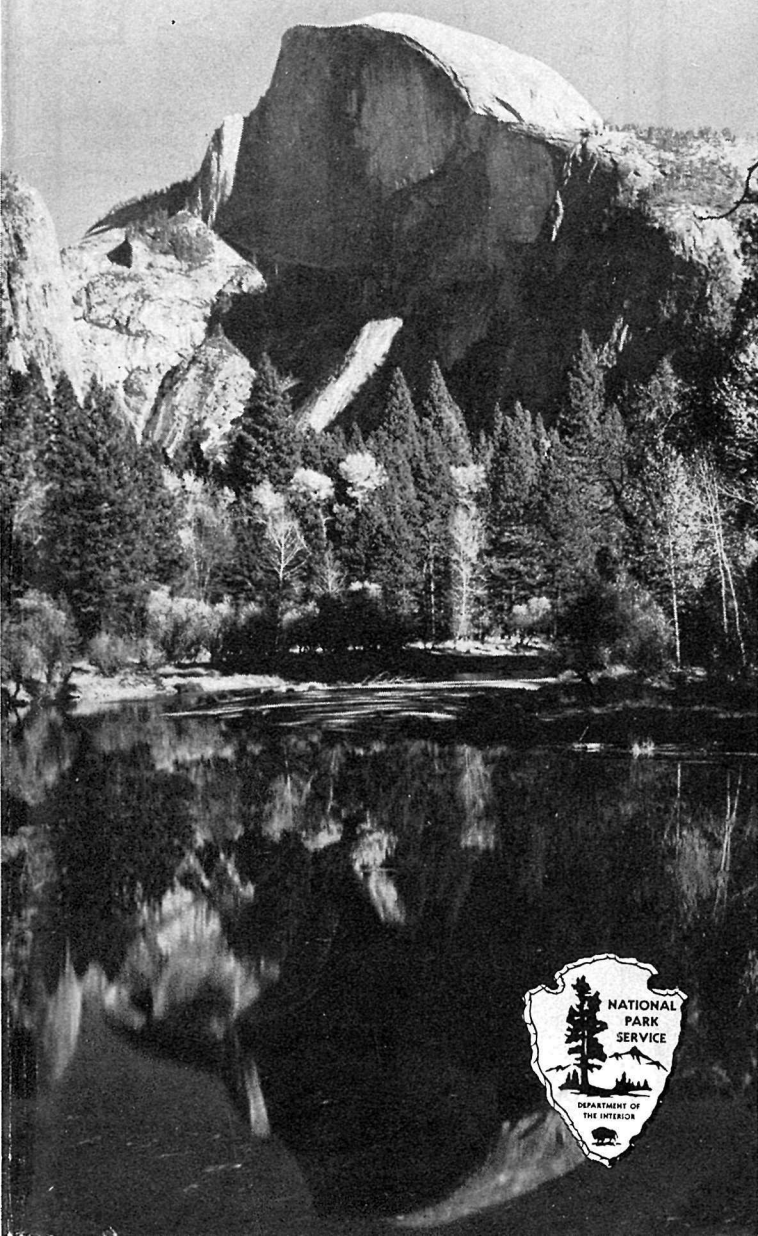


Yosemite

NATIONAL PARK

California



Yosemite NATIONAL PARK

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Douglas McKay, *Secretary* • NATIONAL PARK SERVICE • Conrad L. Wirth, *Director*



OPEN ALL YEAR

JOHN MUIR described the mood of Yosemite National Park when he wrote: "Oh, these vast calm, measureless mountain days, inciting at once to work and rest! Days in whose light everything seems equally divine, opening a thousand windows to show us God. Nevermore, however weary, should one faint by the way who gains the blessings of one mountain day; whatever his fate, long life, short life, stormy or calm, he is rich forever." The park, situated in spectacular mountain country, was reserved for public use primarily because of its matchless scenery. Its deep canyons, towering cliffs, and inspiring back country include some of the finest examples of erosion in granite by stream and ice action. Among other features of interest are its majestic waterfalls, three groves of giant sequoias, and great variety of plant and animal life.

Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Grove were set aside by act of Congress, in 1864, to be administered as a public trust by the State of California. In 1890, Yosemite National Park, surrounding these areas, was established; and, in 1906, the State receded the Valley and the Grove to the Federal Government. The park now contains 757,617.36 acres of federally owned lands.

YOSEMITE VALLEY AND ITS FORMATION

Yosemite Valley, earliest and best known of the park features, is a magnificent gorge, world-renowned for Half Dome, El Capitan, and other lofty peaks, and for Yosemite Falls, with a total drop of almost half a mile.

The Valley, 4,000 feet elevation, 7 miles long, averaging 1 mile in width and half a mile in depth, was cut by the combined action of the Merced River and glaciers. The preglacial Merced River was repeatedly accelerated to torrential speed by uplifts of the earth's surface which in the course of many million

years have given the Sierra Nevada their height. With each increase in velocity, the river cut its channel deeper and at last fashioned a narrow V-shaped canyon. During the Ice Age powerful glaciers widened this narrow V-shaped canyon to a broad U-shaped trough, cutting back the sloping sides to sheer cliffs and transforming cascades into waterfalls. The melting glaciers left a lake 5½ miles long. Into this lake the Merced River deposited quantities of sand and gravel which finally filled the lake, producing the level parklike floor.

