# Resilient Processes: Centering Communities in Collaborative Digital Collections

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Katrina Fenlon
Potomac Technical Processing Librarians
PTPL 99th Annual Meeting
October 13, 2023
Leonardtown, Maryland

CENTER FOR ARCHIVAL FUTURES

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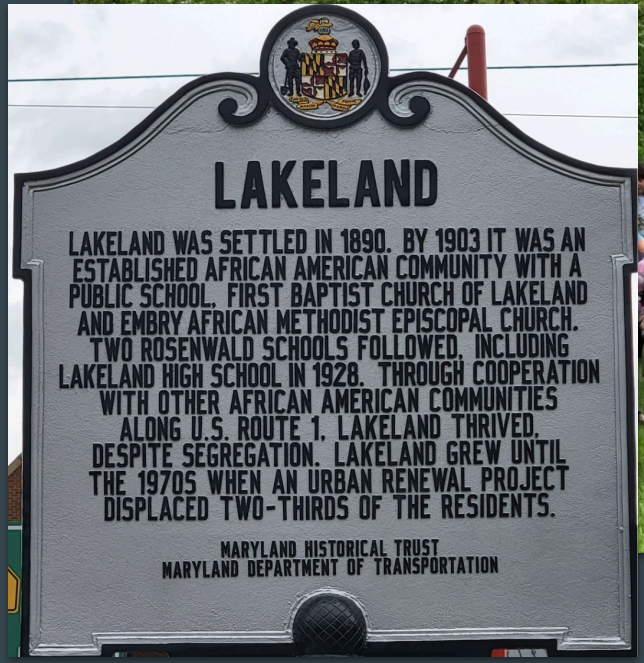
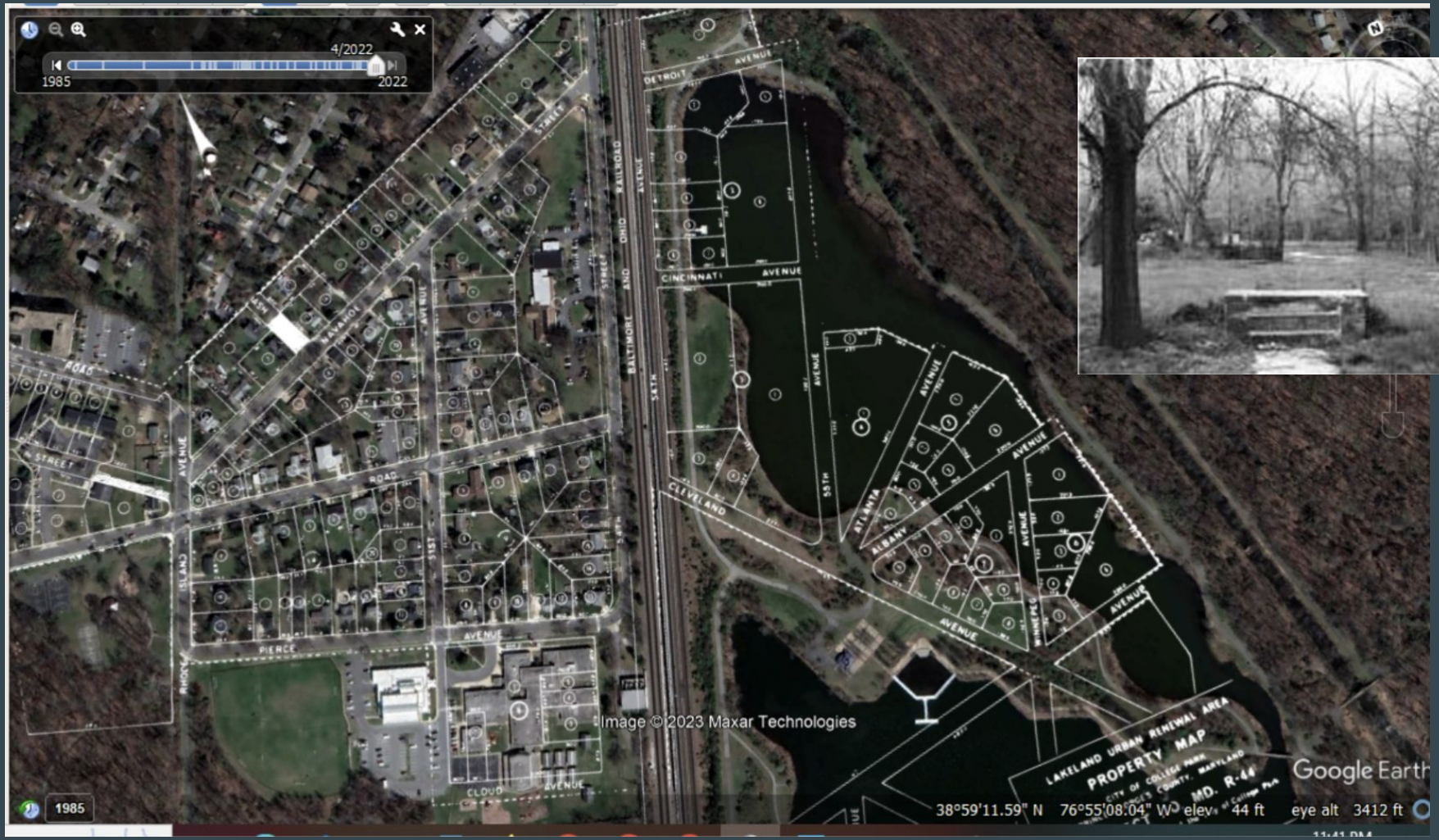



https://lakelandchp.com/

Lakeland
Community Heritage Project
College Park, Maryland


4/2022
1985
2022
DETROIT AVENUE
CINCINNATI AVENUE
CLEVELAND AVENUE
ATLANTA AVENUE
ALBANY AVENUE
WINNEPEG AVENUE
PIERCE AVENUE
CLOUD AVENUE
ROAD
STREET
BALTIMORE AND OHIO RAILROAD
Image © 2023 Maxar Technologies
LAKELAND URBAN RENEWAL AREA
PROPERTY MAP
MD. R-44
Google Earth
1985
38°59'11.59" N 76°55'08.04" W elev 44 ft eye alt 3412 ft

# Lakeland plan upsets residents

By **Sharon Conway**
August 11, 1977

"I want to hear about Lakeland Urban
Lakeland resident. "But what we have
building in our community is housing
development for us."

# A university town explores reparations for a Black community uprooted by urban renewal

The Lakeland neighborhood of College Park, Md., was torn apart as cities across the country pursued renewal projects

By Diane Bernard

November 2, 2021 at 7:00 a.m. EDT

The Washington Post

LOCAL NEWS

# For those raised in College Park's Lakeland, the wounds left by its destruction remain

Clara Niel · September 21, 2020

Lakeland Digital Archive preview

About Collection Exhibits

## Type: Photo

1 to 50 of 3,003 total items — includes dates: undated - 2012

### Football team

Image from Lakeland High School yearbook

### Stewart Board, Embry AME Church
1962

Stewart Board Front left Agnes Gross, Pauline Gray, Martha Edwards, Arthur Brooks Rear ... Weems, Rev. R.H. Baddy,

### Robert Ridgley Gray

During retirement program, Prince George's County Public Schools. School principal and Mayor of Fairmont Heights.

### Field medal

...edal awarded to Carl Cager ...880 relay

### Railroad Tracks at Lakeland
1979

Railroad tracks at Lakeland looking south. In 1835, the Washington Branch of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad opened and bisected the area that would become Lakeland, becoming an important part of th...

Exhibits / Urban Renewal in Lakeland

# Urban Renewal in Lakeland

- Citys Birth
- Maps and Aerial Images
- Urban Renewal Plans and Application
- News Abstracts
- Letters and Documents
- Weygandt Case

# Enslaved | Peoples of the Historical Slave Trade

Explore or reconstruct the lives of individuals who were enslaved, owned slaves, or participated in the historical trade.

