



United States Department of the Interior
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Yosemite National Park
P. O. Box 577
Yosemite, California 95389

IN REPLY REFER TO:
L7615(YOSE-PM)

AUG 15 2013

Memorandum

To: Ron Gaunt, Project Manager, Yosemite National Park

From: Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: NEPA and NHPA Clearance: 2013-020 Wawona Hotel Annex Building Railing Installation (47221)

The Executive Leadership Team has reviewed the proposed project/action and completed its environmental assessment documentation, and we have determined the following:

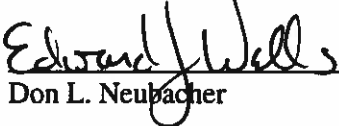
- There will not be any effect on threatened, endangered, or rare species and/or their critical habitat.
- There will be no adverse effect to historical properties.
- There will not be serious or long-term undesirable environmental or visual effects.

The subject proposed project, therefore, is now cleared for all NEPA and NHPA compliance requirements as presented above. Project plans and specifications are approved and construction and/or project implementation can commence.

For the proposed project actions to be within compliance requirements during construction and/or project implementation, the following mitigations must be adhered to:

- Continued consultation with History, Architecture, and Landscapes (HAL) will be required as this project develops to ensure that the final solution is compatible with the original design of the railings at the National Historic Landmark. HAL also requests that a HAL representative be contacted to be present on the site as work commences in order to address any unforeseen circumstances in the proposed installation.

For complete compliance information see PEPC Project 47221.

(for) 
Don L. Neubacher

Enclosure (with attachments)

cc: Statutory Compliance File

Letter of Compliance Completion - Wawona Hotel Annex Building Railing Installation - PEPC ID: 47221



Categorical Exclusion Form

Project: 2013-020 Wawona Hotel Annex Building Railing Installation

PEPC Project Number: 47221

Project Description:

The pipe rail recommended for the Annex veranda porches balances safety with preservation of a character defining feature and is consistent with the Historic Structures Report (HSR) for the Wawona Complex. Pipe rail is a notable feature used on the stairs as grab rails for the Main and Annex buildings and is documented throughout the HSR.

This project scope involves centering pipe directly above the existing historic wood railing to meet the code required height. The pipe rail will be cut to fit each span (approximately 9' - 10' spacing) and attached with flanges and lag bolts to the existing wood structural posts. The existing rail will not be disturbed with the exception of a centered vertical pipe support between the 3" pipe rail and the existing railing. The pipe rail will be painted white to match the existing rail paint color. The pipe rail is reversible and less intrusive visually than adding to the wood rail to gain the code compliant height.

Project Locations:

Mariposa County, CA

Mitigations:

- Continued consultation with History, Architecture, and Landscapes (HAL) will be required as this project develops to ensure that the final solution is compatible with the original design of the railings at the National Historic Landmark. HAL also requests that a HAL representative be contacted to be present on the site as work commences in order to address any unforeseen circumstances in the proposed installation.

Describe the category used to exclude action from further NEPA analysis and indicate the number of the category (see Section 3-4 of DO-12):

C.19 Construction or rehabilitation in previously disturbed or developed areas, required to meet health or safety regulations, or to meet requirements for making facilities accessible to the handicapped.

On the basis of the environmental impact information in the statutory compliance file, with which I am familiar, I am categorically excluding the described project from further NEPA analysis. No exceptional circumstances (e.g. all boxes in the ESF are marked "no") or conditions in Section 3-6 apply, and the action is fully described in Section 3-4 of DO-12.

Superintendent:

(for)

Don L. Neubacher

Date: 8-14-13



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Yosemite National Park
Date: 07/29/2013

ENVIRONMENTAL SCREENING FORM (ESF)

DO-12 APPENDIX 1

Date Form Initiated: 07/29/2013

Updated May 2007 - per 2004 Departmental Manual revisions and proposed Director's Order 12 changes

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: Yosemite National Park
Project Title: 2013-020 Wawona Hotel Annex Building Railing Installation
PEPC Project Number: 47221
Project Type: Capital Improvement (CI)
Project Location:
County, State: Mariposa, California **District, Section:** Wawona,
Project Leader: Ron Gaunt

Is project a hot topic (controversial or sensitive issues that should be brought to attention of Regional Director)? No

B. RESOURCE EFFECTS TO CONSIDER:

Identify potential effects to the following physical, natural, or cultural resources	No Effect	Negligible Effects	Minor Effects	Exceeds Minor Effects	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Geologic resources – soils, bedrock, streambeds, etc.	No				
2. From geohazards	No				
3. Air quality	No				
4. Soundscapes	No				Temporary construction noises during the installation of the railing.
5. Water quality or quantity	No				
6. Streamflow	No				

