

Sunny South Monument Dedication

June 6, 1993

Sunny South / Hidden Treasure Mine

1875 - 1910

Population 250 - 500

Production 4-5 million dollars

Sunny South / Hidden Treasure Mine

Discovery: In May 1875 M.H. Power and Mr Cameron of the Mountain Gate Mine, while surveying south from Damascus, selected a tunnel site to intercept the rich gravel of the white quartz and the black channels. The tunnel was dug 500 feet into the ridge when an upraise was made for a distance of 30 feet. The upraise connected perfectly to the white quartz auriferous gravel running south from the Mountain Gate Mine. The richest paying stratum of the channel was found near and in the bed rock of the black slate country rock. Because of the color of the these ancient gravels, it was dubbed the Blue Lead in local mining history. The term Sunny South originated because of its mild southerly exposure.

Michael Harold Power (co-founder)

Born: Sept 29, 1829, Waterford, Ireland. After college, appointed clerk to the Crown, District of Waterford. Emigrated to New York in 1847. Arrived in Iowa Hill 1854. He soon after purchased interest in the Mountain Gate Mine of Damascus. He worked at the Mountain Gate for 20 years. With the opening of the Hidden Treasure Mine in 1875, he became the superintendent of that operation. On June 1, 1856 in San Francisco, he married Miss Isaline M. Develey. They had two sons and one daughter.

Sponsors

**Placer Adult Wilderness Class
Foresthill Historical Society
U.S. Forest Service**

Project Committee

**Gene Markley - Frontier Historian
Jim Power - Power Descendants
Richard Johnson - District Ranger
Nolin Smith - Archeologist
Allan Klahn - Refreshments
Chas Thayer - Entertainment**