PH0037079

2-7-74

Form 10-306
(Oct. 1972)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY – NOMINATION FORM
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: California
COUNTY: Mariposa
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY DATE: DEC 12 1973

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Yosemite Valley Chapel

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: ~~Yosemite Valley~~ off Calif. 140

CITY OR TOWN: Yosemite National Park

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Second

STATE: California — CODE: 06

COUNTY: Mariposa — CODE: 043

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☒ Building ☐ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☒ Public ☐ Private ☐ Both	Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	☒ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☒ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☐ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Agricultural	☐ Government	☐ Park	☐ Transportation	☐ Comments
☐ Commercial	☐ Industrial	☐ Private Residence	☐ Other (Specify)	
☐ Educational	☐ Military	☒ Religious		
☐ Entertainment	☐ Museum	☐ Scientific		

4. AGENCY

National Park Service

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Yosemite National Park

STATE: California — CODE: 06

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Box 577

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: Historic Buildings Inventory, NPS

DATE OF SURVEY: 1961 ☒ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Yosemite National Park

STREET AND NUMBER: Box 577

CITY OR TOWN: Yosemite National Park

STATE: California — CODE: 06

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☒ Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One) ☒ Altered ☐ Unaltered			(Check One) ☒ Moved ☐ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL *(if known)* PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Yosemite Valley Chapel (No. 580)

This board and batten, steep roofed building was erected in 1879 as a chapel. It was a simple structure, small in size and with a steeple. Since its building, the chapel has been enlarged with the addition of rear rooms. It is now L-shaped. It was moved from its original site at the beginning of the Four Mile Trail in 1901 to its present location, and at that time it was apparently placed on a stone foundation. Around 1965 this foundation was raised about 3 feet to its present height. The building contains 1,470 square feet.

The chapel, which seats 250, was sponsored by the California State Sunday School Association and built at a cost of three to four thousand dollars. Funds were raised by voluntary donation from children and prominent members of the Association.

Mr. Charles Geddes, a leading architect of San Francisco, made and presented the plans. The building was erected by Mr. E. Thompson of San Francisco in the summer of 1879.

The organ was donated in memory of Miss Florence Hutchings, the first white child born in Yosemite, who died September 22, 1881.

The chapel was established for the free use of persons of every faith and has been in continuous use since its dedication.

Boundary:

Begin at Benchmark 3965 (500' SW of Sentinel Bridge) travel 200° for 400', then 302° for 100', then 32° for 100', then 32° for 100', then 122° for 100' then 212° for 100'.

Significance: 2nd Order

Acreage: 1.0 acre

Recommended treatment: Preservation

Preliminary cost estimate for above: When accomplished, the Historic Resource Study for Yosemite National Park may indicate the need for a Historic Structure Preservation Guide for the Yosemite Valley Chapel.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- [ ] Pre-Columbian
- [ ] 15th Century
- [ ] 16th Century
- [ ] 17th Century
- [ ] 18th Century
- [x] 19th Century
- [ ] 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)*

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- Aboriginal
  - [ ] Prehistoric
  - [ ] Historic
- [ ] Agriculture
- [x] Architecture
- [ ] Art
- [ ] Commerce
- [ ] Communications
- [ ] Conservation
- [ ] Education
- [ ] Engineering
- [ ] Industry
- [ ] Invention
- [ ] Landscape Architecture
- [ ] Literature
- [ ] Military
- [ ] Music
- [ ] Political
- [ ] Religion/Philosophy
- [ ] Science
- [ ] Sculpture
- [ ] Social/Humanitarian
- [ ] Theater
- [ ] Transportation
- [ ] Urban Planning
- [ ] Other *(Specify)*

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE 2nd Order

This chapel, now the oldest building in Yosemite, was erected in 1879 as a chapel and has been used as such since that time. It is still used for church services on Sunday.

The simple architectural design of the structure represents a particularly fine example of the early chapels constructed in the Sierra Nevada Mountains and is well preserved.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Alfred Glass, "Brief History of the Village Chapel," Yosemite Nature Notes, V. XXIV, No. 12 (Dec. 1945)

2. In the Heart of the Sierras, J. M. Hutchings, 1886

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY						OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES					
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE			LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	37 °	44 '	28 "	119 °	35 '	28 "
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"						
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"						

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: (Class VI)

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
California	06	Mariposa	043
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

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11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:	DATE:
F. Ross Holland, Jr., Historian	October 1971
BUSINESS ADDRESS: HHA- WSC, NPS	
STREET AND NUMBER: 450 Golden Gate Avenue	PHONE:
CITY OR TOWN: San Francisco, Ca	STATE: California — CODE: 06

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No
- [ ] None

State Liaison Officer Signature

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is [ ] National [X] State [ ] Local

Lyle M. Drury 12/5/73

Federal Representative Signature *Date*

~~National Director~~, Western Region

Title

ACTING Regional Director, Western Region

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Connally

~~Keeper of the National Register~~

Associate Director, Professional Services

Date DEC 12 1973

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date 12-11-73

GPO 938-449

(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE	California
COUNTY	Mariposa
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DEC 1 2 1973
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COMMON: Yosemite Valley Chapel

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: Yosemite Valley

CITY OR TOWN: Yosemite National Park

STATE: California — CODE: 06 — COUNTY: Mariposa — CODE: 043

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE: U.S.G.S. Yosemite Valley

SCALE: 1:24000

DATE: 1956

4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.

