Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit Project Summary

Project Title: A History of Mammoth Hot Springs Publication

Discipline: Cultural

Type of Project: Technical Assistance/Education

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Other Partners/Cooperators: Colorado State University

Student Involvement: Yes

Effective Dates: 7/1/2016 - 12/31/2021

Funding Amount: \$29,998

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: The collaborative project of this agreement between Colorado State University's (CSU) Public Lands History Center (PLHC) and National Park Service (NPS) will assist Yellowstone National Park (YELL) with finalizing and publishing a 4-volume, 538-page book titled, "This Modern Saratoga of the Wilderness": A History of Mammoth Hot Springs and the Village of Mammoth in Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming-Montana-Idaho. This agreement will give CSU PLHC student/s hands-on experience in editing, layout, and publishing a history manuscript.

The park historian began writing this manuscript, an official NPS project, in 2008. It is 538 pages long, including a four-page Table of Contents and a twenty-page Executive Summary. It contains dozens of photos and maps. The park historian will construct its Acknowledgements.

Volume one (pp. 26-226) covers the period 1871 through 1891 and discusses the five civilian superintendents and the first three of the U.S. Army superintendents and takes the reader through the establishment of the army's Camp Sheridan.

Volume two (pp. 227-316) covers the period 1891 through 1913, and deals in detail with the construction of Fort Yellowstone and the people who were involved with it, both army and civilian. Not included is the concessioner history involving the hoteliers.

Volume 3 (pp. 317-488) covers the period 1885 through 1929, dealing with the concessioners and their hotels in much detail before moving to the owners of the general stores, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Weather Bureau, the Yellowstone Park Transportation Company, the Hamilton and Haynes families, the new NPS and its campgrounds, the U.S. Postal Service, and the Yellowstone Park Camping Company and its lodges.

Volume 4 (pp. 489-538) covers the period 1930 through 2007—the NPS's demolition of old buildings, expansion of infrastructure, construction of the Mammoth esplanade, renovation of the Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel for the third time, and construction of new buildings.

All buildings at Mammoth, both past and present, are examined in detail in this book. There is also a section at the very end of the book entitled "Historic Cabins and Buildings Whose Function or Owner is Presently Unknown," so as to cover those missing cultural resources.

The CSU will review and edit the draft history, check sources for accuracy, graphically layout the photos and maps within the text, and complete publication of the book (500 copies). CSU will work closely with the YNP Branch of Science Communications, which coordinates park publications for the Yellowstone Center for Resources.

Keywords: Mammoth Hot Springs, history, publication, editin, Yellowstone National Park, Colorado State University, students