

PH 0507415

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**
FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED NOV 18 1977
DATE ENTERED APR 4 1978

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Glacier Point Trailside Museum

AND/OR COMMON

Glacier Point Lookout

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

E of El Portal

N/A

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Yosemite National Park

El Portal

VICINITY OF Glacier Point

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Fifteenth

STATE

California

CODE

06

COUNTY

Mariposa

CODE

043

2 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 AGENCY

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable)

National Park Service - Western Regional Office

STREET & NUMBER

450 Golden Gate Avenue - Box 36063

CITY, TOWN

San Francisco

VICINITY OF

STATE

California

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

National Park Service Building Files, Park Headquarters

STREET & NUMBER

Government Center - Yosemite Village - Box 577

CITY, TOWN

(Not applicable) Yosemite National Park

STATE

California

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

None

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Glacier Point "trailside museum" was built as part of the Yosemite Valley Museum in 1924. Both structures were designed by Herbert Maier and Ansel Hall.

The structure is a small observation pavilion with large segmental arched openings on the west, north, and east sides. The structure has an asymmetrical gable roof, supported on peeled logs with log infill in the gables, and covered with wood shingles. It has a semicircular walled terrace on the north side, which overlooks Yosemite Valley. The structure consists of rough-dressed granite laid on an uncoursed rubble bond, and the walls are slightly battered. The floor of the terrace is granite and concrete; the interior floor is wood. Inside the structure are three large wall plaques: engraved aluminum with embossed photographs that depict the various geological features seen from the observation deck.

The recommended level of preservation for this resource is routine maintenance. A new wooden floor was laid in 1975, and the geological exhibits were replaced in the late 1960s.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1924

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

National Park Service

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

As an integral component of the old Yosemite Museum, the Glacier Point "trailside museum" is of local significance in education. (The Museum, the first permanent teaching instrument of its kind in the National Park Service, is being nominated to the National Register as part of the Yosemite Village Historic District. The significant physical separation of the two facilities precluded adding the Glacier Point structure to the District nomination.) The building possesses architectural significance on the local level because it is exemplary of the Rustic style, as it developed in Yosemite. It was built with native natural materials, and was designed to blend into the surrounding environment. The building exhibits fine craftsmanship.

The geological importance of Yosemite National Park, and most significantly its glacier-carved Yosemite Valley, was a priority consideration in exhibit plans for the Yosemite Museum. There was to be a whole room devoted to geology; however the pioneering interpreters saw the importance of a museum "sub-station" located on the rim of the granite walls that would further enhance the visitor's knowledge of the forces that shaped Yosemite Valley. Glacier Point, 3200 ft. above the Valley floor and accessible by road and trail, was the ideal site. Funds were provided by the Yosemite Natural History Association. In 1925 the Glacier Point "branch" of the Yosemite Museum, the first trailside museum in the National Park system, opened to an immediate and steady stream of visitors. In the summer of 1927 over 15,000 visitors used the facility.

The Museum in Yosemite Valley was converted in part to office space in 1966 when the new Visitor Center, with an extensive geology exhibit, opened. The Glacier Point structure is still an interpretive facility with displays depicting points of interest that can be observed from the terrace, supplemented by ranger-naturalist lectures during the summer months.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bumpus, H.C. "A Report to the Laura Spelman Rockefeller Memorial ..." November 1927. Copy in the Yosemite National Park Research Library.
 Russell, Carl P., One Hundred Years in Yosemite. (Yosemite: Yosemite Natural History Association, 1957.
 Reports of the Chief Park Naturalist, Yosemite National Park.
 Yosemite Museum file, Yosemite Research Library

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____ *less than 1 acre*

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 1	27 3 2 5 0	4 1 7 8 6 0 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

825

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The building boundaries are defined by the outer limit of the walls.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Leslie Starr Hart, Historian
 Merrill Ann Wilson, Historical Architect

ORGANIZATION	DATE
National Park Service - Denver Service Center	August 1976
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
655 Parfet Street, P.O. Box 25287	234-4509 - Hart 303 234-5545 - Wilson
CITY OR TOWN	STATE
Denver (Lakewood)	Colorado 80225

12 CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

YES

NO

NONE

AUG 30 1977
Hester Wilson
 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

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

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE *D. Starr*

TITLE Deputy Assistant Secretary

DATE NOV 10 1977

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: <i>W. H. ...</i>	DATE: <i>11/13/78</i>
<i>Walter W. Cole</i>	DATE: 3.16.78
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER