

# DISCOVER FRANCISCO PARK



The reflective sculpture by local artist Laura Lineback was gifted to the park by a neighbor. Along with 125+ of these artful hearts displayed throughout the City, this sculpture raised funds for San Francisco General Hospital.

The heart shape refers to the 1953 song, "I Left My Heart in San Francisco," popularized by jazz singer Tony Bennett. The lyrics describe a place "where little cable cars/ climb halfway to the stars" which inspired the park's motto, "Leave Your Heart, Francisco Park."

## FIND THE ART AND LEAVE YOUR HEART

The chrome-plated sculpture will shine through all kinds of weather.



# WELCOME TO FRANCISCO PARK

IN THE HEART OF RUSSIAN HILL  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA



Butterflies, insects, and birds attracted to native plants — varieties that occur naturally in the area and offer sustainable habitat.



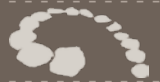
A length of iron fence from 1872 which stood in front of an opulent Nob Hill mansion.

A giant ruler that measured the depth of the water. At 12 feet, the reservoir held its full capacity of 2.5 million gallons.



A large water pipe which was used to fill the reservoir.

A spiral of stones.



A Coast Live Oak tree (Quercus agrifolia).

A Monterey Cypress tree (Hesperocyparis macrocarpa).



"Hersha Tuhe" — 'Greetings' in the language of the Ramaytush Ohlone, the native peoples of this land. 160 years ago, this site held a reservoir of fresh water to serve a growing city. Now it holds a community park — a reservoir of open space for all to share, enjoy, and protect.

# SAN FRANCISCO'S FIRST RESERVOIR WAS BUILT HERE

The word “reservoir” comes from the French, “to keep.” When you turn on a faucet to wash your hands, fill a glass, or water your plants, you are using water that has been kept in a nearby reservoir.

**Francisco Reservoir was built in 1860. The City’s population had grown very quickly, from 850 to 30,000 people in the two years after gold was discovered nearby.**

People rushed here from all over the world to find gold, and many chose to stay. They needed water to drink, cook, and clean, and this reservoir became their source.

Originally, this reservoir held 2.5 million gallons in a large rectangular trench which was dug into the hill and lined with brick. Today you can stand on what used to be the brick floor of the reservoir and imagine how deep under water you would be!



The City abandoned Francisco Reservoir after newer facilities were built. The reservoir was fenced and the 4.5 acre lot was largely unused for 60 years. Eventually, neighbors raised funds to transform it into a park.

In a city, we share views and trees and places, just as we share drinking water from a reservoir.

**We hope you will share Francisco Park and “keep” it in your heart too.**

**In a short time, San Francisco grew from a small settlers’ outpost to a booming city.**



## TODAY, A RESERVOIR OF RAINWATER

As you stroll across the Main Lawn you are walking atop a **new reservoir of rainwater** buried deep below the grass. Giant domes store filtered rain, which is used to water the park’s plants and flush restroom toilets. Capturing rainwater saves one and a half million gallons of tap water each year.

Look for the purple drains throughout the park – purple indicates where this reclaimed rainwater is being used.



**These domes are really big! Together, they hold more than 500,000 gallons of water.**



## STILL IN VIEW

San Francisco has changed a lot since Francisco Reservoir was built... but these sights have remained.

**Look for signs with these historic photos:**

- 1** Cottage for Reservoir Keeper, built around 1860
- 2** Factory for Pioneer Woolen Mills, later Ghirardelli Chocolate, built in 1868
- 3** Cable Car, invented and installed in 1873
- 4** Gothic Tudor House, built in 1915
- 5** Golden Gate Bridge, built in 1937



**You can still find fresh water in Francisco Park – at the drinking fountain and water bottle refill station near the restrooms.**

