

WHV – Thimlich Ohinga

Thimlich Ohinga Archaeological Site, Kenya

Cultural property inscribed on the World Heritage list (2018)

PROJECT DATES

20 July - 27 July 2025

THE SITE - Situated north-west of the town of Migori, in the Lake Victoria region, this dry-stone walled settlement was probably built in the 16th century CE.) and seems to have served as a fort for communities and livestock, but also defined social entities and relationships linked to lineage. It is an exceptional example of the tradition of massive dry-stone walled enclosures, typical of the first pastoral communities in the Lake Victoria Basin, which persisted from the 16th to the mid-20th century.

OBJECTIVES - The project aims at educating and informing local communities on the needs to protect and conserve the site, and to promote inclusiveness and peace through providing opportunities for people to learn from each other's culture and heritage.

ACTIVITIES - Under the supervision of the site manager, after attending the technical training workshop on the art of brick laying and mortar placement the volunteers will be involved in the renovation and rehabilitation of the walls with the local community. They will support the organization of drawing and writing competitions around the theme of heritage and Thimlich Ohinga in schools, distribute leaflets to the public and engage them in interviews.

PARTNERS - National Museums of Kenya, Kenya National Commission for UNESCO, Kenya Forestry Service.

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