# Outsiders Together

Part of “A city is to man, like a cage is to a bird” graffiti that was on the seawall at Kelly’s Cove in the early 1970s. Photograph by Dennis O’Rorke.

**Kelly’s Cove, like San Francisco as a whole, attracted many who thought and lived outside of societal norms. Alternative views on work, nature, health, recreation, and progress were often in the air and on display at the wall and on the beach.**

Beach crowd watched from the wall, 1940s.
Photograph courtesy of Mike Lewis.

*It was a mishmash of individualistic people who wanted to do their own thing. We were all just in love with the ocean. Everybody at the wall would watch us because we were so original, because we’re happy, really laughing and having a good time.* — CAROL SCHULDT

*We had painters, artisans, thieves, mechanics, criminals, musicians, dealers, intellectuals, teachers, adventurers, students, retirees…you name it. Some of us of course were several of the above. In fact, many of the above titles belonged to many of the tribe. Lest I forget dreamers.* — RUDY FUNK

*If you want to ask who these people are, including myself… kind of outcasts, you know? I just didn’t fit in at school. I had friends. It wasn’t like I was not social, but they weren’t people I really liked all that much. But the Kelly’s people I liked.* — GARY SILBERSTEIN

*They danced to their own drumbeat, right? And anything goes.* — DENNIS O’RORKE

Bill Hickey on the beach, 1970s.
Photograph by Dennis O’Rorke.

*We were nature-loving and because of Bill Hickey we were also conscious of our health. He single-handedly helped all of the kids at Kelly’s and steered us towards eating right. He would do yoga on the beach. I would go, “what are you doing?” He’d go, “practicing my yoga and sitting meditation.” I knew a little about that from my growing up in Chinatown, but to see this white guy doing it…* — ARNE WONG

*We were all out at Kelly’s and the conversation was about what it would be like living under Communism. Somebody said “Hey, Tom, what would you do if the Russians took over?” and he said, “Fuck ‘em. I wouldn’t work for them either.”* — JIM GALLAGHER

Western Neighborhoods Project
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