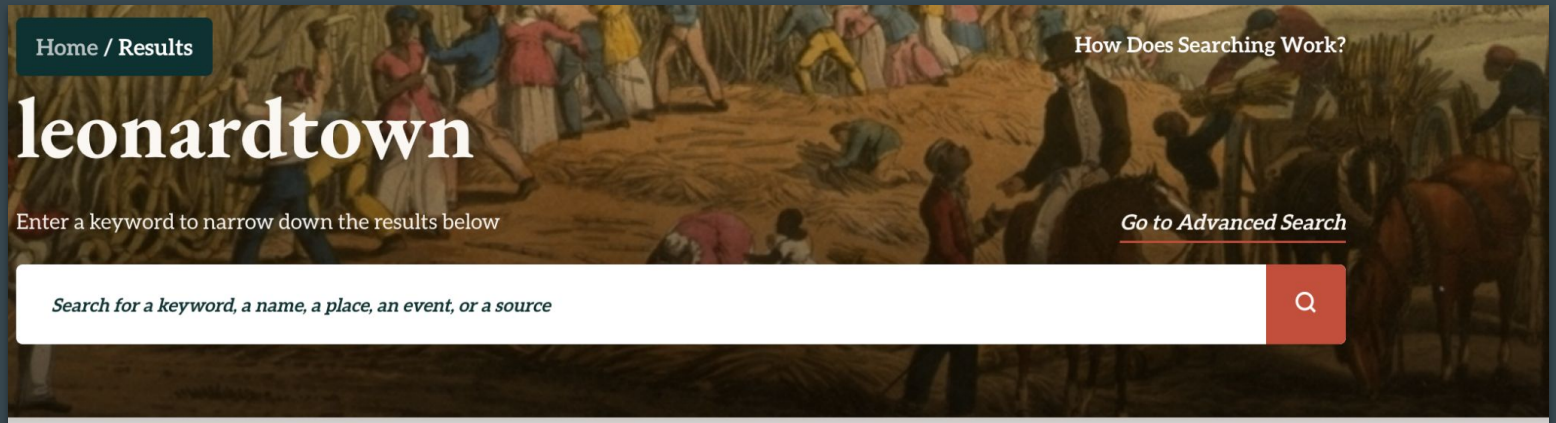
*Learn More*

Start a search across records from the historical slave trade

*Go to Advanced Search*

*Search for a keyword, a name, a place, an event, or a source*

https://enslaved.org/




## 2 Results

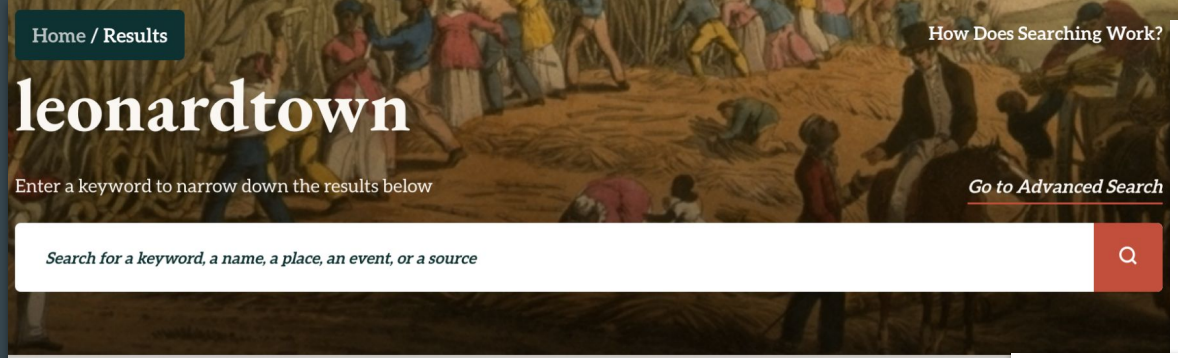
leonardtown ×

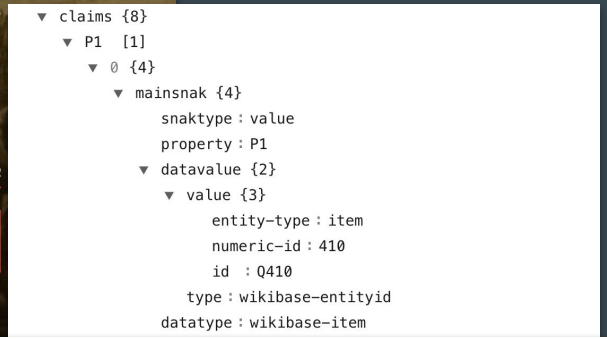
People | Events | Places | Sources

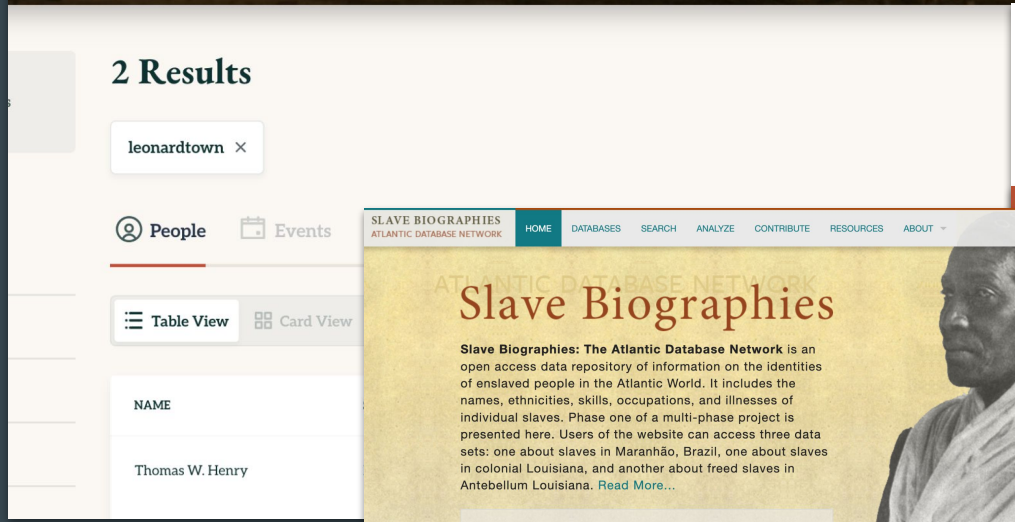
Table View | Card View

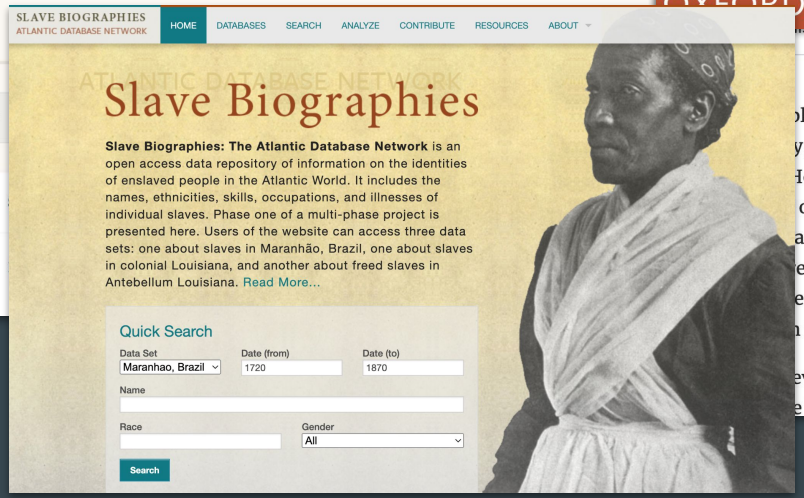
Configure Table Columns | Sort By | 30 Per Page

| NAME | SEX | PERSON STATUS | ETHNODESCRIPTOR | PLACE | DATE |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Thomas W. Henry | Male | | | Washington, Leonardtown | 1794 |




## Henry, Thomas W.

(1 Jan. 1794–13 April 1877),

Sholomo B. Levy

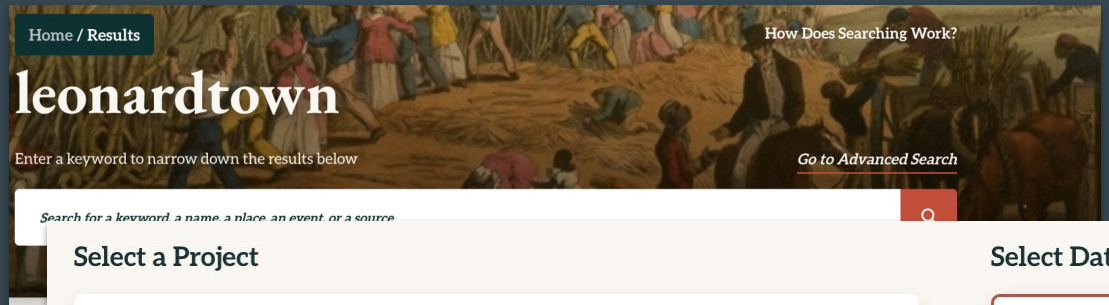
https://doi-org.proxy-um.researchport.umd.edu/10.1093/acref/9780195301731.013.37063

**Published in print:** 15 March 2013 **Published online:** 31 May 2013

OXFORD AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES CENTER

lacksmith, was born in Leonardtown, Maryland, the son of Jane and
y, slaves of Richard Barnes, the largest slave owner in the district. It is
Henry's maternal grandmother, Catherine Hill, had been purchased by the
on a return trip from England and the Caribbean. Thomas's parents were
ants of the Barnes family, which owned tobacco plantations and other
ests. Before his death in 1804, Richard Barnes had stated in his will that
e to be freed; one unusual stipulation he added that suggests a special
these individuals was that the manumitted slaves take the name Barnes.

