

End Uses: From Gravel Pit to Public Park – Granite Regional Park

Ah, summer! The weather is perfect for a leisurely game of horseshoes and a picnic dinner. Or maybe your kids need a place to ride their skateboards and your dog needs a safe area to run. Time to get the family over to your local public park. What you may not realize is that many of our city and county parks are former mine sites.

In Sacramento, Granite Regional Park serves as a great example of a gravel pit reclaimed to a regional park as the end use. This new park provides the public with a multitude of amenities and attracts tenants to the surrounding office buildings. Granite Construction handed over the 240-acre site of its former gravel mine to the City in the 90's after mining was completed. Granite then set up a joint venture with local developers to buy back a portion of the land for office buildings, leaving 145 acres for the future park. The development group struck a deal with the city to pay fees toward the construction and public improvements of the \$40 million regional park while giving the City of Sacramento Department of Parks and Recreation the responsibility of designing, operating and maintaining the park.

Construction of three large office buildings kicked off in late 1997 and the offices - totaling over 450,000 square feet - were quickly leased out. The first phase of the regional park opened in 2001 with the second phase completed in 2006, all designed according to master plans developed by the City. Today, Granite Regional Park offers soccer fields, a running track, a dog park, a skateboard park, horseshoe pits, 3 ponds (one with a fountain and one with a wetland area), picnic tables, pathways, and plenty of free parking. On any summer day, you'll find all the areas being used by local residents. So pay a visit to Granite Regional Park and see what an old gravel mine has to offer when reclaimed to a city park for the public's enjoyment!



The popular dog park sits within the footprint of the old gravel pit below modern office buildings at Granite Regional Park.



Granite Park

Ramona Avenue and Power Inn Road, City of Sacramento