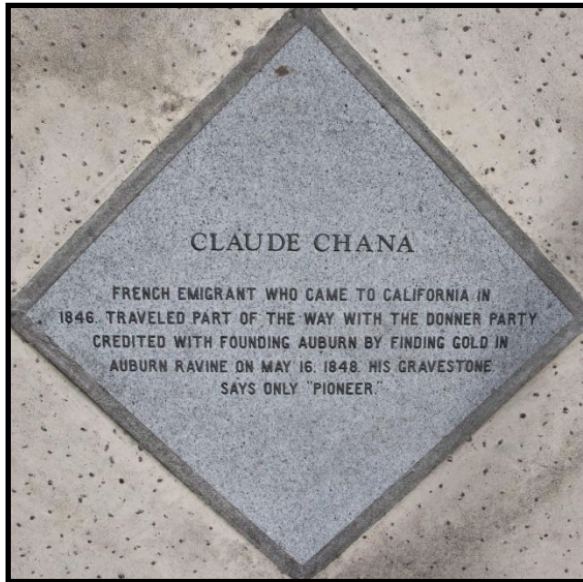


Claude Chana



Claude Chana
1846-1882

Chana was born in Rouen France in 1811. He immigrated to New Orleans in 1839. By 1847 he was working as a cooper at Sutter's Fort in New Helvetia (current day Sacramento). Hearing the news of the gold strike made by his fellow worker and friend, James Marshall, Chana was on his way to Coloma when he stopped at Auburn Ravine and discovered the first gold in the Auburn area. He mined for a few years and made enough money to purchase a ranch on the Bear River.

He was a very successful farmer and wine maker until the slickens from hydraulic mining ruined his ranch. He moved to Wheatland and continued to produce wine. He died in 1882.

San Francisco Examiner May 26, 1882, Thompson & West p. 239-240 & p .66-67.
photo courtesy of Placer County

