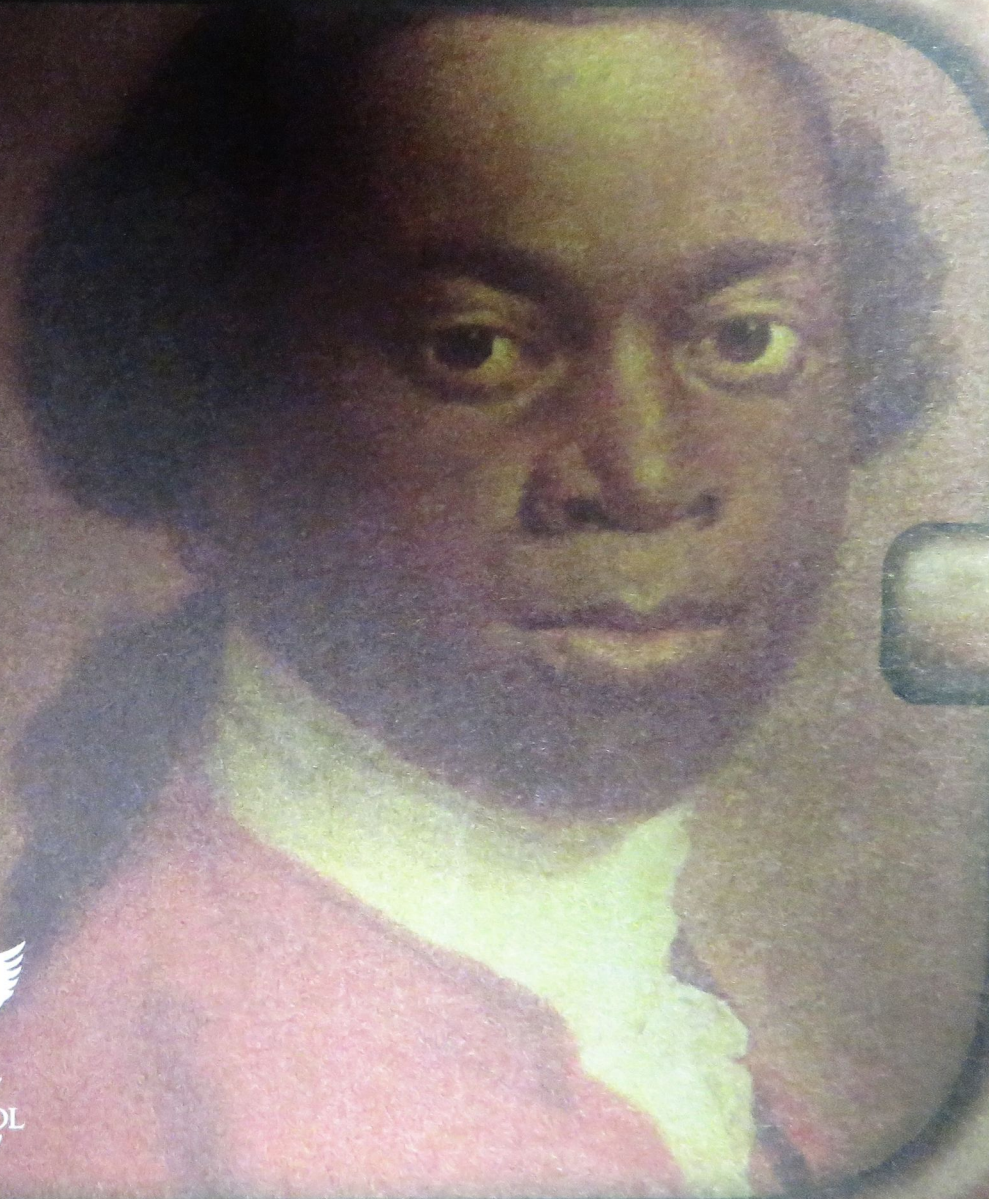
