



Transforming Military Sites and Sharing  
Their Stories with Diverse Audiences

The background is a detailed oil painting of a winter military scene. In the foreground, five soldiers in dark uniforms and helmets are walking through deep snow. To their left, a tank is partially visible, its turret and tracks covered in snow. The middle ground shows a dense forest of evergreen trees, many of which are heavily laden with snow. In the upper center, two aircraft are flying in a pale, overcast sky. The overall atmosphere is somber and historical. In the bottom right corner, there is a signature and the year '2019'.



## INTRODUCTION



THOMAS TRAM  
PEDERSEN

Historian and City  
Planner

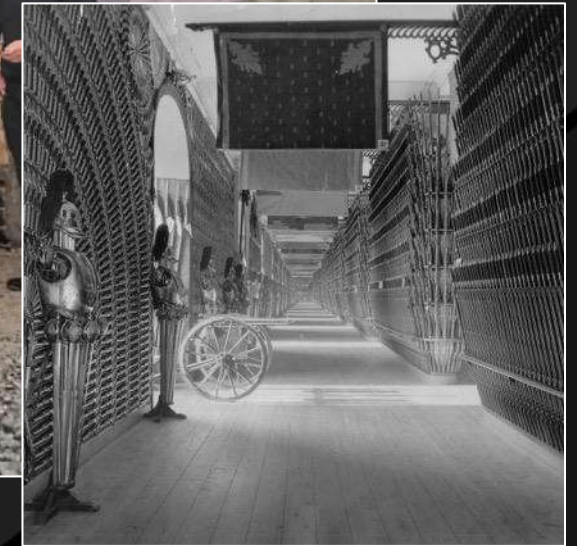


RIGA  
THOMAS TRAM PEDERSEN

# WAR MUSEUM COPENHAGEN

THOMAS TRAM  
PEDERSEN

Museum chief



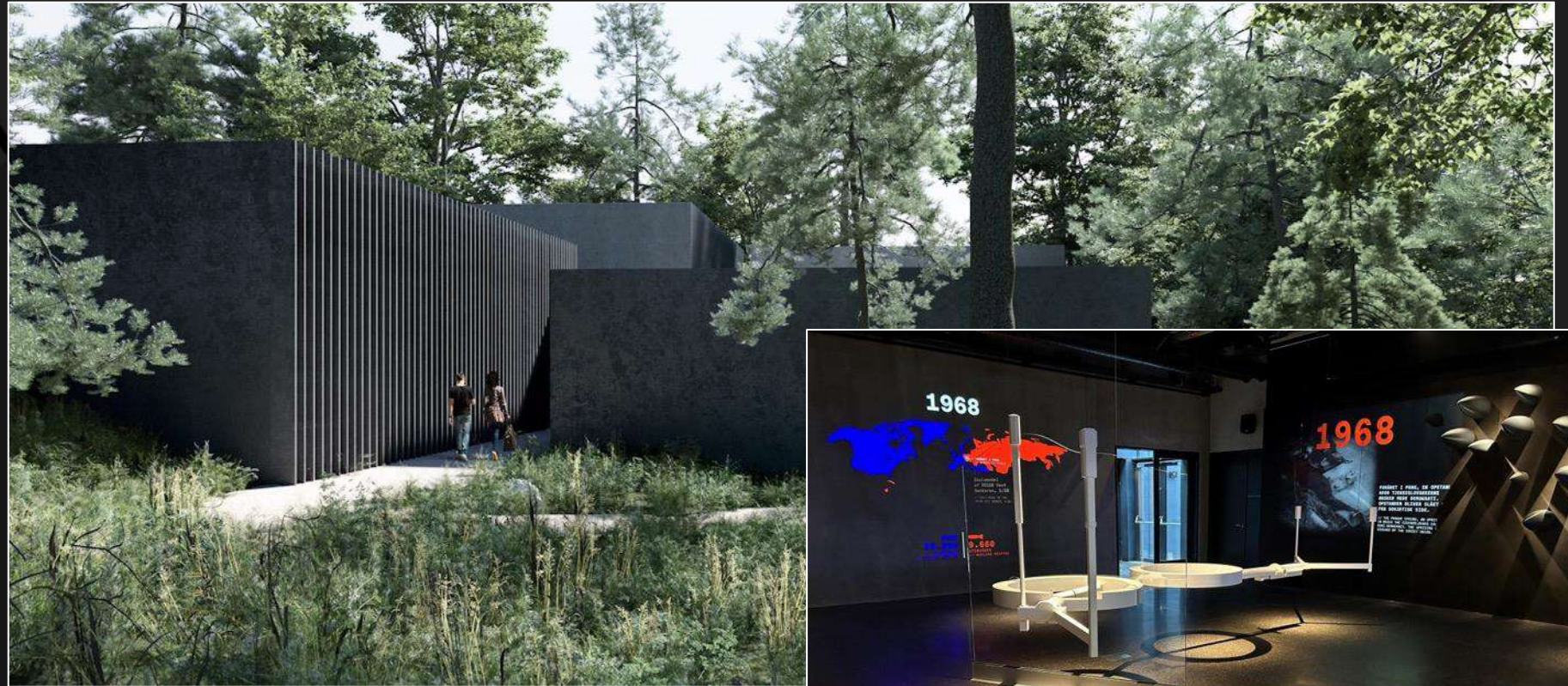
RIGA  
THOMAS TRAM PEDERSEN



# INTRODUCTION

THOMAS TRAM  
PEDERSEN

Concept developer



RIGA  
THOMAS TRAM PEDERSEN



