Muir Woods National Monument Historic District
Muir Woods National Monument
CULTURAL LANDSCAPES INVENTORY (CLI)
2007

Muir Woods National Monument Historic District
Golden Gate National Recreation Area

Golden Gate National Recreation Area concurs with the findings of the CLI, including the management category and condition assessment as identified below:

MANAGEMENT CATEGORY: A: Must be preserved and maintained

CONDITION ASSESSMENT: Good

Superintendent, Golden Gate National Recreation Area 9-19-09

Please return to:

John Hammond
Historical Landscape Architect
National Park Service
Pacific West Regional Office-Oakland
1111 Jackson St. Suite 700
Oakland, CA, 94607

EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA
The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.
United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See Instructions in back to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "X" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" or "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-800a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Muir Woods National Monument

other names/site number Muir Woods National Monument Historic District

2. Location

street & number Muir Woods Road

city or town Mill Valley

state California code CA county Marin code 041
zip code 94941-2696

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 80. In my opinion, the property meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant [ ] nationally statewide [ ] locally. ( [ ] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date 13 JUL 2007

California Office of Historic Preservation
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property [ ] meets [ ] does not meet the National Register criteria. ( [ ] See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is: ( [ ] entered in the National Register

[ ] See continuation sheet.

[ ] determined eligible for the National Register

[ ] See continuation sheet.

[ ] determined not eligible for the National Register

[ ] removed from the National Register

[ ] other (explain):

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action
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INVENTORY UNIT SUMMARY AND SITE PLAN

Inventory Unit

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Landscape Description:

Muir Woods National Monument was established by President Theodore Roosevelt on January 8, 1908 through Proclamation 793 (35 Stat. 2174), the tenth National Monument designated under the Antiquities Act of 1906. The monument, established through a gift of private land by William Kent and Elizabeth Thacher Kent, preserves the heart of a rare surviving old-growth redwood forest in Marin County, California, a short distance north from the City of San Francisco. In 1917, administration of Muir Woods was transferred within the Department of Interior from the General Lands Office to the newly created National Park Service. In 1921, based on additional gifts of land by the Kents, Muir Woods National Monument was expanded under the Antiquities Act through Proclamation 1608 (42 Stat. 2249) and again in 1935 through Proclamation 2122 (49 Stat. 3443) (see district sketch map). Further expansions were made, primarily to provide buffer and administrative support areas in 1951 (Proclamation 2932, 65 Stat. C20) and 1959 (Proclamation 3311, 72 Stat. C76). Another parcel was legislatively added to the Muir Woods National Monument park unit for administrative support purposes in 1972, but was not given National Monument status. Muir Woods National Monument is today administered as part of Golden Gate National Recreation Area, and is a popular tourist attraction in the San Francisco Bay Area, attracting annual visitation of more than 750,000.

The 427-acre nominated property includes the original monument parcel and lands added in 1921 and 1935. This historic landscape embraces the heart of the old-growth redwood forest and the cultural core of the monument that extends along the canyon floor. This core, following the main trail and Redwood Creek, includes the largest trees, groves, memorials, and visitor facilities. The nominated property includes all federally-owned parcels given National Monument designation through the end of the period of significance in 1947, including the original monument tract, and the Hamilton, Kent, Railway, and Entrance Tracts. Excluded from the nominated property are the 1951, 1959, and 1974 additions (Kent West Buffer, Kent Entrance, and Church Tracts, the state-leased parking lot parcel, and the Camino del Canyon Tract). Adjoining state-owned lands that historically functioned as extensions of the national monument are excluded from the nominated property. These lands include the Parking Lot Tract leased by the
National Park Service that is within the current National Monument boundary as expanded in 1951, and the former Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway Tract that is outside of the monument boundary.

The nominated property overall retains integrity to its period of significance that begins in 1907 and ends in 1947. Of the seven aspects of integrity, those most important to Muir Woods are location, setting, materials, feeling, and association. Primary resources include the redwood forest (a natural resource that has gained cultural significance) with its old-growth character and major spaces including Bohemian and Cathedral Groves; memorials associated with important individuals in the American conservation movement; a trail system reflecting the use and organization of the site dating back to the earliest years of the monument; and buildings, structures, and small-scale features dating prior to World War II that reflect a rustic aesthetic and conservation practices characteristic of National Park Service development during the first half of the twentieth century. Since the end of the period of significance, changes that have affected the historic integrity of the property include the removal of comfort stations dating from the 1920s and 1930s; alterations to the 1940 Administration-Concession Building; removal of log footbridges, signs, and benches built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC); deterioration of stone revetments along Redwood Creek; and realignment and surface changes to sections of trails. These changes have affected some details of the property, but not its overall character. Within the nominated property are thirty-five contributing resources and fourteen non-contributing resources. Associated landscape features (features not counted as resources) include minor non-historic footbridges, contemporary site furnishings (benches, signs, trash bins), boardwalks, and split-rail trail fencing. Overall, the landscape of the nominated property is in good condition.

Setting (Context)

Muir Woods National Monument is situated within Redwood Canyon, a deep, forested valley at the southern foot of Mount Tamalpais approximately eight miles north of the Golden Gate Bridge and two miles east of the Pacific Ocean. Muir Woods is located within an extensive conservation area extending across the western half of the Marin Peninsula, from the Golden Gate on the south to Point Reyes and beyond in the north. Within the vicinity of Muir Woods, this area is publicly managed at the local, state, and federal level primarily by three agencies: the Marin Municipal Water District, California State Parks (Mount Tamalpais State Park), and the National Park Service (Golden Gate National Recreation Area). Notable changes to the setting since the end of the period of significance in 1947 include the loss of agricultural grasslands to natural succession, and the expansion of suburban residential development along the ridge to the east, on the periphery of the City of Mill Valley. This development is generally not visible from within or immediately adjoining Muir Woods.

Muir Woods National Monument was historically a relatively isolated redwood forest with access by Muir Woods Road located just off its southern boundary and a network of hiking trails leading in from all sides. Muir Woods Road (also known as Muir Woods-
Frank Valley Road), a twisting, narrow two-lane asphalt-paved road, remains little changed from its historic appearance and still serves as the only vehicular entrance to the monument, connecting with Shore Highway (US Route 1) on the west and the Panoramic Highway and City of Mill Valley on the east. The network of hiking trails, leading toward the Pacific Ocean, Mill Valley, and the summits of Mount Tamalpais, also remains. This network includes the Tamalpais Conservation Club (TCC), Stapelveldt, Ocean View, Bootjack, Dipsea, and Fern Canyon Trails, which were built prior to 1947. During the historic period (1907-1947), the monument was also accessible via the Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway, which had the terminus of its Muir Woods Branch a short distance north of the monument. The railway discontinued service to Muir Woods in 1929 during the historic period.

Muir Woods National Monument was closely associated with adjoining lands that belonged to William Kent, the Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway Company, and Mount Tamalpais State Park. All surrounding property except the Camino del Canyon Tract (also known as Camp Monte Vista) was once owned by William Kent as part of his Redwood Canyon land he acquired in 1905, and adjoining ranchlands he acquired in subsequent years. With a few exceptions, there was little distinction historically between Muir Woods and these lands, which were tied together not only by a common ecosystem, but also by a network of trails and often were developed with a similar rustic aesthetic. Because of this historic association, the lands surrounding the nominated property are an especially important part of the historic setting of Muir Woods National Monument. (These lands have been excluded from the nominated property because they were not part of the National Monument designation during the period of significance, and also because they overall lack historic integrity).
CONCURRENCE STATUS

Completion Status:
Date Data Collected: 7/13/2007
Collected By: John Auwaerter
Data Entered: 9/7/2007
Entered By: Jason Biscombe

Explanatory Narrative:
The Muir Woods National Monument National Register nomination was completed by John Auwaerter. Data will be entered into the Cultural Landscapes Inventory database by Jason Biscombe in 2007. The California SHPO concurred on the National Register eligibility of the Historic District on July 13, 2007.
GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION AND LOCATION MAP

Inventory Unit Boundary Description

The boundary of the 427-acre nominated property forms an irregular polygon corresponding on all but the southwest side with the limits of Parcel 08 of Book 199, Page 03 of the current (2005) Assessor’s Map, County of Marin, California. The portion of Parcel 08 excluded from the nominated property is the Kent West Buffer Tract (42 acres). Parcel 08 is illustrated on the Muir Woods National Monument Historic District Boundary Map with the boundary of the nominated property indicated. (This map does not show all tax parcels constituting the existing Muir Woods administrative park unit.)

Boundary Justification

The boundary of the nominated property coincides with the National Monument boundary as it existed at the end of the period of significance in 1947. All land within this boundary today remains federally owned and under the administration of the National Park Service, as it was in 1947. The National Register boundary encompasses the original (1908) monument tract; the Kent, Railway, and Hamilton Tracts incorporated into the monument in 1921; and the Entrance Tract incorporated into the monument in 1935. The boundary encompasses the primary resources associated with the property’s significance in the areas of conservation and architecture: Redwood Canyon and the heart of the redwood forest along the canyon floor, including the two major spaces—Cathedral Grove and Bohemian Grove; the main trail and primary side trails (Hillside, Ocean View, Ben Johnson, and Plevin Cut Trails); monuments to Ralph Waldo Emerson, Gifford Pinchot, William Kent, and Franklin D. Roosevelt; the utility area with garages and former superintendent’s residence dating mostly to the CCC era; and the main visitor area centered at the Administration-Concession Building built in 1940.

The nominated property excludes four tracts to the west and south that are currently within the limits of the Muir Woods National Monument administrative unit of Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Of these, the following three tracts are part of the land presently having National Monument designation as part of Muir Woods National Monument: 1. The Kent West Buffer Tract (42 acres added in 1951), 2. The Kent Entrance Tract (eleven acres added in 1951); and 3. The Church Tract (six acres added 1958). These three tracts were excluded because they were added to the National Monument after the end of the period of significance for purposes other than preserving old-growth redwood forest: primarily as buffer and operational support lands. The fourth tract, Camino del Canyon (50 acres, acquired between 1974 and 1984), was incorporated into the Muir Woods National Monument administrative unit in 1972, but never given National Monument status. It does not contain redwood forest and is mostly unrelated to the conservation theme of the monument proper, having been developed for seasonal residences and youth camps.

The nominated property excludes two adjoining parcels that are part of Mount Tamalpais State Park but were historically closely associated with Muir Woods National Monument: 1. The state-owned National Park Service-leased Parking Lot Tract at the main vehicular (south)
entrance to Muir Woods; and 2. The former Mount Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway Tract at the former rail (north) entrance to Muir Woods. The Parking Lot Tract, although the first point of entry for most visitors today as well as historically, was excluded because it had not been designated part of the National Monument during the period of significance, and because it lacks historic integrity due to modern alterations and new additions. Despite these changes, the parking lot parcel remains an important part of the larger setting of the nominated property.

The former Mount Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway Tract was excluded from the nominated property because it had also not been designated part of the National Monument during the period of significance, and because it lacks historic integrity. While most of the railway structures (inn, cabins, tracks) had been removed during the period of significance, the parcel was redeveloped by the Civilian Conservation Corps as the Muir Woods (later Mount Tamalpais State Park) Camp beginning in 1933. The camp buildings were removed at or very shortly after the end of the period of significance and the site redeveloped as Camp Alice Eastwood. Despite these changes, there remain many traces of historic development by the railway and CCC on the parcel that may provide important information on the historic use and operation of Muir Woods National Monument. The parcel, which retains the historic system of roads and rail bed, also remains an important part of the setting of the nominated property.

In addition to the Parking Lot and former Mount Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway Tracts, there are three additional parcels and areas within Mount Tamalpais State Park that are part of the larger setting of the nominated property due to their proximity and inclusion of trails that extend into the nominated property. These include the Newlands-Magee Tract (532 acres), the Kent East Buffer Tract (34 acres), and the Kent Canyon area (former Brazil Ranch/Ranches X & Y).

**State and County**

Marin County, California
Location Maps

Muir Woods National Monument is located approximately 12 miles northwest of downtown San Francisco. (Google 2007)
Muir Woods National Monument Historic District Boundary Map

Boundary UTM

UTM Source: USGS Map 1:100,000
UTM Type: Area
UTM Datum: NAD 83
UTM Zone: 10

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MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

Inventory Unit

Indicate the category of management for the inventory unit based on its significance, use, condition, and location. Each category identified is representative of a compilation of legislative mandates, policy considerations, and planning. A management category is determined based on the findings of the CLI and the criteria for each category defined below. Select one from the following pick list:

Must be Preserved and Maintained (Category A): An inventory unit meeting any one of the following criteria: the preservation of the inventory unit is specifically legislated; the inventory unit is related to the park’s legislated significance; the inventory unit is nationally significant as defined by National Historic Landmark criteria or serves as the setting for a nationally significant structure or object; the inventory unit is less than nationally significant, but contributes to the park’s national significance; the inventory unit is prehistoric.

