

John Marsh House
Cowell Ranch/John Marsh State Historic Park
 CONTRA COSTA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA



DESCRIPTION

The John Marsh House is an 1856 sandstone mansion built by California pioneer John Marsh. He first settled the area in the 1830s and was a major promoter, along with John Bidwell, of the early California dream. The house was completed just prior to Marsh's murder by disgruntled neighbors. The ranch remained in the Marsh family for many years but the house has not been occupied since the 1970s. Earthquakes, neglect and weather have taken their toll on the building which is now in a state of near total collapse.

Siegel & Strain is working with the John Marsh Trust in concert with the Department of Parks and Recreation to complete documentation for the stabilization and first phase of rehabilitation of the building. The project is being funded by two CCHE (California Cultural & Historical Endowment) grants.