

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK NOMINATION

NPS Form 10-900

USDI/NPS NRHP Registration Form (Rev. 8-86)

OMB No. 1024-0018

WAWONA HOTEL HISTORIC DISTRICT

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United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

1. NAME OF PROPERTY

Historic Name: Wawona Hotel Historic District

Other Name/Site Number: Wawona Hotel and Thomas Hill Studio

2. LOCATION

Street & Number: Highway 41, Wawona

Not for publication:

City/Town: Yosemite National Park

Vicinity:

State: California County: Mariposa Code: 043

Zip Code: 95318

3. CLASSIFICATION

Ownership of Property

Private: ___

Public-Local: ___

Public-State: ___

Public-Federal: X

Category of Property

Building(s): ___

District: X

Site: ___

Structure: ___

Object: ___

Number of Resources within Property

Contributing

8

4

8

1

21

Noncontributing

5 buildings

0 sites

10 structures

1 objects

16 Total

Number of Contributing Resources Previously Listed in the National Register: 21

Name of Related Multiple Property Listing:

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4. STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this ____ nomination ____ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register Criteria.

Signature of Certifying Official

Date

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

In my opinion, the property ____ meets ____ does not meet the National Register criteria.

Signature of Commenting or Other Official

Date

State or Federal Agency and Bureau

5. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is:

- Entered in the National Register
- Determined eligible for the National Register
- Determined not eligible for the National Register
- Removed from the National Register
- Other (explain): _____

Signature of Keeper

Date of Action

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6. FUNCTION OR USE

Historic: Domestic Sub: Hotel

Current: Domestic Sub: Hotel

7. DESCRIPTION

ARCHITECTURAL CLASSIFICATION:

MATERIALS:

Foundation: Wood/Concrete

Walls: Weatherboard

Roof: Wood Shake

Other:

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Describe Present and Historic Physical Appearance.

The Wawona Hotel Historic District meets National Historic Landmark Criterion 4 because of its exceptional significance as an intact example of a Victorian era hotel complex in a national park. When it was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1987, it was acknowledged to be the largest extant Victorian hotel complex within the boundaries of a national park, exhibiting an unusual degree of integrity. Nearly all of the exterior fabric on buildings pre-dates World War I, and the interior finishes and floor plans are largely intact. Constructed over a forty-year period, the buildings suggest an architectural unity established by several factors: their formal placement on the rural landscape; a repetition of materials, form, and massing; and architectural details, such as the porches and verandas that surround the buildings. The verandas both unite the buildings and emphasize their connection to the landscape.

The Wawona Hotel and Thomas Hill Studio Historic District was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1989, as part of the "Architecture in the Parks" multiple property nomination. It was nominated under Criterion 4 (NR Criterion C), with the period of significance 1886 to the present. The boundaries of the NHL encompassed 4.75 acres and included the immediate vicinity of the buildings. The purpose of this revised nomination is to specify a period of significance that reflects an architectural period of the hotel's development and add historically significant landscape to the NHL designation. These revisions are based on the recently completed *Historic Structure Report* and *Cultural Landscape Report*.¹

The Wawona Hotel Historic District is located in the southwest corner of Yosemite National Park. The nucleus of the district is the Wawona Hotel, which is comprised of seven late nineteenth century buildings and associated structures and objects. The expanded district boundary encompasses the Wawona Meadow and Wawona Golf Course, which are integral components of the historic property. Historically, the meadow was used for various agricultural pursuits; the golf course was an important recreational facility, as it remains today

The buildings at the Wawona Hotel are laid out in a relatively formal pattern on the edge of a rolling hill overlooking the meadow. The front elevation of the main hotel building runs north-south. A circular drive with a centered fountain leads to the hotel from Wawona Road. The buildings to the northwest, east, south, and southwest of the main hotel building are aligned with the cardinal directions, contributing to a Victorian formality. The Wawona, an Indian term for "Big Trees," and its associated landscape became part of Yosemite National Park in 1932.

The buildings and landscape improvements were constructed over several decades, beginning as a stage stop on a passenger and freight line. The oldest extant historic features within the district are the 16 fruit trees that comprise the Galen Clark Homestead Orchard, planted between 1858 and 1964. The oldest building remaining is the "Long White" or Clark Cottage, built in 1876. A fire in 1878 destroyed the rest of the original stage stop buildings, but Long White remained and became the anchor for the new Wawona Hotel group. The main hotel building opened in 1879. The "Little White" or manager's residence was completed in 1884.

The studio of landscape painter Thomas Hill, situated adjacent to the main hotel building, was finished in 1886. The "Little Brown" or Moore cottage was built east of the main hotel building in 1894. The "Long Brown" or Washburn cottage may have been completed in 1899, although the exact date of its construction is uncertain. The Annex was completed in 1918, as was the adjacent nine-hole golf course. Three more buildings were

¹ Tina Bishop and Robyn Bartling, *Wawona Hotel Complex Historic Landscape Report*, 90%/75% draft (Denver: Mundus Bishop, July 18, 2011).

Una Gilmartin and Alan Dreyfuss, *The Wawona Hotel Complex Historic Structures Report*, 90%/75% draft (Emeryville, CA: Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc., July 18, 2011).

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constructed to augment hotel facilities (including a store and an employee dormitory) in 1920, but none is extant today.

Following the build-out of the hotel complex, which was largely complete by 1918, several incremental changes took place in the years leading up until 1939. The CCC, which had a large presence at Wawona from 1933 to 1939, was responsible for many of these changes. Changes that occurred during this period include the construction of the current alignment of the Wawona Road (and subsequent modifications to the Wawona golf course), construction of the existing tennis court, demolition of several peripheral buildings (including a dance hall and boiler room), and a widespread erosion abatement program carried out by the CCC in the Wawona meadow. Many of the changes carried out in these years shaped the landscape evident today at the hotel.

In its early history, the Wawona was self-sufficient, depending on agricultural production to feed the resident families and guests. Much of the production was in the area today occupied by the golf course and meadow. These areas were used for grazing and for growing hay, barley, and vegetable and fruit crops. As the twentieth century progressed, recreational activities and road development took land out of agricultural production; the hotel was no longer dependent on its own food production. Grazing persisted longer than cropping, until 1977, and remnants of ranching are evident in the split rail perimeter fence, barbed wire fencing, several gates, and a cattle shoot.

Two remnant orchards remain from the years of agricultural production at the Wawona. One is located in the clearing at the northwest end of the golf course, near the Galen Clark homestead site. Established by Clark between 1858 and 1864, this area contains 15 apple trees, identified as either 'Newton Pippin' or 'Rhode Island Greening' in the 1991 orchard survey, and one pear tree.² The trees are spread around the perimeter of the clearing, without discernible rows. They are among the oldest historic features at Wawona. Another orchard remnant is located south of the Wawona Road, about 600 feet east of the Annex. This area contains 13 apple trees, planted in rows spaced 16 feet apart. It represents the last vestige of the once extensive orchard and gardens established by the Washburn family to supply the hotel with fresh produce. Much of this orchard was obliterated in the 1930s when the new Wawona Road was constructed just west of the Wawona Hotel grounds.

The buildings of the hotel complex have a number of features in common. They are all of wood-frame construction with painted exterior finishes. They are all more than one story in height with multiple exterior porches or verandas and some decorative woodwork. All have undergone certain changes in recent years to improve the quality of the seasonally-offered guest services and to make the structures safer for occupancy. Cosmetic finishes such as paint, wallpaper, and carpeting over the original floor materials, have all been updated. Most of the bathrooms have new fixtures. Sprinkler systems and baseboard heaters have been added. New shakes were put on the roofs in recent years. Many of the furnishings throughout the hotel are period pieces but are not original to the structures. These period pieces are not included in this landmark nomination. Any original remaining furniture, light fixtures, or paintings are included.

Contributing Resources

Long White/Clark Cottage

Contributing Building (map code: s)

The Long White or Clark Cottage, completed in 1876, is a wood building with a balloon frame. The one-and-one-half-story building, rectangular in plan, has an exterior siding of weatherboards finished at the corners with cornerboards. The gable roof and multiple dormers are finished with wood shakes. The veranda surrounding the

² Sky Skach, Brian Chilcott, and Daniel Schaible, *Orchard Management Guidelines* (Yosemite National Park, Division of Resources Management and Science, 2011).

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building is sheltered by a skirt roof supported by chamfered posts with curvilinear brackets. A railing with diagonal cross pieces encircles the veranda. The railing and the detailing of the eaves' woodwork are elements of a simplified Greek Revival architecture. Most of the windows in the building are six-over-six double hung. The south gable end of the building contains a small shed, constructed between 1890 and 1917 by which time all of the dormers were added. All of the eight guest rooms contain baths, added during the 1940s by decreasing the numbers of original guest rooms. The interiors may contain the original painted ceilings. Room configuration dates from the 1940s; sheetrock covering the 1940s wall partitions dates from the early 1980s.

Wawona Hotel (Main Building)**Contributing Building (map code: w)**

The main Wawona Hotel building (1879) is a balloon-frame structure generally T-shaped in plan. The foundation is stone and wooden piers, hidden by a latticework skirt that is in turn covered with vines. Exterior walls are drop-channel siding. A two-story veranda encircles much of the building. The veranda's railing is in a simple geometric pattern of rectangles. The building is sheltered by a hip roof, and a skirt roof wrapping around the building covers the veranda. All of the roofs are finished with wood shakes. An addition at the north end of the building, dating from 1914, contains much of the present dining room and kitchen space. That addition changed the building's plan from an "L" to a "T." The present lobby and expanded dining room date from 1917-1918, when the building's interior was remodelled. The lounge and sitting room south of the lobby also date from that time, as does the lobby configuration with the small office behind the registration desk. The upstairs contains dormitory space for hotel employees. The tall windows in the building are principally four-over-four double hung. The four-panel wood doors that lead out to the veranda have transom lights above. These original doors retain their hardware and have new locks for improved security.

The front of the hotel is nearly symmetrical. The main entrance to the hotel is through French doors near the central portion of the veranda. Above the entrance is a fourteen-light fixed transom. The lobby, with its 1917 light fixtures, is a central space with two sitting rooms and guest rooms to the south, and the dining room and small bar to the north. A small staircase to the right of the registration desk has a decorative balustrade and leads upstairs to the dormitory space. French doors lead out from the lobby to a porch at the rear of the building.

The sitting rooms contain fireplaces. Windows and interior doors are surrounded by heavy wood moldings, and picture moldings wrap around the upper walls of the rooms. The dining room and bar have hardwood floors. Box beams in the dining room give the ceiling a coffered effect. The lighting fixtures hanging from the ceiling have Giant Sequoia cones woven into their suspending chains and as a decorative fringe around their shades to bring to mind the grove of Big Trees two miles away.

