

(Re)Defining Heritage

A Special Collection in the transdisciplinary journal, [Global Perspectives](#), exploring the development of the term ‘heritage’, its applications today and future directions.

Edited by

Dacia Viejo Rose (University of Cambridge), Alisa Santikarn (University of Cambridge), Oliver Antczak (University of Cambridge), and Mariana P.L. Pereira (University of York)

The field of Heritage Studies – only a recent development in its own right – has undergone multiple iterations since its early conceptions as an offshoot of other, older disciplines including History and Archaeology, alongside Anthropology, History of Art, and Architecture. With the emergence of ‘Critical Heritage Studies’ the purview of heritage scholars has shifted away from Cultural Resource Management, a largely practice-oriented area of work engaged in caring for archaeological finds and presenting them to the public. Today heritage research is concerned with the social and political resonances of the process of meaning making whereby heritage is not an artefact, material or otherwise, but the emotional, political, and intellectual engagement of people with their temporal, physical and symbolic contexts to makes sense of and give meaning to them. People decide what to categorize as heritage which in turn influences what is to be valued and protected. These decisions are informed by how the word ‘heritage’ is understood. The results of these decisions have material consequences on the world – from what it looks like to who has access to resources – and further shape the future. Perhaps because this radical shift has occurred in a relatively short period, heritage today is understood in a myriad of, at times conflicting, ways by practitioners and academics alike. This is not helped by the fact that key concepts in Heritage Studies such as identity and memory are frequently deployed without a clear articulation of how they are understood in relation to heritage. This special collection seeks to present developments in Critical Heritage Studies since the turn of the millennium, asking how we approach heritage today, and what the future of heritage might look like going forward.

We invite submissions from various perspectives (including non-academic), methodologies, disciplines, and geographical contexts. Papers may explore (but are not limited to):

- Case studies that evidence and analyse how the boundaries of how we define heritage have been pushed
- How an understanding of heritage is produced at the intersections of other disciplines
- Explorations of the development of our understanding of heritage from past to future
- How things become or cease to be understood as heritage

Please send enquiries and proposals (of no more than 300 words) to Alisa Santikarn at as2394@cam.ac.uk by 22 April 2024. Final drafts of accepted papers must be submitted by 22 October 2024.

For guidelines and further details on how to submit, visit <https://online.ucpress.edu/gp>.

About the editors:

SECTION EDITOR –

Dr Dacia Viejo Rose (Culture, Values, and Identities)

GUEST EDITORS –

Dr Alisa Santikarn is an Economic and Social Research Council Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Cambridge (Department of Archaeology/Cambridge Heritage Research Centre). She is also a member of the Global Perspectives Emerging Scholars Forum, having also worked as a guest editor for the GP Special Collection on *Heritage and Uncertainty* with Oliver and Mariana.

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Provisional Timeline:

Proposal deadline: 22 April 2024

Decisions made: 29 April 2024

Papers submitted and sent out for peer review: 22 October 2024