Categorical Exclusion

(Version: FEB06)

Compliance Tracking Number: 2006-021 PEPC Project Number: 14255

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

<u>Title</u>: Yosemite Village, Install Elevator At Degnan's Building To Meet ADA<u>Location</u>: Mariposa County, CaliforniaYosemite Valley<u>NPS Project Manager</u>: Project Management, Maurice WestPartner Project Manager: DNC Parks Resorts at Yosemite, Earl Zack

B. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION

This project is an action that has been determined to result in no measurable environmental effects. It is therefore categorically excluded from further National Environmental Policy Act analysis under Categorical Exclusion: DO12 3.4 *C* (*11*) - *Installation of wells, comfort stations, and pit or vault toilets in areas of existing use and in developed areas.*

Necessary compliance coordination has been completed regarding the National Historic Preservation Act, the Wilderness Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the Endangered Species Act, as applicable. Environmental impacts will be minor or less when the project is implemented with the conditions stipulated under **Project Mitigations and Conditions** in **Section I** at the end of the attached *Environmental Screening Form*.

Additional supporting information for this determination and the stipulated conditions can be found in the following attachments (when checked):

Cultural Resource Effects Assessment Form (XXX)

Wilderness Minimum Requirement Analysis

Wild and Scenic River Section 7 Determination

Park Management Terms and Conditions

Other:

C. DECISION

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 or conditions in DO12 3.5 or 3.6 apply and the action is fully described in DO12, Section 3.4.

//MJTollefson//

Michael J. Tollefson

2/13/06 Date

Original: Statutory Compliance File cc: Project Proponent

Attachments (2)



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE Yosemite National Park P.O. Box 577 Yosemite, California 95389

IN REPLY REFER TO: L7617 (YOSE)

Memorandum

To: Maurice West, Project Manager, Project Management

Earl Zack, Project Manager, DNC Parks Resorts at Yosemite

From: Superintendent, Yosemite National Park

Subject: Notice to Proceed, 2006-021 Yosemite Village, Install Elevator at Degnan's Building to Meet ADA Standards

Your proposed project is an action that has been determined to result in no measurable environmental effects. It is therefore categorically excluded from further National Environmental Policy Act analysis under Categorical Exclusion: DO12 3.4 *C* (*11*) - *Installation of wells, comfort stations, and pit or vault toilets in areas of existing use and in developed areas.*

Necessary compliance coordination has been completed regarding the National Historic Preservation Act, the Wilderness Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the Endangered Species Act, as applicable. This project clearance is valid providing that you adhere to the conditions stipulated in the enclosed *Categorical Exclusion Form* and associated documents when implementing this project.

//*MJTollefson//* Michael J. Tollefson 2/13/06 Date

Enclosure (with attachments)

cc: Statutory Compliance File

A. PROJECT INFORMATION

Title: 2006-021 Yosemite Village, Install Elevator at Degnan's Building to Meet ADA

PEPC Number: 14255

Type: Facility Rehabilitation (FR)

Location: County, State: Mariposa, California District, Area: Yosemite Valley

Project Manager: Maurice West, NPS

Earl Zack, DNC Park and Resorts at Yosemite

B. PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND BACKGROUND

The purpose of this project is to correct an ADA deficiency in a DNC operation in Yosemite National Park. The second floor of the Degnan's building is not accessible to the disabled. This project will entail the installment of an elevator to eliminate the ADA deficiency. This project will also address the steep slopes and cross slopes of the path of travel to Degnan's.

Table B1 – Background Information

		Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Notes
1.	Did NPS staff conduct a site visit? If yes, list attendees. If no, explain.	\boxtimes			History, Architecture and Landscapes staff site visit on 1/17/06.
2a.	Is the project providing compliance for an action associated with but not covered by an approved plan? (Identify the plan and provide a section or page citation.); OR		\boxtimes		
2b.	Is the project in an approved plan? (Identify the plan and provide a section or page citation.		\square		
2c.	Is the project consistent with that plan?			\boxtimes	
2d.	Is the Plan's CE, FONSI, or ROD current?			\boxtimes	
3a.	Are there any interested or affected parties?		\boxtimes	\boxtimes	
3b.	Has a diligent effort been made to communicate with them?				
4a.	Are there any affected agencies or tribes?		\boxtimes		
4b.	Has consultation been completed?				

