



mariposa grove

by
T R A I L
&
T R A M

THE MARIPOSA GROVE

Yosemite National Park

Some of the most famous Giant Sequoias grow here. The National Park Service invites you to enjoy them — by trail and tram.

THE TRAILS: Footpaths shown on this map lead you to the best of the Big Trees. The inspiration of the Giant Sequoia awaits you by the trailside.

THE TRAM: Specially built "Tour Cars" operated by the Yosemite Park and Curry Co. at the request of the National Park Service carry you through the Grove. Ticket holders may get off at regular stops and resume the tour on a later tram during the date of purchase. Trams run at frequent intervals.

MAJOR POINTS OF INTEREST: Stop to see them and take a later tram to the next point.

1. **Public parking** — Tram tours begin here.
2. **Pillars-of-Heaven Trail:** Can you discover why they live so long and grow so big?
3. **THE FALLEN MONARCH** — If not burned, fallen trees last for centuries. Why?
4. **THE CORRIDOR TREE** — Centuries of fires burned hallways through this living tree.
5. **THE BACHELOR & THREE GRACES** — They are little changed since Galen Clark stood here for his photograph in 1910.
6. **THE GRIZZLY GIANT** — Born of a seed before the days of Isaiah, its life goes on and on.
7. **THE FAITHFUL COUPLE** — Not a mammoth tree but two which now grow as one.
8. **THE CLOTHESPIN TREE** — Split by fire, it stands astride its place in the forest.
9. **THE MARIPOSA TREE** — Form, grace beauty; the wounds of time have almost healed.
10. **Big Trees Lodge** — Food, lodging, souvenirs and toilets.
11. **Mariposa Grove Museum** — Sequoia exhibits, tree and cone identification and publications.
12. **The Sequoia Forest Trail** — Walk this short trail if you would learn the story of this forest community.
13. **THE COLUMBIA TREE** — This skinny youth is the tallest tree in the Mariposa Grove — about 287 feet.
14. **Comfort Station** — The subject of an often asked question.
15. **THE TELESCOPE TREE** — Ten stories up, a window to the sky hallowed by fire.
16. **THE WAWONA TUNNEL TREE** — As impressive in death as in life, its fame was world-wide.
17. **THE GALEN CLARK TREE** — A perfect specimen named for the Grove's first guardian.
18. **PLUTO'S CHIMNEY** — A freak, it died standing.

Take care, there are enough visitors to the Mariposa Grove to love it to death!