Should be Preserved and Maintained (Category B): An inventory unit meeting all of the following criteria (failure to meet any of the conditions moves it to Category C): the inventory unit meets National Register criteria; the inventory unit is compatible with the park’s legislated significance; the inventory unit has a continuing or potential purpose that is appropriate to its traditional use or function.

May be Preserved or Maintained (Category C): An inventory unit meeting one of the following criteria: the inventory unit meets the National Register criteria but because of condition or other factors does not qualify for Category B classification; there is currently insufficient information available to determine eligibility for the National Register but preliminary study indicates eligibility, or a landscape that has been determined ineligible but is managed as a cultural resource base through an NPS planning process.

May Be Released, Altered, or Destroyed (Category D): An inventory unit meeting one of the following criteria: the inventory unit is an irreparable hazard to public health and safety; has lost its historical integrity; the inventory unit is a physical or visual intrusion on the park’s legislated significance, as defined through the planning process; the inventory unit has been disposed of by planned action or destroyed by natural forces.

Management Category: A: Must be Preserved and Maintained.

Management Category Explanatory Narrative:
Muir Woods National Monument Historic District is nationally significant under National Register criterion A (NHL criterion 1), and thus must be preserved and maintained.

Adjacent Lands

Do Adjacent Lands Contribute? No

Adjacent Lands Description:
Please see Supplemental Information for a description of lands adjacent to Muir Woods National Monument Historic District.
Management Agreement

Indicate the agreements to which the NPS is a party that are associated with the inventory unit. Select one or more from the following pick list:

Concession Contract/Permit: A document issued to authorize private persons and corporations to provide accommodations, facilities, and services for public use in the national park system.

Cooperative Agreement: A document describing the relationship between the Federal Government and State, local government, or other entity when the principal purpose is to transfer money, property (real or personal), services, or anything of value to the State or local government or other entity. Purpose is to accomplish a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by Federal statute in lieu of acquisition of purchase or lease. Substantial involvement of the NPS is anticipated.

Special Use Permit: A document issued by a superintendent to an individual or organization to allow the use of NPS administered resources. It is used for all special park uses that do not have an approved permitting instrument. Special Use permits are used for short-term, not to exceed one year, or long-term, not to exceed five years. The special use permit is not an authority. When it is issued, that authority for the use must be cited. One of the major uses of this form is to cover commercial agriculture activities including planting, tilling, harvesting, forge cropping, and some grazing.

Lease: A document describing a contractual relationship by which one party (landlord or lessor) provides to another (tenant or lessee) the use and possession of lands, resources, buildings, or property for a specified period of time in return for fixed payments. All conditions for use and possessions are specified within the lease.

Interagency Agreement: A document describing an agreement between the NPS and another Federal Agency or office for supplies or services provided by the other agency. These agreements are also used to establish cooperative or mutual assistance between two Federal parties, and to transfer funds from one agency to another.

Memorandum of Agreement: A document describing a mutual agreement relationship which differs from a Memorandum of Understanding in that it provides a receipt of funds by the NPS from a non-federal party.

Memorandum of Understanding: A document describing mutual understanding or agreement between the NPS and a State, local government, or other party that is
set forth in a written document in which both are participants. A Memorandum of Understanding does not obligate funds.

Other: A document describing an agreement other than those listed under Management Agreements to which the NPS is a party.

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**NPS Legal Interest:**

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**Public Access:**

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NATIONAL REGISTER INFORMATION

Inventory Unit

National Register Landscape Documentation: SHPO-Documented
National Register Landscape Documentation Date: 07/13/2007

National Register Explanatory Narrative:
Muir Woods National Monument Historic District was determined eligible for the National Register on July 13, 2007. The determination of eligibility documentation adequately describes the landscape characteristics and features of the historic district.

National Register Significance Level: National
National Register Significance - Contributing/Individual: Individual
National Register Classification: District
National Historic Landmark Status: No
World Heritage Site Status: No

Statement of Significance

Muir Woods National Monument, anticipating the one-hundredth anniversary of its designation in 2008, remains an enduring and renowned example of natural resource conservation in the United States. This nomination documents that the redwood forest, long recognized for its significance as a natural resource, is historically significant along with its overlay of cultural resources for its association with the history of the American Conservation Movement and early conservation efforts in the Bay Area, and for illustrating the legacy of rustic design in the National Park Service.

Muir Woods National Monument is nationally significant under National Register Criterion A in the area of conservation for its association with the maturation of the American Conservation Movement, and in particular as a pioneering and enduring manifestation of federal preservation legislation. The proclamation of Muir Woods as a National Monument occurred at the beginning of the federal government’s proactive role in the preservation of natural and historic resources. The redwood forest was designated a National Monument on January 9, 1908 by President Theodore Roosevelt, who acted on the advice and support of Gifford Pinchot, Chief of the United States Forest Service. It was the tenth monument designated under the Antiquities Act of 1906, and the first located in close proximity to a major city. Most importantly, it was the first National Monument created through a donation of private land—a gift from William and Elizabeth Thacher Kent. Representing a milestone in the role of citizen initiative in the land conservation movement in our nation, the proclamation of Muir Woods as a National Monument
established the precedent at the federal level for private-public partnerships and the land-trust model of natural resource and open space conservation, a tool that is widely applied today. Further, the proclamation of Muir Woods represented the federal government’s first achievement in preserving redwoods on the West Coast, an act that inspired the establishment of the Save-the-Redwoods League and spurred subsequent efforts to conserve redwoods and recognize them as icons of the nation’s natural heritage. Lastly, Muir Woods gained national and international renown in the decades following its monument designation as a place that expressed the ideals of American conservation, culminating historically in a ceremony held in 1945 by the United Nations Conference on International Organization in memory of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, a great champion of conservation.

Muir Woods is also locally significant under National Register Criterion A in the area of conservation for its association with early conservation achievements in the Bay Area. It was the first public park established in the extensive conservation district that today extends along much of the western Marin Peninsula, directly across the Golden Gate from the City of San Francisco. This area is administered at the federal, state, and local levels by Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Mount Tamalpais State Park, Marin Municipal Water District, and Marin County Open Space District, an administrative structure that traces its origins back to the management structure William Kent established for Muir Woods and the adjoining lands under his ownership.

In addition to its primary significance in the area of conservation, the buildings and major structures at Muir Woods, dating from 1922 through 1940, are also significant under National Register Criterion C in the area of architecture as representative examples of pre-World War II rustic design in the National Park Service. Designed by well-known park service architects and landscape architects and built in part through New Deal-era federal work-relief programs including the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), the buildings and structures at Muir Woods reflect the system-wide effort to harmonize built features into the natural landscape.

Period of Significance

The period of significance for Muir Woods National Monument begins with the gift of 298 acres in Redwood Canyon by William Kent and his wife, Elizabeth Thacher Kent, to the United States on December 26, 1907 under the provisions of the American Antiquities Act of 1906. The date of the Kents’ gift (the date that they signed their deed over to the United States) marks the beginning of the period of significance because it marked the beginning of federal ownership of the redwood forest. Two weeks later on January 9, 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt proclaimed Muir Woods a National Monument. The years prior to 1907 are not included within the period of significance for two primary reasons: 1. With the exception of the redwood forest and the Emerson Memorial, the extant resources generally do not retain integrity to the pre-1907 period; 2. The extant pre-1907 resources gained significance in the area of conservation primarily after 1907 through the effort to conserve the natural resources of Redwood Canyon by means of public acquisition.
The period of significance extends to 1947 to encompass the first four decades of federal ownership and management. During this time, Muir Woods was expanded as part of the Mount Tamalpais park movement, was adapted by NPS in the face of rising visitation and changing conservation practices according to a consistent rustic design vocabulary, and attained renown as a major tourist attraction and as a place that embodied the ideals of the American conservation. The end-date of 1947 marks the installation of the permanent memorial to President Franklin D. Roosevelt resulting from the memorial ceremony held two years earlier by the United Nations Conference on International Organization. The years after 1947 are excluded from the period of significance because they mark a distinct shift in the management of the property. The distinction of the post-1947 period is evident through the implementation of the National Park Service MISSION 66 program beginning in the 1950s, which resulted in changes to built features in a departure from the romanticized rustic style of the pre-war years; the enlargement of the monument for operational purposes rather than for specific preservation of old-growth redwood forest (the tracts added after 1947 did not contain old-growth redwood forest); and a shift toward ecological conservation in place of the more intensive natural resource management characteristic of the historic period.

**National Register Significance Criteria**

1. Criterion A – The property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history.

2. Criterion C – The property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.

**National Register Criteria Considerations**

N/A

**National Register Period of Significance**

1907 AD – 1947 AD

**Historic Context Theme (Theme: Subtheme: Facet)**

1. Transforming the Environment: Conservation of Natural Resources: The Conservation Movement Matures 1908-1941
2. Expressing Cultural Values: Architecture: Rustic Architecture

**National Register Areas of Significance**

1. Conservation
2. Architecture
NRIS Information

N/A
CHRONOLOGY AND PHYSICAL HISTORY

Historic Functions:
1. Landscape: Conservation Area
2. Landscape: Forest
3. Landscape: Park
4. Recreation: Outdoor Recreation
5. Recreation: Marker
6. Domestic: Institutional Housing
7. Commerce: Specialty Store

Current Functions:
1. Landscape: Conservation Area
2. Landscape: Forest
3. Landscape: Park
4. Recreation: Outdoor Recreation
5. Recreation: Marker
6. Domestic: Institutional Housing
7. Commerce: Specialty Store

Current and Historic Names
1. Muir Woods National Monument (Both Current and Historic)
2. Muir Woods National Monument Historic District (Current)

