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## Chelsey Johnson, M.A.

#### Architectural Historian

# National Park Service Professional Qualification:

- Architectural Historian
- Historian

Office Location: Tennessee

#### **Contact Information:**

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cmjohnson@crai-ky.com

# **Specific Duties:**

- Architectural Historian
- Report Preparation
- Archival Research and Field Documentation
- Development and Design of Interpretive Materials

# **Education and Training:**

- M.A., History: Public History M.A., Appalachian Studies: Culture and Music Appalachian State University, Boone, NC
- B.A., Computer Science/Mathematics, Maryville College, Maryville, TN

## **Experience Summary Information**

#### **Architectural Historian**

Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. November 2021 - present

# In These Mountains: Central Appalachian Folk Arts and Culture Fellow

South Arts and Appalachian State University, 2019-2020

#### **Research Assistant**

Center for Appalachian Studies, Appalachian State University 2019

Chelsey Johnson is an architectural historian with extensive experience in archival research, documentary fieldwork, and oral history. She is highly skilled in research, writing, and qualitative and quantitative analysis methods, bringing a diverse professional and educational background to complement her training in historic preservation. As an architectural historian, she has led a wide variety of contracted projects for CRA, including numerous complex Section 106 and Section 110 reports, as well as public-facing documents and resources such as historic contexts and interpretive materials. Chelsey's responsibilities include planning and leading field surveys, determining appropriate levels of documentation and evaluation for properties, designing and implementing research strategies using digital and physical resources and repositories, developing historic contexts, and preparing technical reports that provide summary findings and recommendations.

Chelsey holds Master of Arts degrees in History and Appalachian Studies from Appalachian State University. Her graduate research focused on the material culture and vernacular architecture of Southern and Central Appalachia, as well as historic and contemporary folk traditions and foodways of the region.

## **Additional Training and Certifications:**

• Eastern Log Preservation Workshop, National Park Service Historic Preservation Training Center, March 2024.

One-week course including extensive hands-on education with traditional log hewing methods, assessment of material integrity of existing log structures, identifying problem areas, and developing treatment plans specific to resource type and environmental setting.

- Licensed Commercial Small UAS (Drone) Pilot, November 2023.
- North Carolina Historic Preservation Office: Consultant's Workshop, November 2022.
- Advisory Council on Historic Preservation: Section 106 Essentials, September 2022.
- Red Cross Bloodborne Pathogens Training, October 2023.
- Adult First Aid. CPR. and AED. August 2021.

