

World Heritage U. S. Civil Rights Sites Symposium

**Georgia State University
Atlanta, GA
April 20-22, 2017**

The Georgia State University World Heritage Initiative has embarked on an effort to nominate a group of U. S. Civil Rights Sites to the World Heritage List, thereby achieving for these historic places associated with the modern struggle for race reform in America the highest possible level of global recognition possible.

Owners of historic properties associated with the civil rights struggle of the 1950s and 1960s, movement scholars and historic preservationists gathered in Atlanta, April 20-22, 2017, at the World Heritage and U. S. Civil Rights Sites Symposium to discuss preparing a Serial Nomination for the National Park Service to propose to UNESCO's World Heritage Committee.

Free and open to the public, the Atlanta Symposium featured sessions explaining the objectives of the Initiative, the World Heritage nomination process, and what might be expected for property owners and relevant stakeholders of historic sites if they received such a designation.

Thursday, April 20 – Ebenezer Baptist Church

- Opening Plenary Session: *What is World Heritage?* Stephen Morris, Chief, Office of International Affairs, NPS; Phyllis M. Ellin, Historian, World Heritage Program, NPS
- Reception

Friday, April 21 – GSU College of Law

- Plenary Session: *The Global Significance of U. S. Civil Rights Sites*, Waldo E. Martin, Jr., University of California, Berkeley; Patricia Sullivan, University of South Carolina
- Plenary Session: *Authenticity and Comparatives in World Heritage Analysis*, Alissandra Cummins, former Chairperson of the Executive Board of UNESCO; Susan Snow, Archeologist & Coordinator, San Antonio Missions World Heritage Site
- Plenary Session: *Designation and Preservation Management*, Paul Hardin Kapp, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; Michael Tomlan, Cornell University
- Reception

Saturday, April 22 – GSU College of Law

- Committee of Scholars – Drafting of the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for the U.S. Civil Rights Sites World Heritage Serial Nomination
- Property Owners, Stakeholders, Preservationists – Panel Discussion of the World Heritage Process
- Concluding Plenary Session: *Beyond World Heritage: Heritage Tourism Opportunities for Civil Rights Sites*, Mr. Lee Sentell, Director of Alabama Tourism Department; Mr. T. Edward Hall, Consultant, Alabama Tourism Department; and *What's Been Accomplished and Next Steps*, Dr. Glenn T. Eskew, Director, GSU World Heritage Initiative; Ms. Anne H. Farrisee, Project Manager, GSU World Heritage Initiative

Videos of the sessions and copies of the handouts are available via the GSU World Heritage Initiative website at worldheritage.gsu.edu in the "Learn More" section.