Table B2 – Environmental Screening Form Attachments (provide Attachment letter—A, B, etc.)

		Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Notes
1.	Maps: 2 required (vicinity map & site map)	\boxtimes			Site Map, see Attachment A
2.	Drawings (e.g., design, construction)	\boxtimes			Proposed design, see Attachment B.
3.	Site Plans		\boxtimes		
4.	Photographs	\bowtie			Proposed location, see Attachment C.
5.	Non-NEPA/NHPA Approvals (Explain)			\boxtimes	
6.	Other (Explain)			\boxtimes	

C. ASSESSMENT OF POTENTIAL RESOURCE EFFECTS

	e any impacts possible on the following ources?	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1.	Geologic resources: soils, bedrock, streambeds, etc	Х			Negligible; assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect;" see XXX.
2.	From geohazards		Х		
3.	Air quality		Х		
4.	Soundscapes	Х			Negligible: temporary construction noises.
5.	Water quality or quantity		Х		
6.	Stream flow characteristics		Х		
7.	Marine or estuarine resources			Х	
8.	Floodplains or wetlands		Х		
9.	Land use, including occupancy, income, values, ownership, type of use		Х		
	Rare or unusual vegetation – old growth timber, riparian, alpine		Х		
11.	Species of special concern (plant or animal; state or federal listed or proposed for listing) or their habitat		Х		
12.	Unique ecosystems, biosphere reserves, World Heritage Sites		Х		
13.	Unique or important wildlife or wildlife habitat		Х		
14.	Unique or important fish or fish habitat		Х		
15.	Introduce or promote non-native species (plant or animal)		Х		
16.	Recreation resources, including supply, demand, visitation, activities, etc.	Х			Installing an elevator will make the buildin more accessible.
17.	Visitor experience, aesthetic resources	Х			Installing an elevator at Degnan's will enhance visitor accessibility.
18.	Cultural resources including cultural landscapes, ethnographic resources		Х		· ·
19.	Socioeconomics, including employment, occupation, income changes, tax base, infrastructure		Х		
20.	Minority and low income populations, ethnography, size, migration patterns, etc.	Х			Installing an elevator will make the buildir more accessible to visitors with mobility impairments.
21.	Energy resources		Х		1
	Other agency or tribal land use plans or policies		Х		
	Resource, including energy, conservation potential		Х		
	Urban quality, gateway communities, etc.		Х		
25.	Long-term management of resources or land/resource productivity		Х		
26	Other important environment resources (e.g. geothermal, paleontological resources)?		Х		

D. MANDATORY CRITERIA

	implemented, would the proposed action:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
2.	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; floodplains; or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the National Register of Natural Landmarks?		X X		Mitigated; Yosemite Village Historic District and Yosemite Valley Cultural Landscape The Assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect," see condition 1 below and attached XXX.
	Have highly controversial environmental effects?		Х		
4.	Have highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks?		Х		
5.	Establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects?		Х		
6.	Be directly related to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant, environmental effects?		Х		
7.	Have adverse effects on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places?		Х		Mitigated; Yosemite Village Historic District and Yosemite Valley Historic District; see condition 1 below.
8.	Have adverse effects on species listed or proposed to be listed on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species or have adverse effects on designated Critical Habitat for these species?		Х		
9.	Require compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act?		Х		
10.	Threaten to violate a federal, state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment?		Х		
11.	Involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources (NEPA sec. 102(2)(E)?		Х		
12.	Have a disproportionate, significant adverse effect on low-income or minority populations (EO 12898)?		Х		
13.	Restrict access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners or adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (EO 130007)?		Х		
14.	Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of federally listed noxious weeds (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act)?		Х		Mitigated; see condition 2 below.
15.	Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of non-native invasive species or actions that may promote the introduction, growth or expansion of the range of non-native invasive species (EO 13112)?		Х		Mitigated; see condition 2 below.
16.	Require a permit from a federal, state, or local agency to proceed, unless the agency from which the permit is required agrees that a CE is appropriate?		Х		
17.	Have the potential for significant impact as indicated by a federal, state, or local agency or Indian tribe?		Х		
18.	Have the potential to be controversial because of disagreement over possible environmental effects?		Х		
19.	Have the potential to violate the NPS Organic Act by impairing park resources or values?		Х		