Environmental Screening Form (ESF) - Wawona Hotel Annex Building Railing Installation - PEPC ID: 47221

Identify potential effects to the following physical, natural, or cultural resources	No Effect	Negligible Effects	Minor Effects	Exceeds Minor Effects	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
characteristics					
7. Marine or estuarine resources	No				
8. Floodplains or wetlands	No				
9. Land use, including occupancy, income, values, ownership, type of use	No				
10. Rare or unusual vegetation – old growth timber, riparian, alpine	No				
11. Species of special concern (plant or animal; state or federal listed or proposed for listing) or their habitat	No				
12. Unique ecosystems, biosphere reserves, World Heritage Sites	No				Yosemite National Park is a World Heritage Site.
13. Unique or important wildlife or wildlife habitat	No				
14. Unique or important fish or fish habitat	No				
15. Introduce or promote non-native species (plant or animal)	No				
16. Recreation resources, including supply, demand,	No				

Identify potential effects to the following physical, natural, or cultural resources	No Effect	Negligible Effects	Minor Effects	Exceeds Minor Effects	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
visitation, activities, etc.					
17. Visitor experience, aesthetic resources		Negligible			The visitor experience will be enhanced by adding a hand rail to decrease safety risks.
18. Archeological resources	No				
19. Prehistoric/historic structure		Negligible			Wawona Hotel and Thomas Hill Studio District (NHL), Wawona Hotel and Pavilion District, and Wawona Hotel Annex; List of Classified Structures #7163
20. Cultural landscapes		Negligible			Wawona Hotel and Pavilion District
21. Ethnographic resources	No				
22. Museum collections (objects, specimens, and archival and manuscript collections)	No				
23. Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure	No				
24. Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc.	No				
25. Energy resources	No				
26. Other agency or tribal land use plans	No				

Environmental Screening Form (ESF) - Wawona Hotel Annex Building Railing Installation - PEPC ID: 47221

Identify potential effects to the following physical, natural, or cultural resources	No Effect	Negligible Effects	Minor Effects	Exceeds Minor Effects	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
or policies					
27. Resource, including energy, conservation potential, sustainability	No				
28. Urban quality, gateway communities, etc.	No				
29. Long-term management of resources or land/resource productivity	No				
30. Other important environment resources (e.g. geothermal, paleontological resources)?	No				

C. MANDATORY CRITERIA

Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
A. Have significant impacts on public health or safety?		No		
B. Have significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation, or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or		No		

Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
critical areas?				
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?		No		
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		No		
E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		No		
F. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		No		
G. Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, as determined by either the bureau or office?		No		
H. Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species?		No		
I. Violate a federal law, or a state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		No		
J. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations		No		

Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
(Executive Order 12898)?				
K. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007)?		No		
L. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?		No		

D. OTHER INFORMATION

1. Are personnel preparing this form familiar with the site? Yes
- 1.A. Did personnel conduct a site visit? No
2. Is the project in an approved plan such as a General Management Plan or an Implementation Plan with an accompanying NEPA document? No
3. Are there any interested or affected agencies or parties? No
4. Has consultation with all affected agencies or tribes been completed? No
5. Are there any connected, cumulative, or similar actions as part of the proposed action? (e.g., other development projects in area or identified in GMP, adequate/available utilities to accomplish project) No

E. INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM SIGNATORIES

<u>Interdisciplinary Team</u>	<u>Field of Expertise</u>
Don L. Neubacher	Superintendent
Michael Gauthier	Chief of Staff
Kathleen Morse	Chief of Planning
Randy Fong	Chief of Project Management
Teri Austin	Chief of Administration Management
Ed Walls	Chief of Facilities Management
Linda C. Mazzu	Chief of Resources Management & Science
Kris Kirby	Chief of Business and Revenue Management
Tom Medema	Chief of Interpretation and Education
Kevin Killian	Chief of Visitor and Resource Protection

Environmental Screening Form (ESF) - Wawona Hotel Annex Building Railing Installation - PEPC ID: 47221

Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
critical areas?				
C. Have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA section 102(2)(E))?		No		
D. Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		No		
E. Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		No		
F. Have a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		No		
G. Have significant impacts on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, as determined by either the bureau or office?		No		
H. Have significant impacts on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat for these species?		No		
I. Violate a federal law, or a state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		No		
J. Have a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations		No		

Mandatory Criteria: If implemented, would the proposal:	Yes	No	N/A	Comment or Data Needed to Determine
(Executive Order 12898)?				
K. Limit access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007)?		No		
L. Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112)?		No		

