

(8-86)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_

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SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 14000413

Date Listed: 7/18/2014

Vogelsang High Sierra Camp  
Property Name

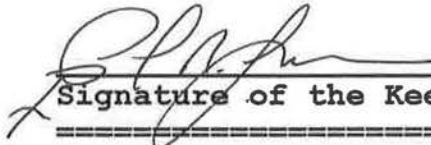
Mariposa  
County

CA  
State

Yosemite National Park MPS  
Multiple Name

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This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of the Keeper

7/18/2014  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

**Location:**

The Street Location is revised to read: *Along Fletcher Creek, immediately southwest of Fletcher Lake.*

**Bibliographical References:**

The property was not previously determined eligible by the Keeper of the National Register. [The determination was made by the NPS for compliance purposes only.]

These clarifications were confirmed with the NPS FPO office.

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DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without nomination attachment)

413

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



# National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional certification comments, entries, and narrative items on continuation sheets if needed (NPS Form 10-900a).

### 1. Name of Property

historic name Vogelsang High Sierra Camp

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Location

street & number N/A

N/A	not for publication
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city or town Yosemite National Park (YOSE)

N/A	vicinity
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state California code CA county Mariposa code 043 zip code 95389

### 3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, 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. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national  statewide  local

*Robert A. Moten, Deputy FPO* June 4, 2014  
Signature of certifying official/Title Date

*National Park Service*  
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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

*Carol Roland-Nawi* 7/19/2013  
Signature of commenting official Date

State Historic Preservation Officer California Office of Historic Preservation  
Title State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

### 4. 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]* 7/18/2014  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

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**5. Classification**

**Ownership of Property**  
 (Check as many boxes as apply.)

**Category of Property**  
 (Check only one box.)

**Number of Resources within Property**  
 (Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

- private
- public - Local
- public - State
- public - Federal

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Contributing	Noncontributing	
18	5	buildings
		sites
2		structures
		objects
20	5	<b>Total</b>

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
 (Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

Historic Resources of Yosemite National Park, California

0

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

**Current Functions**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/camp  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

DOMESTIC/camp  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

**Materials**  
 (Enter categories from instructions.)

Other: Rustic  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

foundation: stone/concrete/wood  
 walls: canvas/wood/galvanized metal/stone  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 roof: canvas/wood/galvanized metal  
 other: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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### Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance of the property. Explain contributing and noncontributing resources if necessary. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, setting, size, and significant features.)

### Summary Paragraph

Vogelsang High Sierra Camp, established in 1940, is located in the backcountry of Yosemite National Park in California. Vogelsang, at 10,130 feet, has the highest elevation of all six camps that comprise the High Sierra Camp loop system. The camp is reachable only by foot or saddle: seven miles from Tuolumne Meadows High Sierra Camp via the Rafferty Creek Trail, twelve and a half miles from Tuolumne Meadows High Sierra Camp via the Ireland Creek Trail, seven and a half miles from Merced Lake High Sierra Camp along the High Sierra Loop Trail. The roughly three acres that make up the camp are set along a level expanse with Fletcher Creek to the east, an alpine meadow to the north, and at the foot of both Vogelsang and Fletcher Peaks. The Vogelsang High Sierra Camp provides beds in cement-floored canvas tents, eating facilities in a combination cook house/tent diner, hot showers, and flush toilets. Dormitory-type guest tent cabins hold four people, usually men and women separately, with special arrangements possible for family groups or couples. Open during the summer months, the camp consists of six permanent buildings (of which two are contributing) and 16 seasonal canvas buildings (of which all but one are contributing). The district maintains a high level of integrity in terms of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

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### Narrative Description

#### LOCATION & SETTING

Vogelsang High Sierra Camp is located in the Sierra Nevada mountain range at an elevation of 10,130 feet, approximately nine miles southeast of the geographic center of the 1,200 square mile Yosemite National Park. Both the physical isolation and the rugged landscape that guards it results in relatively low visitation rate; well under one percent of total park visitors ever make it to this back country location. The Mediterranean climate of Yosemite is typified by snow in the winter months and little to no precipitation during the summer, although like the rest of the Sierras, weather is only loosely predictable. The camps are operational only during the summer months and opening day can vary by as much as two months from season to season based on rate of snow melt. Vogelsang, as the High Sierra Camp at the greatest elevation, is often one of the final camps to open in the summer.

The camp is surrounded by officially designated wilderness. Vogelsang is the only camp to occupy a true alpine zone, and sits alongside a dry, shorthair sedge meadow punctuated by glacially-polished granite slabs. Trees at this elevation rarely exceed thirty feet and the sweeping vistas to surrounding mountains are impeded only by the presence of nearby peaks. The camps location adjacent to a meadow and at the base of a steep cliff allow for open views to the north and west. Visible topographic features include Choo-choo Ridge, Cockscomb Peak, Parsons Ridge, Unicorn Peak, Amelia Earhart Peak, Parsons Peak and Simmons Peak. Fletcher Lake, just northeast of the tent cabins, offers a convenient location for swimming and Fletcher Creek defines the eastern edge of the camp. Lodgepole pines flank the guest tent cabins, providing privacy and shade.

#### PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

The High Sierra Camp idea was the product of National Park Service director Stephen Mather's desire to encourage park visitation out of Yosemite Valley and into the high country. Mather believed that the Park Service could better fulfill its responsibility to interpret the agency's conservation role if visitors experienced the Yosemite wilderness, and encouraged the park concessioner, the Desmond Park Service Company, to build backcountry destinations. Three High Sierra Camps were opened in 1916 at Tuolumne Meadows, Tenaya Lake and Merced Lake, but they soon closed due to low attendance during World War I. The camps re-opened in the early 1920s and expanded with the addition of two additional high sierra camps: Boothe Lake and Little Yosemite Valley. Although the Little Yosemite Valley High Sierra Camp has long since closed, the Boothe Lake camp, following multiple relocations all within a relatively close proximity to each other, became known as Vogelsang High Sierra Camp in 1940.

This High Sierra Camp has had three different sites. It was first located on the north shore of Boothe Lake in 1924, but it was found that the drainage was poor there and the mosquitos were intolerable. In the early 1930s, the camp moved up

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near the junction of the Vogelsang, Rafferty Creek, and Lyell Fork trails. The camp moved again in 1940, being built at its present location on Fletcher Creek and renamed Vogelsang High Sierra Camp. The district's contributing resources date to the final camp relocation in 1940.

The camp's name derived from nearby Vogelsang Peak and Pass, commemorating Charles A. Vogelsang, president of the California State Board of Fish and Game for twelve years. Recreation at the camp consists of hiking, climbing, fishing, botany, and geology. All around this timberline area are wildflowers and sub-alpine pines, while nearby, fish are found in Fletcher Creek and Fletcher, Babcock, Boothe, Evelyn, Emeric, and Ireland Lakes. Peaks to be climbed include Vogelsang, Parsons, and Rafferty.