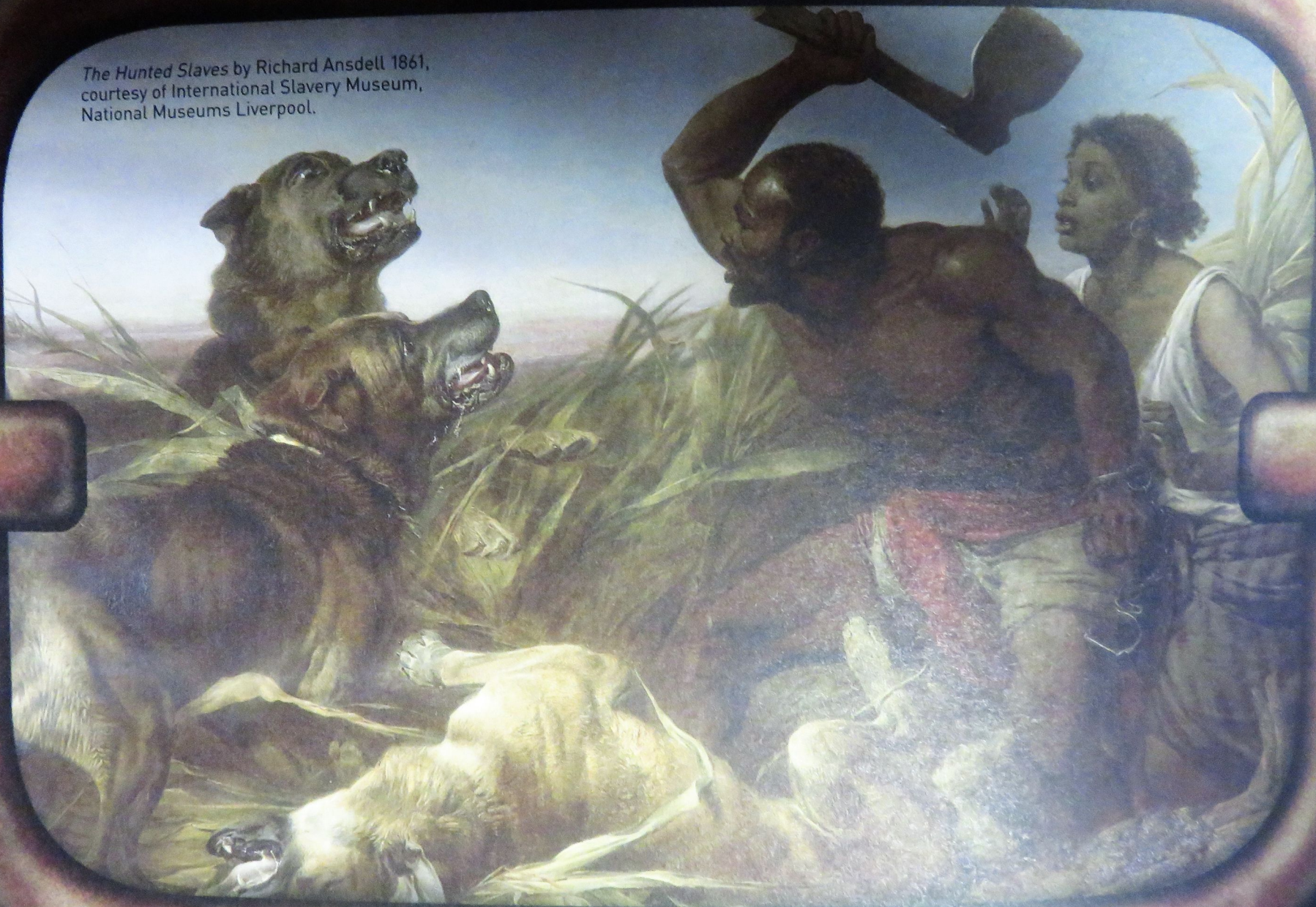


BICENTENARY OF THE
ABOLITION OF THE
SLAVE TRADE

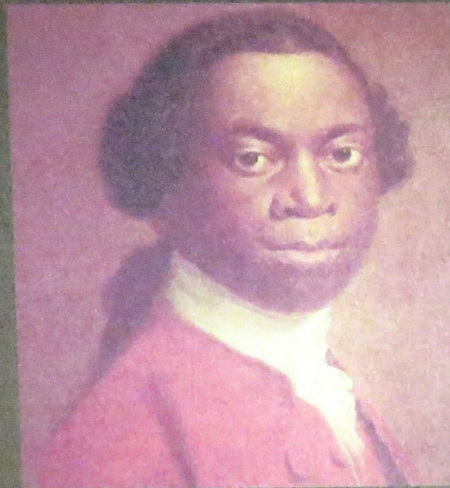
LIVERPOOL EVENT PROGRAMME 07



The Hunted Slaves by Richard Ansdell 1861,
courtesy of International Slavery Museum,
National Museums Liverpool.



2007 marks the bicentenary of the abolition of the British slave trade, and to mark the occasion Liverpool is hosting a city-wide programme of activities and projects. The aim of these events is to celebrate the African Diaspora and to support works by artists of African descent through a cluster of artistic, academic and community events and initiatives.



Olaudah Equiano

At the age of 11, Olaudah Equiano was abducted from his Igbo village in West Africa and was sold into slavery. Approximately thirty years later, as an emancipated slave, he published his autobiography.

At the time of his death in 1797, his memoir had gone through nine editions, including translations for European readers, and was a bestseller of the day. It was a powerful influence for the abolition of slavery, especially in Great Britain.

THE BICENTENARY OF THE ABOLITION OF THE BRITISH SLAVE TRADE

Ray Costello
Liverpool Community Historian



Above: Part of a diagram of the infamous slave ship *'the Brookes'*.

March 25th 2007 marks the anniversary of the conclusion of one of the most shameful periods in British and European history: the transatlantic slave trade. During the 18th century, millions of Africans were sold in the Caribbean islands and the Americas, and never returned. Out of this appalling episode, the abolition of the slave trade shines like a beacon of light; a triumph of the human soul at a time when it seemed as though humanity had lost its way.

The British abolition of the slave trade did not end slavery in the Western Hemisphere, but by stopping the transport and sale of captive men, women and children from the African continent, an important measure was taken that would lead to the partial abolition of slavery in 1834, then finally the abolition in all British territories in 1838. Abolition of the slave trade in 1807 came two years after Trafalgar had confirmed British mastery of the seas, and abolitionists now had the power of the Royal Navy behind them. British mastery of the seas meant other European countries were also prevented from trading slaves across the Atlantic.

The courageous individuals who lit that flame of freedom illuminate the pages of our history books in a way that seems to be ahead of their time, for this was an age when a child could be wrenched from its mother with little recognition of the humanity of either. The men and women who fought to end the trade in human souls were both black and white and from many walks of life. The abolitionist movement began in the last quarter of the 18th century; its members often putting their own lives in danger.

The lawyer Thomas Clarkson had to fight his way through a gang of thugs trying to push him off the end of Liverpool Pier Head and an assassination attempt by a wealthy slave trader. Granville Sharp, William Wilberforce and black abolitionists, such as Ignatius Sancho, Olaudah Equiano and Ottobah Cugoana, all fought their battles using the power of the pen, the law and the courage to speak out where others would have remained silent. In Liverpool, the names of abolitionists: William Roscoe, William Rathbone, Daniel Baulby and John Yates, to name a few, still grace our streets and are still remembered by many local people.

Two hundred years ago, those brave Liverpoolians, seeking common cause with men and women of the same mind in other parts of Britain, put an end to this evil trade. The courage should also not be forgotten of the countless number of Africans who endured not only the cruelties of slavery, the disruption to the African continent itself, but also the need for their descendants to adapt and survive in the West Indies, America and black communities in the United Kingdom such as Liverpool.

Throughout the year

**Liverpool Reads: *Small Island*
by Andrea Levy**

liverpoolreads.com

The 2007 Liverpool Reads initiative will forge links between Bristol, Hull and Glasgow, exploring themes of ethnicity, nationality and identity.

