

**HISTORIC MARKERS**

Layouts 1 of 2

Font: Avenir  
Metal: Muntz (Yellow) Metal  
Etch/Fill: Warm Black

**FINOCCHIO'S**

**"America's Most Unusual Nightclub"**  
506 Broadway

Opened in 1936, this cabaret featured female impersonators. "Welcome to the world-famous Finocchio's, where the most beautiful women onstage are men," was the club's well-known introduction. Impersonators, both gay and straight, performed in elaborate drag shows. Welcomed were interracial audiences during a time of segregation, and sexual minorities before gay liberation. Finocchio's closed in 1999 after 63 years.

**MABUHAY GARDENS**

**San Francisco's World Famous Punk Rock Palace**  
443 Broadway

Originally a Filipino restaurant and club, the Mabuhay Gardens became the premier venue for punk rock in San Francisco in the late 1970's and early 80's. Blondie, Joan Jett, The Ramones, Iggy Pop, Patti Smith, and Devo took the stage at the "Fab Mab", and the Sex Pistols played their final show here in 1978. Comedians Whoopi Goldberg and Robin Williams also performed at the Mabuhay Gardens, which closed in 1986.

**DEVIL'S ACRE & BATTLE ROW**

**Home of the worst criminals in town**  
Area bounded by Kearny, Columbus & Broadway

Saloons, gambling dens, brothels, and opium dens, the Devil's Acre was the most notorious section on the Barbary Coast. The word "hoodlum" originated here, referring to ruffians of the area. Battle Row was home of the infamous underground saloon The Slaughterhouse, later renamed The Morgue after the owner smashed a bottle over the head of a drunkard. In 1851 concerned citizens formed the first Vigilance Committee to clean up the area.

**12 ADLER**

**Legendary North Beach Bar**  
12 Saroyan Place (formerly Adler Street)

Built in 1855, 12 Adler Place has had many incarnations: as a Chinese Joss House (temple), a Prohibition speak-easy, a Norwegian fisherman's club, and later in the 1950s a lesbian bar operated by Tommy Vasu, the first known lesbian to legally own a bar in San Francisco. In 1968, Specs Simmons opened the eclectic Specs' 12 Adler Museum Cafe, a family-owned union bar that quickly became an epicenter of creative culture; a haven for artists, writers, strippers, longshoremen, as well as white collar workers in North Beach.

**THE OLD BROADWAY JAIL**  
**1851-1906**

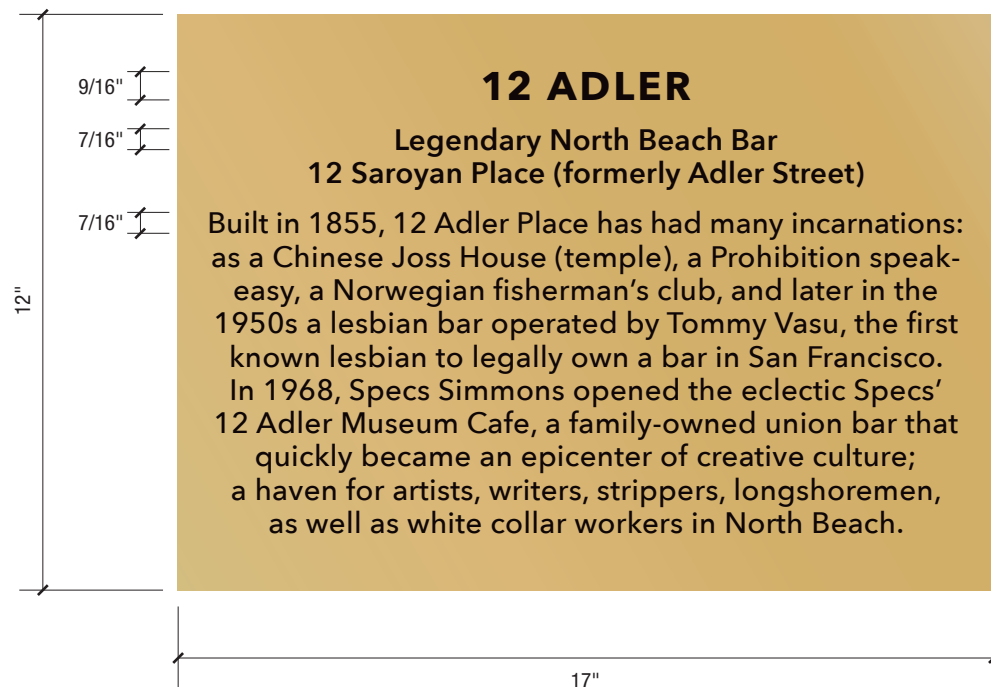
**San Francisco's First County Jail**  
534 Broadway / Romolo Place (formerly Pinkney)

