Connecting with tragedy through landscapes of memory: memorial design, tourism, and the post-genocide memoryscapes of Cambodia, Rwanda, and Germany

Davis, Shannon; Bowring, Jacqueline

Abstract
In recent years the act and practice of memorialisation has become increasingly complex due to the influence of globalisation. As the world grows ever smaller, the opportunities offered to us to engage... [Show full abstract]

Keywords
tourism; interpretation; design; genocide; memorial; memory

Date
2011

Type
Journal Article

Collections
School of Landscape Architecture [295]

View/Open
Davis_Bowring_2011.pdf (1.798Mb)

Permalink
https://hdl.handle.net/10182/5781

Metadata
Expand record

This service is managed by Library, Teaching and Learning
post-genocide Cambodia. Since 1979 genocide has been selectively memorialized in the country, with two sites receiving official commemoration: the Tuol Sleng Museum of Genocide Crimes and the killing fields at Choeung Ek. However, the Cambodian genocide was not limited to these two sites. Through a case study of two unmarked sites—the Sre Lieu mass grave at Koh Sla Dam and the Kampong Chhnang Airfield—we highlight the salience, and significance, of taking seriously those sites of violence that have not received official commemoration. Some memorials, for example, attempt to provide a sense of community and to relate to past atrocities. Also, through a critical analysis of a wide selection of these memoryscapes, the book interrogates how memories of the war have been spatially and discursively appropriated today by state (and non-state) agencies as a means of achieving multiple objectives, including (but not limited to) commemoration, tourism, mourning and nation-building. His research interests relate to war heritage and memoryscapes, conceptualised around postcolonial theory, materiality, and the spatial politics of power and resistance particularly by state and non-state actors in public and everyday spaces. He has also published on backpacking and ‘dark tourism’ in Southeast Asia, international peace and heritage museums, and Singapore’s transborder geographies and histories.