

**HPS 1
Cultural
Historical
Recognition
Program**

LENNAR®

Historic Signage Background

- Phase 1 Open Space Master Plan and Community Benefits Plan includes a requirement to develop interpretative signage to celebrate the cultural and history of Hunters Point Shipyard Area. Key topics for signage elements include a timeline that covers early site history, wartime efforts and expansion of workforce.
- Lennar worked with SF Heritage, a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of SF History on the content and design of the signs.
- Utilized National Park Service Guidelines for interpretive/wayfinding signage used throughout the country which includes standard for cultural and historic resources.
- Inclusion of QR codes tied to website administered by OCII allowing for updating and additional information specific to the site

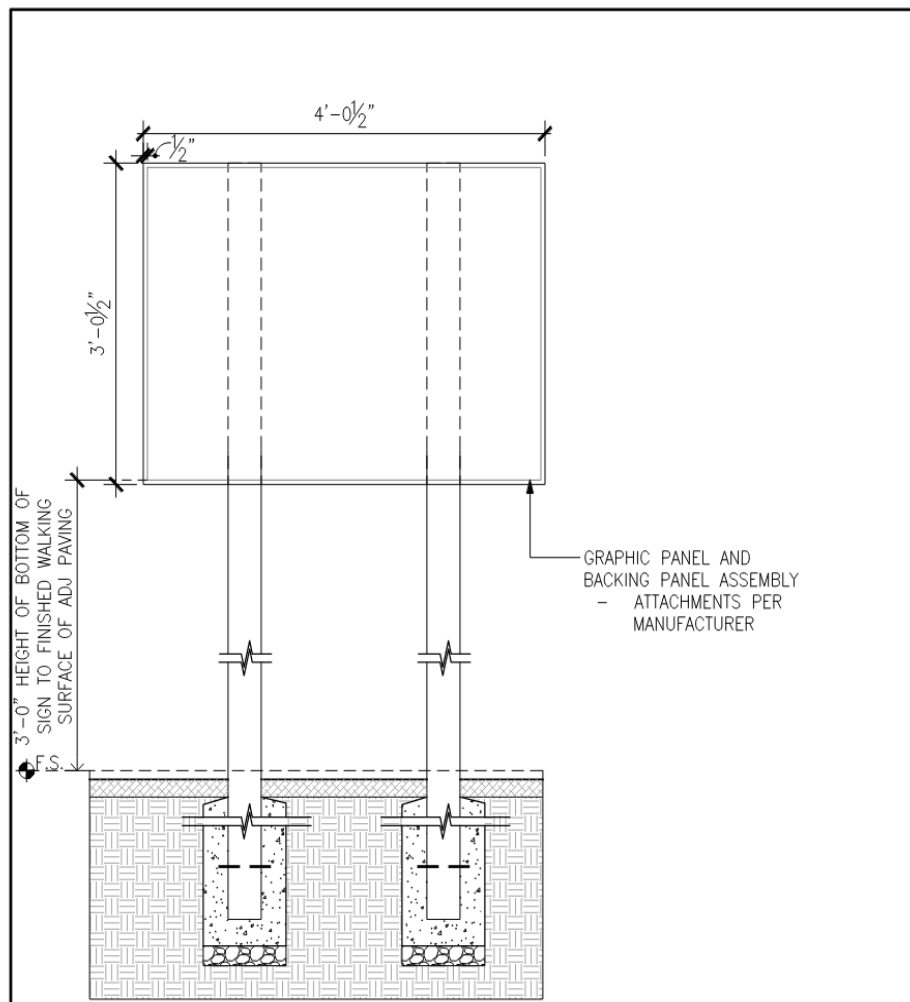
Contributing Partners

- UCSF Multicultural Resource Center
- Association of Ramaytush Ohlone
- SF Heritage
- Navy Historical Heritage Command, Communication and Outreach Division
- UC Berkeley
- Jessica Bodner
- Autry Museum
- NY Public Library
- OpenSF History
- The Point
- Shipyard Trust for the Artists
- Ann Thiermann
- Library of Congress
- National Archives at San Francisco
- National Archives & Records Administration
- Labor Archives & Research Center
- SF History, SF Public Library
- FoundSF
- CMG Landscape Architecture