Little White Building/Managers Cottage**Contributing Building (map code: q)**

The manager's residence, now known as Little White and completed in 1884, is a small L-shaped building with intersecting gable roofs. The veranda that wraps around the building is sheltered by a skirt roof. All of the roofs are finished with wood shakes. The railing around the veranda is simple and consists of two parallel boards connecting the chamfered posts. The windows are four-over-four double hung. The original four-panel doors and their hardware remain, again augmented by new locks. The interior of the building has undergone some renovation. The kitchen of the manager's residence is now bathrooms for the guest rooms. Baseboard heat warms the rooms. At some time in recent years the sprinkler system was added. The building retains its original high ceilings and wood moldings.

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Thomas Hill Studio**Also known as the Pavilion, the Soda and Curio Store, and the Wawona Information Station****Contributing Building (map code: z)**

The Hill Studio (probably 1886) to the northwest of the main hotel building is a one-story building with a cruciform plan. Originally built as a painting studio and sales room for landscape painter Thomas Hill, the building saw a variety of uses since his death in 1908 including ice-cream parlor, dance hall, and recreation room. These changing uses resulted in changes to some of the original fabric. Most of these changes were reversed when the building underwent a partial restoration in 1967. Other changes, such as the restoration of the skylight, are scheduled for completion soon.

The present roofline of the shake roof presents a steeper pitch than the original standing-seam metal roof. A small balustrade mimicking a widow's walk tops the building. The porch on the front elevation is sheltered by a skirt roof. Details of the picket-type porch railing and spindly upper brackets are reminiscent of a perpendicular Eastlake style. The building's foundation is hidden by a skirt of beaded siding. Exterior walls are drop-channel and beaded siding. A four-panel door is centered on the front elevation. On the interior, ceilings are beaded siding and floors are hardwood. A painted wood wainscot encircles the walls. The wood doors, all surrounded by moldings, have four panels. An exterior elevator has been constructed at the rear of the building adjacent to the back porch steps. It is not attached to any historic fabric. The base of a circular fountain directly in front of the main entrance dates from the nineteenth century. Intrusion alarms and a halon fire suppression system have been installed in the building.

Little Brown Building/Moore Cottage**Contributing Building (map code: x)**

The Little Brown Cottage (1896), also known as the Moore Cottage, sits picturesquely above the main hotel building on a little knoll. The building is nearly square in plan, with a small shed-roofed addition on the east. The hip roof is pierced by dormers on the north and south and topped with a cupola with Palladian windows looking out in the four cardinal directions. The gable ends of the dormers are filled with diamond-pattern shingles. The cornerboards of the cupola are small pilasters. The veranda surrounding the building has a skirt roof that tucks up under the bracketed eaves of the main roof. Decorative gingerbread-type brackets at the tops of the chamfered posts and the railings between the posts add an elegance to the structure that is repeated in the sawn bargeboards in the dormers. Exterior walls are drop-channel siding with cornerboards finishing the edges. The tall windows of the first floor are one-over-one double hung. The building's foundation is screened by a skirting of beaded siding.

The original high ceilings on the first floor of this structure remain. Original four-panel doors and their hardware are also intact. Upstairs wood moldings with bullseye corner panels surround the door openings. The building has undergone the usual cosmetic and safety updates. The hardware on the original four-panel doors has been restored. New wallpaper in a tasteful period design now covers the walls up as far as the Picture molding, and carpeting covers the original wood floors. The remodelled bathrooms contain principally new fixtures, although the sinks may be original.

Long Brown Building/Washburn Cottage**Contributing Building (map code: t)**

The Long Brown or Washburn Cottage was probably constructed in 1899-1900, although an exact date is lacking. The large woodframe building is two-and-one-half stories in height, and generally rectangular in plan. The structure originally looked similar to the Clark Cottage, a long, rectangular one-and-one-half-story building. The second story and present attic were added in 1914 and the hipped-roof addition at the south sometime

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between 1914 and 1932. A veranda wrapping around most of the building's first floor has detailing similar to that on the Moore Cottage. The chamfered posts have jigsaw railings and the same bracket gingerbread of double-scrolls and diamond patterns. A skirt roof covers the veranda. The main gable roof of the building runs north-south. Paired eave brackets and bargeboards are similar to the Moore Cottage. These eaves on the gable ends have cornice returns, a detail typical of Greek Revival buildings. Vent openings in the gable ends are pointed, paralleling the shape of the gable. Roofs are finished with wood shakes. Windows are one-over-one double hung. The exterior is sheathed with drop-channel siding edged with cornerboards. The foundation is screened by a vented skirting of horizontal siding. A staircase and additional balustrade were added on the north end of the building in 1951 to serve as a fire escape. Additional windows were added to the structure at the same time when the interiors were remodelled.

Wawona Hotel Annex**Contributing Building (map code: p)**

The Annex, constructed in 1917-18, is a two-and-one-half-story building with a partial basement at the west end. The large wood-frame structure is rectangular in plan and surrounded by a two-story veranda. The balustrades edging the verandas are simply patterned vertical balusters with horizontal rails. Porch posts have T-shaped diagonal brackets giving a Stick Style appearance to the building. The gable roof and skirt roofs around the gable ends are finished with wood shakes. Exterior walls are finished with wood shingles painted white. The foundation is screened by latticework on the north and central portions of the building. The basement area at the south end is sheathed with wood shingles. Most of the building's double-hung windows are paired, as are the doors entering the guest rooms from the verandas. Double sets of French doors on the south and north gable ends provide access to those areas of the building. The large room at the west end is a common space with a large stone fireplace, wood paneling, and decorative ceiling moldings. The building has changed little since construction.

Slaughterhouse**Contributing Building (map code: a)**

The Wawona slaughterhouse was constructed in 1929. This building is located along the northwestern periphery of the Wawona meadow and reflects the meadows past utilization as a pasture. Today this small building is used as a storage building for tools associated with golf course maintenance. In 1933, a hide drying room located near the slaughterhouse had been razed and fencing around the slaughterhouse had been dismantled by the CCC. The building is largely rectangular in plan but has a small lean-to room along the buildings south façade. The building has a gabled roof and its exterior measures roughly 15x19 feet (not including the lean-to).

The slaughterhouse is a one story timber framed structure. The building has a tall, exposed, board-formed concrete foundation with weathered board-and-batten siding with an old coat of reddish-brown paint. The building has 8-lite windows on its north side that appear to be fixed and screened vents at the gable ends. The building has a steeply pitched gable roof sheathed in corrugated metal roofing. The building is in poor condition as much of the siding is rotten and it has multiple missing window panes.

Wawona Meadow**Contributing Site (map code: O)**

The Wawona Meadow had a strong bearing on Galen Clark's decision to homestead this area. The open character of the meadow provides sweeping views of the surrounding forests and mountain tops and is an attraction that lures many visitors to the hotel. This meadow also provided an ideal area for grazing pack animals and livestock and, in the higher portions of the meadow, growing fruit trees and vegetables. Today, the southern portion of the meadow has been allowed to naturalize and is no longer used for pasturage or farming. The northern portion of the meadow features a nine-hole golf course. The primary native species found in this

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seasonally flooded meadow are sedges (*Carex senta*, *C. vesicaria*), rushes (*Juncus ssp.*), some grasses and forbs. The Wawona Meadow also contains a band of riparian vegetation adjacent to the stream channels that flow through the meadow. Dense stands of willows line the channels, some of which were planted by the CCC during the conservation efforts of the 1930s to reduce erosion within the meadow. Red alder (*Alnus rhombifolia*) is also present in the riparian corridor.

If left to natural processes, the Wawona Meadow will become subject to encroachment and succession by conifers. Prior to Euro-American settlement, the American Indian practice of burning the meadows likely sustained them, preventing encroachment from the forest edge. After Euro-American settlement, agricultural uses (haying and grazing) had a similar result and prevented encroachment of tree saplings into the Meadow. However the abandonment of these practices and a history of fire suppression have led to the current situation, wherein trees from the surrounding hillsides are colonizing the edges, and in some areas, the center of the meadow.

Nearly all of the development at Wawona was sited along the forested margins of the meadow. Siting buildings in this manner allowed for open views towards the meadow without creating obstructions within the meadow. Furthermore, arranging buildings this way located them at higher elevations relative to the nearby meadow, making them less susceptible to damage during flooding.

Wawona Golf Course**Contributing Site (map code: G)**

The Wawona Golf Course lies along the northern end of the Wawona meadow. This portion of the meadow was transformed into a nine-hole golf course. San Francisco golf architect Walter Fovargue designed and built the Wawona Golf Course in 1917-18. Key to its character, according to Fovargue, was keeping the fairways narrow. Located at the north end of the meadow, the nine-hole course measured over 3000 yards. More than 700 trees were removed to clear fairways through the surrounding woods. It was also necessary to blast through rock in order to build the course. In 1924 Clarence Washburn had a set of second-nine tees installed in the golf course. In 1967 Golf Carts were allowed onto the Wawona Golf Course.

The manicured fairways of the course produce a striking visual contrast to the rustic surroundings, and serve as one of Wawona's most distinctive character-defining features. As this is one of the few golf courses to be found in a national park, it may appear odd to modern sensibilities. However, Stephen Mather found the idea of golf at Yosemite so appealing that he intended (and ultimately succeeded, although it has since been removed) to create a similar course in Yosemite Valley for the guests of the Ahwahnee Hotel.

Galen Clark Homestead Orchard**Contributing Site (map code: b)**

This orchard contains 15 apple trees (identified as either 'Newton Pippin' or 'Rhode Island Greening' in the 1991 orchard survey) and one pear tree. It is located in a clearing just west of hole seven of the present day golf course. The trees within this orchard are spread out around the perimeter of the clearing. There are no discernible rows. Galen Clark established this orchard between 1858 and 1864, which makes the trees some of the oldest historic features at Wawona. This orchard is located in a wet meadow so little irrigation was needed.

Washburn Orchard**Contributing Site (map code: l)**

The Washburn Orchard is located south of the Wawona Road, about 600' east of the Hotel Annex. This area contains 13 apple trees, planted in 16' rows, and represents the remains of the once extensive orchard and gardens established to supply the hotel with fresh produce. This orchard was planted by the Washburn family

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ca. 1879-85. The cultivated varieties of these historic apple trees remain unknown. Much of this orchard was obliterated in the 1930s when the new Wawona Road was constructed just west of the Wawona Hotel grounds.

Washburn Giant Sequoia Trees (4)**Contributing Site (map code: ff)**

In 1879, the Washburn family planted four giant sequoias in the courtyard between the Wawona Hotel and the (yet to be constructed) Little Brown building. The trees, all in good condition, are aligned in a row on a north south axis. The trees were planted to represent the four Washburn brothers: Julius, Henry, John, and Edward.

Wawona Meadow Fence**Contributing Site (map code: hh)**

The Wawona Meadow fence consists of the ruinous remains of a fence system enclosing pasture and hay fields in the Wawona Meadow. Used to enclose Wawona Hotel agricultural operations, the fences defined and separated pastures for horses and dairy cows at the upper and lower portions of the meadow, respectively. Although the fence once formed a continuous barrier around the entire Wawona Meadow, today many sections of the fence are missing or extremely deteriorated. Even so, over 2.5 miles of historic Wawona fencing is extant, and the association between the fencing and past agricultural practices at Wawona is still clear.

