

Yosemite

For more than 3,000 years Ahwahnechee were living in Yosemite Valley. The gold rush in the mid-nineteenth century brought many non-native people to the area. Many of the indigenous were pressed into work in the mines. This, and cultural differences, ignited many conflicts between the groups. These tensions escalated into armed conflict which became the Mariposa War of 1850 through 1851. There were accounts written about the battles which popularized Yosemite Valley. In 1864 the park was transferred to state control. Improvements to the park were completed during the rest of the century. The naturalist John Muir became involved in the protection and preservation of the park. His efforts, as well as others, helped establish the Yosemite National Park in 1906. In 1964, 89 percent of the park was set aside in a highly protected wilderness area. Other protected areas were added adjacent to the park. The once-famous Yosemite Firefall, created by pushing red hot embers off a cliff near Glacier Point at night, was discontinued in the mid-to-late 20th century along with other activities that were deemed to be inconsistent with preservation.



This is the upper lake of Twin Lakes. This picturesque lake is very popular for camping and fishing. It is on the eastern slope of the Sierras.



This is Ellery Lake which is the first of four lakes on highway 120 from the eastern slopes of the Sierras to Yosemite. I drove this highway on the first day that it was open for the summer season. It is a very beautiful drive!



The spring brings melting snow which brings to life many wonderful waterfalls, both small and large. This one was right next to highway 120.



A beautiful meadow in Yosemite Valley.



Upper Yosemite Falls reflected in the creek.



This is El Capitan. Its granite face is 3,000 feet high and is one of the more recognizable places in the park. It was named by the Mariposa Battalion in 1851 and is a favorite for rock climbers.



The Merced River near the brim with spring runoff. This river carved much of the valley over the centuries.



This is a small lake near Cook's Meadow on the Yosemite floor.



Beautiful Nevada Falls with half dome in the background. The water falls 594 feet.



Three brothers which was formed from El Capitan.



This is upper Yosemite Falls taken from the trail.



This is half dome with Yosemite Valley on the left. I took this picture from Glacier Point.



This is a shot of Yosemite Valley from the Tunnel, with Bridal Veil Falls in the distance.

Here are two shots where I was attempting to emulate Ansell Adams.



Thanks for viewing my pictures. Feel free to forward any comments.