Site Signage Locations

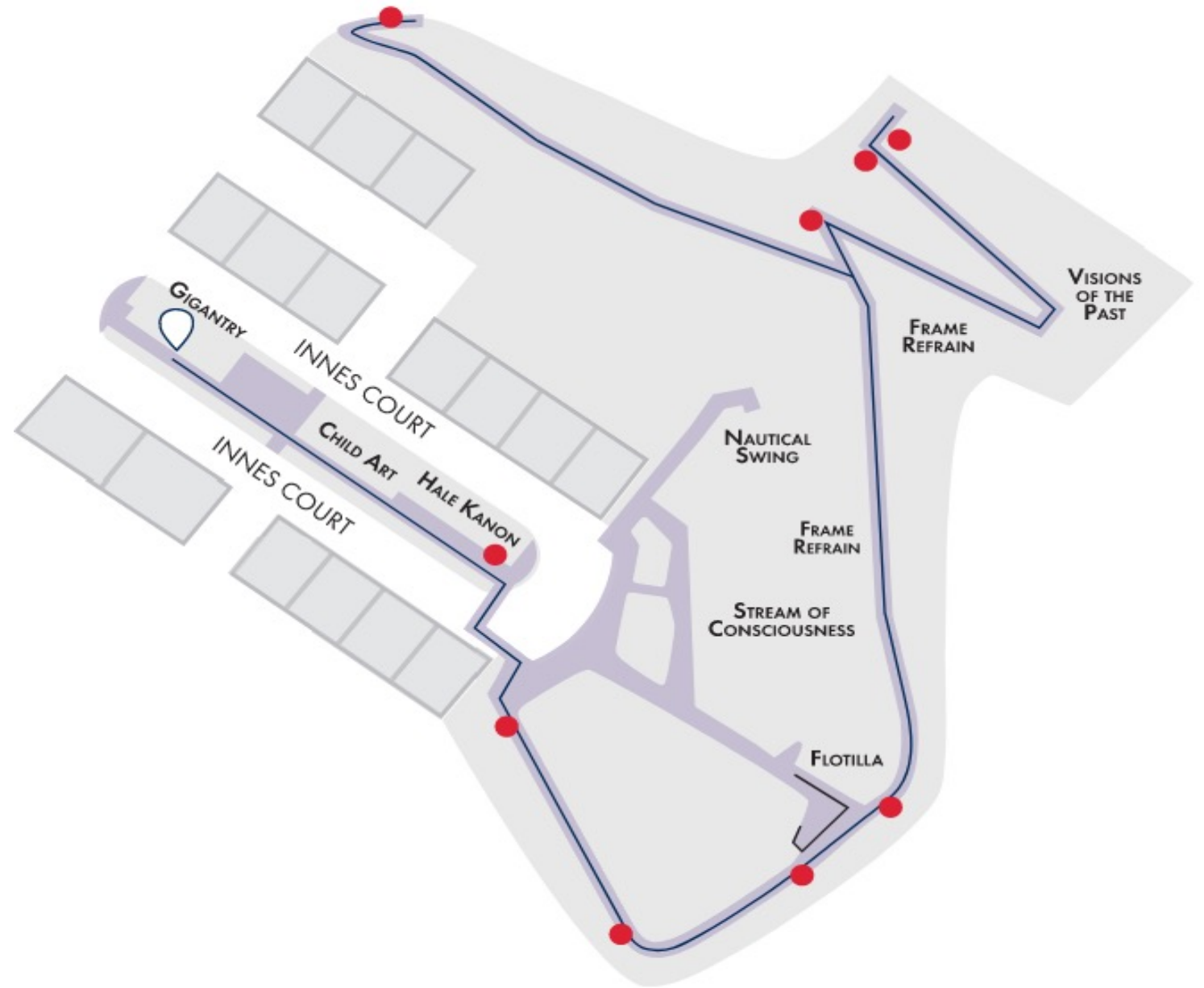
Installation Details



Elevation



Gantry Crane



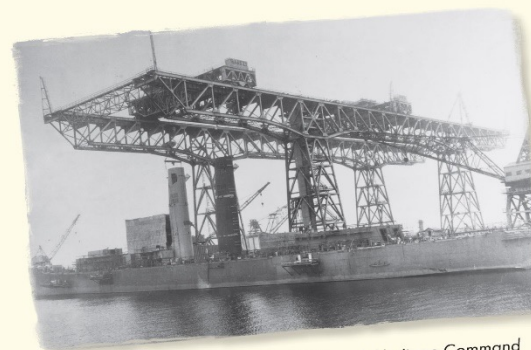
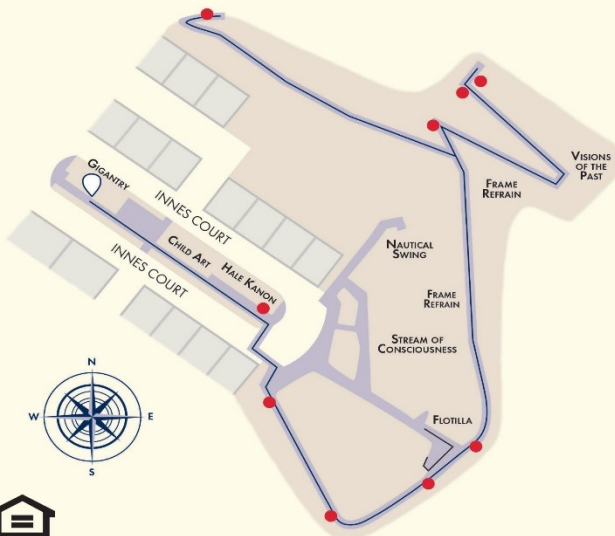
GANTRY CRANE

SHIPYARD ICON

The Gantry Crane was built in 1947 by US Steel's American Bridge Company. The crane is the tallest structure at the Shipyard – extending 160 feet above the water and is 405 feet wide. The crane was used to lift massive gun-turrets on warships, each weighing up to 1 million pounds! This crane helped repair the warships quickly, and send them back to battle.



This “GIGANTRY” play structure (2015) was modeled after the Shipyard’s iconic Gantry Crane. You can still see the Gantry Crane at the Hunters Point Shipyard.



NH 90789 courtesy of the Naval History & Heritage Command

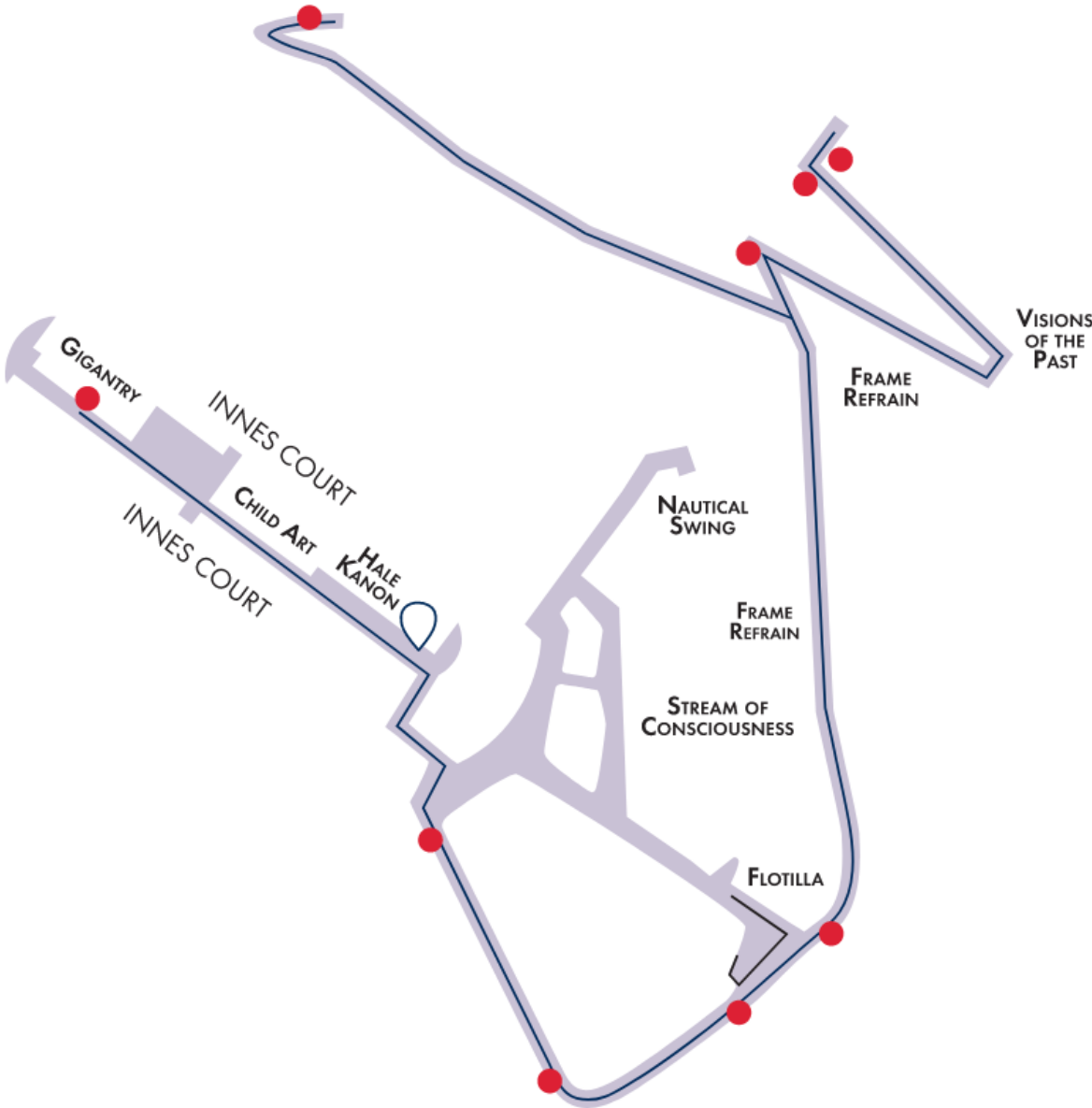
ABOUT THE ARTIST: Matthew Passmore, principal and co-founder of Rebar, a San Francisco based art and design studio, built the Gigantry Play Structure as a symbol of The Hunters Point Shipyard being an area that fosters thriving community, informal social interaction and fun.

For more information visit

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Ohlone Canoes



OHLONE CANOES

NATIVE AMERICANS IN THE AREA

Tule (pronounced "too-lee") canoes are made from tule reeds (Schoenoplectus acutus). They are a bulrush, which flourishes in California wetlands. Gathering the reeds and weaving the tule into canoes is a skilled tradition that goes back many centuries.



Ohlone Indians in a Tule Boat in the San Francisco Bay circa 1822, painting by Louis Andreivitch Choris, courtesy of The Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley

The Bayview-Hunters Point area was a favored fishing ground for the Ramaytush Ohlone of the San Francisco Peninsula.

It takes about 5,000 ten-foot long stalks or stems to create one canoe. Each stalk is filled with tiny air pockets, therefore making the canoes naturally buoyant and able to float atop the water.

Tule canoes were used by the Ohlone people to traverse marshes, inlets, lakes and bays, and used for fishing, and gathering of mollusks and shellfish.

ABOUT THE ARTIST:

Jessica Bodner, a Bayview resident, built the traditional Ohlone canoes displayed in Hilltop Park as a memorial tribute to celebrate and honor the Ohlone culture.

Ohlone Ceremonial Dance by Georg von Langsdorff, 1806. Courtesy of Pentacle Press.