The perimeter portion of the fence is primarily constructed with split rails and has approximately 10-foot sections consisting of four to five rails and is three feet in height. In plan, the fence forms a zigzag pattern as every other section of fencing turns in an alternating direction. Double-strand twisted wire links the two posts at each fencing section's end. No nails or fasteners were used in construction of the fencing; the alternating, stacked rails and dual posts keep the fencing secure.

Along with the perimeter fencing, an interior stretch of fencing bisects the meadow. This fence kept horses (north) separated from dairy cows (south). This interior fencing is built of a mix of wooden and iron fence posts with a single row of wire spanning the posts (although originally, the fence certainly included more courses of wire, some of it likely barbed). The posts are roughly 4 feet tall. Other extant features associated with the Wawona meadow fence include two interior horse holding corrals, remnants of a horse loading chute, five hinged gates that lead to the interior of the meadow, and several stairways that provide passage over the fence along its boundary with the Wawona golf course.

In 1977, the Park discontinued all grazing at the Wawona Meadow. This led the Park to remove 3,000 to 4,000 feet of fencing from the Wawona Meadow and relocate it to the Ahwahnee meadow at Yosemite Valley in an attempt to curb meadow trampling there. This decision was met with opposition by local historic preservation interests, resulting in the park reinstalling the fencing at its original site in Wawona. Since this time, little maintenance has been performed on the fence by the park, although longtime Wawona resident and retired stage driver Albert Gordon occasionally repaired the fence, until his death in 2005.

Golf Course Ditch**Contributing Site (map code: gg)**

This resource consists of the remains of a water-conveyance ditch that supplied water to the Wawona Hotel from the Mount Adeline (now Mt. Savage) spring. Although it is unknown when this ditch was constructed, Albert Gordon's association of the feature with the Wawona Hotel indicates use prior to the development of other water sources at Wawona, suggesting a date of construction of c.1870-1900.³ This ditch is lined with local granitic cobbles in the section that parallels the Chowchilla Mountain Road (360 feet) and bisects the golf

³ Joseph W. Mundy, *The 1984 Archeological Monitoring at the Historic Wawona Complex* (Yosemite National Park: Publications in Anthropology no. 2, 1987).

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course, but it is unlined along its remaining 450 feet. The Historic Resource Recording at Wawona Meadow from 1998, however, shows the earthen portion of the ditch extending much farther to the southwest, almost to the southern end of the Wawona Meadow, which represents an additional 5,800 feet. Although this portion of the ditch still remains, it is no longer maintained and it is largely naturalized, filled in with sediment and duff, and obscured by thick wetland vegetation.

The stone-lined section of the ditch is roughly 1.5 feet deep and 4 feet wide, while the earthen section is roughly 2 feet deep and 5 feet wide. It is likely that the stone in the stone-lined section of the ditch was installed by the CCC during the 1935 to 1936 work season at Wawona. Although the ditch is no longer used for agricultural or drinking water purposes, it still conducts large volumes of water around the Wawona Golf Course, particularly during the spring thaw. Although dates of operation of the ditch were not indicated in historic references, testimony by longtime Wawona resident Albert Gordon in 1998 indicates that the ditch was in use from 1870 to 1900. It is likely that, over the years, the ditch was modified for stock and agricultural needs.

Wawona Hotel Fountain**Contributing Structure (map code: v)**

The original fountain at the Wawona Hotel was constructed by Henry Washburn circa 1879 following the fire at the hotel complex that destroyed several of its buildings. The original fountain was located directly west of the main hotel building and consisted of a metal pedestal with a central spray nozzle set on a cobblestone foundation mounded in the center of a 70 foot diameter reflecting pool that was enclosed by a wrought iron fence. The spray from the fountain reportedly reached over 40 feet in height. This feature, including the gravel path around the pool, became the focus for the grounds in front of the Wawona Hotel.

The 1917-1918 improvement program at the Wawona Hotel called for the replacement of the classic pedestal fountain with a more rustic, stone masonry fountain. The new and current fountain was completed in 1918 and featured a mortared river rock structure with a domed top, central spray nozzle and four interior arched openings mounted on a wide cylindrical base. The reflecting pool surrounding the fountain was retained, but the wrought iron fence was removed. Less ornate than the original fountain, this structure nevertheless lent a formality to the hotel grounds. The fountain, which is located on a direct east-west axis with the main hotel building, originally had a paved walkway that led from the hotel entrance to and around the fountain but this walkway no longer remains. Historic photographs illustrate that this fountain originally shot a single tall spray of water into the air, as opposed to the much lower, circular spray of water that is now sprayed from the fountain's nozzle.

The cylindrical base to the fountain is roughly 6 feet tall and 12 feet in diameter. The central structure is roughly 5 feet in height measuring from the top of the cylindrical base to the peak of its domed roof. The reflecting pool is lined with a circular, 8 inch wide concrete curb. The fountain is used during the spring and summer months and drained in the fall and winter when temperatures drop below freezing. When in use, the reflecting pool is kept at a depth of about 2 feet and is planted with water lilies. Preservation maintenance was performed on the fountain in 2010-11 and it is now in good condition.

Thomas Hill Studio Fountain**Contributing Structure (map code: aa)**

Although it is unclear exactly what year the Thomas Hill studio fountain was built, it is believed to have been built during Thomas Hill's tenure at the studio between 1886 and 1908. The 2010 Thomas Hill Studio Historic Structures Report estimates the year of construction for the fountain at 1895. This fountain is 20 feet south of the front entrance to the Thomas Hill studio. The fountain originally had a two-tiered, cast iron pedestal font with a central nozzle that shot up a single stream of vertical water to a height of roughly 2-3 feet. This pedestal

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fountain was situated in the center of a 17 foot diameter concrete basin that served as a reflecting pool. Along the raised perimeter of the fountain sat a short, decorative fence that encompassed the reflecting pool. However, the cast-iron font appears to have been a relatively short-lived design element. Historic photos of the Thomas Hill Studio taken in the early 1910s show the fountain without its original pedestal font (Historic Photographs, Yosemite Research Library). The 1983 Historic Structures Report on the Wawona Hotel cites Flora Hill McCullough who attested that Thomas Hill built the fountain himself and that he kept trout in it, although this assertion is unverified and trout would have had a difficult time surviving in such a shallow pool.

Since the period of significance, the concrete fountain basin has been filled with water and used as a reflecting pool, filled with soil and used as a planter and left empty, as is its current condition. During the latter years of Mission 66, a small amount of preservation work was performed on the Thomas Hill Studio Fountain, including re-plumbing the pool. Preservation maintenance was performed on the fountain in 2011 and it is now in good condition.

Wawona Hotel Swimming Pool**Contributing Structure (map code: r)**

In 1918, a swimming pool was constructed at the Wawona Hotel grounds west of the Long White. This pool measures 30 by 70 feet and is lined with concrete that is painted blue and has "WAWONA 1918" painted into its southern face. The perimeter of the pool is lined with a concrete walkway and several ladders provide access into the pool. The pool ranges from 3 to 7 feet deep and is enclosed in a white picket fence. The pool was constructed with reinforced concrete and cost approximately \$1400 to build. The pool's source of water was originally untreated river water, although today its water is treated.

Wawona Road**Contributing Structure**

The original Wawona Road was built constructed as a wagon road in 1874. The original Wawona Road ran from the South Fork of the Merced near the site of the Wawona Hotel to Yosemite Valley. Prior to this time, a bridle trail existed from Wawona Hotel to Yosemite Valley, but this trail was not adequately wide or graded enough to serve as a wagon road. John Conway, already regarded as a master trail builder, was surveyor, engineer and foreman of the construction of the road. The covered bridge (also built in 1875) near the Wawona Hotel marked the transition from the end of the Chowchilla Mountain Road (also surveyed and engineered by John Conway) to the beginning of the Wawona Road.

By the late 1920s, the National Park Service was looking to modernize and realign sections of the Wawona Road. Although automobiles had been using the 1875 Wawona Road since 1914 and nearly exclusively since 1916, it was designed and engineered to be used as a wagon road and was prohibitively narrow, steep and winding to allow for vehicles to travel very fast. By the early 1930s, the National Park Service had partnered with the Bureau of Public Roads and set out to rebuild the Wawona Road. Realizing that close proximity to the new road would be vital to his business interests, Clarence Washburn successfully lobbied to have the alignment of the new road run just west of the Wawona Hotel. In doing this, Clarence Washburn forfeited a 100 foot right of way through his property to the Park Service, including land that had previously been planted with fruit trees and vegetables. By 1931, a new bridge had been built along the new Wawona Road over the South Fork of the Merced, leaving the historic covered bridge obsolete. By 1933, the Wawona Tunnel at Inspiration Point was dedicated, marking the completion of the new Wawona Road. The alignment of the new Wawona Road remains intact to this day and is the primary means for guests to visit the Wawona Hotel. The section of the Wawona Road that runs through the Wawona Historic District accounts for roughly one-half mile of a road whose total length is roughly 26.8 miles. The Wawona Road, as it runs through the Wawona Historic District, has 11 foot travel lanes, paved shoulders that are approximately one foot wide and vegetated ditches.

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**Chowchilla Mountain Road/Mariposa Grove of Big Trees and Yosemite Turnpike
Contributing Structure**

The Chowchilla Mountain Road was constructed by John Conway in 1870 and was originally known as the Mariposa Grove. This wagon road connected the town of Mariposa to the newly opened Clark and Moore's Station and to a horse trail that lead to Yosemite Valley (which was later improved into a wagon road). This road measures roughly 12.7 miles from its point of origin along Highway 49 South to its terminus at the Wawona Hotel; however, only 920 feet are within the Wawona Basin Historic District. This road has changed very little from its 1870 character – it remains a narrow, unpaved road and it currently receives little traffic or maintenance. The small section that runs through the historic district, however, has been paved with asphalt concrete. The park currently advises that only vehicles with 4-wheel drive attempt to navigate this road. The Chowchilla Mountain Road is not plowed and gated closed during winter months. The road varies in width from 10 feet (before gate) to 14 feet (after gate).

**Wawona Hotel Loop
Contributing Structure**

The Wawona Hotel Loop is the formal drive that connects the Wawona Road to the Wawona Hotel and loops around the circular fountain and pond. Although it is unclear exactly when the Wawona Hotel Loop was constructed, documentary evidence (in the form of an aerial photograph) dates it to as early as the 1920s, although it is likely much older. It is probable that the Wawona Loop Road dates to 1879, during which the main Wawona Hotel building and the Wawona fountain were built, although the exact alignment has changed since this time. The parking area along the loop road below the fountain was added to the road corridor sometime in the 1940s. Many plans for the hotel grounds from the 1950s show a proposed hotel parking area north of the main hotel building near the hotel's service area; these plans also show the loop road completely realigned northwest of its historic location. Neither of these modifications were ever realized. The Wawona Hotel Loop is approximately 25 feet wide and it is paved with asphalt but not striped. The loop portion of the road is one way, its traffic moving counter clockwise around the fountain. Most of the Wawona Hotel Loop is lined with partially buried boulders that prevent vehicles from driving on the lawn. The Wawona Hotel Loop is roughly 1,000 feet in length.

