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SPRING 2021 VIRTUAL LECTURES

THURSDAY, MARCH 4, 6:00 PM (EST)

Surveying Modern Architecture: The Case of Cairo

Mohamed Elshahed

Independent Curator and author of *Cairo Since 1900: An Architectural Guide*.

This presentation is part of the Department of Architecture's lecture series.

MONDAY, APRIL 12, 6:00 PM (EST)

Lived Heritage and the Sacred Topography of Harar Jugol, Ethiopia

Michelle Moore Apotsos

Department of Art
Williams College

MONDAY, MAY 10, 6:00 PM (EST)

The Place of Africa, in Theory

Shaden M. Tageldin

Cultural Studies & Comparative Literature
University of Minnesota



The Larabanga Mosque is in the village of the same name in Ghana. Built in the Sudanese architectural style, it is the oldest mosque in the country and one of the oldest in West Africa, and has been referred to as the "Mecca of West Africa". It has undergone restoration several times since it was founded in 1421. The World Monuments Fund (WMF) has contributed substantially to its restoration, and lists it as one of the 100 Most Endangered Sites. The restoration works have revived the knowledge of adobe maintenance.

The mosque has an old Quran, believed by the locals to have been given as a gift from heaven in 1650 to Yidan Barimah Bramah, the Imam at the time, as a result of his prayers. The mosque, built using West African adobe, has two tall towers in pyramidal shape, one for the mihrab which faces towards Mecca forming the facade on the east and the other as a minaret in the northeast corner. These are buttressed by twelve bulbous shaped structures, which are fitted with timber elements.



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