chief executive of The Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC), the professional body for built and historic environment conservation practitioners (www.ihbc.org.uk). An architectural historian by background, he also holds a post-graduate degree in planning, is a Visiting Fellow at the University of Suffolk and has served at third level institutions in the UK and Ireland. He is a Fellow of the Institute of Leadership and Management and writes extensively on history, planning and conservation, most recently in the US and with a history of UK conservation for a Chinese academic journal.

Jen Heathcote is head of Strategic Research and Partnerships at Historic England. Her career began as a geoarchaeologist and then moved into strategic research, first dealing with wetlands and then broader environmental issues. She took up her current role in 2017, leading a team who assess a wide range of threats and opportunities for protecting the historic environment.

Sally Hartshorne is in the final year of her PhD at the Centre for Urban History at the University of Leicester. Her research investigates heritage and urban development in Leicester since the Second World War. She was part of the organising team for Planning Leicester: Town Planning and the Historic Environment since the 1960s, held in 2016 and she is a member of Leicester City Council’s Conservation Advisory Panel.
Gary Grubb has been Associate Director of Programmes at the AHRC since April 2008. A human/historical geographer by background, he previously worked for seventeen years at the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). He has a particular interest in developing interdisciplinary research in the arts and humanities and its contribution to cross-Council research agendas and leads the development of AHRC’s activities under the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) as well as in range of other areas such as environment, health and urban research and the cross-Council Connected Communities Programme. He also contributes to the AHRC’s Care for the Future and Science in Culture Themes as well as its national capability priority in heritage research.

Janine Marriott is the Public Engagement Manager at Arnos Vale Cemetery in Bristol, UK. Her role involves encouraging visitors into the cemetery and providing opportunities to engage with the place, the stories held there and the historic landscape. She began her career in teaching, moved on to museum education and has worked in a range of museums and heritage sites. Janine is now undertaking a part-time Doctorate in Heritage at the University of Hertfordshire, exploring public engagement in sites of memorialisation. You can contact her on learning@arnosvale.org.uk 01179719117.

Richard Grove is a DPhil Research Student at the University of Oxford and SEAHA CDT. He has a background in both academic and commercial field archaeology, geophysics and remote sensing, and built heritage conservation. He is currently studying Sandstone consolidant treatments for built heritage.

Dr Jenna C Ashton is a curator, Lecturer and Programme Director of Heritage Studies. She has worked nationally and internationally in the areas of difficult heritage, curation, place, social histories and feminist practices. She is involved in The Travelling Heritage Bureau (THB), supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund – a co-research project with international women artists with direct experiences of displacement. Jenna is a Co-I on the large interdisciplinary "Green Infrastructure and the Health and wellbeing Influences on an Ageing Population (GHIA)", funded by NERC/AHRC/ESRC. In 2017-18, she published Feminism and Museums: Intervention, Disruption and Change, Volume 1 & 2, MuseumsEtc. In 2017, she was awarded an internationally competitive visiting Global Cultural Fellowship with the Institute for International Cultural Relations, Edinburgh University. She is a Research Consultant for the National Trust and sits on the National Trust North Regional Advisory Board, and the Founder and Co-Director of Digital Women’s Archive North CIC.

Sarah Buckingham has a background in historic conservation and planning, working in local authorities, Historic England and currently the Planning Inspectorate. She holds a Masters Degree in Historic Conservation and is both a chartered Town Planner and a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. She is now working towards a Professional Doctorate at the University of Hertfordshire, where she is specialising in post-conflict reconstruction, concepts of authenticity, and the role of traditional building crafts in reconstruction. She has a strong commitment to heritage education, and teaches historic conservation at Cambridge University.

Tomos Jones currently works as Snowdonia National Park Authority’s designated archaeologist and is mainly involved in heritage management, project work and public engagement. He holds an undergraduate degree from the University of Leicester in archaeology and a postgraduate degree in osteoarchaeology from the University of Sheffield. Tomos has previously worked on excavation projects in Europe and has lab experience.

Helen Axworthy is an architect in private practice who specialises in building conservation. She manages a small team within the 40 strong Cambridge office of R H Partnership Architects, advising
on heritage aspects of projects, preparation of conservation and heritage statements, and commissions for repair and alteration of historic buildings. Helen is a conservation accredited professional on the AABC register and an inspecting architect on the approved list for six Diocese in the east of England. Current projects include 3 phases of alteration, new build and adaptation for a religious order in London and grant aided masonry repairs at Knebworth House.