ever, did not gain his freedom until almost twenty years after his master's
John Thomson Mason, a nephew of Richard Barnes and the executor of




## Select a Project

All Projects

## Select Data to Visualize

All Data Visualizations

- Ethnolinguistic Descriptors
- Participant Role
- Occupation
- Descriptive Role
- Descriptive Ethnonym

**Total Records**

1123970

Total Records

**Record Types**

678589

People

43

E

| Original Source Type | Count |
|---|---|
| Bill of Sale, Invoice, or Receipt | 621 |
| Freedom Suit | 422 |
| Newspaper | 297 |

| Event Type | Count |
|---|---|
| Birth | 92,663 |
| Registration | 82,188 |
| Appraisal | 68,745 |

the future of our cultural records depends on effective, sustainable community-institutional partnerships

# Three objectives

1. Rethink community-institutional dichotomy
2. Explore partnership as *process* vs. state
3. Introduce the concept of *resilience*

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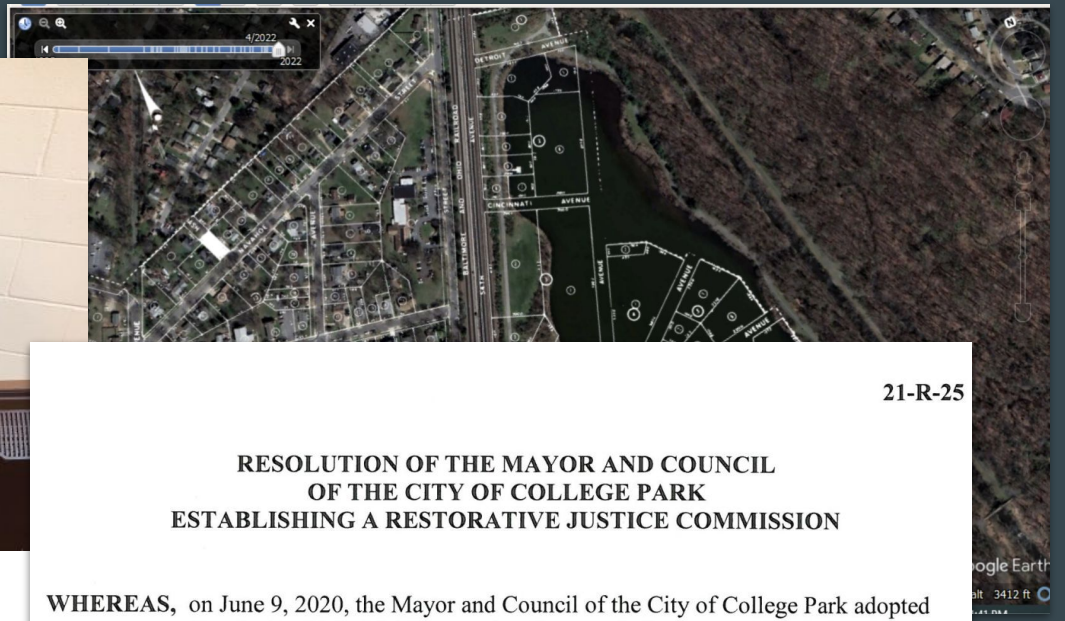
Crowdsourcing initiatives
Community archives
Communities
Institutions
Public humanities projects
Cultural activism
Participatory archiving efforts



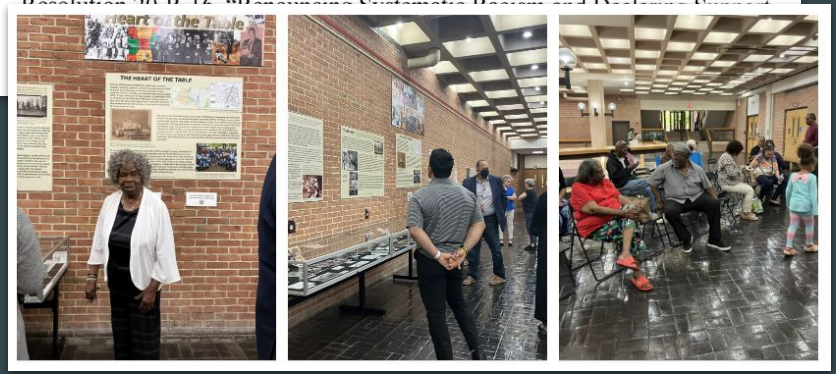
21-R-25

**RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF COLLEGE PARK
ESTABLISHING A RESTORATIVE JUSTICE COMMISSION**

**WHEREAS,** on June 9, 2020, the Mayor and Council of the City of College Park adopted

# MITH

## MARYLAND INSTITUTE FOR TECHNOLOGY IN THE HUMANITIES



# Some Lakeland Partnerships

# 1. Rethink community-institutional dichotomy

- Many community projects rely on institutional support
- Many institutional projects lack institutional commitments

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- Many community projects rely on institutional support
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- People at institutions are also people in communities
- Partnerships are interpersonal, not institutional

