



Yosemite

A JOURNAL FOR MEMBERS OF THE
YOSEMITE ASSOCIATION

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THE BEGINNING OF YOSEMITE TOURISM

A Message from the President

As soon as I finish this message, I leave on a much-anticipated backpacking trip into some of Yosemite's finest country. My party will be leaving from Twin Lakes near Bridgeport and heading back west into the park, following an itinerary that includes Crown Lake, Matterhorn Canyon, Smedburg Lake (I've always hoped they'd re-name it Smedley Lake), Benson Lake, Kerrick Canyon, and then back down onto the east-side desert.

If I can still walk and if the mosquitoes haven't carried me away, I will see many of you at our 30th(!) annual members' meeting in Tuolumne Meadows the weekend of September 9, 10, and 11. Our speaker will be John Simpson, author of a new book about the past and future of Hetch Hetchy Valley and reservoir. He promises to give a fascinating talk about a subject that has been prominent in the San Francisco press of late. See our Members Pages for more about the meeting.

If you're coming to the members' meeting and you're a \$250 or higher member/donor, you'll soon receive (if you haven't already) an invitation to a special reception at Parsons Lodge on Friday evening (September 9). It will be your chance to meet Mr. Simpson before his talk, and we'll be serving wine and light fare.

I'm pleased to report that thanks to you, our members and supporters, the Yosemite Cooperative Student Intern Program has grown again this summer. There are six students working as interns/rangers in the park this year, with postings at Wawona, Yosemite Valley, and Lake Eleanor. I was fortunate enough to meet the three young women stationed in Wawona (see the photograph on page 19), and I can attest that they are both delightful and talented. The program is a partnership between the Yosemite Association, the National Park Service, and UC Merced, that depends on the financial support of individuals, companies, and foundations.

Another success story made possible by the support of our members and donors is the remodeled Yosemite Valley Visitor Center store. We're still putting on the finishing touches, but the facility is already a big hit with visitors who are frequenting it in huge numbers. During June our sales grew by 25% over last year's figure, which is a very good omen. With the increased revenues we generate we'll be able to take on more educational programs and provide enhanced support to the National Park Service. Thank you again for making this long-sought-after upgrade a reality!

The Yosemite Association is pleased to announce that we have hired a new Educational Programs Director to oversee our "outdoor adventures" and other educational initiatives. He's Pete Devine, a talented naturalist and educator who has worked in the park for many years with the Yosemite Institute. We believe he'll breathe new life into our outdoor courses and originate many new programs designed to connect people to the park.

What's brewing down the road? Our annual "Autumn Barbecue" for \$1,000 member/donors is scheduled for October 1 on the Ahwahnee Meadow. We hope you'll be able to join us for this special evening that has proven to be memorable in the past. There's still time to send a gift if you'd like to be included.

Here's hoping that you, too, will get a chance to hike, backpack, camp, or wander in Yosemite this year.

Through those activities we refresh ourselves and see clearly again why the park has come to occupy such a special place in our lives. Despite the floods, the mosquitoes, and the fires, Yosemite still maintains its hold on us!

Best regards to you,



Steven P. Medley, President



Cover: Drawing of Yosemite Falls by Thomas Ayres made in 1855. See etching on page 4 for which this drawing served as a basis.

THE ACCOUNT OF HUTCHINGS' 1855 TRIP TO YOSEMITE VALLEY— THE BEGINNING OF YOSEMITE TOURISM

July 27, 2005 marked the 150th anniversary of the arrival of the first documented tourist party to Yosemite Valley. Led by James Mason Hutchings, the group included Walter Millard, Alexander Stair, and artist Thomas Ayres. Although people have inhabited the area for some 8,000 years, it was the Hutchings Party that left the first known published images and descriptions of Yosemite.

While the others explored, Ayres sketched. His several drawings were reproduced as etchings and other works of art, often embellished and exaggerated in scale. Along with Hutchings' written descriptions, these illustrations circulated around the world, in effect beginning the era of Yosemite tourism.

When he returned to Mariposa, Hutchings had his account of the trip published in the *Mariposa Gazette* on August 9, 1855. The only known copy of this article, pasted into Hutchings' own scrapbook, was obtained for the Yosemite Museum collection using a grant from the Yosemite Fund in 1999.

Hutchings also chronicled the journey with terse daily entries in his diary (now in the Library of Congress). Hutchings' daughter, Cosie Hutchings Mills, added a few biographical notes about her father in her typed transcription of his diaries.

The following are excerpts from these primary sources—the original spelling and punctuation have been retained. The notation [D] indicates an excerpt from the Hutchings diary of 1855, while the notation [MG] refers to an excerpt from the *Mariposa Gazette* of August 9, 1855.

Ayres' drawing of one of his first views of Yosemite Valley when he visited in 1855.



PHOTO COURTESY OF YOSEMITE RESEARCH LIBRARY



PHOTO COURTESY OF YOSEMITE RESEARCH LIBRARY

James Mason Hutchings, leader of the first organized tourist party into Yosemite

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES BY COSIE HUTCHINGS

After crossing the Plains in 1849, after several years' hard work in the "diggings," losing the earnings by the failures of a private Bank and Adams Co. Express in which the gold was deposited, it came to the mind of this tall young Englishman of the quiet village of Towcester that he wasn't getting so much of value as he might from his experiences. He resented, too, helping provide riotous living and large estates for unethical Bank functionaries. So he decided to "look about, a bit" in this fascinating, tho rather comfortless, new West—to travel.

Not wishing to further deplete his remaining store he decided upon a plan for helping pay expenses as he went by selling in the camps "Letter Sheets"—illustrated. For these San Francisco and Sacramento artists made sketches and engravings. One of the letter sheets had a large wood cut of a "Mammoth Tree" of the Calaveras grove—the first to be discovered, and the first picture ever made of it. Another had pictures of different mining processes; another "The Miners Ten Commandments to Miners' Wives"; another pictured native Indians. Writing paper



PHOTO COURTESY OF YOSEMITE RESEARCH LIBRARY

Another of the sketches by Thomas Ayres made during the first tourist visit to Yosemite Valley.

was a scarce commodity in the mines and these letter sheets were immensely popular. They achieved a two-fold end—encouraging correspondence (much neglected) and furthering exploration.

This “Journal” records one year’s travels through the busiest mining regions. Unfortunately where events of greatest moment were happening, the record is mostly dates and weather.

Returning post-haste to San Francisco he made prompt decision upon publishing the illustrated magazine which has been some time in the background of his mind. He would let the whole world know what this mythical land of California was in reality.

ACCOUNT OF THE HUTCHINGS’ TOURIST PARTY

Monday, July 23

Fine and warm

Mariposa

This day was spent chiefly in making preparations for our journey to the Yohamite Valley and making a sketch (by Mr. Ayres) of the town of Mariposa [D]

“Armed and equipped as the law directs,” with defensive supplies for both the inner and the outer man, not omitting a suspicious looking *weapon* with a short neck “o correct bad water,” our party of four took up their line of march for the above named valley. Mr. Ayres of San Francisco [Ayres is credited with having made “the first drawing of the valley by a professional artist”¹], Mr. Stair of Coulterville, Mr. Willard² of San Francisco and your humble servant, composed the company. [MG]

Tuesday, July 24

Fine and pretty warm

From Mariposa to Fresno River 25 miles [A horse trail connecting Mariposa and “Coarse Gold Gulch” existed as early as 1851.³] [D]

As past experience had taught us that there are two



PHOTO COURTESY OF YOSEMITE RESEARCH LIBRARY

The Yosemite Falls drawing by Thomas Ayres (see cover) was published as an etching by James Hutchings in October, 1855.

ways to every place,—a right and a wrong way—and as some chances were against our taking the right one, we took especial pains to find the right one; everybody knew it, but nobody could tell us how to get upon it. At length, through the courtesy of Capt. Boling,⁴ we were furnished with an introductory letter to Mr. Hunt of the Fresno, who very kindly procured us with two good Indian guides, one named Hopum, the other Lopin. [MG]

Wednesday, July 25

Fine & hot

From Hunts store on the Fresno to—Camp 20 miles [Hunt’s store is said to have been near the “Fresno Crossing,” now at the conjunction of the Fresno River and Raymond Road, southwest of the town of Coarsegold, California.⁵] [D]

From Mr. Hunt’s store, we kept an east of north course, up the divide between Fresno and Chowchilla valleys . . . [Judging by these notes, they might have camped near the present town of Ahwahnee.] [MG]

Thursday, July 26

Fine & warm

From Camp to the South Fork of Merced River 18 miles [D]

[T]hence descending towards the South Fork of the Merced River,⁶ and winding around a very rocky point . . . [MG]

Friday, July 27

Fine and a little more than warm—yet not very hot
From South Fork of Merced to Yohamite Valley 22 miles.
[D]

[W]e climbed nearly to the ridge of the middle or main fork of the Merced, and then descending towards the Yo-Semity Valley, we came upon a high point, clear of trees, from whence we had our first view of this singular and romantic valley; and as the scene opened in full view before us, we were almost speechless with wondering admiration, at its wild and sublime grandeur. “What!” exclaimed one at length, “have we come to the end of all things?” “Can this be the opening of the Seventh Seal?” cried another. “This far, very far exceeds Niagara,” says a third. We had been out from Mariposa about four days and the fatigue of the journey had made us weary and a little peevish, but when our eyes looked upon the almost terrific grandeur of this scene, all, all was forgotten. “I should have lost the most magnificent sight that I ever saw, had I not witnessed this!” were exclamations of pleasurable surprise that fell from the lips of all, as we sat down to drink in the varied beauties of this intoxicating and enchanting scene.