# BALTIC APPROACHES

The Cold War in a Danish perspective





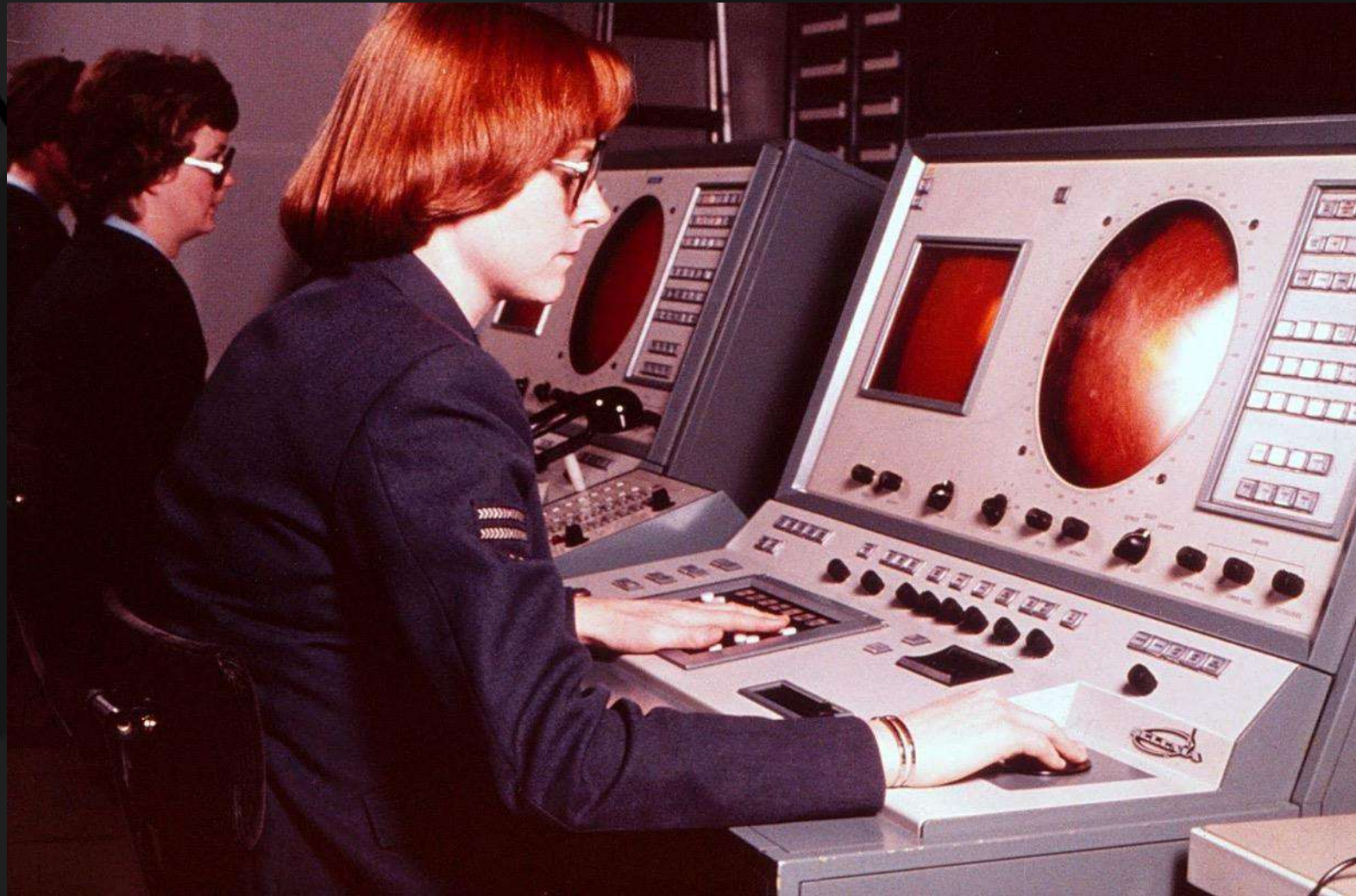
## A PART OF NATO

The Cold War in a  
Danish perspective





## READY FOR WAR



The Cold War in a  
Danish perspective



## READY FOR PEACE

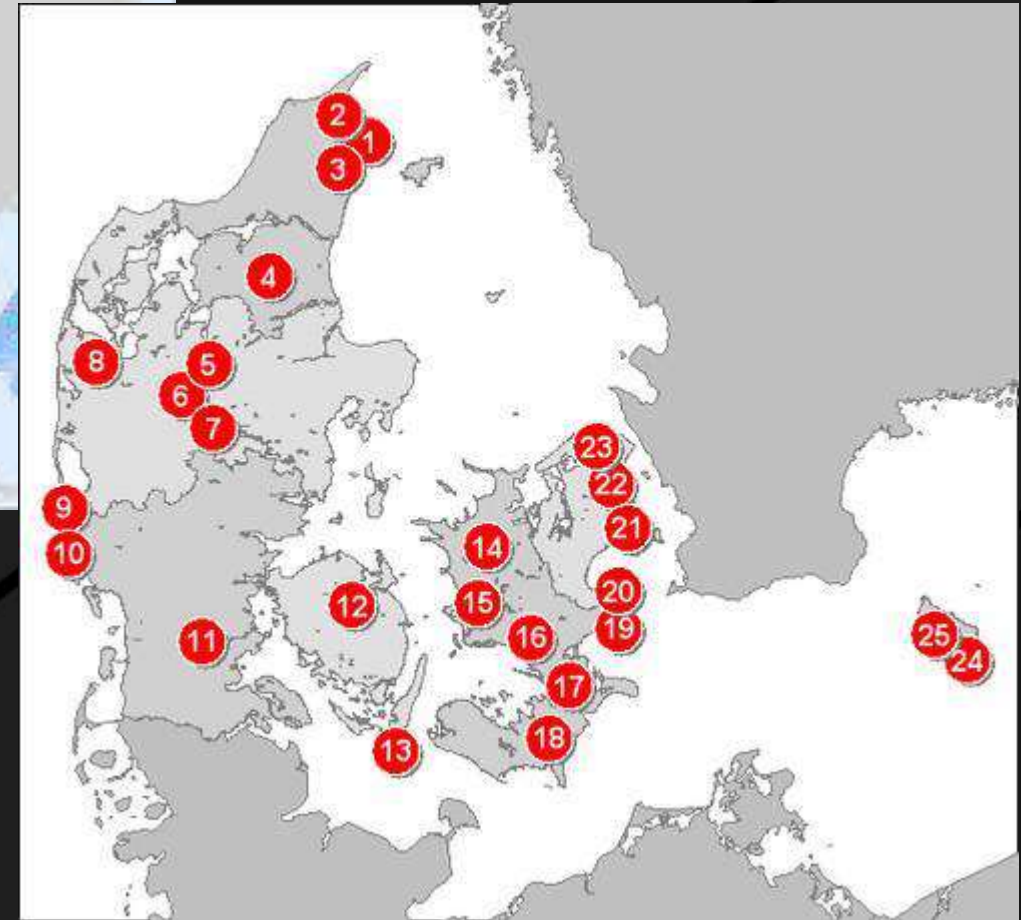


The Cold War in a  
Danish perspective



# MAPPING AND DOCUMENTATION

Preserving the Cold War





## PLACES OF WAR



Preserving the Cold  
War



## MILITARY STORIES



STORIES OF THE  
COLD WAR

- and who tells them?



