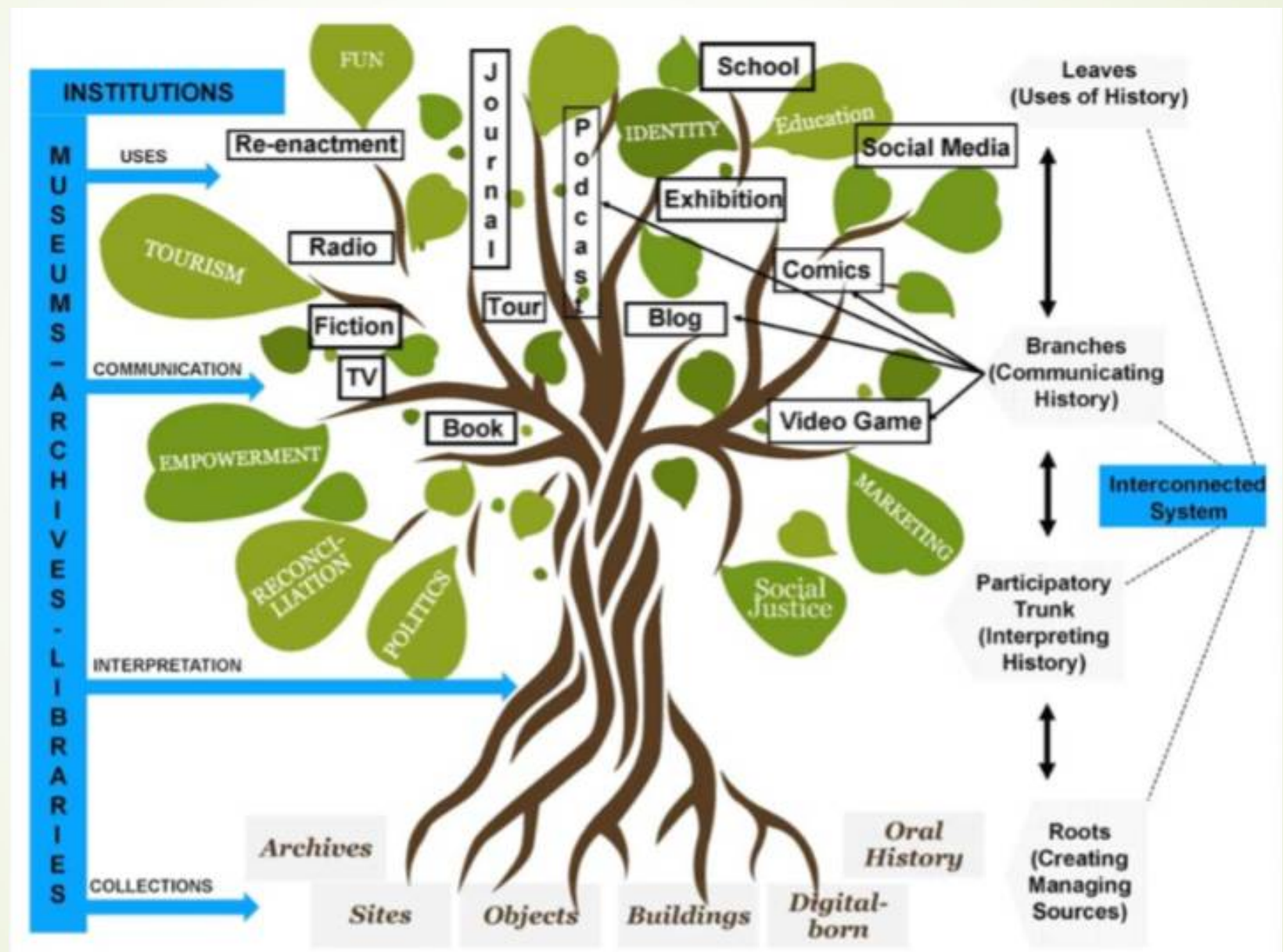


Making History Together: Public History and Digital Memories during COVID-19

Thomas Cauvin (University of Luxembourg)

Thomas.cauvin@uni.lu

Public History / Public His(Tree)