1. Coordinate project design with park Historic Landscape Architect (Steve Torgerson, 379-1295).

2. Ensure that equipment and material brought into the park is free of material that could introduce or spread noxious weeds and non-native invasive plants or animals. Inform all staff working on the project of best management practices for preventing the introduction and spread of non-native, invasive species in Division 1 specifications, Section 1355. (Environmental Planning & Compliance Office)

E. SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES CHECKLIST

Wi	thin the area of potential effect, are there:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes		
1.	Listed or proposed threatened or endangered species (Federal or State)?		\boxtimes				
2.	Species of special concern (Federal or State)?		\square				
3.	Park rare plants or vegetation?		\boxtimes				
4.	Potential habitat for any special-status species listed above?		\boxtimes				
If "yes" to any of the above questions, a Special-Status Species Checklist must be completed and attached.							
Co	Comments, Mitigations and Conditions:						
1.	None						

F. NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT CHECKLIST

With	in the area of potential effect:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes		
1. V	Will there be ground disturbance?	\bowtie			Assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect;" see XXX.		
2. A	Are there any archeological sites?		\boxtimes				
	Are there any Native American Indian raditional cultural resources?	\boxtimes			Ahwahnee Village		
	s the project within the boundary of an archeological or historic district?				Yosemite Valley Archeological District; Yosemite Valley Historic District; assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect" see condition 1 below and XXX.		
5a. I	s there a National Historic Landmark?		\boxtimes				
	s there a structure(s) on the park's <i>List of</i> Classified Structures?		\square				
С	s there a historic property with a DOE and concurrence by the SHPO or a completed National Register form?			\boxtimes			
	s there a cultural property requiring review under NHPA, Section 106?			\square			
	Would there be alteration of a structure or listrict by 5a-d, above?	\boxtimes			Assessment of effect is "No Adverse Effect;" see condition 1 below and XXX.		
If "ye	es" to any of the above, then an Assessment of	f Effe	cts fo	rm (YO	OSE-XXX) must be completed and attached.		
Mitig	gations and Conditions:						
1 ~							

1. Coordinate project design with park Historic Landscape Architect (Steve Torgerson, 379-1295)

G. WILDERNESS ACT CHECKLIST

Is the proposed project:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes	
1. Within designated Wilderness?		\boxtimes			
2. Within a Potential Wilderness Addition?		\boxtimes			
If "yes" to either of the above, then a Wilderness Minimum Requirements Analysis must be completed and attached.					
Mitigations and Conditions:					
1. None					

H. WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT CHECKLIST

Does the proposed	l project:	Yes	No	N/A	Data Needed to Determine/Notes
1. Fall within a w If 'yes", name	rild and scenic river corridor? the river(s)		\bowtie		
2. Fall within the the free-flow of	bed and banks AND affect f the river?			\boxtimes	
3. Potentially affe	ect water quality of the area?			\boxtimes	
4. Remain consis classification?	tent with its river segment			\boxtimes	
5. Protect and enl	nance river ORVs?			\boxtimes	
6a. Fall within the	River Protection Overlay?			\square	
	onsistent with conditions of ection Overlay?			\boxtimes	
7. Remain consis Management Z	tent with the areas Coning?			\boxtimes	
8a. Fall on a tribut River?	ary of a Wild and Scenic		\bowtie		
•	will the project affect the ic River corridor?			\boxtimes	
•	will the project unreasonably c, recreational, or fish and ?			\boxtimes	
If "yes" to question	ns 2, 9b, or 9c, then a WSRA S	ection	7 dete	rmination	must be completed and attached.
Mitigations and C	onditions:				
1. None					

I. NEPA Analysis and Approval Conditions

When implemented as detailed in the project description and following all Project Mitigations and Conditions listed below, this project meets the terms and conditions of a categorical exclusion to NEPA.

