

Historically Situated History, Memory, and Place Fort Ticonderoga—October 15-17, 2021

VIRTUAL SCHEDULE

FRIDAY OCTOBER 15

6:00-6:30 The Sing Sing Prison Ruin: The Museum and The Specters of The Incarcerated—The centerpiece of the new prison museum at Sing Sing focuses on the original cellblock, now a decaying ruin. The Sing Sing Prison Museum will add its name to the growing number of prison museums in the world—one third of all decommissioned prisons become museums—and inform and entertain thousands of tourists. The prison museum is one of the principal penal educators and contributes to the popular culture that has shaped so much of our thinking about crime and punishment. This presentation will explore the ruin of the original cell block and the opportunities it offers for a more human narrative, one which challenges stereotypical views of the criminal class. **Roger Panetta** taught history at Fordham University Lincoln Center, was a museum curator, and has published several works on New York and Hudson Valley topics. He is a member of the New York Academy of History.

6:30-7:00 “To restore ‘Old Ironsides’ to Bostonians where she belongs”: **The 200-year History of USS *Constitution* and the City of Boston**—From USS *Constitution*’s 1797 Boston Harbor launch to Theodore Roosevelt’s “it is fitting that the most famous ship in our navy...should be connected...with Massachusetts...”; from the 1954 law designating Boston as her home port, to CNO Jay Johnson’s 1998 decision “that the nation is best served by... [keeping] Old Ironsides in close proximity to... Boston Harbor...”—this paper will examine the inseparable relationship between the City of Boston and the USS *Constitution*, America’s Ship of State. **Margherita M. Desy** is a maritime scholar who has published in scholarly and popular journals and is the only naval historian to have sailed on the two oldest vessels capable of sailing under their own power—the U.S. Navy’s 1797 frigate *Constitution* and Mystic Seaport Museum’s 1841 whaleship the *Charles W. Morgan*.

7:00-7:15 BREAK

7:15-7:45 A Layered Past: The Past, Present, and Future of Archaeology at Fort Ticonderoga—By the end of the 18th century, the ruins and battlefield of Fort Ticonderoga were already becoming a popular tourist destination, but it was with the restoration of the fort starting in 1909 that the memory and stories of the French, British, and American soldiers could now be seen through thousands of unearthed archaeological artifacts. Further restoration and excavation projects in the 20th century continued to dig up the historic military past, but what does the future of archaeology look like at Ticonderoga? This presentation will look at past archaeological discoveries, present initiatives, and the future of archaeology at Ticonderoga. **Margaret Staudter** is the Registrar and Site Archaeologist at Fort Ticonderoga.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 16

9:00 Welcome. Beth L. Hill, President and CEO, Fort Ticonderoga.

9:15-9:45 Black Statues: Where We Stand on Race within Our Capital Space—During current social upheaval and debate over remembrance or removal of existing Confederate statues, it is especially revealing to see where statues remain erected of Black individuals. This lecture will analyze the underexplored public history of African American memory, specifically through the national presence of most openly displayed Black statue figures. **Dr. Frederick Gooding, Jr.**, an Associate Professor at Texas Christian University's Honors College, studies the relationship between race and image with his latest book, *Black Oscars: What the Academy Awards Tell Us about African Americans* having been released by Rowman & Littlefield in May 2020.

9:45-10:45 KEYNOTE: KEYNOTE: Fort Ticonderoga: Ruin, Reconstruction, and the Making of a Historical Landscape—While Fort Ticonderoga's role as a military outpost spanned only a few decades, most of its existence has been, first, as a venerated ruin into the early twentieth century, then as a pioneering historical reconstruction. Throughout much of this period, the environs served a dual function as a tourist destination and as a refined country estate for the Pell family. This layered and complex legacy has contributed to rendering Fort Ticonderoga one of the most historically rich in the United States. **Dr. Richard Longstreth** is emeritus Professor of American Studies at The George Washington University. He is a member of the Fort Ticonderoga Board of Trustees and past president of the Society of Architectural Historians and the Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy.

10:45-11:00 BREAK

11:00-11:30 Representations of Historic Sites in Popular Culture and Folklore: Opportunities and Challenges for Preserving and Promoting Heritage—Public interest in the traditional folklore associated with historic sites—in bizarre, often supernatural stories—has surged in recent years. This interest presents both opportunities and challenges for these sites: should folklore be promoted or embraced, and at what cost or benefit to preserving and teaching about the past? **Dr. Jeffrey S. Debies-Carl** is an Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of New Haven, where he studies the cultural significance of landscape and place.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 17

9:00-9:30 A Daguerreotype Unravels & Rebuilds Preservation: Mary Brice and Point of Honor—An encased photographic portrait of an enslaved woman associated with the historic house Point of Honor reappeared in a pop-up exhibit at the Lynchburg Museum in 2019. Kept by the Library of Congress but wholly ignored in the interpretation and presentation of Point of Honor, the daguerreotype of Mary Brice offers an unparalleled opportunity to unravel previous efforts at historic preservation and rebuild relevant narratives and preservation activities useful to 21st-century central Virginia. **Dr. Laura A. Macaluso** is the author of essays and books about museums, monuments, and material culture.

9:30-10:00 Spaces as Continued Claim to Place: The Marcus Whitmans and Walla Walla, Washington—Marcus and Narcissa Whitman, Protestant missionaries, were killed in the Walla Walla valley in 1847 after a failed attempt at converting and colonizing the Cayuse people. This talk will discuss three historical and colonial organizations in Walla Walla, Washington and their role in the region's politics of memory. **Grace Fritzke** is a Master's student in Religion at Syracuse University and has previously worked for Tamástslikt Cultural Institute (Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation).

10:00-10:15 BREAK

10:15-10:45 Piazza Venezian, Rome: The Political Meaning of a Multimemorial Place (1911-1943)—From 1911 to 1943, Piazza Venezia in Rome has been the main scenography of the Italian political power, featuring obvious and evident references to the glorious ancient Roman history and older ones to the Republic of Venice. By analyzing this original mixture of historical references, this session highlights the reasons for this multi-memorial superposition. **Enrico Orsingher** teaches early modern history at Université Paris Nanterre and will defend his Ph.D. thesis in 2021 at the École des hautes études en sciences sociales de Paris.