WATERFALLS

Nowhere else in the world may be seen a waterfall spectacle such as is found in Yosemite National Park. The Upper Yosemite Fall drops 1,430 feet in one sheer fall, a height equal to approximately nine Niagara Falls. The Lower Yosemite Fall, immediately below, has a drop of 320 feet, or two Niagaras more. Counting the series of cascades in between, the total drop from the crest of the upper to the base of the lower fall is 2,425 feet. Vernal Fall has a drop of 317 feet; Illilouette Fall, 370 feet. The Nevada Fall drops 594 feet; the Bridalveil Fall, 620 feet; and the Ribbon Fall, 1,612 feet.

The falls reach their maximum flow in May and June while the winter snows are melting. They are still running in July, but some are entirely dry by August 15 when there has been little rain or snow.

GLACIER POINT (CLOSED IN WINTER)

Glacier Point, above the Valley rim, commands a magnificent view of the High Sierra. Spread before the eye is one of the world's grandest panoramas of domes and waterfalls, dominated by Half Dome which rises almost sheer 4,892 feet above the Valley floor. A few steps from the hotel one looks down into Yosemite Valley, 3,254 feet below. A free public campground is available at Glacier Point.

An excellent highway, which leaves the Wawona Road at Chinquapin, leads through forests of pine and fir to Glacier Point, a distance of 30 miles from Government Center. A

popular feature during the summer is the firefall which is pushed from the Point every night, its glowing embers falling in a 900-foot tinkling golden cascade to a barren rocky ledge below.

THE GIANT SEQUOIAS

The Mariposa Grove of giant sequoias, near South Entrance, is one of the most important points of interest in the park. It is reached by 35 miles of paved high-gear highway from Yosemite Valley, about 1½-hour drive each way.

This grove contains some 200 trees of enormous size, some of which are estimated to be more than 3,000 years old. There are thousands of younger trees. Reproduction is healthy, and the trees show a remarkable resistance to fire, fungi, and insects.

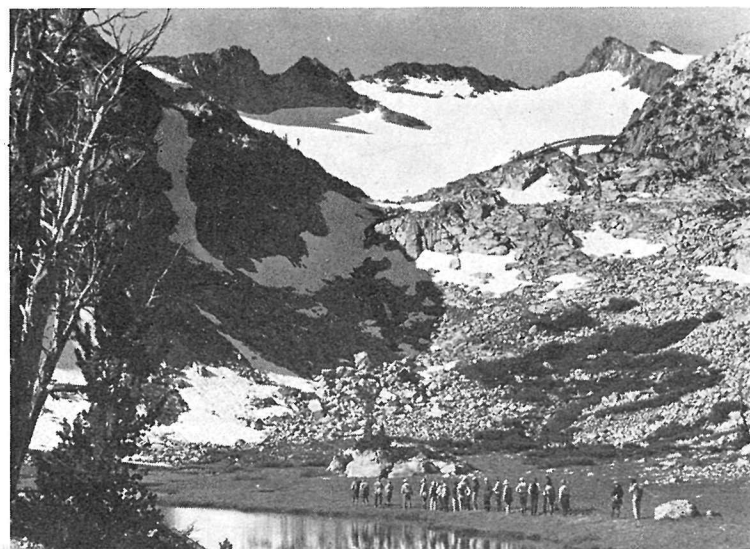
There are two other smaller groves of giant sequoias in Yosemite—the Tuolumne and Merced Groves north of Yosemite Valley. They are reached by the Big Oak Flat Road, via Crane Flat.

THE HIGH COUNTRY (CLOSED IN WINTER)

To the north, east, and south of Yosemite Valley extends a vast domain of granite peaks, dotted with innumerable lakes and high mountain meadows of vivid green studded with myriads of wild flowers during July and August. Here living glaciers nestle in the shadows of the highest peaks. This is truly a hikers' paradise for rain seldom falls between June and September, except for occasional refreshing afternoon showers. Some 700 miles of trails invite one to enchantingly beautiful spots. Fishing may be enjoyed in the many streams and lakes.

Hetch Hetchy Dam and Reservoir are 38 miles from Yosemite Valley via the Big Oak Flat Road. This is an interesting 1-day trip.

Hikers near Mount Lyell, 13,095 feet



Tuolumne Meadows.—About 55 miles from Yosemite Valley, by way of the Tioga Road, is Tuolumne Meadows, the largest of the many subalpine gardens of the high Sierra. At an elevation of more than 8,600 feet, this is an ideal starting point for many interesting trips on foot or horseback. A store, lodge, gas station, and free public campground are available during the summer season.

High Sierra Trail Trips.—The trails radiating from Tuolumne Meadows and Yosemite Valley offer a wide variety of interesting trips, varying from a few days to a month or more. For those who would travel light, a chain of High Sierra camps, located at scenic spots averaging 10 miles apart, offers accommodations for all. Tent-lodging and meals are provided during the summer season. In addition, these camps have for sale a limited variety of food supplies for those traveling independently.

By replenishing their food stocks at these camps, back packers not only can travel lighter but can stay longer. Using each camp as a base, hikers may spend many days exploring the trails in the immediate vicinity.

Horseback riding on the High Sierra trails is a thrilling adventure. Saddle and pack stock, including burros, and equipment may be rented at several points both inside and outside of the park.