D. OTHER INFORMATION

1. Are personnel preparing this form familiar with the site? Yes
- 1.A. Did personnel conduct a site visit? No
2. Is the project in an approved plan such as a General Management Plan or an Implementation Plan with an accompanying NEPA document? No
3. Are there any interested or affected agencies or parties? No
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E. INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM SIGNATORIES



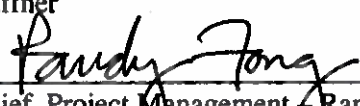
Interdisciplinary Team	Field of Expertise
Don L. Neubacher	Superintendent
Michael Gauthier	Chief of Staff
Kathleen Morse	Chief of Planning
Randy Fong	Chief of Project Management
Teri Austin	Chief of Administration Management
Ed Walls	Chief of Facilities Management
Linda C. Mazzu	Chief of Resources Management & Science
Kris Kirby	Chief of Business and Revenue Management
Tom Medema	Chief of Interpretation and Education
Kevin Killian	Acting Chief of Visitor and Resource Protection

Ron Gaunt Madelyn Ruffner Renea Kennec	Project Leader Acting Environmental Planning and Compliance Program Manager NEPA Specialist
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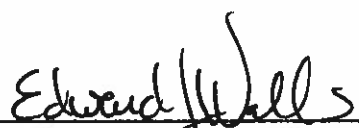
F. SUPERVISORY SIGNATORY

Based on the environmental impact information contained in the statutory compliance file and in this environmental screening form, environmental documentation for this stage of the subject project is complete.

Recommended:

Compliance Specialists  Compliance Specialist – Renea Kennec  Acting Compliance Program Manager – Madelyn Ruffner  Chief, Project Management – Randy Fong	Date <u>8/7/13</u> <u>8/7/13</u> <u>8/9/13</u>
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Approved:

Superintendent  (for) Don L. Neubacher	Date <u>8-14-13</u>
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PARK ESF ADDENDUM