The construction of Vogelsang High Sierra Camp was necessary for logistical considerations: the distance between Tuolumne Meadows and Merced Lake High Sierra Camps (roughly 15 miles) was too great for most hikers without an intermediary camp to spend the night. Furthermore, Vogelsang High Sierra Camp, in its rugged alpine setting, offered an experience and feeling that is slightly different from the other High Sierra Camps. Vogelsang is set along the southern end of a glacially carved, boulder strewn meadow and plateau. The camp, located just below of timberline, is strategically placed in a stand of whitebark pines to mask its presence in the otherwise stark and open landscape. Fishing is a bountiful and popular pastime for guests at Vogelsang, indeed, nearby Fletcher Creek and Fletcher Lake were named after Arthur G. Fletcher who directed trout stocking of Yosemite's alpine lakes in the early 1900s.

The majority of the resources at Vogelsang High Sierra Camp are original to its inception in 1940. Contributing resources that date to this year include 10 of the camp's 15 tent cabins, the cookhouse, the bathhouse, the dining tent, and the incinerator. Two additional guest tent cabins were added in 1949 and another two in 1956. Since this time, few significant changes have occurred at Vogelsang. The greatest modification at Vogelsang was the installation of a composting toilet at the camp in 1991. This composting toilet was installed following the preparation of a 1987 Environmental Assessment that looked for alternatives that would address the failed septic system at Vogelsang. Although the composting toilet is a large building and constitutes a substantial modification to the camp, it is designed and located in a manner that is compatible with the historic character and spatial organization of the camp.

Vogelsang is distinctive among Yosemite's High Sierra Camps for two reasons: it is the only High Sierra Camp that does not retain its original campfire ring and it is the only camp that does retain its corral in the original location. Historic maps of Vogelsang depict a campfire ring just northeast of the cluster of guest tent cabins, roughly 50 feet from the banks of Fletcher Creek. This feature is no longer present. It was likely removed so that the camp would be compliant with park wilderness regulations, which prohibit campfires above 9,600 feet in elevation. Regardless, the absence of a campfire ring makes for a different social dynamic at Vogelsang than the other High Sierra Camps, particularly after sunset. Although the campfire ring is absent, Vogelsang does have the distinction of being the only High Sierra Camp that retains the corral in its original location. While the other camps have been forced to relocate their corrals to mitigate dust, pollution, and odors, Vogelsang's corral has remained in the same location since 1940. This is likely the result of good initial site selection as well as an absence of other appropriate corral sites within the stark, subalpine setting.

Circulation within the camp is informal; all paths are unpaved, well worn, generally curvilinear, and vary in width. Over the decades, excessive and undefined social trails have led to the compaction of soil and have retarded the growth of subalpine vegetation. However, during the mid-2000s, volunteers worked with park staff to delineate and articulate pathways and create vegetation islands using rocks and logs as borders and formally trampled areas were decompacted and native seeds were spread. Since then, vegetation has filled in the untrampled area which has further defined pathways.

Considering the severe climactic conditions and a lack of vehicle accessibility, the camp retains a high degree of historic fabric that highlights a number of construction techniques. Metal framed canvas tent cabins, wood framed construction with vertical board and batten siding, and mortared stone masonry construction are all used within the 2.9 acre historic district largely defined by its surrounding Designated Wilderness Boundary. The overall condition of the historic district is good, as all the buildings have been maintained and remain functional in their original use and are not in a threatened or deteriorated state. The district retains a high degree of historic integrity of location, as none of the district's contributing features have been moved. The sturdy design and construction of the stone cookhouse has successfully weathered natural forces like heavy winter snow loads. The design, materials, and workmanship remain intact, and this aids in maintaining a historic feel in the camp. The district's design and materials hold a high level of integrity; repairs to the contributing buildings have been materially compatible and sympathetic to the historic design. The new, noncontributing structures, while less consistent with the design of the historic buildings, do not significantly detract from the historic

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feeling of the camp. Furthermore, the camp retains a strong sense of association with the surrounding wilderness and its attendant recreational opportunities.

A backpackers' campground, which is maintained by the National Park Service (NPS), is located northeast of Vogelsang High Sierra Camp and outside the district boundary. The Vogelsang High Sierra Camp and backpackers' campground are distinctly separate. Each has its own infrastructure, including bear boxes and fire rings. The backpackers' campground has not been included within the historic district boundaries for a number of reasons described in the boundary description.

## CONTRIBUTING RESOURCES

### ***Guest Tent Cabins, 1-12 (12) (Buildings, 1940, 1949, 1956)***

Vogelsang High Sierra Camp District accommodates guests in 12 tent cabins positioned in a group facing Fletcher Creek, just south of Fletcher Lake and the meadow. The tent cabins are laid out in two offset curvilinear rows that closely line a natural bend of Fletcher Creek. The tent cabins are sited here on naturally terraced, nearly level granite slabs with a grade that falls to the south. Cabins 1, 2, 3, 9, and 11 line the creek, facing east and are mostly positioned within about 10' of the creek. Cabins 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10 and 12 are offset from the others with a small circulation space between them. Tent Cabins 1-8 date to 1940 and the inception of Vogelsang High Sierra Camp. Tent cabins 9 and 11, and 10 and 12 were installed during an expansion programs in 1949 and 1956 respectively and are of identical design as the original eight tent cabins. The cabins are framed front gable, white canvas tents on concrete platforms 12' x 14.' Each has a wood screen door painted green with stenciled in cabin number on the front. The cabins are in good condition and maintain a high level of integrity. The guest tents are plastic-coated "CDAI Flame-Resistant Fabric" not standard canvas like the camps dining tent and bathhouse. While the canvas must be replaced periodically due to its impermanent nature, the historic character in terms of use, organization, location, and design have remained consistent over time.

### ***Employee Tent Cabins, E1, E2 (2) (Buildings, 1940)***

The two historic employee tent cabins are sited directly south of the stone cookhouse at a slightly lower elevation. This screened location provides the employee tent cabins a sense of privacy and enclosure. E1 faces north while E2 is sited on a lower granite slab, just west of E1, and faces west. On the "Guest Tent Additions" map from 1949, tent cabin E1 is labeled as "Manager" and tent cabin E2 is labeled "Supply". They both feature stone and concrete foundation platforms. The employee tents are plastic-coated "CDAI Flame-Resistant Fabric" not standard canvas like the camps dining tent and bathhouse. They are identical in design, dimensions, and materials as the guest tent cabins.

### ***Cookhouse (Building, 1940)***

The cookhouse is sited south of the guest tent cabins, at a slightly lower elevation, in-between the dining tent and the bathhouse. The one story, rectangular plan is accented by a small gable passage on the east elevation that connects with the dining tent, and an exterior stone wall extending off the west elevation to the incinerator near the bathhouse. The roof ridge line runs east-west as do the long sides of the rectangle. The building has unusual in that it does not have a primary elevation, and that the primarily entrance to this service building is through a courtyard area screened behind a stone wall on the west elevation of the building. To guests, the primary façade is the north elevation without a door, and to employees the primary elevation is the west elevation which does include a door. The cookhouse is constructed of local, natural materials like stone and logs, and displays rustic craftsmanship; including hand peeled log purlins, half-log roofing, deeply raked mortar joints, and battered stone walls. The roof is clad in half logs, although a majority of the bark has been worn off due to weather conditions and age. There are no barge rafters or fascia boards on the cookhouse roof, and the gable roof overhangs are supported by projecting log purlins, the log ridge pole, and log wall plates. As the building is a functional kitchen, there are two galvanized metal vents centrally located on the north pitch of the roof that vent kitchen exhaust. The battered stone gravity walls are constructed of concrete and uncoursed, flat stones that are graduated in scale, diminished upwards.

