

Cliff House Terrace Concessions

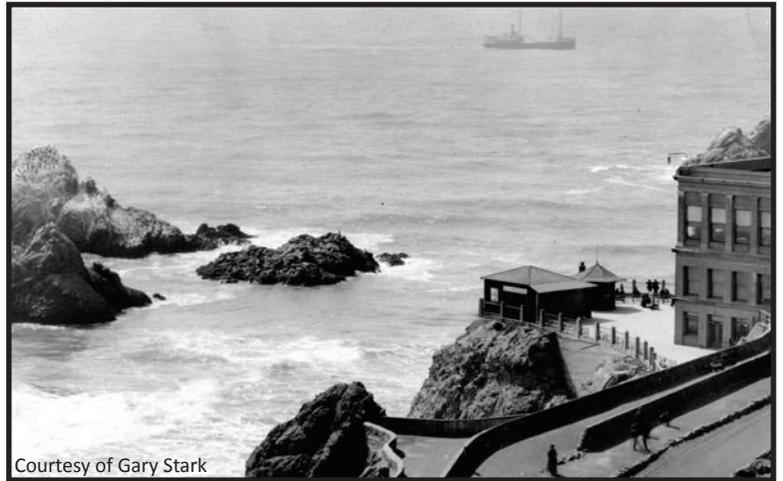
Every new version of the Cliff House included a terrace or observation deck that ran around the west of the building offering great views of the Pacific Ocean. The third incarnation of the building, built by Sutro's daughter, Emma Sutro Merritt, charged a 10 cent admission fee to its terrace.

During the 1910s, 1920s, and into the 1930s, a variety of small buildings appeared on the terrace and admission was no longer charged.

The buildings housed a Japanese tea house, waffle and ice cream stand, peanut stand, sandwich and hot dog stand, information kiosk, a restroom, located where the Camera Obscura stands today, and the Cliff House Observatory, from which guests could rent binoculars or view Seal Rocks through telescopes.

Several 1920s City Directories list the Stavrou family as owners of a lunch, candies, and fruits and vegetable businesses on the terrace. The Japanese tea house was run by Sadikichi Ihara.

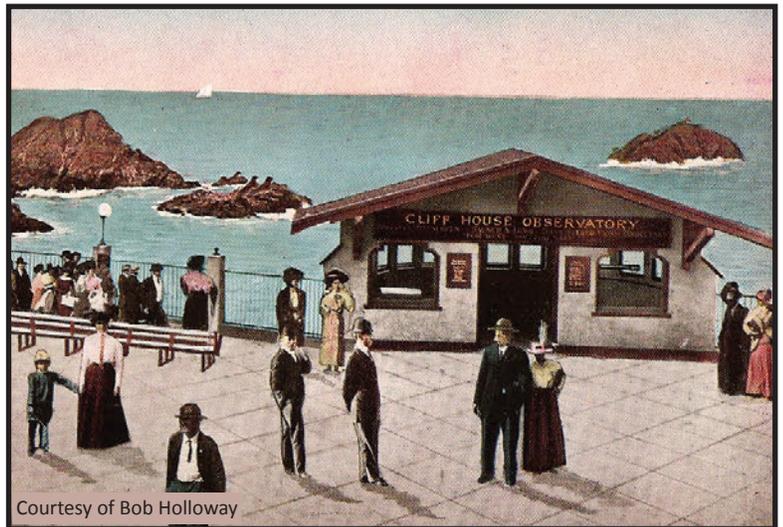
It seems the terrace businesses were evicted when the Whitney Brothers took over the Cliff House in 1937.



Courtesy of Gary Stark



Courtesy of Gary Stark



Courtesy of Bob Holloway

Top: A kiosk and restroom from above, 1907-1910s; *Center:* Visitors sit in front of a kiosk, 1907-1910s; *Bottom:* Cliff House Observatory, 1907-1910s.