Today's Date: July 29, 2013

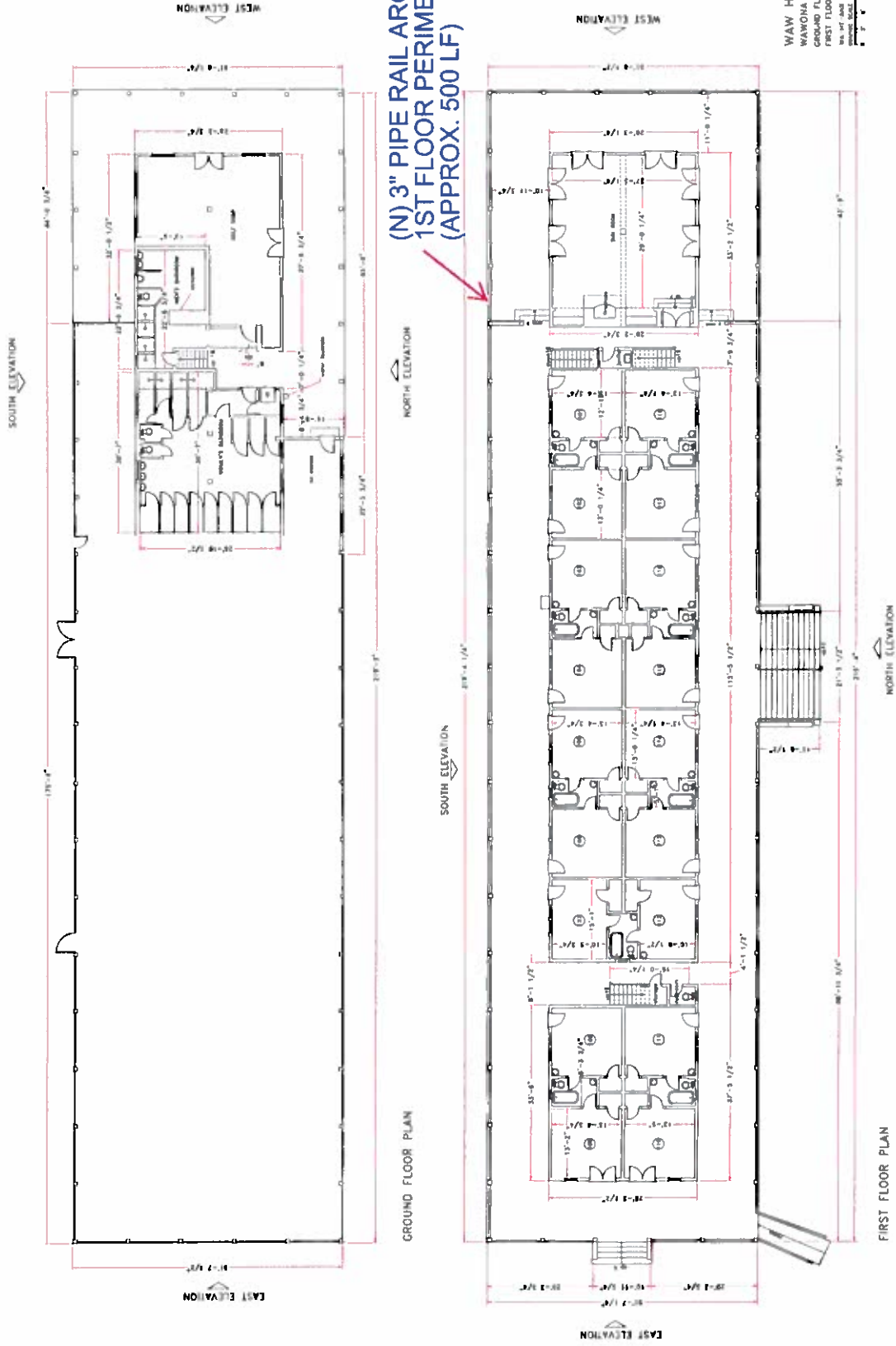
PROJECT INFORMATION

Park Name: Yosemite National Park
Project Title: 2013-020 Wawona Hotel Annex Building Railing Installation
PEPC Project Number: 47221
Project Type: Capital Improvement (CI)
Project Location:
 County, State: Mariposa, California **District:** Wawona
Project Leader: Ron Gaunt

PARK ESF ADDENDUM QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

ESF Addendum Questions	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES CHECKLIST				
Listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (Federal or State)?		No		
Species of special concern (Federal or State)?		No		
Park rare plants or vegetation?		No		
Potential habitat for any special-status species listed above?		No		
NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT CHECKLIST				
Entail ground disturbance?		No		
Are any archeological or ethnographic sites located within the area of potential effect?		No		
Entail alteration of a historic structure or cultural landscape?	Yes			Wawona Hotel Annex Building
Has a National Register form been completed?	Yes			Wawona Hotel and Thomas Hill Studio District and Wawona Hotel and Pavilion District
Are there any structures on the park's List of Classified Structures in the area of potential effect?	Yes			LCS #7163

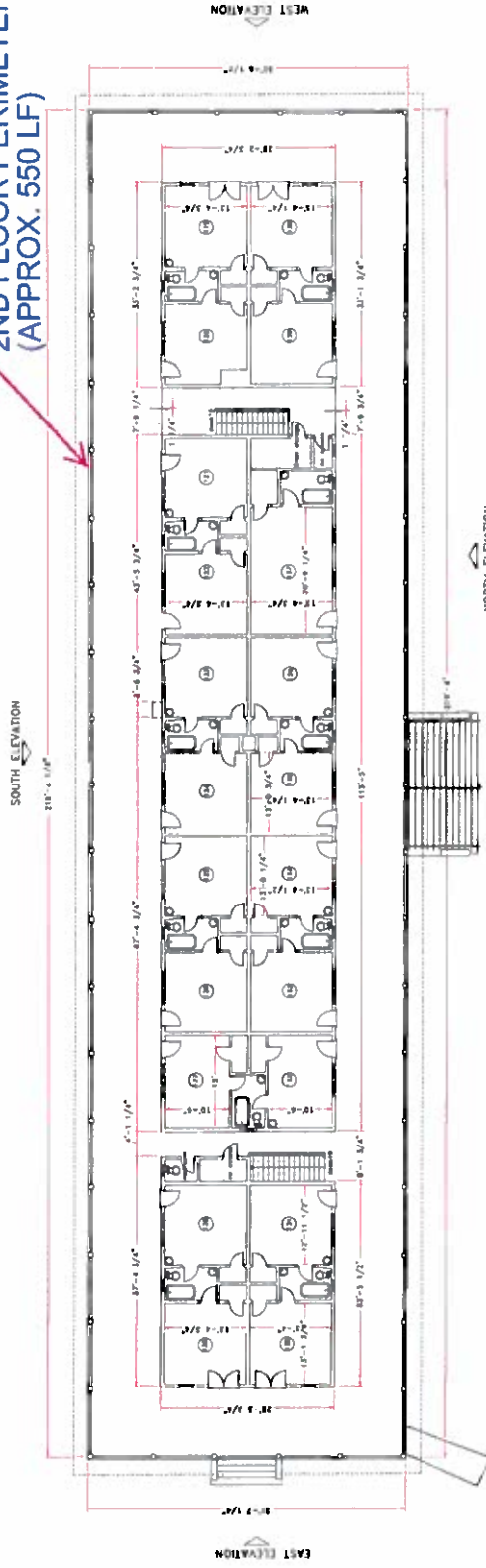
ESF Addendum Questions	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT CHECKLIST				
Fall within a wild and scenic river corridor?	Yes			South Fork of the Merced River
Fall within the bed and banks AND will affect the free-flow of the river?		No		
Have the possibility of affecting water quality of the area?		No		
Remain consistent with its river segment classification?	Yes			
Fall on a tributary of a Wild and Scenic River?		No		
Will the project encroach or intrude upon the Wild and Scenic River corridor?		No		
Will the project unreasonably diminish scenic, recreational, or fish and wildlife values?		No		
Consistent with the provisions in the Merced River Plan Settlement Agreement?	Yes			
WILDERNESS ACT CHECKLIST				
Within designated Wilderness?		No		
Within a Potential Wilderness Addition?		No		