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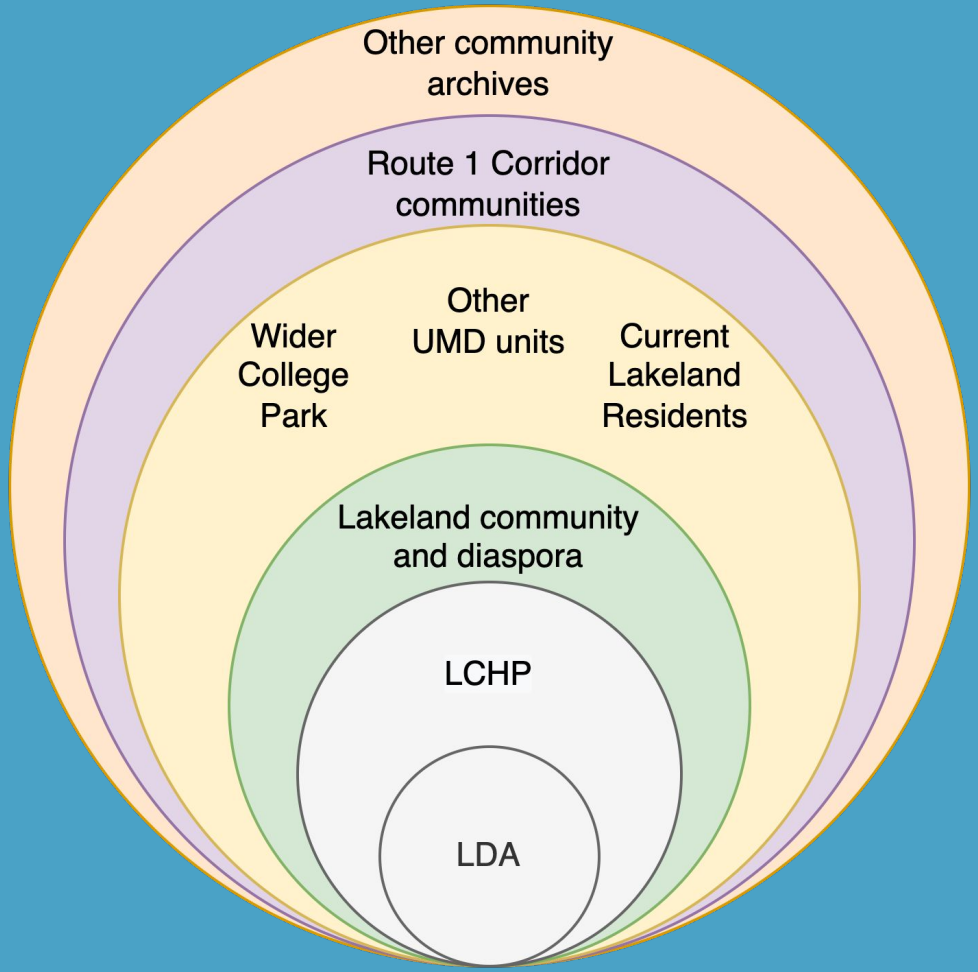
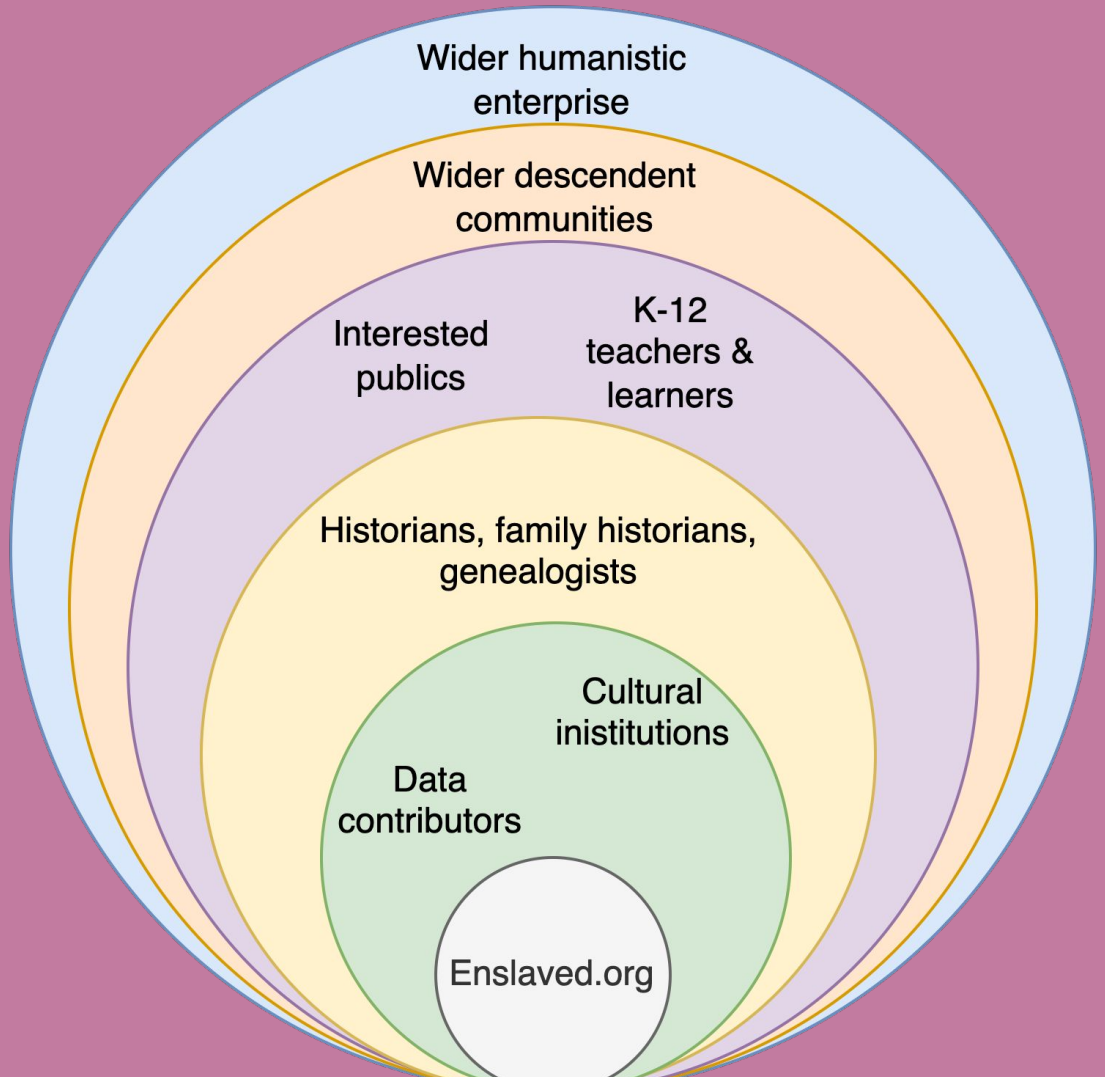
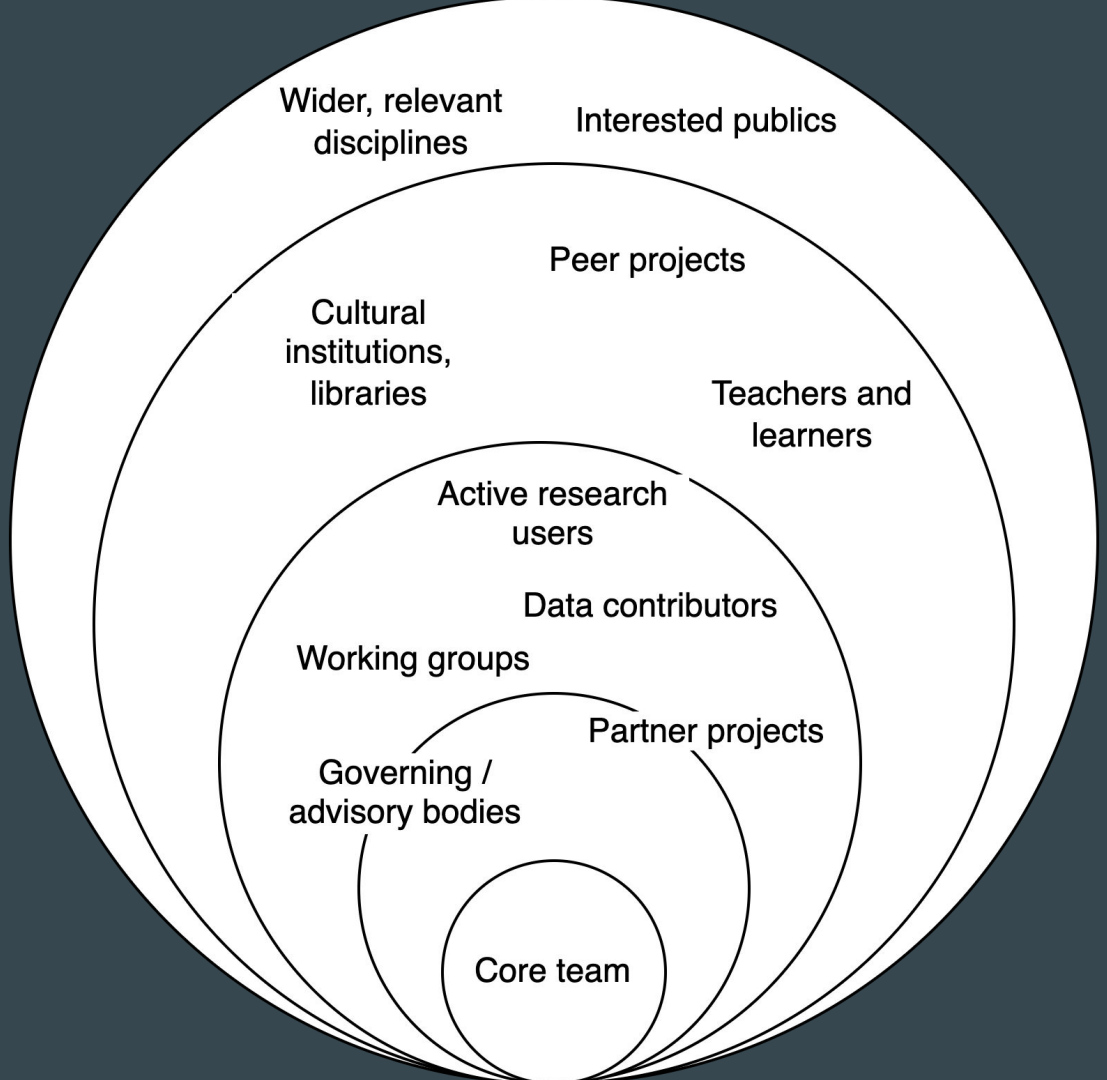
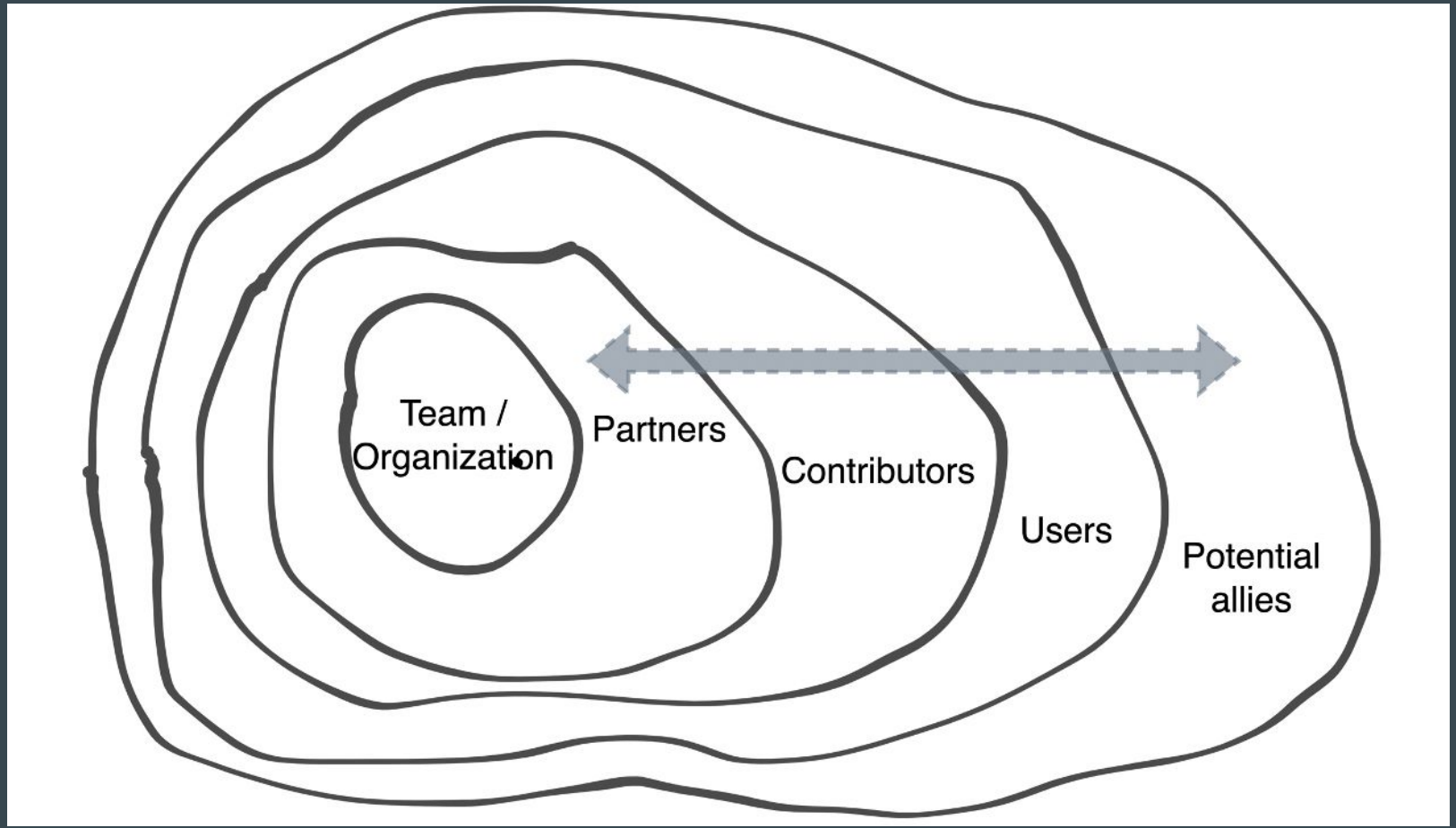
- Many community projects rely on institutional support
- Many institutional projects lack institutional commitments
- People at institutions are also people in communities
- Partnerships are interpersonal, not institutional

