

SF Monuments

<https://goo.gl/maps/EGcResAo9d5kGw8d9>

Understanding the Key:

Title of Work - *Name of Google Maps pin* (if different from title)

Creator and date (if known)

Information about the monument and who or what it memorializes

The first four statues listed are ones which were taken down in June 2020, here labeled as “Ghost Monuments.” All monuments are alphabetized by title. Some monuments (especially ones that have been taken down) are not listed on Google maps; for these, the longitude and latitude numbers or addresses are provided. This lists only the monuments related to local history, either because of the individuals they depict or because of the context around their creation. While I tried to make this list as comprehensive as possible, I cannot claim that it is complete, so if you have a person in mind who you believe deserves a monument I recommend that you verify that one is not already in existence in San Francisco.

Ghost Monuments

Christopher Columbus Statue

Created by Count Vittorio di Colbertaldo; donated to the city by Italian-American community 1957 (Vittorio di Colbertaldo was a part of the Fascist government in Italy.)

Removed by S.F. Arts Commission June 18, 2020

Christopher Columbus was an Italian navigator controversially credited as being the first European to make contact with the Americas. He made four voyages across the Atlantic and founded the first Spanish colony in the Americas.

Francis Scott Key Monument

Created by William Wetmore Story 1888

Torn down by protestors June 19, 2020

Francis Scott Key was the composer of the U.S. national anthem, “The Star-Spangled Banner,” which was inspired by the British bombardment of Fort McHenry during the War of 1812. He has more recently come under controversy as a slave-owner.

Junípero Serra - *37°46'18.8"N 122°27'59.8"W*

Created 1907

Torn down by protestors June 19, 2020

Junípero Serra was a Spanish priest credited with the founding of the first 9 of the 21 Catholic missions established in Alta California during the 18th century. These missions have been criticized for their brutality against Native Americans.

Ulysses S. Grant - *37°46'18.3"N 122°28'01.6"W*

Created by Rupert Schmid 1896

Torn down by protestors June 19, 2020

Ulysses S. Grant was a notable Union general during the American Civil War and later the 18th President of the United States. Grant's presidency was notable for his policies related to Reconstruction and prosecution of members of the Ku Klux Klan.

Current Monuments

Adolph Sutro - *City Hall*

Created by Jonah Hendrickson 2013

Adolph Sutro was a philanthropist who built the Sutro Baths near the Cliff House and public transportation that connected them to the city. He was esteemed by working people and was elected mayor in 1895, but is generally considered to have been unsuccessful as a politician.

Allen Ginsberg Monument

Created 2005

Allen Ginsberg was a pioneering poet of the Beat Movement, a counterculture literary movement which emerged in San Francisco in the 1950s. He is best-known for his poem "Howl," which denounces capitalism and conformity, and which was brought to trial for obscenity in 1957.

Andrew Furuseth - *Sailors Union of the Pacific*

Created by Hal Bayard-Runyon 1940

Andrew Furuseth was a merchant seaman and American labor leader who helped form the Sailors' Union of the Pacific and the International Seamen's Union. He was influential in the ending of corporal punishment and imprisonment for desertion at sea.

Angelo J. Rossi - *City Hall*

Created by Ruth Wakefield Cravath 1948

Angelo J. Rossi became the first mayor of 100% Italian descent of a major U.S. city when he was elected to office in San Francisco in 1931. Rossi was known for his firmly anti-Communist beliefs and cracked down heavily on several strikes during his tenure, including the San Francisco general strike of 1934.

Bret Harte Memorial - *Bohemian Club*

Created by Jo Mora 1919

Bret Harte was a short story writer best known for his depictions of the California Gold Rush.

Burton Statue

Created by Wendy M. Ross 1990

Phillip Burton was a U.S. Representative for California notable for creating the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and for being one of the first members of Congress to acknowledge the need for AIDS research and introduce an AIDS bill.

California Theatre Plaque - *California Theatre*

Created by Jacques Schnier 1932

This plaque memorializes the California Theatre, which was a center of San Francisco drama from 1869 to 1888, when a new building for the theater was built. The theater held performances by such notable San Francisco actors and playwrights as Lotta Crabtree, Edwin Booth, Walter Montgomery, and others.

California Volunteers Monument

Created by Douglas Tilden 1906

This monument commemorates soldiers in the Spanish-American War of 1898.

Carl G. Larsen - *Carl Larsen Park*

Created by M. Earl Cummings 1928

The plaque at the northeast corner of the park commemorates Carl G. Larsen, who was a prominent landowner in the city in the late 1800s, and who donated land for multiple parks, including Carl Larsen Park.

Coit Tower

Designed by Arthur Brown, Jr. and Henry Howard 1933

This tower, named for San Francisco philanthropist Lillie Hitchcock Coit, memorializes volunteer firemen who died fighting San Francisco's five major fires. The interior is painted with frescos done in the American Social Realism style, some of which were controversial at the time of their creation for their socialist symbolism.

"Comfort Women" Column of Strength - *WWII Comfort Women Monument*

Created by Steven Whyte 2017

This monument memorializes the "comfort women" who were forced into sexual slavery by the Japanese Imperial Army during WWII. Following the unveiling of this memorial the city of Osaka, Japan dissolved its sister-city relationship with San Francisco in protest.

Dennis T. Sullivan - *876 Bush Street*

Created by M. Earl Cummings 1921

This plaque commemorates Dennis T. Sullivan, who was Chief of the San Francisco Fire Department and who was killed during the 1906 earthquake.

Dianne Feinstein - *City Hall*

Created by Lisa Reinertson 1996

Dianne Feinstein was Mayor of San Francisco from 1978-1988 and has served as the senior U.S. Senator for California since 1992.

Diego Rivera Pan-American Unity Mural

Created by Diego Rivera 1940

This mural, created for the Golden Gate International Exposition, depicts the history of the Americas with an emphasis on indigenous art.

Doughboy Meadow - *The Doughboy*

Created by M. Earl Cummings 1930

This monument memorializes members of the San Francisco Parlors of the Native Sons of the Golden West who were killed in WWI and later WWII.

Dr. Sun Yat Sen Statue

Created by Beniaminio Bufano 1938

Sun Yat-sen was a leader of the revolution which overthrew the Qing Dynasty and established the Republic of China in 1911. He was also the leader of the Kuomintang, or Chinese Nationalist Party. He frequently visited San Francisco's Chinatown to raise funds for the revolution from the Chinese-American community; the statue is placed at the location where he often spoke.

Eadweard James Muybridge Statue

Eadweard Muybridge was an English photographer known for his early work in motion-picture projection. He lived in San Francisco for some time in the 1850s and '60s.

Father Alfred E. Boeddeker Park

Redding School, Self-Portrait

Created by Ruth Asawa 1984

This bas relief, created by artist Ruth Asawa with the assistance of the schoolchildren of Redding Elementary School, memorializes Father Alfred E. Boeddeker. Boeddeker was a Franciscan friar who founded a variety of humanitarian programs for San Francisco's poor and marginalized, including a free medical clinic and dining room.

First 100 Years - *Susan Bierman Park*

Created by Man Lin Choi 1982

This statue, also known as the Korean Monument, was a gift from the Republic of Korea to the United States to celebrate 100 years of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Frank Marini Statue

Created by Gladys Nevada Guillici 1954

Frank Marini was a civic benefactor in the Italian-American community in North Beach, known for his philanthropy with churches and other social organizations.

Frederick Funston - *City Hall*

Created by Haig Patigian 1917

Frederick Funston was a U.S. general made famous by his leadership in the Spanish-American War and Philippine-American War. Funston was controversial during his time for his role in the capture and execution of Filipino President Emilio Aguinaldo; while he received a Medal of Honor for this, he was also highly criticized by many, including anti-imperialist writers Mark Twain and Ernest Crosby.