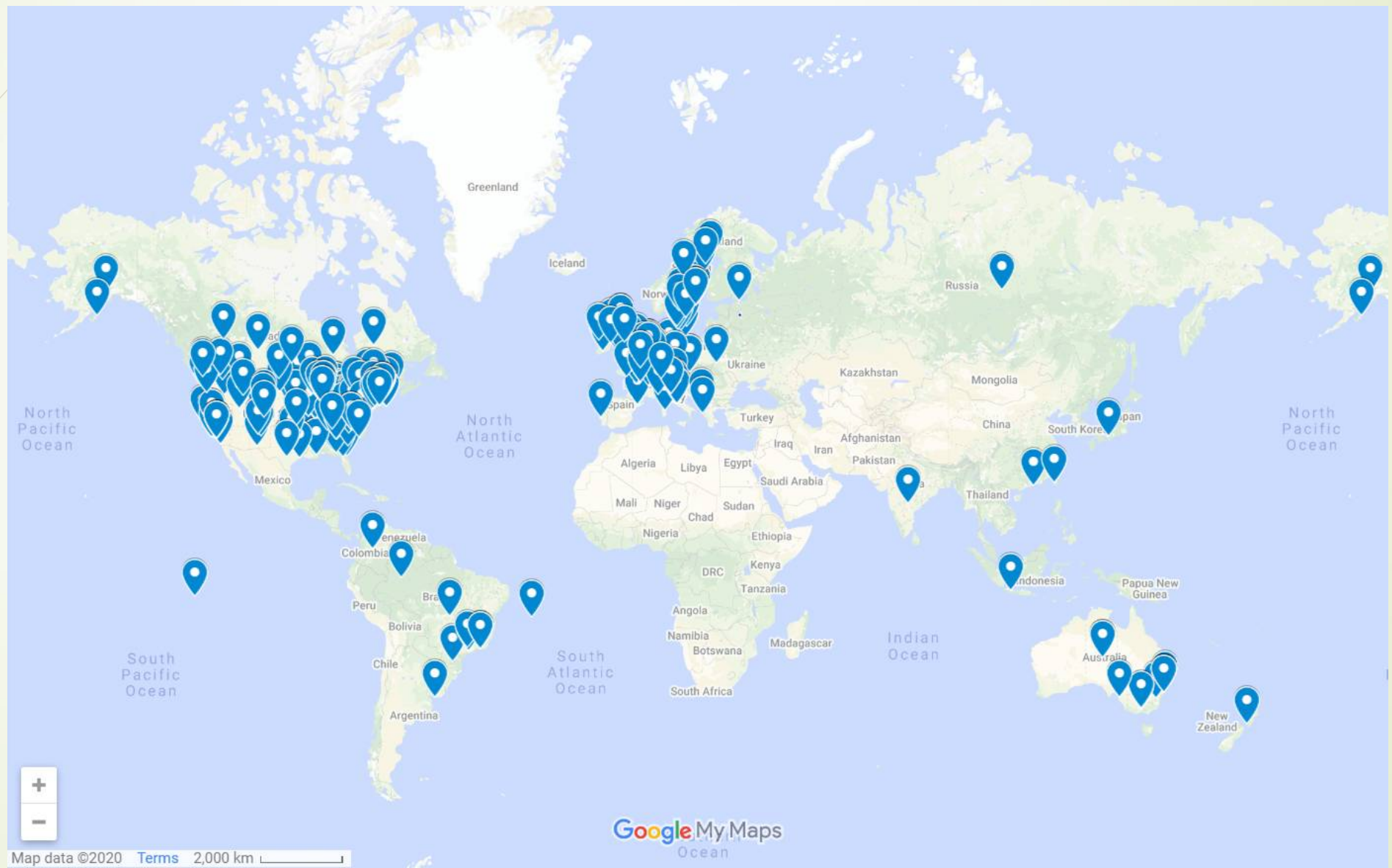


MADE BY US

POWERING OUR FUTURE WITH HISTORY

IFPH FIHP

International Federation for Public History
Fédération Internationale pour l'Histoire Publique





I) Crisis, Temporality and History

- ▶ ICOM (International Council of Museums)
- ▶ 83% of the respondents expect their budget to largely decrease, 30% expect a reduction in staff, 13% fear their museum will close.
- ▶ Changing perception of time
- ▶ “We are living in extraordinary times. Every South Australian is experiencing a truly global, history-making event, with both shared and unique perspectives. The History Trust of South Australia aims to document and collect objects that are connected to the experiences of people in our state during the pandemic—preserving the present for the future.”

History Trust of South Australia (May 2020)

« Rupture » (France, School Children)

- A rupture is an event or a moment which marks in a subjective and lasting way, to different degrees, the contemporaries and constitutes an important element of their memory, in particular by modifying the lifestyles.

Lola Jarry, Sébastien Jung, Samuel Kuhn, Sahondra Limane, Christian Ingrao

Projet « Ruptures »



Les professeurs d'histoire aussi se mobilisent pour encourager leurs élèves confinés à devenir des historiens en herbe de leur environne-