2 February – 1 April

**The Ghosts of Songs, Black
Audio Film Collective**

FACT, Wood St, Liverpool
fact.co.uk

1 – 20 March

LEAP

**Merseyside Dance Initiative
Liverpool**

info@merseysidedance.co.uk

Annual contemporary dance festival featuring African dance companies.

24 March

**Ecumenical Service of
Penitence**

Liverpool Cathedral

liverpoolcathedral.org.uk

A multi-faith service of penitence and remembrance followed by a procession to the waterfront.

24 March

**Mighty Diamonds – Reggae
Legends**

Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool
liverpoolphil.com

25 March

**Amazing Grace – The John
Newton Story**

Merseyside Maritime
Museum, Albert Dock

liverpool08.com

Performance telling the story of slavery in Liverpool ending with a rousing chorus of Newton's hymn, Amazing Grace.

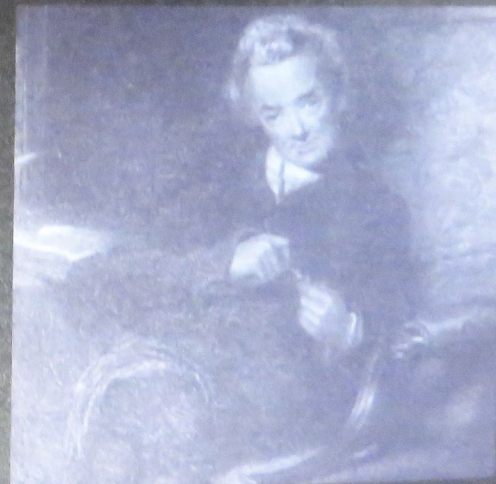
18 April 6pm – 8pm

**Lecture: Representations of
slavery in museums: Issues
and consequences**

Merseyside Maritime
Museum, Albert Dock

liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

Dr. Richard Benjamin, Head of the International Slavery Museum explores the way museums are dealing with the subject of slavery.



Above: William Wilberforce, who introduced a bill to abolish the slave trade. After 18 years it was finally passed in 1807. Courtesy of Liverpool Record Office.

March – October

Roscoe Lectures – various venues

Roscoe Society, Liverpool
John Moores University
livjm.ac.uk

07/03/07 – Prof Adam
Hochschild

15/03/07 – President of Ghana,
John Kufuor

22/03/07 – Peter Sutherland

03/10/07 – Paul Robeson Jnr

11 May 6pm – 9pm

**Brouhaha International
Carnival Launch Event**

Alima Centre 35 Sefton St
Liverpool

brouhaha.uk.com

Dance of the Free Spirit –
resistance, rebellion
and abolition.

14 – 20 May

**Writing on the Wall Festival
Liverpool**

writingonthewall.org.uk

Authors, campaigners and
social commentators explore
the bicentenary of the
abolition of the British slave
trade and Liverpool's 800th
birthday. Guests include
Benjamin Zephaniah,
Jean 'Binta' Breeze,
Levi Tafari, Ray Costello
and Kevin Sampson.



15 May 6pm – 8pm

**Lecture: the economic impact
of the British slave trade**

Merseyside Maritime
Museum, Albert Dock

liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

Joseph Inikori, University
of Rochester, USA will
talk about his book,
*Africans and the Industrial
Revolution in England.*

5 – 30 June

Wall Talks Theatre

Cut to the Chase
Productions, Liverpool
Heritage Market Site

liverpool08.com

A fine cast brings you this
once-in-a-lifetime
experience. You will never see
Liverpool in quite the same
way again.

Left: Head of an African boy carved on
Liverpool Town Hall. Courtesy of Liverpool
Record Office.

11 – 17 June

Africa Oyé Music Festival

Sefton Park Liverpool

africaoye.com

Saturday celebrates

Liverpool's past, present and future through reggae to hip hop and gospel to rumba.

Sunday is Africa at its best.

16 – 17 June

Maritime Heritage Event

Central Docks Liverpool

liverpool08.com

24 June

March of the Abolitionists

Albert Dock

yokesandchains.com

A commemorative walk between London, Bristol, Hull and Liverpool.

