



Happy 4th of July

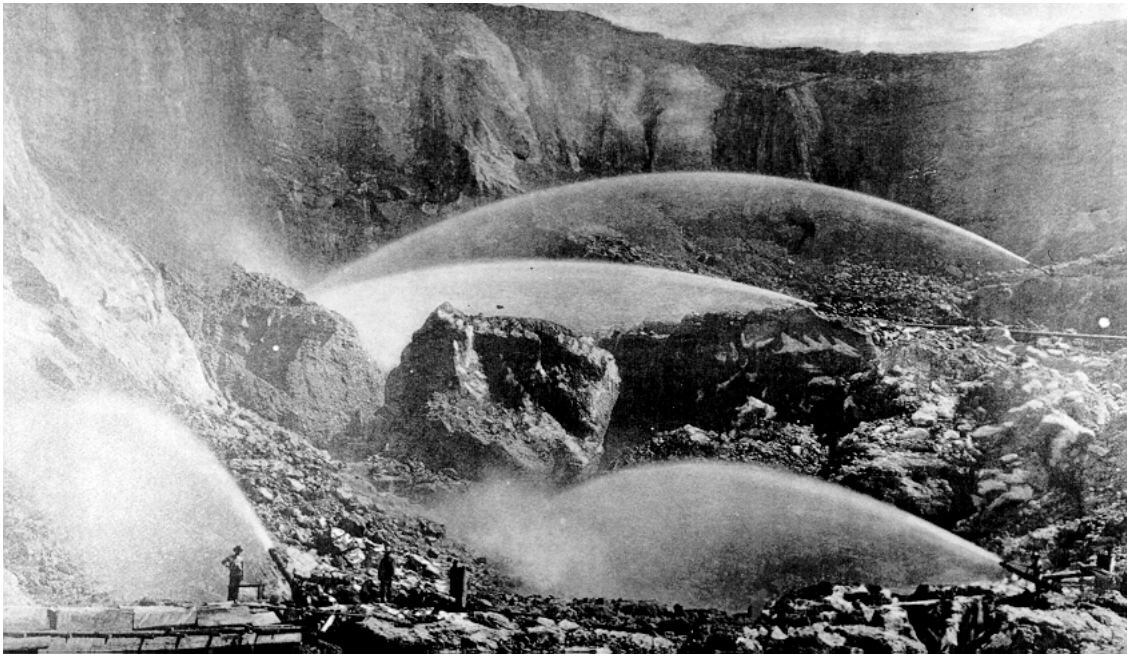
Kids and Archaeology

In May, ICF sent three teams to search a part Malakoff Diggins State Park for historic and prehistoric burials. We were only a part of a larger group effort to search and

help preserve our history by identifying features and artifacts.

This 3,000-acre park is located in the Sierra Nevada Foothills about 40 minutes northeast of Nevada City, CA. The area was originally a historic “Campboodie”, or village site, inhabited by the Nisenan Indians. When the gold rush hit in the 1850’s, the town of North Bloomfield sprung up around them.

The miners here invented the newest method of mining and built the largest hydraulic gold mine in California. Park visitors can see huge cliffs carved by mighty jets of water, results of this gold-mining technique that washed away entire mountains to find gold. Legal battles between mining companies and the downstream agricultural towns ended this particular method of mining resulting in the first environmental lawsuit in the United States. (1)



Hydraulic mining underway in North Bloomfield in 1890 (2)



The scars of hydraulic mining are still visible today (2)

When we arrived at the search area, trees and brush had been removed from much of the site and an excavation was in process. There were many pin flags all around the area marking found artifacts in situ.



A portion of the cleared area.

The red circles indicate the locations of the flagged artifacts.

We shared the site with a group of fifth graders on a field trip who were learning about archaeology.



The students rotated to different stations to learn how to select excavation sites, look for artifacts, how to dig and the tools that are used.



These two young ladies screen some soil looking for artifacts.

We really enjoyed the enthusiasm of the junior archaeologists. They got to observe the dogs working and also spent time with them when they weren't.

Our findings from our dogs were witnessed by the Native American monitors and the archaeologists. The results will be added to the documentation on this site for future research and preservation.

- Barbara Pence

References

(1) https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=494

(2) https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malakoff_Diggins_State_Historic_Park

Oh look, something new!



Meet Jett (Border Collie) and Asha (Jack Russell Terrier)
our newest certified dogs

MHF

THE MONTANA HISTORY

F O U N D A T I O N

Cemetery Preservation Technology Workshop

The workshop was a great success and we are so thrilled we got to participate in it. The good news for people who were unable to attend is they will have all the presentations and pictures on their webpage available for anyone to download. What a wonderful way to share the knowledge that was presented at the workshop. All this information should be on their web page by September.

<https://www.mthistory.org>

~Adela~



Marysville Historic Cemetery MT

Participants in the workshop got to use some of the technology they learned about the day before to help document the cemetery. Some groups were using GPS, others were documenting the condition of markers. Jasper surveys the outside of the fenced cemetery looking for unmarked graves and Kayle alerts at an unmarked burial inside of the cemetery.



Left: Jett makes his first "official" alert as a certified dog.

Right: Adela gives her lunch time presentation, showing examples of projects the dogs have worked.

On "Field Exercise Day" the workshop participants broke into groups then rotated around learning and observing a number of stations: RTI photogrammetry, drone, stone repair. GPR, cemetery botany, GPS & GIS, and Historical Human Remains Detection dogs in action.

Please feel free to pass this newsletter along to someone who might be interested.

You can read our past ICF newsletters on our web page.

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(650) 503-4473

www.ICFK9.org

We are happy to talk to you about your project and how our dogs might help locate human remains or burials. Email or call us.

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