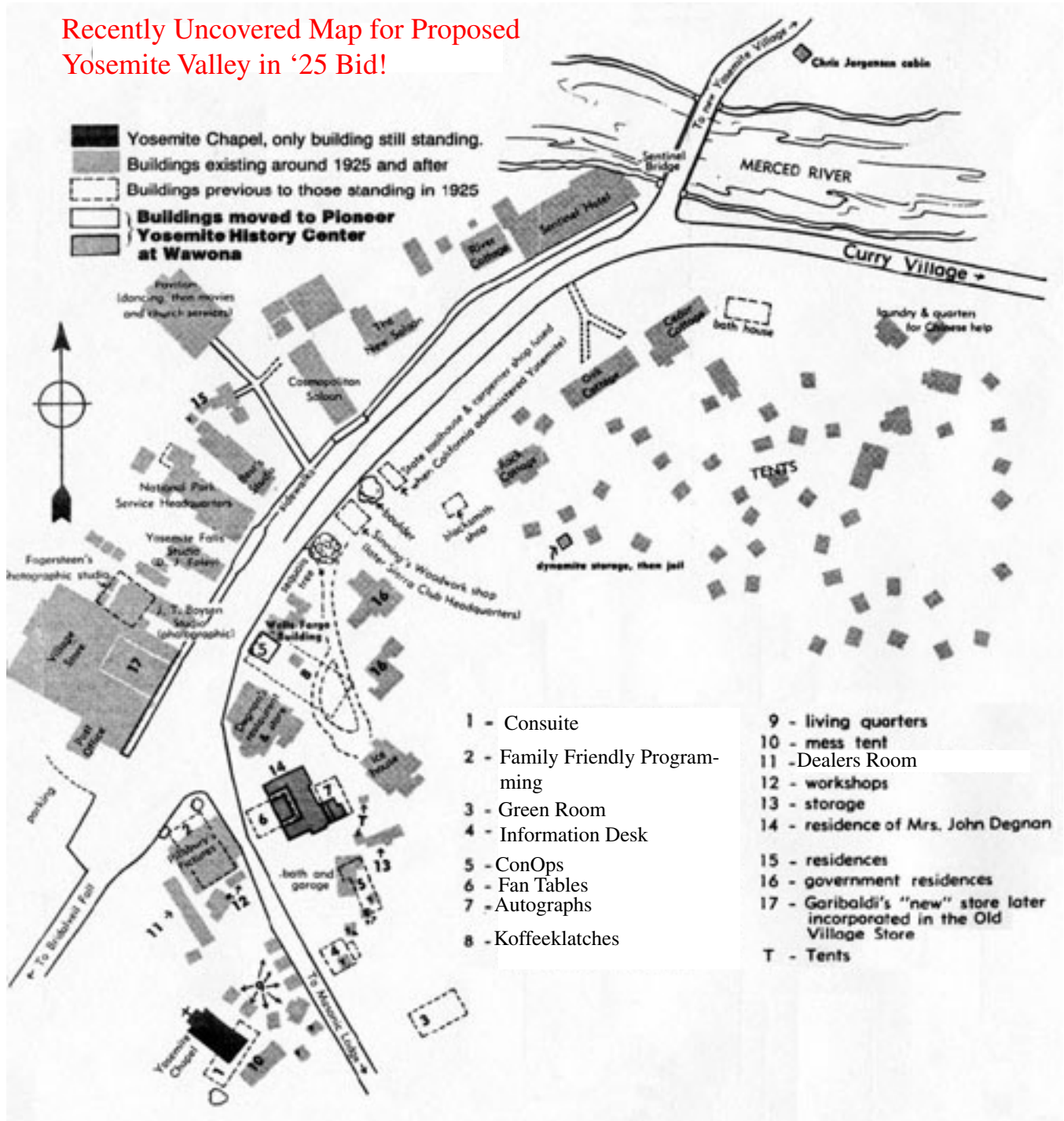


HALF DOME HAPPENINGS!