- Community-based collections can prioritize multiple stakeholder communities


Other community archives
Route 1 Corridor communities
Other UMD units
Wider College Park
Current Lakeland Residents
Lakeland community and diaspora
LCHP
LDA


Wider humanistic enterprise
Wider descendent communities
Interested publics
K-12 teachers & learners
Historians, family historians, genealogists
Cultural inistitutions
Data contributors
Enslaved.org

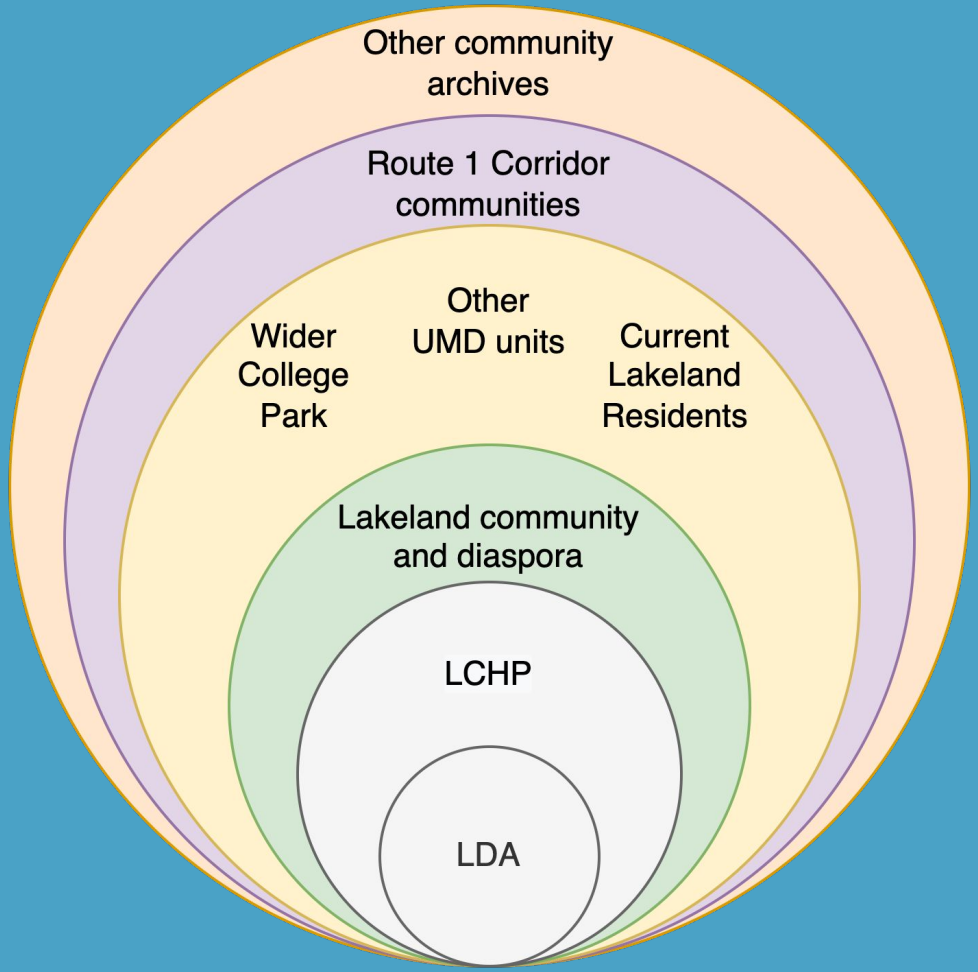

Wider, relevant disciplines
Interested publics
Peer projects
Cultural institutions, libraries
Teachers and learners
Active research users
Data contributors
Working groups
Partner projects
Governing / advisory bodies
Core team




← Increasing reciprocity, mutual benefit

# Three objectives

1. Rethink community-institutional dichotomy
2. **Explore partnership as process vs. state**
3. Introduce the concept of *resilience*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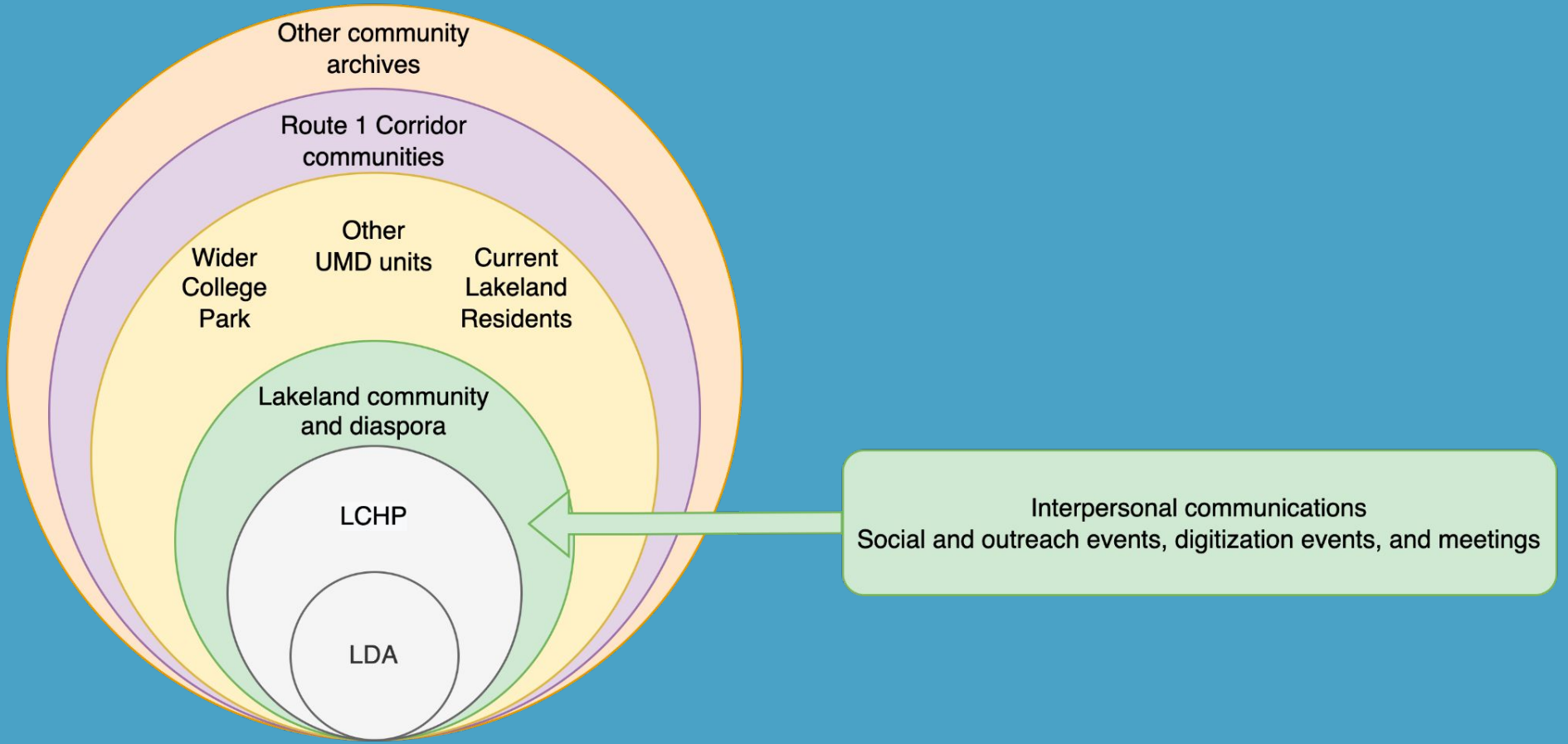
## Select outreach activities during Lakeland development process