The fast sinking sun admonished us to descend and camp on the spot of green where we found grass for our animals in quantity, and as the Indians are said to be numerous, and will bear looking after better than trusting, we set our guard and slept soundly, while the stars, no doubt, (wagishly) winked at us as we lay and dreamed of home. [MG]

Saturday, July 28

Fine and warm
Yohamite Valley [D]

Sunday, July 29

Fine & warm
Explored the Yo-Hamite Valley to head—10 miles [D]
Passing further up the valley, one is struck with the awful

grandeur of the immense mountains on either side—some perpendicular, some a little sloping . . . Now we crossed the river, and still advancing up the valley, turned a point, and before us was an indescribable sight—a waterfall two thousand two hundred feet in height. [MG]

Monday, July 30

Fine & Warm
From Yo-Hamite Valley to Camp—10 miles [D]
After completing our series of views of this beautiful and wildly romantic valley, we looked a last look upon it, with regret that so fine a scene should be only the abode of wild animals and Indians, and that many months, perhaps years, would elapse before its silence would again be broken by the reverberating echoes of the rifle, or the musical notes of the white man’s song. [MG]

Tuesday, July 31

Fine & Warm
From - Camp - to - Camp 25 miles [D]

Wednesday, August 1

Fine and Hot
From Camp to Mariposa 20 miles [D]
I have no doubt ere many years have elapsed, this wonderful valley will attract the lovers of the beautiful from all parts of the world; and be as famed as Niagara, for its wild sublimity, and magnificent scenery . . . While to the dyspeptic denizens of our larger cities it offers recreation and medicine, in its pure, free air, and its ice-cold water . . . [MG]

Tom Bopp is employed as the pianist at the historic Wawona Hotel in Yosemite, performing nightly in the hotel’s piano parlor. His interest in the history of both Yosemite and popular music have resulted in a number of articles about the park’s past and five music CDs (including Vintage Songs of Yosemite) available at YosemiteMusic.com.

NOTES

1. Margaret Sanborn, *Yosemite—Its Discovery, Its Wonders and Its People* (Yosemite: Yosemite Association, 1989), p. 79.

2. Actually “Walter Millard” according to Hank Johnston, *The Yosemite Grant, 1864–1906—A Pictorial History* (Yosemite: Yosemite Association, 1995), p. 27

3. *Mariposa Gazette*, 8 December 1877, p. 3, col. 1. That article reads in part “the trail leading by Savages store on Little Mariposa [creek] . . . was no doubt the only practicable trail known to the white

settlers leading from Mariposa, and Agua Frio (sic) to the Fresno, and the mines in that vicinity [Coarse Gold Gulch].”

4. Boling, then sheriff in Mariposa, had lead the second expedition into Yosemite in May, 1851 (see Johnston, *The Yosemite Grant*, p. 9).

5. Charles Clough and William Secrest put Hunt’s store “near the junction of Coarse Gold Creek and the Fresno River, known as the ‘Fresno Crossing’”; those two streams do not connect, but maps show the “Fresno Crossing” at the confluence of Spangle Gold Creek

and the Fresno River. The store was opened in 1852 by John Letford and a partner named Carson, and sold shortly afterward to John Lavert Hunt and J. R. Nichols. See Charles W. Clough and William B. Secrest Jr., *Fresno County—The Pioneer Years*, 2d ed. (Fresno: Panorama West Books, 1985), p. 54, 84.

6. Mentions of the “South Fork” from this period consistently refer either to the confluence of the Merced with its south fork (now on Highway 140 below El Portal), or as in this case, the area now known as Wawona.

PARK PROFILE

DALINNA CHA

Name: Dalinna Cha

Title: YA Cooperative Student Intern

Hometown: Atwater, CA

Where are you attending college, and what is your major? Merced Community College, major is undecided

What are your career aspirations? There are so many things that I've always wanted to do; being a park ranger has been an interest of mine, and through YA and the park education office I am able to experience a bit of what it's like to be a park ranger. I know that there are a lot of things I have to do before I can obtain a career.

What do you do in Yosemite? I work in Hill's Studio, which is an information center for visitors. I rove in the Mariposa Grove and give walks to the Grizzly Giant. I give campground programs about cougars at the Wawona Campground.

What do you enjoy most about your internship? I really like working alongside the park service. Wearing a uniform and talking to visitors have been the highlights.

What is your favorite place in Yosemite? I won't see Tuolumne Meadows until later this summer, but Glacier Point is my favorite place in Yosemite so far. The view from Glacier Point is amazing and it's a great place to show Yosemite highlights to visitors.

What is your favorite Yosemite book? *The Wild Muir* tells some very interesting stories about a very interesting man who contributed much to Yosemite National Park.



What is your favorite non-Yosemite book? *Into the Wild* is about a man with several different names who decides to get as far away from civilization as possible and closer to nature. It is based on a true story and inspired me to try to get closer to nature.

What is your favorite movie? *Shawshank Redemption*—I loved the plot and the way that eventually everything was connected.

What do you think the Yosemite Association's most important role is? YA's most important role is in offering visitor information—by providing interns and volunteers who staff visitor information desks and give walks and talks, and by selling books about the park that help visitors enjoy the place and learn how to preserve it.

What advice would you give to other students who are considering becoming a park ranger? If you truly want to become a park ranger, go for it! Don't let anything get in your way or put off becoming a ranger. Any time is a good time to start.

Will you share something about your Hmong culture, and how it has influenced your life experiences? Not many people have ever heard of Hmong. It's another Southeast Asian culture. My parents immigrated from Laos, and they have often told me of their fond memories back in their home town, which is on a mountainside. I guess I could tell my children of my fond memories at Yosemite.

What else do you want to tell our readers? Honestly, I would not be here if it wasn't for some of my teachers. They have inspired me to love Yosemite.

CYCLING INTO YOSEMITE HISTORY

THE STORY OF PHOTOGRAPHER ARTHUR C. PILLSBURY

“Next Wednesday A. C. Pillsbury and Frank Watson . . . will leave for Yosemite and King’s River valley on their wheels”¹ reported the *Palo Alto Times* on May 24, 1895. The readers knew that the “wheels” Arthur C. Pillsbury would be riding across the San Joaquin Valley and into the heart of the Sierra Nevada was a Rambler bicycle. At 25 years of age, the enterprising Pillsbury owned and operated the Rambler Cyclery in the Pillsbury Building opposite the entrance to Stanford University. His reputation as a speedy and daring cyclist was well known on the San Francisco peninsula in 1895.

When Pillsbury and his companion, Frank Watson of San Jose, pedaled out of Palo Alto on Wednesday, May 29, 1895, they reportedly each carried ten pounds of camping equipment that included “aluminum cooking utensils, 32-caliber rifle and shotgun combined, blanket, camera and fishing tackle.”² Pillsbury rode a sixteen-pound Rambler, and Frank Watson rode a twenty-nine-pound bicycle.³

This was to be Pillsbury’s first visit to Yosemite Valley and the Sierra Nevada. Little did he know, as his legs pumped the bicycle along the dusty California roads, that he was not just going on an adventurous summer vacation; he was beginning a thirty-year association with Yosemite. This relationship would encompass elements of both business and pleasure. Professionally, he would open a photography studio in Yosemite Valley that he would operate for twenty years. As well, he would come to hike most of the trails in the Yosemite region, constantly photographing the landscape with which he would become so intimate, and getting to know and love the wildflowers that filled the Yosemite meadows. The allure of Yosemite he experienced on this bicycle trip would grab and hold him.

The cyclists reached Yosemite Valley within ten days, having ridden in through the Tuolumne Grove, where they posed with their bicycles at the Dead Giant, the tunnel tree carved by the Lumsden brothers in 1878. They continued into the valley on the Big Oak Flat Road. After their arrival, they went to the guardian’s office, located in the front of the former Cosmopolitan bathhouse and saloon in the Upper Village, and signed the “Great Register of the Yosemite Valley”⁴ on June 7, 1895. Next to their names, each proudly noted he was carrying thirty pounds of baggage, twenty pounds more than reported when they left Palo Alto. We can only speculate whether the additional weight was due to an actual increase in baggage, accumulated dust and dirt from the roads they

had traversed from Palo Alto, or the apparent increase in weight they imagined as they rode up the steep Sierra slopes.

During much of the 1890s, bicycles were the rage throughout America. They were a popular alternative to the horse-drawn stage for some travelers to Yosemite.⁵ However, there were conflicts on the roads entering the valley. The Department of the Interior, which oversaw the national park established in 1890, had the following specific safety instructions for bicycles encountering horse-drawn vehicles:

The greatest care must be exercised by persons using bicycles. On meeting a team the rider must stop and stand at side of road between the bicycle and the team—the outer side of the road if on a grade or curb. In passing a team from the rear, the rider should learn from the driver if his horses are liable to frighten, in which case the driver should halt and the rider dismount and walk past, keeping between the bicycle and the team.⁶

The presence of wheelers in the valley is also reflected in frequent reports such as the following from the *Yosemite Tourist*.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE AUTHOR.

As a young university student, Arthur Pillsbury owned the Pillsbury Building on the circle in Palo Alto where he operated the Rambler Cyclery.

J.E. Alexander and W.E. Winship, Stanford, the later being the first of the season from Stanford. They ride bicycles.⁷

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Proctor, of Berkeley, are the first bicyclists of the season to camp out and they carry their camping outfit on their wheels. They averaged 25 miles a day from Stockton to the Valley. Mrs. Proctor is the second lady to make the trip on a wheel and the first one to camp out.⁸

Pillsbury's arrival in Yosemite Valley was also noted in the *Yosemite Tourist*: "The 'Rah, Rah, Stanford!' is here in parties of twos and fours. The rocks and woods are full of it. Near the schoolhouse are A. C. Pillsbury and F. M. Watson. . . From here they go to the King's River Canyon."⁹

Did they say King's River Canyon? Riding a bike from Yosemite Valley to King Canyon was an ambitious undertaking in 1895. And they still had to ride back across the San Joaquin Valley and the coast mountains to get to Palo Alto.