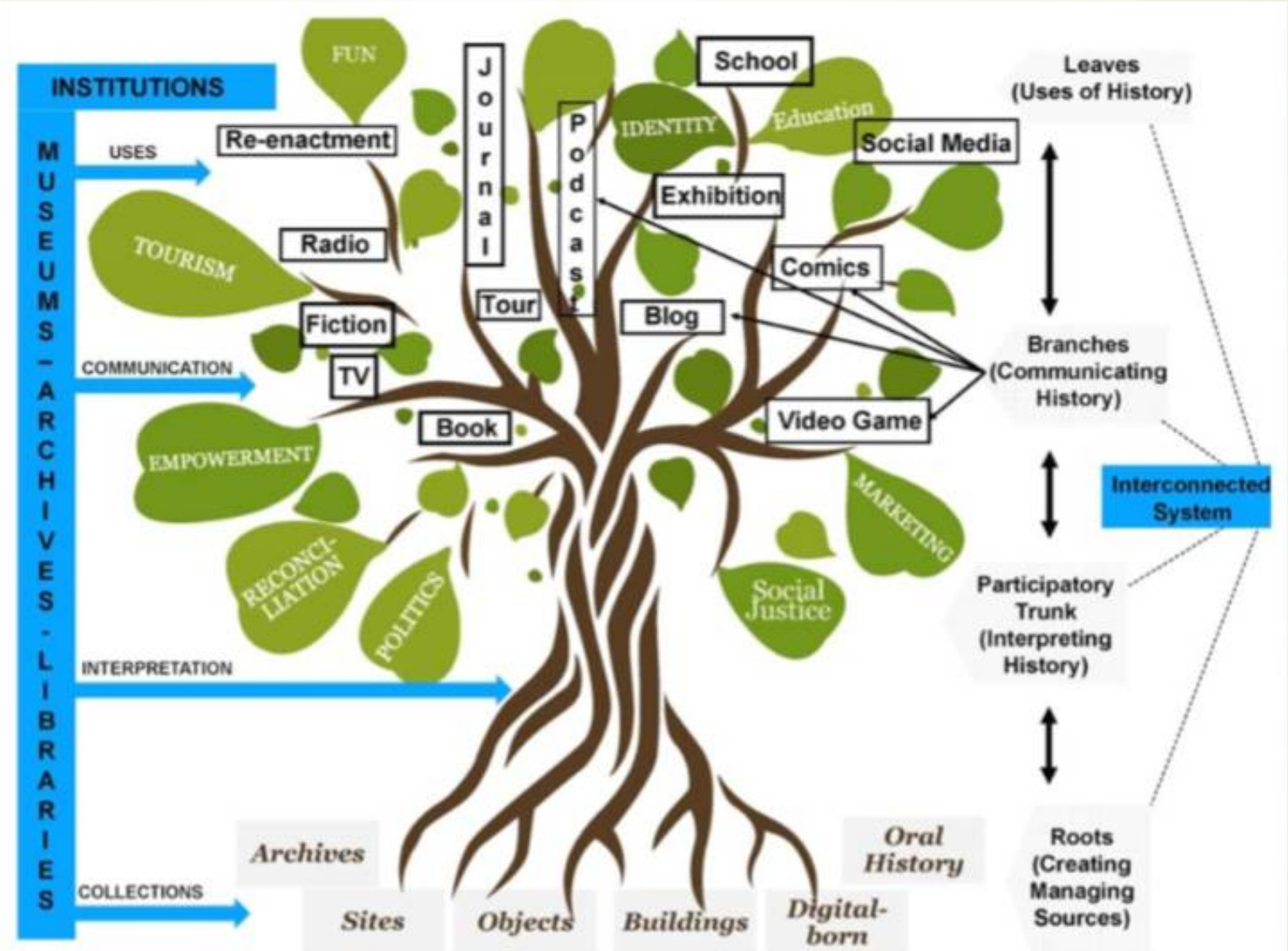
ment. Le projet intitulé « Ruptures » propose des vidéos explicatives pour les collégiens et les lycéens et des vidéos capsules méthodologiques de quelques minutes par des historiens. Ainsi Patrick Boucheron sur l'histoire et le témoignage, Christian Ingrao pour témoigner en temps de rupture, ou la médiéviste Élodie Lecuppre-Desjardin (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkcDm9OR2vCRTP4MYiw2Iw/videos>).