Dr Oriel Prizeman is an RIBA accredited Specialist Conservation Architect and a Reader at the Welsh School of Architecture, Cardiff University. She is PI on AHRC funded project: Shelf-Life: Re-imagining the future of Carnegie Public Libraries and Co-I on Professor Adam Hardy’s AHRC funded project: Tamil Temple Towns; Conservation and Contestation. She launched the MSc in Sustainable Building Conservation at Cardiff in 2013. She is author of two books; Philanthropy and Light; Carnegie Libraries and the Advent of Transatlantic Standards for Public Space and an edited volume: Sustainable Building Conservation, Theory and Practice of Responsive Design in the Heritage Environment.

David Churchill is Lecturer in Criminal Justice in the School of Law, University of Leeds. An historian by training, his research is primarily on policing, security and crime control in nineteenth-century Britain, and the uses of historical research in criminology. He also works on urban history, and was co-investigator on an AHRC-funded project on ‘The Future Prospects of Urban Parks’ (2015-17). This project combined historical and contemporary research on Victorian public parks in Leeds, focusing on users’ experiences of parks and expectations for the future of parks both past and present.

Michael Taylor is a town planner and conservation specialist. He is an independent practitioner specialising in the interface between the historic built environment and the planning system. His previous experience includes working as a planner and conservation officer in local government and as a historic areas adviser for English Heritage. Michael is a visiting lecturer on the MA Urban Conservation programme at the University of Leicester.

Claire Fear MA(Hons) M(Arch) RIBA AABC is an Architect and Founder of Thread, Conservation Architects. Claire is an Architect skilled in identifying characteristics of heritage sites, and opportunities for the buildings and sites to contribute to the ‘tale’ of the place - rather than be vessels for interpretation or an overlaid narrative. This is enhanced by imaginative and contemporary design ethos, instinct and strategic thinking. Claire has a background rooted in conservation and detail, undertaking an apprenticeship during architectural training in fine art conservation. The similarity between the practice of art and architectural conservation is a fascination - and a research ambition.

Neil Jakeman is a Senior Research Analyst at King’s Digital Lab, having previously been a developer both there, and in the Department of Digital Humanities. He specialises in spatial information systems and is driving the Lab’s agenda for adoption of immersive technology in teaching, and cultural heritage communication.

Charlene Cross: Studying Urban Conservation MA at the University of Leicester. I am looking forward to the event and to expanding my knowledge of the discipline.

Dr. Peter Adegbie PhD is executive director of former St Columba’s Church, a Grade II listed building with the famous wall paintings of James Eadie-Reid, which are considered national treasures. Peter created an oral history web portal of African and Caribbean Diaspora in the North east of England to commemorate the Bicentenary celebration of the Parliamentary Abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Trade. He is recipient of the Newcastle University enterprise award for culture and creativity, the Northern Film and Media Capture Documentary award and Dr. Tony Trapp ABC award. He is a current
member of the Northumbria Police Strategic Independent Advisory Group and is trustee on other boards in the region.

Polly Martin is the Policy Officer for Historic Houses, a member’s organisation that represents independently owned heritage in the UK. They have over 1650 Historic Houses places, and over 52,000 visiting members. Along with Emma Robinson, Director of Policy, she lobbies Government for an improved legislative and fiscal environment for Historic Houses places. Most of her work focuses on planning, heritage tourism, rural issues, transport, and digital connectivity, and devolved matters. She also helps their Historic Houses places understand local, regional, and national level, and enable them to build good working relationships with their elected representatives.

Daniel Jackson is Curator of Historic Buildings at Historic Royal Palaces (HRP), with responsibility for Hampton Court Palace, London. Hampton Court Palace is a 500 year old Scheduled Monument and Grade I listed building set within extensive formal gardens and parkland. The palace welcomes just under 1 million visitors per year and acts as the head office for HRP, housing several hundred staff, rented offices and accommodation. Before joining HRP, 6 years ago, Daniel was a commercial archaeologist working across the UK on major infrastructure and urban regeneration projects.

James Keith Hamilton is an Accredited Conservation Architect and Historic Building consultant to DarntonB3 Architecture. He was trained at University of Bristol as an architect, and began working in the office of Whitfield Partners in London on conservation projects including Mackintosh House in Glasgow. James became partner in architect’s practice from 1984 to 2009 involving a number of Conservation of Historic Buildings and was trained by James Stevens Curl on Post Graduate Diploma in Architectural Building Conservation in 1984. He is the former activities secretary and caseworker for the Victorian Society. He is currently working on the Grade 11* Listed Irish Embassy in London and Restoration of Hull Timeball funded by HLF.

