

## **Project Summary**

### **Rocky Mountains Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit**

**Project Title:** Mission 66 Historic context for Yellowstone National Park

**Discipline:** Cultural  
**Type of Project:** Research/Education  
**Funding Agency:** National Park Service  
**Other Partners/Cooperators:** University of Montana  
**Effective Dates:** August 15, 2008 - March 30, 2010  
**Funding Amount:** \$50,000

**Investigators and Agency Representative:**

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**Project Abstract:** The "Mission 66" program was initiated by the National Park Service in 1956 and was to be completed by the 50<sup>th</sup> 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. This document should use Ethan Carr's national context study to set the service-wide theme and for comparison with the planning, design, and construction processes taking place in this park during the Mission 66 era. 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.

This project provides an opportunity to bring expertise in the CRM process of historic context development for buildings and exposure to architectural history particular to the modernization period for structures in the West for students of at all levels. Many seemingly modern structures are on the threshold of becoming "historic". This project will provide students at the University of Montana with classroom and special project experience in appropriate documentation and management practices for these emerging cultural resources. As part of this project the researcher will work with the PI to give lectures during a University of Montana, Department of Anthropology course on cultural resource management on Federal lands.

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, and will be reviewed by the Wyoming SHPO's office.

**Outcomes and completion dates:**

Year 1: Initial archival research completed; Draft historic context by September 30, 2009.  
Year 2: Revised Final Historic Context (with Index, Bibliography, Photographs, and Photograph captions; National Register Multiple Property Document, by March 30, 2010.

**Keywords:** Mission 66, history, architecture, Yellowstone National Park, University of Montana