Applicable Categorical Exclusion:

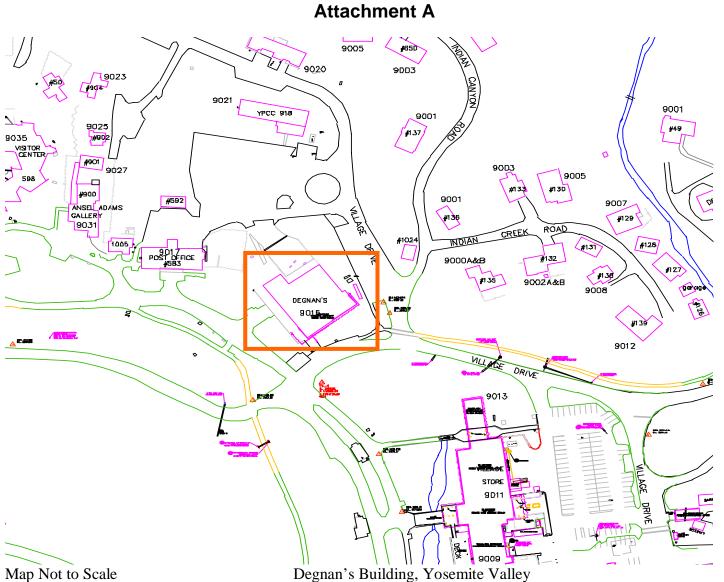
Adding this small elevator shaft to the exterior of the non-historic Degnan's building would have effects essentially the same as DO12 3.4 C (11) - Installation of wells, comfort stations, and pit or vault toilets in areas of existing use and in developed areas.

Project Mitigations and Conditions:

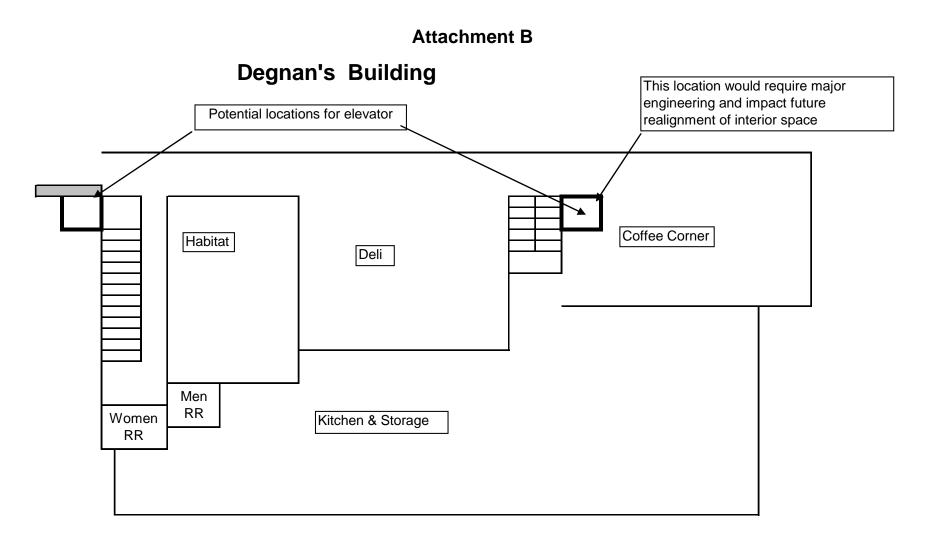
- 1. Coordinate project design with park Historic Landscape Architect (Steve Torgerson, 379-1295).
- 2. If the proposed site location (south east exterior side of the building) is not selected, the park Management Team must review and approve final project design before implementing project.
- 3. Ensure that equipment and material brought into the park is free of material that could introduce or spread noxious weeds and non-native invasive plants or animals. Inform all staff working on the project of best management practices for preventing the introduction and spread of non-native, invasive species in Division 1 specifications, Section 1355. (Environmental Planning & Compliance Office)

This project has been reviewed in accordance with the above criteria and it has been determined that the project will result in no or minimal environmental effects. Therefore, it is categorically excluded from further environmental review required under the National Environmental Policy Act. Additionally, the necessary compliance coordination has been completed with regard to the National Historic Preservation Act, the Wilderness Act, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the Endangered Species Act.