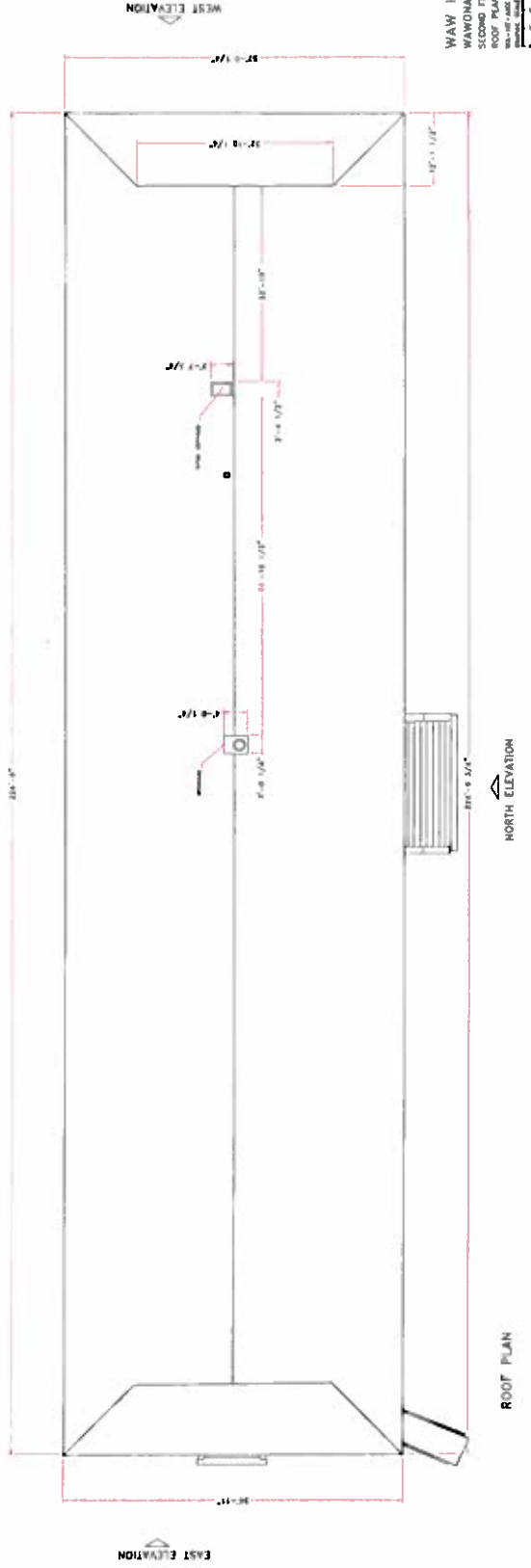
DOCUMENTA
SURVEYS

YOSEMITE N. P. - "AS-FOUND" ARCH. (HISTORIC) DOCUMENTATION 2005/06 - WAWONA DISTRICT
DRAWING (FILE) NAME: WA-HT-ANX 24-GR-FIRSTFLPLAN.dwg
CONTENTS: GROUND FLOOR PLAN/FIRST FLOOR PLAN

(N) 3" PIPE RAIL AROUND
2ND FLOOR PERIMETER
(APPROX. 550 LF)



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



ROOF PLAN

WAWONA HOTEL ANNEX
WAWONA DISTRICT
SECOND FLOOR PLAN
ROOF PLAN
WAWONA HOTEL ANNEX
WAWONA DISTRICT
SECOND FLOOR PLAN
ROOF PLAN
WAWONA HOTEL ANNEX
WAWONA DISTRICT
SECOND FLOOR PLAN
ROOF PLAN

