



News Release

For Immediate Release
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Sutter's Fort to Present "Hands on History: *The Real Gold in California*" on September 17

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Continuing a popular series of fun and interactive "Hands on History" activities offered each month, Sutter's Fort State Historic Park (SHP) will present a special "Hands on History: *The Real Gold in California*" event on Saturday, September 17, 2016 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Fort visitors will be delighted to see the recently completed restoration of the historic walls and gates plus have the opportunity to step back in time to appreciate the important role agriculture played in California's early development. Coinciding with the city's "Farm-to-Fork" movement, Fort guests will learn why the early focus on seasonal and locally sourced agriculture was essential to survival.

In fact, when John Sutter first arrived in California in 1839, his dream was to build an agricultural empire. While it took many years for California's agricultural industry to recover from the impacts of the Gold Rush, it is now one of the primary breadbaskets of the world. At the special event, visitors will learn about the unique process by which wheat was threshed and winnowed at the Fort, turn the stones on the grist mill, make rope, sling a lariat learn to use a lasso, and hear about Sutter's extensive gardens and the wide variety of produce that was available seasonally. In addition, there will be a display of guns and weapons from the Gold Rush era and demonstrations of black powder weaponry in action including the crowd-favorite firing of Sutter's cannon.

All "Hands on History" activities are included in the cost of admission. Sutter's Fort SHP admission costs are as follows: \$7 per adult (18 and older), \$5 per youth (ages 6 to 17) and free for children 5 and under. For more information, call 916-445-4422 or visit www.suttersfort.org

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