



## FINDING AID

### **History Program Records 1905-Present Bulk dates: 1960s-1980s**

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***TABLE OF CONTENTS***

Copyright and Restrictions .....	ii
History .....	1
Scope and Content .....	3
Series Descriptions .....	4
Container List .....	5

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## ***HISTORY***

1872 – Yellowstone National Park established

1916 – National Park Service created

1920 – Milton Skinner started Yellowstone's first park museum in the former bachelor officers' quarters at Fort Yellowstone (today's Albright Visitor Center)

1933 – The Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) created to document America's architectural heritage

1935 – The Preservation of Historic Sites Act, authorized to conduct research, restore, preserve, and maintain historic properties; the National Park Service was authorized to establish and maintain related museums

1935 – The National Archives Act created a systematic and centralized process for the preservation of government records

1956-1966 – Mission 66 initiative provided for the update of facilities, staffing, and resource management

1959-1968 – Mary Meagher is museum curator

1960 – Aubrey Haines became the park's first official, dedicated historian

1966 – The National Historic Preservation Act, intended to preserve historical and archeological sites in the United States. Also created the National Register of Historic Places, the list of National Historic Landmarks, and the State Historic Preservation Offices (SHPO)

1969 – Yellowstone National Park nominates first sites to the National Register of Historic Places

1969 – The Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) established to document historic sites and structures related to engineering and industry

1973 – Old Faithful Inn listed on the National Register of Historic Places (historic landmark), the first site in Yellowstone to be added to the National Register

1974 – The Archeological and Historic Preservation Act required that Federal agencies provide for the preservation of historical and archeological data (including relics and specimens) which might otherwise be irreparably lost or destroyed as the result of any Federal construction project

1977 – Aubrey Haines' *The Yellowstone Story* first published

1978 – The park's archives become an affiliate of the National Archives

1979 – The Archeological Resources Protection Act, provided for many effective management of archeological resources and disposition of archeological collections

1989 – An audit by the Office of the Inspector General found many deficiencies in the park's collections storage

1994 – Laura Joss became Yellowstone's first branch chief of cultural resources

1997 – Planning begins for the Heritage and Research Center (HRC)

2000 – The Historic American Landscapes Survey (HALS) is established to record historic landscapes through measured drawings and interpretive drawings, written histories, and large-format black-and-white photographs and color photographs

2002-2004 – HRC in Gardiner is built

## ***SCOPE AND CONTENT***

History Program Records  
1905-Present (bulk dates: 1960s-1980s)

<i>CATALOG NUMBER</i>	YELL 203379
<i>VOLUME</i>	35 LF
<i>DESCRIPTION</i>	<p>This collection contains materials related to the operations of Yellowstone National Park's history program, consisting mainly of records from the Historian's Office.</p> <p>Activities related to the history program include historical research; historic buildings preservation, management, and maintenance; cultural landscape research; and museum collection management.</p> <p>Researchers may find these records valuable when studying how Haines (and other park historians) conducted research; the development and management of museum and archives collections; the management of historic sites and structures (preservation management); the historian's commentary on construction and repair project; and when investigating park celebrations and special events.</p>
<i>ORGANIZATION</i>	<p>This collection is organized into four series:</p> <p>Series I, Correspondence Series II, Historic Sites and Structures Series III, Museum Management Series IV, Subject Files</p>
<i>PROVENANCE</i>	Transferred to the archives by various park offices and staff, often as part of a larger group of records.
<i>RESTRICTIONS</i>	NO
<i>ASSOCIATED MATERIALS</i>	<p>Interpretation and Education Records, Series V, Museums Exhibits, and Waysides, Yellowstone National Park Archives</p> <p>Management and Accountability Records, Series IV, Special Events, Yellowstone National Park Archives</p>

## ***SERIES DESCRIPTIONS***

### *I. Correspondence*

This series contains correspondence to and from the Park Historian such as answering queries about specific persons, topics and events; acknowledging (accept or decline) gifts; and arranging speaking engagements. The park historian also corresponded with other officials answering requests about the historical significance of special events, building projects, and repairs.

### *II. Historic Sites and Structures*

This series contains documents which pertain to historic sites and structures primarily within Yellowstone National Park. National Register of Historic Places nomination forms and certificates, Determination of Eligibility documents, historic structure and district surveys and reports, cultural landscape surveys, historic sites and structure maintenance and preservation records, and correspondence about historic sites and structures are included. There are also records about historic sites outside of Yellowstone when the park's superintendent served as the area coordinator for the National Register during the 1960s and 1970s.

### *III. Museum Management*

This series contains records (including photocopies from the National Archives) pertaining to the various Yellowstone National Park museums including: acquisitions, inventory reports, loans, and correspondence related to acquisitions and exhibit materials; planning, preparation, maintenance and preservation of museum buildings and exhibits; archives administration; curator's office; and documents related to the need, concept, planning and building of the Heritage and Research Center (HRC).

With the passage of the Preservation of Historic Sites Act in 1935, the National Park Service was authorized to establish and maintain related museums. This collection documents the beginnings and growth of the Park's museums and offers insights into the role of museums and exhibits have played over the years. Highlights include some of the first inventories and exhibit lists, and early correspondence about donations and loans. Also noteworthy are the materials which document the planning process of the Heritage and Research Center.