Cultural Landscape Type: Historic Site
### Chronology

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1817 AD</td>
<td>Inhabited</td>
<td>Prior to European settlement of the Marin Peninsula in the early nineteenth century, Redwood Canyon was part of the homeland of the Coast Miwok people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1817 AD –</td>
<td>Abandoned</td>
<td>In the early nineteenth century soon after the establishment of Spanish missions at present-day San Rafael in c. 1817, the Coast Miwok people were decimated by European disease, and by 1840, their population was reduced by an estimated ninety percent.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1836 AD</td>
<td>Land Transfer</td>
<td>Much of Marin Peninsula, including Redwood Canyon, was granted by the Mexican government to William Antonio Richardson, who named the land “Rancho Sausalito.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1856 AD</td>
<td>Purchased/Sold</td>
<td>Richardson sold Rancho Sausalito to Samuel R. Throckmorton, who rented out subdivided parcels to farmers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1883 AD</td>
<td>Land Transfer</td>
<td>Throckmorton died and left the 14,000-acre Rancho Sausalito to his daughter, Susanna Throckmorton.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1889 AD</td>
<td>Purchased/Sold</td>
<td>Unable to pay off her father’s debts, Susanna Throckmorton sold Rancho Sausalito in 1889 to the Tamalpais Land &amp; Water Company, which began planning for the development of the ranch in eastern Marin County into the community of Mill Valley.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905 AD</td>
<td>Purchased/Sold</td>
<td>William Kent responded by acquiring 612 acres of Redwood Canyon in 1905 to safeguard its redwood forest and improve its accessibility to the public.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905 AD</td>
<td>Developed</td>
<td>Kent developed Redwood Canyon into a public park with rail access, improved road access, and visitor amenities such as footpaths, bridges, and benches, all designed in a rustic style then fashionable for parks and forested landscapes.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year</td>
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<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
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<tr>
<td>1907 AD</td>
<td>Land Transfer</td>
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<td></td>
<td>In order to circumvent Redwood Canyon condemnation proceedings and secure the long-term preservation of the redwood forest, Kent gifted 298 acres of his 612-acre Redwood Canyon tract to the federal government on December 26, 1907, a gift that excluded the terminus of the mountain railway. This event marks the beginning of the period of significance. The land was managed through the General Land Office (GLO) within the Department of Interior.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1908 AD</td>
<td>Established</td>
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<td></td>
<td>On January 9th, 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt proclaimed Muir Woods a National Monument under the provisions of the Antiquities Act of 1906, the tenth National Monument so designated, the first from a gift of private land, and the first in close proximity to a major city.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1917 AD</td>
<td>Land Transfer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Administration of Muir Woods transferred to National Park Service. Administration is organized through Yosemite National Park (Superintendent W. B. Lewis); relationship extended through 1927.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1918 AD</td>
<td>Built</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Initial NPS/Yosemite improvements completed: four footbridges rebuilt, log entrance gate erected at lower (south) entrance, additional picnic tables and benches placed, and directional signs installed. All were designed according to a particular rustic style developed by the NPS based on similar improvements at other forested parks in the region, notably Sequoia and Yosemite National Parks.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1921 AD</td>
<td>Land Transfer</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Presidential proclamation #1608 on September 22 adds 128 acres (Hamilton, Kent, and Railway tracts) to Muir Woods National Monument, bringing total to 426 acres.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1933 AD–1941 AD</td>
<td>Built</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Beginning in 1933 and lasting through 1941, workers from the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and other federal work-relief programs undertook extensive improvements both in Muir Woods and the adjacent Tamalpais State Park, based out of a camp located on the site of the railway terminus, a short distance from the monument boundary. Work by the CCC, designed mostly by NPS regional architects and landscape architects, included massive log footbridges over Redwood Creek, a stone-faced arch bridge over Fern Creek, a log entrance gate, improved trails, new signs and picnic facilities, and several new buildings.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Event Type</td>
<td>Description</td>
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<tr>
<td>1940 AD</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>In 1940, the largest building at Muir Woods to date—the Administration-Concession Building—was completed through the Project Works Administration and CCC in a streamlined rustic style that was a departure from the earlier rustic style.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1947 AD</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>In 1947, a permanent memorial to FDR was installed at Cathedral Grove, marking the end of the period of significance.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1947 AD – 1951 AD</td>
<td>Land Transfer</td>
<td>After 1947, two parcels without old-growth redwood forest were acquired at the south end and west side of the monument, and these together with the nineteen-acre state-leased parking lot parcel were incorporated into the monument in 1951 (the parking lot parcel remained in state ownership).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956 AD</td>
<td>Planning</td>
<td>In 1956, NPS launched a ten-year improvement program coined “MISSION 66,” and park staff developed an ambitious plan for Muir Woods which included removing buildings from within the woods, building a visitor center and employee housing, expanding parking, and acquiring additional land for park support purposes. Muir Woods realized few of these improvements, but did build a new parking area and acquired additional land at the south end of the monument along Frank Valley Road. The park also removed comfort stations, signs, bridges, and the main gate that had been built by the CCC, and built a new comfort station and footbridges that represented a departure from the romantic rustic style of the CCC era.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1972 AD</td>
<td>Land Transfer</td>
<td>In 1972, legislation was passed authorizing NPS to acquire land for park support purposes south of the nominated property in the Camino del Canyon Tract (Camp Monte Vista), which had been developed earlier for youth camps and seasonal cottages (this land was not given national monument designation). This period also saw the expansion of Mount Tamalpais State Park to encompass nearly all of the land surrounding Muir Woods, as well as the creation in 1972 of a metropolitan national park, Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GOGA). Muir Woods became fully integrated into the GOGA by 1984.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987 AD – 2007 AD</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>Within the nominated property, NPS has made several improvements in recent years to better safeguard the forest from the impact of heavy visitation, including removal of the main comfort station (1928), and the construction of a new comfort station and boardwalks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Action</td>
<td>Description</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990 AD</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>In 1990, the park constructed a new main gate reminiscent of the one built by the CCC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991 AD</td>
<td>Built</td>
<td>The following year, a rustic-style visitor center was built along the south boundary of the monument (outside of nominated property).</td>
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</table>
Physical History

Prior to European settlement of the Marin Peninsula in the early nineteenth century, Redwood Canyon was part of the homeland of the Coast Miwok people. Little archeological evidence has been found on their habitation within or near the nominated property, but the Coast Miwok most likely used the area for hunting, fishing, and gathering, and certainly considered the redwood forest a part of their homeland. In the early nineteenth century soon after the establishment of Spanish missions at present-day San Rafael in c.1817, the Coast Miwok people were decimated by European disease, and by 1840, their population was reduced by an estimated ninety percent. Four years earlier, in 1836, much of the Marin Peninsula, including Redwood Canyon, was granted by the Mexican government to William Antonio Richardson, who named the land “Rancho Sausalito.” In 1856, Richardson sold Rancho Sausalito to Samuel R. Throckmorton, who rented out subdivided parcels to farmers. Throckmorton retained a large tract encompassing Redwood Canyon and extending north to the upper reaches of Mount Tamalpais as his own private hunting preserve. Although most of the redwood groves on the Marin Peninsula were being logged up through Throckmorton’s ownership of Rancho Sausalito, the forest in Redwood Canyon escaped the ax, purportedly due to its remote location, but most likely also to Throckmorton’s desire to preserve his hunting grounds. In 1883, Throckmorton died and left the 14,000-acre Rancho Sausalito to his daughter, Susanna Throckmorton.

Unable to pay off her father’s debts, Susanna Throckmorton sold Rancho Sausalito in 1889 to the Tamalpais Land & Water Company, which began planning for the development of the ranch in eastern Marin County into the community of Mill Valley. To the west, the company rented out the ranchlands, but retained Samuel Throckmorton’s hunting preserve that included Redwood Canyon and granted its use to the Tamalpais Sportsman’s Association. With the help of William Kent, one of the club’s prominent members and neighbor from nearby Kentfield, the club cared for the redwood forest through the turn of the century. Its stewardship corresponded with a time of increasing visitation that resulted in large part from the development in the region by the Tamalpais Land & Water Company and rail access to the summit of Mount Tamalpais. By the close of the nineteenth century, local developers proposed damming Redwood Creek for water supply, a plan that failed but represented the first attempt to extract the natural resources of the canyon. At the same time, local conservation and hiking groups began to press for public acquisition and protection of Mount Tamalpais. William Kent responded by acquiring 612 acres of Redwood Canyon in 1905 to safeguard its redwood forest and improve its accessibility to the public. Together with the Mill Valley and Mt. Tamalpais Scenic Railway (later the Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway, commonly known as the mountain railway), Kent developed Redwood Canyon into a public park with rail access (a new branch line was built to the north end of Redwood Canyon), improved road access, and visitor amenities such as footpaths, bridges, and benches, all designed in a rustic style then fashionable for parks and forested landscapes. An inn at the terminal of the mountain railway, which formed the main entrance to the park, was also planned as part of the improvements.

In the fall of 1907, a year after the great earthquake and fire in San Francisco and the resulting surge in demand for water and timber, the private North Coast Water Company filed the second plan for damming Redwood Creek, which called for condemning forty-seven acres of William
Kent’s Redwood Canyon tract in order to build a reservoir. This plan would have flooded the upper portion of the canyon floor, destroying old-growth redwoods as well as the park improvements made by Kent and the mountain railway. In order to circumvent the condemnation proceedings and secure the long-term preservation of the redwood forest, Kent gifted 298 acres of his 612-acre Redwood Canyon tract to the federal government on December 26, 1907, a gift that excluded the terminus of the mountain railway. This event marks the beginning of the period of significance. On January 9th, 1908, President Theodore Roosevelt proclaimed Muir Woods a National Monument under the provisions of the Antiquities Act of 1906, the tenth National Monument so designated, the first from a gift of private land, and the first in close proximity to a major city. Kent chose to name the monument Muir Woods after the noted wilderness preservationist, John Muir, who lived in Martinez across the San Pablo Bay from Marin County. Muir had no known association with Redwood Canyon aside from a visit he had made there in 1904, nor had Kent met Muir at the time.

Muir Woods National Monument was initially managed through the General Land Office (GLO) within the Department of the Interior up until 1917. During this time, the GLO made few improvements to Muir Woods, and it was largely managed by the mountain railway and William Kent. Kent had a difficulty obtaining funding and other assistance for Muir Woods under the GLO, and this experience almost certainly was one of the reasons that as a congressman he introduced the bill establishing the National Park Service (NPS) in 1916. His first-hand knowledge of the needs of park management no doubt helped make him a persuasive advocate for the bill, which aimed to improve the management of federal parks, reserves, and monuments then administered by a wide range of agencies. The year following passage of the bill, management of Muir Woods was transferred to the NPS. For the next decade, the NPS took the lead in management of Muir Woods, although the mountain railway and William Kent continued to play key roles. Administration was initially carried out through Yosemite National Park and regional NPS offices in San Francisco.

In its early years of NPS administration, Muir Woods underwent a number of significant improvements, including the addition of signs, an entrance gate, new footbridges, a residence for the custodian, and comfort stations, all designed according to a particular rustic style developed by the NPS based on similar improvements at other forested parks in the region, notably Sequoia and Yosemite National Parks. Another improvement was the addition of 150 acres along the northwest side of the monument, a gift from William Kent and incorporated into the monument by proclamation of President Harding in 1921 under the provisions of the Antiquities Act.

The late 1920s witnessed a number of important shifts in administration and use at Muir Woods. In 1928, William Kent died, and the following year a fire destroyed the branch line to Muir Woods. In 1930, the railway went out of business, leading to a reorientation of Muir Woods primarily to the automobile entrance at the south end of the monument, off the Muir Woods Toll Road. Kent’s death and closure of the mountain railway gave NPS full charge for the administration of Muir Woods. Much of the land bordering Muir Woods that had been owned by William Kent became part of Mount Tamalpais State Park, established in 1927. Beginning in 1933 and lasting through 1941, workers from the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and other federal work-relief programs undertook extensive improvements both in Muir Woods and the
state park, based out of a camp located on the site of the railway terminus, a short distance from the monument boundary.

Many of the CCC improvements to Muir Woods were built to accommodate increasing visitation, which had jumped markedly with the opening of the Muir Woods Toll Road in 1925, the Panoramic Highway in 1928, and the Golden Gate Bridge in 1937. Work by the CCC, designed mostly by NPS regional architects and landscape architects, included massive log footbridges over Redwood Creek, a stone-faced arch bridge over Fern Creek, a log entrance gate, improved trails, new signs and picnic facilities, and several new buildings. These features were all designed in a romantic rustic style featuring log construction, exposed timber framing, hand-hewn signs, and naturalistic plantings. In 1940, the largest building at Muir Woods to date—the Administration-Concession Building—was completed through the Project Works Administration and CCC in a streamlined rustic style that was a departure from the earlier rustic style. It was sited on a one-acre expansion that had been incorporated into the monument through a proclamation by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1935. Improvements at Muir Woods ceased during World War II, but the monument continued to be a popular place to visit. In what would become the most famous gathering at Muir Woods, the United Nations Conference on International Organization held a ceremony in Cathedral Grove in honor of FDR in May 1945, one month after his death. In 1947, a permanent memorial to FDR was installed at Cathedral Grove, marking the end of the period of significance.

After 1947, two parcels without old-growth redwood forest were acquired at the south end and west side of the monument, and these together with the nineteen-acre state-leased parking lot parcel were incorporated into the monument in 1951 (the parking lot parcel remained in state ownership). By this time, visitation had risen dramatically after a period of relative stability during the 1940s, leading to significant crowding that strained the improvements made by the CCC, which had suffered due to lack of maintenance and funding during the war and post-war years. This situation set the stage for a new era of development, coinciding with broad shifts in design, natural resource management, and planning throughout the National Park System. In 1956, NPS launched a ten-year improvement program coined “MISSION 66,” and park staff developed an ambitious plan for Muir Woods which included removing buildings from within the woods, building a visitor center and employee housing, expanding parking, and acquiring additional land for park support purposes. Muir Woods realized few of these improvements, but did build a new parking area and acquired additional land at the south end of the monument along Frank Valley Road. The park also removed comfort stations, signs, bridges, and the main gate that had been built by the CCC, and built a new comfort station and footbridges that represented a departure from the romantic rustic style of the CCC era. In 1972, legislation was passed authorizing NPS to acquire land for park support purposes south of the nominated property in the Camino del Canyon Tract (Camp Monte Vista), which had been developed earlier for youth camps and seasonal cottages (this land was not given national monument designation). This period also saw the expansion of Mount Tamalpais State Park to encompass nearly all of the land surrounding Muir Woods, as well as the creation in 1972 of a metropolitan national park, Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Muir Woods was identified as part of the new park, and by 1984 had become fully integrated into it for administrative purposes. Despite this, Muir Woods retained its distinct identity and national monument designation.
In the past two decades, there have been few major changes in the management or appearance of Muir Woods National Monument, with the exception of natural succession from open grasslands and chaparral to forest along Frank Valley Road and the upper edges of the monument (outside of nominated property). Within the nominated property, NPS has made several improvements in recent years to better safeguard the forest from the impact of heavy visitation, including removal of the main comfort station (1928), and the construction of a new comfort station and boardwalks. In 1990, the park constructed a new main gate reminiscent of the one built by the CCC. The following year, a rustic-style visitor center was built along the south boundary of the monument (outside of nominated property).
History #2: National Park Service staff at the main gate, 1941. National Archives.


