



Medicine Wheel, U.S. Forest Service photo



Wyoming

Project 5: multiple sites

Recent Successes

Medicine Wheel/Medicine Mountain First National Historic Landmark Recognized as a Traditional Cultural Place

On August 26, 2011, almost 200 people gathered in Wyoming's Big Horn Mountains to celebrate Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar's approval of revisions to the Medicine Wheel/Medicine Mountain National Historic Landmark. The new nomination resulted in a National Historic Landmark boundary expansion of this sacred tribal area, a name change that reflects the importance of the entire mountain, and recognition that the site is a traditional cultural place – the first in the history of the National Historic Landmark program. The site is within the Bighorn National Forest, and Forest Service officials had consulted with numerous tribes and local entities for over 20 years to reach consensus on this effort. The National Park Service Intermountain Regional Office provided administrative support for the project, and the Forest Service leadership recognized this assistance through the presentation of an award to NPS project coordinator Lysa Wegman-French.

A 110-acre site was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1970 for its archeological values. The revised nomination incorporates new archeological information, which has demonstrated that the district reflects a broad

Current Projects and Partners 2012

1. **Interpretive Pull-out and Reconstruction of the Historic Entrance to the Heart Mountain Relocation Center National Historic Landmark** - Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation
2. **Stabilization of the Boiler Plant Chimney at the Heart Mountain Relocation Center National Historic Landmark** - Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation, Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office, and Bureau of Reclamation
3. **Oregon Trail Ruts Picnic Shelter** - Wyoming State Parks & Cultural Resources
4. **Ames Monument Potential National Historic Landmark** - Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office
5. **Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation Website Project** - Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation
6. **African American Soldiers in the West, 1866-1891 Study** - Organization of American Historians

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Medicine Wheel/Medicine Mountain (cont.)

continuum of use by multiple aboriginal groups for thousands of years. Furthermore, ethnographic information demonstrates that the area in the new 4,080-acre NHL is one of the most significant and intact Native American sacred sites in North America. Together, the components of the district represent the spiritual and cultural tradition of many tribes' beliefs, values, and practices.

Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation Opens New Interpretive Learning Center

After years of planning and fundraising – and with the help of nearly \$1.2 million from the NPS Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program – the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation dedicated its new Interpretive Learning Center during a three-day celebration in August 2011. The 11,000-square-foot interpretive center, which replicates barracks that once housed Japanese American internees at Heart Mountain, carries visitors from the pre-war lives of Japanese Americans through their forced confinement into the challenges of post-war readjustment. Exhibit highlights include the Mineta/Simpson Friendship Hall (named after former U.S. Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta and former U.S Senator Alan Simpson who met as Boy Scouts when the Mineta family was confined at Heart

Mountain), a theater for showing Steven Okazaki's film *All We Could Carry*, a model of the Heart Mountain center, two recreated barrack rooms, and a Reflection Room as the last stop.

The Heart Mountain Relocation Center was one of ten camps used to incarcerate Japanese Americans during World War II. In 1942, the United States government ordered more than 120,000 Japanese American men, women, and children to leave their homes and detained them in military-style camps. Between 1942-1945, nearly 14,000 Japanese Americans passed through Heart Mountain, where they lived in tar-paper-covered barracks surrounded by guard towers and barbed wire fences.



Overview of Heart Mountain Interpretive Learning Center exhibits –
Photo by Kevin J. Miyazaki

ABOUT US

The Heritage Partnerships Program of the NPS Intermountain Region includes several programs that provide technical and financial assistance to partner organizations to encourage the preservation of our Nation's most significant places. Through these activities, which are funded through National Recreation and Preservation (NR&P) Programs, the NPS works collaboratively with partners to

extend the core mission of the National Park Service beyond the boundaries of our national parks. These programs include: National Historic Landmarks, Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS), Historic American Engineering Record (HAER), and Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS) documentation programs, and the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program.

WE'RE HERE FOR YOU

Could your project benefit from assistance from the Heritage Partnerships Program staff?

Contact us to find out.

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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

NPS Helps Identify Locations of Historic Guard Tower, Sentry Box, and Entry Gate at Heart Mountain

In 2011, the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation asked for NPS assistance to identify the exact historic locations of two nonextant structures at the camp: Guard Tower No. 9 and the sentry box that once stood at the main entrance to the Heart Mountain Relocation Center. The foundation wanted to reconstruct these iconic structures associated with the camp, but could not proceed until they knew exactly where they had been located. NPS architect Tom Keohan and archeologist Charles Haecker, working with foundation staff member Christy Fleming, researched historic reports, plans, and photographs to identify these historic sites. The research included a “triangulation” of the guard tower location, which involved comparing the distances of buildings noted on a 1944 plan map, then measuring the distances of existing features at the site. The comparison of these paired sets of measurements showed that the proposed placement of the replica guard tower was very near, if not exactly on, the location of the historic guard tower. Haecker then conducted a metal detector survey that confirmed the presence of World War II-era artifacts at this site. With the location of the historic guard tower confirmed, the foundation was able to construct the replica tower in time for the August 2011 dedication of its Interpretive Learning Center.