Gavin Newsom - *City Hall*

Created 2018

Gavin Newsom was mayor of San Francisco from 2004 to 2011 and is currently Governor of California. As mayor Newsom famously issued marriage licenses to same-sex couples in contradiction with state law and was a vocal opponent of Prop 8, which illegalized same-sex marriage.

Gaylord Perry Statue

Created by William Behrends 2016

Gaylord Perry was a Major League Baseball Hall of Famer who played for the San Francisco Giants from 1962-1971.

General Henry W. Halleck - East Meadow

created by Carl H. Conrads 1886

This statue commemorates General Henry W. Halleck, who served as General-in-Chief of the Union armies during the American Civil War and was critical to the admission of California as a state.

George Christopher - City Hall

Created by Michael John Reed 1976

George Christopher was the city's last Republican mayor to present. He was generally lauded for his support of the Civil Rights movement, but was more controversial for his heavily pro-development stance and his complex relationship with the House Un-American Activities Committee hearings and subsequent student protests that took place in San Francisco.

George Moscone - City Hall

Created by Romana Anzie Downie 1982

George Moscone was Mayor of San Francisco from 1976-1978, when he was assassinated alongside Supervisor Harvey Milk. He was known for his liberal policies and for opening up city government to a more diverse representation of San Francisco.

Gilbert Baker Memorial Rainbow Flag

Designed by Gilbert Baker 1978, installed 1997

Gilbert Baker was a gay rights activist widely known for having designed the rainbow flag which became symbolic of the LGBTQ community. The flag was named for Baker following his death in 2017.

Goethe & Schiller - Music Concourse Drive

Created by Ernst Reitschel 1901

This statue commemorates Johan Wolfgang von Goethe, a German writer famous for his participation in the *Sturm und Drang* literary movement; and Friedrich Schiller, a German poet and philosopher, who alongside Goethe was influential in the "Weimar Classicism" movement. The statue is a copy of one in Weimar, Germany, and was gifted to the city by the German-American community. Some advocated that it be removed during the world wars due to the U.S. being in conflict with Germany.

Guglielmo Marconi Memorial Plaque - 37°48'10.5"N 122°24'44.3"W

Created by Raymond Puccinelli 1938

Guglielmo Marconi was an Italian inventor credited with the invention of the radio. The statue was put up by the Italian-American community.

Hagiwara Family Plaque - Japanese Tea Garden

Created by Ruth Asawa 1974

This plaque recognizes the Hagiwara family. The Japanese Tea Garden was designed by Makoto Hagiwara for the 1894 World's Fair. The Hagiwara family continued to live in the garden until 1942, when they were forcibly displaced and interned in camps along with other Japanese-Americans on the West Coast.

Harry Lundeberg (1901-1957) - 450 Harrison Street (Sailors Union of the Pacific Building)

Created by E. Hunt 1957

Harry Lundeberg was a seaman and labor leader who worked in various unions throughout his career, including the International Seamen's Union, the Maritime Federation, the Sailor's Union of the Pacific, and Seafarers International Union.

Harvey Milk - City Hall

Created by Eugene Daub, Rob Firmin, and Jonah Hendrickson 2008

Harvey Milk was elected as a San Francisco Supervisor in 1977, making him the first openly gay elected official in California history. During his time in office he sponsored a bill banning certain forms of discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

Heroes Grove Memorial - WWI Memorial

Created by Gold Star Mothers 1932

This boulder, called the Gold Star Mothers Rock, depicts the names of 748 local men and 13 women he died during WWI.

International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union Memorial - 20 Mission Street

Created by Mural Environmentalists Together in Art Labor 1986

This commemorates the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union (ILWU), which was founded in 1937 to represent the rights and interest of its workers on the West Coast of the U.S. and Canada and in Hawaii.