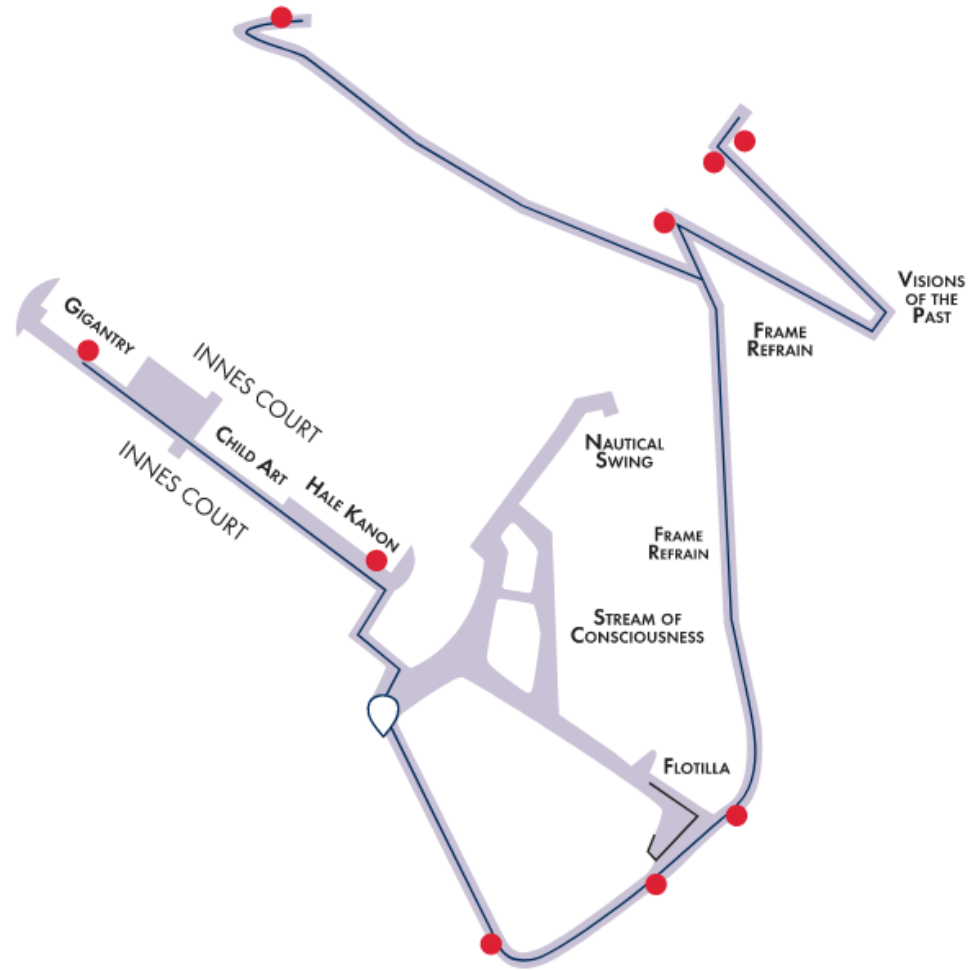


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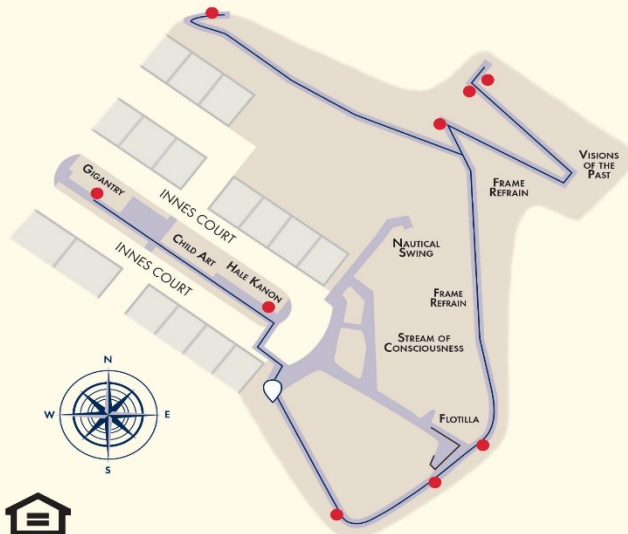
Shipyard Timeline



SHIPYARD TIMELINE



Punta de Concha was the Spanish name given to the prominent peninsula known today as Hunters Point. The name first appears on the chart "Plano del Puerto de San Francisco," drafted in 1776 by Jose de Canizares, first pilot of the Spanish vessel San Carlos. For 166 years, Hunters Point remained relatively undisturbed except for the establishment of a small merchant shipyard.



Then, in just two years after America's entry into World War II, this unique peninsula was transformed into a vast complex designed to repair and maintain the US Navy's Pacific Fleet, from the smallest vessel to the largest warship afloat.



INDIGENOUS HISTORY

Territory of the Ohlone people and a favorite fishing ground for the Native Peoples.

Lithograph by Louis Choris, Coiffures de danse des habitants de California, from Voyage Pittoresque autour du Monde, 1822. Autry Museum, Los Angeles; 92.6.2



1867

First permanent dry dock on the Pacific West Coast.

Photography Collection, The New York Public Library (Image ID: G89F403_013F)



1910

Chinese shrimp camps become well established by the late 1800s.

Courtesy of a Private Collector / OpenSFHistory, wnp4.1290



1940

Dry docks acquired by the US Navy transforming it into a bustling district for workers.

Courtesy of National Archives (19-N-81339)

Today, this waterfront would be unrecognizable to the Ohlone who lived and worked along these shores. As we move forward in building the next phase of the Shipyard's history, we recognize those who honorably preceded us and the development which followed.



1974

The US Navy closed the Shipyard for naval operations and began to rent land to private tenants.



1980

More than 300 artists opened studios and workspaces and form the largest artist colony in the US.

Jacques Terzian Wall Sculpture, courtesy of The Point



1995

The City of SF and local citizen groups plan to redevelop the Shipyard into a new community.



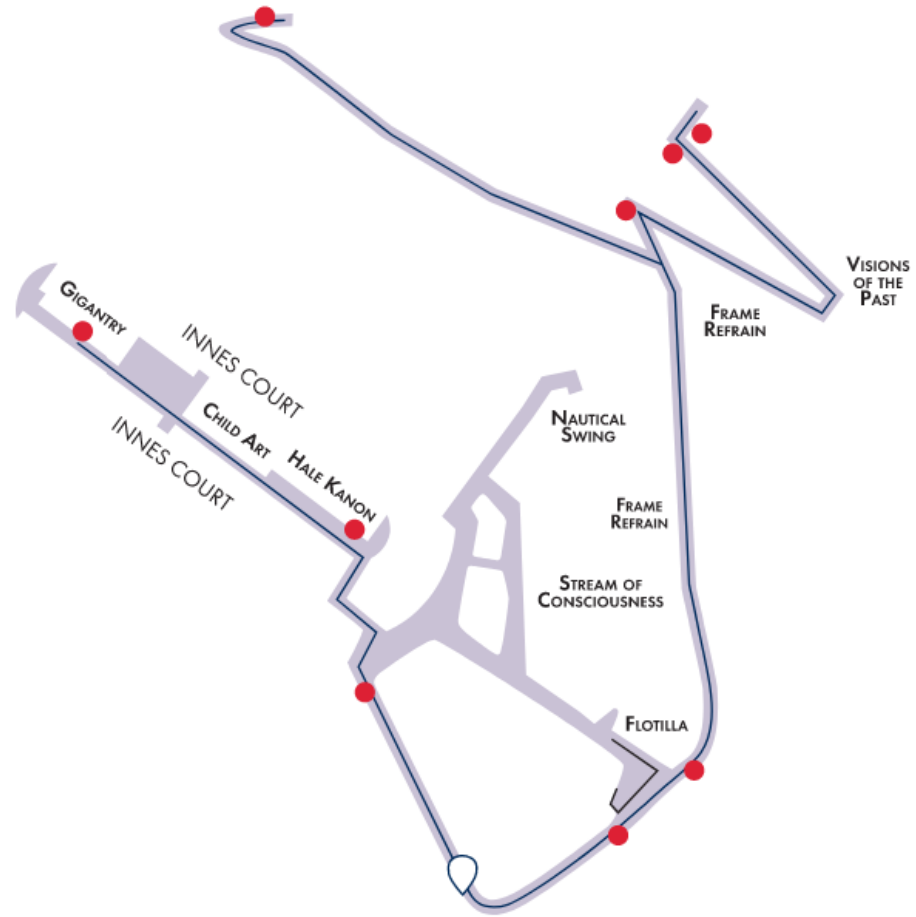
2005

Construction begins on a new transformative neighborhood.