Using similar techniques, the survey team also pinpointed the location of the sentry box, which was manned by armed guards and stood at the main entrance, through which nearly 14,000 Japanese American men, women and children passed as they arrived at the relocation center. In addition to the triangulation measurement techniques used for the guard tower, the team analyzed an historic photo that showed that the sentry box was right next to a swing gate that hung on a vertical steel pipe. A follow-up field survey resulted in the discovery that this same vertical pipe is still in place, confirming the correct placement of the planned replica sentry box.



Heart Mountain Interpretive Learning Center, reconstructed guard tower –
Photo courtesy: Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation

Historic Contexts for Ranching, Farming and Homesteading and Historic Schools

A multi-year effort to provide improved information for making cultural resource evaluations has successfully resulted in two historic context publications for the State of Wyoming, and another to soon follow. Historic contexts, which are organized by theme, time and place, provide a framework for determining the significance of a property and its eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places. The documents allow researchers, property managers and other interested parties to understand a property as a product of its time and as an illustration of unique, representative, or pivotal aspects of Wyoming's heritage. The Historic Schools historic context reveals that school buildings are some of the most architecturally and culturally significant buildings in Wyoming communities. Whether it's a one-room rural schoolhouse or a multi-story urban high school, the school reflects a community's pride and commitment to education. In addition to being major architectural landmarks, schools are often the center of community or neighborhood life – a place where the community comes together for plays and concerts, weddings and funerals, voting and other civic affairs. Meanwhile, the Ranching, Farming and Homesteading historic context discusses activities that are not only the very foundation of Wyoming's cultural identity and the life-blood of its heritage, but are intimately tied to the histories of some of Wyoming's most recognized and prominent families.



Abandoned Dryland Farm Homestead in Wyoming.
Photo by Richard Collier

In 2004, Wyoming Governor Dave Freudenthal recognized that historic context development could streamline the identification and evaluation of Wyoming's cultural resources, thus promoting efficiency and better decision making in energy-related development permit processing. He appointed a Steering Committee charged with creating a statewide historic

context development plan; members included representatives from industry, the archaeological and historical professions, the legislature, and state and federal agencies—including the NPS. Under the guidance of the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), the committee identified seven contexts as the highest priorities based on development conflicts and cultural resources at risk. As a result, the State of Wyoming provided special funding to

complete three contexts. Upon the sunsetting of the Steering Committee, a Historic Context Advisory Committee was formed, again with NPS participation. Since then, the Committee has provided professional advice to the SHPO during the development of scopes of work and review of draft documents for the contexts. The historic contexts will enable timely permit processing, but will also further protection of historic properties, and improve historic interpretation of Wyoming's diverse and fascinating cultural resources.

“Water in the West” Online Travel Itinerary Highlights Historic Dams in Wyoming

In partnership with the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), the National Conference of State Historic Preservation Officers, and the National Park Service Heritage Education Services, Heritage Partnerships Program staff added a new segment to the NPS’ Discover Our Shared Heritage Travel Itinerary. Titled *Bureau of Reclamation Historic Dams and Water Projects: Managing Water in the West*, the online itinerary focuses on 25 BOR dams that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places or are determined to be eligible. Separate essays, all researched and written by Heritage Partnerships staff member Shirl Kasper, explain the mission of the BOR, its engineering achievements, and the crucial importance of water in the arid American West. The dams and their associated reservoirs and canals, built in the 20th century for irrigation and hydroelectric power, dramatically

transformed life in the West. Featured dams in Wyoming are Buffalo Bill, Glendo, Guernsey, and Pathfinder.



When completed on the Shoshone River in 1910, the concrete arch Buffalo Bill Dam was an engineering marvel

Launched in February 2012, the Historic Dams travel itinerary includes not only essays, but photographs, maps, and lesson plans that highlight the challenges and complexities of constructing these historic water projects. Today as in the past, BOR projects have a sweeping impact on irrigation and municipal and industrial water supplies, hydroelectric power, navigation, flood control, and recreational opportunity. The itinerary, available online at *Bureau of Reclamation Historic Dams and Water Projects: Managing Water in the West*, is just one piece of the NPS’ growing online travel series, which supports historic preservation, promotes public awareness of history, and encourages visits to historic places throughout the country.

