

## Project Summary

### Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

**Project Title:** Mission 66 Historic Context for Rocky Mountain National Park

**Discipline:** Cultural  
**Type of Project:** Technical Assistance  
**Funding Agency:** National Park Service  
**Other Partners/Cooperators:** Colorado State University  
**Effective Dates:** 9/15/2008 - 2/28/2011  
**Funding Amount:** \$11,464

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

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**Project Abstract:** As a result of Mission 66 (NPS initiative during 1956-1966), Rocky Mountain National Park constructed visitor centers, ranch homes and apartments for park employees, comfort stations, bridges, campgrounds, overlooks, trails, and roads during this time. All of these resources are approaching or have surpassed the 50 year mark, and therefore need to be reviewed under Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act for possible listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Ethan Carr completed a national Mission 66 study in 2007. While his book (*Mission 66: Modernism and the National Park Dilemma*) provides background, it does not provide enough details on Rocky Mountain National Park structures to determine National Register eligibility. This project would produce both a narrative history (i.e. historic context) that establishes the timeline of Mission 66 activity in the park and a resource study (i.e., inventory and analysis) to determine if any of the Mission 66 resources in the park are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. The narrative history and the resource study are both necessary components for a National Register nomination.

**Outcomes with Completion Dates:**

1. Investigator's Annual Reports, due March 15 each year.
2. Monthly progress reports emailed to key official, due last day of each month for the duration of the contract.
3. Draft report including a complete bibliography and illustrations submitted electronically for review and comment to the park and selected outside reviewers, due December 15, 2009.
4. Final scholarly, illustrated historical context incorporating review comments (4 printed and bound copies; PDF version saved to PC compatible cd), due March 15, 2010.
5. Windshield survey of each Mission 66 resource extant in the park (saved in native, editable format on PC compatible cd). Survey to be conducted spring/summer 2009; corresponding report due March 15, 2010.
6. At least one presentation to the public and one presentation to park staff on the findings, due summer 2009 or summer 2010.
7. One-page summary of the project, produced by the park, with the assistance and technical review by the investigators, due summer 2010.

**Keywords:** Mission 66, historic buildings, Rocky Mountain NP, National Register of Historic Places, National Historic Preservation Act, Colorado State University