

San Francisco

The San Francisco City Hall.

Part 1 of 6: Hunters Point, Potrero Hill, Bernal Heights, Excelsior, Ingleside, Sunset, Cole Valley, Haight, Castro, Noe Valley, Mission.



San Francisco

San Francisco County Data

Population: 776,733 (Rank: 11)

Land Area (square miles): 185.2 (Rank: 58)

San Francisco is dominated by its hills: Telegraph Hill, Russian Hill, and Nob Hill in the eastern part of the city, and Twin Peaks in the center. Much of the flat land is where swampland has been filled in. The steep hills required the use of cable cars for transportation. Much of the land along the edge of the Bay was filled in for building construction.

Downtown is filled with high-rise buildings. The residential areas to the south and west have houses that are side-by-side without yards. Bay windows that extend out from the buildings are used to bring light inside the houses. Golden Gate Park is the largest park in the city.

Gaspar dePortola, the Spanish explorer, reached San Francisco Bay in 1769. Settlement began seven years later. A presidio was established and a mission, San Francisco de Asis, was built.

For years San Francisco was a small outpost named Yerba Buena or “good herb” for a grass that grew in the sand dunes. In July of 1846 the United States took possession of the city, and the name was changed to San Francisco. The Gold Rush made San Francisco a thriving city.

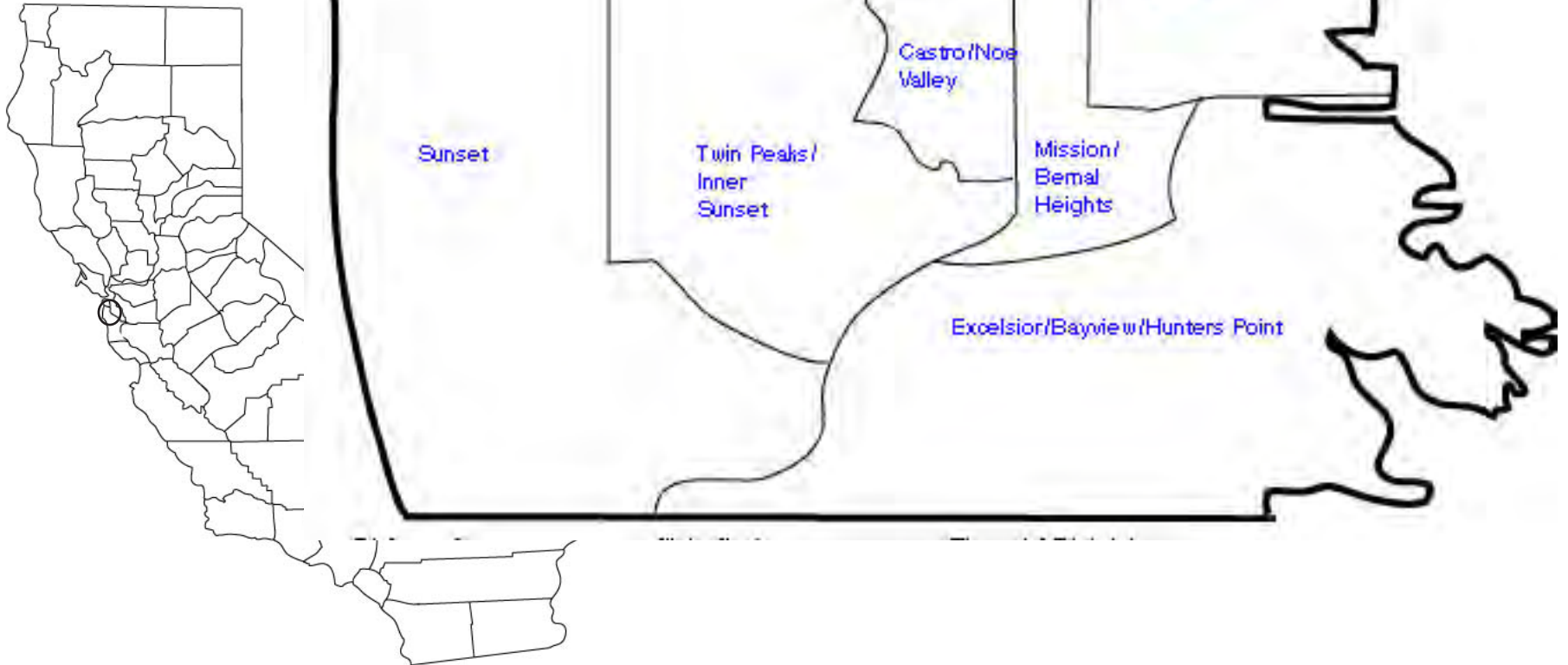
The Earthquake of 1906 transformed the city. Not only was the downtown part of the city devastated by the fire, but the sand dunes to the west of downtown began to develop. Eventually streetcar lines were extended to these areas connecting the new neighborhoods with downtown.

