



FINDING AID

NANCY DEREVJANIK PAPERS

1981, 2007

Prepared by
Lee Steiner
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Yellowstone National Park Archives
P O Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190-0168

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HISTORY

Nancy Derevjanik (born June 17, 1962) grew up in Staten Island, New York, where she attended St. Peter's High School for Girls from 1976-1980. After high school she attended Syracuse University until her graduation from there in 1985. Nancy's father loved to travel and he inspired in her a desire to see the world as well. As her first traveling adventure alone, Nancy decided to apply for a seasonal job in Yellowstone National Park.

During the summer of 1981, between her freshman and sophomore years of college, Nancy accepted a housekeeping job with TWA Services, Park concessioners, at Yellowstone National Park. Upon her arrival at the Park on July 15, 1981, she discovered that the employment office did not have a record of her being hired but the next day they placed her in a kitchen staff position at the Mammoth Hotel Coffee Shop at the Mammoth Hot Springs area.

Over the course of the summer, Nancy went from being on the kitchen staff to working in the coffee shop's pantry and finally bussing tables. When she was not working, Nancy would take tours or visit popular tourist locations around the park such as Old Faithful and Yellowstone Lake with other seasonal workers. She returned to New York on September 2, 1981, to start her sophomore year of college.

Nancy travelled extensively after that summer at Yellowstone but even though she applied, she never got a seasonal job at another National Park. Years later she did return to Yellowstone National Park to serve as an archives volunteer in 1999 and again in 2001.

Sources for the above information are found within the MSC 011 Derevjanik collection materials.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

NANCY DEREVJANIK PAPERS 1981, 2007

CATALOG NUMBER YELL 130230

VOLUME 0.25 LF

DESCRIPTION Diary (with 2007 annotations), photographs, correspondence, 1981.

This manuscript collection records Nancy Derevjanik's thoughts and feelings about people and events during her time spent working in Yellowstone National Park in the summer of 1981. The diary records her relationships with fellow seasonal Park employees, places that she visited on her days off from work and events that happened around her during the time she spent at Yellowstone National Park. Most of the diary entries were originally written in 1981 but there are additional entries made in 2007 that try to fill in some gaps between the original entries. Nancy documented each of the new entries so it is easy to determine which entry is original and which was added later. Within the diary are loose items that she refers to in her narrative. Along with the diary there are also some photographs of the people she worked with and the places they visited together in Yellowstone. There are a few personal correspondences in the collection that include two photocopies of letters that Nancy wrote, while in Yellowstone, to a friend in New York, a letter that the friend in New York wrote back to her, a letter to her parents, three letters from friends, and two letters from the man who took Nancy from the airport in Bozeman to Mammoth when she first arrived.

Subjects of interest are as follows: Old Faithful, Mammoth, Upper Loop Tour, "Hot Potting," Firehole River, Grand Canyon of Yellowstone, Fishing Bridge, Yellowstone Lake, Jenny Lake, Bluegrass Festival, and a forest fire at Shoshone National Forest that was heading towards the Fishing Bridge area.

ORGANIZATION Arranged by material type into folders: Diary, photographs, and correspondence.

PROVENANCE Gift of Nancy Derevjanik in April 2007.

RESTRICTIONS NO

CONTAINER LIST

Box 1

File Unit Nbr	Title
1	Diary, 1981 with annotations from 2007
2	Photographs, 1981
3	Personal Correspondence, 1981