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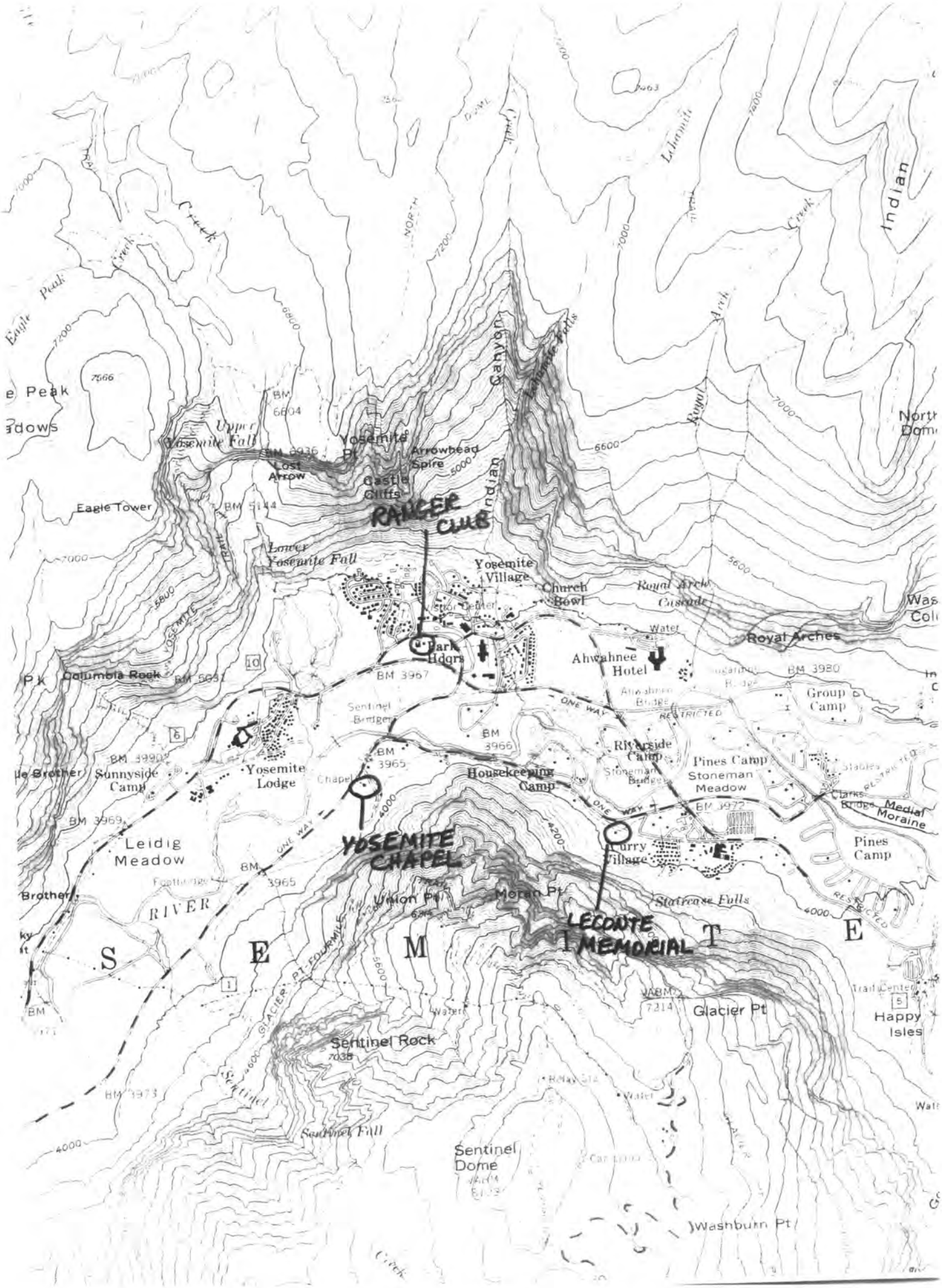
RANGER CLUB
YOSEMITE CHAPEL
LECONTE MEMORIAL
Upper Yosemite Fall
Lower Yosemite Fall
Yosemite Pt
Arrowhead Spire
Lost Arrow
Castle Cliffs
Eagle Tower
Yosemite Village
Church Bowl
Royal Arch Cascade
Royal Arches
Ahwahnee Hotel
Park Hdqrs
Columbia Rock
Sentinel Bridge
Sunnyside Camp
Yosemite Lodge
Housekeeping Camp
Riverside Camp
Pines Camp
Stoneman Meadow
Group Camp
Medial Moraine
Pines Camp
Leidig Meadow
Curry Village
Union Pt
Moran Pt
Staircase Falls
Glacier Pt
Happy Isles
Sentinel Rock
Sentinel Fall
Sentinel Dome
Washburn Pt
Indian Canyon
Lehamite Falls
Indian Creek
Eagle Peak
Lehamite
Royal Arch
North Dome
Merced River

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PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

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California	06	Mariposa	043

3. PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT: F. R. Holland, Jr.

DATE OF PHOTO: Oct. 1971

NEGATIVE FILED AT: HHA-WSC, San Francisco

4. IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.

View of front and side.

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