

JACOB TORKELSON

cultural landscapes + preservation + history of public lands

CONTACT

jwtorkelson@gmail.com
651.269.9271

512 Woodland Ter
Philadelphia, PA 19104

AWARDS

Faculty Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement
University of Pennsylvania
2019

Albert Binder Memorial Fellowship
University of Pennsylvania
2018-2019

Jane Marrow Fellowship for the Study of Cultural Landscapes
University of Pennsylvania
2017-2019

King Medal for Excellence in Architectural and Environmental Research
Architectural Research Centers Consortium (ARCC)
2017

Robert J. and Barbara P. Odegard Fellowship for Cross-Disciplinary Research in Design
University of Minnesota
2016-2017

AFFILIATIONS

- Vernacular Architecture Forum
- Society of Architectural Historians
- The Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation
- The George Wright Forum
- American Society of Landscape Architects

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www.jwtorkelson.com

Jacob is a project manager and emerging scholar at the Urban Heritage Project, a research initiative of the University of Pennsylvania. His portfolio includes research, documentation, preservation, and community engagement projects related to national parks throughout the United States. He is trained as an architect, historian, and preservation planner. Before joining the Urban Heritage Project team, he worked at Redwood National Park and served as a ranger exploring the mountains of northern New Mexico.

PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

14 cultural landscape projects completed in **8** national parks and **7** states, totaling over **2,300** pages that document park history, engage with stakeholders, and identify future preservation & interpretive opportunities on public lands

EXPERIENCE

PENN PRAXIS, UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA 2019 - PRESENT
Research Associate, Urban Heritage Project + Center for the Preservation of Civil Rights Sites (CPCRS)
Philadelphia, PA

Primary author and researcher preparing cultural landscape documentation regarding the history of landscapes from pre-history to present for the National Park Service. Duties include community outreach, condition assessments, documentation efforts (including geospatial mapping and data collection), and providing recommendations for preservation treatments.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE - NORTHEAST REGION 2018-2019
Historical Consultant
Yorktown, VA

Consultant for the National Park Service authoring historical reports using archival research, podcasts, and innovative interpretive methods. Researched and worked within local communities to bring to light underrepresented narratives of the displaced African American community of Slabtown.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE - REDWOOD NATIONAL PARK Summer 2018
Cultural Resources Intern
Orick, CA

PHILMONT SCOUT RANCH Summers 2015-2017
Supervisory Ranger
Cimarron, NM

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA 2019
Master of Science in Historic Preservation
Emphases: Landscape Preservation, Public History

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA 2017
Bachelor of Science in Architecture
Summa cum laude with distinction
Emphases: Historic Preservation, Landscape Design + Planning

BIOS

<https://www.design.upenn.edu/pennpraxis/people/jacob-torkelson>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/jacob-torkelson/>

PORTFOLIO

www.jwtorkelson.com

SKILLS

Software

- ArcGIS & Collector
- Adobe InDesign, Illustrator, Photoshop, Bridge
- AutoCAD
- Database Softwares (including ArchivesSpace, Microsoft Access, and PastPerfect)
- Rhino 3D + Google Sketchup

Professional Knowledge

- Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Treatment of Historic Properties
- Cultural Landscape Reports
- National Register of Historic Places
- HABS/HAER/HALS Guidelines
- NHPA (Section 106 and 110)
- NEPA
- Chicago Manual of Style & the Editorial Process

Certifications

- 36 CFR Part 61 Architectural History & History

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SELECTED PUBLICATIONS, & EXHIBITIONS

Skyline Drive Cultural Landscape Report

2023 (Ongoing) // Shenandoah National Park, VA

Project Lead/Primary Author

Client: National Park Service, Northeast Region

Camp Round Meadow Cultural Landscape Report

2023 (Ongoing) // Catoctin Mountain Park, MD

Project Lead/Primary author

Client: National Park Service, National Capital Region

Arlington House Cultural Landscape Report

2023 (Ongoing) // Washington, DC

Mapping Lead/Contributor

Client: National Park Service, National Capital Region

Lewis Mountain Cultural Landscape Report

2021-2023 // Shenandoah National Park, VA

Project Manager/Primary Author

Client: National Park Service, Shenandoah National Park

Camps Misty Mount & Greentop Cultural Landscape Report

2020-2022 // Catoctin Mountain Park, MD

Project Lead: Documentation, Mapping, Existing Conditions Assessment

Client: National Park Service, National Capital Region

Lincoln Memorial Cultural Landscape Inventory

2020-2022 // National Mall and Memorial Parks, DC

Project Lead: Documentation, Mapping, Existing Conditions Assessment

Client: National Park Service, National Capital Region

Anacostia Park Cultural Landscape Inventory

2019-2020 // Washington, DC

Project Lead/Primary Author

Client: National Park Service, National Capital Region

Titanic Memorial Park Cultural Landscape Inventory

2020 // Washington, DC

Project Lead/Primary Author

Client: National Park Service, National Capital Region

Fort Drive: Slocum to Totten Cultural Landscape Inventory

2020 // Washington, DC

Project Lead/Primary author

Client: National Park Service, National Capital Region

Marion Park Cultural Landscape Inventory

2020 // Washington, DC

Project Lead/Primary author

Client: National Park Service, National Capital Region

Vernacular Architecture Forum Guidebook: Landscapes of Succession

2019 // Philadelphia, PA

Co-Author/Co-Editor for Northeast Philadelphia Tours

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SELECTED PUBLICATIONS, & EXHIBITIONS (cont.)

Issue 8.2 LGBTQ Heritage

2019 // Change Over Time Journal

Editorial Assistant

<https://cotjournal.com/category/8-2-lgbtq-heritage/>

Master's Thesis + Descendant Outreach: Race, Displacement, and Preservation at Slabtown + Yorktown Battlefield

2019 // Colonial National Historical Park, VA

https://repository.upenn.edu/hp_theses/666/

*Recipient of the Faculty Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement

'The Embattled University': Student Protest + Planning in the 1960s and 1970s

2017 Exhibition + Latin Honors Thesis // Minneapolis, MN

<https://conservancy.umn.edu/handle/11299/188052>

*Recipient of the King Medal for Excellence in Architectural and Environmental Research; on display at the University of Minnesota: Summer 2017-2019

SELECTED TALKS, CONFERENCE PAPERS, TEACHING

MANAGING CHANGE AT RUSTIC CAMPS: Applying Non-traditional Cultural Landscape Preservation Methods at Lewis Mountain, Shenandoah National Park

2023 // Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation 2023, Richmond, Virginia

Within Putting Distance: Golf, Segregation, and Competing Preservation Ideologies at Yorktown Battlefield, Virginia

2022 // Vernacular Architecture Forum 2022, San Antonio, Texas

Landscape Architecture Design Studio: Lewis Mountain — Interpreting the Legacy of Racial Segregation in Shenandoah National Park

2022 // North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC

Client, Critic, and Cultural Landscape Expert for studio reviews

Professor Kofi Boone

Catoctin Mountain Cabin Camps: Planning for the Future of the Rustic

2022 // Spotlight on National Park Resources in the National Capital

Region, National Park Service (Virtual)

Co-authors: Randall Mason, Molly Lester

The Practice of Cultural Landscape Preservation

2019, 2021, 2022 // University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Professor Randall Mason, Cultural Landscape Preservation

Invited Lecture on Cultural Landscape Practices and Opportunities

Post-Reconstruction Landscape Preservation, Race, and Myth-Making

2019 // University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN

Professor Katherine Solomonson, Architectural History since 1750

Invited Lecture on Free Black Settlement and Preservation in Virginia