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Indigenous History



HUNTERS POINT SHIPYARD

INDIGENOUS HISTORY

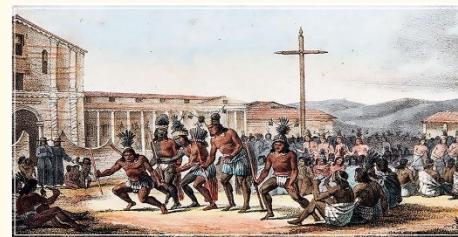
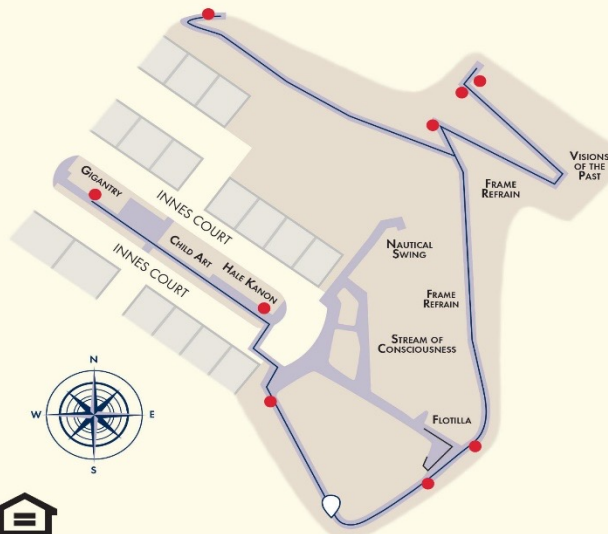


The Ohlone people are Native American people who lived on the aboriginal lands between San Francisco and Monterey Bay for over 10,000 years. Before Spanish colonialization, their traditional way of life was relatively stable until the arrival of the Spanish missionaries in 1769. Mission San Francisco de Asis (also known as Mission Dolores) was founded in 1776.

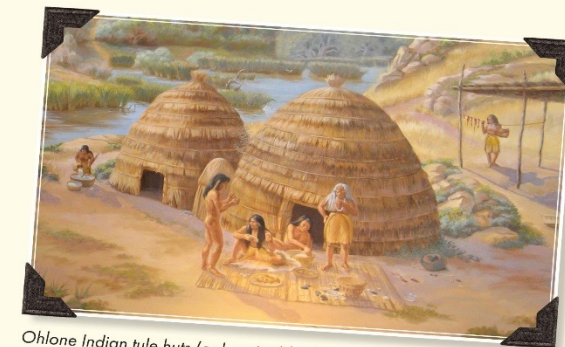


Lithograph by Louis Choris, *Coiffures de danse des habitants de California*, from *Voyage Pittoresque autour du Monde*, 1822. Autry Museum, Los Angeles; 92.6.2

The entire mission complex was constructed by Native American labor. Severe living and working conditions, and European diseases reduced the Native population at the mission by over 75% by the early 1800s. A few Ohlone people survived colonization. Today, they are represented by several tribes that are actively involved in restoration and preservation of their lands, culture, language.



Ohlone Indians Dancing at Mission Dolores, San Francisco, CA, circa 1815. Drawing by Louis Andreivitch Choris, courtesy of The Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley.

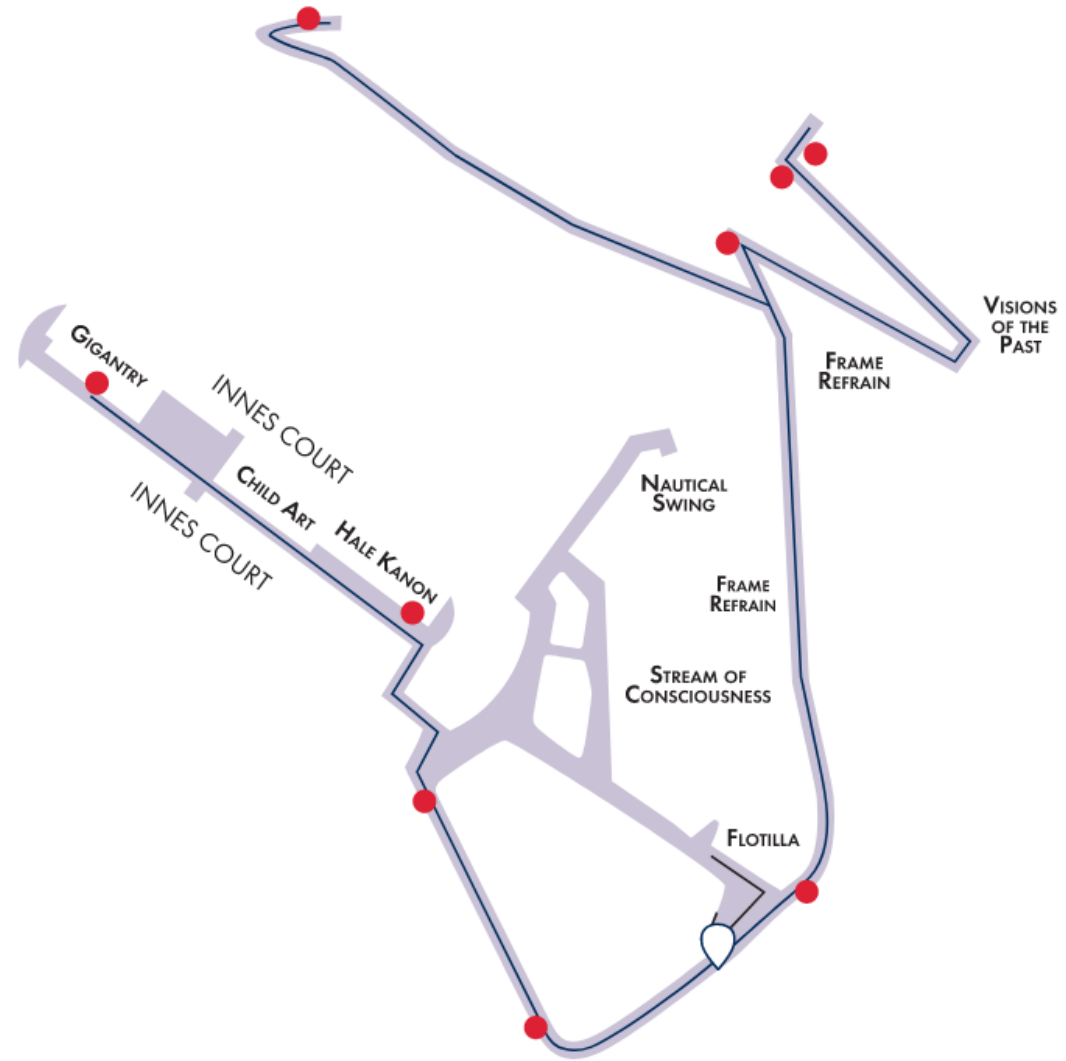


Ohlone Indian tule huts (or housing) by Ann Thiermann.com

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The Shipyard is Established



HUNTERS POINT SHIPYARD

THE SHIPYARD IS ESTABLISHED

In 1866, about 30 acres (including submerged land) were granted for the construction of a modern dry dock. The area's impermeable serpentine bedrock was an ideal location for a "graving" or stationary dry dock for the booming ship repair industry. The California Dry Dock Company opened Hunters Point Dry Docks in 1867.