John Robinson is currently employed as a Planning Archaeologist for Warwickshire County. His primary role is to provide archaeological planning advice to Local Planning Authorities in Warwickshire. John has over twenty years of experience as a professional archaeologist working within both the commercial and local government sectors. He studied Archaeology at Leicester and Bristol Universities.

Karen Brookfield Deputy Director (Strategy), Heritage Lottery Fund. Karen leads a team of professionals developing HLF’s strategy, grant-giving practice, special initiatives, research and advocacy for heritage. She was Programme Director for All our Stories - a £5million community heritage programme, supported by universities in partnership with AHRC. Karen was a member of the Research team for the Connected Communities co-design project ‘How should decisions about heritage be made?’ http://heritagedecisions.leeds.ac.uk/. She is a member of the Advisory Board for ‘Why Does the Past Matter? Emotional Attachments to the Historic Urban Environment’ (PI Dr Rebecca Madgin, University of Glasgow.) You can contact her at: karenb@hlf.org.uk @karenbrookf21 @heritagelottery

Bob Sydes BA MCIfA works for the Council for British Archaeology as a Listed Building Casework Officer and Project Manager, after a number of years as a consultant, principally preparing conservation area appraisals. He has spent over 40 years working in local government in a variety of heritage roles from field archaeologist to urban heritage planner. He has worked in Cambridge, Bath, York and Sheffield as well as North and South Yorkshire. Bob has a huge range of skills and experiences and am a Research Associate at the University Of York Department Of Archaeology, specialising in historic environment characterisation.
Karen Buchanan is a Strategy and Development Manager at the Arts and Humanities Research Council with responsibility for the AHRC’s Heritage Priority Area. This builds upon a previous portfolio which includes, for example the AHRC’s Museums, Galleries, Libraries and Archives Programme (2005-2012) and the AHRC/EPSRC’s Science and Heritage Programme (2007-2012). From 2013 to 2014 Karen was the AHRC’s Project Manager for the JPI Cultural Heritage, returning to the JPICH in 2017 as Work Package Leader to assist with the delivery of JPICH activities.

Andrew McClelland is a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the Heseltine Institute for Public Policy, Practice and Place, an interdisciplinary research institute based in the University of Liverpool. His diverse research interests broadly encompass cultural heritage, planning history and cross-border cooperation on the island of Ireland. To date, his career has spanned the third, higher education and private sectors in the UK and Ireland, frequently working with policymakers and practitioners on a range of heritage-related issues. He is a former Northern Ireland Chair of the Institute of Historic Building Conservation and a member of the editorial board of the Institute's journal Context.

Katherine Warren is the Strategic Lead for Histories, Cultures and Heritage at the AHRC and has been with the organisation since 2003. Her team leads the engagement with a range of disciplines including history, philosophy, religion, archaeology and museum studies, as well as overseeing the AHRC’s Heritage priority area, and AHRC’s input to a number of inter-disciplinary areas such as health, environment and urban research, working closely with other Research Councils. She represents the AHRC on the Executive Board of the JPI Cultural Heritage and has also been involved with funding initiatives under the JPI Urban Europe.

Emma Dwyer is Research and Grant Funding Facilitator at MOLA (Museum of London Archaeology), the only archaeology unit that is a UKRI Independent Research Organisation, where she develops new research projects in collaboration with universities and other historic environment sector organisations. Emma was previously Business Development Executive for Heritage in the Research & Enterprise Division at the University of Leicester, has a PhD from Leicester’s School of Archaeology & Ancient History, and has several years’ experience as a standing buildings and field archaeologist at MOLA and Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust.

Jamie Davies is the International Stakeholder Engagement Portfolio Manager (Heritage) for the Arts and Humanities Research Council. From the age of 17, he has been a volunteer with the Llŷn Maritime museum in North West Wales, later becoming a committee member and trustee. Since September 2016, Jamie has been a committee member for the Heritage Lottery in Wales. Between 2016-2018 he was a teaching fellow in cultural heritage at the Ironbridge International Institute for cultural heritage, University of Birmingham. Jamie holds an Archaeology BA and International Cultural Heritage Management master’s from Durham University. He has just completed his PhD (Ironbridge Institute) on Education at World Heritage Sites- How are World Heritage Values communicated within the onsite learning process.