

## HISTORY

San Francisco is located centrally on the coast in 37° 47' 22-25" n. latitude and 122° 25' 40-76" w. longitude. It is situated on a peninsula bounded on the west by the Pacific Ocean, on the north and east by the Bay of San Francisco, and on the south by wooded hills and fertile valleys. Its elevation extends from sea level to 933.6 feet city datum. The city covers an area of 44.82 square miles and is built principally on hills. The population as of April 1, 1940, was 634,536 (U. S. Census). The preliminary figure of the 1950 U. S. Census is 760,753.

The San Francisco Bay Region was discovered in July, 1769, by Don Gaspar de Portola's soldiers, who were seeking the Monterey Bay. In 1775, Don Manuel Ayala sailed the first ship through the Golden Gate into San Francisco Bay. The San Carlos was the name of the vessel.

Years before, however, Sir Francis Drake had brought his vessel, the *Golden Hind*, close to the Golden Gate and ran her ashore at what is now known as Drake's Bay. This was in 1579, and the first religious service in the English language was held on the Pacific Coast by the chaplain of the *Golden Hind*.

In 1776 a land expedition commanded by Col. Juan Bautista de Anza arrived on the San Francisco peninsula and established the Presidio and the Mission Dolores. In 1777, Padre Junipero Serra, father of the California missions, arrived in San Francisco. The settlement was known as Yerba Buena until 1847, when it became San Francisco.

In 1806 the Russians attempted to establish themselves in and about San Francisco. They started a settlement at Fort Ross, near Santa Rosa, but after a few years gave it up, disposing of all movable fixtures and arms to Capt. John A. Sutter, of Sacramento.

In 1846 the United States declared war on Mexico, and on July 9 of that year, Capt. John B. Montgomery, of the U. S. Navy, arrived in the Sloop-of-War "*Portsmouth*" and raised the American flag in what is now Portsmouth Square; thus without great excitement San Francisco passed from Spanish to Mexican and, finally, American, rule.

Probably San Francisco's greatest excitement came with the discovery of gold in 1848. People rushed here by every known mode of transportation and in thousands. The population increased rapidly and the port became the most important on the Pacific Coast, which position it has steadily maintained.

Because of the number of lawless individuals here during the 1850's the citizens organized the Vigilance Committee and after a short campaign succeeded in ridding the city of the lawbreakers.

## GOVERNMENT

San Francisco has a consolidated City and County government, with legislative powers vested in a board of supervisors of eleven members, five and six being elected every two years for four-year terms. The Mayor, Treasurer, Assessor, City Attorney, Public Defender, District Attorney, Sheriff, and Superior and Municipal Court Judges are elected by the people and serve terms of four years. The Mayor receives \$20,000 a year. The Chief Administrative Officer, appointed by the Mayor but thereafter having permanent tenure, receives \$18,000 per annum. The Controller, appointed by the Mayor, subject to confirmation by the Supervisors, also has tenure. The Mayor appoints members of and supervises police, fire, civil service, public utilities, park and recreation, welfare, library and city planning boards or commissions, and may remove his appointees except civil service, public utilities and welfare commissioners. The Mayor also has a power of veto over legislation.

The San Francisco Unified School District and the City and County have coterminous boundaries. Members of the Board of Education are nominated by the Mayor and passed upon by the voters.

San Francisco has operated under five charters, granted in 1850, 1856, 1861, 1898 and 1932.

Initiative and referendum clauses were first embraced in the 1898 charter.

Mayor James Rolph, Jr., took office in 1911 and served five successive terms, until he became Governor of the State. In 1931 he was succeeded by Angelo J. Rossi, who served until 1944, when he was succeeded by Roger D. Lapham, who pledged himself in advance to one term only. Mayor Elmer E. Robinson took office Jan. 8, 1948, for a four-year term.

## HARBOR AND COMMERCE

Centered in the San Francisco Bay Area, San Francisco is an important port of general commerce, handling a large and valuable domestic and foreign trade. It is the main gateway of commerce for the vast territory of the Central Pacific Coast Area and Intermountain States. The Bay extends from the Golden Gate to the confluence of the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers on the northeast, and to a point near San Jose on the south, covering an area of 450 square miles. The deep-water commerce enters San Francisco Bay through the mile-wide Golden Gate, and thus shipping is afforded natural protection in the waters of the Bay. To this has been added a comprehensive system of docking and berthing facilities, rail and freight connections, modern and well-equipped warehouses, etc. San Francisco harbor has 18 miles of berthing space; there are 222 acres of pier and wharf area, with a capacity of 4,792,100 tons of cargo; 43 modern piers; facilities to dock the largest vessels; several drydocks; 61 miles of harbor trackage connecting piers and warehouses; foreign-trade zone; and modern grain, refrigeration and banana terminals.

The harbor is controlled by the State of California and is governed by the State Board of Harbor Commissioners appointed by the Governor. Of the 43 piers, most of them are assigned to steamship companies having their own fleets and operating their own schedules. San Francisco harbor facilities are valued at more than \$100,000,000.

The water-borne cargo tonnage of San Francisco Bay is foremost on the Pacific Coast and high among those of the nation's ports.

Exports during 1949 amounted to..\$311,469,972

Imports during 1949 amounted to..\$212,614,865

The principal exports by value have been cotton (unmanufactured); fruits, dried and evaporated; petroleum products; milk, canned, evaporated and dried; medical and pharmaceutical preparations; and electrical machinery and apparatus.

The principal imports have been coffee, copra, lead ores, concentrate sugar, paper, jute, burlap and nuts.

The 1948 report of the U. S. Army Engineers shows the distribution of the cargo tonnage, domestic and foreign, as follows:

Total tonnage, San Francisco Bay..	36,064,325
Foreign tonnage .....	2,885,902
Inland waterway tonnage .....	13,958,643
Domestic coastwise tonnage .....	19,219,780

Besides the movement of commodities by water, there is a large rail traffic in San Francisco; during 1950 it reached 183,696 freight-car movements.

San Francisco also is the ocean port for the great inland empire of California, 500 miles in length and 50 miles wide and containing 16,100,000 acres of irrigable land, 5,000,000 acres of which is under irrigation.

San Francisco is normally a port of call for ships serving numerous trade routes.

## TRANSPORTATION

Distribution Facilities—A vast transportation network, including transcontinental rail and highway facilities, air transport services, and steamship lines, converges in San Francisco, bringing unexcelled transportation services to local industry and business. San Francisco's fortunate geographic position on the Pacific Coast, combined with excellent distribution facilities, makes it possible for business and industry located here to serve a larger portion of the Western markets at lower