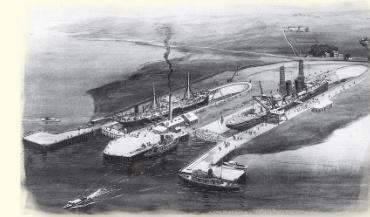


Courtesy of Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division, LC-D4-20934

Hunters Point was taken over by the Bethlehem Shipbuilding Company in 1905, and renamed the Union Iron Works. The Hunters Point Commercial Dry Dock Historic District is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Courtesy of a Private Collector / OpenSFHistory, wnp4.1290



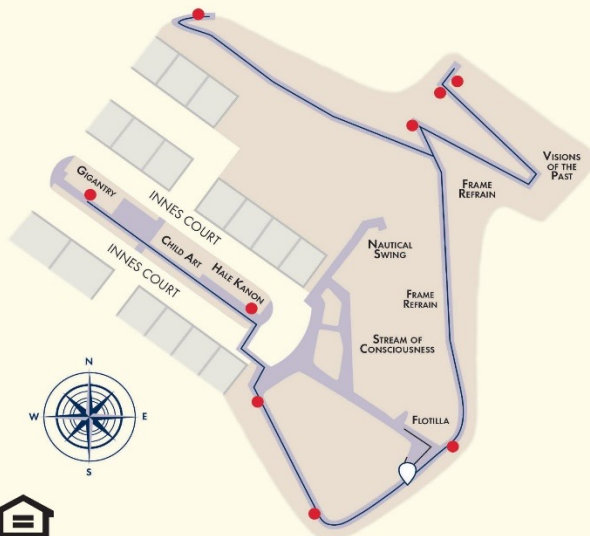
Artist's Conception of Proposed Improvements for Hunters Point when acquired by Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corp. LTD. circa 1910, National Archives at San Francisco, ARC# 296813

1910: Chinese Fishermen established a lucrative fishery. A community of Chinese fishermen who have called Hunters Point home since the late 1800s joined together to form a large-scale shrimp fishery—a testament to the Chinese contribution to San Francisco's productive waterfront industries.



Construction progress photograph, Hunters Point Dry Dock, San Francisco, CA, circa 1868, National Archives at San Francisco, ARC# 296809

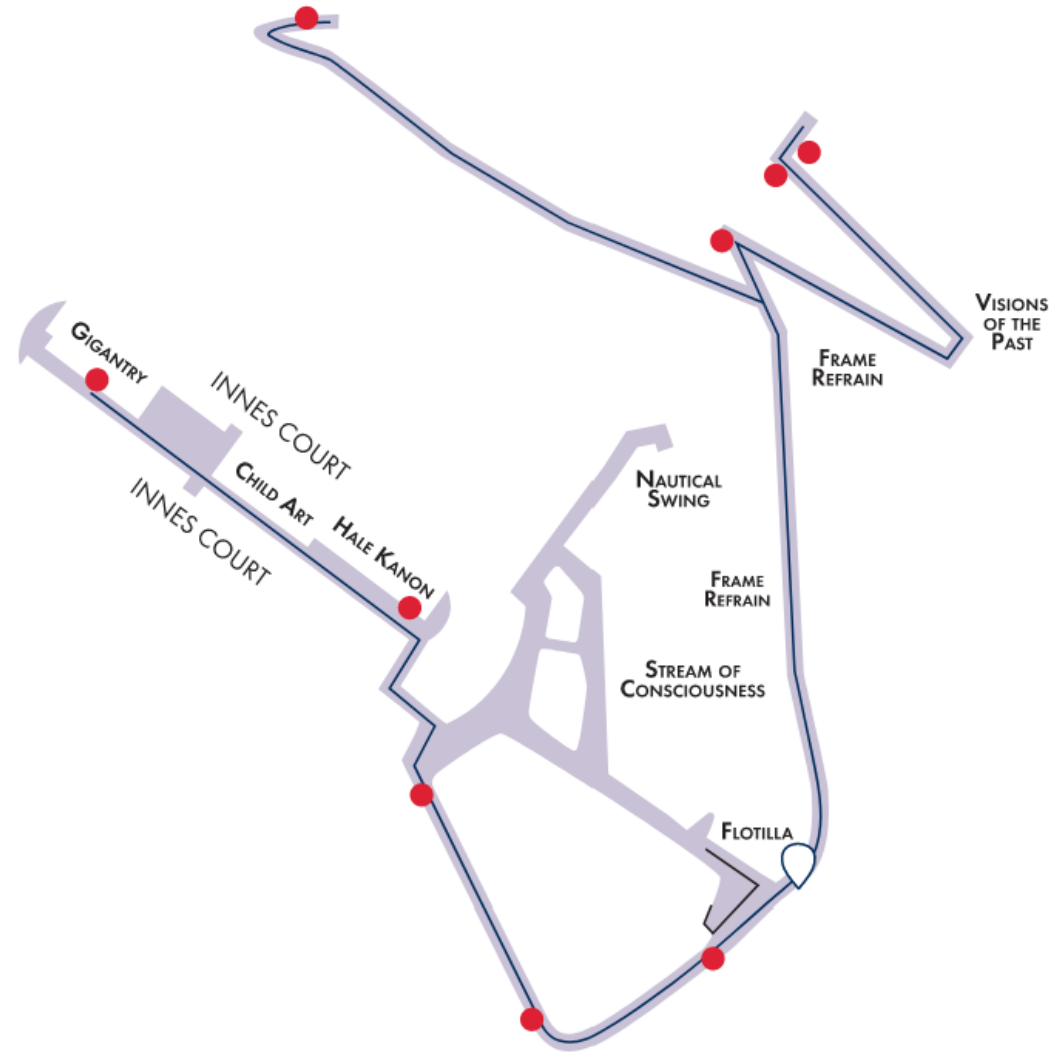
1916: A third dry dock is built at the Shipyard, capable of holding the world's largest warships and passenger steamers.



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The US Navy Takes Over



HUNTERS POINT SHIPYARD

THE US NAVY TAKES OVER



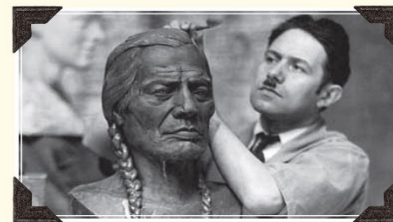
As World War II escalated, the Navy took ownership of the Union Iron Works from Bethlehem Steel in 1939, naming it the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard. Shortly thereafter, San Francisco's Department of Health burned down the six remaining Chinese shrimping camps, citing unsanitary conditions, and the War Powers Act of 1941 authorized the acquisition of land for military or naval purposes. Within weeks, the US Navy condemned and purchased over 535 acres.



Courtesy of National Archives, photo no. 22-FA-145.

Initially, 86 homes and 23 businesses were displaced by the US Navy's actions, and many more were displaced before the end of the war. By 1945, the Shipyard had grown to 979 acres of filled and unfilled tidal lands, six dry docks ranging from 420' to 1,092' in length, two hundred buildings, five miles of berthing space, and 17 miles of railroad tracks. The acquisition of Hunters Point by the US Navy was the most significant event in the history of the district.

1938: The Shipyard area houses its first artist. Painter and sculptor Adrien Voisin purchased the old Albion Brewing Company castle and converted it into a private residence and studio. The building, now a private residence, still stands at 881 Innes Street.



