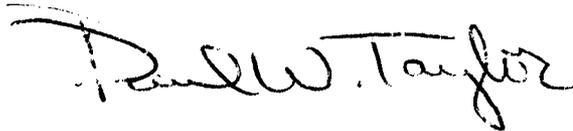


FOREWORD

This is the third publication in the Corps of Engineers Historical Studies Series. Like its predecessors, it highlights an Engineer officer's report on a reconnaissance of the western frontier. The report of Captain William Ludlow was last published in its entirety in 1876.

Ludlow's report, with its appended reports on zoology, geology, and new fossils, and its maps, demonstrates the commitment of the Army to promoting scientific knowledge while acquiring information for its military campaigns. In his journey through Yellowstone Park in 1875, Ludlow uncovered little that was not already known. But his poignant descriptions of the park's wonders, his impassioned accounts of the damage being wrought by visitors, and the strong case he made for involving the Army and the Corps of Engineers eventually aroused Congress to action. Ludlow provided the broad outline for preserving Yellowstone as the national park he believed nature and Congress had intended it to be.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul W. Taylor". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Paul W. Taylor
Colonel,
Corps of Engineers
Chief of Staff