Hi Museum Supporters!

First of all, welcome to all our new followers. We are delighted to see our work gathering so much steam and have been really humbled by the level of interest and feedback. So a big thank you to all those - old and new - who encourage us!

Please keep reading for updates...

Emergency Sites: Digital Reconstructions Launch
During the Mau Mau Emergency in the 1950s, the British Colonial Administration erected a large network of detention centres, works camps and emergency villages to detain the Mau Mau and quell the struggle for independence. This network was known as the 'pipeline'. Today, very few people in Kenya or the UK know where pipeline camps once stood, or even that even existed.

One of our primary activities has been to restore knowledge of this network through research, community engagement and mapping. After a great deal of hard work, we are now incredibly proud to be able to share our completed digital reconstructions of former colonial detention camps. In partnership with African Digital Heritage, our amazing digital heritage team, Chao, Mike, and Sampao, have created interactive, 3D models of two detention camps, Aguthi and Mweru, used today as schools.

We are also delighted to say that the launch of our models
attracted impressive media attention from BBC, Museums Association and others.

Please visit our site for more details and continue to check in to see how the work progresses.

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Beginning Our Oral History Archive: James Njuguna Mwaura

We are proud and excited to share the first story from the collectively developed Oral Archive of the Museum of British Colonialism.

James Njuguna Mwaura was twenty years old when the Mau Mau Emergency began. He joined the Mau Mau to fight for Kenya's freedom and he took the oath. He was arrested and detained in Karatina Detention Camp for four years. He and his fellow detainees were interrogated but not willing to give answers, even if they were mistreated. During the historic court case in 2011, James showed the scars on his back from where he had been beaten.
James shared his story with Beth Rebsiz from our team, and her research assistant and translator Caroline Wanjiru. James asked that we write his story down and share it and is one of thousands of individuals in Kenya keen for their story to be better known.

You can listen to the complete interview Beth and Caroline conducted with James, in both Swahili and English, on Youtube here. You can also download an English transcript of the interview here, transcribed by our team member Maureen Ng’ayu.

Counterinsurgency - and Film Screenings - from Kenya to Ireland..

August saw screenings of our documentary, Operation Legacy, in both Belfast and Nairobi.

In Nairobi, we partnered with Book Bunk to screen the documentary at the famous McMillan Library.

The event was a huge success as well as activist Neo Musangi and Book Bunk's Syokau Mutonga.

In Belfast, we joined the Pat Finucane Centre for a panel discussion on Frank Kitson and counterinsurgency techniques from Kenya to Ireland at the Féile an Phobail festival.

See our Twitter for more photos and clips!
success, with a discussion panel featuring our own Tayiana Chao,

Support Us On Patreon

Patreon is a membership platform that connects creatives with... well, Patrons. We were excited to announce the launch of our Patreon recently and already have a small number of Patrons - but we need your help.

By signing up to Patreon - for as little as $5 a month! - you'll become a key supporter our work, allowing our team to continue mapping and digitally recreating camps, sharing knowledge at conferences and screening our documentary at universities, arts centres, and community spaces. With more supporters, we'll be able to meet more Mau Mau veterans and record their stories, launch our integrated digital map, and run skills workshops in Kenya and the UK, among many other plans we have in the works!

SEE MORE AND BECOME A PATRON HERE!