//GWColliver//	2/9/06		
Compliance Specialist	Date		
//Jeannette Simons (Acting)//	2/9/06		
Compliance Program Manager	Date		
//Bill Delaney//	2/9/06		
Chief, Project Management	Date		



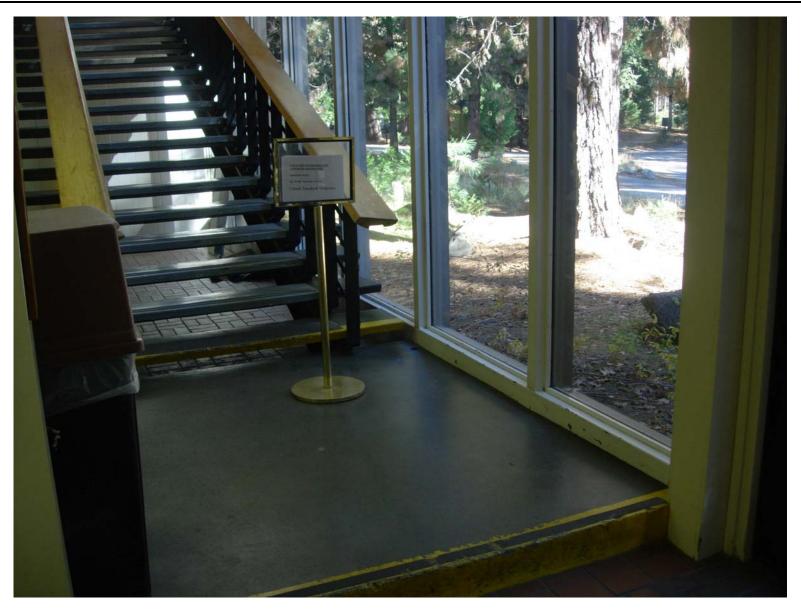
Degnan's Building, Yosemite Valley

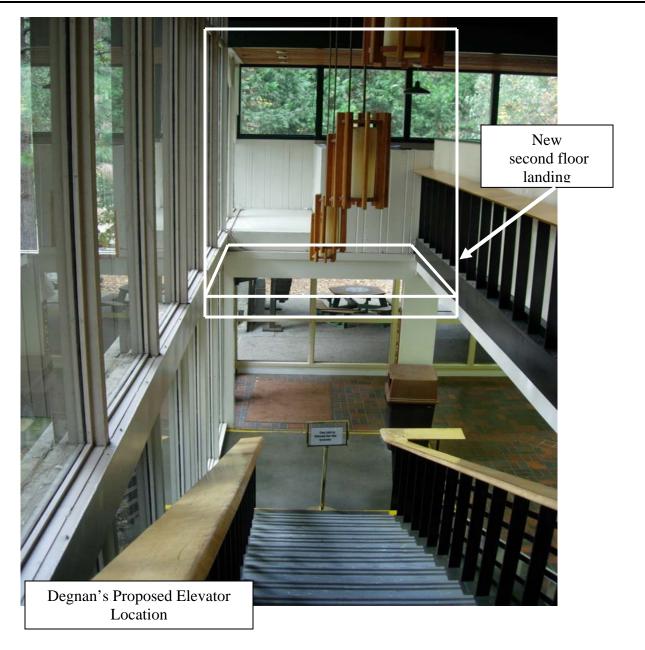


THE NUMBER

Attachment C







A. DESCRIPTION OF UNDERTAKING

- 1. **Project Title & ID:** 2006-021 Yosemite Village, Install Elevator at Degnan's Building to Meet ADA (14255)
- 2. Project Proponent: Maurice West, Project Management: DNC
- **3. Project Description** The purpose of this project is to correct an ADA deficiency in a DNC operation in Yosemite National Park. The second floor of the Degnan's building is not accessible to the disabled. This project will entail the installment of an elevator to eliminate the ADA deficiency. Ground disturbance for the elevator shaft footing will be approximately 8'x8'x3' deep.
- 4. **Project Location and Area of Potential Effect:** Yosemite Village, Degnan's Building and about 3-4 feet of round disturbance by modifying slope and cross slopes for path of travel, and installing elevator shaft.

5. Attached Sensitive* Information	Yes	No	Explanation/Source/Notes
a. Maps	X		CR GIS map
b. Drawings			
c. Site Plans			
d. Photographs			
e. Sample			
f. List of Materials			
g. Other (Explain)			

* Sensitive documents not for duplication or distribution beyond park management, subject matter experts, and the project statutory compliance file.

B. DESCRIPTION OF EFFECTS

	Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Notes
1. Has the Area of Potential Effect been surveyed to identify cultural resources? If Yes, provide reference for the Survey (s).	х			YOSE 1974A Yosemite ValleyArchaeological District Yosemite Valley Historic District 106 archeological investigations Utilities Upgrade project 2003 in prep.
a. Would the proposed action affect a known cultural resource?	Х			CA MRP 056-301

2. List all Cultural Resources in the Area of	Affec	ted?	Explanation/Note	
Potential Effect:	Yes	No	Explanation/Note	
a. Ahwahne Village	Х		Intangible American Indian resource	

3. List resources in the Area of Potential	Affec	cted?	
Effect to which American Indians attach	Yes	No	Explanation/Note