### **Selected Projects:**

- Town of Martin (Floyd County, Kentucky) Nonstructural Flood Risk Protection Project Mitigation. Lead Author/Architectural Historian. Conducted oral histories with residents of Martin as well as a community photo sourcing project. Researched, authored, and designed a set of public-facing deliverables commemorating the history of Martin, including two interpretive signs, a history booklet, and a calendar. Developed a thorough historic context for Commercial Centers in Eastern Kentucky, 1900-1970, which involved field study across 13 counties in the Eastern Mountain region. Context targeted a wide public audience and focused on the historical patterns of commerce, development, and commercial architecture in the region. Prepared for the USACE, 2023–2024.
- Historic Architecture Assessment and Effects Assessment for the East Knoxville Greenway, Knox County, TN. Lead Architectural Historian. Project required documentation and evaluation of a wide variety of complex properties associated with Black history in Knoxville, including a large collection of fraternal cemeteries, educational, recreational, religious, and residential resources, and a proposed historic district which reflects the destructive impact of mid-20th century urban renewal projects in Knoxville. Additionally, the APE included two additional large cemeteries reflecting aspects of Knoxville's 19th century settlement and social history, both of which were recommended eligible, as well as a listed 43-acre former nursery with numerous contributing landscape features. Evaluation required establishment of historic contexts for urban renewal in Knoxville, Black social history in East Knoxville, and as well as the development of public cemeteries in the nineteenth century. Prepared for TDOT, 2024.
- Historic Architecture Assessment and Effects Assessment for Proposed Pedestrian
  Improvements in Nashville, Davidson County, TN. Lead Architectural Historian. Project required
  documentation and evaluation of numerous previously unsurveyed Vanderbilt University resources,
  four of which were recommended eligible, as well as an individually-listed Vanderbilt resource and a
  large NHL within the campus. Report also required development of a historic context for the
  development of the music industry and associated housing around Nashville's Music Row in the
  mid-twentieth century. Prepared for TDOT, 2023.
- Historic Architecture Assessment and Effects Assessment for Proposed Pedestrian Improvements in Memphis, Shelby County, TN. Lead Architectural Historian. Project required development of a historic context for the Binghampton neighborhood, a historically Black and blue-collar neighborhood that became a center for mid-twentieth century labor and civil rights activism in Memphis. Prepared for TDOT, 2023.
- Historic Architecture Assessment and Effects Assessment for Proposed Wilbur Bridge Replacement, Carter County, TN. Lead Architectural Historian. Project required documentation and evaluation of two NRHP-listed or -eligible dams: Wilbur Dam, an important pre-TVA hydroelectric project in Tennessee, and Watauga Dam, one of the early major TVA hydroelectric projects in the Upper Holston System. Prepared for TVA, 2023.
- Historic Architecture Assessment and Effects Assessment for the Proposed State Industrial Access Project, Loudon County, TN. Lead Architectural Historian. Project required intensive documentation and evaluation of a circa 1857 residence and farmstead, recommended eligible. Prepared for TDOT, 2023.
- Historic Architecture Assessment and Effects Assessment for the Proposed Stone House Demolition, Appalachian Fruit Research Station, Jefferson County, WV. Lead Architectural Historian. Project required intensive documentation of a circa 1785 stone residence which was recommended eligible, and development of a context for late-eighteenth century residences in the Northern Neck area, present-day West Virginia. Prepared for the USDA, 2022.
- Historic Architecture Assessment and Effects Assessment for the Proposed Downtown Nolensville Street Improvements (PIN 128638.00). Lead Architectural Historian. Project required documentation and evaluation of the historic core of Nolensville, an early Middle Tennessee town, with a special focus on late eighteenth-century cabins that were later enlarged as the town grew and prospered. Prepared for Kimley-Horn in accordance with Tennessee Department of Transportation specifications, 2022.
- Mitigation for the Replacement of Bridge Number 67 on US 25/70 over the French
  Broad River in Madison County, NC. Lead Architectural Historian tasked with bridge recordation
  and preparation of archival materials to North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources
  specifications. Prepared for NCDOT, 2022.
- Historic Architecture Assessment and Effects Assessment for the Proposed Sevierville
   Parkway Rehabilitation, Sevier County, TN. Lead Architectural Historian. Project required
   documentation of the majority of the historic commercial core of Sevierville, an early Tennessee town
   of moderate size. Evaluation led to the recommendation of four early twentieth-century properties as

- eligible for association with and as representative examples of the work of an early Black-owned construction firm in East Tennessee. Prepared for CDM Smith in accordance with TDOT specifications, 2022.
- Historic Architecture Assessment and Effects Assessment for the Proposed Brickyard Park Bicycle-Pedestrian Bridge in Kingsport, Sullivan County, Tennessee. Lead Architectural Historian. Project required documentation and evaluation of much of the historic core of downtown Kingsport, one of the earliest planned cities in America, including the NRHP-listed 1916 Clinchfield Rail Station. Prepared for Mattern & Craig in accordance with TDOT specifications, 2022.
- Historic Architecture Assessment and Effects Assessment for the Proposed SR-11 (Horton Highway) Bridge Replacement in Williamson County, Tennessee. Lead Architectural Historian. Project development of a historic context for Tourist- and Community-Oriented Resources in the small rural community of Kirkland, where Black business leaders developed a complex of services serving locals as well as Black travelers on the route from Nashville to Birmingham, including an early Blacksmith shop and tavern that evolved to become a *Green Book*-listed service station and cafe. Prepared for TDOT, 2022.
- Historic Architecture Assessment and Effects Assessment for Replacement of the Wildersville Road Bridge over I-40 in Henderson County, Tennessee. Lead Architectural Historian. Project required documentation, evaluation, and effects assessment for an NRHP-listed Civil War battlefield. Prepared for TDOT, 2022.