

RIAH L. KINSEY

ARCHIVIST & HISTORICAL RESEARCHER

MLS degree holder with 5+ years of experience in archival processing, preservation, and outreach. Seeking work on team-based projects that improve archival access and make visible the histories of marginalized people and communities.



Queens, NY



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EDUCATION

MASTER OF LIBRARY SCIENCE

QUEENS COLLEGE, CUNY - QUEENS, NY

- **CONCENTRATION:** Archives and the Preservation of Historical Materials
- **HONORS/AWARDS:** TBA

MASTER OF ARTS IN LIBERAL STUDIES

THE GRADUATE CENTER, CUNY - NEW YORK, NY

- **CONCENTRATION:** Individualized Study (American Studies, Historical Archaeology, Digital Humanities)
- **HONORS/AWARDS:** MALS Thesis and Capstone Prize Winner

HONORS BACHELOR OF ARTS

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE - NEWARK, DE

- **CONCENTRATION:** Anthropology (Historical Archaeology) and Women's and Gender Studies
- **HONORS/AWARDS:** Graduated cum laude

SKILLS

TECHNICAL PROFICIENCIES

Microsoft Office and Google Suite
Basic programming languages

- HTML
- XML
- CSS

ARCHIVAL OUTREACH

Educational Development

- program design
- resource guide creation

Community Connections

- creating digital exhibits
- writing blogs and social media posts

COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT

Description and Metadata Creation

Preservation

- rehousing
- basic book and paper repair
- low-level triage

Digitization

- scanning/photography
- data organization
- file management

AFFILIATIONS

Phi Beta Kappa (PBK)

American Library Association (ALA)

Society of American Archivists (SAA)

New York Library Association (NYLA)

Archivists Round Table of Metropolitan New York, Inc. (ART)

EXPERIENCE

GRADUATE INTERN [MUNICIPAL ARCHIVES - NEW YORK, NY]

Successfully led a semester-long research project to identify collection materials related to queer life in 19th-century New York City, resulting in the discovery of numerous previously unexplored materials.

- Drafted an extensive finding aid on locating queer New Yorkers in 19th-century court and police records
- Initiated an indexing and transcription project focusing on 19th-century sodomy case files, garnering positive feedback from established queer scholars and historians
- Authored a blog post on 19th-century Black transfeminine sex worker, Mary Jones (alias Peter Sewally) which has since been used as a teaching tool in undergraduate history classes at Johns Hopkins University

RESEARCH ASSISTANT [CUNY QUEENS COLLEGE - QUEENS, NY]

Conducted extensive research on the history of seaman's censuses and immigration policies in early 20th-century America in collaboration with the Coordinator of the Dual Degree in Library Science and History, resulting in the identification and analysis of a previously unrecognized documentary resource on the subject.

- Identified, indexed and analyzed 500+ submissions to the Brooklyn Daily Eagle's "Immigration Questions" section (1929-1934) relating to sailors and their social networks

COLLEGE AIDE [DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS - NY, NY]

Worked with Records Manager to perform daily tasks including the processing of new records into the database, editing and correcting existing records, and various preservation and triage activities.

- Helped process a large backlog of records into the agency's records database
- Participated in a disaster-management project resulting from a fire in our main headquarters in which approx. 50 boxes of records were waterlogged and required triage
- Helped assess the condition of and research grants for the conservation and digitization of fragile and at-risk records dating from 1800-1950s

LEAD EDUCATOR [BOWNE HOUSE - FLUSHING, NY]

Conducted extensive research to identify previously unknown archival materials related to slavery, servitude, and race at Bowne House, resulting in new and improved educational resources for staff and visitors.

- Created resource guide identifying enslaved occupants of the house using records from the Bowne Historical Society, Brooklyn Historical Society, New York Public Library and the Quaker Meeting House
- Revised and tested tour scripts highlighting the presence and contributions of enslaved people throughout the early history of the Bowne House
- Delivered lecture exploring the nuances of Quaker Flushing's evolving relationship with race and enslavement from the 1600s-1800s

2022-2023

2021-2022

2018-2020

2016-2018

For a complete timeline of work history, as well as a list of recent projects, please visit rlkinsey.com/resume