cultural and religious significance:	165	INU	
a. Ahwahne Village	Х		Intangible American Indian resource

4. The proposed action will:	Yes	No	N/A	Explanation/Note
• Destroy, remove, or alter features or elements from a historic structure		Х		
Replace historic features/elements in kind		Х		
Add nonhistoric features/elements to a historic structure		Х		
• Alter or remove features/elements of a historic setting or environment (including terrain)		Х		
• Add nonhistoric features/elements (including visual, audible, or atmospheric) to a historic setting or cultural landscape	X			Degnan's is situated within the boundary of the Yosemite Valley Historic District cultural landscape.
• Disturb, destroy, or make archeological resources inaccessible, or alter associated terrain	X			
• Disturb, destroy, or make ethnographic resources inaccessible, or alter associated terrain		Х		
• Begin or contribute to the deterioration of historic fabric, terrain, setting, landscape elements, or archeological or ethnographic resources		X		
• Involve a real property transaction affecting historic cultural properties (i.e., the exchange, sale, or lease of land or structures)		X		
Potentially affect presently unidentified cultural resources	Х			Ground disturbance may have potential to expose archaeological deposits
• Other				

5. Describe any measures that are incorporated as part of this project that will be taken to prevent or minimize loss or impairment of prehistoric or historic fabric, setting, integrity, or data:

Checklist Preparer: Jeannette Simons

Date: <u>1/30/06</u>

Title: Historic Preservation Officer

C. SPECIALIST SECTION

Specialists: Your comments here (or attached) show that you have reviewed this proposal for conformity with requirements of *National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106*; with the 1995 *Servicewide Programmatic Agreement* (if applicable); with applicable parts of the *Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation*; with the NPS *Management Policies* and *Cultural Resource Management Guideline*; and have given your best professional advice about this project and the issues relevant to the Section 106 process, including identification and evaluation of historic properties and further consultation needs.