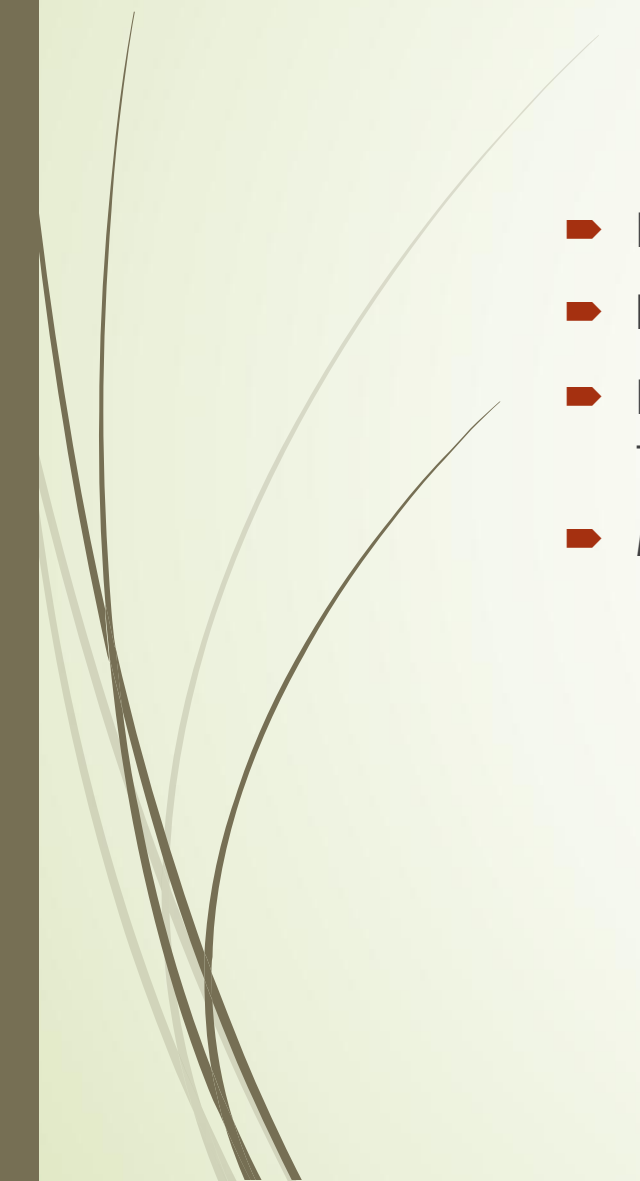
COVID-19: The duty to document does not cease in a crisis, it becomes more essential



➤ International Council on Archives (April 2020)

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- 
- 
- ▶ Herodotus: the Greco-Persian Wars that he called “The Histories.”
 - ▶ In France, History Committee of the Second World War
 - ▶ Lucien Fevre launched a major reflexion that would lead to the creation of the School of the Annales in 1929
 - ▶ Michel-Rolph Trouillot “Silencing the past”

II) COVID19 and Digital Memories

Pierre Nora « Les Lieux de
Mémoire » (1984-1992)

COVID 19 and Rapid Response Collecting



- ▶ the Mass Observation Project.
- ▶ In 1937, a group of British scholars and historians began asking people to write diaries to observe their own lives and the world around them
- ▶ Littleton, Colorado, in 1999, in Columbine High School (Left)



WE WANT PROJECT EMPOWERMENT

SNAK HERE

BA-BEST PROTEST

DON'T CALL US DEAD

DEFEND BLACK LIVES

LIVING IN FEAR IS NOT FREEDOM

VOTE THEM OUT

NO JUSTICE NO PEACE #BLM

BLACK LIVES MATTER

BLACK LIVES MATTER

June 5, 1993 - Mar 13, 2020
Breonna Taylor
No More Family Card Games EMT

YES WE CAN

BLACK LIVES MATTER

HOW MANY WEREN'T FILMED?

Def Po



"I CAN'T BREATHE"



Extend Police

Thanks for the around BOY jump

How to expose their...
CITE COURT

TYWCA STAND AGAINST RACISM

No PEACE



NO



SCARED

Bitch?



BLACK LIVES MATTER

LATINO FOR BLACK LIVES



COOL YELLOW LETTERS NOW REFUND THE POLICE

HOW MANY WEREN'T FILMED?



