



Northwest Regional Information Office, Portland, Oregon

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

For Release Sunday, July 19, 1964

SITES IN IDAHO, WASHINGTON, MONTANA APPROVED AS NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS

Four Pacific Northwest locations are included in the latest list of 96 sites approved for Registered National Historic Landmark status, Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall has announced.

They are:

1. City of Rocks, Idaho,
2. Marmes Rockshelter, Washington,
3. Pictograph Cave, Montana,
4. Hagen Site, Montana.

Registered National Historic Landmarks are areas that possess exceptional values and are of national significance in commemorating and illustrating the history of the United States. Such landmarks are not units of the National Park system, but are recognized by the National Park Service with a certificate and bronze plaque.

The latest approved sites were recommended by the Advisory Board on National Parks, Historic Sites, Buildings and Monuments from studies prepared by the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings. The number of sites declared eligible for inclusion in the registry now totals 548.

The latest list of 96 landmarks is divided into five historical categories. They are the Cattlemen's Empire, Agriculture, Contact with Indians, Early Indian Farmers and Village Communities and a special grouping which includes such landmarks as the birthplaces of Presidents John F. Kennedy and Woodrow Wilson.

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Brief descriptions of the four Pacific Northwest sites follow:

1. City of Rocks, Cassia County, Idaho. This site, one of the great natural Landmarks of the California Trail, received its name from the fantastic formations of soft granite rock scattered over the valley of Circle Creek. In this valley, thousands of emigrants camped and many inscribed their names on the rocks. The area formed a narrow pass which the wagon trains followed over the summit of the mountains.

2. Marmes Rockshelter, about one mile above Lyons Ferry on the west side of the Palouse River, Washington. This rockshelter is considered to be the most outstanding archeological site yet discovered in the Northwest. Excavations of the site have produced the earliest burials in the Pacific Northwest and possibly the earliest burials encountered in the Western Hemisphere. Eight geological strata have been excavated and all of these contain cultural materials; some dating from 7550 years ago.

3. Pictograph Cave, Yellowstone County, near Billings, Montana. Pictograph Cave is a large rock shelter with striking pictographs, which contained stratified deposits reflecting occupation beginning with early Indian hunters and gatherers and coming up to the historic Indian period.

4. Hagen Site, Dawson County, southeast of Glendive, Montana. The Hagen Site is a late prehistoric Indian village dating about 1600 A.D. It represents the Crow at about the time they split from the sedentary Hidatsa.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Division of Information Northwest Regional Office
PORTLAND, OREGON

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

For Immediate Release

MISSION 66 PLANS ANNOUNCED FOR COULEE DAM NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

Plans calling for the expenditure of \$2,572,600 over the next eight years on the Mission 66 program for Coulee Dam National Recreation Area were announced today by the National Park Service.

The plans were announced in a prospectus entitled "Mission 66 For Coulee Dam National Recreation Area." Mission 66 in the National Park Service's 10-year program designed to rehabilitate visitor and staff accommodations and facilities in our National Parks. The program which is under way in many parks gets its name from the 50th anniversary year of the Service--1966--by which date the program is to be completed.

Coulee Dam National Recreation Area was established in 1946 by inter-bureau agreement among the Bureau of Reclamation, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the National Park Service. The recreation area includes Lake Roosevelt which extends from the Grand Coulee dam to the Canadian border and is described in the prospectus as a "Family Vacation" area.

"Since Coulee Dam National Recreation Area is new," the prospectus points out, "the travel pattern is not yet established. However, 252,632 visitor days were totaled in the year 1956, a gain of 15.6 per cent over the previous year.

"This increase in travel is expected to rise even more rapidly with the addition of public facilities, new roads and the opening of more small campgrounds..... It is expected that the 1966 travel figure will be over one million."

Area Superintendent Hugh Peyton said Mission 66 plans for the area cover improvements of roads now in use, rehabilitation of existing roads which are badly deteriorated, and realignment and new construction where necessary to open lakeshore areas to public use. Expenditures in this field are anticipated at \$417,000.

Major construction at two large areas, Kettle Falls and Spring Canyon, has been completed. A third large area to be developed is Fort Spokane, a centrally located district near the confluence of the Spokane river and the lake, which is also proposed for permanent headquarters. The headquarters presently are at Coulee Dam, Wash.

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The Mission 66 program will provide 13 more major areas and 119 pioneer and wayside sites (some accessible by boat only). Even with these developments there will be space for future developments along the lake should the visitor load expand beyond that anticipated by 1966, Peyton said.

In the new developments it is estimated trails will cost \$8000; utilities, \$145,000; buildings, \$1,134,700, and equipment for picnic and campsites and other miscellaneous items, \$567,300.

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Note to Editors: A copy of the Mission 66 prospectus for Coulee Dam National Recreation Area is attached.