DOCUMENTA
SURVEYS

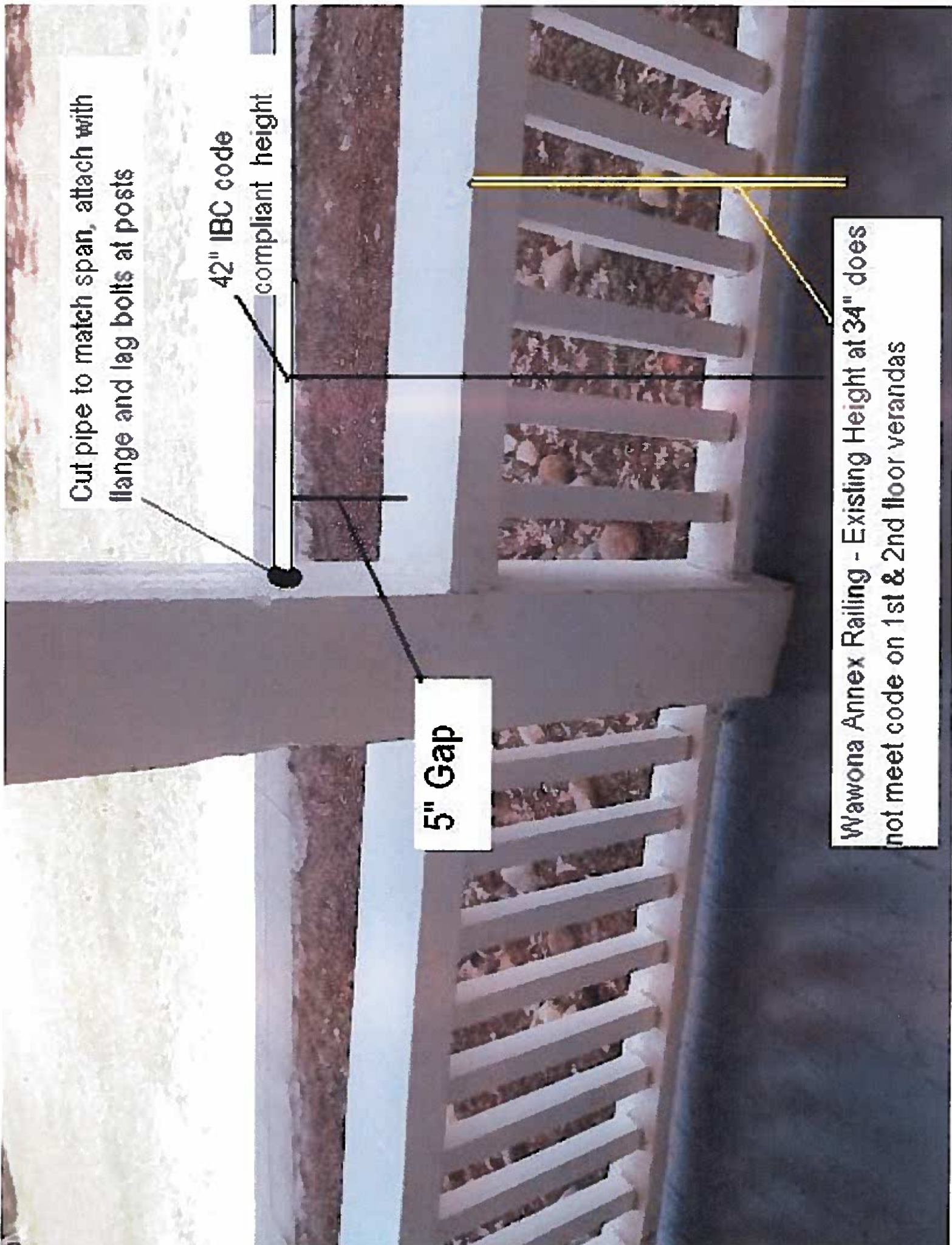
YOSEMITE N. P. - "AS-FOUND" ARCH. (HISTORIC) DOCUMENTATION 2005/06 - WAWONA DISTRICT
DRAWING (FILE) NAME: WA-HT-ANX 25-2ndFLPLAN-ROOFPLAN.dwg
CONTENTS: SECOND FLOOR PLAN - ROOF PLAN