WAWONA

Wawona, 27 miles south of the Valley, near the Mariposa Grove, is located in a beautiful mountain meadow on the scenic Wawona Road—the Discovery Route. Here saddle and pack animals may be secured for trips to fine fishing lakes and streams in the southern part of the park. Other sports to be enjoyed are tennis, golf, and swimming. A post office, gas station, store, hotel, and new improved free public campgrounds are available.

PLANT AND ANIMAL LIFE

Because of the great range in altitude of about 2,000 feet to over 13,000 feet and the varied moisture conditions, there are more than 1,300 varieties of flowering plants in the park. Five life zones are represented, ranging from the brush belt in the lowest altitudes, with its manzanita, ceanothus, live oak, and digger pine, to the alpine-arctic zone, where only lichens, mosses, and a few alpine flowering plants can grow. Early spring marks the flowering of redbud and Pacific dogwood, followed by such shrubs as azalea, spirea, and mockorange, in the lower and middle regions of the park.

Approximately 60 species of mammals, more than 200 varieties of birds, about 25 kinds of reptiles, and a dozen kinds of amphibians are to be found here.

Animals of the park are wild and should be treated as such. The bears and deer cannot be trusted and are potentially very

dangerous. *Observe them only from a safe distance.* Regulations which prohibit feeding, molesting, touching, or teasing deer and bears will be enforced for the protection of visitors.

Deer may be seen throughout the park, particularly in the meadows in late afternoon. During June and July the fawns are born and are usually well concealed by the does in the tall grass of the meadows; however, when fawns are discovered, *they should be left strictly alone.*

Ground squirrels and chipmunks are numerous and frequently tame. It is wisest to enjoy them without actual contact, however, for some rodents have been known to carry dangerous diseases.

NATURALIST PROGRAM

Park naturalists maintain a regular schedule of free guided trips, illustrated talks, and museum service. This is designed to enable visitors better to appreciate and enjoy the many interesting features of Yosemite National Park.

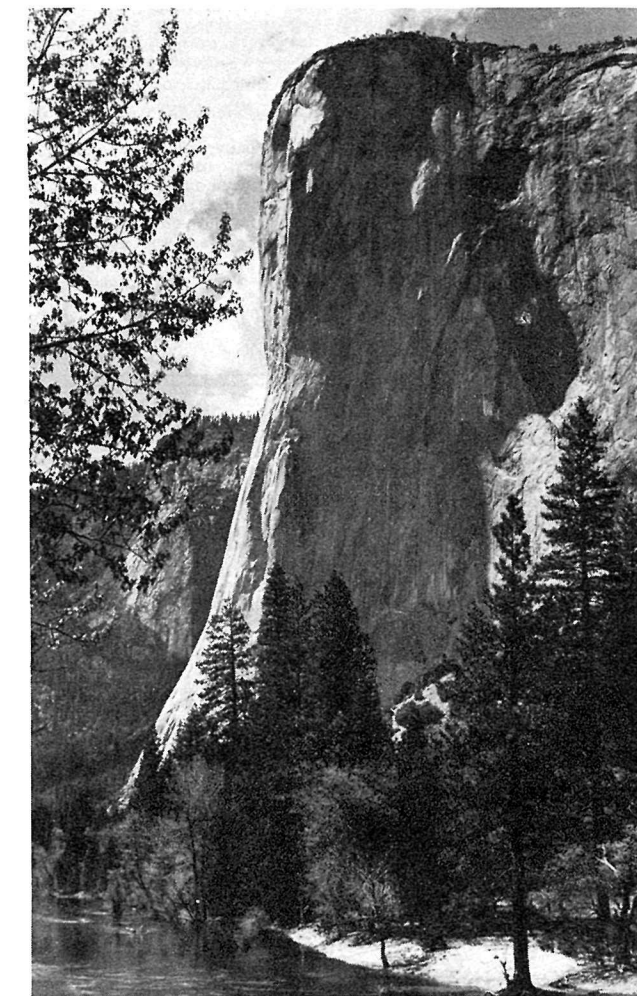
These schedules are posted on bulletin boards at hotels, lodges, campgrounds, the park museum, and other places in the park. Consult them for details.

Yosemite Museum.—At Government Center in Yosemite Valley. Open daily, including Sunday, throughout the year. The exhibits, including a wildflower garden, serve as the "key" or "index" to the geology, plant and animal life, history, and Indians of Yosemite National Park. Included also are the museum reference library and scientific study collections which are available to interested persons upon request. Daily talks on how Yosemite Valley was formed are given at the museum.

Branch Museums.—At **Mariposa Grove** exhibits in a rustic log cabin museum tell the story of the giant sequoias. At **Glacier Point** a small stone observatory contains exhibits which tell the story of the formation of the rugged features seen from this point. At **Tuolumne Meadows** exhibits showing the geology, plant and animal life, and the history of that section are in the ranger station, located on the main highway near the public campground.

Evening Programs.—Campfire programs are presented nightly, except Sunday, at the outdoor amphitheaters in Camps 7 and 14, in Yosemite Valley, and several times a week, as scheduled, at the campgrounds at Tuolumne Meadows, Wawona, the Mariposa Grove of giant sequoias, and Glacier Point prior to the firefall. They consist of illustrated talks on human and natural history of the park, supplemented by community singing, and, in the Valley, a twilight concert of recorded music. For detailed programs see the bulletin boards.

Publications.—Books, pamphlets, and bulletins describing the geology, plant and animal life, history, and Indians of Yosemite National Park and related areas are for sale at the park museum, under the auspices of the Yosemite Natural History Association.