The north elevation features a textured wall face that is broken by two horizontal, wood 3-pane awning windows. The windows are braced by heavy timber window headers with the ends beveled to form a flat arch shape. The west elevation is the gable end wall and primary employee entrance. It is the only elevation to have a door that is accessible directly from the outside. The door is set off center to the east, and is approached by eight stone steps. Like the windows, the door lintel is beveled into a flat arch shape and constructed of heavy timber. The south elevation faces the employee courtyard formed by the boundary of the cookhouse, wall extension, and bath house. This elevation is nearly identical to the north elevation, but features a wooden shed extension that is centered off the wall. This shed houses the propane hook ups for

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the kitchen and holds four canisters. The east elevation is a gable end wall that is predominantly covered with an extended gabled passageway that connects directly from the cookhouse into the dining tent.

***Dining Tent (Building, 1940)***

The dining tent is sited along Fletcher Creek and is connected to the cookhouse through a gable passageway. The building is a metal frame canvas tent with a rectangular plan and a gable roof. The building is located on granitic bedrock sits on a mortared stone masonry platform. There is a shed-style tent extension off the east side that shoulders the creek and features full length screens with canvas flaps that can be rolled up for ventilation and views to Fletcher Creek. The south elevation has three screen windows while the north elevation has a woodstove. The west elevation is connected directly with the cookhouse through a gabled passageway.

***Bathhouse (Building, 1940)***

The bathhouse is sited directly north of the composting toilets. The building is currently only partially functional; the building's shower and toilet facilities are closed while the sinks and changing area remain open. It has a rectangular plan with a gable roof running east-west. The north, west, and east elevations all have two doors each on them. Only the men's and women's sink doors remain open to guests and they are on the west elevation. The character is similar to that of the other tent buildings. The condition is good, and permanent alterations appear minimal. The partial closure and loss of original function of the building detracts from its historic character.

***Storehouse (Building, 1940)***

The storehouse is located to the west of the guest tent cabin cluster and faces east. It is a front gable building with a concrete foundation and rectangular plan. The building features a steeply pitched roof, vertical board and batten white painted siding, and a wood shake roof. Although the roof has been covered in recent years with white tarps, the shakes remain under the tarps. The primary elevation faces east and has a gable end wall with a centered wood door and a small rectangular loft door within the gable. The north and south elevations have simple board and batten walls with no fenestration. The west elevation gable wall has a centered, square window that is currently boarded up.

***Incinerator (Structure, 1940)***

The camp incinerator is located directly west of the cookhouse, and is connected by a stone wall extension off the cookhouse's north elevation. It currently sees limited use and is only used to burn cardboard. The incinerator is constructed of mortared local granite stones. The historic cast iron doors and hardware to the combustion chamber are extant and functional. The makers raised lettering remains legible. The stone chimney is built with similar stone work as the wall and cookhouse and is built into the wall and is approximately 12 feet tall with a metal grate on top. The wall and the incinerator function as a visual and physical divider between the guest circulation space outside the dining tent, and the service space behind the kitchen. The stone work of the incinerator and wall are in good condition.

***Corral (Structure, 1940)***

The camp corral is located roughly 250 feet southwest of the center of camp. This corral is unique among the High Sierra Camp corrals in that it remains in its original location, and subsequently, it is the only corral that is considered a contributing resource. The corral is roughly rectangular in plan and measures roughly 80 by 40 feet. It has peeled log posts set in poured concrete footings connected by five courses of horizontal barbed wire. The log posts are roughly five feet tall and are placed every six feet. Corner posts are typically reinforced with diagonal peeled log bracing, which are likewise set in poured concrete footings. The corral is accessed by a rusted metal gate mounted on rusted metal barrel hinges that is roughly six feet long and five feet tall.

**NONCONTRIBUTING RESOURCES**

***Tack Sheds (2) (Buildings, ca. early 1970s)***

There are two tack sheds located near the corral that postdate the period of significance. A utilities map from 1975 shows two unlabeled buildings of similar dimensions in the same general location as these tack sheds. Similar maps from the 1950s and 1960s show no such buildings. These simple buildings are used for storing food and equipment related to pack operations. The larger of the two buildings has a front facing gable roof and sits on a post and pier block foundation. The smaller building has a shed roof and sits on wood runners. Both buildings have brown metal siding and roofing, likely to armor the buildings against break-ins from bears. This aesthetic of the metal siding, however, is incompatible within the historic district.

***Wood Shed (Building, ca. early 1970s)***

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There is a wood shed located between the corral and the cookhouse/dining tent that postdates the period of significance. A utilities map from 1975 shows an unlabeled building of similar dimensions in the same general location as this wood shed. Similar maps from the 1950s and 1960s show no such buildings. The wood shed is used primarily to store wood for the camps numerous wood stoves. This wood stored in the wood shed is brought in by pack horses. This small building is rectangular in plan and features a low-pitched gable roof, and single wall construction comprised of horizontal wood boards fitted into grooves between the corner framing members. The building has wood runners that sit directly on the ground rather than a foundation. This building is in poor condition and has a shabby appearance.

***Employee Tent Cabin E-3 (Building, ca. early 1970s)***

Employee Tent Cabin E-3 is located southwest of the corral and it postdates the period of significance. A utilities map from 1975 shows an unlabeled building of similar dimensions in the same general location as this tent cabin. Similar maps from the 1950s and 1960s show no such buildings. This building is identical to the camps other tent cabins in most regards: it too is a metal framed front gable building with white CDAI flame-resistant canvas on a concrete platform with a wood screen door painted green. It is distinguishable from the other tent cabins in that it has a canvas covered porch on its front façade supported by two 2x4 posts.

***Composting Toilet (Building, 1991)***

The composting toilet building was constructed in 1991 to provide an environmentally acceptable means of waste water disposal. Prior to this time, the flush toilets at the tent bathhouse had been in operation, which drained to septic system. However, the septic system was determined to be under designed and was subject to frequent failure, resulting in construction of this composting toilet. The composting toilet was designed by Architect Clayton B. Wardle and is located immediately adjacent to the historic bathhouse. It is a two-story building, with toilet stalls located on the upper floor and the compost vault and service area on the bottom floor. Concrete stairs supported by walls clad with granite stones set in mortar provide access to the facilities. The building has a simple gable roof with an offset gable projection, projecting eaves on the gabled ends and exposed purlins. It has a dark stained wood shake siding and a concrete slab foundation.



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**8. Statement of Significance**

**Applicable National Register Criteria**

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

**Criteria Considerations**

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years.

**Areas of Significance**

(Enter categories from instructions.)

Conservation \_\_\_\_\_

Education \_\_\_\_\_

Entertainment/Recreation \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Period of Significance**

1940-1961

**Significant Dates**

1940

**Significant Person**

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

**Cultural Affiliation**

N/A

**Architect/Builder**

Yosemite Park and Curry Company

**Period of Significance (justification)**

The period of significance for Vogelsang High Sierra Camp spans from 1940 (the year the Vogelsang High Sierra Camp was built in its present location) to 1961 (the date Sunrise Camp, the final High Sierra Camp, was built, and the High Sierra Camps were completed).