US

LIVES

IL BL

ES DO

202 I #

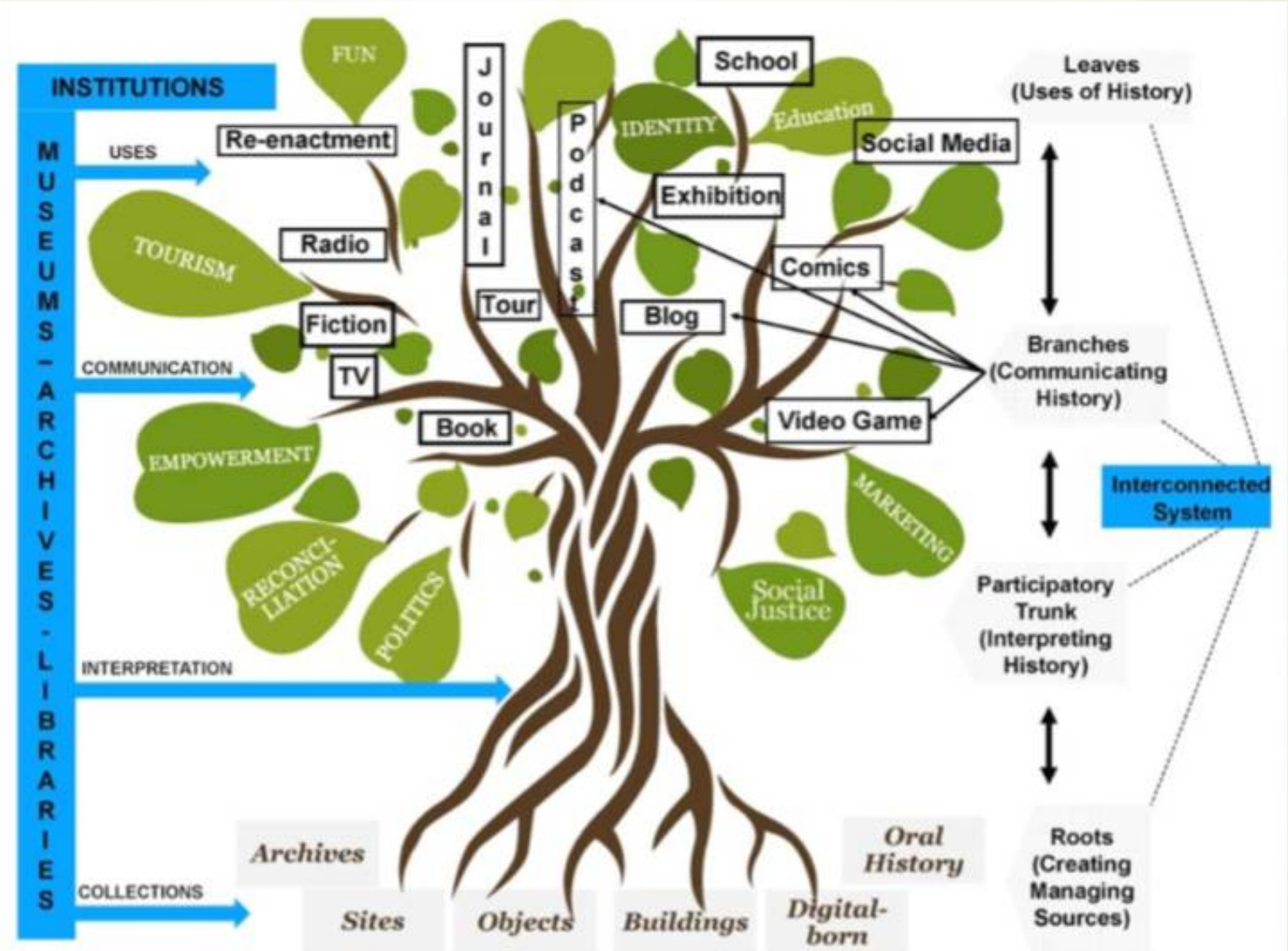
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Public History / Public His(Tree)



Digital Communication and Public Space

- the virus is forcing us to reinvent the public space.
- a major boost in digital communication
- the September 11 Digital Archives.



The screenshot shows the homepage of the September 11 Digital Archive. At the top, the title "THE SEPTEMBER 11 DIGITAL ARCHIVE" is displayed in a serif font, with a stylized graphic of the Twin Towers integrated into the word "11". Below the title is the subtitle "SAVING THE HISTORIES OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001". A search bar is located on the right side of the header. A navigation menu includes links for "ITEMS", "COLLECTIONS", "ABOUT", "NEWS", "FAQS ABOUT 9/11", "PARTNERS", "STAFF", and "CONTRIBUTE". The main content area features a carousel of three images: a photograph of the World Trade Center towers, a poster for the "STAND UP FOR THE USA" 9-11 Tribute Song by Fani Mancini (BMG), and a photograph of the Twin Towers with people standing on the ledges.



OUR MARATHON

THE BOSTON BOMBING DIGITAL ARCHIVE & WBUR ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

A COMMUNITY PROJECT HOSTED AT NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY



OUR STORIES, OUR STRENGTH, OUR MARATHON



Share Your Story

FEATURED STORY

BOSTON—The b good Family Foundation wasn't totally sure what constituted victims of unfortunate circumstances until, exhausted and with three-foot-wide burgers strapped around their waists,...

Great East Japan Earthquake Memorial Photo Archive

Before, After, Present and beyond "ARIGATO from Japan to the world!"

2011.03.11 14:46:18 M9

Photozou pledge to support the affected areas of the Great East Japan Earthquake. We believe in a power of pictures which can find a positive response in our hearts, and help us not to forget about this tragedy.



国内
 青森 Aomori
 岩手 Iwate
 宮城 Miyagi
 福島 Fukushima
 東京 Tokyo

海外
 海外からの支援
 Support from the world
 Great East Japan Earthquake Photo Archive

A world map with a dark blue overlay. Numerous blue location pins are scattered across the map, indicating various geographical locations. The pins are most densely clustered in North America, Europe, and South America. Other pins are visible in Africa, Asia, and Oceania. The map includes labels for major countries and oceans. A large orange arrow points from the left edge towards the center of the map.

Digital Memories of the COVID19

Project Leaders

The slide features a light green background with a dark green vertical bar on the left. On the right side, there are several decorative green lines: a thin vertical line, a thin diagonal line starting from the top center and extending towards the right, and two thick, curved lines that sweep from the bottom right towards the top right.