San Francisco is a collection of neighborhoods that have always had an ethnic flavor. Each neighborhood has its unique characteristics, sights and cuisine.

San Francisco

San Francisco is a city of neighborhoods. Officially there are 36. Unofficially there are over 100.

Larry Stevens
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stevens.lawrence@comcast.net



Hunters Point Public Housing

Hunters Point housing dates back to World War II when housing was needed for the shipyard workers. (March 2004)



Hunters Point Public Housing

(March 2004)



Hunters Point Public Housing

(March 2004)



Hunters Point Shipyard

(March 2004)



Hunters Point Shipyard

(March 2004)



Hunters Point Shipyard

You will find the head of this giant rocking horse across the street at an art studio. (March 2004)



Hunters Point Shipyard

(March 2004)



Hunters Point Shipyard

(March 2004)



Hunters Point Shipyard

(March 2004)



Hunters Point Shipyard

(March 2004)



Hunters Point Shipyard

(March 2004)



Port of San Francisco

(March 2004)



Hunters Point Shipyard

(March 2004)



Hunters Point Shipyard

The dry dock was built in 1914. It was once the largest in the world. The shipyards were opened in 1870 and the navy took them over after World War I. The yards were closed in 1994.



Bernal Heights

These murals face Precita Park on the side of Bernal Heights. (March 2004)



Bernal Heights

(March 2004)



Bernal Heights

Mt. Sutro as seen from the top of Bernal Heights.
(March 2004)



Bernal Heights

Downtown as seen from the top of Bernal Heights. (March 2004)



Potrero Hill

Potrero started as a working class community way back in the 1850's. During World War II shipyard workers moved in. During the 1960's artists began to settle here. In the 1990's dot.com companies began to locate here. (March 2004)



Potrero Hill

(March 2004)



Potrero Hill

(March 2004)



Potrero Hill

(March 2004)



Potrero Hill

(March 2004)



Potrero Hill

(March 2004)



Excelsior

Excelsior dates back to the 1860's. The streets are named after countries and capitals. Originally the settlers Italian and Swiss. Today it is Hispanic, Asian and Filipino. Jerry Garcia of the Grateful Dead is the most famous resident. (March 2004)



Excelsior

(March 2004)



Ingleside

(March 2004)



Ingleside

(March 2004)



Harding Park

(March 2004)



Harding Park

Harding Park's golf course began construction in 1925.
(March 2004)



Sunset

Sunset began to develop in the early 1900's when Golden Gate Park developed. In 1927 a tunnel was built to connect the area with Market Street. Early settlers were Irish and Italian. Today Asians are the largest group. (March 2004)



Sunset

Construction on the zoo began in 1929. (March 2004)



Sunset – UC Medical School

The UC Med center is ranked by U.S. News and World Report as the 7th best in the country. (March 2004)





Sunset

The Sunset is known as the avenues. The north-south streets are numbered from 2nd to 48th. The east-west streets are named alphabetically beginning at Golden Gate Park. Irving and Tara-vall streets are main shopping streets. (March 2004)



Sunset

(March 2004)



Sunset

(March 2004)



Sunset

Irving is the main street of the outer Sunset. There is an Inner and Outer Sunset. The dividing line is 19th Avenue. (March 2004)



Sunset

The church is called St. Anne of the Sunset. It was built in 1931. (March 2004)



Cole Valley

Cole Valley is a little neighborhood south of the Haight.
(March 2004)



Cole Valley

(March 2004)



Cole Valley

(March 2004)



Haight

The Haight became famous in the 60's as the hangout for Hippies. (March 2004)



Haight

(March 2004)



Haight

(March 2004)



Castro

(March 2004)



Castro

Harvey Milk Plaza. Harvey Milk was the first gay elected official in San Francisco. He was assassinated in 1978 along with George Moscone, the mayor. The assassin Dan White was a former policeman. He committed suicide in 1985. (March 2004)



Castro

(March 2004)



Castro

(March 2004)



Castro

(March 2004)



Castro

(March 2004)



Noe Valley

(March 2004)



Noe Valley

(March 2004)



Noe Valley

(March 2004)



Mission

(May 2011)



Mission

(May 2011)



Mission

(May 2011)



Mission

(May 2011)



Mission

San Francisco has several big events. The Carneval held in the Mission in the Spring is one of them. (May 2011)



Mission

(May 2011)



Mission

(May 2011)



Mission

(May 2011)