History #5: The Superintendent’s Residence, photograph of original (1922) section looking southwest, 1934. Park Archives, Golden Gate National Recreation Area.
History #6: The Administration-Concession Building, view of concession wing and adjoining rustic landscape, 1941.
ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION OF INTEGRITY

Analysis and Evaluation Summary

The Muir Woods National Monument Historic District overall retains integrity to its period of significance that begins in 1907 and ends in 1947. Of the seven aspects of integrity, those most important to Muir Woods are location, setting, materials, feeling, and association. Primary resources include the redwood forest (a natural resource that has gained cultural significance) with its old-growth character and major spaces including Bohemian and Cathedral Groves; memorials associated with important individuals in the American Conservation movement; a trail system reflecting the use and organization of the site dating back to the earliest years of the monument; and buildings, structures, and small-scale features dating prior to World War II that reflect a rustic aesthetic and conservation practices characteristic of National Park Service development during the first half of the twentieth century. Since the end of the period of significance, changes that have affected the historic integrity of the property include the removal of comfort stations dating from the 1920s and 1930s; alterations to the 1940 Administration-Concession Building; removal of log footbridges, signs, and benches built by the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC); deterioration of stone revetments along Redwood Creek; and realignment and surface changes to sections of trails. These changes have affected some details of the property, but not its overall character. Within the nominated property are thirty-five contributing resources and fourteen non-contributing resources. Associated landscape features (features not counted as resources) include minor non-historic footbridges, contemporary site furnishings (benches, signs, trash bins), boardwalks, and split-rail trail fencing.
Natural Systems and Features

Natural systems and features are the natural aspects that have influenced the development of a landscape, such as geomorphology, hydrology, ecology, climate, and vegetation.

Muir Woods National Monument is situated within Redwood Canyon, a deep, forested valley at the southern foot of Mount Tamalpais approximately eight miles north of the Golden Gate Bridge and two miles east of the Pacific Ocean. Muir Woods is located within an extensive conservation area extending across the western half of the Marin Peninsula, from the Golden Gate on the south to Point Reyes and beyond in the north. Within the vicinity of Muir Woods, this area is publicly managed at the local, state, and federal level primarily by three agencies: the Marin Municipal Water District, California State Parks (Mount Tamalpais State Park), and the National Park Service (Golden Gate National Recreation Area). Notable changes to the setting since the end of the period of significance in 1947 include the loss of agricultural grasslands to natural succession, and the expansion of suburban residential development along the ridge to the east, on the periphery of the City of Mill Valley. This development is generally not visible within or immediately adjoining Muir Woods.

There are three contributing sites within the nominated property: the redwood forest and two spaces within it, Bohemian Grove and Cathedral Grove. Both the Bohemian Grove and the Cathedral Grove are areas of opening centered on family circles. A family circle occurs when a circle of trees sprout from the stump of a cut or burned redwood tree. The clone trees enclose the opening where the former tree stood.

Redwood Forest (Site Plan Resource #1, contributing)
Muir Woods National Monument was created to protect an old-growth redwood forest, which remains the primary resource within the nominated property. The boundaries of the nominated property correspond largely with the historic limits of the redwood forest, with the exception of the northeast end (Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway Tract). Muir Woods is one of the few old-growth or virgin (unlogged) redwood forests to survive in the San Francisco Bay Area. The redwoods are the coast redwood, Sequoia sempervirens. They belong to the taxodium family, but are a distinct species from their well-known and larger cousin, the giant sequoia, Sequoiadendron giganteum, found in the Sierra Mountains two hundred miles to the east, most famously in Yosemite National Park. The coast redwood is the tallest tree species in North America, reaching mature heights of two hundred to well over three hundred feet. Compared with the giant sequoia, however, the coast redwood is a relatively slender tree, with trunks generally not exceeding twenty feet in diameter at breast height. It is also a very long-lived tree, with a potential lifespan of more than two thousand years. The extent of the redwood forest within the nominated property corresponds with a cool microclimate, loamy soils, and ample moisture from fog, rain, and groundwater. The canyon floor bordering Redwood Creek generally contains the largest and most widely spaced trees. In circumference, the largest tree at Muir Woods today measures 13.5 feet in diameter at breast height, while the tallest tree is 254 feet high. Although most of the old trees in Muir Woods are probably five to six hundred years old, a few old specimens may be upward of 1,500 years in age. Many of the trees grew from bud tissue of parent trees (rather than from seedlings) in groupings known as family circles, and thus trace
their genetic lineage back much farther. The redwood forest naturally supports a rich variety of understory plants, including sword fern (Nephrolepsis exaltata), huckleberry (Gaylussacia), redwood sorrel (Oxalis spp.), tanoak (Lithocarpus densiflorus), and California bay or laurel (Umbellularia californica). At higher and drier elevations along the margins of the nominated property, the redwood forest transitions to Douglas-fir (Pseudotsuga menziesii). Some individual redwoods, known as interest trees, have gained distinction due to unique physical attributes or commemorative associations. These include the Gifford Pinchot tree, the Emerson tree, the curly redwood, the largest tree, and the albino tree.

Changes to the redwood forest since the end of the period of significance have been limited to natural succession from grassland and chaparral along the upper margins, and loss of several interest trees, most probably due to soil compaction resulting from heavy foot traffic. Notable losses include the William Kent tree, a Douglas-fir that fell in 2004 but remains on the forest floor; the bridge tree (a fallen tree across the Hillside Trail), station tree; leaning tree, and the walk-through tree (bear stump). The natural understory of the forest, which had been trampled in areas along the Main Trail by the later years of the period of significance, has today regenerated due to changes in management practices and improved crowd control.

Bohemian Grove (Site Plan Resource #2, contributing)
Bohemian Grove is an area of open understory within the redwood forest along the west side of Redwood Creek along a side trail. A large family circle marks the center of the grove. It is named after the Bohemian Club of San Francisco, which held its summer encampment here in 1892. The physical features of the encampment, which included a stage set with a forty-three foot high plaster Buddha statue, were removed prior to the period of significance, but the lore of the encampment continued through the historic period, and continues to be interpreted today. From the earliest years of the monument, Bohemian Grove was listed as one of the chief attractions in the forest, and was featured on period post cards. The exact site of the Buddha statue within the Bohemian Grove is not known.

Cathedral Grove (Site Plan Resource #3, contributing)
Cathedral Grove is an area of open understory within the redwood forest along the east side of Redwood Creek, along the Main Trail and a minor spur trail. A large family circle marks the center of the grove. Apparently named after the lofty height of the trees within the grove, Cathedral Grove was listed as one of the chief attractions in the forest from the earliest years of the monument. It was often used as a place for special events, most notably the 1945 service held by the United Nations Conference on International Organization (UNCIO) in memory of President Franklin D. Roosevelt.
Natural Systems and Features #1: View looking northwest across Muir Woods.

Natural Systems and Features #2: View looking north into Bohemian Grove along Bohemian Grove trail.
Natural Systems and Features #3: View looking north into Cathedral Grove along main trail.
Circulation

Muir Woods National Monument was historically a relatively isolated redwood forest with access by Muir Woods Road located just off its southern boundary and a network of hiking trails leading in from all sides. Muir Woods Road (also known as Muir Woods-Frank Valley Road), a twisting, narrow two-lane asphalt-paved road, remains little changed from its historic appearance and still serves as the only vehicular entrance to the monument, connecting with Shore Highway (US Route 1) on the west and the Panoramic Highway and City of Mill Valley on the east. The network of hiking trails, leading toward the Pacific Ocean, Mill Valley, and the summits of Mount Tamalpais, also remains. This network includes the Tamalpais Conservation Club (TCC), Stapelveldt, Ocean View, Bootjack, Dipsea, and Fern Canyon Trails, which were built prior to 1947. During the historic period (1907-1947), the monument was also accessible via the Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway, which had the terminus of its Muir Woods Branch a short distance north of the monument. The railway discontinued service to Muir Woods in 1929 during the historic period.

Circulation features within the nominated property include roads & trails. The network of built trails are collectively the most significant structure and remain largely intact except for the addition of boardwalks, the addition of asphalt paving and split-rail fencing in heavily used areas, and the loss of several minor spur trails. These include the loop from the Main Trail to the site of the Cathedral Grove Comfort Station, the lower section of the Tourist Club Trail extending to the Ocean View Trail, the loop to the Bohemian Grove comfort station, and the northern side trail along the west bank of Redwood Creek. The existing trails have also undergone minor changes that are historically typical of this feature type, including regrading, replacement of waterbars and culverts, and limited realignment.

Service Drive (Old Muir Woods Road) (Site Plan Resource #15, LCS 058181, contributing)
The service drive is an asphalt-paved road extending from the parking area to the monument’s utility area. It predates the monument, most of it built in 1892 as Sequoia Valley Road (later renamed Muir Woods Road), which extended from Mill Valley to the canyon floor at Bohemian Grove. The section of the service drive from the rear of the Administration-Concession Building to the main parking lot was built in 1905 by William Kent as a bypass to Frank Valley Road. The service drive served as the main south entrance to Muir Woods into the 1920s. It became a separate road in 1925 when it was bypassed by the Muir Woods Toll Road. At this time, the drive was closed to public vehicles and became a service entry. A spur drive to the new equipment shed was built by the CCC in 1936. During the historic period, the service drive had a compacted earth and/or gravel surface, and was approximately ten feet wide, except for the spur to the equipment shed which was built of concrete and was narrower. Changes since 1947 include asphalt paving of the section below the Superintendent’s Residence, and abandonment of the section above leading to Muir Woods Road; the concrete spur remains intact. In c.2004, a large section of the abandoned roadbed above the Superintendent’s Residence was graded away as part of a culvert removal project, but a portion is maintained as a trail.

Main (Bootjack) Trail (Site Plan Resource #16, LCS 058180) (contributing)
The Main Trail, the primary visitor corridor in Muir Woods, extends along the entire length of the canyon floor within the nominated property, and continues north into Mount Tamalpais State Park as the Bootjack Trail. It is most likely one of the oldest cultural resources within the nominated property, well predating the monument. In c.1892, the section from the vicinity of Bohemian Grove south was reconstructed as a wagon road named Sequoia Valley Road, later known as Muir Woods Road. In c.1906, this road was extended north across Fern Creek and up the canyon wall (present Camp Alice Eastwood Trail) to access the terminus of the Muir Woods Branch of the Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway. In 1921, the road within Muir Woods was closed to public vehicular traffic and dedicated as a foot trail, but was still used by monument vehicles and as vehicular access to the railway terminus. During the historic period, the Main Trail had a compacted earth surface approximately ten feet wide, and served as the primary visitor corridor in the monument. Since 1947, the Main Trail has been paved in asphalt from Bridge #4 to the entrance gate, and has undergone minor realignment. Spilt-rail fencing has been added along most of the length. A substantial change in appearance has occurred with the addition of boardwalks along two sections: from north of the Administration-Concession Building south to the entrance arch, and north of Cathedral Grove. These boardwalks, built without handrails mostly along the existing trail alignment except for the segment north of Cathedral Grove, were designed to reduce impacts to the forest from heavy visitation. Spilt-rail fencing has been removed from the sections of trail with boardwalks.

Fern Creek (Fern Canyon) Trail (Site Plan Resource #17, contributing)
The Fern Creek Trail is an earthen foot trail extending from the Main Trail up Fern Canyon to the Ocean View and Lost Trails in Mount Tamalpais State Park. Approximately 300 feet of the trail are within the nominated property. The trail predates the establishment of the monument, and was improved by the CCC and the Civil Works Administration in 1933-1934. The trail today has an earthen surface and is approximately three to four feet wide. Aside from a 2004-realignment around the downed William Kent tree and addition of split-rail fencing, there have been no major alterations to the trail within the nominated property since the end of the historic period. The trail is identified as Fern Canyon (rather than Fern Creek) Trail by the state park because there is another Fern Creek Trail higher up the mountain.