The jail was damp and dark, with 60 cells that held approximately 200 prisoners. Executions took place in the jail's enclosed yard. By the start of the 20th century, the Broadway Jail had become severely dilapidated and escapes were common. The building was seriously damaged in the 1906 earthquake and prisoners were transported to Alcatraz. The Old Broadway Jail was destroyed by dynamite shortly thereafter.

**PETER MACCHIARINI STEPS**

**Honoring A San Francisco Legend**  
The 1100 Block of Kearny

Bordering the infamous neighborhood of Sydney Town (bound by Kearny, Sansome, Green and Broadway), populated by former convicts from the penal colonies of Australia. In 2001, these steps were renamed in honor of Italian-American, Modernist jeweler and sculptor Peter Macchiarini (1909-2001). Macchiarini began making jewelry in 1936, and for more than 50 years maintained an art studio and jewelry shop on Upper Grant Avenue in North Beach.



METAL PLAQUES—LAYOUTS

SCALE: 3" = 1'-0"

### **TERRIFIC STREET AND THE INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENT**

Birthplace of San Francisco Jazz  
Pacific Ave, between Kearny & Montgomery

In the 1890s, musicians nicknamed Pacific Ave from Montgomery to Stockton "Terrific Street" because of the quality of music played in the bars and dance halls. Sarah Bernhardt and Al Jolson performed at the Hippodrome, and Terrific Street was home to San Francisco's first jazz clubs. In the 1930s it became an entertainment zone known as the International Settlement, and was popular until the late 1950s.

### **MONA'S CLUB 440**

"Where Girls Will Be Boys"  
440 Broadway

Mona's moved to 440 Broadway in 1939, and is credited with being the first openly lesbian bar in the United States. The club featured female entertainers dressed as men, and was popular during World War II. Mona's became Ann's 440 Club in 1948, and comedian Lenny Bruce and singer Johnny Mathis both got their starts here.

### **THE JAZZ WORKSHOP**

The Center of the North Beach Jazz Scene  
473 Broadway

Popular in the 1950s and 60s, The Jazz Workshop featured jazz artists like Charlie Mingus, Stan Getz, John Coltrane, Dizzy Gillespie, and Miles Davis. Between 1961 and 1964 several "Live at the Jazz Workshop" albums were recorded here. Comedian Lenny Bruce also performed at the Jazz Workshop, and in 1961 was arrested here on obscenity charges. The Jazz Workshop closed in the late 60s.

### **THE LUSTY LADY**

First Successfully Unionized  
Sex Workers in America  
1030 Kearny

The Lusty Lady opened in 1976 as a theater showing 16mm adult films in private booths. Live dancers were introduced in 1983. In 1997, the employees formed the Exotic Dancers Union, the only sex worker organization of its kind. In 2003 the employees of The Lusty Lady purchased the business and converted it to a worker-owned cooperative. The Lusty Lady closed in September 2013.

### **ITALIAN AMERICAN BANK**

Landmark Financial Institution  
270 Columbus Ave

In 1899, Andrea Sbarboro opened the second bank for the Italian community with a cooperative structure similar to modern day credit unions. Sbarboro was a member of the group of community leaders rebuilding San Francisco after the 1906 earthquake and fire. This North Beach location was opened on January 2, 1923 and the original vaults remain in the building's basement. The Italian American Bank was eventually absorbed by the Bank of America.