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**Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph** (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance and applicable criteria.)

Property Type: Resources Associated with Tourism, Recreation and the Preservation Ethic in Yosemite (1864-1973)  
Subtype: Camping, Hiking  
Period of Significance: 1940-1961

Vogelsang High Sierra Camp is significant under Criterion A at the local level for its role in recreation/entertainment, conservation, and education as one of the high country camps, whose origin dates back to the earliest days of the National Park Service (NPS). Director Stephen T. Mather believed that this type of public service in the Yosemite high country helped fulfill NPS's interpretive responsibility to educate visitors in the conservation role of the agency. The Yosemite camp system initially began in 1916 as an effort to attract people into the park's high country. Its purpose, as time went on, became closely tied to management problems: to relieve congestion in Yosemite Valley by enabling outdoor enthusiasts to enjoy the Yosemite wilderness with relative ease and some degree of comfort and to provide a compatible environment in which, through interpretive means, visitors could be instructed in the tenets of conservation and the objectives of NPS in that area. Through the use of organized parties guided by a Yosemite naturalist, NPS established a unique pattern of interpretive service in the high country of one of the most popular national parks, which helped acquaint the American public with the conservation objectives of the NPS.

**Narrative Statement of Significance** (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

#### **HISTORIC CONTEXT: RECREATIONAL MOUNTAIN HUTS**

Recreational mountain huts (also known as alpine huts, mountain shelters, mountain hostels, wilderness huts, high huts, backcountry huts or hikers' camps) are found throughout the world, and are particularly abundant in Europe, and range from simple one-room shelters to more elaborate accommodations with multiple bedrooms, common rooms, indoor plumbing, and heat. Recreational mountain huts are built to shelter backcountry travelers such as hikers, mountaineers, climbers, and skiers.<sup>1</sup> It is probable that Donald and Mary Curry Tresidder, who were influential in growing the High Sierra Camps, were motivated to expand Yosemite's High Sierra Camps while traveling abroad and seeing their popularity of recreational mountain huts in Europe.<sup>2</sup>

In the United States, recreational mountain huts were first used in the northeast. One of the earliest and best-known recreational mountain hut systems was created by the New Hampshire Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC).<sup>3</sup> Each of the system's eight huts is spaced a day's hike apart (six to eight miles), covering a 56-mile stretch of the Appalachian Trail in the White Mountain National Forest.<sup>4</sup> AMC was founded in 1876 with the mission of preserving the White Mountains. In 1888 the club built the first of eight "high huts," Madison Spring Hut, which was modeled on Alpine shelters. Until destroyed by fire in 1940, the Madison Spring Hut was the oldest in the chain. The Mizpah Spring Hut, completed in 1964, was the eighth and the last AMC hut to be constructed. AMC huts hold 36 to 90 people and provide guests bunks; most huts are full service and include breakfast and dinner.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Louis Dawson, "Hut History," *10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division Hut Association*. 3 August 2010. <[www.huts.org/education/hut\\_history.html](http://www.huts.org/education/hut_history.html)>.

<sup>2</sup> Donald Tresidder was the first president of Yosemite's consolidated concessions operation, the Yosemite Park and Curry Company (YP&CCo.), and oversaw a remarkable expansion of park facilities. Mrs. Mary Curry Tresidder was the heir to the famous Camp Curry concession (founded in 1899) and remained integral to the concessions operations at Yosemite for decades, serving as the Chairman of the Board for YP&CCo. until the late 1960s.

<sup>3</sup> Madeleine Eno and Katharine Wroth, "Huts and Glory: AMC's Archives Offer a Wry Peek at Life on the High Peaks." *Appalachian Mountain Club*, 15 September 2010 <<http://www.outdoors.org/>>.

<sup>4</sup> Lisa McLaughlin, "Travel: Not Really Roughing It," *Time*, 15 September 2010. <<http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1106327,00.html>>.

<sup>5</sup> *Appalachian Mountain Club*, 15 September 2010 <<http://www.outdoors.org/>>

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Another example of a recreational hut system is the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division Hut Association. It is the most extensive mountain hut system in the United States and includes 30 backcountry huts in the Colorado Rocky Mountains connected by 350 miles of backcountry trails.<sup>6</sup> The system was founded in the 1980s and named after the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division of the U.S. Army, who stayed in mountain huts while training. Not all of the structures were originally built as mountain huts: some were converted from sheep-herder shelters and Forest Service guard shacks.<sup>7</sup> The 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division Hut Association accommodates hikers, mountain bikers, and cross-country skiers.

Yosemite's High Sierra Camps are unusual in the context of recreational mountain huts. While most recreational mountain huts in Europe and the eastern United States were maintained by hiking associations, even if situated on public lands, the High Sierra Camps were built and maintained by a for-profit concessioner. Further, most recreational mountain huts were built with the primary purpose of providing year-round shelter, and their permanent buildings are used heavily by cross-country skiers. The High Sierra Camps are distinctive in their emphasis on interpretation programs and their seasonal, temporary nature of buildings.

Within the National Park system, there are other facilities that, like the High Sierra Camps, offer rustic accommodations and are accessible only by foot or pack animal, but differ in that they are primarily permanent buildings and are individual camps rather than a loop system. Some examples include backcountry lodging in Glacier National Park, Sequoia National Park, Grand Canyon National Park, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and Haleakala National Park.

The Sperry Chalet and the Granite Park Chalet are located in Glacier National Park and were built by the Glacier Park Hotel Company, a subsidiary of the Great Northern Railway. Construction on the Sperry Chalet began in 1913, and the complex soon consisted of a stone, one-story kitchen and dining room building and a stone, two-story dormitory. The Granite Park Chalet was built the next year, in 1914, and included a stone, one-story, dormitory building and a stone, two-story building housing a kitchen and dormitory. These developments slightly precede the construction of the earliest of the High Sierra Camps at Yosemite, which were built in 1916.

Sequoia National Park has a single backcountry camp that is very similar to the High Sierra Camps at Yosemite. It is called Bearpaw High Sierra Camp. Located along Sequoia's High Sierra Trail in the Kaweah River watershed, this High Sierra Camp opened for business in 1934. The camp complex includes a dining room/kitchen tent structure, a bathhouse, and, in a very similar fashion as Yosemite's High Sierra Camps, six tent cabins that sleep up to 18 visitors. Also, like the High Sierra Camps at Yosemite, Bearpaw is operated by a for-profit concessioner and offers meals to backpackers that are staying at a nearby backcountry campground.<sup>7</sup>

After the Fred Harvey Company was granted the concession to build a lodge in the Grand Canyon in 1922, the company hired noted architect Mary Jane Colter to design the buildings. Colter named the lodge the Phantom Ranch and designed a dining hall and guest cabins. Phantom Ranch is located at the bottom of the Grand Canyon, and is only accessed by foot, mule, or river raft. Additions were made over the decades, and the camp currently includes a combination of historic and nonhistoric buildings and provides guests accommodations, meals, and linens. Although the Phantom Ranch is comprised of permanent buildings and is not a part of a backcountry circuit, it is similar to Yosemite's High Sierra Camps in that it is a backcountry hostelry that is run by the parks concessioner.

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park has two lodges accessible only by hiking or horseback: Charit Creek and LeConte. Built as a hunting lodge in 1817, Charit Creek Lodge was converted to a youth hostel in 1987 and a full-service lodge in the 1990s. Sleeping space for 38 guests is provided in two cabins and two bunk rooms, and meal service is included. LeConte Lodge was built in 1926, and sleeping quarters for 50 guests are located in roughhewn cabins and dormitories.

<sup>6</sup> McLaughlin.

<sup>7</sup> Dawson.

<sup>8</sup> Tweed, *Uncertain Path: A Search for the Future of National Parks*. 168-170.

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Hiking trails in Haleakala National Park provide access to three small, permanent cabins built by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s. The cabins are usually accessed from different trails and are not part of a loop system. Each cabin offers visitors a stove, kitchen facilities, and bunks, and guests prepare their own meals.

The lodging in National Parks described above is similar to the High Sierra Camps in that guests arrive by foot or pack animal, and simple sleeping accommodations are provided. However, there are important differences. First, the facilities described above primarily consist of permanent buildings. Secondly, the lodges and cabins are not part of loop systems. Thirdly, with the exception of the Phantom Ranch, most are a lodge building type, with at least some of the guests' sleeping quarters located in the main lodge.

#### **HISTORIC CONTEXT: HIGH SIERRA CAMPS<sup>9</sup>**

An important and historically significant portion of the Yosemite National Park lies above the elevations normally approached by the casual tourist and sight-seer. The High Sierra Camps allow for exploration and enjoyment of this remote and seasonally accessed part of the park. A series of camps established for the enjoyment of the more adventuresome of visitors, the High Sierra Camps offer support and shelter on several of the trails that carry hikers, riders and backpackers through this rugged and challenging wilderness.

In 1916 the fledgling National Park Service asked its Yosemite concessionaire—the Desmond Park Service Company—to build mountain chalets at Tenaya Lake, Tuolumne Meadows, and Merced Lake. The Desmond Company owned the Sentinel and Glacier Point hotels and the Big Trees and Yosemite lodges in and around Yosemite Valley. Construction took place during that summer. Each camp contained a frame combination lounge, dining room, and kitchen building roofed with canvas. Guest tents provided sleeping accommodations, and the camp staff consisted of a manager, a cook, and a fisherman. The cost for dinner, bed, and breakfast the next day was minimal. The Desmond Company went bankrupt in 1917, and, as a result, the camps closed the following year. After reorganizing in 1920, the Desmond Company became the Yosemite National Park Company.

In 1920 the Park Service requested that the High Sierra camps be reopened. Superintendent Washington B. Lewis advocated their reestablishment to fill a need he saw for simple, inexpensive accommodations for the park visitor that could be provided at minimum expense to the operator. As a result, the camps at Tenaya Lake and Tuolumne Meadows were reopened as "Hikers' Camps." The first organized party to use them left Yosemite Valley on July 20, 1923, guided by a Park Service naturalist. Other nature-guided parties went out over the next two months and met with considerable success. As a result, Superintendent Lewis requested that the Yosemite National Park Company expand the system to include sites not accessible by roads. He sent Yosemite Park Naturalist Carl P. Russell on a pack trip into the Sierra to choose sites for five additional camps.

The trail-side campsites that seemed best suited to the High Sierra system were at Little Yosemite Valley, Merced Lake, Boothe Lake, the Lyell Fork of the Tuolumne River, Tuolumne Meadows, Glen Aulin, and Tenaya Lake. Russell selected these locations because of the beauty of their surroundings, their distance from other promising campsites, and the availability of water. In 1924 five of those sites were planned as "Hikers' -Camps," built and operated by the Yosemite National Park Company. The Lyell Fork and Glen Aulin Camps intended for installation were omitted from that year's program of expansion. It was planned that all of the camps would consist of a mess and cook tent and dormitory tents for men and women. Attendants and cooks would staff each camp with equipment and supplies brought in by mules.

During a part of the winter of 1923-24, Naturalist Russell was in San Francisco on Yosemite Museum business. At the suggestion of Yosemite National Park Company officials, he took the opportunity to cultivate the acquaintance of some of the newspaper editors in San Francisco with the intent of releasing to them photographs, maps, and notes on the proposed Hikers' Camps. Writers for the *Call*, *Daily News*, *Examiner*, *Herald*, and the *Chronicle* seized upon the opportunity to use the material. The *Herald* for February 13, 1924, first publicized the camps, and other articles followed in quick succession. By February 17, 1924, the San Francisco office of the Yosemite National Park Company reported that it was somewhat overwhelmed with inquiries engendered by the publicity. The announcement made in the *Chronicle* of May

<sup>9</sup> This context is based largely on excerpts from the 8 March 2010 Glen Aulin High Sierra Camp National Register Nomination prepared by Andy Kirk, Richard Coop, and Charles Palmer.

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4, 1924 featured a full page of photographs of the camp sites. A 1924 article on the High Sierra camps by NPS Chief Naturalist Ansel F. Hall provided a description of the High Sierra Loop and the comfortable beds and wholesome meals, provided at a mere 75-cents each, that awaited backcountry travelers at day's end.

Meanwhile, the park prepared maps and colored posters announcing the expanded camp system and readied sets of hand-tinted lanternslides of "standard" size featuring the camps and the trails between camps. The Yosemite National Park Company met the expense involved in making those visual devices. During the travel season of 1924, the Hikers' Camps received a good deal of emphasis in evening talks, in a special printed bulletin, and on the pages of the mimeographed "Yosemite Nature Notes." On June 24, 1924, the first backcountry nature guide party, a group of ten, set out from Camp Curry for the Hikers' Camps. Thereafter, for the next six years, the six-day trips were offered throughout the summer at two-week intervals. Almost immediately, it became clear the camps drew people on horseback as well as hikers, and the name was changed from Hikers Camps to High Sierra Camps. Backcountry excursions were operated annually during the eight- to ten-week season during the summer when the snow pack had retreated sufficiently for the parties to access the trails.

By the mid-1920s, seven backcountry camps had been established: Little Yosemite Camp, Merced Lake Camp, Boothe Lake Camp, Mount Lyell Camp, Tuolumne Meadows Camp, Glen Aulin Camp, and Lake Tenaya Camp. The proposed Glen Aulin Camp began operating in 1927, but later moved slightly east of its original location because of a mosquito problem. A few years later the Boothe Lake Camp was abandoned in favor of a new camp, Vogelsang, first located near the junction of the Rafferty Creek and Lyell Fork trails and, in 1940, on the banks of Fletcher Creek. In 1938 the Tenaya Lake Camp was closed, and in its place another was established amidst the mountain hemlocks at May Lake under the ramparts of Mount Hoffmann. This left the Tuolumne Meadows Camp the only one on a road. Sunrise High Sierra Camp was not established until 1961.