The background is a light green color with several thin, curved lines in a slightly darker shade of green. One line starts near the top center and curves downwards to the right. Another line starts near the top right and curves downwards to the left. A third line starts near the bottom right and curves upwards to the left. A fourth line starts near the bottom right and curves upwards to the right.

Mission



A Journal of
the Plague
Year:
An **Archive** of
Covid19
Melbourne

<https://covid19.omeka.net/mhw>

Contribute now!

Melbourne History Workshop
School of Historical and Philosophical Studies
The University of Melbourne, Australia



“Join us in documenting our uncertain moment. (...) We invite you to **share your stories** about how the pandemic has affected our lives, from the mundane to the extraordinary, including the ways things haven't changed at all. (...) Imagine, as we are, what future historian might need to write about and understand this historical moment.”



What is
collected?

The slide features a light green background with a dark green vertical bar on the left. On the right side, there are several decorative green lines: a thin vertical line, a thin diagonal line starting from the top center and curving to the right, and two thicker curved lines that sweep from the bottom right towards the center.

A pair of blue nitrile gloves is shown holding a white surgical mask. The mask is held horizontally across the palms of the hands, with the white elastic ear loops visible. The background is a solid, bright yellow color. The gloves are positioned as if they are presenting the mask.

Yes We Care (University
of Luxembourg)

Being as much
representative
and inclusive as
possible



► “The pandemic will be over one day. How we will be remembering and discussing the “corona crisis” after that day depends entirely on what will be left of it. The *coronarchive* aims to conserve the entire spectrum of experiences and situations in all its complexity. *Sharing is caring*—become a part of history! “

► Coronarchiv

coronarchive

sharing is caring —
become a part of history!

-It “can include anything that is available in a digital or digitizable format: texts (journals, letters, emails, poems, newspaper and magazine articles, shopping lists, reports, signs, warnings, regulations), photographs, drawings, illustrations, videos, chats, social media posts, voice messages, songs, lectures and anything else that is relevant.”



become a part of history!

coronarchiv

- ▶ West Java Bandung Institute of Technology in Indonesia
- ▶ The French National Library has been archiving web activities – websites but also Tweets, pictures... - connected to the coronavirus since January.
- ▶ PixStori



Collecting Everyday Life

The background features several thin, light green lines on the right side. One is a long, thin diagonal line starting from the top center and extending towards the bottom right. Below it are two thicker, curved lines that sweep from the bottom right towards the top right, creating a sense of movement and depth.

15 mars, notre showroom est fermé jusqu'à nouvel ordre.
vous pouvez nous contacter :
06 60 45 87 64

EXCEPTIONNELLE
mesures
gouvernementales
FREE WIFI & PLUGS
SEE YOU SOON

NOUS VOUS TENONS TRÈS
HABILEMENT. PROCHAINEMENT
il apparaîtra que nous n'arrivons
pas à ouvrir les magasins car les
mesures gouvernementales
ne nous permettent pas
de continuer à ouvrir nos magasins
et surtout pour nos clients et
pour nos employés.

revenir à l'origine, le salon sera fermé jusqu'à
nouvel ordre.
Bon courage à tous dans cette épreuve difficile,
Cordialement,
L'équipe Biguine

Square du Temple
67, RUE DE BRETAGNE
75003 PARIS
horaires d'ouverture
MARDI - VENDREDI :
9H00 - 12H15
SAMEDI :
9H00 - 10H00
ESPACE LIBRE SERVICE
7J/7 DE 6H À 22H



PARIS
MÉTROPOLITAINE

horaires d'ouverture

ORDONNANCE AMPÉLOTHÉRAPIQUE ET INSTRUCTIVE DES
PRINCIPALI
DOLCELLI
RUE DE BRETAGNE 67, 75003 PARIS

#VitrinesEnConfinement

YA LAMAÏ

Merci de votre compréhension

Soliman
RUE DE BRETAGNE 67, 75003 PARIS

La nuit que est fermée pendant les prochains semaines
Toutes les informations sur nous - le magasin A. de la...
Nous sommes commandés, nous vous le dire à tous
Bon courage à tous,
L'équipe A. de la...

L'ADRESSE
C'est d'abord...
La sécurité de vos clients est notre priorité
Nous sommes fermés pendant les prochains semaines
Toutes les informations sur nous - le magasin A. de la...
Nous sommes commandés, nous vous le dire à tous
Bon courage à tous,
L'équipe A. de la...



INFORMATION COVID-19
Le magasin est fermé pendant les prochains semaines
Toutes les informations sur nous - le magasin A. de la...
Nous sommes commandés, nous vous le dire à tous
Bon courage à tous,
L'équipe A. de la...