El Capitan rises 3,604 feet above the floor of Yosemite Valley

FISHING

The State of California operates the hatchery at Happy Isles, and each year a million or more trout are planted in the principal lakes and streams.

Fishing regulations, which are posted at all hotels and ranger stations, should be observed. State of California fishing licenses are required in the park.

HOW TO REACH THE PARK

By Automobile.—Yosemite National Park is reached from the west via State Highway No. 140, leaving U. S. No. 99 at Merced. From the south, State Highway No. 41 leads from Fresno to the South Entrance of the park near the Mariposa Grove. Both are high-gear routes surfaced throughout. State Highway No. 120 leaves U. S. No. 99 at Manteca and enters the park from the west via the Tuolumne Grove. The Tioga

The National Park System, of which Yosemite National Park is a unit, is dedicated to the conservation of America's scenic, scientific, and historic heritage for the benefit and enjoyment of the people.

Road leaves U. S. No. 395 at Mono Lake, enters the park from the east and connects with Big Oak Flat Road at Crane Flat. The Big Oak Flat and Tioga Roads, which are closed in winter, are oiled or paved throughout, but are narrow and winding in places and are not suitable for trailers.

Arch Rock Entrance, on the highway from Merced, is open daily from 5 a. m. to midnight. South Entrance, on the road from Fresno and Madera, is open from 6 a. m. to midnight, May 30 to September 15 inclusive; during the remainder of the year, from 6 a. m. to 10 p. m., Sunday to Thursday inclusive, and from 6 a. m. to 11 p. m., Friday and Saturday. Big Oak Flat and Tioga Pass Entrances are open from 6 a. m. to midnight during the summer season through September 15; during the remainder of the year, when these roads are open, from 6 a. m. to 10 p. m.

By Railroad and Bus.—The Southern Pacific and Santa Fe Railroads and the Pacific Greyhound and Continental Bus Lines operate to Merced and Fresno. The Southern Pacific Railroad and Pacific Greyhound Lines offer service to and from Truckee, Calif., with connections to Lake Tahoe and the park.

By Airplane.—The United Air Lines between Los Angeles and San Francisco makes scheduled stops at Merced and Fresno; the Trans World Airline, at Fresno.

Bus Service to the Park.—The Yosemite Transportation System carries passengers from those points to the park. From Merced, it maintains a daily schedule, arriving at the park via the Arch Rock Entrance. From Fresno, via Mariposa Grove, it operates during the summer only; from Lake Tahoe, via Tioga Road, summer only.

For information regarding these services apply to the Yosemite Transportation System, Yosemite National Park, Calif., or to your nearest railroad, bus, or airline office.

WINTER SEASON

The All-Year Highway, No. 140 from Merced, is never closed, and the Wawona Road, No. 41 from Fresno, is open during the winter, except for short periods after unusually heavy snows.

The Tioga and Big Oak Flat Roads and the road to Glacier Point are all closed in winter. During and after heavy snowstorms, the road to the Mariposa Grove is closed. The use of tire chains is often compulsory over roads within the park. Information on winter road conditions may be obtained from automobile clubs. It is necessary to make reservations well in advance for accommodations for holidays and week ends.

On Glacier Point Road, 20 miles from Yosemite Valley, is the Badger Pass ski area. The road is kept open by snow plows, except during storms. A ski lodge, where ski equipment may be rented and hot lunches, sandwiches, and refreshments are served, is located at Badger Pass, elevation 7,300 feet. Here a Constam T-bar lift and rope tows are available.

At Ostrander Lake, 9 miles by ski trail from Badger Pass, the National Park Service has built a ski hut for experienced cross-country skiers. For those who carry their own bedding and food, a kitchen and bunks are provided without charge. Meals and lodging are available also. Advance reservations must be made through the chief park ranger's office.

The Yosemite Valley, enclosed by granite walls which shut out the winds, has a mild winter climate. On the northern side one may motor and hike in comfort, while on the southern side, screened from the sun by the towering cliffs, popular winter sports may be enjoyed throughout the winter season which usually lasts from December 15 to March 1. Appropriate equipment and clothing may be rented in the Valley.

FREE PUBLIC CAMPGROUNDS

Free public campgrounds are maintained by the National Park Service in Yosemite Valley, at Glacier Point, Wawona, Mariposa Grove, and Tuolumne Meadows. New improved campgrounds at Wawona are especially attractive. All of these campgrounds are equipped with necessary sanitary conveniences and with running water. Most of them have modern rest rooms with washbasins. There are also many smaller isolated campgrounds. Camping facilities may be had until closed by snow in winter. Spaces for trailers are provided in the public campgrounds, except at Camp 15 which has individual camp sites for tents only. No electrical connections for trailers have been installed. Showers are available at Camp Curry, Camp 16, Yosemite Lodge, and Tuolumne Meadows Lodge for 25 cents, which includes soap and towel. Reservations cannot be made for space in the free public campgrounds.

Camping equipment, such as tables, chairs, cots, mattresses, stoves, lanterns, blankets, etc., may be rented from the Yosemite Park and Curry Co. by the week or month during the summer at Camp 16.

Campers must register their name, address, car make and number, length of stay, and location in campground (post and section number) in the registration book at entrance to each campground. *This is important in case of emergency messages.* During June, July, and August, camping in the free public campgrounds in Yosemite Valley is limited to 15 days in any calendar year and at Wawona and in certain sections at Tuolumne Meadows to 30 days.