Courtesy of Vintage Roadside

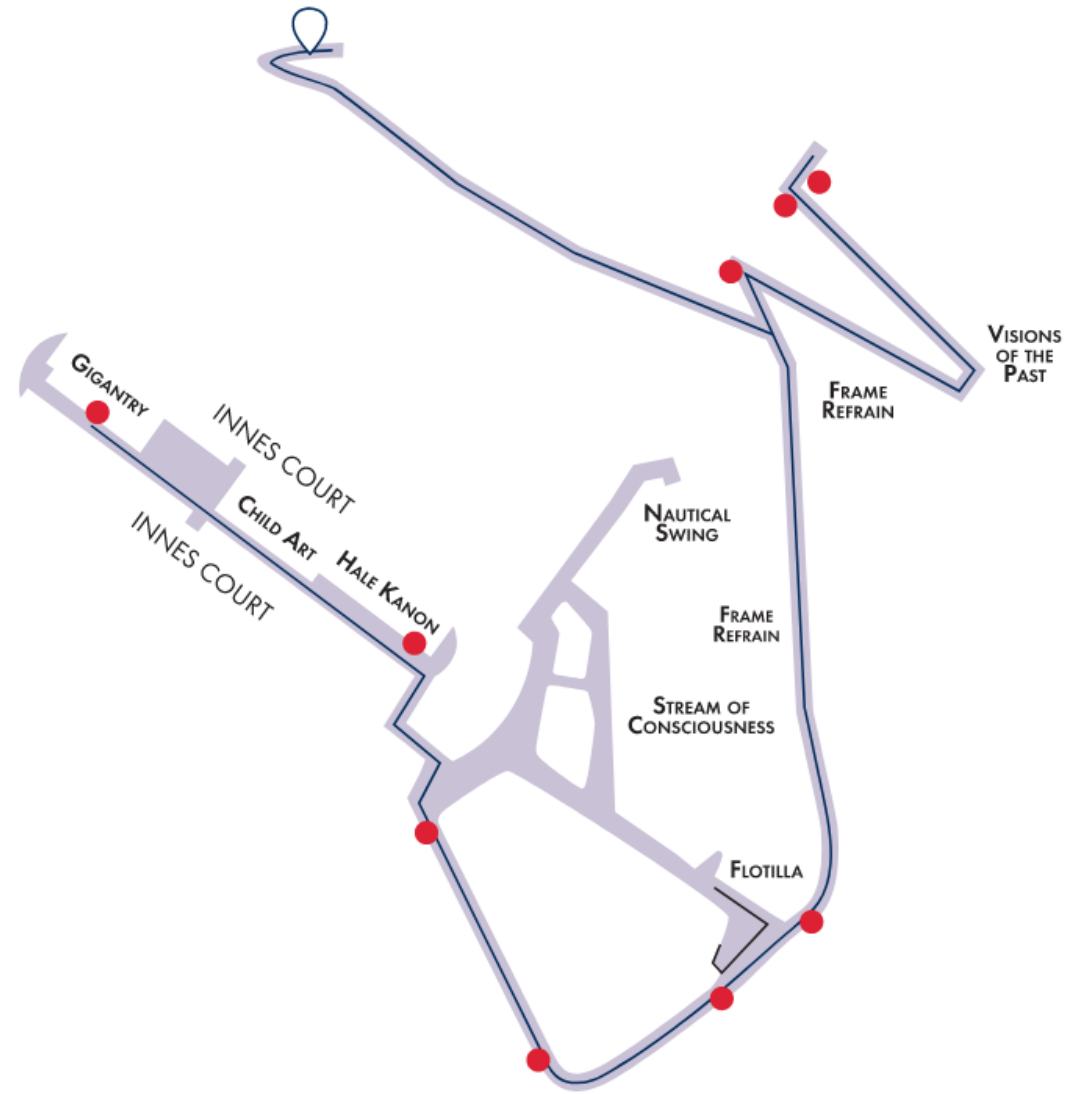


USS President Hayes (APA-20), circa 1945. Courtesy of National Archives (19-N-81339)

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War Efforts at the Shipyard



HUNTERS POINT SHIPYARD

WAR EFFORTS AT THE SHIPYARD



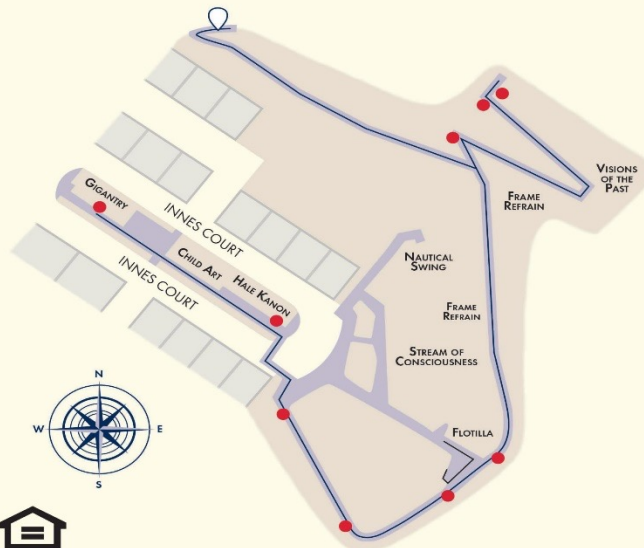
Naval History and Heritage Command (NH 91916)

Just 11 days after the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, Hunters Point established itself as a leader in ship repair and maintenance during the war effort. The US Navy's development of Hunters Point, and growth of related private industries, yielded a massive influx of blue-collar workers from around the country.



Photo by Emmanuel Joseph, courtesy of Labor Archives and Research Center, San Francisco State University, People's World Photograph Collection

It is estimated that by August 1945, Black people comprised over one-third of the total 18,235 workforce at the Shipyard, many of whom settled in the Bayview neighborhood. To meet housing demands, the National Housing Authority, in cooperation with the US Navy and the San Francisco Housing Authority, built more than 12,000 new homes in and around the Bayview-Hunters Point neighborhood.



This population explosion, which is tied to the second Great Migration of African Americans from the South, transformed Bayview-Hunters Point almost overnight.



Courtesy of Library of Congress, Prints & Photographs Division, HAER CAL, 38-SANFRA,195A--6



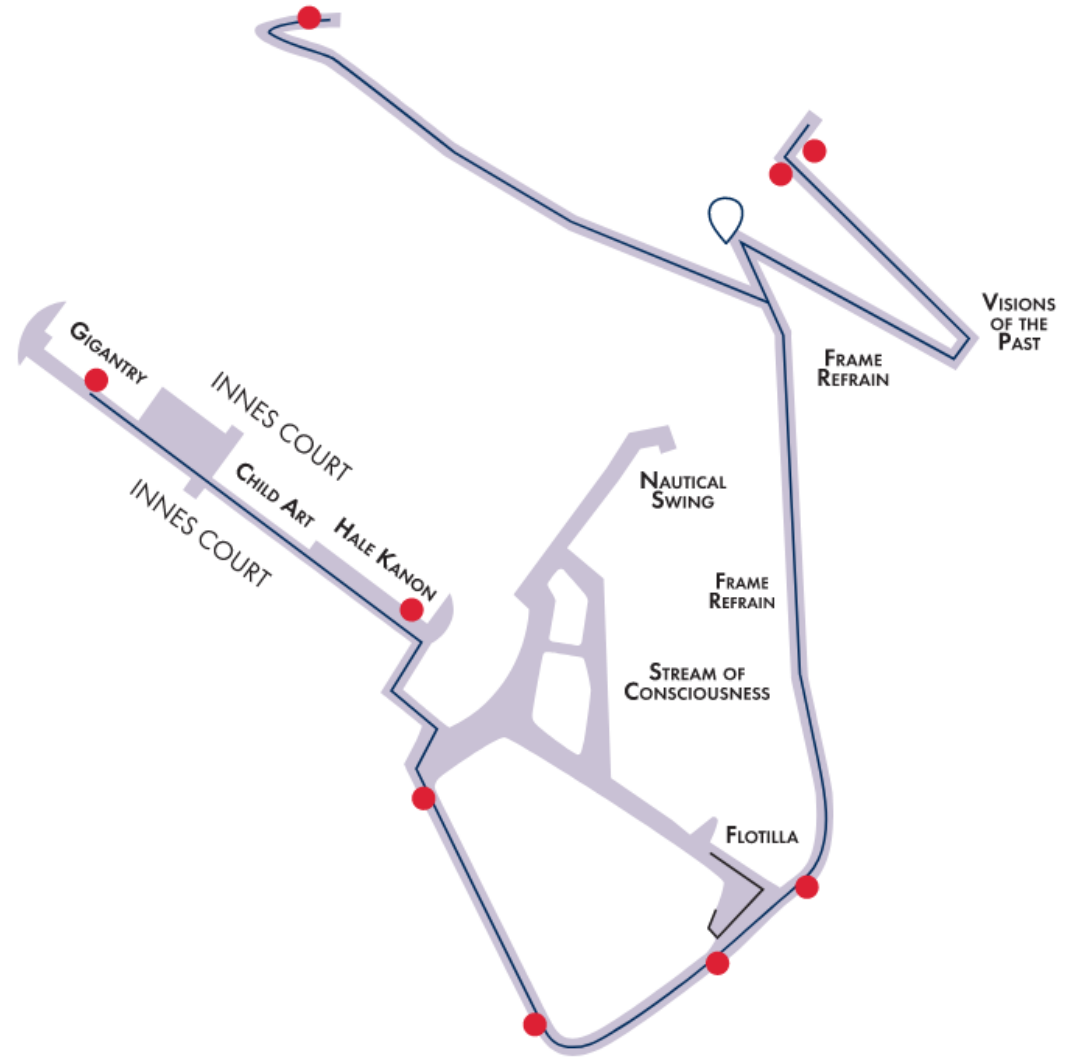
Photo by Paul Dorsey, courtesy of National Archives, photo no. 80-G-377613

