

MEDIA RELEASE
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Zoom panel on May 13 focuses on environmental justice

Environmental justice – where, how, and why is it missing in Milwaukee? Learn more via a Zoom panel discussion on Thursday, May 13, at 7 p.m. Participants in the Zoom session will learn how they can support revitalization of Milwaukee's north side neighborhoods.

The concept of environmental justice recognizes that the benefits and burdens of environmental quality are unevenly distributed through communities. The presentation will discuss the history of environmental racism in Milwaukee, what the Buildings-Landscapes-Cultures Field School has learned from working with residents in north side neighborhoods, and possible next steps.

The panel is sponsored by the Church & Society Committee of United Methodist Church of Whitefish Bay (UMCWFB).

Panelists are Arijit Sen, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) associate professor of architecture and urban studies, and members of the Buildings-Landscapes-Cultures Field School, a UWM multi-disciplinary project. Students, faculty, scholars, and community members explore ways to see and interpret the city of Milwaukee by engaging in storytelling, ecological conservation, heritage preservation, and civic engagement.

Arijit Sen is an architect and vernacular architecture historian who writes, teaches, and studies urban cultural landscapes. His research explores immigrant histories, post disaster reconstruction, and community-based design. He directs the Buildings-Landscapes-Cultures Field School. Sen's include articles and book chapters on South Asian immigrant cultural landscapes and early 20th Century immigration in the United States. He has coedited "Landscapes of Mobility: Culture, Politics and Placemaking" (2013, with Jennifer Johung) and "Making Place: Space and Embodiment in the City" (2014, with Lisa Silverman).

Other participants are Taytum Markee, Mallory Zink and Chelsea Wait.

Taytum Markee is a public historian and museum professional. She holds a master of arts in public history with a graduate certificate in museum studies from UWM. While pursuing her graduate degree, she coordinated and edited "Taking Back Our Worlds," an environmental justice exhibition and storytelling project with the MKE Environmental Justice Lab. From 2019-20, she was a fellow of the Humanities Action Lab of Rutgers University.

Mallory Zink is the public historian for the National Park Service - Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program. She recently finished her master of arts in public history, with certifications in museum studies and nonprofit management at UWM. She has also served as a fellow with the Humanities Action Lab out of Rutgers University, and led research development for "Taking Back Our Worlds."

Chelsea Wait coordinates research projects at the intersection of community engagement, creative arts, cultural landscapes, and public history. She is a doctoral candidate in architecture whose dissertation, "Landscapes of Caring," analyzes the care practices of Milwaukee residents using ethnographic observation, and archival research. She has presented her research at national conferences, presented guest lectures, and teaches at UWM. She is a co-author of a forthcoming article in the peer-reviewed journal *Dialectic VIII*, entitled "The Role of Fieldwork: Buildings-Landscapes-Cultures Field School and Architectural Pedagogy."

For the Zoom link and more information about the May 13 panel, visit www.umcwfb.org

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