ACCOMMODATIONS AND SERVICES

The public accommodations for rent in the park are operated by the Yosemite Park & Curry Co. under contract with the Government, and rates are approved by the Director of the National Park Service. Rates are not shown in this folder as they are subject to change from season to season. For reservations, rates, and current information apply to the Yosemite

Park & Curry Co. either at Yosemite National Park, Calif.; 39 Geary St., San Francisco 8; or 514 S. Grand Ave., Los Angeles 13. *It is always advisable to have advance reservations.*

The Ahwahnee.—American plan. Yosemite Valley. Open all year. De luxe accommodations. Dining room.

Camp Curry.—American and European Plans. Yosemite Valley. Summer only. Cabins with and without bath and completely furnished tents. Dining room and cafeteria.

Camp Curry Housekeeping Section.—Summer only. Completely furnished tents.

Yosemite Lodge.—European plan. Yosemite Valley. Open all year. Rooms, with and without bath. In summer, completely or partially furnished tents are also available. Cafeteria.

Yosemite Lodge Housekeeping Cabins.—Open all year. Completely furnished cabins with and without bath.

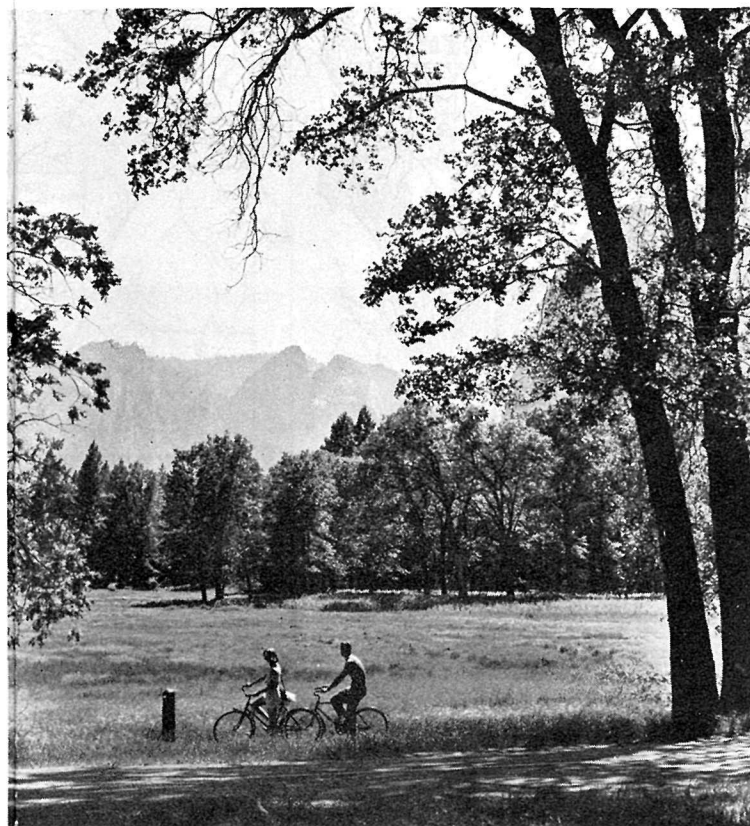
Camp 16, Yosemite Valley, Housekeeping Tents.—Summer only. Completely furnished, except linen which may be rented separately.

Glacier Point Hotel.—European plan. On Valley Rim. Summer only. Rooms with and without bath. Cafeteria.

Wawona Hotel.—American plan. 27 miles south of Yosemite Valley. Summer only. Rooms with and without bath. Dining room.

White Wolf Lodge.—European plan. Summer season only. 1 mile off Tioga Road; 31 miles from Yosemite Valley. Cabins, tents, dining room.

Bicyclists enjoy the level floor of Yosemite Valley



Big Trees Lodge.—European plan. Mariposa Grove, 35 miles south of Yosemite Valley. Open summer season only. Rooms with and without bath. Cafeteria and dining room.

Tuolumne Meadows Lodge.—European plan. Near eastern boundary of park, on Tioga Road. 55 miles from Yosemite Valley. Open summer season only. Dining room.

High Sierra Camps.—Chain of dormitory tent camps, about 10 miles apart, along the High Sierra Trail. Located at Merced Lake, Vogelsang, Tuolumne Meadows, Glen Aulin, and May Lake. Open summer season only. Accommodations for saddle and hiking parties. Dining room.

Photographic Services, Books, Gifts.—Best's Studio, Inc., operated by Virginia and Ansel Adams in Government Center all year. Camera and gift shop; developing, printing, and enlarging.

Yosemite Park and Curry Co. studios at Ahwahnee Hotel and Yosemite Lodge all year; at Camp Curry, Government Center, Glacier Point, Wawona, and Mariposa Grove in summer. All studios sell souvenirs and gifts and handle photo finishing.

Stores.—At Old Village and Wawona all year. At Degnan, Donohoe, Inc., in Old Village in summer (including meals, lunches, fountain service). Stores at Tuolumne Meadows, Camp 16, Camp 14, and Camp Curry in summer.

Other services in Yosemite include pack and saddle animals for use in Yosemite Valley or for extended trips into the high country; barber shops; laundry and dry cleaning; express; telephone and telegraph service; garages; filling stations; medical, dental, and hospital services; and church services.