James Phelan - City Hall

Created by Haig Patigian 1936

James Phelan was Mayor of San Francisco from 1897-1902 and was a vocal opponent to Chinese and Japanese immigration to the United States. A street named after him was renamed "Frida Kahlo Way" in 2018.

James Rolph, Jr. - City Hall

Created by Haig Patigian 1936

James Rolph was the city's longest-serving mayor from 1912 until 1931, when he resigned to become California Governor. As governor Rolph was criticized for praising the citizens who lynched two men who had confessed to the kidnapping and murder of Brooke Hart, a prominent heir.

John F. Shelley - City Hall

Created by Lisa Reinertson 1992

John F. Shelley was San Francisco Mayor (the first Democrat to hold the office in 50 years) and later a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. Shelley was known for his history as a labor union organizer prior to holding office.

John McLaren - East Meadow

created by M. Earl Cummings 1944

John McLaren was a horticulturist who served as the Golden Gate Park Superintendent from 1887 until his death in 1943. He opposed placing statues in the park, but a statue of his likeness was erected there after his death.

Joseph Alioto - City Hall

Created by Ruth Wakefield Cravath 1977

Joseph Alioto was mayor of San Francisco from 1968 to 1976, during which time he oversaw a number of crises, including the Symbionese Liberation Army and the Zodiac Killer. Alioto was indicted but cleared for bribery charges during his tenure; he was also famous for having confronted and acquiesced to the demands of several strikes by city employees.

Joseph Strauss Statue

Created by Frederick William Schweigardt 1941

Joseph Strauss was the chief engineer of the Golden Gate Bridge, known for his revolutionizing of bascule bridges. It has since been questioned whether he was in fact the preeminent designer of the Golden Gate Bridge, with some proposing Charles Ellis as an alternative.

Juan Bautista de Anza Statue

Created by Julian Martinez 1967; gifted to San Francisco by the state of Sonora, Mexico

Juan Bautista de Anza founded the city of San Francisco in 1776. He was one of the early colonizers of Alta California and served as Governor of the Province of New Mexico.

Juan Marichal Statue

Created by William Behrends 2005

Juan Marichal was a baseball Hall of Famer who played for the San Francisco Giants from 1960-1975.

Kanrin-Marui Memorial

Created by Nakai Mitsui 1960

This memorial, presented by the city of Osaka to its sister city of San Francisco, commemorates the ship *Kanrin-Marui* which brought the first Japanese Embassy to the United States in 1860 after the U.S. forced diplomatic relations with Japan in 1853.

King Carlos III of Spain Statue

Created by Federico Coullaut-Valera 1976; donated by King Juan Carlos I of Spain for San Francisco's bicentennial

King Carlos III of Spain was king of Spain from 1759-1788. He ordered the founding of the city of San Francisco in 1776.

Life of George Washington - *George Washington High School*

Created by Victor Arnautoff 1936

This series of 13 murals by Russian-American socialist muralist Victor Arnautoff depict the life of George Washington. The murals have come under recent controversy for their depictions of African slaves and Native Americans. Arnautoff made a number of murals focusing on working-class people, including at Coit Tower.

Lotta's Fountain

Fountain created 1875; plaque created by Haigh Patigian 1910

This fountain, which was one of the few monuments left standing after the 1906 earthquake, contains a plaque dedicated to Italian soprano singer Luisa Tetrazzini. The fountain was originally purchased for the city by Lotta Crabtree, a famous local actress and Vaudeville performer during the Gold Rush and after.

Ludwig van Beethoven Statue

Created by Henry Baerer 1915

Ludwig van Beethoven was a German composer considered to be among the greatest of the classical era. This statue was erected by the city's German-American community, and some advocated it being removed during WWII.

Matthew Hall McAllister - *456 McAllister Street*

Created by Robert Ingersoll Aitken 1904

Matthew Hall McAllister was a U.S. Circuit Judge who lived and worked in San Francisco.

