



## Hi Museum Supporters!

We may have been quiet for the last few weeks, but we have also been busy! From field work in Kenya, international conferences, documentary screenings, funding submissions... every member of our team has been hard at work to develop our programme.

We have so, so many people to thank for this it is impossible to name them all here, but of course, so much of this wouldn't have been possible without - first and foremost - our amazing team, who drive this programme day and night, but also our wonderful Kickstarter supporters, whose generous donations facilitated much of our field work, and the excellent folk at UCL Centre for Critical Heritage, who supported our travel and accommodation costs while in Kenya.

Below are some highlights from the last few weeks..

## Kenya Field Research Trip



Few people in Kenya or the UK are aware that many sites and structures from the Mau Mau Emergency are still present and visible in Kenya today. Buildings that were once detention centres or torture chambers are now school rooms, playing fields cover mass graves, ditches dug by forced labour to 'contain' the Mau Mau movement mark the landscape.

Thanks to the generous support of the UCL Centre for Critical Heritage Studies, National Museums of Kenya and our wonderful Kickstarter supporters, a few members of our UK team were able to join our team in Kenya in September to start recording and mapping these sites. We were also privileged to meet with many elderly members of the community whose memories of the Emergency remain vivid.





You can read more about our research trip on [our blog](#), or watch our first Field Diary video about our trip to Kangubiri Girls' School - a former detention centre - [here](#). Footage was captured by the wonderful Hellen Masido, a young Kenya film maker who recently joined our team, and edited by the insanely industrious Hannah McLean, who is currently working towards a Masters' Degree in Public Archeology at UCL.



Mau Mau Research Field Diary, Day 1: Kangubiri School

## Operation Legacy Screening

On our last day in Kenya, we screened our documentary 'Operation Legacy' at Pawa 254 in Nairobi. Museum team members Chao, Susan, and Camilla helped host the event and run the Q&A panel, where we were joined by Faith Alubbe from the Kenyan Human Rights Commission, and Gitu wa Kahengeri, former freedom fighter and current President of the Mau Mau War Veterans' Association.



We were blown away by the responses we received at the event to the film and our work. More screenings in both Kenya and the UK are in the works, so watch this space.



The documentary is also still available online at [History Hit!](#)

(Image credit: PAWA 254)

## IASA and FIAT/IFTA Conferences



Museum co-founder Susan Wambui Kibaara recently travelled to Accra to attend the The International Association of Sound and Audiovisual Archives (IASA) conference, and not long afterwards she was off to Venice for the International Federation of Television Archives (FIAT/IFTA) conference. Susan presented a paper on how collaboration and cooperation in audiovisual archival research can connect communities for improved understanding of shared histories, with our work on the Mau Mau as her case study. She received some very interesting responses, especially concerning the lack of



education that we receive about the Mau Mau and their struggle.

## Blog Update: The Pipeline

Our resident historian, Beth Rebisz, recently wrote a blog piece for the website interrogating our use of language when studying and discussing the Mau Mau Emergency.

"...I wonder whether we are using the most appropriate terminology in our assessments of the pipeline or merely inheriting the names and phrases for this time that served to conceal the true nature of British colonial control."



View of Aguthi (Mungaria) Work Camp - epicentre of 'rehabilitation' - from J.M. Kariuki's 1963 book 'Mau Mau Detainee'.



The same view, taken on the Museum's research trip to Nyeri. Moha, above, stands in the former location of the watchtower.

Read the full piece [here](#).

## Thank you!

Another final thank you to all our many supporters. Firstly, again, an 'internal' thank you to our team... Chao, Gabe, Hannah, Wanjiru, Janet, Adam, Evans, Camilla, David, Sido, Olivia, Moha, Catie, Wambui, Romy, Geeta, Jemima, Cailee, Beth... none of this would be possible without your passion, knowledge, curiosity, collaboration and energy. Long may it last!

Secondly, thank you UCL Centre for Critical Heritage, our Kickstarter supporters, National Museums of Kenya (in particular, Anthony, who accompanied our team on their field research and whose knowledge and passion blew us away), Faith Allube and the Kenya Human Rights Commission, Boniface Mwangi and PAWA254, HistoryHit TV (particularly Helen, Felix, Natt and Dan), David Anderson, Tony Badger, Dan Leader, Gitu wa Kahengeri and the Mau Mau War Veterans' Association, the British Institute in Eastern Africa... and all the many, many people who follow our work and cheer us on!