ADMINISTRATION

Yosemite National Park is under the administration of the National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior. In immediate charge is the park superintendent, with headquarters at Government Center. His post office address is Yosemite National Park, Calif.

Park rangers and ranger naturalists are here to serve you.

NOTE.—*Suggestions, complaints, or comments should be communicated immediately to the nearest park office.*

WARNING ABOUT WILD ANIMALS

Wild animals roam this park. Some are dangerous. Watch them from a distance. Do not alarm them or attract them with food. Be alert while walking or camping—stay in your car when you see them along the highways. Regulations, which we enforce for your safety, prohibit feeding or molesting the wild animals.

PARK REGULATIONS

The park regulations are designed for the protection of the natural features as well as for the comfort and convenience of visitors.

Artifacts.—Visitors shall not remove any artifacts or other objects of archeological or historical significance.

Automobiles.—Speed limit in park is 35 miles per hour, except slower as posted on special signs. Drive carefully. Obey park traffic rules. Secure automobile permit at park entrance. Annual automobile fee, \$2; motorcycle, \$1; trailer, \$1 additional. Keep this permit with your car as it *must* be presented to reenter the park. All fees are deposited in the United States Treasury and are not available for expenditure in the park. Congressional appropriations are the only source of funds for administration and development.

Bears and Deer.—Feeding, touching, teasing, or molesting bears and deer is prohibited. Bears are wild animals and may bite, strike, or scratch. Bears may break into cars or camps in search of food; it is best to suspend food supplies in a box between two trees, well out of reach.

Dogs and Cats.—Dogs and cats are allowed on Government lands in the park if on leash, crated, or otherwise under physical restrictive control at all times, except that the superintendent may designate areas to which dogs and cats shall not be admitted. Campers with dogs or cats are required to camp in special designated camping areas. Dogs may be boarded in kennels.

Fires.—Kindle only in designated places. Extinguish *completely* before leaving, even for temporary absence. Do not throw burning tobacco or matches on road or trail sides. Campfire permits required, except in auto campgrounds.

Fishing.—State of California fishing licenses required in park. Fishing season May 30 through October 15. Daily limit 10 fish or 10 pounds and 1 fish. Minimum size 6 inches. Use of live minnows not permitted. Closed water—Lake Eleanor and tributary streams for 1 mile from lake.

Hunting, Firearms, Etc.—Hunting and trapping not allowed in park. Unless adequately sealed, cased, broken down, or otherwise packed to prevent their use while in the park, firearms are prohibited, except upon written permission from the superintendent.

Preservation of Natural Features.—Destruction, injury, defacement, removal or disturbance of any tree, flower, fruit, vegetation, rock, or wildlife is not permitted.

Report of Accidents.—All accidents shall be reported as soon as possible to the superintendent or at the nearest ranger station.

Trails.—All hikers are warned to stay on designated trails. DO NOT TAKE SHORT CUTS ACROSS ZIGZAGS. On the long hikes to the rim of the Valley, start early when it is cool and get back before dark. Hikers going into isolated sections of the park or off the regular trails should register at the chief ranger's office before starting.

Horses have right-of-way on trails and bridges.

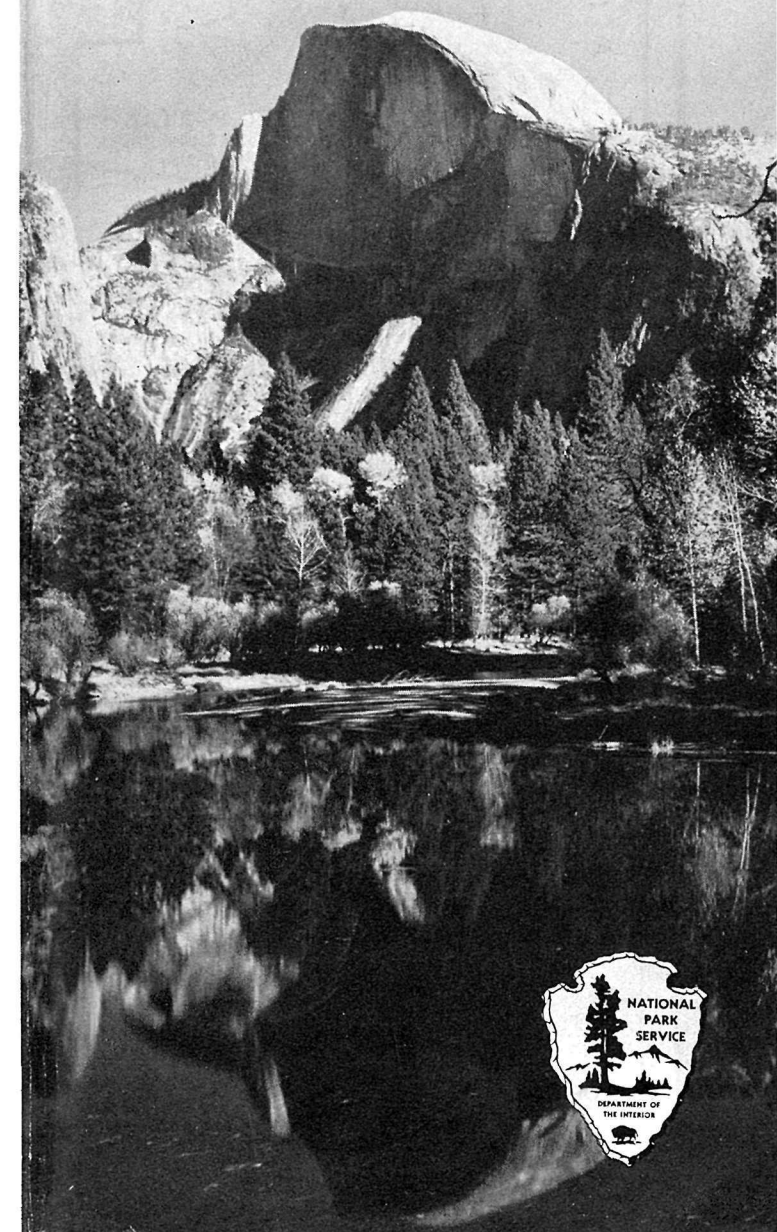
Trash.—*Do not throw paper, lunch refuse, or other trash on roads, trails, or elsewhere. Carry until you can burn in camp or place in receptacle.*