Camp Alice Eastwood Trail (Site Plan Resource #18, contributing)
Camp Alice Eastwood Trail is a former wagon road extending from the Main Trail north of Fern Creek to Camp Alice Eastwood in Mount Tamalpais State Park. Approximately 300 feet of the trail are within the nominated property. It was built in c.1906 by the Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway Company as an extension of Sequoia Valley Road (Main Trail) to the terminus of the Muir Woods Branch and Muir Inn (today Camp Alice Eastwood). The trail today has an earthen surface and is ten feet wide, and as with the main trail, is wider than typical for foot trails due to its original design for vehicular use. It appears to be unaltered since the end of the historic period aside from the addition of split-rail fencing and waterbars.

Ocean View Trail (Site Plan Resource #19, contributing)
The Ocean View Trail extends from the Main Trail near the Pinchot Memorial up the east canyon wall, looping back and forth along side canyons across the eastern boundary of the nominated property into Mount Tamalpais State Park. Approximately 1,200 feet of the trail are
within the nominated property. The trail extends to the Redwood Trail/Panoramic Highway and the Lost Trail leading to Camp Alice Eastwood. The Ocean View Trail was built in 1908 by the Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway Company as part of its initial development of Muir Woods. It served along with the Hillside Trail as part of a system of firebreaks that was recommended by forester F. E. Olmsted. The trail, located along the upper grassland/chaparral edge of Redwood Canyon, was initially named Scenic Trail for its expansive views to the ocean. In 1933-1934, the trail was improved by the CCC. The trail today has an earthen surface and is approximately three to four feet wide. Since the end of the historic period, the ocean views have been entirely lost due to natural succession. Aside from replacement of culverts and minor footbridges and addition of split-rail fencing, there have been no further changes to the Ocean View Trail since the end of the historic period.

Bohemian Grove Trail (Site Plan Resource #20, contributing)
The Bohemian Grove Trail (a contemporary name) extends along the west side of Redwood Creek from Bridge #1 to Bridge #3, passing through Bohemian Grove. William Kent and the Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway Company laid out the trail in c.1905, prior to the establishment of the monument, as part of their initial improvements to Redwood Canyon. The Bohemian Grove Trail was the southern of two side trails built along the west side of Redwood Creek (the northern trail was removed after the period of significance). Since 1947, changes to the trail have included widening (to approximately 8 feet), asphalt paving and removal of four spurs to the Main Trail that crossed Redwood Creek over log bridges. A loop trail in Bohemian Grove, extending to the comfort station (since demolished), was also removed and split-rail fencing was added along sections of the trail.

Hillside Trail (Site Plan Resource #21, LCS 058179, contributing)
The Hillside Trail extends from the Bohemian Grove Trail and runs approximately 100 feet above the canyon floor north to the Ben Johnson Trail, entirely within the nominated property. Completed in September 1908, the Hillside Trail, originally named the Nature Trail, was built by the Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway Company as part of the initial development of Muir Woods. It served along with the Ocean View Trail as part of a system of firebreaks that was recommended by forester F. E. Olmsted. The Hillside Trail originally extended to the south end of the canyon, and beyond the north boundary of the monument, but these segments were abandoned by c.1930. In 1931, Muir Woods Superintendent Herschler improved the existing segment and renamed it the Hillside Nature Trail, managing it for a wild character and a place to interpret the canyon’s native flora, which was identified by plant labels on redwood stakes. The trail today has an earthen surface and is approximately two to three feet wide. Although the trail no longer serves the interpretive function it did during the 1930s and has dropped “Nature” from its name, it does retain its overall alignment, narrow width, and naturalistic character. Aside from loss of the plant labels and realignment of the north end at the Ben Johnson Trail, there have been no major changes to the trail since the end of the historic period.

Ben Johnson Trail (Site Plan Resource #22, LCS 058177, contributing)
The Ben Johnson Trail extends from the Main Trail at the northern boundary of the monument west along a side canyon. Beyond Muir Woods and outside of the district, the trail becomes the Stapelveldt Trail, which extends to the Pantoll picnic area and head of Steep Ravine in Mount
Tamalpais State Park. The trail was purportedly built by Ben Johnson, the warden of the Tamalpais Sportsman’s Association, soon before his death in September 1904. Also known as Sequoia Trail, the trail was probably improved by William Kent and the Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway between 1905 and 1907 as part of their initial development of Redwood Canyon into a public park. The trail was again improved by the CCC and Civil Works Administration in 1933-1934. The trail retains a high level of integrity, with many of its associated features from the CCC improvements intact, including three log bridges and a log bench. The trail has an earthen surface and is approximately three to four feet wide. Since the end of the historic period, the only known major change to the trail have been the replacement of its paired log bridges and “Y” intersection at the Main Trail by a single span in 1968, and replacement of two minor plank bridges.

Ben Johnson Trail Spur (Site Plan Resource #23, contributing)
In March 1936, a connecting spur was built at the west end of the Ben Johnson Trail to connect with Deer Park and the recently improved Dipsea Trail and Dipsea Fire Road. This spur ascended a steep slope by means of switchbacks and log steps. Since the end of the historic period, the log steps have been replaced with milled timber and split-rail fencing has been added to keep people from cutting across the switch back. The trail appears to retain its historic alignment.

Dipsea Trail (Site Plan Resource #24, contributing)
The Dipsea Trail is a seven-mile trail that extends from Mill Valley to Stinson Beach on the Pacific. The middle section of the trail follows the western ridge above Redwood Canyon, and crosses the northwestern part of the nominated property within the Hamilton Tract. Approximately 1,500 feet are within the nominated property (the Dipsea Trail also crosses Muir Woods National Monument at its southern end, but outside of the nominated property). The portion of the trail near and through Muir Woods predates the monument, originating as the Lone Tree Trail or Trail to Willow Camp (Stinson Beach), believed to be one of the earliest trails in the region. In 1905, the trail became the course for the Dipsea Race, lending the trail its current name. The Dipsea Trail was improved by the CCC and the Civil Works Administration in 1933-1934. The trail today has an earthen surface and is approximately three to five feet wide. It extends through woods, while to the south it is primarily on the open ridge. There have been no significant changes to the section of the Dipsea Trail through the nominated property since the end of the historic period.

Dipsea (Deer Park) Fire Road (Site Plan Resource #25, contributing)
The Dipsea Fire Road extends along the western ridge above Muir Woods from Frank Valley Road on the southeast to the northwestern corner of the monument; here, it becomes the Old Mine Truck Trail, which extends to the Panoramic Highway. The road parallels and in places crosses the Dipsea Trail. Approximately 1,500 feet of the road are within the nominated property. Originally known as the Muir Woods Fire Road, the Dipsea Fire Road was conceived as part of a network of fire roads on Mount Tamalpais. It was built in 1934-1935 by the CCC, mostly through land belonging to the Estate of William Kent (Ranch X), which became part of Mount Tamalpais State Park in 1968. The road is approximately fifteen feet wide and has a compacted earthen/gravel surface that is not routinely graded. Within the monument, it is within
woods, but to the south it runs primarily on open ridge. The road is closed to public vehicular use. Changes since the end of the historic period have been limited to primarily erosion and rutting.

Circulation #1: The service drive looking north near the Administration-Concession Building.

Circulation #2: The Main Trail looking north near Cathedral Grove, with Redwood Creek at left.
Circulation #3: The Ocean View Trail looking northeast within Muir Woods National Monument.

Circulation #4: The Bohemian Grove Trail south of Bohemian Grove looking southwest with Redwood Creek to the left.
Circulation #5: The Hillside Trail looking southwest approximately half-way on the trail with the canyon floor to the left.

Circulation #6: The Ben Johnson Trail looking west approximately half-way on the trail.
Circulation #7: The Dipsea Fire Road looking southwest within the Hamilton Tract.
### Circulation Landscape Features

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<tr>
<th>Characteristic Feature</th>
<th>Type of Contribution</th>
<th>Structure #</th>
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Buildings and Structures

Buildings

There are a total of five contributing and four non-contributing buildings in the nominated property, all clustered at the south end of the monument. The non-contributing buildings were added after the end of the period of significance. (The new visitor center, adjoining the main entrance gate, is outside of the nominated property.) Five buildings dating to the period of significance have since been demolished: the main comfort station (built 1928), the Bohemian Grove comfort station (built 1937), the Cathedral Grove comfort station (built 1934), and two privies in Deer Park (built 1934). These were all rustic structures that employed an exposed milled timber-framing motif used on all monument buildings erected prior to 1940.

Contributing Buildings

Superintendent’s Residence (Site Plan Resource #4, MW-1, LCS 058170, contributing)
The Superintendent’s Residence, historically known as the Custodian’s Cottage, was constructed in 1922 and expanded in 1935 and 1939. It is located within the monument’s present utility area at the original upper south entrance along the service drive (Old Muir Woods Road). Aside from privies, it was the first building to be constructed within the monument boundaries, and replaced the Keeper’s House, a frame building located south of the monument on land belonging to William Kent (present Kent Entrance Tract). The rustic-style frame building, which served as a residence as well as park office, was initially designed by NPS landscape architect Daniel Hull and built by Henry T. McKallor of Oakland. This original section, measuring 18 by 20 feet, comprises the central and southern parts of the existing building. It is one story tall with a gable roof, stone foundation, and wood six-light casement windows. The siding features an exposed milled framing detail and shingle infill, originally stained a dark brown (probably creosote diluted with coal oil), contrasting with white-painted window sashes. The building originally had a log pergola on the north side. The 1935 addition, measuring 18 by 14 feet and built on the northwest side of the building in place of the pergola, was designed in the same style and materials as the original by NPS Regional Architect Edward Nickel and W. G. Carnes, Regional Landscape Architect, and was built by the CCC. Due to the slope, this addition has a frame lower level, sided in clapboards. The 1939 addition was designed in the same style and materials as the older sections by NPS Assistant Architect L. H. Skidmore. Construction of this second addition was funded through the Public Works Administration and contracted to J. Henry Ross of Mill Valley. The addition, measuring 9 by 16 feet, is a cross-gable wing built into the southwest (downhill) side of the building, and like the 1935 addition, has a lower frame level above a stone foundation. This addition features a living room finished in knotty pine paneling. At some point after the historic period, the building was painted red and a deck was added on the east side. Aside from minor interior alterations, no further changes have been made to the building. Both the existing color and deck detract from the building’s historic character. The building remains in use as a residence for park staff.

Superintendent’s Storage Shed (Site Plan Resource #5, MW-2, LCS 58173, contributing)
The Superintendent’s Storage Shed, measuring approximately 8 by 12 feet, was constructed in 1924 as a woodshed and storage shed. It is located southeast of the superintendent’s residence at the end of a non-historic deck, and features a shed roof with wood novelty siding (without the exposed timber framing detail of the superintendent’s residence). The roof is presently being replaced and the door has been removed temporarily for repair. Aside from these changes, the building appears to retain integrity to the historic period.

Superintendent’s (Lower) Garage (Site Plan Resource #6, MW-3, LCS 058172, contributing)
The Superintendent’s Garage, located along the service drive (Old Muir Woods Road) in the utility area, was completed in May 1931 and was constructed of lumber salvaged from the second (1913) Muir Inn at the lower terminus of the Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway, which had closed in 1929. Probably designed by NPS Landscape Architect Thomas Carpenter, the rustic-style garage measures 20 by 22 feet and features the same milled exposed timber-framing detail as the superintendent’s residence, but with plank infill rather than shingles. The building is on a concrete foundation and has a front-gable roof, six-light windows on the sidewalls, and two pairs of side-hinged plank garage doors on the front. The Superintendent’s Garage replaced a smaller garage built in the same location in 1923. The superintendent’s garage has not been altered, although the existing brown paint is lighter than the historic creosote-coal oil stain, and the window sashes, now brown, were historically white.

Equipment Shed (Main Shop) (Site Plan Resource #7, MW-4, LCS 058169, contributing)
The Equipment Shed, located in the utility area on a concrete spur off the Service Drive (Old Muir Woods Road) north of the superintendent’s residence, was constructed in 1934 by the Civil Works Administration. Designed through the NPS San Francisco district office (individual designer not known), the rustic-style building measures 25 by 33 feet and features the same exposed timber framing detail with plank infill as used on the Superintendent’s Garage. The building has a side-gable roof with two original skylights, concrete foundation, six-light windows, and two pairs of side-hinged plank garage doors across the front. The building has an attic level used for storage. The building has not been altered, although the existing brown paint is lighter than the historic creosote-coal oil stain, and the window sashes, now brown, were historically white.