The sheer size of and demand for access to this remote area of the park has required significant planning and coordination among the Park concessionaires, NPS, campers, and hikers. The following descriptions of the campsites and their physical relationships demonstrate the logistical dexterity necessary for the park to accommodate the tourists, maintain the integrity of the wilderness area in which these trails and camps exist, and protect the wildlife and scenic beauty indigenous to this region. In addition, the travelers must be protected from significant exposure to the dramatic elements that can change abruptly and without warning. What follows are the original 1924 descriptions of the sites selected for Merced Lake Camp, Tuolumne Meadows Camp, and Glen Aulin Camp:

[Merced Lake Camp:] Those who have climbed to Vogelsang Pass or have followed the Babcock and Emeric Lake Trail to Tuolumne Pass will remember the splendid park of Jeffrey pines that stand where the trail leaves the main Merced Canyon and branches up the McClure Fork. Here, a mile above Merced Lake stands Merced Lake Camp. The region is one of great beauty. The glaciated canyon cuts eastward deep into the heart of the mountains. Through it runs the singing Merced, now plunging over cascades, now flowing deep, now swift, and now loitering for a time in placid Washburn Lake. Not only here, but also in the McClure Fork, Babcock Lake, Bernice Lake, Emeric Lake, and other waters the trout abound. Merced Camp is a good base from which to ascend Florence Mountain or Mount Clark and its lofty neighbors. Within a long day's walk are Yosemite Valley and the hikers' camps at Lake Tenaya (via Clouds Rest), at Tuolumne Meadows (via Tuolumne Pass or Vogelsang Pass), and in Lyell Canyon (via Vogelsang Pass or Tuolumne Pass). A short day westward is the Little Yosemite Camp. A seven-mile climb on the scenic Babcock and Emeric Lake Trail, or on the even more spectacular Vogelsang Pass Trail, would take us to Boothe Lake Camp....

[Tuolumne Meadows Camp:] Of all the spots in the High Sierra, John Muir's favorite was the Tuolumne Meadows. So many are the attractive excursions that may be taken afoot from the camp near the junction of the Lyell Fork and Dana Fork that hikers will be tempted to prolong their stay here from days to weeks. Among the shorter walks are those to Lambert Dome, Dog Lake, Fairview Dome, Evelyn Lake, and Gaylor Lakes; a little longer are the trips to Young Lake, McCabe Lakes, Tioga Pass, Tioga Lake, Ellery Lake, Saddlebag Lake, and Old Tioga Mine; and then there are the ascents of Mount Dana, Mount Conness, Ragged Peak, the rugged summits of the Cathedral Group, and dozens of other unnamed vantage-points. Trails radiate in every direction. A few miles westward are the famous Waterwheel Falls, with Glen Aulin Camp conveniently located for hikers. A little to the south of west the Tioga Road leads to Tenaya Lake Camp, some eight miles distant. Southwest, a full day's walk

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by the Sunrise Trail lies Little Yosemite Camp. Southward one may climb in four or five hours up the Rafferty Creek Trail to Boothe Lake Camp. The Mount Lyell Camp is but two hours' walk southeastward up the canyon.

[Glen Aulin Camp:] From the highland plateau of Tuolumne Meadows one descends abruptly into the Grand Canyon of the Tuolumne, passing California Falls, Le Conte Falls, and many other spectacular but unnamed cascades. Suddenly one comes upon Glen Aulin, a tranquil little valley shut off from all the world by great sheer granite walls. Here, where the river pauses for a moment before resuming its tumultuous rush into its mile-deep canyon, is Glen Aulin Camp. Waterwheel Falls, the Tuolumne's unique expression of leaping power and spotless beauty, may be reached by a newly constructed trail that further descends the canyon. Within one day to the north of Glen Aulin are Cold Canyon, Alkali Canyon, Virginia Canyon, and Matterhorn Canyon. Four hours to the southward Tenaya Lake may be reached via the McGee Lake Trail; half a day eastward up the Canyon lies Tuolumne Meadows Camp....<sup>10</sup>

Since 1925 the High Sierra Camps have been operated by the primary park concessioner. The camps have not principally been money-making ventures: services have been provided generally at less than cost. Russell, later Chief Naturalist of the Park Service, stated once that the High Sierra Camps comprised one of the most important assets of the park. He believed that the resumption of interpretive work in the camps and on the trails between camps in 1923 was a sagacious move on the part of the government, because the backcountry was considered the best field in which to spread the word regarding NPS objectives in the preservation and conservation of natural resources. It was recognized early that the comparatively small numbers of visitors that initially took advantage of this service in the backcountry could not be the criterion for judging the effectiveness of the project. The great advantages of placing a competent naturalist—provided free of charge by the Yosemite Nature Guide Service—with the same individuals day after day amidst the superlative high country surroundings outweighed most of the arguments of would-be efficiency experts in the government bureaucracy. The greatest asset of these ranger-guided trips was that ranger-naturalists would be on hand at moments of greatest visitor receptiveness—while they were viewing magnificent natural wonders—to help them understand and more fully appreciate the innumerable treasures of the Yosemite high country and, on a broader scale, those of all natural areas within the National Park System.

During the 1930s the High Sierra Camps underwent some renovation, and stone cook house/dining structures replaced the old frame and canvas ones. By 1938 five High Sierra camps existed: two original ones at Merced Lake and Tuolumne Meadows, which had ice houses, and new ones at May Lake (replacing the Tenaya Lake Camp), Glen Aulin, and Vogelsang (replacing the Boothe Lake Camp). The company had discontinued the Tenaya Lake and Little Yosemite Valley Camps. Mary Curry Tresidder, president of the Curry Company, established the Sunrise High Sierra camp in 1961 and equipped it with a canvas dining tent and stone kitchen structure. It overlooks Long Meadow on the John Muir Trail a few miles from Cathedral Pass.

By the early 1960s, the popularity of these guided treks had risen to the point that horse-mounted trips left the stables in the Yosemite Valley weekly and traversed the trails from camp to camp in a clockwise direction. Hiking parties generally started at the Tuolumne Meadows area and traveled in a counterclockwise direction. Demand for the lodging at the camps has remained high, and currently the available beds are reserved months in advance, although because of cancellations, some permits are available on a day-to-day basis.

Six High Sierra Camps exist today and comprise the High Sierra Loop, a seven-day backcountry experience that is unique within the National Park System and attracts hikers and other outdoor enthusiasts year after year. The camps are along well-marked, safe trails and are open from six to eight weeks a year, from mid-June or early July to Labor Day, weather permitting. Tuolumne Meadows Camp is located at the end of an access road, 1.5 miles west of its junction with the Tioga Road, and is the only High Sierra Camp directly accessible by automobile. It is also the largest unit with 66 tents. Glen Aulin has eight guest tents, May Lake seven, Vogelsang twelve, Merced Lake nineteen, and Sunrise nine. The combination of fresh bed linens, good meals, and the great outdoors presents a unique way for Yosemite visitors to go hiking or backpacking.

<sup>10</sup> Ansel F. Hall, "High Sierra Camps," *Sierra Club Bulletin* 12, no. 1 (1924) 39-42.

