

**Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit
Project Summary**

Project Title: Peale Island Cabin Historic Structure Report

Discipline: Cultural

Type of Project: Technical Assistance/Education

Funding Agency: National Park Service

Other Partners/Cooperators: Colorado State University

Student Involvement: Yes

Effective Dates: 6/1/2016 - 12/31/2018

Funding Amount: \$14,999

Investigators and Agency Representative:

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Project Abstract: The collaborative project of this agreement between Colorado State University (CSU) and National Park Service (NPS) will assist Yellowstone National Park (YELL) with documenting Peale Island Cabin, a historic building located in the South Arm of Yellowstone Lake. The building needs to be relocated in the near future due to increasing lake levels and increased shoreline erosion that are critically endangering the historic cabin. The Secretary of the Interior Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties requires an appropriate level of documentation prior to dismantling and rebuilding this cabin in a new location. A Historic Structures Report (HSR) meets this level of documentation. It would be based on documentary research and physical examination and would document the structure, its history, its current condition, and other root causes of deterioration. It would include measured drawings and photo-documentation of existing conditions.

The historic structure report is generally organized into two principal sections preceded by a brief introduction that summarizes overall findings and recommendations and provides project administrative data. The main sections of the report consist of (1) a narrative that documents the evolution of the building, its physical description, existing condition, and an evaluation of significance; and (2) a discussion of historic preservation objectives, together with recommendations for an overall treatment approach and for specific work. The report is usually supplemented with footnotes or endnotes, bibliography, and appendices of historical documentation and technical data. Please see required elements of a HSR at <https://www.nps.gov/tps/how-to-preserve/briefs/43-historic-structure-reports.htm#organization>.

Peale Island Cabin performs an important function for backcountry field crews that work in this remote portion of the park. Historically, it is part of the Lake Fish Hatchery Historic District, which is nationally significant for the important role the U.S. Bureau of Fisheries egg-collection stations played in conservation policies of the park from 1930-1951. The Public Works Administration (PWA) constructed this handsome rustic building in 1940. Yellowstone National Park has determined to save the historic cabin by deconstructing it and rebuilding it on the outer shore of Yellowstone Lake in a similar remote context to preserve the building according to the National Historic Preservation Act and so that it may continue to serve its historic functions.

Keywords: Historic Structures Report (HSR), Peale Island Cabin, Yellowstone National Park, Colorado State University, students