

Project Summary

Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit

Project Title: Mission 66 Historic context for Yellowstone National Park

Discipline: Cultural
Type of Project: Research
Funding Agency: National Park Service
Other Partners/Cooperators: Colorado State University
Effective Dates: 8/15/2008 - 9/30/2010
Funding Amount: \$50,000

Investigators and Agency Representatives:

NPS Contact: Elaine Skinner Hale, Archeologist - YNP, Yellowstone Center for Resources, Yellowstone NP, Wyoming 82190 (307) 344-2156 Elaine_Hale@nps.gov

Investigator: James A. Zeidler, PhD., Associate Director for Cultural Resources, Center for Environmental Management of Military Lands (CEMML), Colorado State University, 1490 Campus Delivery, Fort Collins, CO 80523-1490, (970) 491-3741 (970) 491-2713 FAX; jzeidler@cemml.colostate.edu

Researcher: Clayton Fraser, Ph. D

Project Abstract: The "Mission 66" program was initiated by the National Park Service in 1956 and was to be completed by the 50th anniversary of the agency in 1966. Currently, the challenge for Yellowstone National Park is to conduct thorough research and draft a historic context for the Mission 66 era structures constructed in Yellowstone National Park. Visitor use structures in YNP have not been identified by the NPS as significant precursors to the Mission 66 program so the period of significance in YNP would begin at 1956 and end at 1972. The cooperator shall conduct research sufficient to provide a thorough documentation of the structures and districts constructed in Yellowstone National Park during the Mission 66 era, 1956-1972. The written documentation shall provide information with which to evaluate the significance of each structure type (housing unit, campground, guest cabin, maintenance building, etc.) or district on a local (Yellowstone) level.

The historic resource study will meet the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for developing historic contexts. It will contain the evolutionary history of the Mission 66 program in YNP and a management section comprised of a National Register Multiple Property Document, containing but not limited to:

- ✓ Statement of historic context (a synopsis of the larger historic context)
- ✓ a discussion of the period of significance
- ✓ associated architectural styles and architects
- ✓ associated property types, including
 - o buildings or structures associated with park administration
 - o buildings or structures associated with providing services to the visiting public
 - o buildings or structures associated with accommodations of visitors
 - o buildings or structures associated with the conservation of natural or cultural resources
 - o buildings and structures associated with the concessionaire
- ✓ National Register registration requirements

Outcomes with Completion Dates: Year 1: Initial archival research completed and draft historic context; Year 2: Revised Final Historic Context (with Index, Bibliography, Photographs, and Photograph captions); National Register Multiple Property Document

Keywords: Yellowstone NP, Colorado State University, Mission 66, historic buildings