Mechanics Monument

Created by Douglas Tilden 1901

This statue was built to memorialize Peter Donahue, who founded California's first ironworks and machine shop, established the first gas company in San Francisco, and initiated the city's first streetcar line.

Mexico Liberty Bell

Donated by Mexico 1966

This bell is a replica of the one rung by Miguel Hidalgo in 1810, calling the Mexican people to rise up against Spanish colonialism. Following Mexican independence, California became a part of Mexico.

Michael O'Shaughnessy - *City Hall*

created by Don Cronin 2000

Michael O'Shaughnessy was a civil engineer most famous for having developed the Hetch-Hetchy dam and water system. This project was controversial because of its environmental effects on the Yosemite Valley.

Miguel Hidalgo Statue

Created by Juan F. Olaguibel 1963

Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla was a Spanish priest and leader of the 1810 Mexican War for Independence against Spain. He is considered to be the “Father of the Nation” for having given a famous speech, called the “Cry of Dolores,” which called for the Mexican people to rise up against Spanish colonialism.

National AIDS Memorial Grove

Created 1996

This memorializes the 700,000 American lives lost to AIDS since it first appeared in the United States.

Philo Farnsworth Statue

Created by Lawrence Noble 2008

Philo Farnsworth is considered to be the inventor of the modern television set, which he invented while living in San Francisco.

Pioneer Monument

Created by Frank Happersberger 1894

This monument, which is intended to depict California history, is made up of a statue of Minerva surrounded by four bronze reliefs depicting various historical scenes. It is surrounded by four other statues—two allegorical figures representing Commerce and Plenty; a statue entitled “In ‘49” representing the Gold Rush; and and a statue entitled “Early Days,” which depicted a missionary, a Native American, and a vaquero, which was taken down in September 2018 due to the perception that it was dehumanizing to Native Americans. The remaining statues were left in their original form.

Pioneer Mother Memorial

Created by Charles Grafly

This monument, built with the support of the Pioneer Mother Monument Association, commemorates the American women who settled the western United States, which had previously been occupied by Native Americans.

Portals of the Past

Created by Arthur Page Brown 1909

These columns, which once graced the Nob Hill mansion of railroad tycoon Alban Towne, were the subject of a famous photograph by Arnold Genthe depicting the destruction of the 1906 earthquake. The columns were later relocated to Golden Gate Park to serve as a memorial for the earthquake.

Rainbow Honor Walk

Founded by David Perry 2014

This series of plaques in the Castro neighborhood honors 44 notable LGBTQ historical figures, including a variety of artists, activists, and innovators. The full list of honorees and their achievements can be found on the following Wikipedia page: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rainbow_Honor_Walk#Honorees

Raphael Weill - *37°47'01.0"N 122°30'06.9"W*

Created by Haig Patigian 1911

Raphael Weill was a local philanthropist, co-founder of the Bohemian Club, and member of the SF Board of Education. Rosa Parks Elementary School was previously named after him until 1995, when it was changed to represent a historical figure that students might be more likely to identify with.

Rev. Anthony Joseph Marsachi - *University of San Francisco*

Created by Harriet G. Moore 1985

Rev. Anthony Joseph Marsachi was a priest in the Society of Jesus and the founder of the University of San Francisco and Saint Ignatius College Preparatory in San Francisco.

Robert Louis Stevenson Memorial

Designed by Bruce Porter 1897

Robert Louis Stevenson was a Scottish poet and novelist, some of his most famous novels including *Treasure Island* and *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*. He lived in San Francisco for a period of time.

Sarah B. Cooper Memorial

Created by Jack Moxom 1939

Sarah B. Cooper was a leader in the Kindergarten Movement of San Francisco and founded the first kindergarten in the American West. Her statue in Golden Gate Park is badly neglected and in disrepair.