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Post-War Cultural Revolution



HUNTERS POINT SHIPYARD

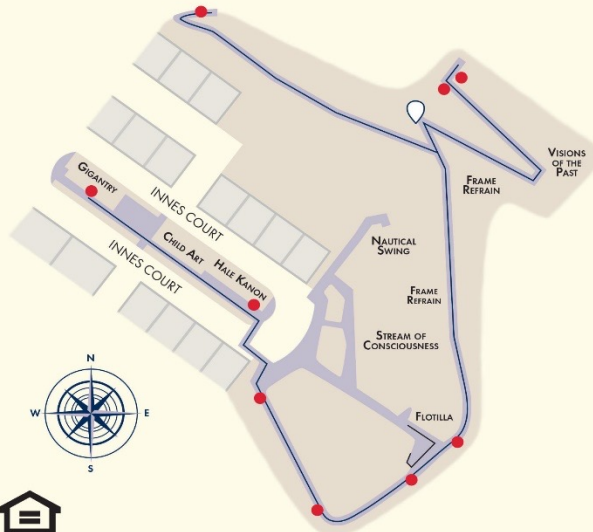
POST-WAR CULTURAL REVOLUTION

In 1966, after being largely neglected for almost two decades, the residents of Bayview-Hunters Point took to the streets in what became known as the "Hunters Point Uprising". The 128-hour demonstration involved a standoff between residents and the California National Guard, and is considered the most significant event in San Francisco's civil rights struggle.



Photo by Jean-Antony du Lac, courtesy of San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library

The rejuvenation created more than 4,000 jobs, many of which are filled by residents of the Bayview-Hunters Point. Leading the community's growth and rejuvenation were "The Big Five": Elouise Westbrook, Julia Commer, Rosalie Williams, Bertha Freeman and Osceola Washington.



The civic uprising helped facilitate a \$150 million grant for Bayview-Hunters Point community to use at its discretion. The residents elected to build 3,000 new homes, and transform the former Butchertown area into the India Basin Industrial Park.



Photo from the Shaping San Francisco collection, as seen on Foundsf.org

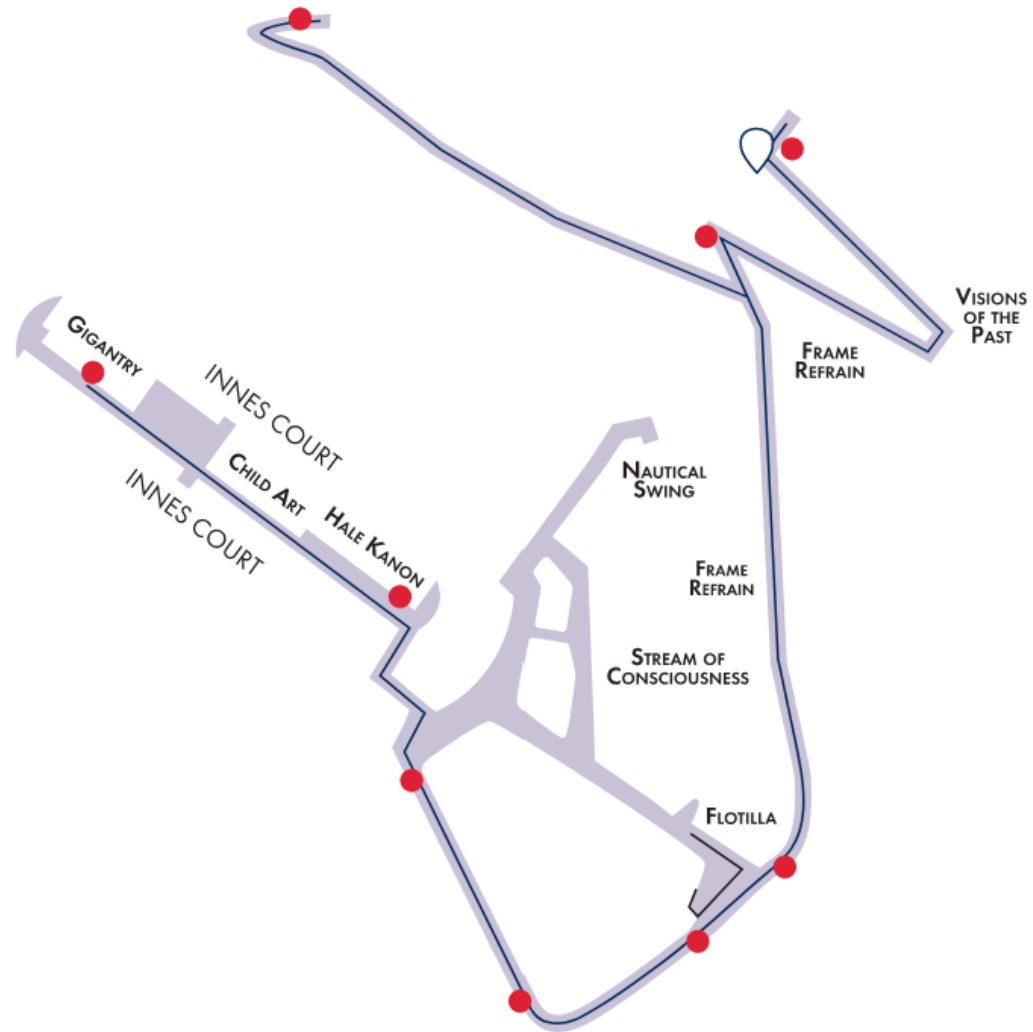


Photo by Jean-Antony du Lac, courtesy of San Francisco History Center, San Francisco Public Library

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Private Tenants Move into the Shipyard



HUNTERS POINT SHIPYARD

PRIVATE TENANTS MOVE INTO THE SHIPYARD

The US Navy closed operations at the Hunters Point Naval Shipyard in 1974, with over 5,000 workers laid off or reassigned. For 35 years, this single economic industry both built and devastated the Hunters Point neighborhood. The Shipyard opened the facilities to lease by private tenants, including food business training and a commercial ship repair company.