June – December

International Schools Twinning Programme

Liverpool schools / international schools

liverpool.gov.uk

5 – 7 July

SUGAR and SPICE and things not so nice

Unity Theatre

unitytheatreliverpool.org.uk

Using film, text and movement, SUGAR and SPICE investigates how this heinous industry continues to flourish, not only globally and nationally but locally... perhaps even next door. Directed by Hilary Westlake.

18 July 6pm – 8pm

Lecture: Cross de wata: Seeds of Africa that grew to be the Gullah / Geechee Nation

Merseyside Maritime Museum, Albert Dock

liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

Queen Quet Marquette L. Goodwine, Head-of-state for the Gullah/Geechee Nation, will provide an insight into this unique nation.

24 – 27 July

Brouhaha International

brouhaha.uk.com

International groups perform at The Unity Theatre.



Right: The Goree Warehouses, St George's Dock. Courtesy of Liverpool Record Office.

4 August

**Liverpool International
Carnival**

Brouhaha International
brouhaha.uk.com

Parade runs from Catharine Street to Princes Park 12noon – 2pm with participation from local, national and international carnival arts groups.

4 August – 2 September
open daily 10am – 5pm

**Installation: *La Bouche du Roi*
by Romauld Hazoume**

Merseyside Maritime
Museum, Albert Dock
liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

La Bouche du Roi is a contemporary artwork by Romauld Hazoume based on a famous late 18th century print of the Liverpool slave ship 'the Brookes'. It is a powerful memorial to the horrors of the transatlantic slave trade.

19 August

**Amistad Atlantic
Freedom Tour**

Albert Dock, Liverpool
amistadamerica.org

Reconstructed version of original schooner docks in Liverpool.

21 August 6pm – 8pm

**Slavery Remembrance Day
Memorial Lecture:
The Ideological origins of
Chattel Slavery**

Liverpool Town Hall
liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

Dr. Molefi Kete Asante, a distinguished author – most recently of *The History of Africa* – and Professor in the department of African-American studies at Temple University, USA, is this year's memorial lecturer.

23 August

Multi-faith Act of Worship

Liverpool Community Spirit
and Liverpool Faith Network
liverpool-community.org.uk

A multi-faith service, when people of all faiths will remember the victims of the transatlantic slave trade and affirm commitment to human rights and social justice for all.

23 August

Slavery Remembrance Day

Otterspool Promenade
liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

A day-long programme of performances, children's activities and a libation to commemorate this important day.

23 August

International Slavery Museum Opens

Albert Dock, Liverpool

internationalslaverymuseum.org.uk

The museum will feature dynamic and thought-provoking displays about the story of the transatlantic slave trade, in which Liverpool played such a prominent part. It will include new displays on the legacy of transatlantic slavery and will address issues such as freedom, identity, human rights, reparations, racial discrimination and cultural change.

August – October

Visual Art Exhibition: Bound

Open Eye Gallery, Liverpool

openeye.org.uk

The exhibition will show works by international artists representing personal perspectives on the physical and psychological impact of slavery on humanity.

1 – 30 September

Heritage Open Days: Slavery Guided Walks

Liverpool Culture Company

liverpool08.com

September

Sugar

Urban Dance Project: Liverpool

liverpool08.com

Hip hop and contemporary youth culture urban dance project.

13 – 15 September

Beyond Slavery in the Iberian Atlantic

School of History, University of Liverpool

liverpool.ac.uk

Conference co-ordinated by the School of History at the University of Liverpool.

It will invite academics to assess the place of Iberian communities, cultures and networks within slavery and migration.

25 – 29 September

King Cotton

Liverpool Empire

livenation.co.uk

Specially commissioned musical written by Jimmy McGovern and directed by Jude Kelly. With an epic sweep and compelling music, it tells the story of a struggle to break free from poverty and slavery.

October

**Book launch and lecture:
The Slave Ship by Marcus
Rediker**

Merseyside Maritime
Museum, Albert Dock

liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

Marcus Rediker, University
of Pittsburgh, will launch
his forthcoming publication,
which charts the history of the
vessels that carried enslaved
Africans across the Atlantic.

