Ruins and Traces in Physical and Symbolic Landscapes

Dorota Kownacka

Dr Dorota Kownacka, art historian, associate professor in the Institute of Art of the Polish Academy of Sciences, and expert in The Centre for Historical Research of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Berlin. Her main interests are focused on the coexistence both art and literature in their pure form as equal works of art, academically embedded but also beyond the academic level of methodological discourse, and the study of the legacy of modernism.

Robert Born

Dr. Robert Born is a historian specializing in art history, affiliated with the Federal Institute for Culture and History of Germans in Eastern Europe (BKGE) in Oldenburg, Germany. His academic focus includes the study of German art and cultural heritage in Eastern Europe, with particular attention to the preservation and interpretation of German artistic traditions in the region. Dr. Born contributes to the BKGE's mission by conducting research, advising on cultural heritage projects, and participating in scholarly initiatives that promote understanding of the German presence in Eastern Europe. His work supports the institute's broader objectives of fostering cultural exchange and preserving historical narratives related to Germans in Eastern Europe.

Charlotte Steele-Garg

Charlotte Steele-Garg MRTPI is a cotutelle PhD student in History and Architecture at the University of Bristol and University of Toulouse II Jean Jaurès. She is researching the commemoration of deportations in French train stations. Charlotte is a scholarship recipient from the Association pour l'histoire des chemins de fer en France (AHICF) and was awarded cotutelle funding from Bristol University. Her research areas include French Holocaust memorialisation, heritage site management and memory politics.

She received a Bachelor's in History from Simon Fraser University in Canada and a Master's with Distinction in Urban Planning at Newcastle University. She is also a Chartered Urban Planner and has worked for Councils across England in writing planning policy and advising on planning matters.

David Duindam

David Duindam is assistant professor of Colonial Heritage and the Shoah in the Netherlands at the University of Amsterdam. His monograph Fragments of the Holocaust (2019) investigates the postwar history of the Hollandsche Schouwburg, a former theater and deportation center that houses the National Holocaust Museum. He coordinated the European research network

"Digital Memory of the Shoah," and organized the international conference "Materialities of Postcolonial Memory." Together with dr. Rixt Woudstra he runs the research project "Concrete Colonialism: Architecture and Heritage in Indonesia around Independence" (2024-2030) that examines the local and transregional networks of fabrication, distribution and usage of concrete before and after Indonesia's independence.

Carolyn Birdsall

Carolyn Birdsall is Associate Professor of Media Studies, University of Amsterdam. Her publications include Nazi Soundscapes: Sound, Technology and Urban Space in Germany, 1933-1945 (2012) and Radiophilia (2023), along with co-edited publications such as Doing Memory Research: New Methods and Approaches (2019) and "Sensing Urban Values" (Space and Culture, 2021). She recently completed the funded project TRACE (Tracking Radio Archival Collections in Europe, 1930-1960), and is currently working on a collaborative, follow-up project AV-DATA (2024-2025).