

## **Culture, Heritage, and Ethics**

Abstract

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This paper offers a conceptual exploration of what Cultural Heritage Ethics might amount to. Given the range of questions and complexities surrounding heritage, I am sceptical about the possibility of a unified account of it. Heritage, cultural or otherwise, is not always good. It may be preserved in fundamentally different, indeed contradictory, ways. *Pari passu*, the range of rights relating to it is not a straightforward one. My presentation was given in the faith that ‘a repertoire might be more useful than a conviction’, sketching out a very partial and rudimentary conceptual cartography of the area of cultural heritage ethics. In so doing, I hope to have marked some of the numerous pitfalls which face the bolder theorist.

### **References**

- D. Lowenthal, *The Heritage Crusade and the Spoils of History* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1998).
- L. Smith, *The Uses of Heritage* (London: Routledge, 2006),