3D Digital Documentation of Fort Laramie and Launch of iPhone and iPad Applications

In 2012, Fort Laramie National Historic Site, in partnership with CyArk, launched an interactive, self-guided tour application that is available for both the iPhone and iPad. This app is the latest development in a larger project that resulted in the 3D digital documentation of the park. The app was originally designed as a kiosk interface to be used by visitors to Fort Laramie, but is now being provided as a way to augment visitors’ on-site experience, provide a location-based audio tour, and make available virtual access to areas not normally open to the public. Included within the app are 67 panoramic images, a detailed site map, historic and

current photographs of the park, virtual reconstructions of the site in different historical phases, and perspectives of 3D laser scan data.

The 3D digital documentation project began in 2009 when CyArk – a non-profit organization dedicated to digitally preserving cultural heritage sites around the world – began collaborating with Fort Laramie, the University of Colorado- Denver, Center of Preservation Research, and the Heritage Partnerships Program on the project. The first phase of the project included field documentation, during which laser scanning and photography were used to create a highly accurate digital record of Fort Laramie. Using video fly-throughs of the site, the project also reconstructs the historic fort during different historic periods, including the fur trade era. The Heritage Partnerships Program, which provided funding for the project, worked closely with CyArk and the University of Colorado-Denver on the development of the project website, which provides online virtual tours of the park.



Current Projects

1. Interpretive Pullout and Reconstruction of the Historic Entrance to the Heart Mountain Relocation Center National Historic Landmark

Project Partners: Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation, Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area (BICA), Powell County Commissioners, and the Heart Mountain Irrigation District

HPP Contact: Tom Keohan, Charles Haecker

Location: Heart Mountain Relocation Center National Historic Landmark – Park County

Project Goal:

Accurately reconstruct the historic entrance station at Heart Mountain – including the sentry box and entry gate – and an interpretive pullout that will provide for visitor safety and enhanced visitor experience

HPP Role:

Provide research, archeological and design assistance.



Heart Mountain Relocation Center Sentry Station

2. Stabilization of the Boiler Plant Chimney at the Heart Mountain Relocation Center National Historic Landmark

Project Partners: Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation, Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office, Bureau of Reclamation

HPP Contact: Tom Keohan, Kara Miyagishima

Location: Heart Mountain Relocation Center National Historic Landmark, Powell

Project Goal:

Stabilize the 75-foot-high chimney, which has deteriorated and is more than 18 inches out of plumb.

HPP Role:

Award NPS funding through a Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant, as well as HPP funding, and monitor and provide assistance for the project.



Heart Mountain Relocation Center National Historic Landmark

3. Picnic Shelter for Oregon Trail Ruts National Historic Landmark

Project Partners: Wyoming State Parks & Cultural Resources, Town of Guernsey Economic & Tourism Development Corporation

HPP Contact: Tom Keohan

Location: Guernsey

Project Goal:

Construct a picnic shelter at Oregon Trail Ruts State Park.

HPP Role:

Award NPS funding through the Challenge Cost Share program, monitor project, and provide assistance.

4. Ames Monument Potential National Historic Landmark

Project Partner: Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office
HPP Contact: Lysa Wegman-French
Location: Albany County

Project Goal:

Create a successful National Historic Landmark nomination that will demonstrate the high level of physical integrity and national significance of this property, resulting in designation by the Secretary of the Interior.

HPP Role:

Provide advice and guidance to authors of the nomination.



Ames Monument, photo by Front Range Research Associates, Inc.

5. Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation Website Project

Project Partner: Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation
HPP Contact: Kara Miyagishima
Location: Heart Mountain Relocation Center National Historic Landmark, Powell

Project Goal:

Redesign website to include a virtual tour, access to archives and artifacts, and an online interactive curriculum.

HPP Role:

Award NPS funding through a Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant, monitor project, and provide assistance.

6. African American Soldiers in the West, 1866-1891 Study

Project Partner: Organization of American Historians
HPP Contact: Lysa Wegman-French
Location: Western United States, including Wyoming

Project Goal:

Complete a National Register Multiple Property Documentation Form that will document the history and significance of the men known popularly as the Buffalo Soldiers, and identify properties associated with that history, including sites in Wyoming.