Upon Pillsbury's eventual return to Palo Alto, the *Times* reported "A. C. Pillsbury traveled 921 miles on his recent trip to the Yosemite and King's river."¹⁰ The only noteworthy find to report was "several specimens of the famous snow plant."

Pillsbury moved to Palo Alto, south of San Francisco, in 1892. He had arrived from Auburn, California, to become a student of Mechanical Engineering¹¹ at Stanford University that had just opened in 1891. It was there

that his career as a photographer began. For a college engineering project, he constructed a panoramic camera with a rotating lens that he said "looked like half a wash tub." Arthur's nephew later recalled seeing it in 1911:

The film was put in this camera as a half-circle around the periphery of a half-round wooden box, and it made pictures about 11 inches wide and 36 inches long. It had a lens that had a mechanism to rotate it, exposing a narrow slot to the film. It appeared to rotate almost 180 degrees. It was most ingenious, but rather unwieldy. It had been made largely of hardwood and glue.¹²

Although his professors predicted it would create a blurred image, Pillsbury's camera worked very well as scores of his existing Alaska and San Francisco panoramic views prove today.

Cameras and engineering were not the only things on young Pillsbury's mind. He paid college expenses by operating a bicycle repair shop on the Stanford campus, and within a short time he opened the Rambler Cyclery. In addition to selling, renting, building, and repairing bicycles, he sold sporting goods, clothing, ice cream, and candy, and had the local dealership for Kodak photographic supplies.

His interest in photography continued to grow as did his quest for adventure. During the summer of 1897, he left Palo Alto and with camera and supplies, again pedaled a bicycle to the Yosemite Valley, where he planned to spend two months.¹³ Continuing to mix his bicycle and photography businesses, Pillsbury applied for and was granted a

permit by the Yosemite Valley Board of Commissioners "to repair bicycles and sell bicycle supplies."¹⁴

Pillsbury rode out of Palo Alto on his bicycle on May 31, 1897. The newspaper reported that he would engage in photography for the summer.¹⁵ It is possible that his brother, Ernest, accompanied him. According to Pillsbury's niece, Grace Young, "he [Arthur Pillsbury] and my father went to Yosemite by bicycle by way of the Wawona Road. He told of coming down the dusty road into the Valley with a large branch on behind for a brake."¹⁶

Pillsbury's presence in Yosemite Valley was noted in the Yosemite Tourist. He and Frank Watson bicycled around the valley stopping to pose for a snap shot atop a boulder along the Merced River or at Mirror Lake. Before returning to Palo Alto, they took a "side trip" to Kings Canyon.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE ARTHUR C. PILLSBURY COLLECTION, P-83, PHOTOGRAPHIC ARCHIVES, HAROLD B. LEE LIBRARY, BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY, PROVO, UTAH.



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE AUTHOR.

Arthur C. Pillsbury and his ubiquitous donkey (?), “Winkey,” posing in front of his studio in the Old Village in Yosemite Valley. Pillsbury operated in the former Hallett-Taylor “Studio of the Three Arrows” until he eventually moved to the New Village where his large studio was briefly located on the site of the current visitor center.

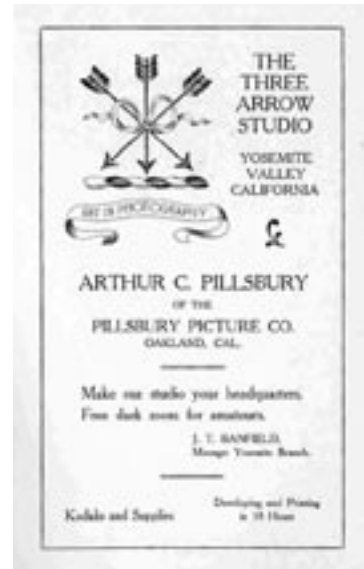


PHOTO COURTESY OF THE AUTHOR.

Pillsbury advertised his new studio in his competitor D.J. Foley’s *Souvenir and Guide*. This ad ran in the 1908 season edition.

Within two weeks of departing Palo Alto, the cyclist reached Yosemite Valley where he signed the “Great Register of the Yosemite Valley” on June 14, 1897.¹⁷

If his brother Ernest was with him, he did not sign the register. After only about six weeks, Arthur Pillsbury left the valley and pedaled back to Palo Alto, arriving on August 8.¹⁸

He did not visit Yosemite again for ten years. That decade brought more adventures, photographic challenges, and successes. In the summer of 1897, bicycle prices plummeted and in 1898, the market for bicycles collapsed. Pillsbury sold his Palo Alto business and traveled north spending two summers in Alaska and the Yukon photographing the Klondike gold rush.¹⁹ Returning from Alaska, he worked in San Francisco as a newspaper photographer. He was in San Francisco at the time of the earthquake and fire in 1906. His camera and film were at the ready. He took numerous photographs of the ruined city, including panoramic and aerial views from a tethered balloon.

In 1906, he returned to Yosemite Valley feeling foot-loose as always, but with a hefty bank account from the sale of his earthquake photographs. He began negotiating with photographers Harold A. Taylor and Eugene Hallett to purchase their Yosemite Valley business known as the Studio of the Three Arrows. The studio was located in Yosemite Village near the current location of the Yosemite Chapel. Pillsbury bought out the Hallett-Taylor Company’s Yosemite concession a year later. He continued to operate the shop in Yosemite Valley for the following twenty years as Pillsbury’s Studio.

In 1924, when the decision was made to move the center of commercial activity from the south side of Yosemite Valley to its present location in Yosemite Village, Pillsbury was one of the first concessionaires to make the move.

On November 3, 1927, fire, fueled by a freshly oiled theater floor, destroyed all of his new Yosemite studio except the sales room. That winter, he sold what was left of the studio and stock to the Yosemite Park and Curry Company. Thereafter, he lived in Berkeley but continued his active career with motion pictures and traveling the lecture circuit.

During the last decade of his life, his cameras were stored and he lived quietly in the Berkeley area where he died on the afternoon of March 5, 1946.²⁰

(To view the footnotes for this article, visit www.yosemite.org/member/pillsburynotes.htm.)

Steve Harrison is Chief of Resources Management with the National Park Service at Cape Hatteras National Seashore. He worked in Yosemite for many years as an interpreter, and has amassed a large collection of photographs by Arthur C. Pillsbury. He plans to contribute additional articles about the photographer for future journals.

PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS AND HETCH HETCHY

BY JOHN WARFIELD SIMPSON

*Editor's note: The following is an excerpt from the author's recently published book entitled **Dam! Water, Power, Politics, and Preservation in Hetch Hetchy and Yosemite National Park** (Pantheon Books, 2005). Mr. Simpson will be the keynote speaker at the Yosemite Association annual meeting in Tuolumne Meadows on September 10.*

As [San Francisco city engineer Marsden] Manson prepared his plan and cost estimate the spring [1909] following the congressional setback, the fate of Phelan's [Hetch Hetchy] project and the Garfield permit appeared further in doubt when President William Howard Taft (1909-13) assumed office. Many Republicans assumed the new president would continue the Progressive conservation policies of his popular predecessor. He didn't. The new president wasn't a true believer in the cause like his rambunctious predecessor.

To the Progressives, conservation meant the protection of valuable public lands from private ownership and potential abuse, and the wise development of timber, minerals, grazing, water, and recreation on those lands through cooperation directed by government scientists and enlightened bureaucrats. Both presidents appreciated Hetch Hetchy's spectacular scenery, and both struggled with how best to manage it. Roosevelt's Progressive conservation values led him to favor the utilitarian, multiple-use approach. Taft's preference for resource development by the private sector along with legal concerns led him to hesitate in permitting such uses in national parks or forests, or in creating new ones. Roosevelt fumed, overreacting to Taft's resource policies in the belief that they necessarily favored the interests of big business over public and environmental welfare, backsliding to the shortsighted policies of the 1800s.

As Taft took hold, Pinchot and the other true believers became increasingly angry about the policy changes and their lessened influence. They tried unsuccessfully to convert the new president to their gospel or to bypass his policies. Some in the former Roosevelt coterie resigned in protest. The powerful chief forester chose to stay and fight. Hetch Hetchy reflected the widening rift. Pinchot had lobbied hard to win approval of the Garfield permit; now, to the dismay of many Progressive Republicans, Taft appointed Richard A. Ballinger, a like-minded land attorney, as secretary of the interior.

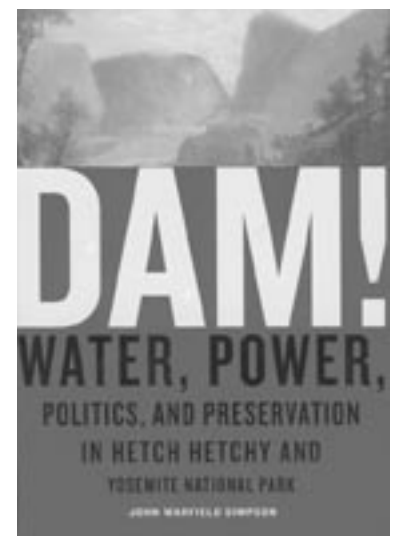
Pinchot had never approved of the new secretary; and had contested his appointment. Ballinger was a respected

attorney and former mayor of Seattle, who had worked to reform the notoriously corrupt General Land Office during a short tenure as commissioner several years earlier. But integrity aside, Pinchot fundamentally disagreed with Ballinger's (and Taft's) land management philosophy. Likewise, Ballinger thought some of Pinchot's freewheeling agreements were illegal.

Tensions between Taft and Ballinger and the holdovers from the Roosevelt administration tightened, quickly straining their working relationship to the breaking point. It all snapped during the so-called Ballinger-Pinchot affair, which unfortunately evolved into a public debate argued in the national press and focused more on personality and politics than the men's important underlying policy differences.