Archeologist Comments: Within site CA-MRP-56	Name: Laura Kirn in previously disturbed area.	Date: 1/26/06		
Ground Disturbance Involved	Yes: X No:			
Assessment of Effect: No adverse e	ffect.			
Recommendations for Conditions or Stipulations:				
Signature of Archeologist: //signe	d original on file//			
Cultural Anthropologist	Name:	Date:		
Comments:				
Assessment of Effect:				
Recommendations for Conditions or	Stipulations:			
	1			
Signature of Cultural Anthropologis	t:			
Curator	Name:	Date:		
Comments:				
Assessment of Effect:				
Recommendations for Conditions or Stipulations:				

Signature of Curator: _____

Historian	Name: Charles Palmer	Date:1/11/06		
Comments: Non-contributing resource in Valley Historic District.				
Assessment of Effect: No adverse 6	offect			
Assessment of Effect. No adverse of	chect.			
Recommendations for Conditions o	r Stipulations:			
Signature of Historian: //signed on	riginal on file//			
-	-			
	N	Dete: 1/11//06		
Historic Architect	Name: Sueann Brown	Date: 1/11//06		
Comments:				
	60 <i>i</i>			
Assessment of Effect: No adverse effect.				
Recommendations for Conditions or Stipulations: Building is not historic, but due to location historic landscape architect must review and approve.				
-				

Signature of Historic Architect: //signed original on file//

Historic Landscape Architect Name: Paul Chattey
Comments:

Assessment of Effect: **No effect.** Recommendations for Conditions or Stipulations:

Signature of Historic Landscape Architect: //signed original on file//

Date:1/26/06

Preservation Specialist Comments:	Name:	Date:
Assessment of Effect: Recommendations for Conditions of	or Stipulations:	
Signature of Preservation Specialis	t:	
Native American Liaison Comments:	Name:	Date:
Assessment of Effect: Recommendations for Conditions of	or Stipulations:	
Signature of		
Comments:	Name:	Date:
Assessment of Effect: Recommendations for Conditions of	or Stipulations:	

Signature of _____:

D. RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND SCIENCE DIVISION AND PARK 106 COORDINATOR REVIEWS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Review by specialists: The appropriate subject-matter experts have reviewed the project and entered their comments and recommendations in Section C, above.

The foregoing assessment is adequate: the proposed action is consistent with all applicable NPS management policies, standards, guidelines, or US DOI standards and guidelines, Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings, or others, and incorporates measures to avoid Adverse Effects.

Reviewed and Accepted by:

Signature:	//Niki Nicholas//		1/30/06
_	Chief of Resources Management & Science Division		

2. Assessment of Effects: No adverse effect

3. Compliance Requirements: The following is the park's assessment of Section 106 process needs and requirements for this undertaking.

Standard 36 CFR Part 800 Consultation

Consultation under 36 CFR is needed subsequent to the preparation of this form and its review by appropriate cultural resource management advisors.

x Undertaking related to the 1995 NPS Programmatic Agreement

The above action meets all conditions for a programmatic exclusion under Stipulation IV of the 1995 NPS programmatic agreement.

Plan-Related Undertaking

Consultation and review of the proposed undertaking were completed in the context of a plan review process, in accordance with the 1995 NPS programmatic agreement and 36 CFR Part 800.

Undertaking Related to Another Agreement

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under a document such as a statewide agreement written in accordance with 37 CFR Part 800.7 or counterpart regulations.

Agreement:

Flood-Recovery Related Undertaking

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under the letter-based agreement between the NPS, the State Historic Preservation Office, and the Council for Historic Preservation for "Highwater 97" flood repair and recovery

Undertaking Related to the 1999 Yosemite Programmatic Agreement

The proposed undertaking is covered for Section 106 purposes under the park's 1999 programmatic agreement for planning, design, construction, operations and maintenance; the undertaking meets the stipulations identified in Article VII.C.2.

4. Project Stipulations and Conditions

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

1. Coordinate placement with NPS Historic Landscape Architect Steven Torgerson at 209.379.1295

Recommended by Park Section 106 Coordinator:

Name: Jeannette Simons

Title: Historic Preservation Officer

Signature: //signed original on file// Date: 1/31/06

E. SUPERINTENDENT'S APPROVAL

The proposed work conforms to NPS Management Policies and NPS-28 and I approve the recommendations, stipulations, and conditions noted in Section B of this form.

Signature of Superintendent: //MJTollefson//

Date: 2/13/06