The store will be closed during the next few weeks. Find all information
on our website - Agence...
We are sorry to hear that you cannot visit our store
We are sorry to hear that you cannot visit our store
We are sorry to hear that you cannot visit our store



Rethinking Official/Private Memories

- 
- ▶ -the US Coast Guard Library: “CGA Library Special Collections will archive official emails, Superintendent's Instructions and Notices, but we would like to hear from you.”
 - ▶ -The National Archives of Australia also captures interaction between government and general public

Global Pandemic Map



Global public history?



QUEENS MEMORY

COVID-19 Project



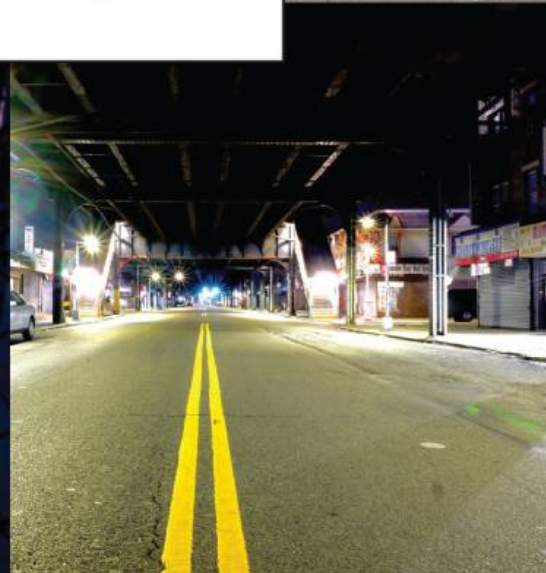
CAUTION

Playgrounds are not sterilized; play at your own risk.

Social distancing is required:

- 6 feet between each child NOT in immediate family
- Limit number of people playing at one time

Visit nyc.gov/coronavirus for more information. For translation services, call 311.