In autumn 1909, Ballinger's critics accused him of indirectly asserting pressure for the approval of a potentially fraudulent Alaskan coal claim without sufficient investigation; the land claim had been submitted by some of his former law clients. The complicated issues dated to Ballinger's term as commissioner of the general land office and involved nuances in several land laws. Whether or not the accusations were founded, personal vindictiveness and politics clearly motivated some participants. Accusations of wrongdoing were hurled back and forth between Ballinger and his accusers, especially Pinchot. President Taft had little patience for the mudslinging, accepting his attorney general's belief after a cursory investigation that Ballinger had not breached any ethics.

The controversy exploded in early 1910 when Iowa senator Jonathan Dolliver read to the body a letter written to him by Pinchot that defended Ballinger's accusers while extolling the policies of the forest service under Pinchot's leadership. President Taft promptly fired Pinchot for insubordination. Pinchot struck back, leading a public attack to discredit Secretary Ballinger and the Taft conservation policies. Meanwhile, Congress con-





Hetch Hetchy Valley, shown before it was inundated, has long been a subject of political controversy.

ducted its own investigation, hearing forty-five days of conflicting testimony, contentious cross-examination, and partisan wrangling. The result: Secretary Ballinger was exonerated of any wrongdoing by a narrow vote along philosophical lines. But it didn't matter in the court of public opinion. Ballinger had been effectively smeared, and the Republican Party began to fracture between those who supported Roosevelt and those who favored Taft. (Discredited, Ballinger resigned from office in 1911 due to poor health. He never recovered politically or physically from the damage done to his integrity. Another investigation conducted in 1940 by Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes again exonerated Ballinger and criticized Pinchot for his overzealousness.)

Concurrent with Manson's preparatory work on the plan and the escalating tensions in the Taft administration over conservation policy; the preservationists quickly petitioned Secretary Ballinger to void his predecessor's permit. They also mounted a national media campaign to strengthen public opposition to it, in part because Ballinger was initially inclined to uphold Garfield's decision. William Colby invited several congressmen and members of the administration to join the Sierra Club on its ninth annual High Trip that summer. The stout president declined, but he and Ballinger toured the Yosemite Valley with Muir in October.

As the group descended into Yosemite, President Taft teased Muir that the flat valley floor would make a fine farm. "Why!" Muir replied, "this is Nature's cathedral, a place to worship in." To which the president responded, "But don't you think that since these valleys are so far from the centers of population, they might just as well be used commercially?" Pointing to the extraordinary

mouth of the valley, he continued, "Now that would be a fine place for a dam!" Muir went apoplectic. "A dam!" he exclaimed, "Yes, . . .but the man who would dam that would be damning himself." Taft chuckled, his guide having fallen into the trap. "I suppose you know, Mr. Muir, that several people in San Francisco are very much worried because I asked you to come here with me today." Muir showed the president a map detailing his plan for a trail system linking Yosemite Valley, Tuolumne Meadows, Tuolumne Falls, and the Hetch Hetchy Valley, forming perhaps the grandest compact sightseeing loop in the world. Taft was impressed and made clear his opposition to the proposed Hetch Hetchy dam.

The next day Muir toured Ballinger, George Otis Smith, director of the U.S. Geological Survey, and several government engineers around the Hetch Hetchy Valley. The engineers gushed about the suitability of the site for a dam and reservoir, partly in jest. The press accompanying the group missed the levity and reported the comments and Muir's predictable response out of context. Shortly after his return to Washington, President Taft appointed a three-member board, comprised of Smith as head and two engineers from the reclamation service, to study the Hetch Hetchy scheme.

"Everything in the Hetch Hetchy Yosemite Park battle looks fine for our side, & black for the robbers," Muir rejoiced. With the Ballinger-Pinchot affair heating up in the press, casting doubt on the chief forester's influence and the course of national conservation policy, and giving the secretary of the interior further cause to reverse the permit, Phelan's dream looked dead. But the battle was not won.

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ARCHEOLOGY AT BILLY HURST'S SALOON, CRANE FLAT, YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK, CALIFORNIA

BY KEVIN M. BARTOY
AND LAURA KIRN

Crane Flat sits at the 6200-foot elevation, astride the divide between the Merced and Tuolumne Rivers, holding an intricate montane forest and meadow system. It is well known as habitat for many animal species (including the elusive Great Gray Owl) and abundant meadow resources. Less well-known is the human element of the landscape. This article provides a glimpse into this human history of Crane Flat, and a discussion of recent archeological excavations at the location of Billy Hurst's Saloon.

Scientists have studied the prehistoric archeological resources at Crane Flat since the early 1950s. Based on extensive excavations conducted at a large village site, Dr. James Bennyhoff of the University of California at Berkeley proposed a chronology of human occupation in Yosemite. The oldest complex he described, the *Crane Flat Complex*, spanned the centuries between 1,000 BC and AD 500. This complex was characterized by heavy spear and dart points (thrown using an atlatl or spearthrower) and by seed processing using flat granite millingstones and small, round granite handstones.

The site from which these were excavated is now known as the "Crane Flat Type Site" since it was from this site that this material was first recognized and described. Thereafter, material remains of a culture thousands of years old became synonymous with the place named for migrating sandhill cranes. In addition to the Crane Flat

Site, there are eight prehistoric archeological sites at Crane Flat that represent continuous human occupation over at least the past 4,000 years (Hull 1990). Together, these have been listed in the National Register of Historic Places as the Crane Flat Archeological District (NPS 1979).

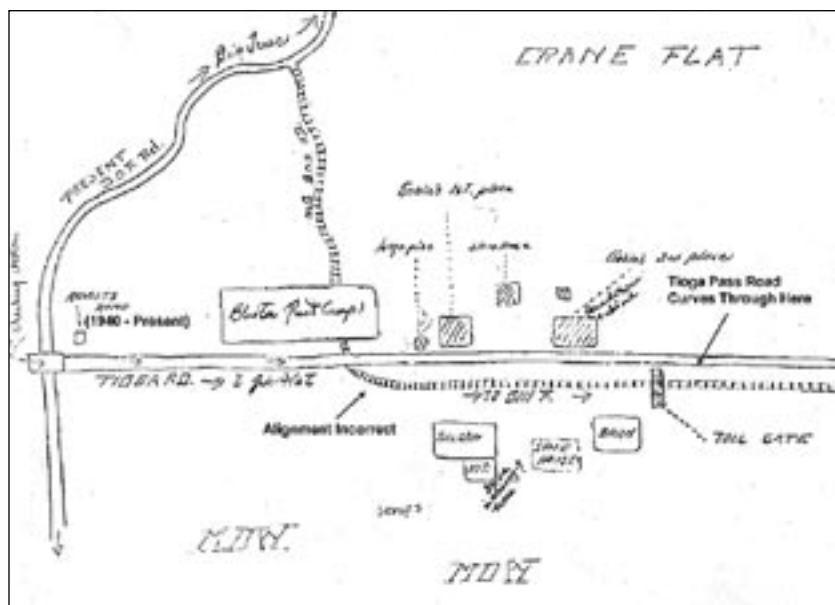
The first Euro-American residents of Crane Flat were sheep and cattle herders. The locale was known as a popular camping site, and by the mid 1860s, shepherd Hugh Mundy had built a cabin (Whitney 1868). It was likely Mundy's cabin that John Muir saw in Crane Flat in 1868, during the trip when he first viewed Yosemite Valley (Engberg and Wesling ed. 1999).

Muir describes this cabin as a "shanty" of soft sugar pine shakes – so soft in fact, that this quality proved dangerous for Muir's traveling companion. In an effort to test his aim and the worth of his gun, he shot through a piece of paper fastened to the shanty wall and into the shoulder of his companion, who had foolishly stood inside, on the opposite side of the wall from the target (Engberg and Wesling ed. 1999:42).

Lewis and Anne Gobin erected another log shanty at Crane Flat by as early as the late 1860s, and were running sheep and cattle in the meadow by 1870 (Greene 1987). Initially they took in travelers as a courtesy. But eventually traffic along the Coulterville Free and Big Oak Flat Trails, and later the Big Oak Flat Toll and Coulterville Roads, increased dramatically. By the mid 1870s the enterprising

Gobins had developed their small hostelry operation into a lively stage station, offering meals and beds to travelers en route to Yosemite Valley.

There are many accounts of the ambience and hospitality at Gobin's. The food was described as "fine fare, such delicious bread and butter, coffee and rich cream, canned fruits of all kinds, mutton, ham, etc." (Prime 1872:50). The operators had a dairy house in which they churned their own butter and most likely kept fresh milk and cream (Greene 1987).



Hand-drawn map of Crane Flat area from Paden & Schlichtmann's *The Big Oak Flat Road*.



The Gobin settlement in 1872 from W. M. Bell's Other Countries, Volume II, published by Chapman and Hall, London.

This account of early-season traveler James Vick, snow-bound at Gobin's in June of 1874, captures the seasonal challenges of operating facilities in the Sierra:

"The accommodations were not equal to a first class hotel, but the good landlady apologized for the scantiness of her larder, stating that she had only just opened up for the season, and her cows had not yet been driven up the mountain, and the chickens were coming with the cows, and the house had tumbled down on account of the weight of the snow the past winter, and in the fall of the house the furniture had been destroyed or badly injured" (Schlichtmann and Paden 1986:220).

The Gobin's Hotel burned in 1886 and was rebuilt in 1888 as a comfortable stage stop for Yosemite Valley-bound passengers. The hotel remained open on a limited basis at least until 1875, and possibly until the early 1900s (Greene 1987).