**Meadow Loop Road/Meadow Loop Drive
Contributing Structure**

The Meadow Loop Road was constructed in 1891 as a scenic road that runs along the entire perimeter of the Wawona Meadow. In 1903, journalist Ben Truman praised the Wawona Hotel, and the Meadow Loop Road, in his publication *Wawona and its Environments*. In this souvenir guide, Truman remarks on the Meadow Loop Road, calling his scenic stage ride around the meadow "one of the most engaging and exhilarating features of Wawona." To this day, stagecoaches that originate at the Pioneer Yosemite History Center still take guests for scenic rides on the Meadow Loop Road. Aside from serving as a pleasure road for hotel guests, the road provided greater accessibility to the orchard, pasture and farm land that comprised the southern portion of the Wawona Meadow. In 1933, the CCC made several improvements to the loop road, including paving it in asphalt concrete and the installing at least 25 corrugated metal culverts. Since this time, the road has received few alterations and receives only spare maintenance. It is currently marked with ruts, potholes and crumbling asphaltic concrete and it is used primarily as a foot and bridle path. The road bed measures roughly 10 feet in width and it is approximately 3.1 miles long. Many conifers have currently encroached into the margins of the meadow, which makes views into the meadow from the loop road more obstructed than they once were.

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Historic Pedestrian Paths at the Wawona Hotel**Contributing Structure (map code: dd)**

Pedestrian paths within the hotel building complex include a system of concrete walkways that access the various buildings. It is unclear when these concrete pathways were built, but they appear to be contemporaneous with the development of the hotels. A topographic map of Wawona from 1933 shows many of the pedestrian paths around the hotel that exist today. A six-foot-wide scored concrete walk parallels the front of the Wawona Hotel, Long White and Little White. At its south end the walkway makes a right angle turn and then parallels the north elevation of the Hotel Annex, where it provides access to the entrance at the west end of that building. Also in the vicinity of the Hotel Annex, two paths diverge from the main walk toward the west entrance of the Annex and toward the pool, respectively. At its north end, two four-foot-wide concrete paths diverge from the main walk and lead toward the front and rear doors of the Hill Studio.

Concrete walks also link Long White, Little Brown, and Long Brown with the rear of the hotel. Specifically, a 4' wide walk extends east from the front walkway between the south elevation of the hotel and the north elevation of Long White. This walkway leads to the north entrance of Long White and also curves north to parallel the east elevation of the hotel, terminating at its rear entrance. Separate walks diverge from the rear of the hotel, leading towards and terminating at the north elevations of Long Brown and Little Brown, respectively. The path to Long Brown, which ascends a moderate slope, appears to incorporate the concrete steps from an earlier walkway with a modern asphalt trail surface. The bottom stairs have three risers, while the two middle sections have two risers; all of the stair sections are paired with metal pipe railings.

Stone Masonry Lamp Posts at Wawona Hotel (Main Building)**Contributing Object (map code: bb)**

The two lamp posts that flank the entry to the main Wawona Hotel building are known to date to at least 1930, as they show up in an historic picture taken in that year. It is likely that the lamp posts were built in 1918 when the Wawona Hotel fountain was rebuilt with the present mortared river rock structure, although this date is unverified. Like the fountain, the lampposts are constructed of mortared river rock. They consist of a square cobblestone base with a battered cobblestone column, topped with an opaque glass fixture. The lamp posts are partially covered in Virginia creeper, which grow from a wooden barrel adjacent to the lamp's base although historically, the lamps were covered in hops. The lamps are roughly 7 feet tall and two feet wide at their bases. Historic photos indicate that the lamps originally had round glass fixtures as opposed to the flat-top glass fixtures that currently top the posts.

Wawona Hotel Tennis Court**Contributing Structure (map code: y)**

The Wawona tennis court was constructed in 1937 and is located west of the Thomas Hill studio. Prior to this time, however, two earlier tennis courts (1918 and 1922) had existed at Wawona, the latter in the approximate location as the current 1937 tennis court. Tennis, along with the other recreational activities of golf, croquet and swimming, were developed at Wawona as a means to encourage longer stays by visitors to the area. The Yosemite Park & Curry Company contracted with a firm from Alameda, California to build the 1937 court and San Francisco architect Eldridge Spencer designed it. Upon completion, the tennis court cost roughly \$3,560. The tennis court measures 60 by 120 feet and is enclosed by the court's original 12 foot tall metal mesh fence. The tennis court is a concrete slab painted green with white striping. Lights are installed around the perimeter of the tennis court to allow for evening play.

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Noncontributing Resources**Booster Pump Station****Noncontributing Building (map code: e)**

This booster pump station was built as part of the Wawona utilities overhaul in 1987. This 17x17 foot structure provides water pressure for the extensive irrigation system at the Wawona Golf Course. This building has horizontal plank siding, a concrete foundation and a gable roof sheathed in wood shingles. The building has an attached plank fence that obstructs views of a high voltage power box that is immediately adjacent to the building.

Tractor Barn**Noncontributing Building (map code: ee)**

The tractor barn is located north of the Wawona hotel and is used to store the various mowers, thatchers, and miscellaneous equipment needed to maintain the Wawona Golf Course. This building was built in the late 1980s and measures 14 feet by 36 feet. The building has a shed roof with asphalt composite roofing and plywood siding painted white with green trim. The building has three large rolling garage doors that are used to store golf course maintenance equipment.

Non-Historic Pedestrian Paths at the Wawona Hotel**Noncontributing Structure (not mapped)**

Noncontributing concrete walks link Long White, Little Brown, and Long Brown with the rear of the hotel. Specifically, a 4-foot wide walk extends east from the front walkway between the south elevation of the hotel and the north elevation of Long White. This walkway leads to the north entrance of Long White and also curves north to parallel the east elevation of the hotel, terminating at its rear entrance. Separate walks diverge from the rear of the hotel, leading toward and terminating at the north elevations of Long Brown and Little Brown, respectively. The path to Long Brown, which ascends a moderate slope, appears to follow the alignment of an earlier pedestrian path, but is an entirely new construction. The bottom stairs have three risers, while the two middle sections have two risers; all of the stair sections are paired with metal pipe railings. It is unknown when these non-historic paths were installed, but it is known that they post-date the period of significance.

Wawona Employee Housing Tent Cabins (4)**Noncontributing Buildings (map code: cc)**

Four tent cabins occur a short distance northeast of the main Wawona hotel building. These four tent cabins were installed in the early 1980s. Prior to this time, a Wawona concessioner garden was located in this area. These tent cabins were installed and are maintained by the current park concessioner, the DNC. The tent cabins are comprised of white canvas supported by a metal frame resting on concrete pier blocks. The tent cabins measure 12 by 14 feet and have bear-proof containers in front of them.

Footbridge from Pro Shop to Golf Course**Noncontributing Structure (map code: j)**

It is unknown when the footbridge was installed at the Wawona Golf Course. An aerial photo from the early 1920s shows a bridge in this approximate location, but it appears to be wider than the current bridge and accessible to automobiles. This bridge is likely referenced in Clarence Washburn's diaries- in 1917 he refers to "Big Tree Creek Bridge" (Big Tree Creek being an old and informal name for the creek that drains through the Wawona Meadow and golf course).

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However, the bridge that exists today appears to be narrower than the historic bridge as seen in the 1920s aerial photograph. Conversations with longtime greens keeper Kim Porter indicate that the bridge in its current design and dimensions was constructed prior to the 1980s. The footbridge is roughly 5.5 feet wide, 40 feet long (52 feet if you include the concrete ramps that lead up to the bridge decking) two steel I-beam girders and concrete abutments. The bridge has wooden 2x6 decking and a 2x4 railing with 4x4 posts. The bridge is painted green. Although it is unknown when the bridge was constructed, it does not appear to be historic and post-dates the period of significance.

**Chowchilla Mountain Road Triple Culvert
Noncontributing Structure (map code: i)**

According to longtime Wawona Golf Course greens keeper Kim Porter, the Chowchilla Mountain Road Triple Culvert was installed sometime in the 1980s by Carl Frisbee. However, an earlier culvert was located in this same location. This large culvert is located just before the Chowchilla Mountain Road meets the Wawona Road at the unnamed stream that flows through the Wawona Meadow and the Wawona Golf Course. The triple culvert features three 4 foot diameter corrugated pipes which all have large metal aprons that direct the water flow through the culverts. The culverts have concrete inlets and outlets with a rubble stone masonry veneer.

**Service Bridge near Pump House
Noncontributing Structure (map code: d)**

According to greenskeeper Kim Porter, the service bridge near the pump house was constructed by Carl Frisbee in the 1980s, although there had been an earlier bridge located in this same location. The bridge was constructed for pedestrian and automobile traffic and is 30 feet long and ten feet wide. The bridge has mortared stone abutments, two large steel I-beam girders and 4x12 wood decking and 10x10 railings. The railings along both sides of the eastern portion of the bridge are no longer present and were likely lost during a flood.

**Prefabricated Golf Course Bridges (4)
Noncontributing Structures (map code: f, k, m, n)**

There are three prefabricated bridges at the Wawona Golf Course of identical design. These three bridges were installed at the golf course following the 1997 flood and presumably replaced damaged bridges that had been in the same locations. These three bridges cross small, seasonal drainages that flow through the golf course. They are 10 feet wide and vary in length from 15 to 21 feet. The bridges have concrete abutments, 2x4 decking placed end-up and weathering steel parapet walls.

**Custom Built Golf Course Bridge
Noncontributing Structure (map code: h)**

Along with the prefabricated bridges at the golf course, this bridge was constructed following the 1997 flood. However, unlike the prefabricated bridges, this bridge was custom built. This bridge has concrete abutments with stone masonry wing walls, 4 steel I-beam girders and wood 2x12 decking. The bridge is 26 feet in length and 9 feet wide.

**South Fork Bridge/Wawona Road Bridge
Noncontributing Structure (map code: c)**

The bridge at this location was originally constructed in 1931 with the realignment of the Wawona Road west of its prior crossing at the covered bridge. The original bridge consisted of a 3-span I-beam bridge on rubble masonry piers and abutments. This superstructure of the bridge consisted of laminated 2x8 inch redwood decking covered with one inch of asphaltic surface. The guard wall was constructed of yellow pine logs. Logs were also fitted and bolted along the outside of the steel I-beams in order to shield them from view. In 1997, however, the structural integrity of this bridge was compromised during a flood. From 1998 until 2006, a

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temporary metal bridge was installed at Wawona to allow for passage over the south fork. In 2006, a new bridge was built over the south fork in roughly the same location as the original bridge.

The new bridge is quite different from the original bridge. The new bridge is 32 feet wide and is a single span concrete bridge with a guard wall that is primarily comprised of concrete. In contrast, the original bridge was 24 feet wide and was a three-span steel I-beam bridge with a log guard wall. The new bridge was engineered to have no piers, which makes it less susceptible to damage during floods. The new bridge is roughly 156 feet long and crosses the river at a slightly oblique angle. The bridge has a parapet guard wall along its entire length composed of a thick concrete wall interspersed with concrete stanchions every 9.5 feet with a peeled-log railing between the stanchions. The interior segments of the stanchions and concrete wing walls have a genuine river rock veneer, while the exterior of the stanchions and the outer edge of the wing walls and abutments are finished with form line concrete made to look like mortared river rock.

