



News Release

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Land Purchase Preserves Integrity of Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park

California State Parks has purchased a small, in-holding parcel of land surrounded by Marshall Gold Discovery SHP, in order to prevent possible development and to preserve historic and cultural artifacts on the site. Known as the LeFevre property, the 2.28 acres that is surrounded by the park on three sides, was zoned commercial and the potential for development of this parcel could have greatly impacted the visual quality, interpretive value and historic landscape of one of California's most noted historic parks.

On April 3, 2008 the Marshall Gold Discovery State Historic Park acquired the LaFevre property. The property had recently been offered for sale, prompting the Gold Discovery Park Association (GDPA), the private, non-profit organization that supports the historic park, to purchase the property for \$225,000 in August 2007 to insure it was not sold for development purposes. In turn, California State Parks then purchased the property from the Association for the same price.

"The Gold Discovery Park Association should be congratulated on its efforts in this acquisition to protect the historical integrity of Marshall Gold," said Mark Gibson, superintendent of the park. "This is a clear example of how public/private partnerships working together can insure that the history of the California Gold Rush portal to history remains a well protected park for all generations to come."

Proposition 84 bond funds, intended for the acquisition of such parklands, were used for the purchase. Because the property is an in-holding surrounded by the existing park, there are no added costs for administering the property.

The property offers undeveloped land which contains non-native grasses with some shrubs and trees. In addition, the property contains the stone foundation remains of an historic structure, believed to be a tavern that was built around 1850 and remained a popular gathering place into the 1940's.

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