

Abstract from the Eighth Annual Gilder Lehrman Center International Conference
at Yale University

Slavery and Public History: An International Symposium

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Developing the International Slavery Museum

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Available online at www.yale.edu/glc/publichistory/tibbles.pdf

My presentation will explain how the International Slavery Museum project has developed over the past 3-4 years. It will show how it has grown out of the existing Transatlantic Slavery Gallery at Merseyside Maritime Museum in Liverpool and also how it has developed as a response to community comments and the bicentenary of the abolition of the slave trade.

I will outline the aims and objectives of the new museum and will briefly examine the audience for the new museum and some of the barriers to visiting that we have identified during our audience development work.

I will identify the key messages, storylines and proposed content of the new galleries and indicate the interpretative approach being taken by the content development team and the designers.

I will conclude my presentation by outlining the learning and community activity programmes and the proposals for developing a public-focussed resource centre and an academic research institute.