



## FINDING AID

# **ROBERT "BOB" FLATHER RESEARCH PAPERS** **1870-2009(bulk dates: 1884-2005)**

Prepared by  
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06/12/2014

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Catalog Number: YELL 210545

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## ***HISTORY***

Bob Flather worked as a seasonal employee for the National Park Service from 1971 to 2012. Most of that time has been spent in Yellowstone working as a fire guard, ranger, fire researcher, and volunteer. He has also worked at Gulf Islands and Point Reyes National Seashores.

Flather worked as a fire guard stationed at Old Faithful from 1971 through 1974. In 1975 he held the same position at Tower and later that year became a backcountry ranger stationed at Lamar. He held that position through 1978 and again in 1983. In 1985 he worked as a ranger at Tower and from 1986 through 1993 he worked as a volunteer doing backcountry and project work. He worked the following two years (1994-1995) as a volunteer helping to locate spotted knapweed along roads in the park's North District.

From 1996 through 2000, Flather worked at the North Entrance Station. After, this he worked for the Fire Cache on researching the park's fire history and as a volunteer in the archeology and curatorial programs. In 2008, he was nominated for the Park Service's Harry Yount award. Bob Flather passed away January 27, 2013.

## ***SCOPE AND CONTENT***

ROBERT "BOB" FLATHER RESEARCH PAPERS  
1870-2009 (bulk dates: 1884-2005)

<i>CATALOG NUMBER</i>	YELL 210545
<i>VOLUME</i>	2.5 LF
<i>DESCRIPTION</i>	<p>This collection consists of a backcountry patrol log book and historical research compiled by Flather from about 2000 to 2012 covering the following subjects mostly regarding the northeast section of the Yellowstone National Park: snowshoe/patrol cabins; history of development, mail contractors, and squatters in the Soda Butte Area; history of Northeast Road (Cooke City Miner's Road); bridges, road contractors, place names, campgrounds; structures – lower Geyser basin, history of Slough Creek area, Yancey's Mail Station; and brief comments on various events and people, as well as two files of documents and photographs from the move of cabins from Fishing Bridge to Lamar.</p>
<i>ORGANIZATION</i>	<p>The bulk of the collection was originally housed in nine three-ring binders organized by subject (listed above). The collection was re-housed in archival enclosures but original order of the three-ring binders (noted as "Volumes"), photographs, and files has been maintained.</p>
<i>PROVENANCE</i>	<p>This compilation of research was conducted by Robert Flather, while working and volunteering for the National Park Service at Yellowstone National Park. Since much of his research was done at the Yellowstone archives, a copy was left with the archives for the benefit of future researchers.</p>
<i>RESTRICTIONS</i>	NO

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***CONTAINER LIST*****Box 1**

<b>File Unit Nbr</b>	<b>Title</b>
01.01	Backcountry Patrol Log
01.02	General Index to Research Volumes I-XII
01.03	Fire history research project, 2000
01.04	Volume I, Snowshoe/patrol cabins
01.05	Volume II, Snowshoe/patrol cabins

**Box 2**

02.01	Volume III A, Snowshoe/patrol cabins
02.02	Volume III B, Snowshoe/patrol cabins
02.03	Volume IV, History of development at Soda Butte
02.04	Volume V, History of mail contractors and squatters - Soda Butte Area

**Box 3**

03.01	Volume V, History of mail contractors and squatters - Soda Butte Area, Cont'd
03.02	Volume VI, History of Northeast Road [Cooke City Miner's Road]
03.03	Volume VII, Cook City Miner's Roads

**Box 4**

04.01	Volume VIII, Bridges, road contractors, place names, campgrounds
04.02	Volume IX, history of Lower Geyser Basin, Slough Creek area, Yancey's mail station

**Box 5**

05.01	Volume X, Brief comments on various events and people during the early days (with information on Bannock Trail)
05.02	Volume XI, Celinda M. Finch/Eleanor McGowan
05.03	Volume XII, Move of Fishing Bridge cabins to Lamar Buffalo Ranch