St. Francis - *San Francisco State University*

Created by Benny Bufano 1938

St. Francis of Assisi was an Italian Catholic priest and saint, associated with the patronage of animals and nature, for whom the city of San Francisco is named.

St. Francis de la Varenne - *37°48'26.3"N 122°24'56.4"W*

St. Francis of Assisi

Created by Benny Bufano 1928

St. Francis of Assisi was an Italian Catholic priest and saint, associated with the patronage of animals and nature, for whom the city of San Francisco is named.

St. Francis of the Guns - *City College of San Francisco*

Created by Benny Bufano 1968

This depiction of St. Francis of Assisi (for whom San Francisco is named) is made out of melted-down guns which were voluntarily turned in by gun owners. The robes of the saint depict four assassinated leaders: Abraham Lincoln, John F. Kennedy, Robert F. Kennedy, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Statue of Democracy

Created by Thomas Marsh 1989

This statue is a replica of the original *Goddess of Democracy* statue created during the 1989 Tiananmen Square Protest, a student-led protest which sought to challenge the Chinese Communist Party's rule and was ultimately violently quashed. It's located in Portsmouth Square in Chinatown.

Thomas Starr King - *37°46'21.1"N 122°27'59.1"W*

Created by Daniel Chester French 1891

Thomas Starr King was a Unitarian minister who was influential in California politics for his avid support of the Union during the American Civil War. He was credited by Abraham Lincoln for having prevented California from becoming an independent republic.

Tony Bennett Statue

Created by Bruce Wolfe 2016

Tony Bennett is a singer best known for his song "I Left My Heart in San Francisco."

UN Plaza Fountain - *UN Plaza*

Created by Lawrence Halprin 1975

This fountain was created to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the signing of the UN Charter, which took place in San Francisco. The fountain represents the seven continents of the world, with water in between symbolizing the ocean. However, certain features of the fountain do not work, and it has been criticized as a result.

USS San Francisco Memorial

Established 2005

This memorial, which is a piece of the WWII ship USS San Francisco, memorializes the sailors and Marines aboard the ship who were killed during the Battle of Guadalcanal in November 1942.

Volunteer Fireman Memorial - *634 Columbus Avenue*

Created by Haig Patigian 1932

This monument commemorates the San Francisco Volunteer Fire Department from 1819-1866. The city experienced a number of severe fires during this time.

William Chapman Ralston - *Marina Green*

Created by Haig Patigian 1941

William Chapman Ralston was a San Francisco businessman who founded the Bank of California.

Willie Brown - *City Hall*

Created by Richard MacDonald 2004

Willie Brown was a California state Assemblyman from 1964-1994 and later Mayor of San Francisco from 1996-2004, making him the city's first African-American mayor. His time in office was marked by a significant increase in real estate development, public works, city beautification and other large-scale city projects, as well as diversification of city government. Some have criticized him for corruption.

Willie Mays Statue

Created by William Behrends 2000

Willie Mays was a baseball Hall of Famer who played for the New York/San Francisco Giants from 1951-1973 and was made the first Black Major League Baseball captain in 1964.

Willie McCovey Statue

Created by William Behrends 2003

Willie McCovey was Major League Baseball Hall of Famer who played for the San Francisco Giants from 1959-1973.

Willis O'Brien - *Letterman Digital Arts Center*

Created by Lawrence Noble 2008

Willis O'Brien pioneered stop-motion animation and special effects in early cinema. He lived and worked in San Francisco for a number of years.

Not on the Map

The following monuments were ones that we could not find locations for, but which are listed on the SF Arts Commission website (<http://kiosk.sfartscommission.org/index-tree/tree/54>)

Fairfax H. Wheelen

Created by Ilric H. Ellerhusen 1928

Fairfax H. Wheelen was a philanthropist, businessman, and political reformer. He was famous for his efforts to end voter fraud in San Francisco and was an important advisor to President Theodore Roosevelt.