

ROBERT KURTZ

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

May 2023 -June 2025

City of Corpus Christi

Corpus Christi, TX

Spearhead the administration, management, and leadership of the historic preservation program, providing strategic support to the Landmark Commission (LMC).

- Draft and manage LMC agendas, prepare technical staff reports, and deliver public presentations to stakeholders.
- Conduct assessments and make recommendations regarding site improvements, exterior alterations, preservation incentives, and landmark applications in alignment with historic preservation ordinances and Secretary of Interior Standards.
- Manage Upper Westside historic resource survey, including independent historical research, architectural surveys, and neighborhood character assessments.
- Develop and amend policies and ordinances to safeguard heritage resources through collaboration with government agencies, elected officials, and community stakeholders.
- Oversee compliance with historic preservation ordinances in construction projects and building permits, conducting site visits, inspections, and design reviews.
- Serve as a technical resource, providing heritage preservation guidance to city officials, property owners, contractors, and the general public.
- Promote the historic preservation program via presentations, press releases, media engagements, and participation in conferences and seminars.
- Ensure adherence to historic preservation certifications, regulations, and grant requirements at local, state, and federal levels (COA's and COAD's)
- Manage the preparation, administration, and reporting of awarded preservation grants and financial program matters.

GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT/PHD CANDIDATE

Present

Middle Tennessee State University, Center for Historic Preservation

Murfreesboro, TN

Performed field and scholarly research on historic buildings and sites. Provided preservation recommendations specific to building styles and their maintenance needs.

Projects resulted in deliverables such as full assessment, documentation, and recommendations for care of artifacts; structural assessment and recommendations for future maintenance and repair needs; fundraising strategy; suggestions for potential productive uses of historic buildings; complete chain of title; and biographical research on past occupants.

MILLWORK/PRO SALES SPECIALIST/STUDENT

2012-2019

Lowe's Home Improvement

Fargo, ND

Informed customers on windows that would best suit their needs. Set up appointments to meet with installers. Explained contracts to customers and ordered windows according to installer's measurements. Ensured quality control of windows through inspections upon arrival and reordered if specifications were not met. Follow through with order and installation of products to ensure customer satisfaction. Worked with professional contractors on projects. Estimated and ordered materials according to blueprints and/or contractor's needs.

OWNER/GENERAL CONTRACTOR/STUDENT*Carpenter/Kurtz Construction***May 1994***Fort Collins, CO/Fergus Falls, MN/Fargo, ND*

Managed a residential construction company working in Colorado and Minnesota. Hired, managed, and ensured quality workmanship by subcontractors. Worked with clients, architects, and local building officials to ensure that residential plans could be constructed to meet local building codes, as well as project budgets and schedules. Managed projects and change orders as requested by clients and inspectors to conform to specifications and/or updated code requirements or client demands. Managed multiple projects simultaneously in a fast-paced environment.

EDUCATION

PH.D. PUBLIC HISTORY (HISTORIC PRESERVATION)*Middle Tennessee State University***August 2026***Murfreesboro, Tennessee***MASTER OF SCIENCE: HISTORY***North Dakota State University***Dec 2018***Fargo, North Dakota*

Thesis: Construction, Adaptation, and Preservation of Earth Homes on the Northern Plains

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE: HISTORY/ANTHROPOLOGY MINOR*North Dakota State University***Aug 2009***Fargo, North Dakota***SKILLS**

Historic Preservation, Project Management, In-depth Research, Teaching, ArcGIS, Excel, Drone Operation, Blueprint Reading, Construction, Leadership, SharePoint, Legistar, Adobe

LINKS

Portfolio: robertkkurtz.com

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

ACADEMIC PRESENTATIONS

- Among the Stone and Clay: The Hutmacher Experience, Rural Studies section of the Western Social Science Association Conference, Houston, Texas
- Sod and Stone: Earthen Homes on the Northern Plains, Poster presentation for the Western Social Science Association Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah
- Architecture on the Northern Great Plains: A Study in Earthen Homes, Rural Studies section of the Western Social Science Association Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah
- Prairie Earth, Prairie Homes: The Field School Experience, Preservation North Dakota Conference, Dickinson, North Dakota

MILITARY SERVICE*United States Marine Corps*

Honorable discharge; Navy Commendation Medal (with combat "V"), Rifle Expert Badge (3rd award), Certificate of Appreciation, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon (w/2 Stars), Meritorious Mast, National Defense Service Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal (w/3 stars), Kuwait Liberation Medal