Sometime before 1880, William Hurst established a saloon across the Big Oak Flat Toll Road from the Gobins. Hurst's Saloon operated as a supply station for herders, an "amusement center, address and home away from home to the solitary sheep herders from the camps far-flung on the steep mountain sides and in the aspen-clumped meadows" (Schlichtmann and Paden 1986:221). The facility fostered the camaraderie of the herders: "The little cabin was a popular place. It was also a riotous spot much of the time; the men from the mountains didn't come down to play cribbage; they could do that at camp" (Schlichtmann and Paden 1986:221).

Apparently Hurst felt a special responsibility for the lonely herders, waiting for the last men to come off the mountain before closing up for the winter months. In the winter of 1889-90, he waited too long, and was trapped by heavy snow. Although he attempted to make it out during breaks in the weather, he was repeatedly forced

back to his cabin. A rescue party retrieved him and took him to a hospital in Sonora, but he died shortly after his arrival, most likely of exposure and illness (Schlichtmann and Paden 1986). The saloon closed with his death.

The remains of the Gobin's Hotel and Billy Hurst's Saloon are now part of a large historical archeological site. This site was the subject of focused archeological research conducted as part of the early environmental planning for a possible redevelopment of the Crane Flat Environmental Education Campus (Bartoy et al. 2004).

The archeological work conducted in 2004 included excavations in areas of the site representing later developments, such as the Ranger Station along the Big Oak Flat Road (circa 1915 to 1940) and the Civilian Conservation Corps camp (circa 1933 to 1942), now used as the Yosemite Institute's campus. Unfortunately, the location of the Gobin's Hotel was severely damaged by construction of the Tioga Road and little remains today. It is the remains of the Hurst Saloon that retain the most archeological integrity and the best information for addressing important research questions.

The deposit at the Hurst Saloon allows archeologists to investigate the early settlement and the use of Yosemite's high country, and provides an opportunity to explore issues related to historic seasonal settlements in an environment that was challenging prior to the invention and introduction of modern technologies. The deposits contain material remains in sufficient quantity, quality, and context to address the topic of "rural consumer research" that has been identified as significant for archaeological study in Yosemite National Park.

The vast majority of the artifacts that have been recovered are classified as "domestic objects." These include food and beverage storage containers (i.e. coffee, meat and milk cans, and alcoholic beverage and soda water

bottles), food and food preparation tool remains, and pharmaceuticals. Other object types, such as structural remains (nails, glass, etc.), personal objects (tobacco tins, clay pipe fragment), and shell casings, were present, but in much smaller numbers than the domestic objects. The majority of the objects dated from 1880 to 1910, consistent with the time frames of the hotel and saloon.

When analyzed, artifacts from the Hurst Saloon provided evidence of trade networks that connected William Hurst to his neighbors, local merchants, regional producers, and national and international manufacturers. Although only less than one percent of the total assemblage could be identified as to manufacturing origins, the manufacturers that could be identified revealed connections to communities in California, the eastern United States, and Great Britain.

The local network was represented by fragments of eggshells. Although it is uncertain where the eggs originated, Ann Gobin was known to keep chickens at her hotel across the Big Oak Flat Road. These remains may represent the tangible expression of a system of barter known as “neighboring.” As elaborated by Miner (1949) in his study of a farming community in Iowa and later by Adams (1976, 1977) in his study of Silcott, neighboring was an outgrowth of a primarily “cashless” or “cash poor” local economy that relied on bartering relationships for goods and labor.

These relationships created social and economic ties that resulted in a system of alliances and the formation of community bonds. Given the fact that solitary

shepherds, placer miners, farm laborers, and Native Americans were Hurst’s primary clientele, this cashless system of barter was most likely extensive and may have served as the basis for the local economy at Crane Flat.

The regional network was evidenced by a single bottle of soda water that was produced at the Thomas Leonard Soda Works in Sonora, California. Although this bottle provides the only precise evidence for a regional network, the high percentage of consumer goods in the assemblage shows Hurst’s connection to merchants in the area who provided such goods.

No merchants were identified from the archeological remains, but further historical research, which focuses on the account books and inventories of nearby merchants in the counties of Tuolumne and Mariposa, may allow for more information about Hurst’s interactions within the regional commercial economy. With known rivalries between business interests in Tuolumne and Mariposa counties, this research may provide a better understanding of Hurst’s political interests.

Further inference as to Hurst’s connection to a regional network was made through an analysis of the ferrous metal cans and can fragments recovered from the site. Over 65% of the assemblage consisted of cans and can fragments, which represented a minimum of 132 individual cans. This proliferation of canned goods at the Hurst Saloon coincided with the development of the first automated can making machinery in the 1880s which greatly increased production.



The Gobin and Hurst Way Station at Crane Flat in 1901. Photo attributed to Celia Crocker Thompson courtesy of the Yosemite Research Library.



Above: Excavation of deposit on slope looking south toward meadow.

Right: Archeological excavation at the edge of Crane Flat Meadow.

Although an exact determination of the contents of the majority of cans could not be made, those cans classified as general food storage most likely contained canned fruits and vegetables. The decade of the 1880s witnessed the rise in the commercial production of fruits and vegetables in California as well as the beginnings of the canning industry. These cans may represent further evidence for Hurst's connection to a regional economy.

The national and international networks were most represented by the artifacts that could be identified as to location of manufacture. Of the 22 artifacts that originated outside of California, 72.7% (n=16) were produced in the eastern United States and 27.3% (n=6) were produced in Great Britain. Of the artifacts that originated in the eastern United States, 93.8% (n=15) were produced in the "American Manufacturing Belt" (Riordan and Adams 1985:16).

The American Manufacturing Belt was an area that stretched from the southern Great Lakes to New England and contained upwards of 65% of the manufacturing capacity of the United States in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries (Pred 1970:274). The high percentage of artifacts that originated from the American Manufacturing Belt demonstrates the connection of Crane Flat to the developing national market of the United States.

The density of artifacts identifiable as to origin in this sample was small, yet the recovered artifacts allow the placement of the assemblage from the Hurst Saloon within local, regional, national, and international exchange networks. With the sample recovered during this investigation, future research should focus on the local and regional levels. Two important issues are: 1) The "cashless" practice of neighboring and how it helped to create the bonds of community at Crane Flat; and, 2) The political and economic relationship between William Hurst and merchants in Tuolumne County and Mariposa County.



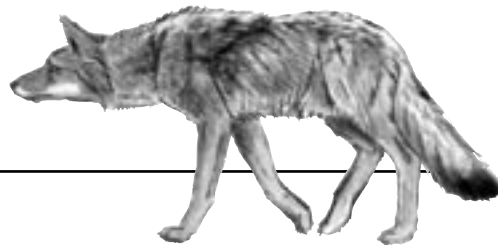
Editor's note: Results of this research will be presented in a report entitled "At the Crossroads: Historical Archaeology and Cultural Landscape Inventory at CA-MRP-1512H/CA-TUO-4240H, Crane Flat, Yosemite National Park, California." The report is currently in production by Pacific Legacy, Inc., and should be published in early 2006.

For a list of works cited in this article, visit www.yosemite.org/member/hurstarticle.htm.

Kevin Bartoy is an archaeologist and senior supervisor with the Bay Area Division of Pacific Legacy, Inc. The excavations described in this article were conducted by that company. Bartoy has been involved in the archaeology of North America, Mexico, Bermuda, and Anatolia for over ten years.

Laura Kirn is an archeologist and branch chief in the division of Resources Management and Science in Yosemite National Park. She has been studying and managing archeological and cultural resources in Yosemite for over twenty years.

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE NEWS



Adventures for Late Summer and Fall

We invite you to explore your park and your planet through one of our upcoming field seminars. There's a course for just about everybody scheduled over the next few months. More details and registration information can be found online at www.yosemite.org/seminars, or call us at (209) 379-2321.

For families:

The Family Camping Jamboree in Tuolumne Meadows is a wonderful way to explore the park and introduce the next generation of outdoor adventurers to Yosemite.

For hikers:

Experience the park's landscapes with expert naturalists: The versatile Suzanne Swedo leads a backpack to Mt. Conness on August 18, and a day hike to North Dome and the natural arch on August 28. Encyclopedic naturalist Michael Ross takes a group up to Johnson Peak on September 3. Raptor specialist Jeff Maurer leads "Hawks and Hikes" on the days of September 8–11. Ranger Dick Ewart covers the elements with "Ice, Wind and Fire" day hikes from September 9–11. Veteran Yosemite interpreter Julie Miller, and our own Beth Pratt take people to "Three Great Lakes" September 23–25.

For artists:

Chris Van Winkle and Moira Donohoe conduct their courses in Tuolumne Meadows (beginning August 22) and in Wawona (beginning September 29) to take advantage of fall colors. Andie Thrans concludes a sequence of field journaling programs with "Autumn Botanicals" the weekend of October 15–16.

For photographers:

The unique light of autumn is a reason to join Dave Wyman in late October or Keith Walklet in early November for a photography learning adventure.

For you:

YA will customize an outdoor adventure for your family, club, business or other group. Call us to discuss the diverse possibilities that Yosemite offers.

Yosemite Botanical Symposium on the Horizon

Peter Raven, one of the world's leading conservationists, and Steve Botti, author of our own *Illustrated Flora of Yosemite National Park*, will headline this special program. Yosemite's own NPS and USGS botanists will contribute their local expertise to this Wawona event. The weekend of October 28-30 will be the occasion for a unique exploration of the park's botany in depth, with a combination of lectures and field excursions with park naturalists.

Second Annual Yosemite Birding Festival a Success

A golden eagle soared over the registration desk, participants observed 106 species, including lazuli buntings singing, eight kinds of warblers, and peregrine falcons (feeding young in the nest!), and we can't wait to do this again next year. Mark your calendar to join us and a flock of experts May 5-7, 2006.