October

**Liverpool Black History
Month**

liverpoolblackhistory.co.uk

*Learning from the past,
shaping the Future Together...*
From a business expo to youth
conference, cultural food feast
to black achiever's awards,
this year's celebrations spread
beyond October.

October

**Black History Month Family
History Project**

Merseyside Maritime
Museum, Albert Dock

liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

11 October 6pm – 8pm

Debate: Reparations

Merseyside Maritime
Museum, Albert Dock

liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

Exploring the subject of
reparations to members of
the African Diaspora who
are descendants of enslaved
Africans. Delegates include
Dorothy Kuya, executive
member of Granby Residents
Association.



21 October

**Service of celebration and
intercession: Bishop John
Sentamu to deliver sermon**

Liverpool Cathedral

liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

14 November 6pm – 8pm

**Lecture: The Age of slave
apologies: The case of
Liverpool**

Merseyside Maritime
Museum, Albert Dock

liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

Dr Mark Christian, Miami
University, uses the case study
of Liverpool's apology for its
role in the transatlantic slave
trade to explore the concept
of slave apologies and what
it has meant for Liverpool's
contemporary Black
communities.

Left: A slave auction as depicted
by an 18th century artist.
Courtesy of Liverpool Record Office.



KEY

- 1 International Slavery Museum and Merseyside Maritime Museum
- 2 Salthouse Dock
- 3 The Goree
- 4 Our Lady and St Nicholas' Churchyard
- 5 Merchants' Coffee House
- 6 No.6 Rumford Place
- 7 Liverpool Cotton Exchange
- 8 The Nelson Memorial
- 9 Liverpool Town Hall
- 10 Fenwick Street
- 11 Heywood's Bank, Brunswick Street
- 12 St George's Church, Derby Square
- 13 Doran's Lane
- 14 Church Street
- 15 The Athenaeum, Church Alley

SLAVERY TRAIL

International Slavery Museum and Merseyside Maritime Museum

Please refer to entry at the end of this brochure.

Salthouse Dock

Opened in 1753 and named for the salt works that stood in front of the dock. The salthouse was owned by John Blackburne, a slave trader who is named on the list of merchants trading with Africa in 1752. Many Liverpool slave traders diversified their economic interests.

The Goree

Named after the island off the coast of modern Senegal where ships went to pick up enslaved Africans.

Our Lady and St Nicholas' Churchyard

Many of Liverpool's important merchants worshipped and were interred here, including Bryan Blundell, slave trader, tobacco merchant and founder of the Bluecoat School in 1708. Blundell, along with other family members, are listed as merchants trading with Africa in 1752. He was buried in the churchyard in 1756.

Merchants' Coffee House

Slave sales took place at the Merchants' Coffee House. It stood next to St Nicholas' Churchyard and was demolished in 1883.



Above: Elsie Ross, ex Slave, Montgomery County, Ohio, courtesy of International Slavery Museum, National Museums Liverpool.

No 6 Rumford Place

Offices of James Dunwoody Bulloch, confederate agent during the American Civil War 1861 – 1865. Bulloch was primarily tasked with building ships for the Confederate Navy including The Alabama. After the confederacy was defeated in 1865 he stayed in Liverpool and was visited by his nephew, the future U.S. president, Theodore Roosevelt. Bulloch died in 1901 and was buried at Toxteth Park Cemetery, Smithdown Road.



Liverpool Cotton Exchange

Although the Liverpool Cotton Exchange was built in 1906 Liverpool merchants had been importing the crop since the 18th century. American cotton was first imported into Liverpool in 1784 and for the next eighty years, until the American Civil War, slaves would continue to harvest the crop. During the 19th century cotton became Liverpool's most important trade commodity. Ironically, some of Liverpool's slavery abolitionists, including the Rathbones, had originally made fortunes trading in slave-produced cotton.

Left: Exchange Flags. Courtesy of Liverpool Record Office.

Right: Slave wearing a metal spiked collar. Courtesy of Liverpool Record Office.

