



News Release

For Immediate Release
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Sutter's Fort to Present "Hands on History: *War in California*" on June 18

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: *War in California*" event on Saturday, June 18, 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 the 1840s to a time when Mexican California was in a continuous state of political unrest and threats from foreign powers were a constant menace. The English Navy was anxious to have a good seaport on the Pacific Coast and kept warships in the area; French emissaries had approached John Sutter for an alliance; United State President James Polk was supporting the concept of "Manifest destiny" and the dream that the U.S. would extend from the Atlantic to Pacific Oceans. The turmoil reached an apex in June of 1846, when as many as five flags may have had a turn flying over Sutter's Fort.

At the special "Hands on History" event, guests will hear debates about which alliance Sutter and the Fort should take in the conflict and will find out which five flags may have flown over the Fort. During this exciting day, interested Fort guests will be treated to an award-winning presentation about the Bear Flag Revolt that showcases rare historic photographs and treasured maps from the Fort Archives. Fort visitors can also participate in history-themed scavenger hunts and watch 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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