

Nigeria's Brazilian Quarters, The  
Mandate Of Preserving Public  
Monuments And The Issue Of  
Sustainable Development In Nigeria

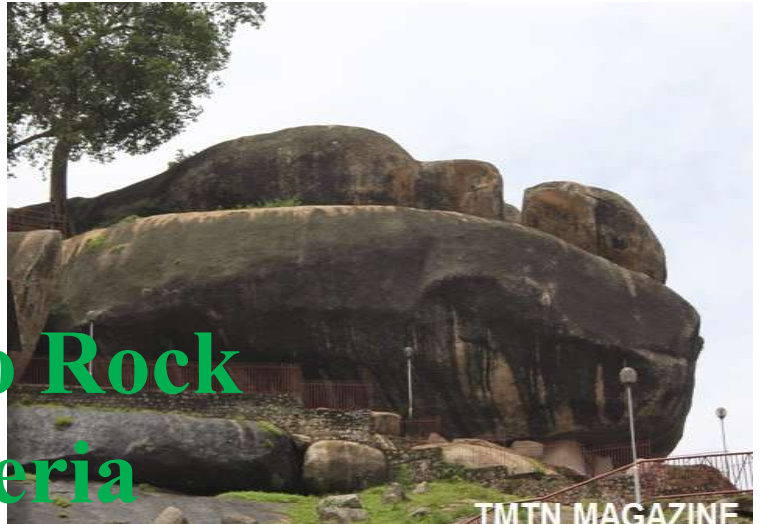
**-LOUISA NNENNA ONUOHA-**

## Monuments & Heritage Sites are:-

- Significant aspects of our cultural heritage as a people.
- Play important roles in the expansion of tourism.
- The most important attraction for travelers.



**Olumo Rock  
Nigeria**



TMTN MAGAZINE



**Osun Oshogbo  
Grove, Nigeria**



The Brazilian Quarters is located in Africa's largest port city of Lagos.

- Home to hundreds of Afro-Brazilian returnee slave families from Brazil.



These people brought with them among other things Brazilian food, lifestyle (carnivals etc.) and most importantly, Brazilian type architectures.









## These monuments are national monuments under the National Commission for Museums & Monuments

- Connects the people to certain social values, beliefs, religion & customs etc.
- Helps them to identify with others of similar mindsets & backgrounds.
- Provides an automatic sense of unity & belonging.
- Helps for a better understanding of previous generation.
- Helps them to remind them of their collective individual journeys immigration.
- It also has aesthetic significance





# CHALLENGES

- The splendor of afro Brazilian past is fast eroding.
- Stakeholders e.g. the museum have not been able to do much in its preservation.

Why?

- No strong existing legal back up for the museum to carry out its functions.
- The locals more often than not have no interest towards national heritage preservation.
- The people are afraid that their heritage belongs to them and may be taken away.

These buildings & what they represent must be saved from extinction

Why?

- They are tourist sites and can be a source of revenue generation for the country.
- Important National histories are attached to these quarters e.g. the owner of Water House, **Esan Da Rocha** is believed to be Nigeria's first millionaire.
- These buildings were a reflection of the new foundation of former slaves who became government officials and successful businessmen.



## What can be done?

- Awareness campaign.
- Programs that will help us to know these sites belongs to us all.

## Collaborations with -

- Locals.
- Corporate & International bodies.



# LEGAL BACK UP

- To help museums & other stakeholders to have access to the maintenance of monuments & heritage sites.
- An overall development strategy that will aid in the identification, protection & enhancements of monuments & sites for a sustainable development.

## IN SCHOOLS AND HOMES

- Heritage education should be developed in schools, infused into school curriculum and even informal schools.
- Children should be taught to practice the traditions & beliefs of ancestors.
- Should be passed on from generation to generation.

# FREE WILL

- Free will donations should be encouraged to advance the course of heritage protection.
- No one should be denied the pleasure of learning about his/her past and their roots as we have.

THANK YOU