Non-Historic Walls and Fences**Noncontributing Structure (not shown on site plan)**

Several sections of noncontributing walls and fences are aggregated within this one entry. These include the wood wall that holds the aboveground steam lines between the Long and Little White cottages (c. 1940s), the concrete retaining wall between the Long White and the Main Wawona Hotel (date unknown), the white picket fence around the swimming pool (date unknown), and the wooden fencing around the Washburn Orchard (c. mid-1980s).

Flagpole and Plaque at Wawona Hotel**Noncontributing Object (map code: u)**

In 1987, a flag pole and plaque were constructed in the lawn west of the fountain. The flag pole and plaque were constructed to commemorate the designation of the Wawona Hotel as a National Historic Landmark and are compatible within the historic district. The base of the flagpole is constructed of mortared river rock and has a bronze plaque on its front face that commemorates the Wawona Hotel's 1987 National Historic Landmark designation. From the center of the base rises a 40 to 50 foot tall fiberglass flag pole that has a U.S. flag attached to its top.

An earlier flagpole was also located at the hotel grounds. The original flagpole was constructed in 1918 and was located closer to the fountain than the 1987 flag pole. It is unknown when this original flagpole was removed from the hotel grounds.

Non-Historic Small Scale Features**Noncontributing Object (not shown on site plan)**

Several types of noncontributing small scale features are aggregated within this one entry. These include the hotel entry sign, the tree-mounted light near the swimming pool, the steel light posts along the pathway that leads to Little Brown, several half-barrel planters, and numerous trash and recycling receptacles. Other noncontributing small scale features are located at the golf course, including the diagrammatic way-finding maps at each tee that are carved into an upright log, boundary stakes, benches, golf ball cleaners, and a periscope.

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State Significance of Property, and Justify Criteria, Criteria Considerations, and Areas and Periods of Significance Noted Above.

The Wawona Hotel Historic District meets National Historic Landmark Criterion 4 because of its exceptional significance as an intact example of a Victorian era hotel complex in a national park. When it was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1987, it was acknowledged to be the largest extant Victorian hotel complex within the boundaries of a national park, exhibiting an unusual degree of integrity. Nearly all of the exterior fabric on buildings pre-dates World War I, and the interior finishes and floor plans are largely intact. Constructed over a forty-year period, the buildings suggest an architectural unity established by several factors: their formal placement on the rural landscape; a repetition of materials, form, and massing; and architectural details, such as the porches and verandas that surround the buildings. The verandas both unite the buildings and emphasize their connection to the landscape.

A variety of subtle stylistic elements enlivens this architectural unity. The buildings contain Greek Revival details, such as the cornice returns on the Washburn Cottage, Stick Style and Eastlake details on railings and brackets, and Classical elements on the cupola of the Moore Cottage. These relatively simple structures illustrate the broad spectrum of stylistic preferences in American architecture from the 1870s through World War I.

The hotel complex has provided the same visitor services for more than 100 years. The complex is frequented by travelers seeking a quieter, more subdued atmosphere than that offered by accommodation in the Yosemite Valley. The Wawona has not bowed to the electronic demands of today's visitors, eschewing personal computer service and televisions in individual rooms, and maintaining the nightly drawing room entertainment of a resident pianist. Several generations of some families have visited the Wawona year after year. This unusual combination of an intact complex and functional integrity is noteworthy.

The period of significance for the Wawona Hotel Historic District is 1876 to 1939. The beginning date reflects the year the earliest extant building in the hotel complex was built, the Long White, now known as the Clark Cottage. The end date refers to the completion of the Wawona Road through the hotel complex and the end of the first phase of National Park Service upgrades to the Wawona. The work in the 1930s culminated in the completion of the Wawona Road through the hotel in 1939 (and through the park in 1940).

Construction of the Wawona Road to and through the hotel complex was one of the most lasting and character defining projects undertaken in the 1930s. When the park acquired the Wawona Hotel in 1932, it also acquired more than 8,000 acres along the southwest perimeter of the park, resulting in relocation of the park's south entrance to its present location, and re-routing the road toward the Wawona Hotel. Ultimately, the new road ushered in a new era of tourism in the post-World War II era.

This nomination corrects the period of significance of the original NHL designation, which carried the significance of the Wawona to "the present." This is a concept that is rarely used any more, and as the park establishes preservation goals for the Wawona, "the present" is not helpful in evaluating the significance of individual components. After careful consideration, 1939 has been established as the most appropriate end date for the architectural significance of the Wawona.

Historic Development of the Property

Unless otherwise noted, the following history is summarized from the *Wawona Hotel Complex Cultural Landscape Report* and *The Wawona Hotel Complex Historic Structures Report*.⁴

⁴ Tina Bishop and Robyn Bartling, *Wawona Hotel Complex Historic Landscape Report*, 90%/75% draft (Denver: Mundus

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The Wawona Hotel is linked to the early development of the Wawona basin by Euro-Americans after it became a destination for soldiers, miners, and tourists seeking wealth, asserting control, or wanting to glimpse the magnificent scenery offered by the Mariposa Grove of Giant Sequoia trees and the Yosemite Valley. Wawona is located some 30 miles south of the Yosemite Valley and about 20 miles west of Mariposa. In the nineteenth century and earlier, the primary inhabitants of the Yosemite Valley, including Wawona, were the Central and Southern Miwok Indians. Prior to the establishment of Galen Clark's homestead at Wawona, the Southern Sierra Miwok had long frequented the meadow during the spring and summer months. They established seasonal camps from which they hunted, fished, processed acorns, and crafted tools. The Miwok referred to the area as *Pallahchun*, which is Miwok for "a good place to stop."

Although earlier entry to the valley by Euro-Americans is probable, it was the 1851 mission of Major James D. Savage that ushered in government and public awareness of the grandeur and richness of the region's natural resources. Major Savage led the Mariposa Battalion into the Yosemite Valley in 1851 to subdue Indians in the region. They entered the valley from the south, establishing a camp in the area now known as the Wawona Meadow. Other conflicts between Indians and the American military followed over the next few years, but in 1855 James M. Hutchings, the publisher of *California Magazine*, led the first party of tourists into the Valley. Among the tourists was Galen Clark, who became inextricably linked to the development of the Wawona basin and the Yosemite Valley.

By 1856, the brothers Houston, Milton, and Andrew Mann had developed a toll trail for horse and foot traffic from the town of Mariposa (some 20 miles west of Wawona) to the Yosemite Valley, via Wawona. The trail largely followed old Indian trails, and in 1860 Mariposa County purchased it to be used as public highway. By 1870 most of the trail had been improved for stage travel by the turnpike company formed by Galen Clark. It was known as the Chowchilla Mountain State Road.

Galen Clark

In 1856, Galen Clark filed a claim for 160 acres on the South Fork of the Merced River near the crossing of the Mann brothers' toll road. It included the 1851 site of the Mariposa Battalion camp. Clark built a horse trail into the "Mariposa Grove of Big Trees," the name he bestowed on the grove of nearby giant sequoias (*Sequoiadendron giganteum*), and used his homestead as a rudimentary hostelry for visitors to the grove and Yosemite Valley. The association between the grove and Wawona persists to this day.

His homestead seems to have been located at the west end of the Wawona Meadow. By today's landmarks, it is near the seventh green of the Wawona Golf Course, where a remnant of his orchard remains. In 1859 Clark moved his hostelry to the site now occupied by the Main Hotel. By this time, his claim was known as "Clark's Station." Historic photographs from the 1860s show a long, low building, probably built in stages, but united by a shed roof porch that spanned the entire west elevation.

In 1864, the Yosemite Grant was established by the federal government in acknowledgement of the extraordinary scenic value of the Mariposa Grove and Yosemite Valley. The wealth of natural resources, coveted by miners and loggers, was an added incentive for establishment of the reserve. The grant was to be administered by the State of California, and two years after its establishment, Galen Clark was appointed the guardian of the Yosemite Grant.

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With his job as guardian taking time from his homestead occupations and with his business debt ever-growing, Clark sold part of his interest in Clark's Station to Edwin Moore and his wife Huldah in 1869 and the establishment became known as Clark and Moore's Station. Clark and Moore also were business partners in the turnpike company that was attempting to complete the road from Mariposa to the Yosemite Valley. They were never successful in this venture. By 1874, their financial plight required the sale of their land holdings and turnpike interests. Albert H. Washburn and partners bought the property, ending the nearly 20-year presence of Galen Clark at Wawona. Clark moved to the Yosemite Valley, where he better carried out his job as guardian of the breathtakingly beautiful valley. He lived the remainder of his life in the Yosemite Valley.

The Washburn Era

For more than 25 years after the departure of Galen Clark, Henry Washburn led the development of the Wawona property. Washburn's initial business interest in the region had been outfitting travelers bound for the Sierra Mountains with supplies, horses, wagons, and guides. Eventually, with partner Jack McCready, he established stage coach service to Clark and Moore's Station at Wawona from Mariposa. When he bought the Wawona property, Washburn understood that it was critical to complete the portion of the toll road to the Yosemite Valley that Clark and Moore could never complete. By July 1875, Washburn had accomplished this goal. The hotel was known as Big Tree Station by this time. It was a busy and self-sufficient enterprise, which included milling lumber, blacksmithing, and farming that yielded a substantial portion of the food required to run the hostel.

In 1876, Washburn and his partners built a trail from the hotel to the Mariposa Grove. In that same year they built the Long White Cottage, known today as the Clark Cottage. In 1877 Washburn bought out his partners, and began the building campaign that would transform the Wawona from a lodge to a hotel that was a destination itself, not just a stop along the way to the Yosemite Valley or Mariposa Grove. To accomplish this transformation, Washburn formed the Yosemite Stage and Turnpike Company, which provided passenger and freight service from Merced to the Yosemite Valley, by way of Big Tree Station. The success of this venture directly affected the success of the lodge, both in revenue generated and in its ability to bring guests to Wawona.

In 1878 a huge fire at Big Tree Station took several buildings, but spared Long White and the stable. These buildings became the focus of the new construction, which would irrevocably change the nature of Wawona. By April 1879 Washburn had constructed a two-story building to the north of Long White, today referenced as the Main Hotel. Verandas encircled the building at both levels and the second floor contained 25 guest rooms. The hotel was connected to the adjacent buildings to the north and south by elevated walkways. According to Gilmartin and Dreyfuss, "The *Mariposa Gazette* touted the hotel as the best 'outside San Francisco for comfort and accommodations, [offering] comfortable beds, cheerful fireplaces, and appetizing food.'"⁵ Three years later, Little White was built; it is known today as the "Manager's Cottage." At about the same time the name "Wawona" was adopted in place of Big Tree Station, in theory a nod to the Indian heritage of the site. As Gilmartin and Dreyfuss discuss, the actual meaning and origin of the word is not clear.⁶

Thomas Hill's studio was built in 1884. In about 1894 the Moore Cottage, known then as the "Small Brown," was completed to the east of the Main Hotel. The Washburn Cottage, originally called the "Long Brown," was built sometime around the turn-of-the-century, but documentation is unclear about a precise date.