The Nelson Memorial

The Nelson Memorial was Liverpool's first public subscription monument and was completed in 1815 by Richard Westmacott Jr. Nelson was loved in Liverpool, his great victories over the French made the seas safer for British ships and he was also a strong supporter of the slave trade. In 1798, he was conferred with the Freedom of the Borough. In acknowledging the honour, he wrote from the 'Victory': 'I was taught the value of our West Indian possessions, nor shall their interests be infringed while we have an arm to fight in their defence.'



Liverpool Town Hall

Opened in 1754, the Wood's of Bath designed it and the firm of Joseph Brooks built it. Brooks was also a merchant engaged in the slave trade. All twenty of Liverpool's mayors, from 1787 until abolition in 1807, were involved in the 'African Trade' as slave trading was commonly known.

Fenwick Street

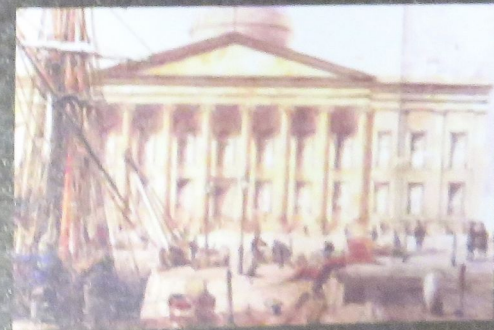
Fenwick Street was the birthplace of Banastre Tarleton, son of John and grandson of Thomas Tarleton, both of whom were successful slave traders. Banastre fought in the American War of Independence and served as an MP who argued vigorously against the abolition of the slave trade. His portrait hangs in the National Portrait Gallery in London.

Heywood's Bank, Brunswick Street

The Heywood Brothers, Arthur and Benjamin, made their fortunes in the slave trade. They formally established Heywood's Bank in 1773, but in 1788 Benjamin parted company with his brother and founded a bank in Manchester. Arthur continued in Liverpool as Arthur Heywood, Sons & Company. Throughout their history many prominent figures and companies were customers of Heywood's. In 1883 a descendant of the brothers sold Heywood's Bank to the Bank of Liverpool for the massive sum of £400,000 (between £25 and £40 million pounds today). The Bank of Liverpool was eventually bought by Barclays another bank which is reported to have links with slavery.

St George's Church, Derby Square

Built on the site of Liverpool Castle and consecrated in 1734. When visiting from his church in London, the former slave ship captain, John Newton, preached here. After leaving the sea he became tide surveyor and later joined the church where he became an abolitionist. Newton wrote the popular hymn "Amazing Grace". The church was demolished in 1897 and The Victoria monument now occupies the site.



Above: Custom House, 1850.
Courtesy of Liverpool Record Office.

Doran's Lane

Doran's Lane is named after Felix Doran, an Irish merchant who lived in Lord Street. He co-owned the slave ship 'Bloom'. On one successful voyage Doran took a share of over £28,000 for the sale of 307 slaves in the West Indies.

Church Street

Church Street is named after St Peter's Church which opened for worship in 1704. Foster Cunliffe, slave trader and three times mayor was buried here. His epitaph read "A merchant whose sagacity, honesty and diligence procured great wealth and credit to himself and his country; he administered justice with discernment, candour and impartiality..."

The Athenaeum, Church Alley

The Athenaeum was a gentlemen's club founded in 1797 to provide a meeting place where ideas and information could be exchanged in pleasant surroundings. The rich merchants of Liverpool, both slavers and abolitionists, contributed to the Athenaeum. The original Georgian building stood in Church Street and was demolished in 1922 for road widening.



Left: *The Slave Trade* by François Biard. Courtesy of Liverpool Record Office.

Right: *The Black Boy* c1844 by William Windus (1822-1907). Courtesy of International Slavery Museum, National Museums Liverpool.