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The High Sierra Camps have been significant as an innovative interpretive concept luring more people into the Yosemite backcountry and representing a successful joint effort by the NPS and the Yosemite concessionaire to encourage travel beyond the roads and thus enhance visitor appreciation of wilderness areas. Their establishment also marked an early implementation of the Interior Department's policy of making remote areas of parks more accessible to the visiting public. Another aspect of the 1923 reopening of the camps involved Park Service Director Stephen Mather's strong desire to carry out what he believed were the agency's interpretive responsibilities in the high country. The park established a new pattern of interpretive service there, providing backcountry nature guide trips to the camps, which was unique within the National Park System and set precedents for similar programs in other units. None, however, developed along exactly the same lines as the High Sierra Camps. Despite the initially small number of visitors exposed to this service, Mather and park officials strongly believed that a naturalist talking to the same people day after day, amidst the magnificent peaks and meadows of the backcountry, could exert a stronger and longer-lasting influence on the formation of positive visitor attitudes toward national parks and conservation in general than could result from guided short walks on the valley floor, daily lectures at the museum, or single-day hikes to the valley rim. The High Sierra Loop is considered the highlight of the park's interpretive services to this day.

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**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 # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_  
 recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

State Historic Preservation Office  
 Other State agency  
 Federal agency  
 Local government  
 University  
 Other  
Name of repository: Yosemite Research Library and Yosemite Archive, El Portal

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A

**10. Geographical Data**

**Acreage of Property** 2.9 acres  
(Do not include previously listed resource acreage.)

**UTM References**

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

A	<u>11N</u>	<u>293444</u>	<u>4185727</u>	C	<u>11N</u>	<u>293547</u>	<u>4185646</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
B	<u>11N</u>	<u>293547</u>	<u>4185746</u>	D	<u>11N</u>	<u>293444</u>	<u>4185623</u>
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing

**Verbal Boundary Description** (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Historic District boundary follows the Designated Wilderness Boundary on the district's northern, eastern, and southern perimeters. The district's western perimeter is formed by a straight north-south line that is 50' west of the historic corral. See attached map.

**Boundary Justification** (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary for Vogelsang High Sierra Camp encompasses the buildings and immediate setting historically associated with the complex, including overnight accommodations, eating facilities, and the corral. The Historic District Boundary is largely defined by the Designated Wilderness Boundary, with the exception of the western perimeter.

The backpackers' campground to the northeast has not been included within the boundaries for a number of reasons. The campground and the High Sierra Camp each have their own unique history of development, management, and purpose. While the High Sierra Camps have been operated by park concessioners throughout their history and have provided many amenities and comforts of more traditional lodging, the backpackers' campgrounds are maintained by the NPS and provide fewer amenities. The adjacent backpackers' campground and Vogelsang High Sierra Camp have completely separate facilities (including bear boxes and fire rings) and do not share equipment or space. All existing built features associated with the campground appear to be modern.

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**11. Form Prepared By**

Andy Kirk, Richard Coop, Charles Palmer  
name/title Amy Hoke, Allen Edwards, Daniel Schaible  
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city or town El Portal state CA zip code 95318  
charles\_palmer@nps.gov  
e-mail amy\_hoke@nps.gov, daniel\_schaible@nps.gov

**Additional Documentation**

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.  
A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Continuation Sheets**
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items.)

**Photographs:**

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map.

Name of Property: Vogelsang High Sierra Camp

City or Vicinity: Yosemite National Park

County: Mariposa State: California

Photographer: Allen Edwards and Amy Hoke

Date Photographed: August 11, 2010, August 12, 2010

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

- 1 of 23: Cook House, entrance and steps, facing northwest.
- 2 of 23: Cook House, south elevation and lean-to, facing north.
- 3 of 23: Cook House, stone wall and incinerator, facing southeast.

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- 4 of 23: Dining Tent entrance and cookhouse, facing east.
- 5 of 23: Dining Tent, showing its attachment to the cookhouse, facing south.
- 6 of 23: Dining Tent, showing its shed style tent extension, facing the river.
- 7 of 23: Tent Bathhouse, east elevation, facing west.
- 8 of 23: Tent Bathhouse, facing southeast.
- 9 of 23: Storehouse, main entrance, facing, northwest.
- 10 of 23: Storehouse rear, facing southeast.
- 11 of 23: Incinerator and its attendant wood locker, facing northwest.
- 12 of 23: Incinerator, showing a detail of the furnace door, facing north.
- 13 of 23: Cluster of Guest Tent Cabins, facing south.
- 14 of 23: Corridor through Guest Tent Cabins, facing south.
- 15 of 23: Guest Tent Cabin #6, facing west.
- 16 of 23: Guest Tent Cabin rear, depicting stovepipe chimney, facing east.
- 17 of 23: Employee Tent Cabins E1 and E2 (Contributing), facing east.
- 18 of 23: Employee tent Cabins E1 and E2 (Contributing), facing north.
- 19 of 23: Composting Toilet installed immediately adjacent to the historic Tent Bathhouse, facing northwest.
- 20 of 23: Employee Tent Cabin E3 (Noncontributing), facing south.
- 21 of 23: Tack houses, facing east.
- 22 of 23: Wood shed, main entrance, facing west.
- 23 of 23: View from Vogelsang High Sierra Camp towards Choo-Choo Ridge.

**Property Owner:**

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name \_\_\_\_\_

street & number \_\_\_\_\_ telephone \_\_\_\_\_

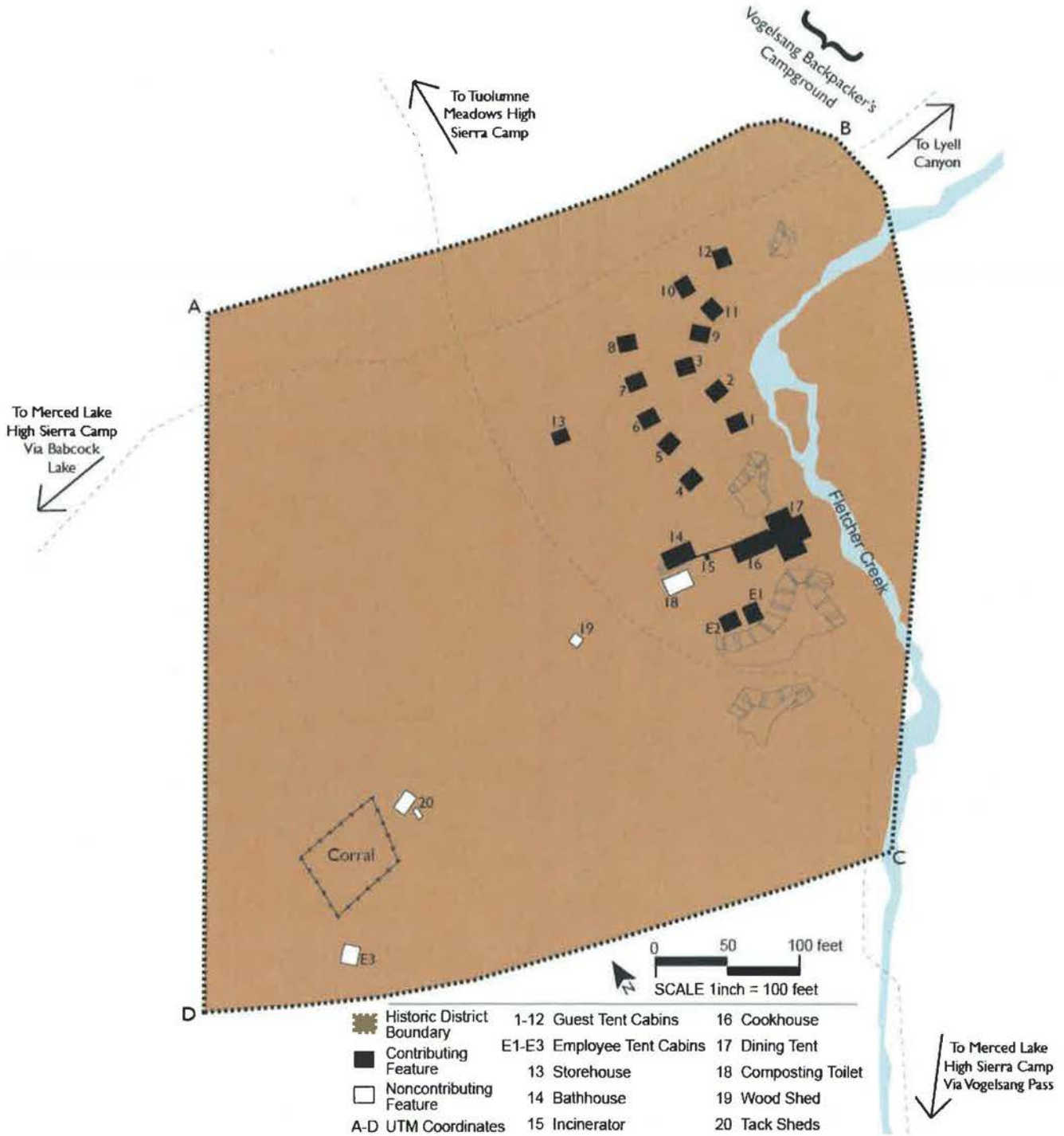
city or town \_\_\_\_\_ state \_\_\_\_\_ zip code \_\_\_\_\_

