National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yosemite National Park

Ahwahnee Comprehensive Rehabilitation Plan

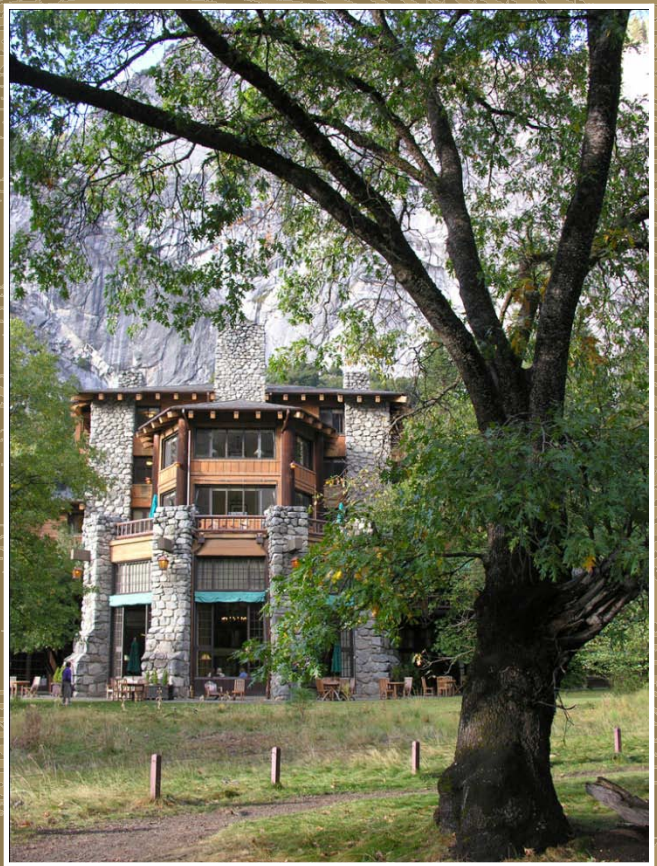


Photo: Kenny Karst

Ahwahnee Comprehensive Rehabilitation Plan

- After over 80 years in service, The Ahwahnee is in need of code upgrades and historic rehabilitation
- Purpose of plan is to provide a phased program to:
  - Improve safety by bringing into compliance with current building, fire protection, and seismic safety standards
  - Protect historic integrity and character-defining features by rehabilitating aged or altered historic finishes
  - Improve energy efficiency and operations by repairing or replacing outdated or inefficient systems/components
  - Protect/enhance visitor experience through operational efficiency, increased accessibility, and rehabilitation of historic resources

Ahwahnee Comprehensive Rehabilitation Plan

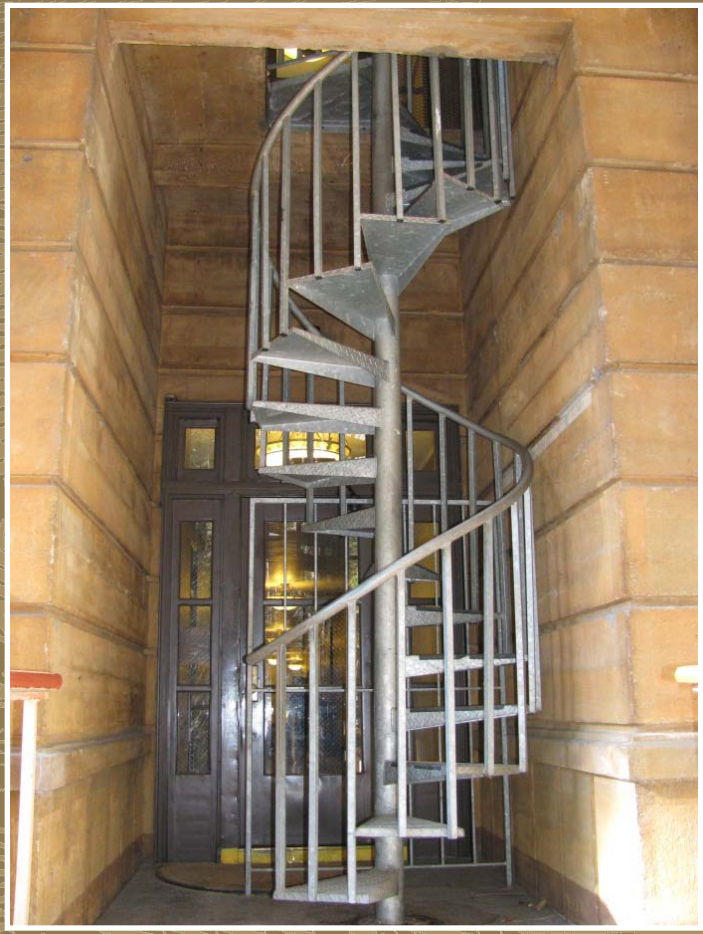
- Public scoping occurred fall 2009
- In 2010
  - historic structures report, cultural landscape report, and seismic evaluation were completed
  - Alternatives were developed and refined through value analysis
- In 2011
  - NHPA compliance completed with SHPO in a Programmatic Agreement
  - Environmental assessment is open for public comment until August 23, 2011

Ahwahnee Comprehensive Rehabilitation Plan

All 3 action alternatives address:

- Fire/life safety code compliance
- Seismic safety and structural strengthening
- Accessibility
- Historic rehabilitation
- Operational efficiency
- Visitor experience and visitor services
- Energy efficiency and sustainability

Ahwahnee Comprehensive Rehabilitation Plan



Example action – Replace non-historic spiral stair with code-compliant stair

Alternative 1

- Relies on code waivers and operational management wherever possible to meet project goals
- Maintains current program spaces to the extent practicable, for both operational efficiency and to improve visitor experience, while meeting minimum safety code requirements

Ahwahnee Comprehensive Rehabilitation Plan

Example action - Non-historic addition would be removed

Alternative 2

- Exceeds basic seismic safety requirements, while providing highest degree of historic rehabilitation and operational improvements
- Improves visitor experience by reconfiguring public spaces (e.g., lobby/ reception and bar areas)
- Rehabilitates additional historic fabrics and features in fair condition
- Improves energy and water-use efficiency using measures that have a minimal impact to building and site.

Ahwahnee Comprehensive Rehabilitation Plan

Example action – Provide limited use-limited access elevator to access mezzanine meeting rooms

Preferred Alternative (Alternative 3) includes:

- Selections from Alternative 1 (e.g., Dining Room bracing, public meeting room accessibility)
- Selections from Alternative 2 (e.g., lobby accessibility, operational system efficiencies)
- Other actions developed separately (bar reconfiguration/east wing egress, public restrooms)
- Most cost-efficient means of addressing code deficiencies, while maintaining minimum impacts to historic fabric and features

Ahwahnee Comprehensive Rehabilitation Plan

Available for review until August 23, 2011

View plan and submit comments online:
http://parkplanning.nps.gov/AhwahneeRehab

Or:

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