Victoria Memorial Hall
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Looking the Tiger in the Eye:
Oral History, Heritage Sites and Public Culture

Speaker
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Friday, 3 February 2017, 5.30 pm
Victoria Memorial Hall, 1 Queen’s Way, Kolkata 700 071
(Western Quadrangle, open air)

Entry through North or South Gate only; please note that cars are not allowed inside the Victoria Memorial premises; golf-cart shuttle service available for elderly persons from the North Gate.
This presentation is based on the Centre for Public History’s experience in undertaking a site-specific public history project in Bengaluru with a group of design students of the Srishti School of Art, Design and Technology. The project was based at the site of the Bangalore Fort where the forces of Tipu Sultan, known popularly as the “Tiger of Mysore”, fought a fierce battle with the British army in 1791. The Bangalore Fort is now part of a congested marketplace at the heart of the urban centre. The project explored in what ways oral history can gauge the sense of time and place and include people’s voices within a heritage site. By focusing on the public context of scholarship, students and their guides sought to transform historical research to reach audiences outside academia. This presentation shares the insights one gained into the practice and pedagogy of public history.