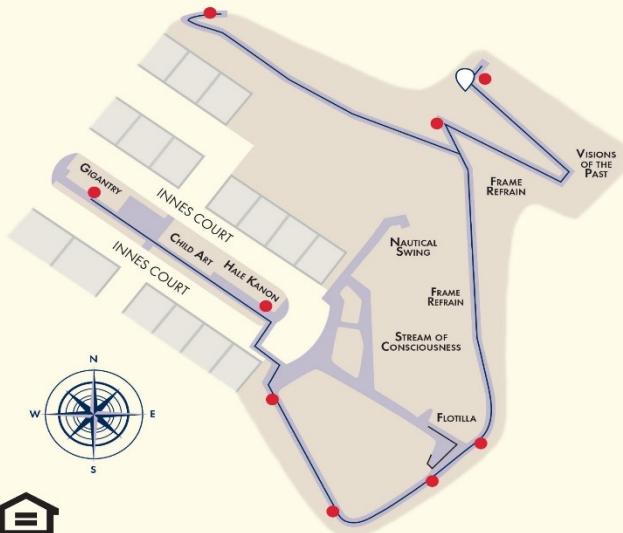


Photo by Lt. A. Legare, courtesy of National Archives, photo no. 6393070

1976: After the US Navy opens up the Shipyard to private ventures, sculptor Jacques Terzian subletted a warehouse and transformed it into an artist's studio. He invited friends and colleagues to open their own studios nearby.



Jacques Terzian, photo by Judy Reed



Commercial kitchen 2022

Though still referred to as Hunters Point Shipyard, the area began to cultivate a new identity as a crucible for artistic production.



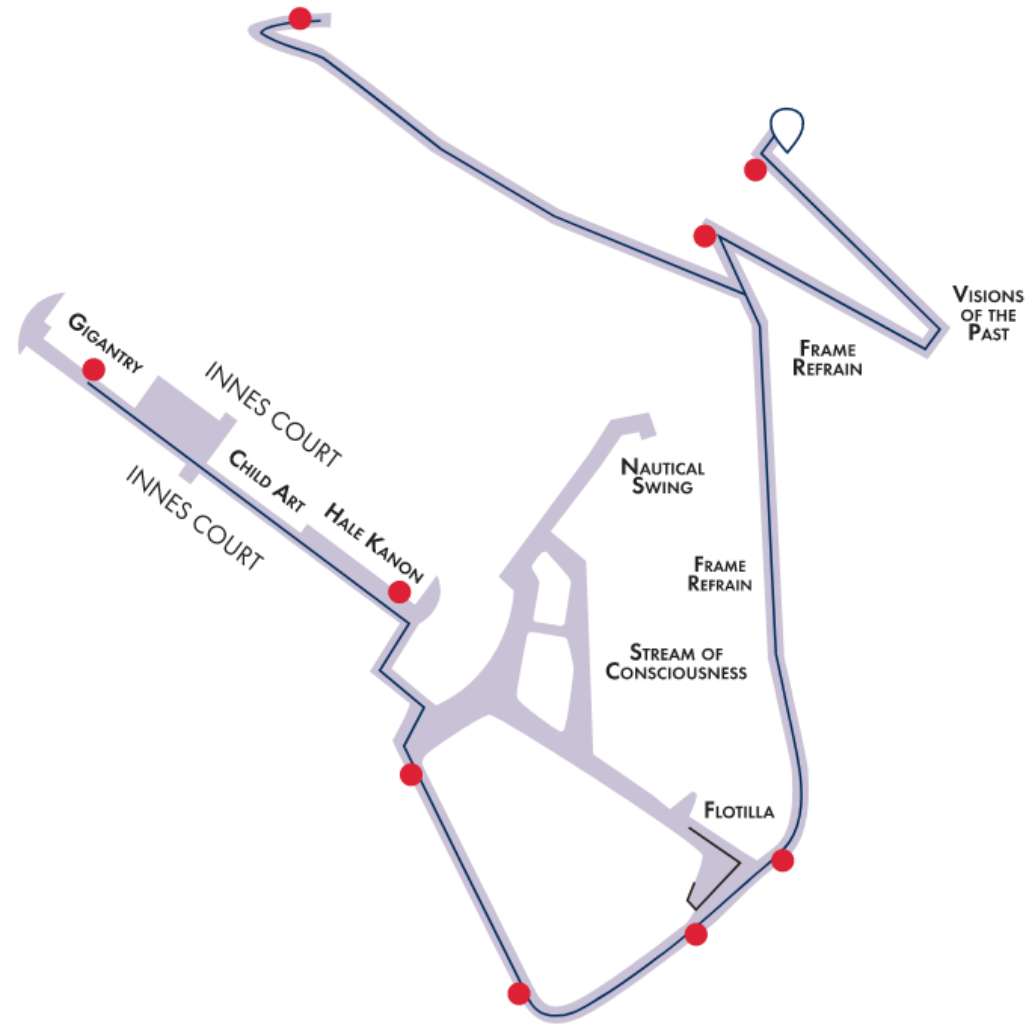
1983: The artists organized to form The Point, which grew to become the largest artist colony in the United States. Today, The Point Community includes over 300 artists.

1984: Scott Madison, a local restaurateur, opened Eclectic Cookery in the shipyard's former Marine Corps barracks. The Cookery provided time-shared kitchen facilities to new food businesses. Over the next three decades, the space served as a launch pad for hundreds of San Francisco's beloved food establishments.

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The Beginning of a New Era



HUNTERS POINT SHIPYARD

THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA

The US Navy decommissioned the base and shipyard facilities in 1991, as part of a post-Cold War realignment and disposal program. This is the advent of a new and transformative age for the district. In 1995 the City of San Francisco ratified the Bayview-Hunters Point Area Plan.



This is a landmark example of community ownership of urban development and revitalization, based on the Citizen Advisory Committee's guidelines and the years of citizen input that influenced them.

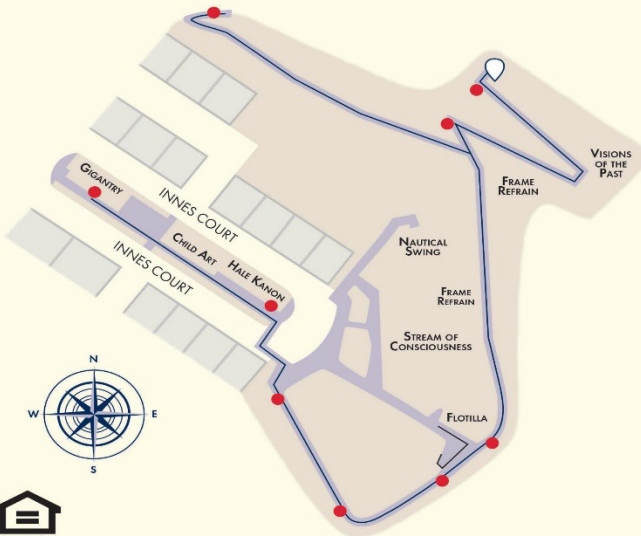
The San Francisco Redevelopment Agency published the Hunters Point Shipyard Redevelopment Plan, guided by the Bayview-Hunters Point Project Area Committee, in 1997. The City of San Francisco adopted the Bayview-Hunters Point Redevelopment Plan in early 2000.

The City committed to invest in local education, transportation, public open spaces, hiking and biking trails, community facilities, and energy efficiency. By 2004, the US Navy transferred the first parcel of land on the former shipyard site to the City of San Francisco, a major milestone for the Bayview-Hunters Point community. In the summer of 2013 groundbreaking began to construct the first homes at the Shipyard.

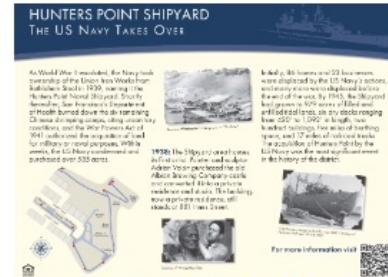


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Sample QR Code Page for Sign



HUNTERS POINT SHIPYARD: The Navy Takes Over.



1938: The Shipyard area houses its first artist. Painter and sculptor Adrien Voisin purchased the old Albion Brewing Company castle and converted it into a private residence and studio. The building, now a private residence, still stands at 881 Innes Street. Courtesy of Vintage Roadside.



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**THANK
YOU**