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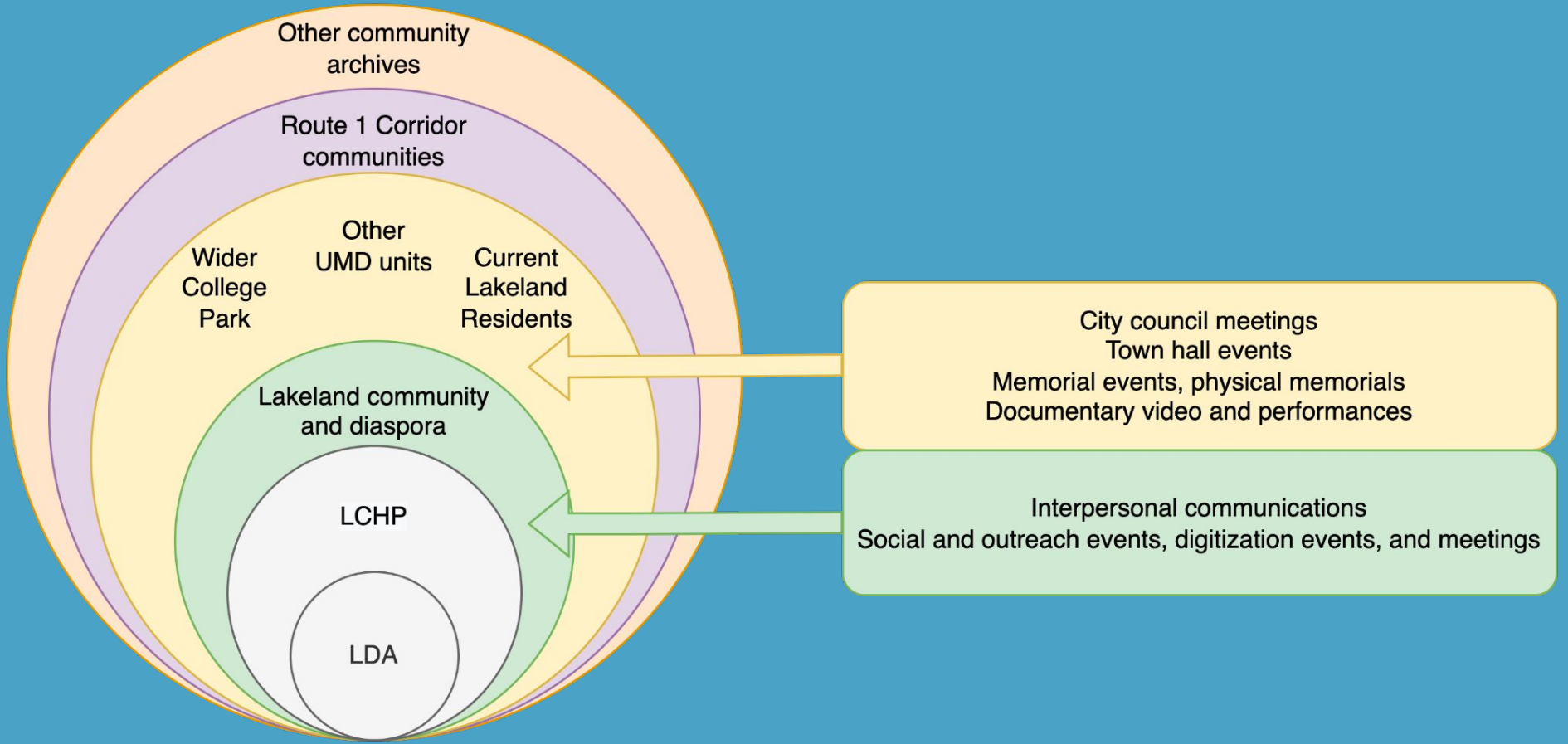

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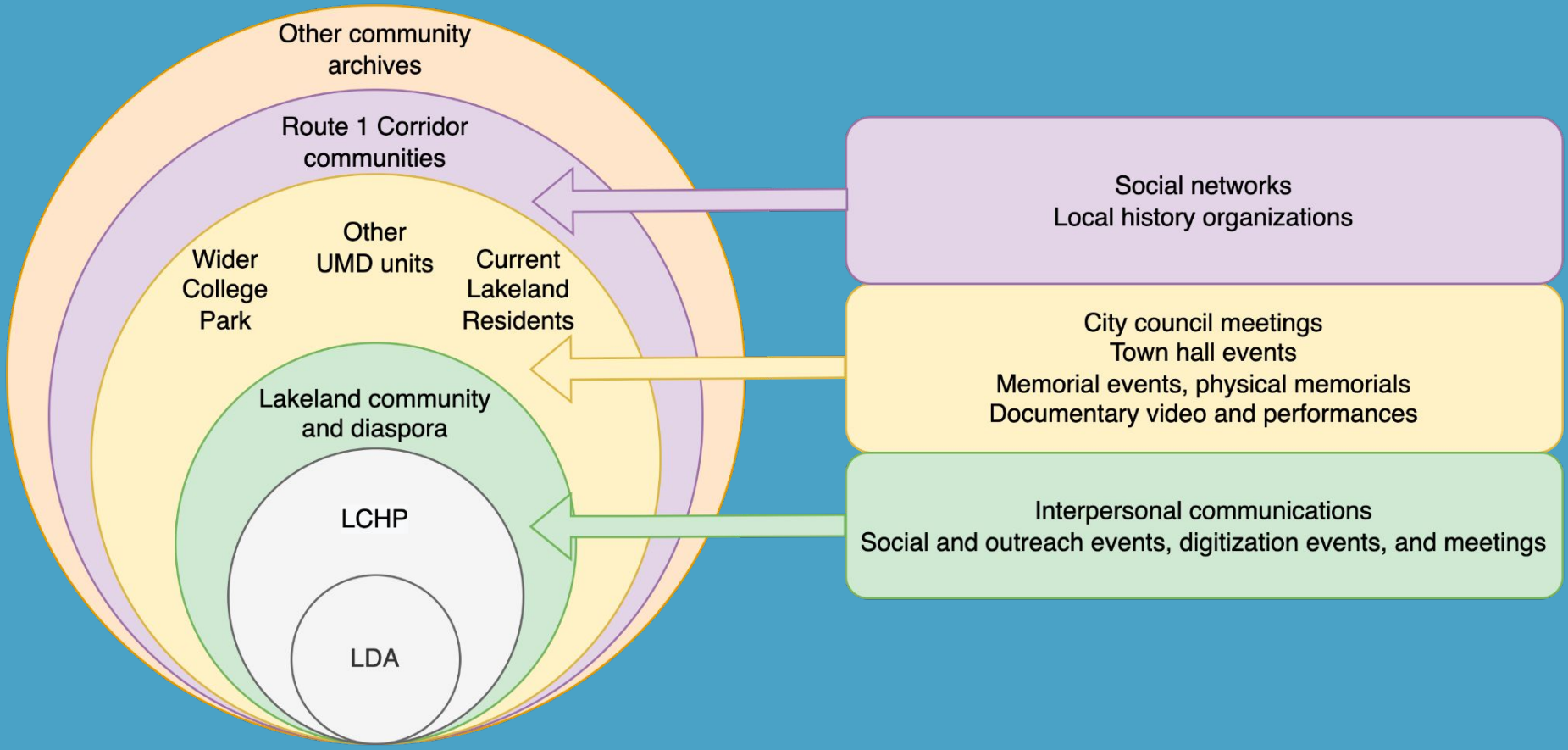