Administration-Concession Building (Site Plan Resource #8, MW-8, contributing)
The Administration-Concession Building, located in the monument entrance area between the Main Trail and Service Drive (Old Muir Woods Road), was constructed in 1940 by John Branagh of Piedmont, California with Project Works Administration funding. The design was developed by the NPS San Francisco Regional Office, with Thomas Vint, Chief of Planning, and C. L. Gable, Chief Park Operators Division, involved in the planning, and Regional Architect Edward Nickel probably responsible for the final design. As originally envisioned, the building contained three parts: administration wing, operator wing (lunchroom and gift shop), and museum wing. Due to the high cost of labor and materials, the museum wing was dropped from the project. Designed in a streamlined rustic style that became typical of post-war park architecture, the building was the first in the monument to depart from the exposed timber-framing motif. It features two rectangular blocks (the larger concession wing on the north, and the small administration wing to the south), low-slung gable roofs with wide overhanging eaves,
wide clapboard siding, large areas of glazing with plate windows facing Redwood Creek, and
doors with horizontal muntins. Although there have been a number of changes since 1947,
overall the building retains its historic massing and details characteristic of its streamlined rustic
style, and it continues to house the park’s gift/food concession and administrative offices.
Changes include enclosing of the connecting porch, addition of two rear wings, some changes in
fenestration, and interior renovations. The most significant change to the character of the
building has been the alteration of the approach from the Main Trail, including the addition of a
raised deck over the original terrace paved with redwood rounds. This terrace, parts of which
may still exist beneath the deck, was built in 1941 by the CCC (Camp Alpine Lake) as its final
project at Muir Woods. It featured log benches, log post and rail fences, and wood steps with log
cheek walls. The existing deck detracts from the historic character of the building.

Non-Contributing Buildings

New Main Comfort Station (Site Plan Resource #9, MW-17, non-contributing)
This one-story building, located immediately north of and set back from the Administration-
Concession Building, was completed in 2002. It was built as a replacement for the old main
comfort station (1928 with later additions), which was located approximately one hundred feet to
the north and was demolished with the completion of the new building. A new site was selected
to avoid building within a redwood grove. The new main comfort station has a low-slung gable
roof and wood siding that is similar to the Administration-Concession Building.

Trailer Office (Site Plan Resource #10, non-contributing)
This manufactured trailer is located behind (east of) the Administration-Concession Building
along the west side of the Service Drive (Old Muir Woods Road). It was brought to the
monument in 1990 to provide additional office space, and has been painted brown. Although not
in a highly visible location, the trailer is incompatible with the historic character of the
landscape.

Power Tool (Paint) Shed (Site Plan Resource #11, MW-15, non-contributing)
This small metal building, located in the utility area between the equipment shed and storage
shed, was built in 1966. Its position extends in front of the equipment shed. Originally bright
metal, it is now painted brown to blend in with the adjoining historic buildings. Its design and
materials are incompatible with the historic character of the utility area.

Hand Tool (Storage) Shed (Site Plan Resource #12, MW-12, non-contributing)
This small frame building, located in the utility area between the Power Tool Shed and the
Superintendent’s Garage, was built in c.1985, and once served as a restroom. It has a front-gable
roof and vertical board-like siding, and is painted brown to match the adjoining buildings. Its
overall design is compatible with the historic character of the utility area, although its placement
detracts from the historic setting of the Equipment Shed.

Structures
Structures within the nominated property include bridges and flood control structures. Notable surviving structures within the nominated property include the stone-arched Fern Creek Bridge, stone walls and stairway at the Superintendent’s Residence, and a log dam and system of stone revetments in Redwood Creek. The most significant loss of structures since the end of the historic period has been the removal of thirteen log footbridges across Redwood Creek between the Main Trail and the trails on the west side of the creek, most of which were built by the CCC. These log bridges were removed during the 1950s and 1960s due to safety concerns and deterioration (four of the log bridges were replaced with larger, laminated wood bridges). Three historic log bridges remain on the Ben Johnson Trail.

Contributing Structures

North Steps to Superintendent’s Residence (Site Plan Resource #13, LCS 058182, contributing)
The steps to the Superintendent’s Residence provide access up the hill from the Service Drive. These steps were built by the CCC in 1936, supplementing an earlier and smaller set of steps to the residence from the north side (see superintendent’s stone walls). The three-foot wide steps are built of rough quarried stone, and include twenty-six risers with stone cheek walls. A concrete walk extends up to the residence. Aside from the addition of non-historic wood railings, there have been no significant changes to steps since the end of the historic period.

Superintendents Residence Stone Walls and Steps (Site Plan Resource #14, LCS 058171, contributing)
A series of retaining walls and steps provide access to the Superintendent’s Residence from the service drive. Two retaining walls of quarried and rounded stone extend to either side of the superintendent’s residence, extending 60 feet and incorporating two stone stairways that served as the original (1922) access to the building prior to construction of the north steps in 1926 (resource 15). The wall to the south of and below the residence along the service drive, built by the CCC in 1935, is 35 feet long and averages 6 feet high, and contains two sets of steps. Its rustic character is enhanced by moss and ferns growing in the wall. Aside from a deck added above the south wall, there have been no changes to the walls and steps since the historic period.

Main Trail Wooden Bridge #1 (Site Plan Resource #26, LCS 058167, contributing)
The Main Trail wooden bridge #1 is located over a minor tributary of Redwood Creek south of Cathedral Grove. The bridge is one of three matching bridges built by the CCC in c.1937. The new bridge replaced a corrugated iron culvert, which clogged with debris during rainstorms. Because the Main Trail was still in use as a monument service road, the bridge was built to support trucks. The stringer-type bridge is twelve feet wide with a plank deck, redwood log curbs, and stone-lined embankment. It matches bridge #2 located north of Cathedral Grove. There have been no significant changes to the bridge since the end of the historic period.

Main Trail Wooden Bridge #2 (Site Plan Resource #27, LCS 058167, contributing)
The Main Trail wooden bridge #2 is located over a minor tributary of Redwood Creek north of Cathedral Grove. The bridge is one of three matching bridges built by the CCC in c.1937. The new bridge replaced a corrugated iron culvert, which clogged with debris during rainstorms. Because the Main Trail was still in use as a monument service road, the bridge was built to
support trucks. The stringer-type bridge is twelve feet wide with a plank deck, redwood log curbs, and stone-lined embankment. It matches bridge #1 located south of Cathedral Grove. There have been no significant changes to the bridge since the end of the historic period aside from the addition of split-rail fencing.

Fern Creek Bridge (Site Plan Resource #28, LCS 058168, contributing)
The Fern Creek Bridge is located on the Main Trail where it crosses Fern Creek. The concept of a substantial bridge at this location was apparently suggested in 1933 by National Park Service Chief Engineer F. A. Kittredge, but the final design for a concrete-arch bridge with stone facing was drawn up in the fall of 1933 by Regional Architect Edward A. Nickel. In February 1934, Civil Works Administration crews tore down the old timber bridge built in c.1906, erected a temporary bridge downstream, and during the spring poured the concrete arch of the new bridge. The CCC completed the construction in August. The single-span arched bridge is twelve feet wide with rough, uncoursed, face-bedded stone veneer with large voussoirs and parapet walls. Aside from the addition of asphalt paving to the trail surface, there have been no changes to the bridge since the end of the historic period.

Ben Johnson Trail Lower Log Bridge (Site Plan Resource #29, LCS 058178, contributing)
The lower log bridge on the Ben Johnson Trail spans a small ravine near the east end of the trail, a short distance west of the intersection of the Hillside Trail. The bridge was most likely constructed in c.1934 by the CCC as part of its improvements to the Ben Johnson Trail. The bridge is a single, 3.5-foot diameter and 27-foot long redwood log with a three-foot wide flat walking surface and rock abutments. There have been no apparent changes to the bridge since the end of the historic period.

Ben Johnson Trail Middle Log Bridge (Site Plan Resource #30, contributing)
The middle log bridge on the Ben Johnson Trail spans a shallow drainage near the middle of the trail, extending between two redwoods. The bridge was most likely constructed in c.1934 by the CCC as part of its improvements to the Ben Johnson Trail. The bridge is a single redwood log, approximately twenty-five feet long and three feet in diameter with a two-foot wide flat walking surface and rock abutments. There have been no apparent built changes to the bridge since the end of the historic period.

Ben Johnson Trail Upper (Double) Log Bridge (Site Plan Resource #31, contributing)
The upper log bridge on the Ben Johnson Trail spans the top of a minor ravine at the western end of the trail. The bridge was most likely constructed in c.1934 by the CCC as part of its improvements to the Ben Johnson Trail. The bridge is built of two redwood logs laid side-by-side, approximately twenty feet long and four feet wide, with rock abutments. The bridge is partially built around a redwood tree. There have been no apparent built changes to the bridge since the end of the historic period.

Log Check Dam (Site Plan Resource #32, contributing)
The log check dam, located in Redwood Creek near the Emerson Memorial, was built in September 1932. The dam, listed as an attraction in the monument’s first brochure (1934), was designed under the oversight of Superintendent Herschler to slow the velocity of water and
create an area of visual interest. The dam consisted of a thirty-six inch diameter redwood log with stone gabion (mesh-enclosed) bed and revetments that were finished with stone for a naturalistic appearance. The dam created a small pool and waterfall. Today, the dam remains, but the log has worn down and the creek bed has apparently filled in so that there is no longer a perceptible waterfall except during times of low water.

System of Stone Revetments (Site Plan Resource #33, LCS 058251, contributing)
The stone revetments along the banks of Redwood Creek extend from south of the monument (outside of nominated property) upstream to Fern Creek. Built between 1934 and 1938, the revetments consist of non-contiguous areas of three-to-five foot high stone facing intended to protect the soft banks from erosion during times of high water. The idea for stabilizing the banks with revetments was conceived with the support of William Kent following a major flood in 1925. At the time, park staff believed revetments were needed to protect the creek from undermining the redwoods and the Main Trail, and to enhance the appearance of the landscape. The first, consisting of temporary brush revetments and more stable stone-filled wire basket revetments (gabions), were installed in the late 1920s and early 1930s. Following the construction of two stone check dams in the lower part of Redwood Canyon in 1934, the NPS San Francisco Regional Office devised plans for building more permanent stone protection along the creek banks, made possible in large part through the availability of cheap labor supplied by the CCC. Constructed of stone quarried from Kent Estate lands about one mile south of Muir Woods off Frank Valley Road, the revetments were built by toeing in large slabs of stone into graded banks, mostly along bends, near bridges, and at the entrance of tributaries. The Landscape Division of the NPS regional office directed the CCC to make the stonework as inconspicuous as possible, and to limit the revetments only to those areas where irreparable damage might be done during times of flood. By 1938, the revetment system was considered complete. Today, most of the stone revetments remain intact, although certain areas have collapsed and others have been removed in order to restore the natural character of the creek and improve spawning grounds for steelhead and silver salmon.

Redwood Cross-Section Pavilion (Site Plan Resource #34, LCS 58175, contributing)
The redwood cross section, located along the Main Trail near the Administration-Concession Building, is five feet in diameter and is housed in a rustic pavilion built of two log posts supporting a shingled roof with log rafters. The cross-section dates the growth rings corresponding with historic events. The pavilion measures four by nine feet, and is approximately ten feet tall. The cross-section was made in August 1931 as one of the first interpretive displays in the monument, modeled after a similar display at Yosemite. Since the end of the historic period, the position of the pavilion has been shifted, but is still within the same general area, and the pavilion was reconstructed in c.1999, replicating the original design (although with a different color stain). The text on the cross-section has also been changed over the years.

Non-Contributing Structures

Bridge #1 (Site Plan Resource #35, non-contributing)
Bridge #1, carrying the Bohemian Grove Trail over Redwood Creek across from the Administration-Concession Building, is a wood laminate single-span bridge with concrete abutments built in c.1965. It replaced a log bridge in approximately the same location built in 1938 by the CCC. The existing bridge is a departure from the romanticized rustic aesthetic that characterized the landscape during the historic period.

Bridge #2 (Site Plan Resource #36, non-contributing)
Bridge #2, carrying a connecting spur between the Main Trail and Bohemian Grove Trail over Redwood Creek, is a wood laminate single-span bridge with concrete abutments built in c.1965. It replaced the natural log bridge (a fallen tree that was made into a natural log bridge in 1926), located a short distance upstream. The existing bridge is a departure from the romanticized rustic aesthetic that characterized the landscape during the historic period.