INTERNATIONAL SLAVERY MUSEUM

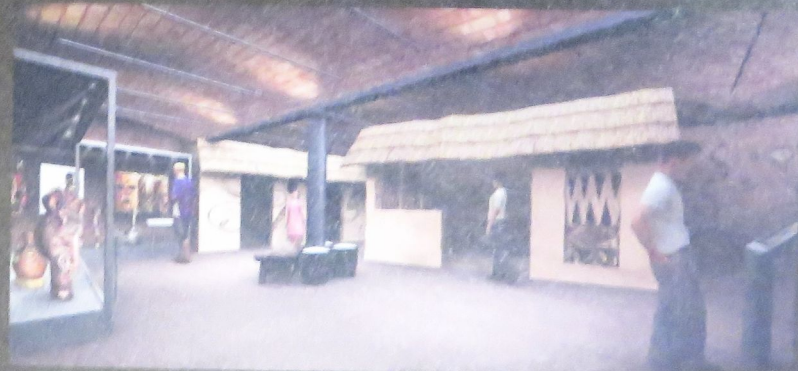
They will remember that we were sold but they won't remember that we were strong. They will remember that we were bought, but not that we were brave. *William Prescott, former slave 1937*

To mark the bicentenary of the abolition of the British slave trade National Museums Liverpool are opening a new International Slavery Museum at the Albert Dock on 23 August 2007.

Liverpool, which played a central role in the transatlantic slave trade in the 18th century, is a fitting location in which to commemorate the anniversary of this important landmark.

The museum's galleries will feature dynamic and thought-provoking displays about the story of the transatlantic slave trade. They will address issues such as freedom, identity, human rights, reparations, racial discrimination and cultural change.

The International Slavery Museum will also seek to address ignorance and misunderstanding by looking at the deep and permanent impact of slavery and the slave trade on Africa, South America, the USA, the Caribbean and Western Europe.



An artist's impression of the International Slavery Museum
© Redman Design.

A second phase of the project, due to open in 2010, will include the development of a new visitor-focused education centre with an events programme of performance, public lectures and debate. A research institute, based in the museum, is being developed in partnership with the University of Liverpool.

The date the museum opens – 23 August – is an important one as it is also Slavery Remembrance Day, an annual commemoration which takes place in Liverpool and across the world of the uprising of enslaved Africans on the island of St Domingo (modern Haiti and the Dominican Republic) in 1791. Designated by UNESCO, the date was chosen as a reminder that enslaved Africans were the main agents of their own liberation.

For more information about the museum, or about activities happening to commemorate Slavery Remembrance Day please visit www.internationalslaverymuseum.org.uk

National Museums Liverpool would like to thank the Heritage Lottery Fund for supporting their elements of the bicentenary programme.



Above: Figure of an enslaved African breaking free of his chains, carved wood, American, late 19th century. Courtesy of the International Slavery Museum, National Museums Liverpool.

Useful Contacts

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africaoye.com

Brouhaha International

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brouhaha.uk.com

FACT

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fact.co.uk

International Slavery Museum

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internationalslaverymuseum.org.uk

Liverpool 08

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liverpool08.com

Liverpool Black History Month

+44 (0) 151 706 6915
liverpoolblackhistory.co.uk

Liverpool Cathedral

+44 (0) 151 709 6271
liverpoolcathedral.org.uk

Liverpool Community Network

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Liverpool Empire

+44 (0) 870 606 3536
livenation.co.uk

Liverpool John Moores University

+44 (0) 151 231 2121
livjm.ac.uk

Liverpool Reads

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liverpoolreads.com

Merseyside Dance Initiative

+44 (0) 151 708 8810
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Merseyside Maritime Museum

+44 (0) 151 478 4499
merseysidemaritimemuseum.org.uk

National Museums Liverpool

+44 (0) 151 478 4499
liverpoolmuseums.org.uk

Open Eye Gallery

+44 (0) 151 709 9460
openeye.org.uk

Royal Liverpool Philharmonic

+44 (0) 151 709 3789
liverpoolphil.com

Unity Theatre

+44 (0) 151 709 4988
unitytheatreliverpool.co.uk

University of Liverpool

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liverpool.ac.uk

Writing on the Wall Festival

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writingonthewall.org.uk



the mersey

PARTNERSHIP

NATIONAL MUSEUMS LIVERPOOL

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