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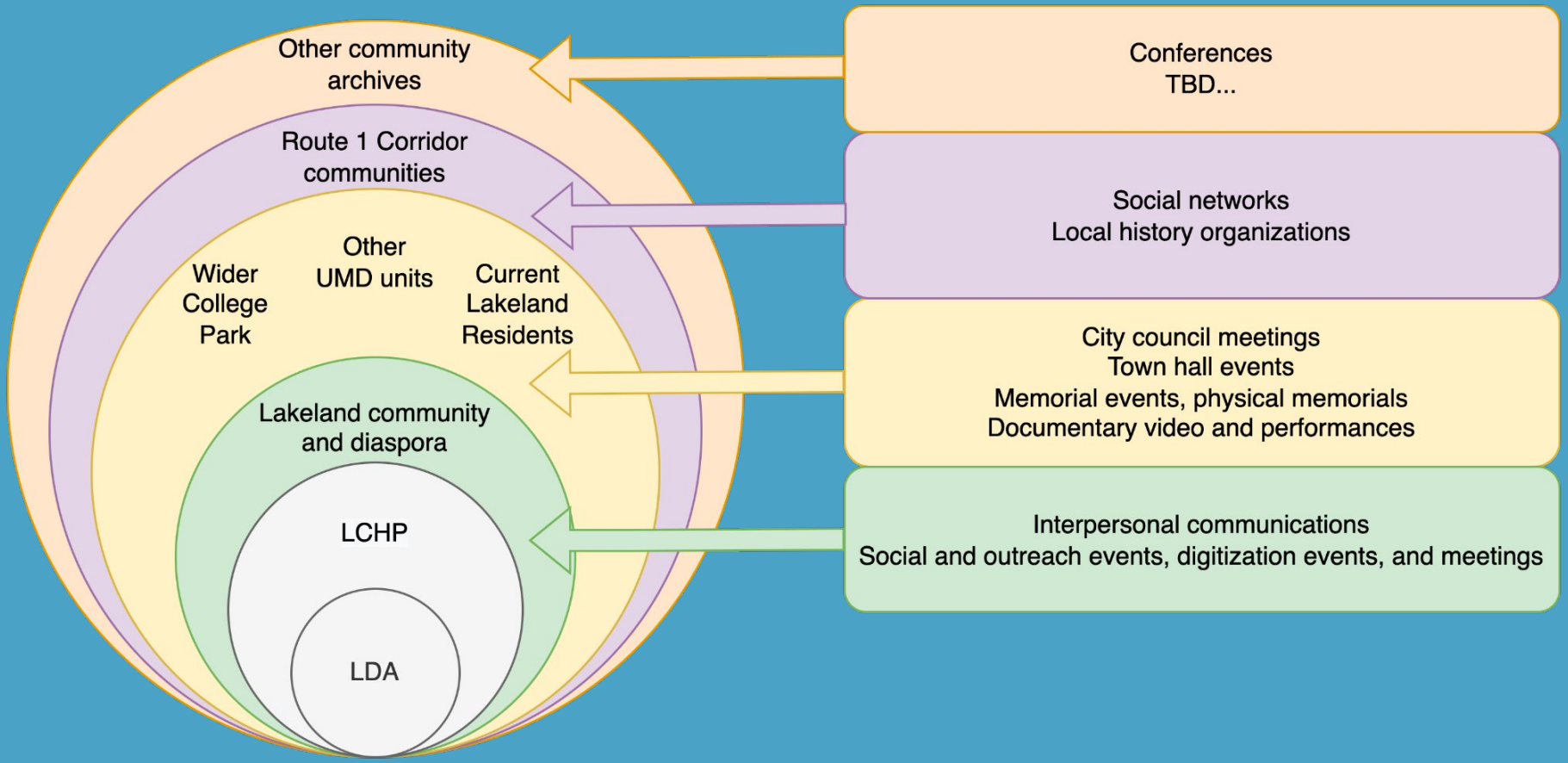
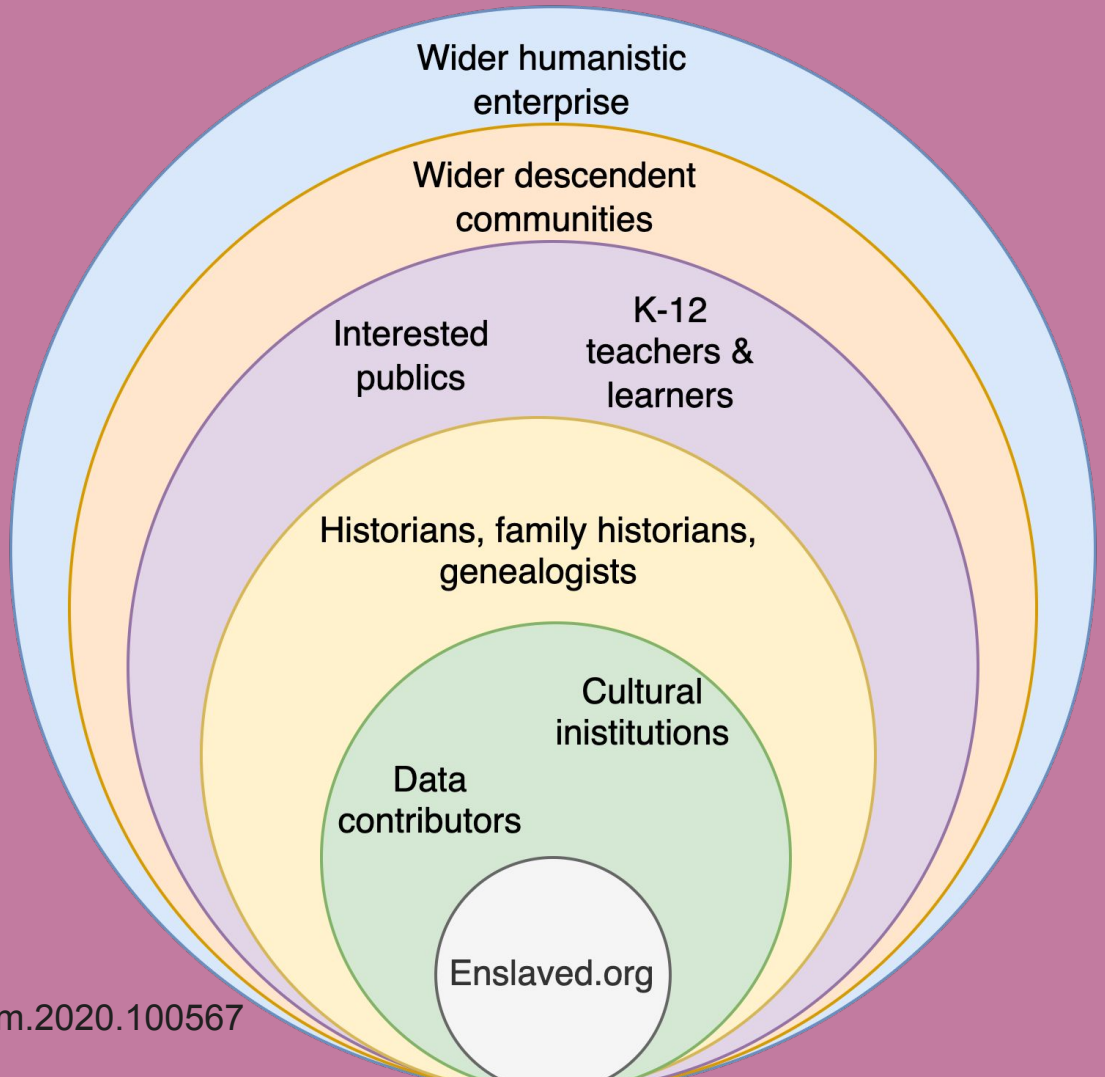


Zooming in on one specific workflow in **Enslaved.org** development:

Ontology construction




https://doi.org/10.1016/j.websem.2020.100567

## 2. Explore partnership as process vs. state

Vulnerabilities:

- Interpersonal and trust-based relationships among individuals
- Duration over time – happening over periods of years
- Expense in terms of human resources, social capital