In 1885 John Washburn married Thomas Hill's daughter Estrella. In 1896 Hill suffered a stroke, but until his death in 1908, Hill continued to paint the landscapes that made him famous. He is known best for his landscape

⁵ Gilmartin and Dreyfuss, "Wawona Hotel Complex Historic Structure Report," (90%/75%), 15.

⁶ *Ibid.*, 15.

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paintings of Yosemite. Although the original National Historic Landmark nomination considered the Hill Studio an aspect of the hotel's national significance, the hotel complex was only designated an NHL for its architectural significance. The original nomination did not present arguments demonstrating the national significance of the hotel for its association with Hill. Although it is beyond the scope of this nomination to add this historical significance, the nomination does not deny the significance of Hill to the history of American art.

The buildings constructed after the 1878 fire were arranged in a formal pattern, overlooking the meadow, with the north-south orientation of three buildings aligned to be visible from the Chowchilla Mountain Stage Road: the Main Hotel, the Long White (adjacent to the south), and the Little White (south of the Long White). The Annex and the Thomas Hill Studio were sited perpendicular to this alignment, facing each other from either end of the row of three buildings. The Little Brown building and the Long Brown building were built behind the aligned buildings to the east, with the same north-south orientation.

Landscape embellishment was a priority as the hostel was transformed into a resort. Sometime in the 1880s the first fountain was built in front of the Main Hotel, with a pedestal and surrounding pool. In 1918 this fountain was replaced with the one that is evident today. The fountain is the centerpiece of the drive that curves northeast from the Wawona Road and circles around the fountain. Another fountain was installed in front of the Little Brown building, and another fountain was built in front of the Hill studio. The cultural landscape report calls the formal treatment at the Wawona Hotel a "characteristic Victorian setting," exhibited in the siting of buildings, rectilinear walkways, and formal features like the fountains."⁷

In 1890 Yosemite National Park was established by the federal government and by 1891 the U.S. Army was ensconced at the park as its steward. Based at Camp A. E. Wood, now known as the Wawona Campground, the 4th Cavalry Regiment oversaw operations from this site until 1906, when park operations were moved to the Yosemite Valley, and the Mariposa Grove and Yosemite Valley were combined into one park. The army remained the steward of the park, based in the Yosemite Valley, until 1914.

The Wawona Hotel Company was established in 1891 by Henry Washburn and his three brothers, with Henry possessing the controlling share. Under the umbrella of the company, construction and site development continued, with its essential character in place by about 1912. The company managed the entire operation, including the hotel and farming operations. Over the next several years, many building and site improvements were evident. Each contributed to the growing reputation of the Wawona Hotel as a mountain resort, located in a stunning location with recreational activities, good food, and proximity to some of the nation's finest scenery. The Wawona Hotel Company oversaw operations until 1932, the year the Wawona ceased operation as a family business and was incorporated into Yosemite National Park.

Henry Washburn's death in 1902 and the death of one of his brothers and another company principal, J. J. Cook, in 1904 heralded the beginning of a number of changes to the operation of the Wawona. John Washburn and his son Clarence became active in the business and were instrumental in encouraging changes to accommodate visitors arriving by automobile. One task was to reclaim the business that was being lost to the completion of the Yosemite Valley Railroad in 1907, which carried passengers from Merced to El Portal. The Wawona Hotel was by-passed by this arrangement, although it greatly facilitated visitors' access to the Yosemite Valley. The hotel was spared complete disaster by the proximity of the Mariposa Grove, ever an attraction to visitors.

The park resisted automobile traffic as long as possible. Although earlier in the century automobiles were evident at Yosemite, by 1906 they were banned due to flagrant violations of the park's traffic laws. In 1913

⁷ Ibid., 1-41.

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they were finally reinstated, but for a year they were confined to the Coulterville Road, which bypassed Wawona. The hotel's business benefitted from growing bus traffic, and in 1916 horse-drawn stagecoach service was banned in the Wawona basin.

The buildings were updated, in step with accommodations to modern transportation. Amenities like private and semi-private bathrooms were added, and the Wawona—mirroring the amenities of big city hotels—thoroughly shed its rustic roots. The Annex was the last of the buildings developed for guest accommodation. Completed in 1918, the two-story building had thirty-nine guest rooms and 20 bathrooms. Like the other guest accommodation, the Annex was surrounded by wide verandas. Although staff housing and a new store were built in 1920, these three buildings do not exist today.

Under the leadership of Clarence Washburn, who was fully in charge of the Wawona after his father's death in 1917, the Wawona continued to develop as a destination mountain resort. Building modernization took place throughout the 1920s, and the grounds were a major focus of improvement. The grounds became more than just a setting for the Wawona Hotel, although that remained an important contribution, but they became a partner in the amenities offered to the visiting public.

In 1925, the Yosemite National Park Company and the Curry Camping Company merged to form the Yosemite Park and Curry Company (YP&CC). When YP&CC purchased the road through Yosemite, it granted a five-year contract to the Wawona Hotel that guaranteed the continuation of the hotel's lunch and lodging business. During this period (the mid-1920s), the park became concerned that a proposal to dam the South Fork of the Merced River by the San Joaquin Light and Power Company would flood the Wawona basin. The park began efforts to acquire the basin, including the Wawona Hotel, to curtail these development proposals. It proposed operation of the park by the YP&CC. By 1932 this change had been accomplished, and the Wawona, including its golf course and meadow, was incorporated into Yosemite National Park, together with an 8,000-acre land purchase. YP&CC was granted a twenty-year lease to operate the hotel, and Clarence Washburn was appointed the hotel's manager

Development of the Wawona Hotel Landscape

The *Wawona Hotel Complex Cultural Landscape Report* provides an excellent description of the evolution of the grounds of the hotel.⁸ The following information is summarized from the report.

Under the ownership of the Washburn family, Clark and Moore's Station was transformed from a simple stopping place for travelers to a mountain resort that attracted an urban and international clientele. When Henry Washburn and his partners acquired the hostelry in 1875, the business reflected the variety of endeavors Clark and Moore had undertaken: sawmill, farming, blacksmithing, lodging, and transportation services. By the time the Washburn family sold the business to the government in 1932, Wawona was a bucolic retreat for those seeking relaxation and recreation. Transformation of the landscape under Washburn ownership created a vital setting for the elegant hotel with its rustic overtones, and the integrity of the historic landscape today contributes to the significance of the hotel.

By the mid-1920s, the grounds had achieved much of their present day appearance. Earlier landscape improvements were designed to improve access to the buildings and circulation through the site, and establish a certain aesthetic. The development of recreational amenities took center stage in the nineteen-teens. A croquet court was built in 1914 on the west side of the hotel and a golf course was built in 1917. The golf course was the first mountain course in California. In the same year, a tennis court was built to the west of the Main Hotel. (More courts, later removed, were built in 1922. A swimming tank was installed in 1918. Measuring 30 x 70

⁸ Bishop and Bartling, *Wawona Hotel Cultural Landscape Report* 90%/75% draft.

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feet, the tank is located in front of the Annex. To the west of the Annex a putting green was installed in about 1920.

The front of the hotel received other cosmetic and functional changes in 1918. The entrance road was graded and lined with a cobblestone edge. The spruced-up road showcased the rebuilt fountain, which replaced the original fountain in 1918. The new fountain incorporated rock cobble from the South Fork of the Merced River. To the west of the fountain, a flagpole was built, also in 1918, but the one evident today is a later construction. Many of these improvements utilized natural stone, a design strategy still widely used at Wawona to line planting beds and walks.

In the 1920s, an emphasis on transportation improvements had major impacts on access to the Wawona Hotel. In 1925, Wawona Meadow was graded and irrigation ditches were constructed to develop a landing field for aircraft. Although the landing field was only used until 1941, highway improvements had a lasting impact on the Wawona and Yosemite. For years, Clarence Washburn had tried to influence the re-routing of Highway 41 to be in proximity to the hotel. In the mid-1920s this was assured when he donated a 100-foot right-of-way through the property for the road's construction. In 1926 the National Park Service adopted the plan for the reconstruction of the Wawona Road, which is the name of Highway 41 within the park, and it became the primary route through Yosemite.

In its early history and through the early years of the twentieth century, the Wawona Hotel met most of its own food needs through agricultural operations. The nexus of agricultural production was the area now known as the Wawona Meadow and golf course. The land there was used to grow crops and pasture livestock. By 1918, the hotel was less dependent its own agricultural operations, and, in keeping with other resorts, the Wawona decided to use pastureland for development of the golf course. In 1930 to 1931, more agricultural land was lost when land that had been used for pasture was lost to road development. By 1977, the park discontinued all grazing in the Wawona Meadow, thereby ending all agricultural at the property.

The Beginning of NPS Ownership

In 1933, under National Park Service ownership, a vigorous program of renovation of the buildings and grounds began. Clarence Washburn left his position at the Wawona in 1934, ending the Washburn era that had so dramatically transformed the hotel. NPS ushered in a new era of operation, with little attempt to dramatically change the tradition and success that the Wawona had built over the years. Yosemite benefitted from federal work programs that provided labor for much needed maintenance, upgrades, and modifications. Three of Yosemite's five CCC camps were located at the Wawona, and for the next six years the Federal Emergency Program workers carried out maintenance, remodeling, removals, and site work that resulted in the appearance of the buildings and grounds evident today. The National Park Service considered some of the buildings obsolete or beyond repair, and several were demolished. Projects undertaken by the CCC included golf course modifications to improve drainage, control erosion and enhance fairways. The meadow at the Wawona was improved by the removal of garbage pits, the construction of drainage ditches, and the removal of fencing around the slaughterhouse. In 1937, the 1918 tennis courts were replaced by the CCC with the courts that exist today.

The work accomplished during this period was done by the CCC, the National Park Service (NPS), and the YP&CC. Improvements included the planting of trees and shrubs and the installation of a lawn around the hotel. Tent platforms were removed from the site and the Annex boiler house was removed. A water and sewer system was installed, the landing strip was improved, and several outdated buildings were removed, such as the granary, the boiler house, and a garage. The work in the 1930s culminated with the completion of the Wawona

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Road through the park in 1939 (and through the Wawona Hotel Historic District). This marks the end date of the period of significance.

Construction of the Wawona Road to and through the hotel complex was one of the most lasting and character defining projects undertaken by the Civilian Conservation Corps. When the park acquired the Wawona in 1932, it also acquired more than 8,000 acres in the Wawona basin, resulting in relocation of the south entrance to the park to its present location. Routing the road through the Wawona Hotel grounds required relocation of the ninth hole of the golf course and alterations to the first, second, and third holes. It also changed access to the circular drive in front of the Main Hotel. Straightening curves and paving portions of the road between Fresno and the park and into the Yosemite Valley were also undertaken as part of the Route 41 improvements. Ultimately, the new road ushered in a new era of tourism in the post-World War II era.