## STORIES OF THE PEACE MOVEMENT

## STORIES OF THE COLD WAR





# STORIES OF THE PUBLIC

## STORIES OF THE COLD WAR





# STORIES OF NEW GENERATIONS

## STORIES OF THE COLD WAR



photorealistic cinematic picture of the essence of the cold war between east and west as seen by the z-generation



## STORIES OF THE ENEMY

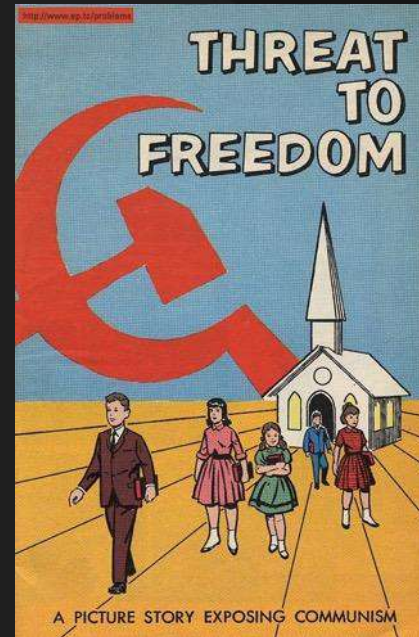


STORIES OF THE  
COLD WAR



# WINNERS AND LOSERS – A MATTER OF PERSPECTIVE

OWNERSHIP TO  
HISTORY



There cannot be a war without an enemy – no Good without Evil – no Winners without Losers



# OWNERSHIP TO HISTORY

## WHICH HISTORY – AND WHO'S

- The importance of being aware of which history, you want to convey
- The distanced, neutral and nonbiased story telling is an illusion in most cases
- The importance of being honest about your views and purpose in your story telling





## ONLY A “A COLD WAR” – THE ABSENCE OF HISTORY

OWNERSHIP TO  
HISTORY





## WHEN STORIES TAKE PLACE



CONVEYING THE  
HISTORY OF THE  
COLD WAR



## THE POWER OF THE HISTORIC SITE

CONVEYING THE  
HISTORY OF THE  
COLD WAR





## THE HISTORIC SITE AS AN EYE OPENER



CONVEYING THE  
HISTORY OF THE  
COLD WAR



# CONVEYING THE HISTORY OF THE COLD WAR

## PRINCIPLES OF PRESERVATION

- Integrity – keep the site as it is
- Authenticity – Don't apply anything or tell stories, that doesn't belong there
- Communication Ability – Balance your help to understand the site