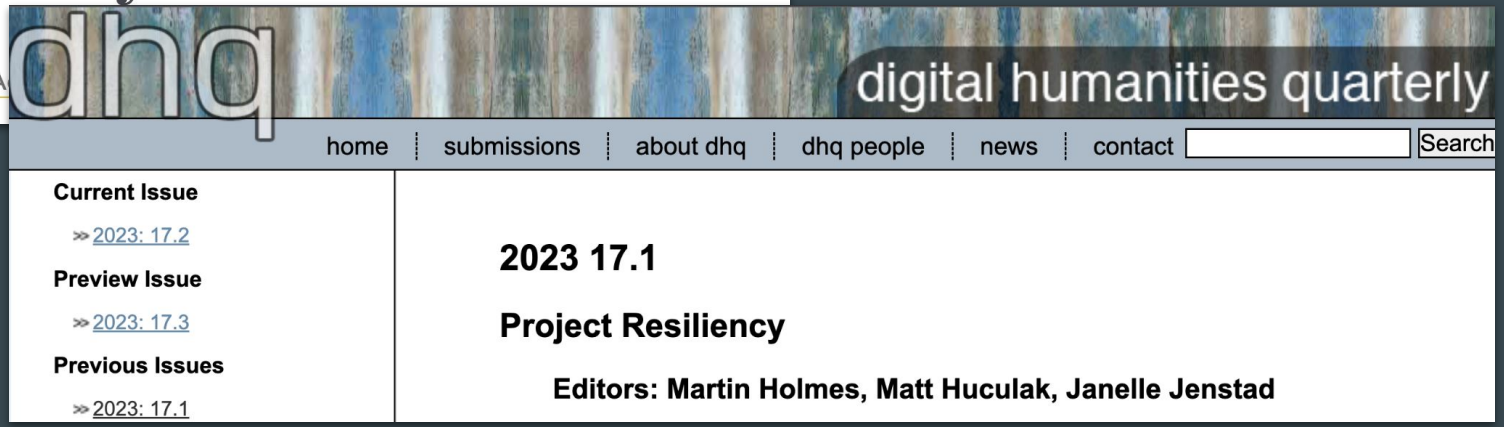
## 2. Explore partnership as process vs. state

- Build openings into technical protocols, standards, tools
- And, more importantly, into workflows, processes
-
- How can projects already doing the work connect you to communities?
-
- As community objectives evolve, outreach strategies evolve

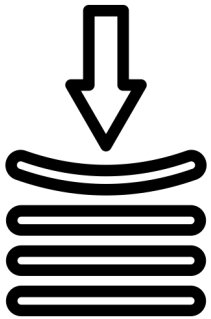
# Three objectives

1. Rethink community-institutional dichotomy
2. Explore partnership as process vs. state
3. **Introduce the concept of resilience**

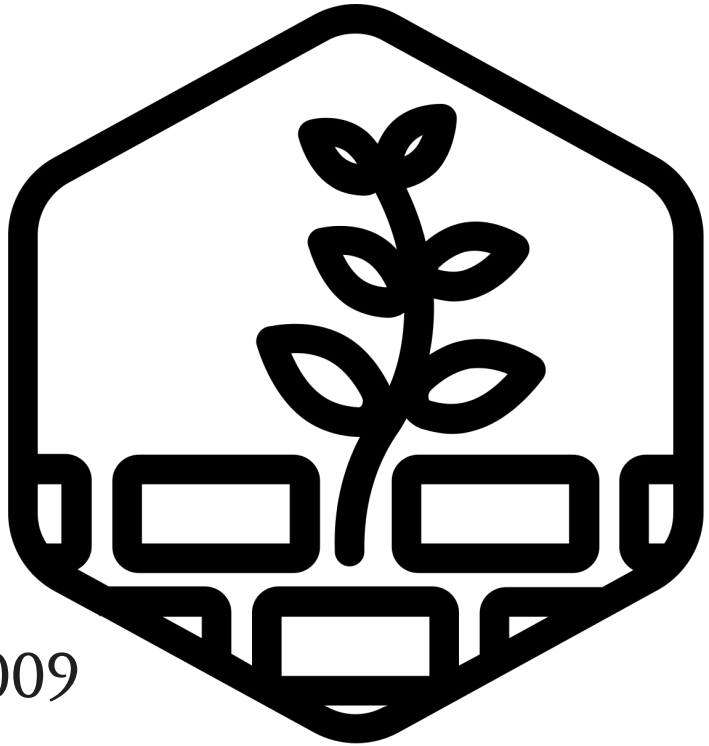
A concept from materials science, ecology, psychology, sustainable development, public health...

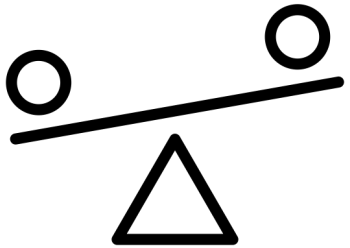


# Metaphors of Resilience



Created by Uswa KDT
from Noun Project

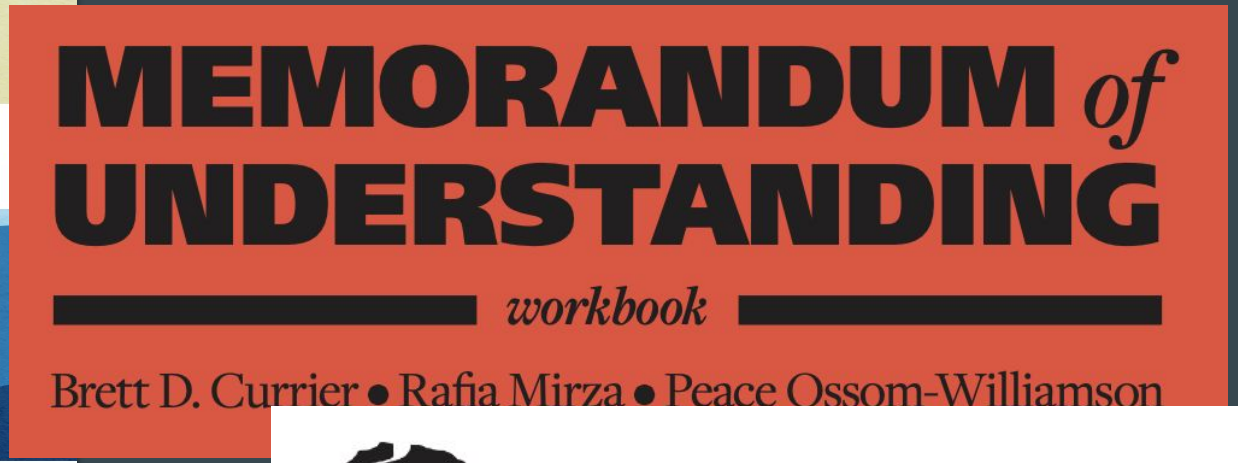




Created by Creative Studio
from Noun Project

Kirmayer et al. 2009

Many useful resources already out there...



https://educopia.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/CommunityCultivationFieldGuide.pdf
http://hdl.handle.net/10106/25651
https://guidelinesforcollaboration.info/

# What does the concept of resilience offer us?

-*Partnership* and *resilience* aren't characteristics, or static

-but dynamic, adaptive, **human** processes

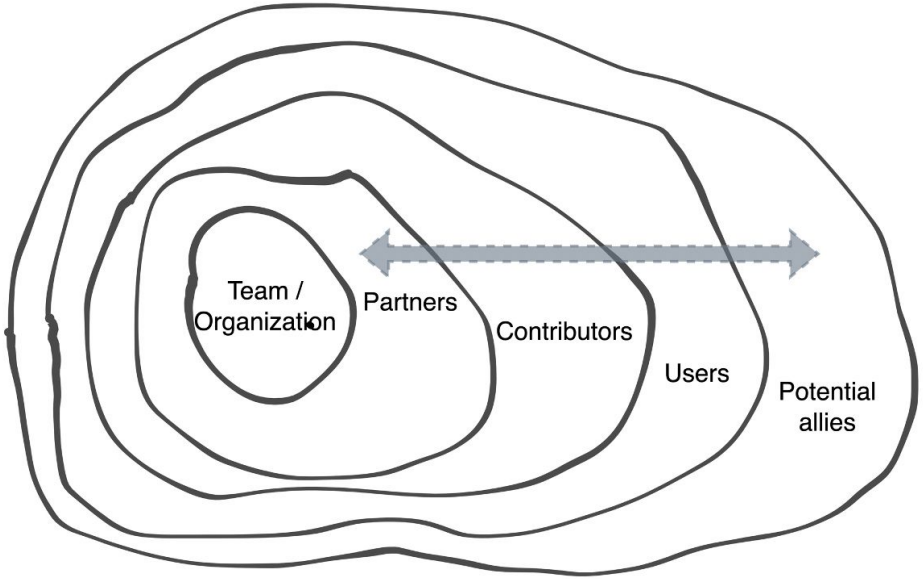
-enmeshed with cultural contexts

-which makes them resource-intensive

-and often at odds with institutional constraints

# What questions does *resilience* spark?

-From a community partner's perspective, where are you in this model?




-How do we draw people from the outside in?

## What questions does *resilience* spark?

-How can we make our partnerships resilient...

> to technical change, structural violence, the loss of individual allies, community and institutional shifts?

-Beyond “use”, what are your stakeholders’ real objectives? How does your work enable or constrain theirs?

-Where do communities appear in your workflows?

-Are standards and workflows adaptable? How are they intentional about the humanity of processes?

## Community-Centered Sustainability Factors

1. Engaging interested and affected communities
2. Wellbeing of individuals and communities
3. Reifying community values in organization and design
4. Navigating ownership and control
5. Implementing an ecosystem perspective
6. Embracing disruption and change