

Honouring Singapore's Spirit of Care: FXMedia and SUSS Bring Social Service Heritage to Life in 3D

"Walking Through Invisible Histories", FXMedia and SUSS Launch Immersive Heritage Trail Honouring Singapore's Social Services Heroes with Digital Storytelling.

SINGAPORE, August 31, 2025
/EINPresswire.com/ -- In a significant
stride towards preserving and
celebrating the nation's social
development narrative, the Singapore
University of Social Sciences (SUSS), in
collaboration with the Ministry of Social
and Family Development (MSF), has
launched the Social Services Heritage



Minister for Social and Family Development Masagos Zulkifli speaking at the launch of the Social Services Heritage Trail on April 12.

<u>Trail</u>. This initiative commemorates the evolution of Singapore's social services sector, highlighting the contributions of pioneers and institutions that have shaped the nation into a compassionate and caring society.



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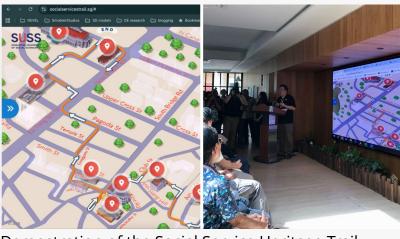
Dr Ho Chi Tim, Senior Lecturer SUSS

As covered by <u>The Straits Times</u>, the trail was first launched in April 2025 as part of the Year of Celebrating Social Service Professionals. The trail, spanning approximately 3 kilometers and encompassing 14 historical sites, offers both physical exploration and a web-based interactive experience. Backed by the Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS) and brought to life through the digital expertise of <u>FXMedia</u>, the Heritage Trail uses cutting-edge 3D visualisation technology to recreate key heritage sites, many of which are no longer physically accessible. Through a mix of immersive scenes, interactive maps, and archival storytelling, users can "walk through history" and explore

the milestones, movements, and individuals that have shaped Singapore's social sector.

"A solely physical walking trail does not enable one to see or touch artefacts concerning social services. Hence, from the start, the website FXMedia helped to develop is critical as it allows us to tell an engaging story via text, audiovisuals, and archival materials," said Dr Ho Chi Tim [][], Senior Lecturer (Core Learning) from College of Interdisciplinary & Experiential Learning, SUSS. "This trail not only preserves our rich social service history but also serves as an educational platform for future generations to understand and appreciate the sector's evolution."

The launch aligns with the government's designation of 2025 as the Year of Celebrating Social Service Professionals, recognizing the invaluable contributions of individuals in the sector. It also complements national efforts to integrate technology into heritage preservation, as outlined in initiatives like the Our SG Heritage



Demostration of the Social Service Heritage Trail during Launch



Telok Ayer Street

Heritage Trail

Telok Ayer Street is a historic street located in the Chinatown district of Singapore. Known for its rich cultural heritage, the street is lined with traditional shophouses, temples, and modern buildings. It was once a bustling hub for the maritime industry, with the name "Telok Ayer" meaning "bay water" in Malay, referencing its proximity to the sea. Today, Telok Ayer Street is a vibrant area, popular for its mix of restaurants, cafes, and cultural landmarks, offering a glimpse into Singapore's early trading history.





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Example of the 3D models for Telor Ayer Street, one of the 14 Historical Sites in the Civic District and Chinatow

Plan 2.0, which emphasizes innovation in engaging audiences with Singapore's rich history.

FXMedia, a Singapore-based digital solutions agency, played a pivotal role in bringing the trail to life. Leveraging advanced 3D modeling and interactive design, FXMedia developed the digital platform accessible at https://socialservicestrail.sg, ensuring a seamless and engaging user experience across devices.

"Our goal was to harness technology to make Singapore's social service history accessible and engaging, allowing users to connect with the past in a meaningful way. This wasn't just about creating another website; it was about using technology to make history tangible and human stories visible," said Joeie Oon, Co-Founder of FXMedia. "We wanted people to feel like they were walking alongside pioneers, seeing what they saw, and understanding the context of their service to society. This is where technology can truly deepen connection."

Accessible at https://socialservicestrail.sg, the Key Features of the Social Services Heritage Trail include:

☐ Immersive 3D Visualizations: Digitally reconstructed heritage sites offering virtual
walkthroughs.
☐ Interactive Trail Map: Guided exploration of 14 significant locations tied to the social services
sector.
☐ Multimedia Content: Archival photos, oral histories, and videos providing in-depth insights.
☐ Educational Resources: Materials designed for schools and social work programs to facilitate
learning.
Mobile-Friendly: Experience designed to be guided with mobile for both virtual and on-site trail
use

- From Launch to Legacy: FXMedia's Role in Story Preservation -

FXMedia's involvement extended beyond development; their team collaborated with researchers, incorporated feedback during public walkthroughs, and remained on-call leading up to the launch.

"The experience was excellent," said the SUSS team. "FXMedia was diligent, responsive, and went the extra mile to ensure we launched smoothly. We're already in discussions for Phase 2."

"As Singapore celebrates SG60, we're proud to support a project that reminds us that national progress is rooted in community care," said Mark Wong, Director at FXMedia. "We see technology as a bridge, one that can preserve, humanise, and amplify stories that might otherwise fade."

This collaboration is part of FXMedia's growing track record in developing immersive educational and heritage projects in Singapore. The agency has worked with public institutions and universities to create experiential platforms that bridge the gap between tradition and innovation.

- Trail Highlights & Forward Plans -

Launched: 12 April 2025, officiated by Minister Masagos Zulkifli

Microsite: https://socialservicestrail.sg

Trail scope: ~3 km through 14 significant sites

Next phase: In planning, includes content expansion, updated digital routes, and broader

outreach

About the Social Service Heritage Trail

The Social Service Heritage Trail aims to honour Singapore's social service pioneers, document key historical developments, and educate the public on the importance of social work in nation-

building. Backed by MSF and SUSS and developed in collaboration with FXMedia, the trail is both a physical route and a fully digital experience.

As reported in The Straits Times: "New heritage trail commemorates social services sector, documents its evolution"

Project Website: https://socialservicestrail.sg

About FXMedia

FXMedia is a leading immersive technology company specializing in Virtual Reality (VR), Augmented Reality (AR), Mixed Reality (MR), and Al-powered solutions. With a strong focus on education, training, and digital transformation, FXMedia continues to drive cutting-edge innovations that enhance learning and operational efficiency. https://www.fxmweb.com/

About SUSS

The Singapore University of Social Sciences (SUSS) is dedicated to lifelong learning and applied education, focusing on social development and community engagement. Through initiatives like the Social Services Heritage Trail, SUSS contributes to documenting and advancing Singapore's social narrative.

https://www.suss.edu.sg/

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