A Word from our New Education Director

After twenty wonderful years working in Yosemite, I couldn't be more pleased to be in my new role overseeing the Yosemite Association's prestigious Outdoor Adventures program. Serving Yosemite National Park by providing education to visitors is valuable work, and I am honored to be a bigger part of the good things that YA does. I hope to have contact with lots of YA members and seminar participants as the summer moves along; please share your ideas for improving YA's education work with me.

Pete Devine
(pdevine@yosemite.org)

Dam! YA's 30th Annual Member's Meeting is Here!

John Warfield Simpson, author of the recently released book, *Dam! Water, Power, Politics, and Preservation in Hetch Hetchy and Yosemite National Park*, will speak at YA's thirtieth annual fall members' meeting on Saturday, September 10, 2005, at Tuolumne Lodge. *Dam!* is a vivid account of America's first environmental cause célèbre, which illuminates our attitudes toward fundamental questions of growth, development, and our place in nature. The building of the O'Shaughnessy Dam and Hetch Hetchy Reservoir in the middle of Yosemite National Park—despite the availability of less expensive, less technically challenging, and less politically complicated possibilities—set off a defining controversy in American environmentalism.

A professor at Ohio State University, Simpson holds degrees in landscape architecture and environmental studies. He has consulted on environmental planning and design for the Tennessee Valley Authority and various state and federal agencies. An accomplished backpacker, he has hiked the Grand Canyon of the Tuolumne and has enjoyed many trips to Yosemite and the Sierra Nevada over the years. In addition to the ambitious *Dam!* book, Simpson is the author of *Yearning for the Land: A Search for Homeland in Scotland and America*, and *Visions of Paradise: Glimpses of Our Landscape's Legacy*, as well as numerous articles. Copies of these books will be

available for sale at the members' meeting; Simpson will sign books during day's wine and cheese reception.

As an added treat, attendees will also hear from concept designer Garrett Burke and his family when they speak about "From Sketchbook to Selection: Imagining a California State Quarter." In addition to designing the association's favorite quarter, Burke has contributed to America's entertainment mythology by designing art and materials for many well-known movies, including *Star Wars*, *Star Trek*, *James Bond*, *Harry Potter*, *Spider-Man*, and *Lemony Snicket*. YA's Commemorative Edition of the 2005 California State Quarter will be available for sale and Burke's autograph at the members' meeting.

Information about the meeting and Tuolumne Lodge tent cabin lottery was mailed to all members in early July. In addition to our keynote speakers, the event will feature an address by park superintendent Mike Tollefson, naturalist walks, lunch beside the Tuolumne River, a wine and cheese reception, book and commemorative quarter packet signings, and our ever-popular fundraising raffle and auction. There is always a greater demand for tent cabin lodging than is available for this event. Other lodging and camping is available inside and outside the park. For alternate rooming suggestions and other questions, please call the Membership Department at (209) 379-2317. We hope you'll join us for our thirtieth!



PHOTO COURTESY OF KEVIN FITZSIMMONS.

Author John Warfield Simpson to speak at annual members' meeting.

Meet the Author!

John W. Simpson will be an honored guest at a special reception on Friday evening at the historic Parsons Lodge for our Benefactor, Patron, and Sustaining members, as well as for those who have donated \$250 or more to YA in the last year. A separate invitation will be mailed to those who qualify for this event. If you would like to attend, there is still time to make a donation or upgrade your membership!

May We Share Your Address with Other Nonprofits?

Occasionally we have the opportunity to trade our mailing list with other nonprofit organizations, so that both entities may increase our membership rosters and enhance our ability to support our respective parks or institutions. List trades are invaluable to nonprofits because they introduce us to new potential members while helping us minimize our operational costs.

Although we have rarely capitalized on such opportunities, we would like to be able to do so in the future when we know the other organizations to be reputable and to have something of value to offer to our members. If you would prefer not to have us share your name and address, please notify the Membership department by calling us Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at 209-379-2317, by sending an e-mail to info@yosemite.org, or by mailing a note to us at P.O. Box 230, El Portal, CA 95318. All "do not share" requests will be acknowledged and will be honored in perpetuity. Note that telephone numbers and e-mail addresses are not released or traded for any reason.

Member Info Line 209/379-2317

If you're planning a trip to Yosemite and have questions, give our phone line a call between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. We don't make reservations, but we can give appropriate phone numbers and usually lots of helpful advice.

Gallery Exhibit Features Art From Permanent Collection

REPRESENTATIONS FROM MID-NINETEENTH TO LATE TWENTIETH CENTURIES ON DISPLAY

This summer the Yosemite museum gallery is displaying twenty-five pieces from its permanent collection, ranging from some of the earliest-known representations of the park to paintings completed in the late twentieth century. Thomas Ayres' 1855 drawing "The High Falls" is included, as are early pieces by George Burgess, James Smillie, Elvira Hutchings, Edwin Deakin, Constance Gordon-Cumming, and William Keith.

Perhaps the best-known piece in the exhibit is Albert Bierstadt's night scene in Yosemite, dated 1864. He completed this painting in New York after his first Yosemite visit in 1863. It has recently been conserved and reframed through the generosity of the Yosemite Fund.

Twentieth-century works of note on display include a winter scene by Gunnar Widfors and a large painting of the Jeffrey Pine on Sentinel Dome by Chiura Obata. Pieces by Jane Culp, Marcia Burt, Richard Lopez, and Richard Richards, past participants in Yosemite's Artist-in-Residence program, are also included in the exhibit.

The gallery is staffed by Yosemite Association volunteers, and is open daily through September 30, 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m. The museum gallery is located inside the Yosemite Museum building, next door to the Valley Visitor Center in Yosemite Village.



IMAGE COURTESY OF YOSEMITE MUSEUM.

This Yosemite Falls painting has been exhibited for years with little information on the artist. Through the assistance of the Nevada State Library, we have recently learned his complete name was Thomas F. Laycock. He was born in England, fought in the Civil War, and later settled in Reno, Nevada where he made his living as a sign painter.

Casares and Weber Elected to New Board Terms

In the annual Yosemite Association board election, Nené Casares of Fresno was elected to replace outgoing trustee Gerald Barton, while incumbent Phyllis Weber of El Portal was picked to serve another term. Both newcomer Casares and veteran Weber (who has served on the board since 1980) will fill positions with three-year terms. The election was held without balloting as there were no nominations by petition received from the membership.



Phyllis Weber (shown at left) serves as principal at both the El Portal Elementary School and the Yosemite Park High School,

a continuation school in El Portal. She has been a local resident for some thirty years, during which time she has worked as a Yosemite Institute instructor, an elementary school teacher, and most recently as a school administrator. She has involved herself with YA's Publications & Educational Programs Committee, and has stayed active in many aspects of our organization's work.

Gabriella "Nené" Casares (shown at right) is employed by the *Fresno Bee*, where she handles all special events for the newspaper. A native of Mexico City, she moved to California when she was 17 and stayed. Early in her career she accepted a position with the *Bee*, and she still works for the same company 36 years later. She is very involved in local affairs in Fresno, particularly with the Hispanic community. We welcome Nené to our organization knowing that she

brings a unique perspective and years of valuable experience to share with us.

The Yosemite Association extends its appreciation to Jerry Barton and his wife Janet for their participation in our work and their support of our efforts. A walnut farmer in Ripon, Mr. Barton brought his knack for finances to the board and was instrumental in helping us avert a fiscal disaster during his tenure. He helped author a financial plan that brought new life to our organization and put us back on a path to success in our various programs. We wish the Bartons all good luck in their future endeavors. Thanks again for your exemplary service.



Meet the 2005 Cooperative Student Interns

The Yosemite Association, in cooperation with the University of California at Merced and the National Park Service, are sponsoring six college students to be trained as environmental educators and stewards, and to assist rangers in the field this summer. Hoping to better serve the diverse population of the Central Valley of California, the park and the university have worked together to build outreach programs specifically targeting outstanding minority students. UC Merced will welcome its first undergraduate students to campus in the fall of 2005.

The interns live in housing supplied by the park and maintained by YA. They receive a small stipend, uniforms, books, and (upon successful completion) a \$2,000 scholarship, all provided by YA through the generous support of corporations, foundations, and individuals. This year's interns are:

Matthew Adams: From Merced, Matthew speaks English, Spanish, and Japanese. He is an environmental science major at Merced College and will be transferring to UC Merced. A hiker and climber, he is interested in geology, geography, and the history of California. He is interning with the Wilderness Protection division, making contact with visitors at Lake Eleanor.

Francisco Andaluz: Born in Mexico, he came to the U.S. as a very young child, has grown up in Kingsburg, and has four younger sisters. He first experienced Yosemite through WildLink. He speaks Spanish and English. Francisco is working in the wilderness office in Yosemite Valley providing visitor information,

issuing backcountry camping permits, and helping wilderness staff with a variety of projects. He will major in history at UC Merced, and intends to go its World Cultures Institute.

Dalinna Cha: From Atwater, she is the youngest of six children. Her grandparents and parents lived in the mountains of Laos, so she thinks that her love of the Sierra may be genetic! She is living and working in Wawona, assisting visitors in the information station and in the Mariposa Grove. She will be doing her campground program on "Big Cats of Yosemite." You can read more about Dalinna in this issue's Park Profile on page 6.

Katlyn Grubb: Born in Turlock, she has lived there her whole life. She is the second youngest of seven children. She first experienced Yosemite as a WildLink expedition member. She loves being able to educate visitors about the park and its resources, to "waking up every day to *this is where I live*—I'm truly one of the lucky ones!" She is leading walks in the Mariposa Grove and working in Wawona's visitor information station. Her campground programs will be about creatures of the night, especially bats and great gray owls. Katie will continue classes at Modesto Junior College, and plans to transfer to UC Merced within the year where she will major in recreational land management.