Recently Uncovered Map for Proposed Yosemite Valley in '25 Bid!



**A REGRESS REPORT FOR AHWAHNEECON
A BID FOR THE 2009 WESTERCON!!!**

The AhwahneeCon Committee Has Exciting News

We recently received a note from Dana Perkins, an employee of The National Park Service who has lived in Yosemite off and on for the last decade. The note mentioned that she thought the idea of bringing WesterCon to Yosemite was brilliant, but the Ahwahnee Hotel was a place, as she put it, for Posers. The committee took her recommendations to heart and we are now proud to announce that we have relocated our bid...to Camp 4!!!

Camp 4, formerly called Sunnyside Walk-in Camp on the Yosemite maps, has been the camp of choice of rock climbers coming to Yosemite for decades. It's so important to the history of climbing and Yosemite that it's been designated a World Culture and Heritage site! That's a big deal, yo!

The camp has ample park, lots of spots for attendees to stay, it's cheap, and there's Columbia Rock for the kids to play on! It's perfect for AhwahneeCon's planned mix of High Sierra Joy with down home grittiness! Plus, with all those climbers around, the attendees won't be the weirdest people in the area!



This raccoon is as surprised as you are that we're moving our convention to his preferred begging grounds. But fear not, noble disease-ridden nocturnal mammal, you'll be well-loved. Many of the good people of fandom love your little furry ways, the intelligent look in your eyes, the way you open garbage cans and scatter refuse all across the lawn. You'll be the center of attention, no question.

And here's what else: you'll be the mascot for the Party Floor! That's right, we'll make you famous with all of us who spend our evenings livin' like fannish rock stars*. There are big plans for our Raccoon friends, and you have to admit that we'll almost certainly treat you better than those patchulistank, granola munchin', tree hugging, dirt munching hippies who come to climb El Capitan. And we'll almost certainly have better goodies lyin' around for you to munch.

*You might wanna steer clear of Mara's Bar. Just a suggestion!





Recreation of Earliest Known Hall Costumer in Yosemite Valley

Let us remember that once we win the right to host AhwahneeCon, we're only borrowing Yosemite Valley from those who came before us. The noble Ahwahneechee tribe that inhabited the Valley for centuries before the arrival of fan. The strange thing is, the Ahwahneechee were hella fannish themselves, as evidenced by these two photos.



Weavers making the Official AhwahneeCon T-Shirts!

A recent investigation by the AhwahneeCon bidcomm makes light of this: There were only 109 days of 90+ degrees weather in Yosemite Valley over the last 3 years. That's a pretty significant number of 90+ days, mostly in July and August, but it's not 100+, though there have been a few of those mixed in (most notably August of 2006). It rarely gets much into those three number Hells.

Let's take a sample from a city at random. Let's say...oh, I don't know...Phoenix. They average over 100 degrees three months of the year and have had temps over 100 as late in the year as October and as early as March!

There's more about this completely randomly chosen city. They average 89 days a year over 100! They also have more days over 110 than Las Vegas.

In a strange coincidence, on July 4th, 1989, Phoenix recorded a temp of 118. Weirdly, that's the traditional weekend for WesterCon, which happens to be the convention we're bidding for. I wonder if the other city can be nearly certain that the temp won't reach egg-frying proportions?





This is a recreation of the classic annual Ahwahneechee convention: TenayaCon, circa 1875

The Society for the Restoration of Half Dome has completed its feasibility study into its original plan. Sadly, the results stated that the idea of using granite from Kitchen Supply stores doesn't seem to be workable.

But all is not lost as a new plan has emerged! While studying methods for restoring old computers, as is often done at the Computer History Museum, the team discovered that each change to the original must be reversible in some way, and thus should be noticeable. So, the SfRoHD has come up with this new plan.

First- shellac the sumbitch

Second- apply a layer of granite-patterned contact paper.

Third- repeat step two

Fourth- buy pitchforks and torches to repel environmentalists and geo-freaks!



Society Scientist Dirk LeGrande studying backside conditions...