Bridge #3 (Site Plan Resource #37, non-contributing)
Bridge #3, carrying the north end of the Bohemian Grove Trail over Redwood Creek near Cathedral Grove, is a wood laminate single-span bridge with concrete abutments built under contract by Ceccotti & Sons, Inc. and completed in January 1963. It replaced a log bridge in approximately the same location built in 1934. The existing bridge is a departure from the romanticized rustic aesthetic that characterized the landscape during the historic period.

Bridge #4 (Site Plan Resource #38, non-contributing)
Bridge #4, carrying the Ben Johnson Trail over Redwood Creek at the northern boundary of the monument near the Main Trail, is a wood laminate single-span bridge with concrete abutments built under contract by A. E. FitzGerald and completed in 1968. It replaced two 1930s-era log bridges that formed a “Y” intersection of the Ben Johnson Trail with the Main Trail. The existing bridge is a departure from the romanticized rustic aesthetic that characterized the landscape during the historic period.

Remains of Upper Rock Check Dam (Site Plan Resource #39, non-contributing)
The remains of the upper rock check dam consists of stone rubble in the bed of Redwood Creek upstream from Bridge #1, across from the Administration-Concession Building. The dam was completed by the Civil Works Administration in March 1934 using stone quarried on Kent Estate land off Frank Valley Road, about one mile south of Muir Woods. Crews hauled 135 truckloads of rock to the creek bed, extending an apron of stone for approximately thirty feet downstream. The dam created an area of white water downstream and slack water upstream. Since the end of the historic period, much of the rock in the dam has been dispersed to improve the spawning habitat for the steelhead and silver salmon, which had difficulty swimming upstream over the dam.

Remains of Middle Rock Check Dam (Site Plan Resource #40, non-contributing)
The remains of the middle rock check dam consist of stone rubble in the bed of Redwood Creek near the main gate, in an area generally not seen by visitors. The dam was initially built by the CCC in May 1934 using stone quarried on Kent Estate land off Frank Valley Road, about one mile south of Muir Woods. The dam extended an apron of stone for approximately thirty feet downstream, creating an area of white water downstream and slack water upstream. After a flood
in 1935, the creek banks below the dam were reinforced with stone revetment. Since the end of the historic period, much of the rock in the dam has been dispersed to improve the spawning habitat for the steelhead and silver salmon, which had difficulty swimming upstream over the dam.

History of Muir Woods Pavilion (Site Plan Resource #41, non-contributing)
This display, featuring a rustic pavilion similar in design to the historic redwood cross-section pavilion, is located on the Main Trail near the Pinchot Memorial. It was built in 2005, and features framed text that tells the story of the “Saving of Muir Woods.” Although a modern structure, its design does not detract from the historic character of the landscape.

Entrance Gate (Arch) (Site Plan Resource #42, non-contributing)
In April 1935, the CCC completed a rustic log gate and sign at the main pedestrian (south) entrance to Muir Woods, on the south National Monument boundary. In 1968, the gate was removed as part of the reconfiguration of the entrance area that included the construction of an entrance kiosk. In 1990, the kiosk was removed and a new timber gate was built in approximately the same location as the original. Its design is similar to the historic gate, but with slightly different proportions, sign, and stone footings. It is compatible with the historic character of the landscape.

Steel Water Tank (Site Plan Resource #43, non-contributing)
A steel tank for supplying water to the monument was installed on the hillside above the utility area in 1957, after the end of the historic period. It replaced three wooden water tanks that were located on land leased from Mount Tamalpais State Park at the head of Pipeline Canyon near the Ocean View Trail. The steel tank is set into the wooded hillside and is not visible except from the rear of the Equipment Shed.
Buildings and Structures #1: The west front of the Superintendent’s Residence looking northeast at the original (1922) wing on the right and the 1939 wing on the left.

Buildings and Structures #2: The Superintendent’s Garage looking north from Service Drive.
Buildings and Structures #3: The front (west side) of the Administration-Concession Building looking south, showing non-historic deck.

Buildings and Structures #4: The north steps to the Superintendents Residence looking southeast from the service drive spur.
Buildings and Structures #5: The wooden (plank) bridge on the main trail south of Cathedral Grove, looking west toward Redwood Creek.

Buildings and Structures #6: Fern Creek Bridge on the main trail looking southwest (downstream) toward Redwood Creek.
Buildings and Structures #7: The lower log bridge on the Ben Johnson Trail looking west (up-trail).

Buildings and Structures #8: The log check dam in Redwood Creek looking east from the Bohemian Grove Trail.
Buildings and Structures #9: Representative view of the system of stone revetments lining Redwood Creek, view looking east toward the main trail.
### Buildings and Structures Landscape Features

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<td>Steel Water Tank</td>
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Small-Scale Features

The most significant small-scale features within the nominated property—the memorials to key individuals in conservation and transcendental literature—remain intact. Most other small-scale features extant at the end of the period of significance 1947 have disappeared. These included rustic redwood post signs and drinking fountains, log benches, and picnic tables built by the CCC during the 1930s. None remain except for one log bench on the Ben Johnson Trail. Existing benches and interpretive/directional signage date primarily from the past three decades. While different in appearance from those used historically, these contemporary site furnishings still maintain a rustic style and use of unfinished wood that is generally compatible with the overall historic character of the landscape. Rough split-rail fencing has also been installed since the end of the historic period along many of the trails to keep visitors from trampling the forest floor.

Contributing Small-Scale Features

Ben Johnson Trail Log Bench (Site Plan Resource #44, contributing)
A log bench, built out of redwood log and set into the embankment, is located toward the western end of the Ben Johnson Trail. It was probably made by the CCC and installed when similar benches were put out along the Main Trail between 1934 and 1936. It is approximately five feet long and four feet high. In 2006, the seat portion of the log broke off, revealing rot within the log. The log bench is the only remaining example of its type left in the monument.

Emerson Memorial (Site Plan Resource #45, LCS 058176, contributing)
The Emerson Memorial is a large redwood tree marked by a small brass plaque located between the Main Trail and Redwood Creek near the terminus of the Ocean View Trail. The memorial was dedicated in 1903 by a group of prominent writers from San Francisco, including the novelist Jack London, to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of Ralph Waldo Emerson’s birth. The plaque reads “1803 / EMERSON / 1903” and measures approximately 8 inches by 14 inches. It is unseen by most park visitors because it is located on the creek-side of the tree, out of view from the Main Trail. (The Main Trail may have originally run between the creek and the tree.)

Gifford Pinchot Memorial (Site Plan Resource #46, LCS 058164, contributing)
The Gifford Pinchot Memorial is a large redwood tree marked at its foot by a brass plaque mounted on a boulder, located on the west side of the Main Trail near the terminus of the Ocean View Trail. The plaque and boulder were erected by the Sierra Club with the guidance of William Kent in honor of Gifford Pinchot for his key role in the establishment of Muir Woods National Monument. The monument was dedicated in May 1910 during Pinchot’s lifetime. In contrast to the Emerson Memorial, the Sierra Club decided to place the bronze plaque on a boulder rather than damage the tree. The brass plaque measures 1 by 2 feet, and the boulder is approximately 4 feet high by 4 feet wide. The plaque reads: “THIS TREE IS DEDICATED TO / GIFFORD PINCHOT / FRIEND OF THE FOREST / CONSERVER OF THE COMMONWEALTH / SIERRA CLUB / MAY MCMX.” There have been no changes to the boulder and plaque since its construction, and the Pinchot tree remains standing.
William Kent Memorial (Site Plan Resource #47, LCS 058174, contributing)
The William Kent Memorial is a fallen Douglas fir marked by a bronze plaque mounted on a boulder located along the Fern Creek Trail approximately 175 feet from the Main Trail. The memorial was dedicated by the Tamalpais Conservation Club (TCC) in honor of William Kent, who donated Muir Woods to the federal government and was instrumental in its preservation and management up until his death on March 13, 1928. The Douglas fir, believed to have been the tallest in the monument and a favorite of Kent’s, was selected as the memorial by NPS Chief Landscape Architect Thomas Vint, Muir Woods Custodian John Needham, and James Wright, a past president of the TCC. As with the Pinchot Memorial, the TCC decided to mark the tree by placing a plaque mounted on a boulder near its foot. On May 5, 1929, the memorial was dedicated in a ceremony attended by Horace Albright, Director of the National Park Service, and members of the TCC, the Sierra and California Alpine Clubs, and the Tourist Club. The plaque measures 15 by 20 inches and is mounted on a boulder, brought down from the upper reaches of Fern Creek, measuring approximately 4 feet wide and 3 feet high. The plaque reads: “WILLIAM KENT / WHO GAVE THESE WOODS AND OTHER NATURAL BEAUTY SITES / TO PERPETUATE THEM FOR PEOPLE / WHO LOVE THE OUT-OF-DOORS / 1864 1928 / TAMALPAIS CONSERVATION CLUB.” The boulder is positioned east of the tree facing southwest, with the trail running between. In 2003, the Douglas fir fell and today remains across Fern Creek; the trail was rerouted to the east side of the boulder. Although a dramatic change to the William Kent Memorial, the plaque and boulder remain intact. A number of small stones outline an area in front of the boulder; it is not known if these are historic.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial (Site Plan Resource #48, LCS 058165, contributing)
The Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial is a bronze plaque mounted on a redwood log located along the east side of the Main Trail in Cathedral Grove. The memorial originated as part of a ceremony held in Cathedral Grove by the United Nations Conference on International Organization on May 19, 1945 in honor of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who died on April 12, 1945, two weeks before he was to open the conference being held in San Francisco. A temporary memorial was erected for the ceremony on the east side of the Main Trail, facing the audience that gathered across from it. Two years later, in May 1947, a permanent memorial was erected in the same location. Designed in a naturalistic style based on the suggestion of Regional Director O. A. Tomlinson, the memorial is a partially buried, six-foot long redwood log with a bronze plaque measuring 2 by 3 feet mounted on a planed surface at approximately a forty-five degree angle. The log was donated by the Log Cabin Ranch School in La Honda, California. The plaque reads: HERE IN THIS GROVE OF ENDURING REDWOODS, PRESERVED FOR PROSPERITY, MEMBERS OF THE UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION MET ON MAY 19, 1945 TO HONOR THE MEMORY OF FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT, THIRTY-FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, CHIEF ARCHITECT OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND APOSTLE OF LASTING PEACE FOR ALL MANKIND.” Since the end of the historic period, there have been no changes to the memorial. A redwood tree fell to the north side of the memorial and its splintered trunk remains on the slope immediately to the rear.
Non-Contributing Small-Scale Features

Bicentennial Tree Marker (Site Plan Resource #49, non-contributing)
The bicentennial tree marker is a bronze plaque mounted on a boulder located at the base of a redwood on the Bohemian Grove Trail south of Bohemian Grove. The tree was estimated to be 200 years old when the marker was dedicated in May 1976, after the end of the historic period. The marker does not detract from the historic character of the landscape.

Small-Scale Features #1: Log bench on the Ben Johnson Trail looking southeast.
## Small-Scale Features

<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td>Bicentennial Tree Marker</td>
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</table>
Archeological Sites

To date, there have been no prehistoric or historic subsurface remains identified within the boundaries of the nominated property. The canyon floor was most likely used by the native Coast Miwok peoples for hunting and gathering.

There are several sites of lost historic features that are presently interpreted to the public, including the general location of the log cabin (c.1905-1925) along the Main Trail north of Fern Creek; and the general location of the Bohemian Club’s Buddha statue (1892). Other historic-period features no longer standing include the lower and middle picnic grounds, comfort stations at Bohemian Grove and Cathedral Grove; and privies near the middle picnic grounds, Cathedral Grove, and at Deer Park. There are no visible above-ground remains associated with these sites.

A comprehensive archeological overview and assessment has not been completed for Muir Woods.
CONDITION ASSESSMENT

Landscape Stabilization

Stabilization Cost:
Stabilization Cost Date:        09/04/2007
Stabilization Cost Level of Estimate:  C-Similar Facilities
Stabilization Cost Estimator:     Park/FMSS

Stabilization Measures Description:

The overall condition of Muir Woods National Monument Historic District is good. The majority of the historic resources are in good condition with a few minor exceptions. There is evidence of erosion and deterioration of features along both the trail system and the two roads. Routine and preventative maintenance should be considered to address the erosion of the historic trails and roads within the historic district. Stabilization measures currently listed on FMSS for the trail system includes the repair of ruts, trail edging, retaining walls, waterbars, and a rock causeway. In addition to repairs, the replacement of retaining walls, cribbing and steps is proposed in FMSS for the trail system. To prevent erosion of the Ocean View Trail, the installation of a cribbing wall is proposed on FMSS.