William Irvine: From Modesto, William speaks Spanish and English, and loves nature. This summer he is interning with the Wilderness Protection division and is making contact with visitors



Wawona 2005 Cooperative Student Interns Katlyn Grubb (left), Carla Saldana (center), and Dalinna Cha (right).

at Lake Eleanor. A psychology major, he will be transferring to UC Merced from Merced College.

Carla Saldana: From Atwater, she is the fourth of five children. She is a graduate of the Yosemite/UC Merced Environmental Science Academy. She appreciates being an intern in Yosemite because she truly loves nature and enjoys working with people from all around the world. She speaks Spanish and English and understands Japanese. She is leading walks in the Mariposa Grove, working at Wawona's visitor information station, and preparing to give campground programs about bears. In the fall, Carla will begin her college career at CSU Stanislaus, and plans to transfer to UC Merced in the fall of 2006 where she will major in psychology.



Wilderness Intern Francisco Andaluz.

YA is deeply grateful to the Morgan Family Foundation for their \$35,000 challenge grant in support of this program, and to the following donors who are helping meet that challenge: the Anonymous Fund, the Fairweather Foundation, First Republic Bank, Christy & Chuck Holloway, Susan & Joel Hyatt, the employees of Morgan Stanley and Company, Inc., Lennie & Mike Roberts, and Scott & Jennifer Ross. If you are interested in making a tax-deductible contribution to help this important educational program expand, donations will be gratefully accepted. It takes only \$3,000 to sponsor one student intern/ranger for the summer!



ASSOCIATION DATES

Legend:
OA = Outdoor Adventure
YFJS = Yosemite Field Journal Series
YAC = Yosemite Art Center

AUG.

August: Summer 2005 issue of the members' journal *Yosemite* to be mailed this month

August 14-20: Lyell Canyon Backcountry Restoration Work Week

August 15-20: YAC: Free art lessons with Anne Thiermann

August 18-21: OA #28: Family Camping Jamboree

August 19-21: OA #35: Marvelous Mt. Conness

August 22-26: OA #7: Yosemite with an Artist's Eye: Quick Sketching in Watercolor

August 22-27: YAC: Free art lessons with Frank Poulsen

August 25-28: OA #50: High Country Day Hikes

August 26-28: May Lake High Sierra Camp Restoration Weekend

August 27: OA #51: I Made It to the Top: Half Dome Hike

August 28: OA #52: North Dome & the Natural Arch

August 29-September 3: YAC: Free art lessons with Pam Pedersen

SEPT.

September 2-5: Vogelsang High Sierra Camp Restoration Weekend

September 3: OA #53: Atop the Cathedral Range: Johnson Peak

September 4: OA #20: Fall Birding in Tuolumne Meadows

September 5: YA Administrative Office closed for Labor Day holiday

September 5-10: YAC: Free art lessons with Osamu Saito

September 8-11: OA #21: Hikes & Hawks: Yosemite Highcountry

September 9-11: OA #54: Ice, Wind, & Fire: Hiking Yosemite's Landscapes

September 9-11: Glen Aulin High Sierra Camp Restoration Weekend

September 9: Reception with John W. Simpson for member donors of \$250 or more

September 10: 30th Annual Members' Meeting, Tuolumne Meadows

September 11: Happy Isles Nature Center closes for the season

September 12-17: YAC: Free art lessons with James Grimes

September 19-24: YAC: Free art lessons with Dick Keyes

September 23-25: OA #55: Three Great Lakes

September 26 - October 1: YAC: Free art lessons with Donna Naes

Sept. 29-Oct. 2: OA #8: Drawing & Pastel Painting in Yosemite

September 30: Last day to view art from permanent collection on display at Yosemite Museum Gallery

September 30-October 2: OA #57: Open Willow Work Basket Making

Late September: Tuolumne Visitor Center & Bookstore closes for the season (tentative)

OCT.

October 1: Reception and Dinner on Ahwahnee Meadow for member donors of \$1,000 or more

October 2-8: Valley Fall Projects Work Week (Yosemite Valley)

October 15-16: OA #13: YFJS 5: Autumn Botanicals

Mid-October: Wawona Information Station & Bookstore, Mariposa Grove Museum store, and Tuolumne Wilderness

Center & Bookstore close for the season (tentative)

October 27-30: OA #73: Autumn Light: Photography in Yosemite Valley & Beyond

October 28-30: OA #85: Yosemite Botanical Symposium

Late October: Yosemite Valley Wilderness Center & Bookstore closes for the season (tentative)

NOV.

November: Fall 2005 issue of the members' journal *Yosemite* and 2006 Yosemite Outdoor Adventures catalog to be mailed this month

November 4-6: OA #74: Focusing on Nature: Autumn Photography in Yosemite

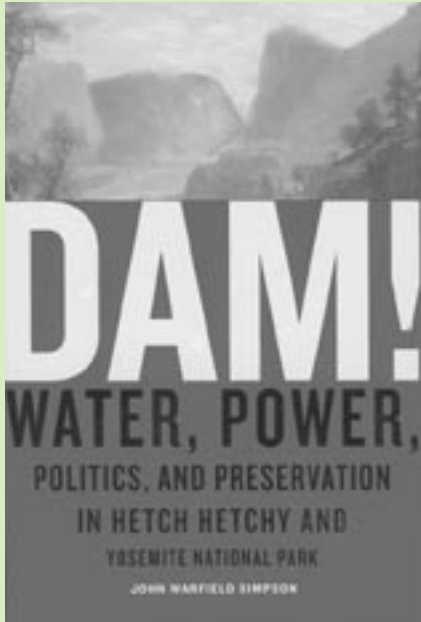
Mid-November: Big Oak Flat Information Station & Bookstore closes for the season (tentative)

November 24-25: YA Administrative Office closed for Thanksgiving holiday

DEC.

December 23: YA Administrative Office closed for Christmas holiday (tentative)

For an expanded events calendar, visit: www.yosemite.org/member/calendar.htm.



Dam! Water, Power, Politics, and Preservation in Hetch Hetchy and Yosemite National Park

by John Warfield Simpson.

This is a vivid account of America's first environmental cause célèbre, which illuminates our attitudes toward fundamental questions of growth, development, and our place in nature. The building of the O'Shaughnessy Dam and Hetch Hetchy Reservoir in the middle of Yosemite National Park—despite the availability of less expensive, less technically challenging, and less politically complicated possibilities—set off a defining controversy in American environmentalism.

The author (who will speak at Y.A.'s annual members' meeting in Tuolumne Meadows) also takes the reader through the building of the enormous dam and the extensive tunnels and aqueducts that carry water to the Bay Area. He recounts conversations with an array of people currently involved in the ongoing controversy over whether to manage, refurbish, repair, and enlarge the system, or to tear down the dam and restore the valley to its prior splendor.

Simpson concludes with a reflection on what all of this reveals about American attitudes toward growth, development, and environmental stewardship. The book is 358 pages long, 6 by 9.25 inches in size, and casebound with a dust jacket. Copyright 2005, Pantheon Books. \$28.50; **members price \$24.23**

The Battle Over Hetch Hetchy—America's Most Controversial Dam and the Birth of Modern Environmentalism

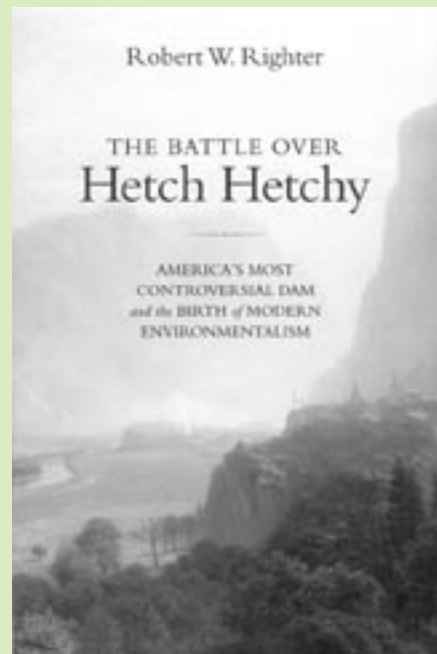
by Robert W. Righter.

In the wake of the devastating 1906 earthquake and fire, the city of San Francisco desperately needed reliable supplies of water and electricity. Its mayor, James Phelan, pressed for the damming of the Tuolumne River in the newly created Yosemite National Park, setting off a firestorm of protest.

For the first time in American history, a significant national opposition arose to defend and preserve nature, led by John Muir and the Sierra Club, who sought to protect what they believed was the right of all Americans to experience natural beauty, particularly the magnificent mountains of the Yosemite region.

The fight went to the floor of Congress, where politicians debated the value of scenery and the costs of western development. Ultimately, passage of the Raker Act in 1913 by Congress granted San Francisco the right to flood the Hetch Hetchy Valley. To this day the reservoir provides San Francisco with a pure and reliable source of drinking water and an important source of power. Although the Sierra Club lost this battle, the controversy stirred the public into action on behalf of national parks.

Future debates over dams and restoration clearly demonstrated the burgeoning strength of grassroots environmentalism. In a narrative peopled by politicians and business leaders, engineers and laborers, preservationists and ordinary citizens, Robert W. Righter tells the epic story of the first major environmental battle of the twentieth century, which reverberates to this day. The book is 304 pages, 6 inches x 9 inches, illustrated in black and white, and casebound with a dust jacket. It is copyright 2005 by Oxford University Press. \$30; **members price \$25.50**



To see an expanded list of the products we offer for sale, visit the full-featured, secure **Yosemite Store** on the internet at: <http://yosemitestore.com>

Shattered Air—A True Account of Catastrophe and Courage on Yosemite's Half Dome

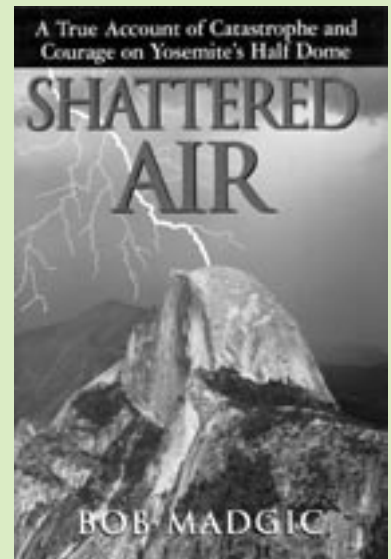
by Bob Madgic.