Cover: Half Dome reflected in Merced River

Yosemite

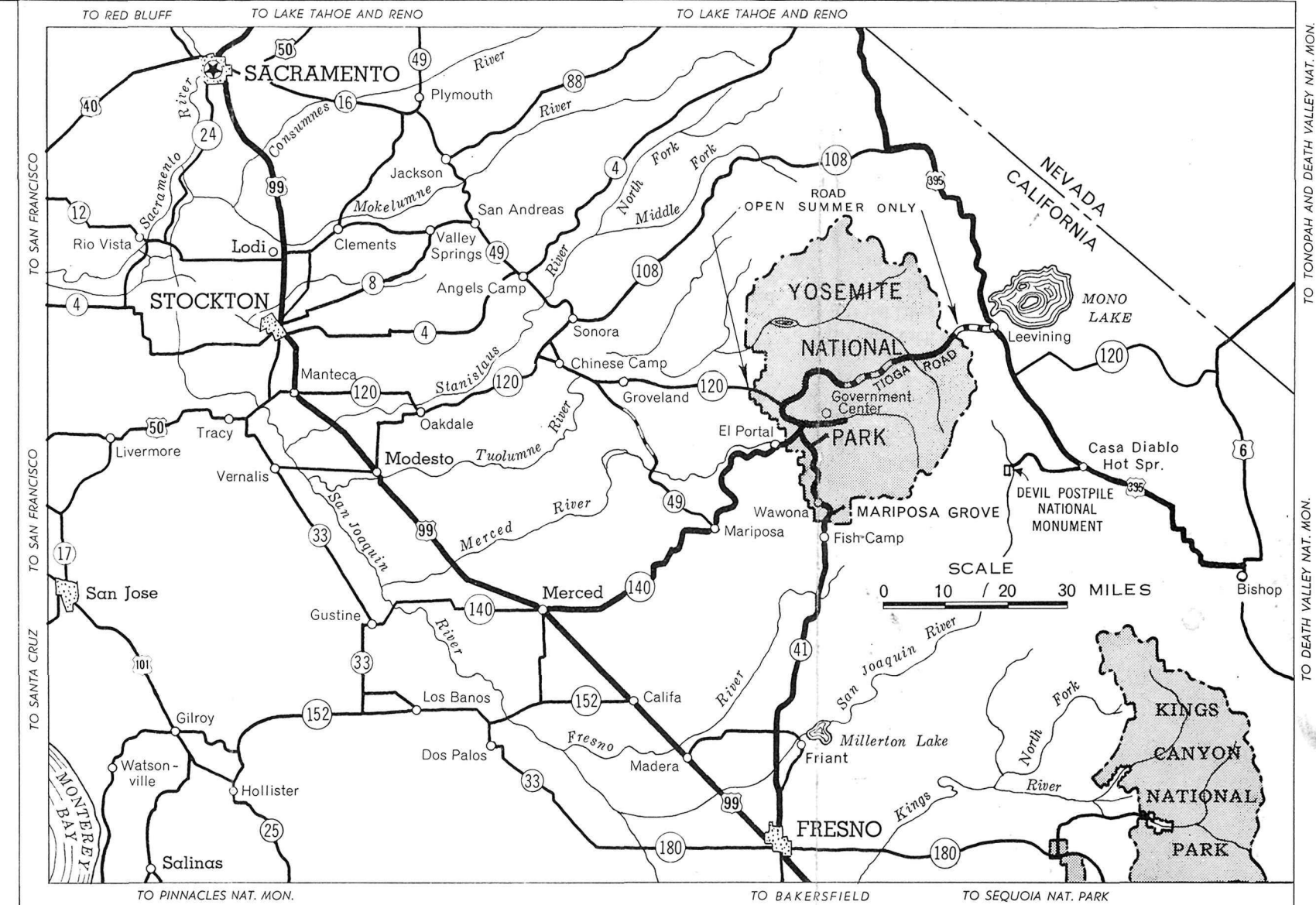
NATIONAL PARK

California



YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK CALIFORNIA

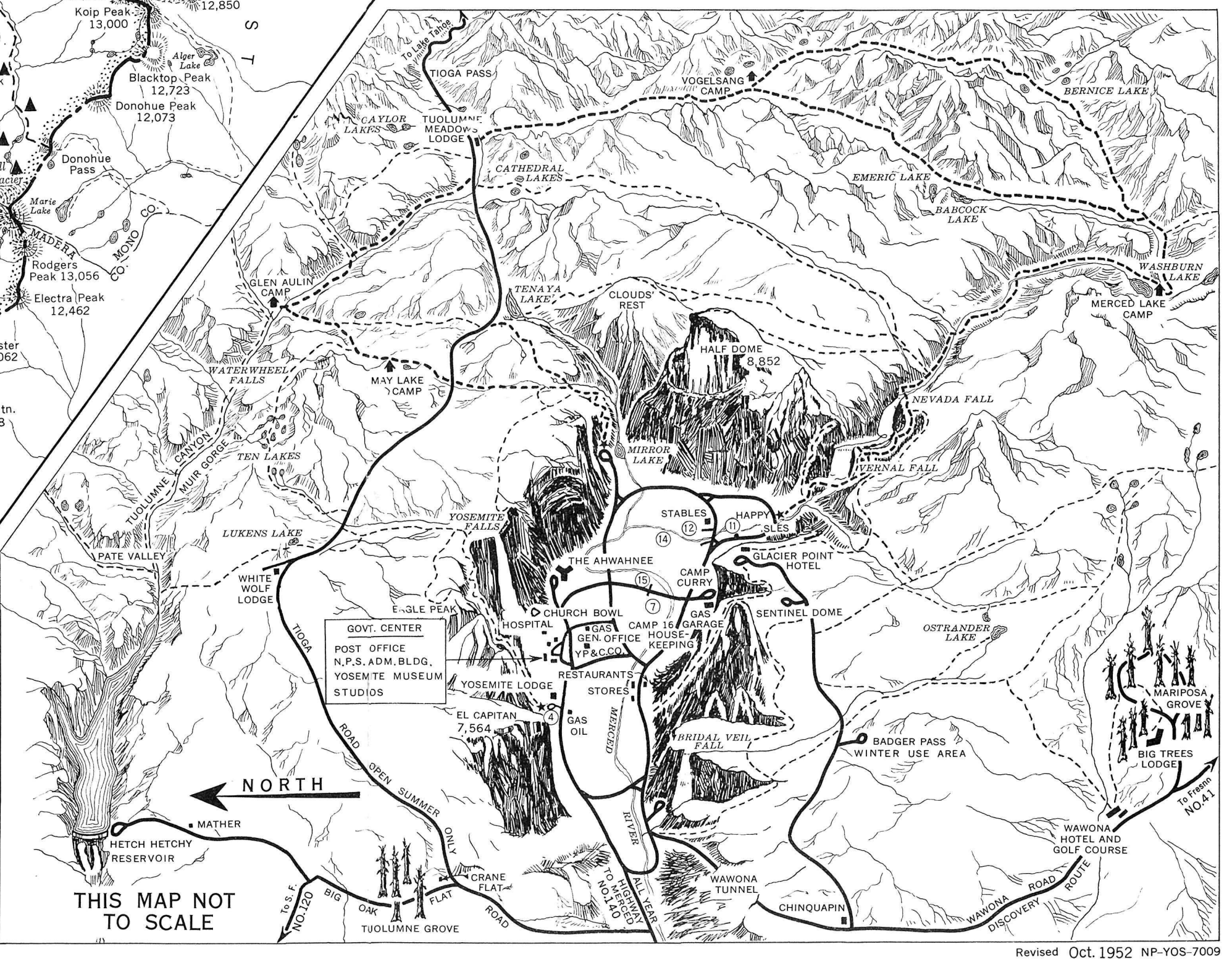
SCALE 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 MILES



ROUTES TO YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

DISTANCES FROM YOSEMITE VALLEY (GOVERNMENT CENTER)		VIA WAWONA ROAD	
TO:	MILES	TO:	MILES
El Portal	14	Tunnel	6
Mariposa	44	Chinquapin	14
Merced	81	Glacier Point	30
Modesto	117	Wawona	27
Manteca	133	South Entrance	31
Oakland	202	Mariposa Grove	35
San Francisco	211	Madera	88
Stockton	146	Sonora	76
Sacramento	195	Kings Canyon National Park	180
Lake Tahoe via Sacramento	316		
VIA TIOPA ROAD (open about July 1 to Oct. 15)		VIA BIG OAK FLAT ROAD (open about May 15 to Oct. 31)	
To:	Miles	To:	Miles
Crane Flat	18	Big Oak Flat Road	6
Yosemite Creek	34	Oakland	117
Tenaya Lake	47	San Francisco	196
Tuolumne Meadows	55	Modesto	112
Tioga Pass	62	Stockton	127
Mono Lake	76	Sacramento	176
		Oakdale	96
		Lake Tahoe via Placerville	223

PERSPECTIVE MAP OF YOSEMITE VALLEY AND VICINITY



"LET'S NOT BE GUILTY OF STARTING A FOREST FIRE. ALWAYS USE CAR ASH TRAYS AND COMPLETELY EXTINGUISH MATCHES AND CIGARETTES BEFORE THROWING AWAY."

LEGEND

- Park Boundary
- Paved Road
- Mountain Type Road (Oiled)
- Dirt Road
- Main Trail
- Secondary Trail
- Campground
- Trail Campsite
- Ranger Station
- Fire Lookout
- Building
- Telephone

YOSEMITE VALLEY Elev. 4,000 Feet
TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS OF THE PARK ARE AVAILABLE AT THE YOSEMITE MUSEUM FOR 25c