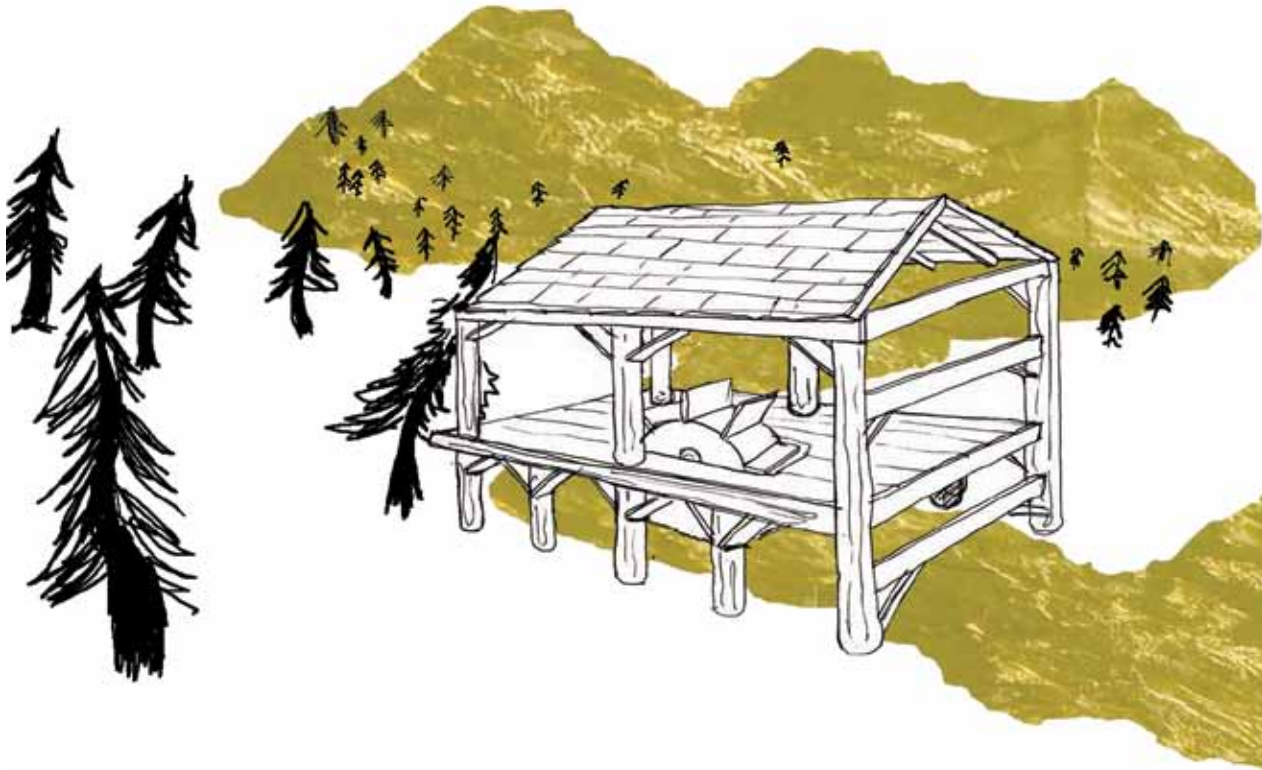


Sutter's Mill

Sutter's Mill is where the first piece of gold from the California Gold Rush was found. In 1848, James Marshall was building a lumber mill for Swedish immigrant John Sutter over the American River in Coloma, CA, when he saw pieces of shiny metal in the water. After taking it to be tested, they found it was pure gold. They tried to keep it a secret, but soon everyone working at the camp knew of Marshall's discovery. California pioneer Sam Brannan, who owned a shop at the mill, took the gold to San Francisco and *allegedly* rode through the streets, holding a vial of it over his head and shouting, "Gold! Gold! Gold from the American River!", sparking the California Gold Rush.



Answer the question below on a separate piece of paper.

The Gold Rush helped California by making many families wealthy, and by bringing settlers to the state. In some ways, however, it harmed California: the new settlers forced local Native American tribes off their land, and some of the harsh mining techniques *permanently* damaged the environment. In the end, do you think the Gold Rush was more good or bad for California?

El Dorado
by Edgar Allan Poe, 1849

Gaily bedight,
A gallant night
In sunshine and in shadow,
Had journeyed long,
Singing a song,
In search of El Dorado.

But he grew old --
This knight so bold --
And -- o'er his heart a shadow
Fell as he found
No spot of ground
That looked like El Dorado.

And, as his strength
Failed him at length,
He met a pilgrim shadow --
"Shadow," said he,
"Where can it be --
This land of El Dorado?"

"Over the Mountains
Of the Moon,
Down the Valley of the Shadow,
Ride, boldly ride,"
The shade replied --
"If you seek for El Dorado."

Vocabulary

allegedly: is said to have

permanently: forever

El Dorado: an imaginary city of great wealth