# CONVEYING THE HISTORY OF THE COLD WAR

## PRINCIPLES OF FRAMING

First impressions last

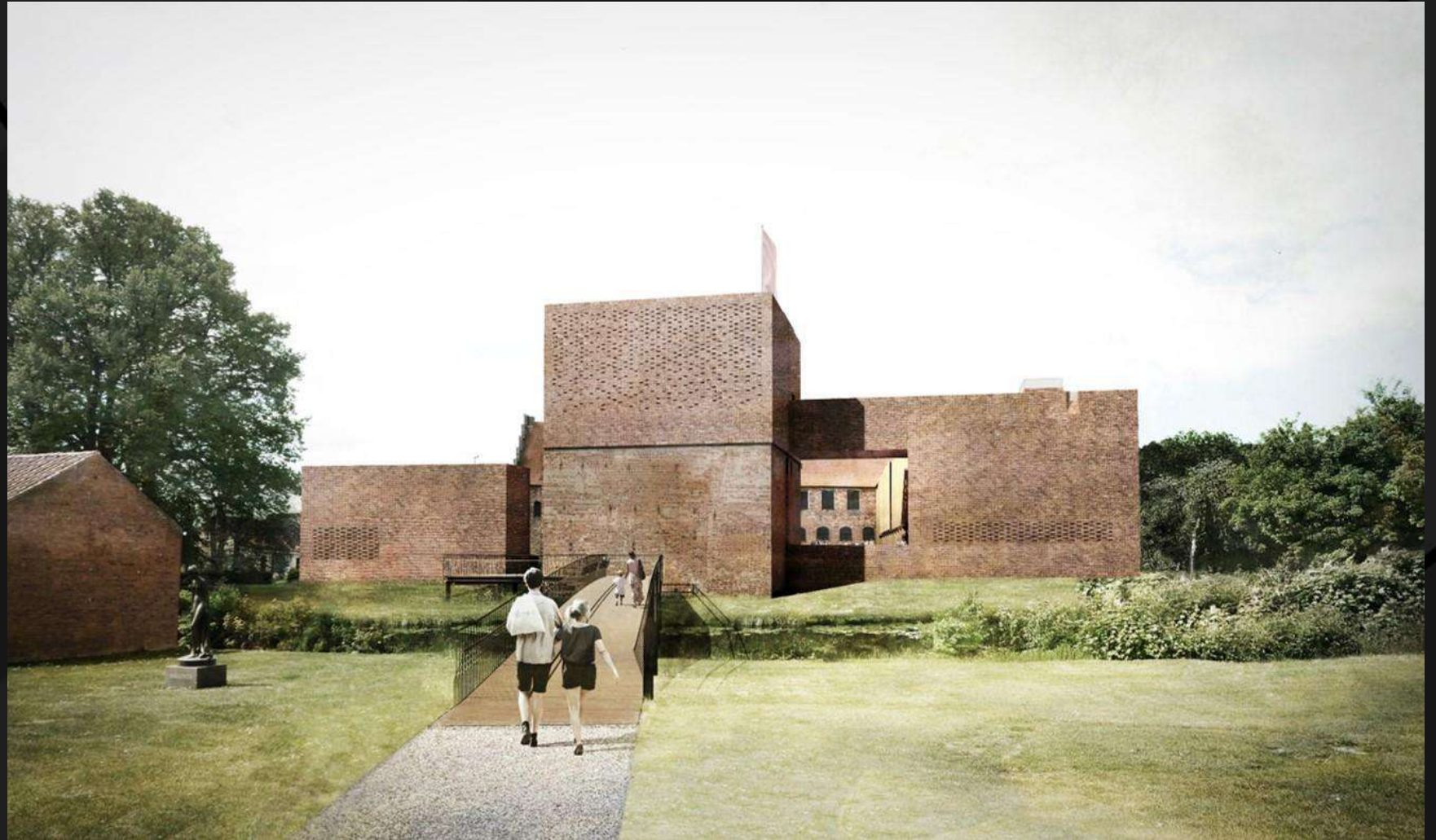
- The art of introduction
- Be precise about, what you promise your audience
- Keep your promises
- A matter of trustworthiness





# PRINCIPLES OF RECONSTRUCTION

CONVEYING THE  
HISTORY OF THE  
COLD WAR





# PRINCIPLES OF EXHIBITIONS

## CONVEYING THE HISTORY OF THE COLD WAR





## PRINCIPLES OF STORY TELLING

CONVEYING THE  
HISTORY OF THE  
COLD WAR





## PRINCIPLES OF REENACTMENT

CONVEYING THE  
HISTORY OF THE  
VIKINGS





## PRINCIPLES OF REENACTMENT

CONVEYING THE  
HISTORY OF THE  
MEDIIEVAL AGES





## PRINCIPLES OF REENACTMENT

CONVEYING THE  
HISTORY OF THE  
COLD WAR





## PRINCIPLES OF REENACTMENT

CONVEYING THE  
HISTORY OF THE  
COLD WAR





## CONVEYING HISTORY TO NEW GENERATIONS



CONVEYING THE  
HISTORY OF THE  
COLD WAR



## CONVEYING HISTORY TO NEW GENERATIONS



CONVEYING THE  
HISTORY OF THE  
COLD WAR



## TRUSTWORTHINESS OF THE EXPERIENCE

CONVEYING THE  
HISTORY OF THE  
COLD WAR





## TRUSTWORTHINESS OF HISTORY



CONVEYING THE  
HISTORY OF THE  
CHRISTMAS BATTLES



## SITES AND STORIES

### THINGS TO CONSIDER USING HISTORIC SITES

- The historic site is magical. Share this magic with your audience
- Trustworthiness is the strongest asset of historic sites. And it is under attack
- Be true to your historic site. Only make the most necessary changes and don't let it represent stories that doesn't belong there
- Remember that the site may represent other aspects or other memories to your audience
- Be honest about about which views and stories you represent as a storyteller and host
- Use reenactment with caution – for illustration and explanation and not just factional. You're a guide to history – not reinventing it



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THE PAST WILL NEVER BE THE SAME



SITES AND STORIES