Stabilization Cost Explanatory Narrative:

The stabilization costs address erosion and the deterioration of features associated with the trail system. The stabilization costs were developed from the deferred maintenance work order from within FMSS. The FMSS asset title and number are listed to the far right.

Camp Alice Eastwood Trail / Wagon Road [Alice Eastwood Trail (T-50)] -43511
  Repair Ruts          $752
  Total                $752

Ben Johnson Trail [Ben Johnson Trail (T-26)] – 43512
  Repair Trail Edging  $1,436
  Replace Retaining Walls and Cribbing  $13,538
  Replace Rotten Timber Steps  $2,563
  Repair Rock Causeway    $10,048
  Total                    $27,585

Hillside Trail [Hillside (T-23)] -43516
  Repair/Install Retaining Wall  $10,786
  Replace Rotting Cribbing    $9,228
  Replace Retaining Walls    $99,162
  Total                      $119,176

Ocean View Trail [Panoramic Trail (Ocean View) (T-50)] - 43518
  Install Cribbing Wall to prevent erosion  $5,249
  Repair Retaining Wall      $6,483
  Replace Steps               $855
Main (Bootjack) Trail [Redwood Creek Trail (MUWO Main Trail) (T-49)] - 43519
- Repair Ruts $752
- Repair Edges $4,172
- Total $4,924

Dipsea Trail [Dipsea Trail (T-20-21)] - 35782
- Replace Retaining Wall $6,811
- Repair Waterbar $786
- Repair Edging $4,307
- Replace Missing Rock Step $500
- Total $12,404

Total Stabilization Cost for Historic District $177,428

**Condition Assessment**

The criteria for determining the condition of landscapes is consistent with the Resource Management Plan Guideline definitions (1994) and is decided with the concurrence of park management. Cultural landscape conditions are defined as follows:

*Good*: indicates the landscape shows no clear evidence of major negative disturbance and deterioration by natural and/or human forces. The landscape’s cultural and natural values are as well preserved as can be expected under the given environmental conditions. No immediate corrective action is required to maintain its current condition.

*Fair*: indicates the landscape shows clear evidence of minor disturbances and deterioration by natural and/or human forces, and some degree of corrective action is needed within 3-5 years to prevent further harm to its cultural and/or natural values. If left to continue without the appropriate corrective action, the cumulative effect of the deterioration of many of the character-defining elements will cause the landscape to degrade to a poor condition.

*Poor*: indicates the landscape shows clear evidence of major disturbance and rapid deterioration by natural and/or human forces. Immediate corrective action is required to protect and preserve the remaining historical and natural values.

*Undetermined*: not enough information available to make an evaluation.

**Condition Assessment:**

Good

**Impacts to Inventory Unit**

Indicate the impact(s) associated with the inventory unit. An impact is defined as a detectable result of an agent or series of agents having a negative effect on the significance, characteristics of resource’s integrity, and for which some form of mitigation or preventative action is possible. Select from the following impact types:

**Impact Type:** Erosion  
**Internal or External:** Inside  
**Impact Explanatory Narrative:** Erosion and rutting are impacting the Dipsea Fire Road (contributing) and the Service Drive (contributing). Erosion is also impacting some of the contributing trails such as the Hillside Trail.

**Impact Type:** Deterioration  
**Internal or External:** Inside  
**Impact Explanatory Narrative:** The redwood log of the log check dam (contributing) has worn down and the creek bed has apparently filled in so that there is no longer a perceptible waterfall except during times of low water. Also, the log footbridges and the Ben Johnson Trail Log Bench are deteriorating.
TREATMENT

Approved Landscape Treatment: Undetermined: No treatment has been approved.
Bibliography and Supplemental Information

Bibliography


Adjacent Lands Description

Muir Woods National Monument was closely associated with adjoining lands that belonged to William Kent, the Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway Company, and Mount Tamalpais State Park. All surrounding property except the Camino del Canyon Tract (also known as Camp Monte Vista) was once owned by William Kent as part of his Redwood Canyon land he acquired in 1905, and adjoining ranchlands he acquired in subsequent years. With a few exceptions, there was little distinction historically between Muir Woods and these lands, which were tied together not only by a common ecosystem, but also by a network of trails, and often were developed with a similar rustic aesthetic. Because of this historic association, the lands surrounding the nominated property are an especially important part of the historic setting of Muir Woods National Monument. These lands, however, do not contribute directly to the significance of Muir Woods because they were not part of the National Monument designation during the period of significance, and because they overall lack historic integrity. The following is a description of the lands adjoining Muir Woods, listed in general cardinal direction to the nominated property, with discussion of changes to these lands since the end of the historic period in 1947. The parcels are indicated by name on the accompanying sketch map.

Lands to the South

Overall, the lands to the south of the nominated property occupying the lower canyon floor have changed from a largely open character composed of fields and scattered groves, to mostly deciduous woods.

Parking Lot Tract (Mount Tamalpais State Park, incorporated within National Monument boundary in 1951, leased from the state park by the National Park Service since 1934, 19 acres): This tract, incorporated into the state park in 1934, historically served as a south buffer and included the main vehicular entrance and main parking lot for Muir Woods. Since the end of the period of significance, major changes have included the addition of a trail to the lower parking lot (c.1956), a new entrance gateway/sign at Muir Woods Road (1965), a comfort station (1968), and visitor center (1989); dispersal of the lower rock check dam built by the CCC in Redwood Creek in 1940, and alterations to the configuration and furnishings of the parking lot built by the CCC in 1938. Despite these changes, the open space of the parking lot proper remains an important part of the setting of the nominated property located immediately to its north, providing one of the few opportunities for visitors to see redwood trees in full view. A grove of redwoods along the western side of Redwood Creek on this tract is an extension of the redwood forest within the nominated property.

Kent Entrance Tract (incorporated into National Monument in 1951, 11 acres): This tract is not contiguous to or visible from the nominated property. Major changes since 1947 aside from natural succession include the addition of the lower parking lot (1956). The tract contains the site of the Keeper’s House, a building probably constructed by William Kent in c.1890, possibly as the Tamalpais Sportsman’s Association clubhouse (The Álders), and subsequently used as the
residence for the first custodian of Muir Woods. It is not known if any archeological resources remain at its site.

Church Tract (incorporated into National Monument in 1959, 6 acres): This tract is not contiguous to or visible from the nominated property. Major changes since 1947 aside from natural succession include addition of sewage holding tanks (1990) and a native plant nursery (1992).

Camino del Canyon Tract (legislatively added to Muir Woods National Monument park unit in 1972, property purchased c.1974-1984, 50 acres): Originally developed as a church camp named Camp Kent (after William Kent) and a subdivision named Camp Monte Vista, this tract was a mixture of private cottages and youth camps during the historic period. Upon acquisition by the National Park Service, many of the cottages were abandoned and the property today is used primarily for maintenance and natural resource protection purposes. A portion of the property continues to be used under special use permit as a youth camp by the Hillwood School. Known as Hillwood Camp, this portion of the Camino del Canyon Tract has been determined National Register eligible at the local level.

Former Kent South Buffer Tract (Mount Tamalpais State Park, 31 acres): This tract, located north and east of the state-leased parking lot tract, is contiguous to the nominated property and is crossed by Muir Woods Road. It was incorporated into the state park in 1934 and contains part of the Muir Woods Service Drive, built in c.1892 as Sequoia Valley Road (original alignment of Muir Woods Road). This road served as the upper south entrance to the National Monument from Mill Valley prior to the construction of the Muir Woods Toll Road in 1925. Major changes since 1947 aside from natural succession include abandonment of the service road, and removal of a portion of the roadbed in c.2003 due to a failed culvert. The service road continues in use as a trail.

Lands to the East

Kent East Buffer Tract (Mount Tamalpais State Park, 34 acres): This tract, located along the eastern boundary of the nominated property, was incorporated into the state park in 1930. This tract contains sections of the Ocean View Trail (1908), one of the original trails at Muir Woods, which crosses back and forth across the boundary of the nominated property. Since 1947, changes have included natural succession from primarily grassland and chaparral to mostly forest; loss of ocean views from the Ocean View Trail; removal of water tanks built in 1921 by the National Park Service to supply Muir Woods; and loss of the Tourist Club Trail, which extended across the tract down to the Main Trail in Muir Woods. This trail began at the c.1912 lodge of the privately owned Tourist Club, one of the early hiking clubs on Mount Tamalpais. The lodge adjoins the east boundary of the Kent East Buffer Tract.

Lands to the North

Former Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway Tract (Mount Tamalpais State Park, 138 acres): This tract is an important part of the setting of Muir Woods, and has numerous historical ties to
the monument. The tract encompasses the northern extent of the redwood forest along the floor of Redwood Canyon and Fern Canyon, a primary side canyon. The parcel contains upper portions of Camp Alice Eastwood Trail (c.1906), Fern Creek Trail (pre-1905), Ocean View/Lost Trail (1908/ c.1970), and Bootjack/Main Trail (pre-1905), all of which extend into the nominated property. The tract also contains the site of the upper picnic area maintained by the National Park Service along Redwood Creek. The picnic area was developed in c.1923 and removed in c.1950. Nearby is the Cross Memorial, a brass plaque/boulder monument along the Bootjack (Main) Trail erected in c.1928 to the memory of Andrew J. Cross, a pioneering optometrist but without any known connection to Muir Woods or the Conservation Movement.

During the early years of Muir Woods, the Mt. Tamalpais and Muir Woods Railway Tract served as the main entrance to the monument, since the majority of visitors apart from hikers arrived via the railway. Through the 1920s, there was little distinction between this tract and the monument in either administration or physical character. Here, the railway company maintained the terminus of its Muir Woods Branch (1907-1929): the first or upper terminus of the rail line, completed in 1907-1908, was located at the site of present Camp Alice Eastwood. The railway built a rustic inn and cabins there, and extended a road (present Camp Alice Eastwood Trail) down the canyon wall to the Main Trail in Muir Woods. The inn and cabins were destroyed by fire in 1913, but the concrete foundations of the inn remain today. Following the fire, the railway company extended its branch line farther down the canyon wall, and built another rustic inn and set of cabins a short distance north of the national monument boundary. The branch line and second inn were removed in 1930. The bed of the branch line remains intact, and the topography surrounding the second inn site reflects the footbridge that connected it with the railway platform further uphill. Two of the second set of cabins remained standing until c.1932.

In 1933, the site of the first terminus was redeveloped as a CCC camp (Muir Woods Camp), and a road was built along a portion of the old rail bed extending down from the Panoramic Highway (present Alice Eastwood Road). All of the camp structures were removed by c.1949 except for a small explosive shed built into an embankment along the old rail bed, which remains standing, although in poor condition. The state park redeveloped the site of the CCC camp as Camp Alice Eastwood, dedicated in 1949. An archeological survey has not been undertaken to determine the extent of subsurface remains from the railway and CCC development.

Newlands-Magee Tract (Mount Tamalpais State Park, 532 acres): This tract, bordering the northwestern boundary of the nominated property, was incorporated into the state park in 1930. It contains the upper margins of the redwood forest, headwaters of Redwood Creek, and the upper extent of the Bootjack (Main) Trail, Stapelveldt Trail, and TCC (Tamalpais Conservation Club) Trail that extend into the nominated property. No known major changes have occurred to this tract in the vicinity of the nominated property since the end of the historic period in 1947.

Lands to the West

Kent West Buffer Tract (incorporated into National Monument in 1951, 42 acres): This tract is contiguous with the western boundary of the nominated property, and contains the upper margins of redwood and Douglas fir forest and grassland along the western ridge of Redwood Canyon.
These forested margins have grown in since the end of the historic period. A timber and wire fence built by the CCC in 1934 existed along the boundary of this tract, but was removed at an undetermined date after 1947.

 Former Brazil Ranch Tract (Mount Tamalpais State Park, 2,150 acres): This extensive tract of former pasture and wooded canyons was incorporated into the state park in 1968. Once owned by William Kent, the tract (Ranch W, X) is contiguous with the northwestern boundary of the nominated property and its adjoining Kent West Buffer Tract. It contains the Dipsea Trail (c.1905) and CCC-built Dipsea Fire Road (1933-34) that extend into the nominated property. Changes since the historic period in the vicinity of the nominated property are limited mostly to natural succession from open grassland to forest. The ridge-top adjoining Muir Woods remains primarily grassland with panoramic views of the ocean to the southwest.