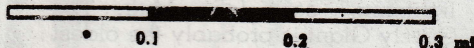


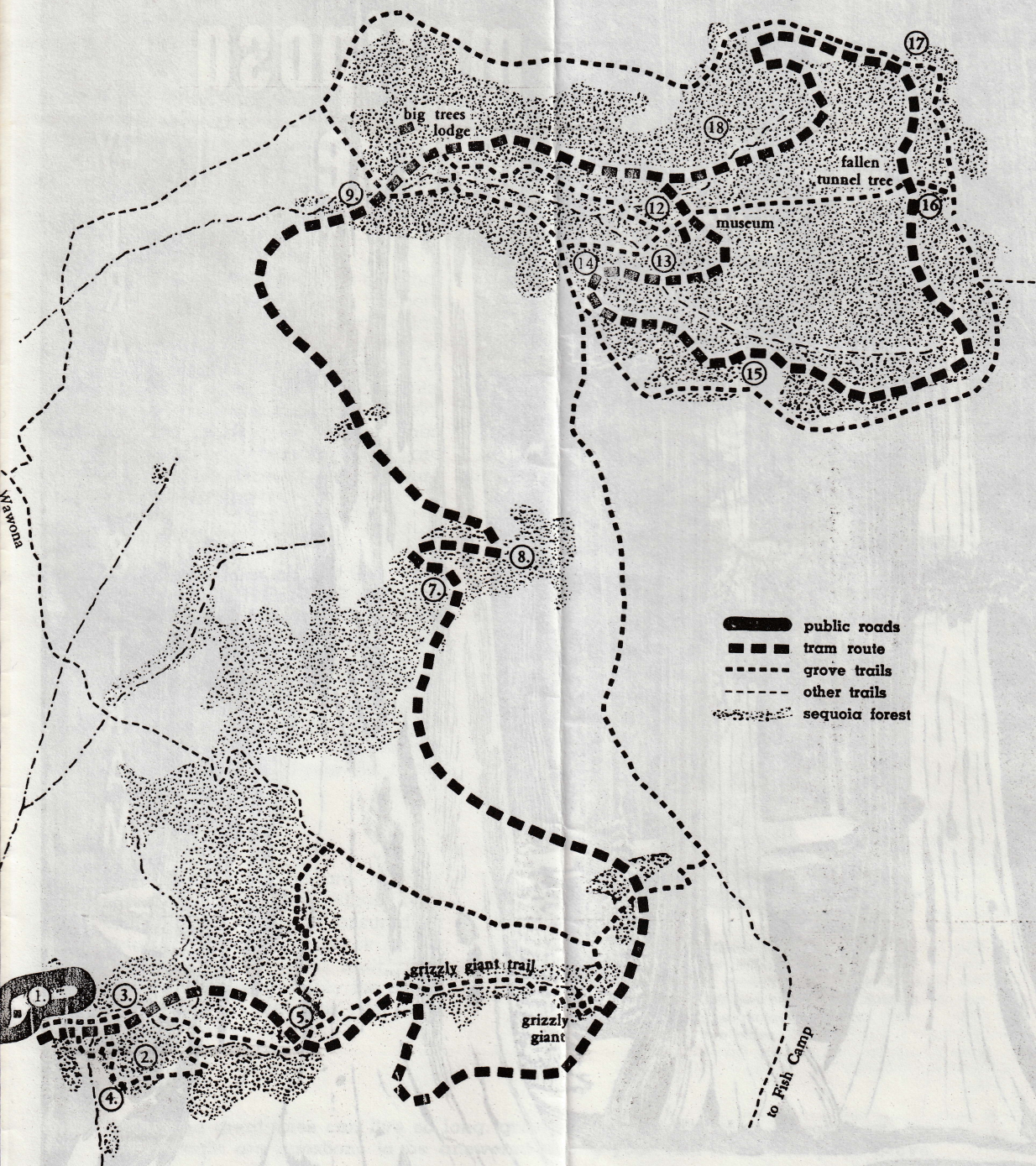
Drive a stagecoach through a tree? Come on, no tree is that big. But the pictures didn't lie and since 1881 visitors have come here to ride through the **Wawona Tunnel Tree**. More than any other, this tree dramatized the size of the Giant Sequoias. The influence it had on the effort to protect sequoias cannot be measured. Undoubtedly it was great. Then, after 88 years, it fell — the victim of heavy snow — and maybe man.






RANGER TALKS—every ½ hr. daily, June 15-Sept 15
Old Age and Sequoia Cones at grizzly giant
10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. & 2:30-4:30 p.m.
Man, Fire and the Giant Sequoia at museum
9:30-12:00 noon and 1:30-5:00 p.m.

TRAIL AND TRAM TOURS

scale in miles





-  public roads
-  tram route
-  grove trails
-  other trails
-  sequoia forest

THE PILLARS OF HEAVEN

OLD? Why, they were old when the world was young, some say — and big, too! When newspapers reported the discovery of the Giant Sequoias in 1852, folks back east forgot for a moment about California gold. Some couldn't believe such trees could really be — even when they saw the bark of one reassembled for display in New York and later in London. Like you, many came to see for themselves.

How old is old? It depends on what you are. The Grizzly Giant is about 2700 years old, but it is still going strong. Few other trees make as much new wood every year. As John Muir wrote, "Barring accidents, they seem to be immortal." Heavy snow loads, or high winds, when the ground is unusually wet, are the greatest threats to a mature Giant Sequoia.

BIG? Some may be 300 feet high. Niagara Falls is only 167 feet high and the Lower Yosemite Fall is just 320. The five largest sequoias exceed 35 feet in diameter — more than 100 feet around. Sometime take an elevator to a 25th floor and look down. From there you would be about even with the top of an average 2000-year-old Giant Sequoia.

The tallest sequoias are not the oldest. "Of all living things, only the Giant Sequoia is assured of living long enough to be struck by lightning," said John Muir. The Grizzly Giant is probably the oldest living Sequoia, but it is now only 209 feet tall.



The Grizzly Giant has had a hard life. It was once taller. Though stooped with age its growth is vigorous. 2700 years old, 209 feet tall, 35 feet through — only four sequoias are larger probably none are older.

How these great trees can live so long, grow so big, and survive disease, rot, fire and drought are questions to be answered during your visit to the Mariposa Grove.