



News Release

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California State Mining and Mineral Museum Brings Back The Fricot Nugget

Mariposa, CA.—Starting Memorial Day weekend, [the California State Mining and Mineral Museum](#) will once again have the historic 13.8 lb. *Fricot Nugget* on display to the visiting public for the first time since the September 2012 robbery of the Museum.

The legendary Fricot Nugget is the largest remaining intact mass of crystalline gold dating back to the California Gold Rush. The nugget was discovered on the middle fork of the American River in August of 1864 by William Russell Davis. In 1865, Grass Valley resident Jules Fricot purchased it from Davis and displayed it at the 1878 Paris Exposition. In the 1940s, Fricot's daughter donated the unique specimen to the Museum's collection.

Visitors are invited to come and see the Fricot Nugget on display at the museum beginning Friday May 23rd. In addition to the impressive gold collection, the Museum also houses many important relics from California's mining era, including old mining equipment and historical documents from the early Gold Rush of 1849.

The Museum is open Thursday through Sunday from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. May 1st through September 31st and 10:00a.m. to 4:00p.m., October 1st through April 30th. Admission to the museum is \$4.00 for adults. Children 12 and younger are free.

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