

W Wilson West

PhD CAHP

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Summary of Qualifications

Dr. Wilson West is a heritage preservation specialist with over 30 years of professional experience as a historian, archaeologist, curator, researcher, policy advisor and heritage preservation consultant. These positions were held within many levels of government and in the private sector in Canada and the United States.

Education

- 2003 Doctor of Philosophy in Naval & Military History
University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama
- 1985 Master of Arts in History
East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina
- 1974 Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology/Archaeology
East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina

Professional Experience

Current

WestHall Heritage Research & Consulting (WHRC), Toronto, Ontario

Principal Consultant

- WHRC provides heritage resource management services to federal, provincial, state and local agencies, and the private sector, in Canada and the United States
- WHRC offers heritage preservation planning guidance of all types, including research, documentation, analysis and policy and program development for the management of significant cultural resources
- WHRC has extensive experience preparing cultural heritage evaluations required for compliance with the *Ontario Heritage Act*, including, but not limited to, Heritage Impact Assessments, Cultural Heritage Evaluation Reports and Strategic Conservation Plans
- WHRC has researched and written Heritage Impact Assessments related to development proposals in Oakville and Brampton, Ontario

2017-2018

Letourneau Heritage Consulting, Kingston, Ontario

Senior Historian

- Project Lead for the Development of a Strategic Conservation Plan for Ontario Place
- Co-Project Lead for the development of a Heritage Impact Assessment related to development proposals in the Village of Brooklin, Ontario
- Historical research and evaluation
- Writing and editing of cultural heritage management reports
- Technical support to senior staff and project managers

2014-2016

Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport, Toronto, Ontario

Culture Services Advisor/Cultural Consultant

- Project Lead for the development and implementation of a Compliance Monitoring & Reporting Framework (CMRF) for the *Standards & Guidelines for Conservation of Provincial Heritage Properties (S&Gs)*
- Developed quantitative and qualitative compliance metrics, based on performance objectives, outcomes and indicators

- Organized and facilitated consultations with stakeholders on CMRF implementation plan
- Designed and prepared report content for submission to the Management Board of Cabinet on S&G implementation and compliance
- Prepared briefing materials for senior management on the reporting and approvals process
- Provided expert advice and review of ministry-required cultural heritage assessment reports for Huronia Historical Parks, Ft. William Historical Park, Niagara Parks Commission and the Lake Superior National Marine Conservation Area

2007-2012

Office of the Fairness Commissioner, Toronto, Ontario

Policy/Program Advisor

- Advised on the implementation of the legislation, associated regulations and reporting requirements under the Fair Access to Regulated Professions Act (FARPA 2006)
- Developed and managed relationships with a portfolio of professional regulatory bodies and liaised with government ministries and other stakeholders on issues related to professional regulatory practices in Ontario
- Prepared and presented findings, reports and supporting documents for approval for proposed project/program initiatives

2005-2007

Ministry of Culture, Toronto, Ontario

Policy Advisor

- Project Lead for the development and implementation of guidelines and regulations for the protection of marine heritage resources under the Ontario Heritage Act
- Organized and facilitated stakeholder consultations related to site selection, licensing, and other regulatory controls involving federal, provincial, territorial, and local agencies and interested parties. Made site recommendations to senior management and the Minister
- This work resulted in O. Reg. 11/06, establishing Ontario's first marine protected areas for the wreck sites of the USS *Hamilton* and USS *Scourge*, and the SS *Edmund Fitzgerald*

2003-2004

U.S. Coast Guard, Portsmouth, VA

Atlantic Area Command Historian

- Established the first Atlantic Area Command Historian's Office (a satellite office of the Coast Guard Chief Historian)
- Identified, collected, and compiled documents and oral history interviews necessary to preserve and interpret the history of the Atlantic Area Command

2001 - 2003

Save Ontario Shipwrecks, Toronto, Ontario

Director, Central Region & President, Toronto Chapter

- Save Ontario Shipwrecks (SOS) is a provincial heritage (all-volunteer) organization dedicated to the study, preservation, and promotion of marine heritage
- Worked with Chapters members on a variety preservation projects including, a mooring buoy program, historical and archival research, and underwater archaeological investigations
- Organized, hosted, and facilitated internationally recognized diver training courses through the Ontario Ministry of Culture and the Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS-UK)
- Met with policy advisors at the Ontario Ministry of Culture to discuss pending and future changes to the Ontario Heritage Act regarding the protection of submerged heritage resources