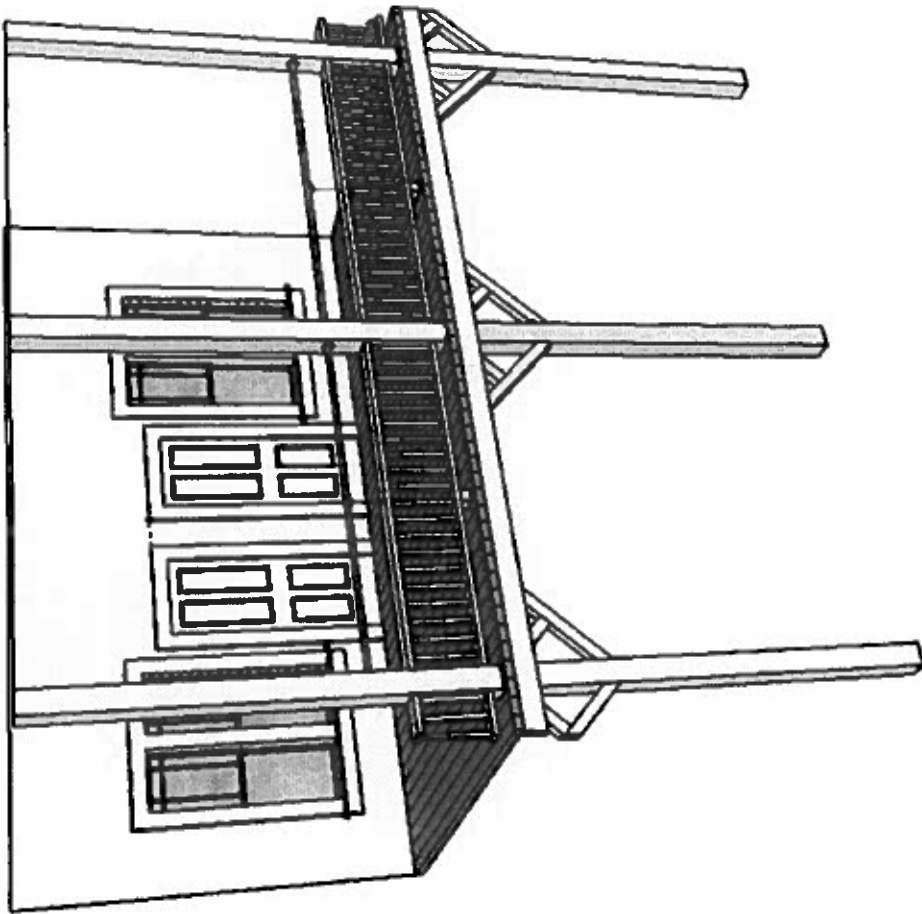
Cut pipe to match span, attach with flange and lag bolts at posts

42" IBC code compliant height

5" Gap

Wawona Annex Railing - Existing Height at 34" does not meet code on 1st & 2nd floor verandas







ASSESSMENT OF ACTIONS HAVING AN EFFECT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES

A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

1. **Park:** Yosemite National Park

2. **Project Description:**

Project Name: 2013-020 Wawona Hotel Annex Building Railing Installation

Prepared by: Renea Kennec

Date Prepared: 07/29/2013

Telephone: 209-379-1038

PEPC Project Number: 47221

Area of potential effects (as defined in 36 CFR 800.16[d])

Wawona Hotel and Thomas Hill Studio National Historic Landmark

Wawona Hotel and Pavilion District

3. **Has the area of potential effects been surveyed to identify historic properties?**

 No

 X Yes

Source or reference:

4. **Potentially Affected Resources:**

Historical Structures/Resources Affected:

Name and number: Wawona Hotel and Thomas Hill Studio National Historic Landmark

NR status: 1 - Listed in Register and documented

Name and number: Wawona Hotel and Pavilion District

Historical Structures/Resources Notes: Continued consultation with HAL will be required as this project develops to ensure that the final solution is compatible with the original design of the railings at the National Historic Landmark. HAL also requests that a HAL representative be contacted to be present on the site as work commences in order to address any unforeseen circumstances in the proposed installation.

5. **The proposed action will: (check as many as apply)**

 No Destroy, remove, or alter features/elements from a historic structure

 No Replace historic features/elements in kind

☒ Yes Add non-historic features/elements to a historic structure
☐ No Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment (inc. terrain)
☐ No Add non-historic features/elements (inc. visual, audible, or atmospheric) to a historic setting or cultural landscape
☐ No Disturb, destroy, or make archeological resources inaccessible
☐ No Disturb, destroy, or make ethnographic resources inaccessible
☐ No Potentially affect presently unidentified cultural resources
☐ No Begin or contribute to deterioration of historic features, terrain, setting, landscape elements, or archeological or ethnographic resources
☐ No Involve a real property transaction (exchange, sale, or lease of land or structures)
☐ Other (please specify): _____

6. Supporting Study Data:

(Attach if feasible; if action is in a plan, EA or EIS, give name and project or page number.)