The 1940s and Beyond

After the flurry of construction activity in the 1930s, the Wawona became relatively quiet. The National Park Service implemented several operational changes, and the YP&CC was forced to reduce staff and amenities. In 1942, NPS completed an area plan for Wawona that was part of a bigger master planning process for the park. Although changes to the entry route resulted, the property actually was little changed overall by the plan. For three years during the war, the hotel was closed.

One of the more obvious changes to the property was an alteration in the color scheme. No longer could the Little Brown and the Long Brown, painted white in 1941, effectively be known by those names. However, not until 1952 did the Little Brown become known as the Moore Cottage and the Long Brown known as the Washburn. At the same time, the Long White was renamed the Clark Cottage and the Little White was renamed the Manager's Cottage. These name changes demonstrate a prevailing reverence for maintaining the Wawona as it essentially was when NPS acquired it. In the decades since this acquisition, the buildings have been maintained, mechanical systems have been upgraded, life/safety concerns have been addressed, parking areas have been added, and circulation has been minimally changed. Interior refurbishing has been undertaken with the same conservative approach as exterior changes. In 1985 the Wawona Hotel was listed in the National Register of Historic Places and in 1987 it was designated a National Historic Landmark.

National Significance of the Wawona Hotel Historic District

The Wawona Hotel Historic District is of exceptional national significance as an intact Late Victorian rural mountain resort, associated with a national park. Incorporating most of the features that were in place by 1930, the hotel building complex and associated landscape have changed little in the ensuing 80+ years. The golf course resembles its 1939 appearance, as slightly altered to accommodate the encroachment of the new route of the Wawona Road. The meadow remains a clear foreground for the mountains that rise above. The designed landscape in the vicinity of the buildings is intact, except for some encroachment of parking areas, which the park may re-orient as it considers recommendations of the property's 2011 cultural landscape report.

A charming mix of formality and informality marks the buildings and landscape. The buildings borrow decorative treatments from a range of popular styles of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The uniformity of porches and building materials unites the building complex, further tied by the connection of walks and plantings. Formal decorative treatments, such as fountains, convey the hotel's intent to shed its early reputation as a hostelry, although rural touches, such as boulders interspersed at the sides of drives and along walks, convey the hotel's origins as a family operated hotel with little pretense. The buildings and landscape at the Wawona, including the golf course and pasture, are linked by a shared history, function, and design. This nomination expands the original NHL boundary to acknowledge the critical relationship between the buildings and their historic landscape.

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The degree of integrity of the Wawona Hotel, in form and function, is unique among national parks. Its architecture, landscape, and recreation facilities combine to present a remarkably intact turn-of-the century resort. Yosemite National Park, with the recent preparation of a cultural landscape report and a historic structures report, has rededicated its intent to maintain a preservation approach to the treatment of the Wawona Historic District. The park is fully aware that the Wawona Hotel Historic District is an exceptional property, with very special historic character and integrity.

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

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Crosby, Anthony, and Nicholas Scratish. *Historic Structure Report; Wawona Hotel, Yosemite National Park, California*. Denver: National Park Service, Denver Service Center, 1983.

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Emeryville, CA: Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc., July 18, 2011.

Mundy, Joseph W. *The 1984 Archeological Monitoring at the Historic Wawona Complex*, Publications in Anthropology No. 2. Yosemite National Park: Yosemite Research Center, 1987.

National Park Service files, including List of Classified Structures and National Register files, Western Regional Office.

Sargent, Shirley. *Yosemite's Historic Wawona*. Yosemite, California: Flying Spur Press, 1984.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

Preliminary Determination of Individual Listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.

Previously Listed in the National Register.

Previously Determined Eligible by the National Register.

Designated a National Historic Landmark.

Recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey: HABS CAL, 22-WAWO

Recorded by Historic American Engineering Record: HAER CAL, 22-WAWO

Primary Location of Additional Data:

State Historic Preservation Office

Other State Agency

Federal Agency: Yosemite National Park

Local Government

University

Other (Specify Repository):

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10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

Acreage of Property: Approx. 175

UTM References:

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	11	265083	4157922
B	11	265209	4157755
C	11	265257	4157824
D	11	265405	4157854
E	11	265549	4157788
F	11	265625	4157520
G	11	265783	4157508
H	11	265227	4157464
I	11	264927	4157370
J	11	264855	4157668
K	11	264741	4157639
L	11	264676	4157941

Verbal Boundary Description:

As a rule, the Wawona Hotel and Historic District Boundary was designed to include a 50 foot wide corridor around its exterior features. This 50 foot corridor was designed to safely incorporate resources that are associated with historic features along the boundaries perimeter. For instance, a 50 foot corridor was included around the Wawona Loop Road and Wawona Road to account for and include the road sections cut and fill, shoulders, culverts, retaining walls and other associated features.

Starting at the northeast corner of the district at the South Fork of the Merced River and 50 feet east of the Wawona Road. Maintaining a 50 foot corridor along the Wawona Road, the boundary moves south southeast roughly 800 feet, thence the boundary moves northeast to include the Wawona tennis court, then moves east northeast roughly 450 feet. The boundary then moves roughly 500 feet east-southeast to a location roughly 50 feet east of the dirt road that runs behind the hotel complex. The boundary then follows the alignment of the dirt road moving southeast, before reaching a spot 50 feet north of the Wawona Road. From here the boundary follows the Wawona Road while maintaining a 50 foot corridor until it reaches a spot 50 feet east of the Meadow Loop Road. The Historic District boundary then follows the Meadow Loop Road's 50 foot corridor around the Wawona Meadow until approximately 330 feet southeast of Chowchilla Mountain Road. The boundary then continues west-southwest to encompass the Wawona Golf Course, then continues approximately north-northwest, running at an approximate 50 foot distance from the southwest edge of the Wawona Golf Course. The boundary then veers west-southwest in order to include the site of Galen Clark's Homestead when it again veers north-northwest towards the South Fork of the Merced River. The boundary then follows the South Fork of the Merced until reaching its point of origin.

Boundary Justification:

The Wawona Hotel Historic District is oriented in a northwest by southeast axis and is roughly 2 miles long by ¼ mile wide. The district was drawn to include the Wawona Hotel as well as the Wawona Meadow and the Wawona Golf Course, both of which were integral components of the hotel operation during the period of significance. The district is delineated using a combination of constructed and natural features.

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11. FORM PREPARED BY

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Washington, DC 20240

Telephone: 202-354-2252

Date: 1985, original nomination; September 7, 2011, revised nomination

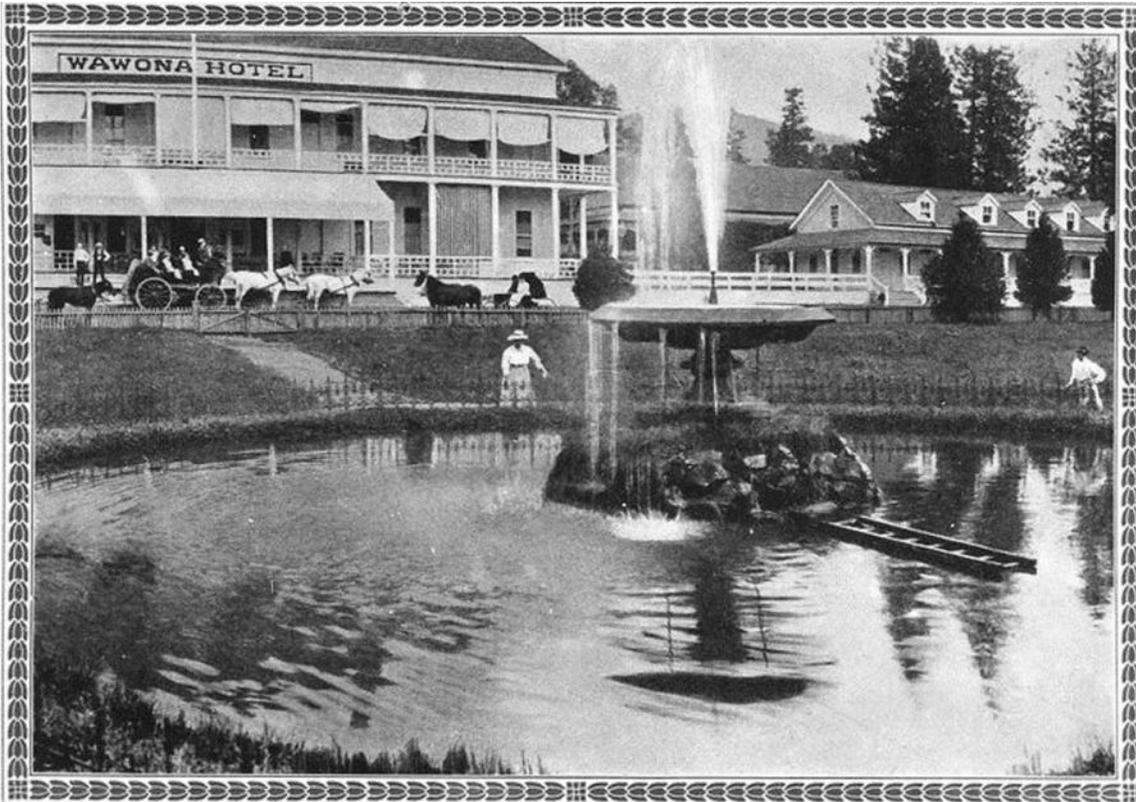
NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS PROGRAM
September 9, 2011

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Photograph 1. Fountain at Wawona taken sometime before 1918 showing the original metal pedestal fountain surrounded by an iron fence. In the background, the Main Building of the Wawona Hotel has an elevated platform for boarding and exiting carriages with stairs on either side facing north and south. (Yosemite Research Library)



Photograph 2. View of the Wawona Hotel in 1890 Wawona taken sometime before 1918 showing the original metal pedestal fountain surrounded by an iron fence. (Yosemite Research Library)

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New Cottage at Wawona

Photograph 3. Ca. 1896 image of the newly constructed Little Brown. This building, with its cupola and ornate scrollwork, exhibits many classical Palladian architecture and symmetry. (Yosemite Research Library)



Photograph 4. Ca. 1920s postcard image of the redesigned hotel fountain and matching cobbles light posts. (Yosemite Research Library)

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Photograph 5: 1932 view from the Meadow Loop Road into Wawona Meadow. Notice the livestock grazing in the meadow, which was discontinued in 1977. (Yosemite Research Library)



Photograph 6: CCC workers carry out an erosion control project within Wawona Meadow, which involved regrading and planting with willow. Their erosion control work in Wawona Meadow is still extant. (Yosemite Research Library)

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Photograph 7. 1935 view from the fifth green at the Wawona Golf Course to the Wawona Hotel, showing the open character of the golf course. Wawona Dome can be seen in the background. (Yosemite Research Library)



Photograph 8. View along the contributing concrete pedestrian path, with Little White in the foreground, Long White in the midground, and the Main Hotel in the background. (Yosemite Research Library)

