



At a felt-covered desk, state treasurer Jesse Unruh previews the 1901 treasurer's office with restorationists Philip Vardara, Jim Alkons and Jim Ingram, who laboriously cleaned and painted the elaborate, 18,000-pound safe behind them. Dated 1876, it housed the state's cache of gold bullion and coins until it was stored away in Sutter's Fort in the 1950s. Alongside it are the original treasury's vault doors, gilded and topped with a cast-iron bear's head, found in storage at Marshall Gold State Historic Park in Coloma. This antiquated treasurer's office sits adjacent to its 1930s successor, complete with walk-in steel vault.