B. REVIEWS BY CULTURAL RESOURCE SPECIALISTS

The park 106 coordinator requested review by the park's cultural resource specialist/advisors as indicated by check-off boxes or as follows:

☒ [X] Archeologist
 Name: Sonny Montague
 Date: 06/11/2013

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance ☒ [X]
 Assessment of Effect: ☒ No Potential to Cause Effect ☐ No Historic Properties Affected ☐ No
 Adverse Effect ☐ Adverse Effect ☐ Streamlined Review
 Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

☒ [X] Historical Architect
 Name: Gabrielle Harlan
 Date: 07/30/2013

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance ☐ []
 Assessment of Effect: ☐ No Potential to Cause Effect ☐ No Historic Properties Affected ☒ X No
 Adverse Effect ☐ Adverse Effect ☐ Streamlined Review
 Recommendations for conditions or stipulations: Continued consultation with HAL will be required as this project develops to ensure that the final solution is compatible with the original design of the railings at the National Historic Landmark. HAL also requests that a HAL representative be contacted to be present on the site as work commences in order to address any unforeseen circumstances in the proposed installation.

Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

☒ [X] Anthropologist
 Name: Jennifer Hardin
 Date: 06/11/2013

Assessment of Effect Form - Wawona Hotel Annex Building Railing Installation - PEPC ID: 47221

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance ☐

Assessment of Effect: ☐ No Potential to Cause Effect ☒ No Historic Properties Affected ☐ No

Adverse Effect ☐ Adverse Effect ☐ Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

☒ Historical Landscape Architect

Name: Kevin McCardle

Date: 06/06/2013

Check if project does not involve ground disturbance ☐

Assessment of Effect: ☐ No Potential to Cause Effect ☐ No Historic Properties Affected ☒ No

Adverse Effect ☐ Adverse Effect ☐ Streamlined Review

Recommendations for conditions or stipulations:

Doc Method: Park Specific Programmatic Agreement

No Reviews From: Curator, Historical Architect, Historian, 106 Advisor, Other Advisor

C. PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR'S REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Assessment of Effect:

- ☐ No Potential to Cause Effects
☐ No Historic Properties Affected
☒ No Adverse Effect
☐ Adverse Effect

2. Documentation Method:

☐ A. STANDARD 36 CFR PART 800 CONSULTATION
Further consultation under 36 CFR Part 800 is needed.

☐ B. STREAMLINED REVIEW UNDER THE 2008 SERVICEWIDE PROGRAMMATIC
AGREEMENT (PA)

The above action meets all conditions for a streamlined review under section III of the 2008 Servicewide
PA for Section 106 compliance.

APPLICABLE STREAMLINED REVIEW Criteria
(Specify 1-16 of the list of streamlined review criteria.)

☐ C. PLAN-RELATED UNDERTAKING

Consultation and review of the proposed undertaking were completed in the context of a plan review
process, in accordance with the 2008 Servicewide PA and 36 CFR Part 800.
Specify plan/EA/EIS:

[X] D. UNDERTAKING RELATED TO ANOTHER AGREEMENT

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under another document such as a statewide agreement established in accord with 36 CFR 800.7 or counterpart regulations.
Specify:

[] E. COMBINED NEPA/NHPA Document

Documentation is required for the preparation of an EA/FONSI or an EIS/ROD has been developed and used so as also to meet the requirements of 36 CFR 800.3 through 800.6

[] G. Memo to SHPO/THPO

[] H. Memo to ACHP

3. Additional Consulting Parties Information:

Additional Consulting Parties: No

4. Stipulations and Conditions:

Following are listed any stipulations or conditions necessary to ensure that the assessment of effect above is consistent with 36 CFR Part 800 criteria of effect or to avoid or reduce potential adverse effects.

5. Mitigations/Treatment Measures:

Measures to prevent or minimize loss or impairment of historic/prehistoric properties:
(Remember that setting, location, and use may be relevant.)

No Assessment of Effect mitigations identified.

D. RECOMMENDED BY PARK SECTION 106 COORDINATOR:

Acting Historic Preservation Officer:

Kimball
Koch

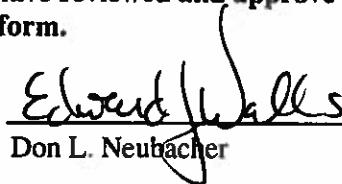


Date: Aug 6, 2013

E. SUPERINTENDENT'S APPROVAL

The proposed work conforms to the NPS *Management Policies* and *Cultural Resource Management Guideline*, and I have reviewed and approve the recommendations, stipulations, or conditions noted in Section C of this form.

Superintendent:

(for) 
Don L. Neubacher

Date: 8-14-13