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Photograph 9. Front façade of the Main Hotel complex. (Daniel Schaible, 2011)



Photograph 10. Contemporary view of the swimming pool and the Wawona Hotel Annex in the background, both constructed in 1918. (Mundus Bishop, 2011)

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Photograph 11. Contemporary view along a section of the contributing concrete pathway with the Little White in the foreground, Long White in the midground, and the Main Hotel in the background. (Mundus Bishop, 2011)



Photograph 12. Contemporary view of the hotel fountain and matching cobblestone light posts following preservation work in 2010-11. (Mundus Bishop, 2011)

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Photograph 13. The Wawona Road as it passes through the Wawona Basin Historic District, with the Wawona Hotel Annex seen in the background. (Historic American Engineering Record photo from 1991. Record No. HAER CAL, 22-WAWO 4-27)



Photograph 14. View of the slaughterhouse adjacent to the golf course, currently used as a storage building. (Daniel Schaible, 2008)

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Photograph 15. Contemporary view of the Washburn Orchard located between the Wawona Road and the Wawona Golf Course. The majority of the orchard was obliterated in the 1930s with the realignment of the Wawona Road. (Mundus Bishop, 2011)



Photograph 16. View of the Wawona Golf Course taken in the early spring before the course opened for the season. (Daniel Schaible, 2008)

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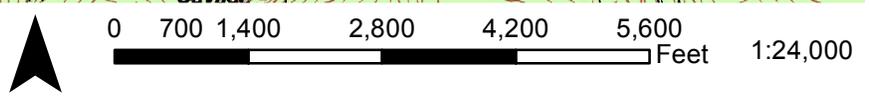
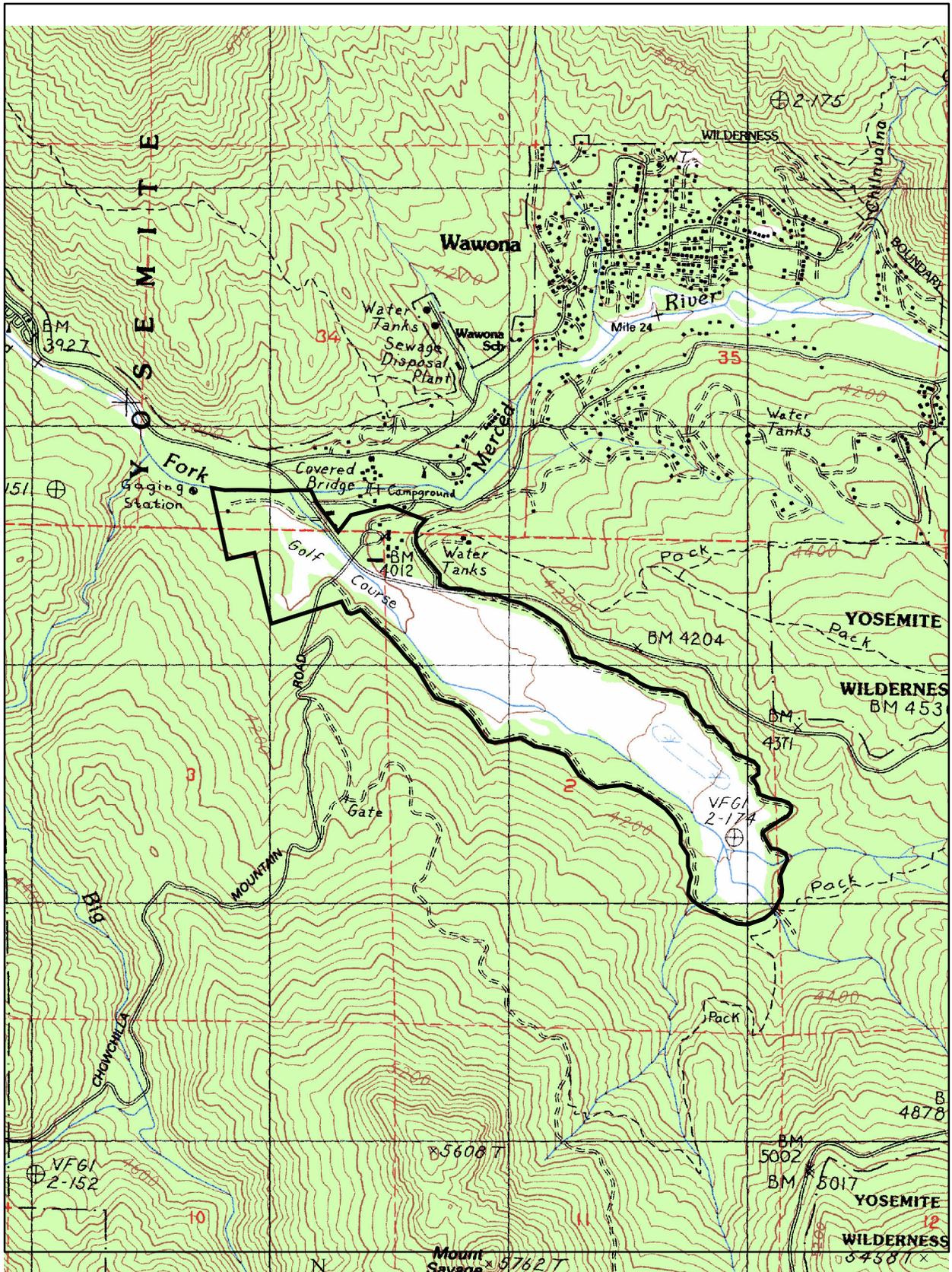
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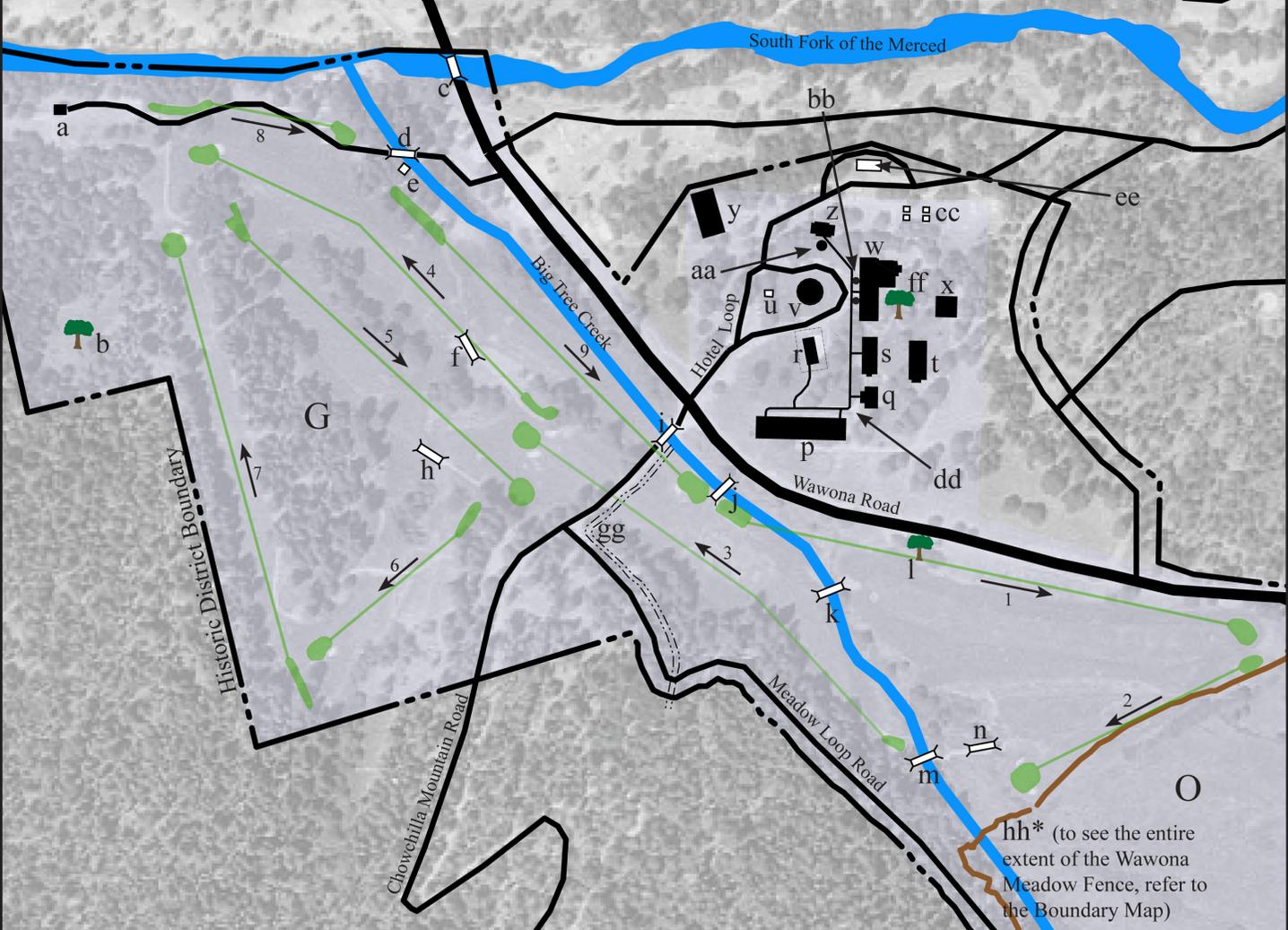
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Photograph 17. View of the Wawona Meadow looking over the historic split rail fence. (Daniel Schaible, 2008)





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-  Denotes historic vegetation
-  Denotes a bridge
-  Denotes a golf course green or tee
-  Denotes a non-contributing feature
-  Denotes a contributing feature
-  Denotes a circulation feature

- a Slaughterhouse
- b Galen Clark Orchard
- c South Fork Bridge
- d Service Bridge Near Pump House
- e Booster Pump Station
- f Prefabricated Golf Course Bridge
- G Wawona Golf Course
- h Custom Built Golf Course Bridge
- i Chowchilla Mountain Road Triple Culvert
- j Footbridge from Pro Shop to Golf Course
- k Prefabricated Golf Course Bridge

- l Washburn Orchard and Orchard Fence
- m Prefabricated Golf Course Bridge
- n Prefabricated Golf Course Bridge
- O Wawona Meadow
- p Wawona Hotel Annex
- q Little White Building/ Manager's Cottage
- r Wawona Hotel Swimming Pool
- s Long White Building/ Clark Cottage
- t Long Brown Building/Washburn Cottage
- u Flagpole and Plaque at the Wawona Hotel
- v Wawona Hotel Fountain
- w Wawona Hotel
- x Little Brown Building/ Moore Cottage
- y Wawona Hotel Tennis Court
- z Thomas Hill Studio
- aa Thomas Hill Studio Fountain
- bb Stone Masonry Lamp Posts
- cc Wawona Hotel Employee Housing Tent Cabins
- dd Pedestrian Paths at the Wawona Hotel
- ee Tractor Barn
- ff Washburn Giant Sequoia Trees
- gg Golf Course Ditch
- hh* Wawona Meadow Fence

* To see the entire extent of the Wawona Meadow Fence, refer to the Boundary Map.