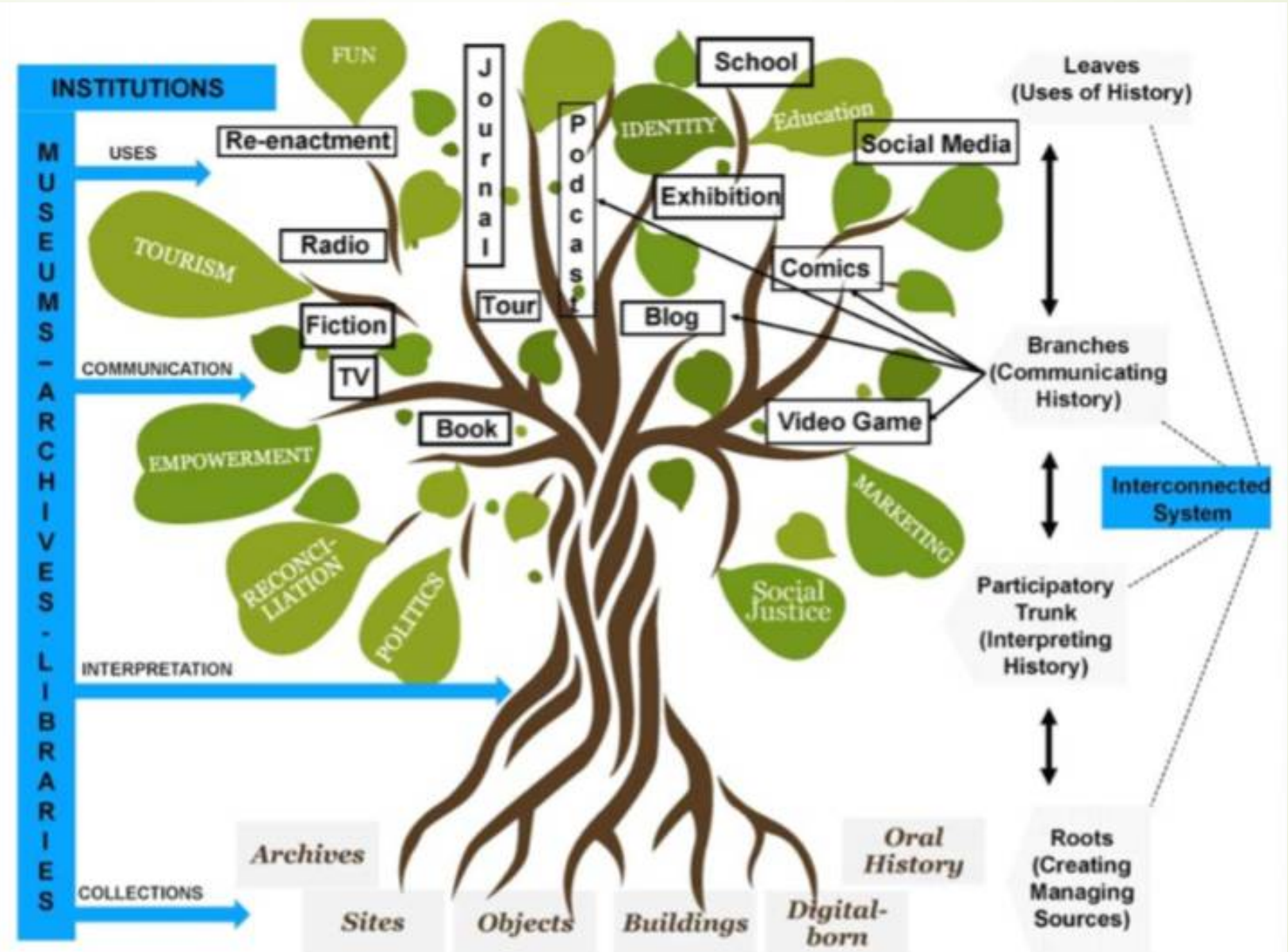


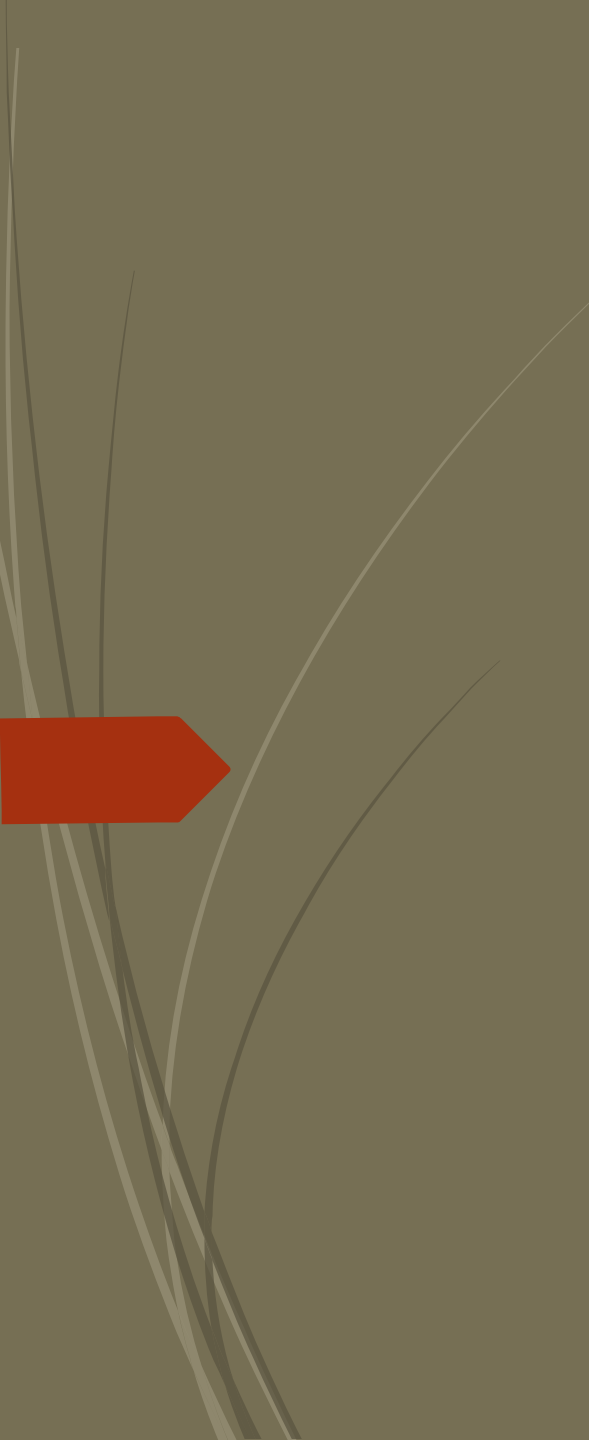




**History,
Memory, and
Public History**



Public History / Public His(Tree)



- 
- -In Australia, one historian of the covidstreetarchive explains that
 - “The idea behind the #covidstreetarchive comes out of having been a historian who has studied the 1918-19 influenza pandemic and being aware that there are huge gaps in how we understand what it was like living through that period”
 - “our understanding of domestic life and the impact of the 1918 flu on businesses is particularly limited” and he hopes that “starting Covid-19 archiving efforts now will help minimise similar gaps for future historians.”

- 
- 
- ▶ Tennessee Tech University Archives prepared list of questions and topics that people can use to upload their testimonies.
 - ▶ How has your daily life changed or stayed the same? This can include such areas as home life, social life, work, school, hobbies, travel, or shopping.
 - ▶ Where are you living now? What is it like living there during the pandemic?
 - ▶ For students, parents, and teachers: how did you handle the transition to online and alternative delivery of classes?



Empower people

“Our whole goal is to empower people who aren't necessarily professional historians to identify stories that should be in their public library's local history collections” (Queens Memory project)

-Carolyn Fraser (State Library of Victoria, Australia) “A citizen collector really needs to be an anthropologist for the future and to think about the kinds of things that we take for granted that someone in the future may find absolutely fascinating.”