2000 - 2001

Civil War Preservation Trust, Washington, DC

Heritage Resources Management Planner/TEA-21 Specialist,

- Under contract with the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) to prepare, for submission to various state transportation departments, applications for funding through the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21)
- Worked with federal, state, and local government agencies and organizations to research and identify lands for acquisition, either through fee simple purchase or conservation easements
- Participated in a conference workshop and panel discussion forum for the dissemination of TEA-21 methodology to the public

1996 - 1997

Alabama Historical Commission, Montgomery, AL

Heritage Resources Management Planner

- Under contract with the Alabama Historical Commission researched and wrote a resource management plan entitled, *The Battle for Mobile Bay Cultural Resources Management Plan*
- Worked with federal, state, and local property owners and non-profit organizations to identify and select significant battle sites for protection
- Conducted extensive research on the Civil War in Mobile Bay, and included the compilation of data on shipwreck sites, assessment of threats to these sites, and preservation strategies

1995 - 1996

Ocean Sciences Research Institute (OSRI), Denver, CO. & Maritime Heritage Program, National Park Service, Washington, DC

Heritage Resources Management Planner

- Under contract with Ocean Sciences Research Institute, researched and wrote a draft nomination to the National Register of Historic Places for the wreck site of USS *San Diego*, ARC-6
- Site nominated to the Register 2/1998. Under contract with the Maritime Heritage Program, researched and wrote preliminary drafts of National Historic Landmark (NHL) nominations for the wreck sites of USS *Tecumseh* and USS *Hatteras*

1994 - 1995

U. S. Navy & National Park Service, Washington, DC

Heritage Resources Management Planner

- Under contract with the Naval Historical Center and the Maritime Heritage Program (NPS) designed, researched and wrote a resource management plan entitled, *The USS Tecumseh Shipwreck Management Plan*
- Worked with federal, state, and local agencies and non-profit organizations to coordinate site evaluation, interpretation, and protection
- Developed options and recommendations for the continued protection and preservation of the wreck site Responsible for media inquiries concerning the history and disposition of the vessel

1989 - 1994

House Library, Office of the Clerk, U. S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC

Senior Researcher/Assistant Librarian

- Assisted Members of Congress and their staffs with research related to the legislative histories of bills and public and private laws. Provided research assistance for the Office of the Clerk related to the administration of the House
- Maintained the library's collection of documents including public laws, statutes, bills, House and Senate committee reports, and the Congressional Record
- Oversaw the yearly process of binding of the Congressional Record for library use and archival storage
- Answered public inquiries related to all aspects of the history and operation of Congress

1983 - 1989

**Hampton Roads Naval Museum, Norfolk, VA; Submarine Force Library and Museum, Groton, CT;
Naval War College Museum, Newport, RI**

Director/Curator/Assistant Curator

- Responsible for directing staff and volunteers in the planning, design, and fabrication of permanent and temporary museum exhibits related to the history of the U.S. Navy in Virginia, Rhode Island, and Connecticut
- Conducted general research and writing on naval history and ship construction, and the more particular research associated with the thorough documentation of the regional naval establishment
- Maintained museum collections database and provided professional assessment and evaluations of prospective acquisitions
- Wrote reports involving in-depth research and recommendations concerning disposition of the collection
- Held Secret clearance from 1985-1989

Selected Speaking Engagements

Dr. West has presented at heritage conferences and stakeholder engagement meetings nationally and internationally. He was also a resident expert to The History Channel program "Deep Sea Detectives" on the Battle of Mobile Bay, the loss of the USS *Tecumseh*.

Selected Reports and Publications

Dr. West has written reports and published on subjects as diverse as regulatory compliance monitoring, cultural heritage resource management, submerged archaeological site management, and annual and quarterly reports, among others.

Professional Memberships

Member – Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals

Member - North American Society for Oceanic History

Member - Canadian Nautical Research Society

Fellow International - The Explorers Club – Canadian Chapter

Member – The Arts & Letters Club of Toronto

Additional Training

Ontario Ministry of Labour – *Worker Health and Safety Awareness*

St. John Ambulance Canada – *Creating a Safe Workplace*

St. John Ambulance Canada – *Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System 2015*

St. John Ambulance Canada – *Standard First Aid – CPR C – AED*

OPS Innovation & Leadership Course: *The Circle Game – 360 Evaluations that Support Policy and Program*

OPS Centre for Leadership and Learning Course: *Conflict Resolution*