### *IV. Subject Files*

This series contains files on historical places, people, and organizations as well as original handwritten letters, pamphlets, and index cards and Aubrey Haines correspondence. These files contain collected documents that would be helpful to researchers looking for information on certain topics. The files are also important because they bring insight to how Haines (and other park historians) conducted research. Highlights include drafts of Haines' *The Yellowstone Story* and *A History of the Yellowstone National Park Chapel*, and his correspondence about these topics. Also there is a file on the Boy Scout Troop 333 of the Heart Mountain Relocation Center which includes documents from a 2002 reunion, as well as a large file on Fort Yellowstone.

**CONTAINER LIST**

<b>Series</b>	<b>Series Title</b>
1	Correspondence
<b>Box Number</b>	<b>Title</b>
01	Park Historian Correspondence, 1926-1937
02	Park Historian Correspondence, 1963-1967
03	Park Historian Correspondence, 1970-1981
04	Park Historian Correspondence, 1982-1985
05	Park Historian Correspondence, 1985
06	Park Historian Correspondence, 1987-1988
07	Park Historian Correspondence, 1993-1996
08	Park Historian Correspondence, 1997-1998
09	Park Historian Correspondence, 1998-1999
10	Park Historian Correspondence, 1999-2000
11	Park Historian Correspondence, 2000-2001
12	Park Historian Correspondence, 2002
13	Park Historian Correspondence, 2002-2004
14	Park Historian Correspondence, 2004-2005
15	Park Historian Correspondence, 2006--2007
16	Park Historian Correspondence, by topic, 2009-2014
17	Park Historian Correspondence, by topic, 1954-1962
18	Park Historian Correspondence, by topic, 1957-1983
19	Park Historian Correspondence, by topic, 1984-1987
20	Park Historian Correspondence, by topic, 1960s
21	Park Historian Correspondence, by topic, 1968-2004
22	Correspondence, various authors, 1937-1962
23	Correspondence, Schullery and various authors, 1992-1997
24	Correspondence, various authors, 1989-1994

<b>Series</b>	<b>Series Title</b>
2	Historic Sites and Structures
<b>Box Number</b>	<b>Title</b>
01	Archeological Districts Nominations and Correspondence, 1972
02	Canyon Area Historic District Surveys, Nominations, and Correspondence, 1990-2010
03	Canyon Area Historic Structures Report and Photographs, 2001-2014
04	Fort Yellowstone Nomination, Historic Structures, 1973-2000
05	Fort Yellowstone Historic Resource Survey Draft, 1972
06	National Register Documents: Lake Hotel and District, Lamar Buffalo Ranch, Madison Campfire, Mammoth Hot Springs, and Fort Yellowstone, 1971-2002
07	Yellowstone National Park Register Nominations, 1969-1972
08	Mission 66 at Canyon Area and State Historic Preservation Office Documents, 2000
09	Non-Yellowstone National Park and Non-National Park Service Historic Sites and Structures, 1963-1977
10	National Register Documents: Norris Area, Obsidian Cliff, Park Roads, 1982-2003
11	Historic Sites and Structures: Preservation and Management Records and Correspondence, 1959-1979
12	Historic Sites and Structures: Preservation and Management Records and Correspondence, 1980-1984
13	Historic Sites and Structures: Preservation and Management Records and Correspondence, 1985

**Series 02 (cont.)**

<b>Box Number</b>	<b>Title</b>
14	Historic Sites and Structures: Preservation and Management Records and Correspondence, 1986
15	Historic Sites and Structures: Preservation and Management Records and Correspondence, 1987-1989
16	Historic Sites and Structures: Preservation and Management Records and Correspondence, 1990-1999
17	Historic Sites and Structures: Preservation and Management Records and Correspondence, 2000-2005
18	Historic Sites and Structures: Preservation and Management Records and Correspondence, 2005-2010
19	Historic American Building Survey (HABS) and Historic American Engineering Record (HAER) Documents and Photographs, 1977-2000
20	Historic American Building Survey (HABS) Photographs, 1983
21	Historic Sites and Structures Photographs and Slides, 1970s-2000s

<b>Series</b>	<b>Series Title</b>
3	Museum Management

<b>Box Number</b>	<b>Title</b>
01	Museum Acquisitions, Gifts and Loans, 1925-1984
02	Museum Inventory Reports, 1954-1985, 1999
03	Museum and Exhibit Activities, 1970-1999
04	Museum Planning, Preparation, Maintenance and Preservation of Exhibits, 1956-1962
05	Museum Planning, Preparation, Maintenance and Preservation of Exhibits, 1963-1977
06	Museum Planning, Preparation, Maintenance and Preservation of Exhibits, 1984-1994
07	Museum Records Photocopies from National Archives, 1939-1964
08	Archives Administration, 1928, 1967-1991
09	Museum Curator's Office, 1995-2001
10	Heritage and Research Center (HRC) Planning: Architects, Consultants, Public Comments, Donations, 1997-2000
11	Heritage and Research Center (HRC) Planning: Comparisons, Design Development, Briefing Book, 1997-2003

<b>Series</b>	<b>Series Title</b>
4	Subject Files

<b>Box Number</b>	<b>Title</b>
01	Subject Files, A-B, 1967-2002
02	Subject Files, C-G, 1921-2002
03	Subject Files, H, 1929-2003
04	Subject Files, I-M, 1905-2010
05	Subject Files, R-Y, 1930-2007
06	Mammoth Chapel History, 1960s
07	Haines Files 1-4.4, 1942-1966
08	Haines Files 5-5.7, 1910-1966
09	Index Cards A-K, 1920s-1930s
10	Index Cards L-Z, 1920s-1930s