**Paperwork Reduction Act Statement:** This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

**Estimated Burden Statement:** Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

Vogelsang High Sierra Camp  
 Name of Property

Mariposa, CA  
 County and State



Vogelsang High Sierra Camp



Produced by the U.S. Geological Survey  
Revised by the U.S. Forest Service

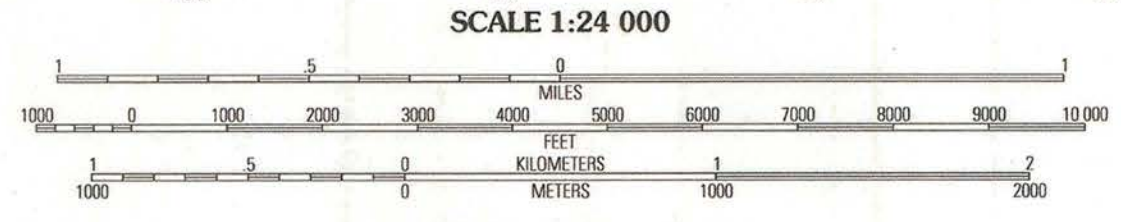
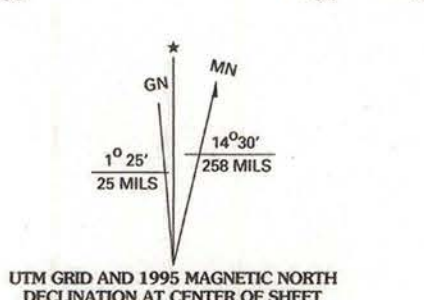
Areas outside the National Forest System lands may not have been revised  
Control by USGS and NOS/NOAA

Compiled from aerial photographs taken 1984 and '85. Revised from aerial  
photographs taken 1993. Partial field check by U.S. Forest Service 1994

North American Datum of 1927 (NAD 27). Projection and 10 000-foot ticks:  
California coordinate system, zone 3 (Lambert conformal conic). Blue  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator ticks, zone 11

North American Datum of 1983 (NAD 83) is shown by dashed corner ticks  
The values of the shift between NAD 27 and NAD 83 for 7.5-minute  
intersections are obtainable from National Geodetic Survey NADCON software

Non-National Forest System lands within the National Forest  
holdings may exist in other National or State reservations  
This map is not a legal land line or ownership document. Public lands are  
subject to change and leasing, and may have access restrictions; check  
with local offices. Obtain permission before entering private lands  
Where omitted, land lines have not been established



CONTOUR INTERVAL 40 FEET  
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929  
TO CONVERT FEET TO METERS MULTIPLY BY 0.3048

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY  
DENVER, COLORADO 80225  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ADJOINING 7.5' QUADRANGLES

1	2	3	1 Falls Ridge 2 Tioga Pass 3 Mount Dana
4	5	6	4 Tenaya Lake 5 Kelp Peak 6 Merced Peak
7	8	9	7 Mount Lyell 8 Mount Ritter

**HIGHWAYS AND ROADS**

Interstate	.....	Primary highway	.....
U. S.	.....	Secondary highway	.....
State	.....	Light-duty road	.....
County	.....	Paved	.....
National Forest, suitable for passenger cars	.....	Gravel	.....
National Forest, suitable for high clearance vehicles	.....	Dirt	.....
National Forest Trail	.....	Composition unspecified	.....
		Unimproved; 4 wheel drive	.....
		Trail	.....
		Gate	.....

**VOGELSANG PEAK, CA**  
37119-G3-TF-024  
1994  
DMA 2159 IV SE - SERIES V895







NO  
SMOKING  
WITHIN 50 FEET

LEAF LETTUCE  
LEAF LETTUCE  
LEAF LETTUCE

LEAF LETTUCE























NO  
SMOKING  
WITHIN 50 FEET

OFFICE  
NOT ENDS















E2













UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Vogelsang High Sierra Camp

MULTIPLE NAME: Yosemite National Park MPS

STATE & COUNTY: CALIFORNIA, Mariposa

DATE RECEIVED: 6/02/14      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/25/14  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/10/14      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/19/14  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000413

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N    DATA PROBLEM: N    LANDSCAPE: N    LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N    PDIL: N    PERIOD: N    PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: Y    SAMPLE: N    SLR DRAFT: N    NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

     ACCEPT         RETURN         REJECT                         DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**The Vogelsang High Sierra Camp is locally significant under National Register Criterion A, in the areas of Conservation, Education, and Recreation/Entertainment. Intended as a means of getting Park visitors out beyond the congested Yosemite Valley and into the Sierra high country, the 1940 Vogelsang Camp was a crucial component of the six site loop system established in Yosemite's high country during the early twentieth century. The seasonal camps combined permanent facilities with simple platform tent cabins designed consistent with the NPS' rustic aesthetics. Emphasizing varied interpretive programs, the camps were envisioned not just as additional recreational venues, but as educational tools by which the Park could introduce visitors to the vast landscapes of the National Park system and promote a better appreciation for the conservation objectives of the NPS. The property meets the registrations requirements set out in the Yosemite MPS.**

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept Criterion A

REVIEWER Paul R. Lusignan      DISCIPLINE HISTORIAN

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_      DATE 7/10/2014

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR (Y)N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.