On the evening of July 27, 1985, five hikers made a fateful choice to climb Yosemite's fabled Half Dome even as the sky darkened and thunder rolled. By night's end, two would be dead from a lightning strike, three gravely wounded, and desperate EMTs would be overseeing a harrowing midnight helicopter rescue.

This is a haunting account of recklessness, tragedy, courage, and rescue—a book whose depiction of Nature's power is tempered by unforgettable portraits of human courage and the will to survive.

"This is a shattering read of terrifying encounters with an elemental and unpredictable force of Nature," noted Royal Robbins. "This informed, tightly wired, sometimes terrifying account describing the intersection of natural law and human imperfection is not only a gripping documentary but also a story that might save your life," added Tim Palmer

The book is 264 pages long, 6 inches by 9 inches in size, illustrated in black and white, and casebound with a dust jacket. It is copyright 2005 by Burford Books. \$24.95; **members price \$21.21**



Tending the Wild—Native American Knowledge and the Management of California's Natural Resources

by M. Kat Anderson.

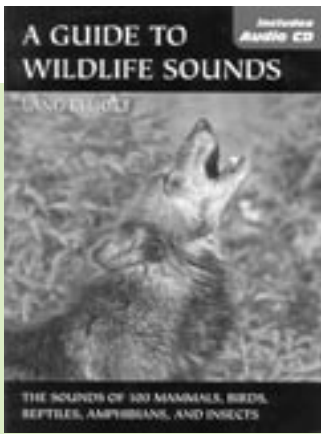
John Muir was an early proponent of a view we still hold today that much of California was pristine, untouched wilderness before the arrival of Europeans. But as this groundbreaking book demonstrates, what Muir was really seeing when he admired the grand vistas of Yosemite and the gold and purple flowers carpeting the Central Valley were the fertile gardens of the Sierra Miwok and Valley Yokuts Indians, modified and made productive by centuries of harvesting, tilling, sowing, pruning, and burning.

Marvelously detailed and beautifully written, this is an unparalleled examination of Native American knowledge

and uses of California's natural resources that reshapes our understanding of native cultures and shows how we might begin to use their knowledge in our own conservation efforts.

The complex picture that emerges from this and other historical source material dispels the hunter-gatherer stereotype long perpetuated in anthropological and historical literature; we come to see California's indigenous people as active agents of environmental change and stewardship.

The book is 528 pages long, 6 by 9 inches, illustrated in black and white, and casebound with a dust jacket. It is copyright 2005 by University of California Press. \$39.95; **member price \$33.96**



A Guide to Wildlife Sounds—The Sounds of 100 Mammals, Birds, Reptiles, Amphibians, and Insects

by Lang Elliott (includes Audio CD).

From the howl of the timber wolf to the chatter of cicadas, the natural world is alive with sound. In this newest audio guide from Lang Elliott and NatureSound Studio, the songs, calls, buzzes, rattles, and other sounds of one hundred species are brought together to form a vivid aural portrait of animal life east of the Great Plains.

Lavishly illustrated with full-color photographs, it's quite simply a must-have for nature lovers. Includes an hour-long audio compact disc, full-color photographs for each species, and information on range, habitat,

and behavior. The book is 106 pages long and includes an audio CD, is 6 by 8 inches and illustrated in full color, and bound as a paperback. It is copyright 2005 by Stackpole Books. \$24.95; **members price \$21.21**

Introduction to California Birdlife

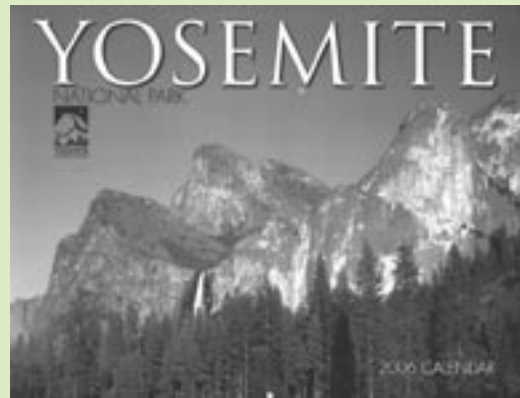
by Jules Evens and Ian Tait.

In almost every location and every season, California is a birdwatchers' paradise. One can search Sierra meadows for a Great Gray Owl, the autumn estuary for a Black-bellied Plover, or spring willow thickets for the effervescent song of the Yellow Warbler. Closer to home, backyards, neighborhood parks, and cities abound with many of the state's 600-plus bird species.

This beautifully illustrated book, the first based on the relationship between birds and their habitats, is the definitive introduction to California's varied birds and the lives they lead.

The guide describes the representative birds in California's seven major bioregions: ocean, seashore, coastal ranges, Central Valley, mountains and foothills, Great Basin, and deserts.

The perfect book for beginning and intermediate naturalists, and in-depth enough for experienced naturalists who would like to learn more about the habitat affinities, ecological niches, and seasonal cycles of California birds, it includes 150 color photographs, a list of all California's known bird species, and a glossary of birding terms. It is 384 pages, 4.5 by 7.25 inches, illustrated in color, and paper bound with a washable cover. It is copyright 2005 by the University of California Press. \$16.95; **members price \$14.41**



Yosemite National Park 2006 Calendar

by Tide-Mark Press.

This annual photographic wall calendar is as beautiful as ever for 2006! It features a variety of subjects, from lofty granite domes to snow-laden forests, and from sparkling waterfalls to granitic alpine expanses. Work is included by such renowned photographers as Galen Rowell, Dennis Flaherty, Tim Fitzharris, Tom Algire, and Douglas Steakley.

From icons in Yosemite Valley to high country landscapes and peaks, their images capture the spirit of awe John Muir felt so strongly when he made the park his home. Each month is laid out with thumbnails of the previous and following months, and is annotated with important dates and phases of the the month.

The 14-inch-by-11-inch calendar unfolds to 14 by 22 inches, and is printed in full color. Copyright 2005 by Tide-Mark. \$12.95; **members price \$11.01**

SPECIAL \$5 SALE!

Order early – quantities are limited!



Direct from Nature: the Oil Sketches of Thomas Hill

by Janis T. Driesbach, with an essay by William H. Gerdt.

This is the first book to draw attention to the remarkable oil sketches of famed landscape artist Thomas Hill. These smaller pieces, painted in the field directly from nature, represent some of Hill's finest work. Driesbach's essay details Hill's production of the sketches while providing much valuable information about his life. Gerdt writes about the role that oil sketches played in nineteenth-century American painting. The essays are illustrated with over 90 reproductions (most in full color) of work by Hill and other landscape artists. The book is 128 pages, 9 by 10.75 inches, and paperback. It is copyright 1997 by the

Yosemite Association and the Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento, CA. Normally retails for \$19.95. **Special Price: \$5** (no member discount).

**Yosemite Association
80th Anniversary Enamel Pin**

by William Spear Design

This beautiful "cloisonné-style" enamel pin was developed to celebrate the association's 80th anniversary. With its rich primary colors and gold lettering and highlights, the pin is a real eyecatcher. The pin was developed for us by William Spear from the award-winning logo created by Michael Osborne Design. Made of heavy enamel, it is 1 inch wide and 1.375 inches tall. Normally retails for \$12.95. **Special Price: \$5** (no member discount).



**Such a Landscape!
A Narrative of the 1864 California Geological Survey Exploration of Yosemite, Sequoia & Kings Canyon from the Diary, Fieldnotes, Letters & Reports of William Henry Brewer.**

Introduction, notes, and photographs by William Alsup.

Brewer's notes, many previously unpublished, are tied together with Alsup's own careful observations made over a dozen years as he retraced and photographed the 1864 survey party's route through the central Sierra Nevada. An important addition to any Yosemite lover's library, this award-winning book also features forty of Alsup's remarkable large format black-and-white photographs, elegantly reproduced by the duotone process. The book is 120 pages, 10 by 11.25 inches, illustrated with black-and-white photographs and maps, and paperback. It is copyright 1999 by the Yosemite Association.

Normally retails for \$29.95.

Special Price: \$5 (no member discount).



**Yosemite Association
80th Anniversary
Water Bottle**

by Nalgene.

This highly functional wide-mouth Nalgene bottle made of super-tough lexan polycarbonate features YA's award-winning 80th anniversary logo printed in white on a brightly colored bottle with an attached white cap. The bottle is virtually leak-proof, won't conduct heat or cold, and doesn't affect the taste of water or other liquids. Besides the YA logo, the bottle features permanent gradation marks to make measuring powdered foods and drinks easy. A bottle weighs 5.3 ounces including cap, and comes in meadow green, glacier blue, or violet. Normally retails for \$9.95. **Special Price: \$5** (no member discount). Be sure to specify bottle color when ordering.



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NEW MEMBERS AND RECENT DONATIONS

ENROLLMENTS AND GIFTS RECEIVED BETWEEN MARCH 31 AND JULY 5, 2005

NEW AND REJOINING MEMBERS

Welcome to our new and rejoining members! You've connected with more than 10,000 like-minded individuals, families, and businesses helping the association make Yosemite an even better place.

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Besides publishing and selling books, maps, and other materials, YA operates an outdoor adventure program, the Yosemite Art Center, the bear canister rental program, and the Wilderness Permit Reservation system. Revenues generated by these activities fund a variety of National Park Service programs in Yosemite.

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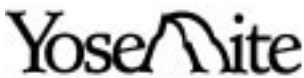
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