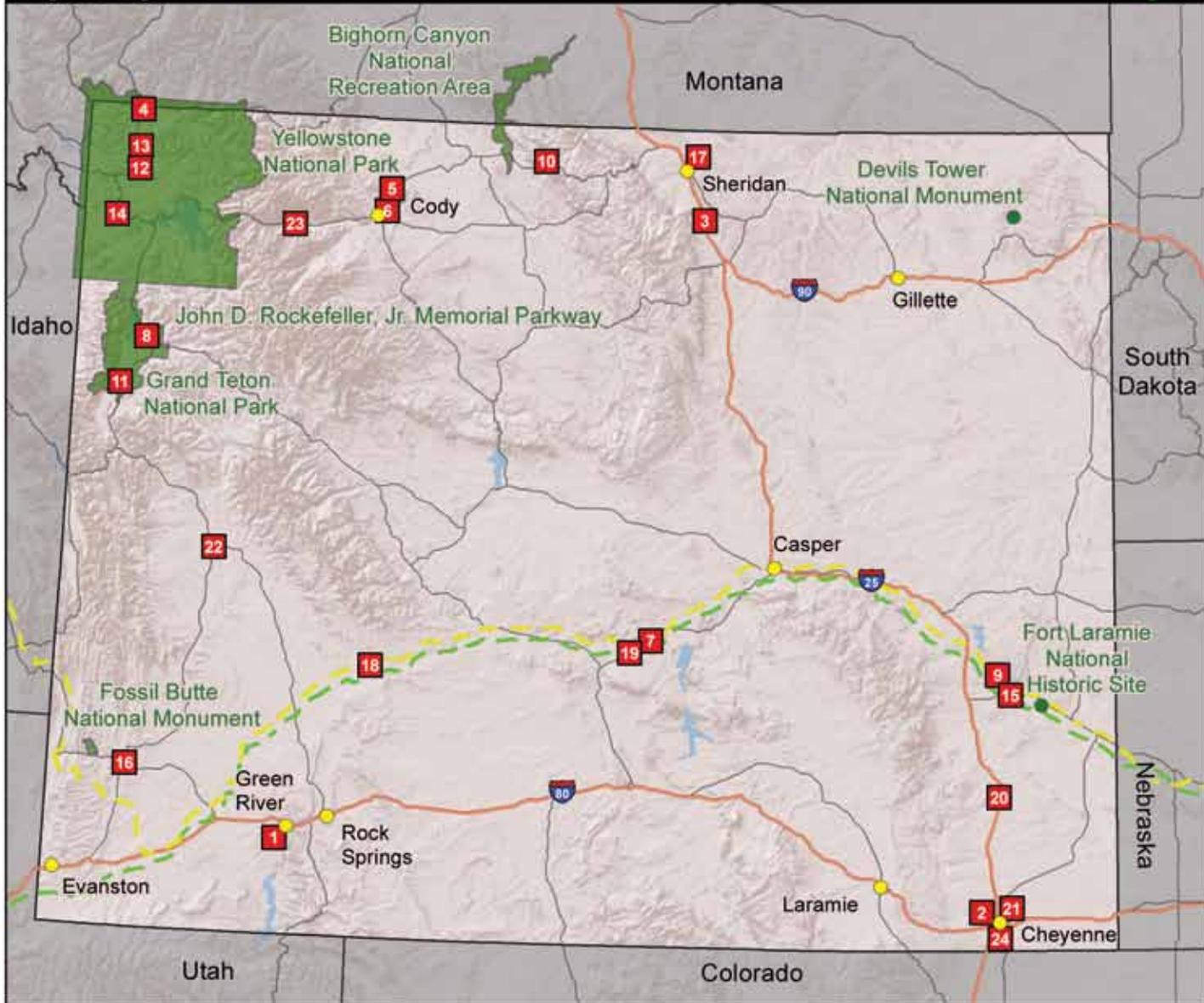
HPP Role: Provide funding for the project, as well as expertise, guidance and advice regarding National Register and National Historic Landmarks guidelines.



10th Cavalry Buffalo Soldiers

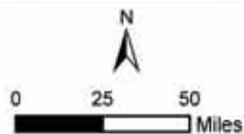
National Historic Landmarks (NHL) Intermountain Region Wyoming

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Legend

- National Historic Landmarks
- National Parks
- Cities
- Interstates
- Major Highways
- Oregon Trail
- Pony Express



Landmarks

- | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Expedition Island 2 Fort D. A. Russell 3 Fort Phil Kearny and Associated Sites 4 Fort Yellowstone 5 Heart Mountain Relocation Center 6 Horner Site 7 Independence Rock 8 Jackson Lake Lodge 9 Lake Guernsey State Park 10 Medicine Wheel/Medicine Mountain 11 Murie Ranch Historic District 12 Norris, Madison, and Fishing Bridge Museums | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13 Obsidian Cliff 14 Old Faithful Inn 15 Oregon Trail Ruts 16 J.C. Penney Historic District 17 Sheridan Inn 18 South Pass 19 Tom Sun Ranch 20 Swan Land and Cattle Company Headquarters 21 Union Pacific Railroad Depot 22 Upper Green River Rendezvous Site 23 Wapiti Ranger Station 24 Wyoming State Capitol |
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