

VESTIGES of *Lands End*



Golden Gate NRA, Park Archives, Interpretation Negative Collection, GOGA 2316

Tightrope wires strung from Seal Rocks to the cliff beneath the original Cliff House, 1860s.

Tightropes

The Cliff House often hosted spectacular events and spectacles that drew large crowds of onlookers. One of these feats was a tightrope walk.

The first tightrope walk at the Cliff House was accomplished by circus clown James Cooke in September 1865. He walked 450 feet from Seal Rocks to the Cliff House suspended 100 feet above the water.

In the summer of 1866, 18-year old Rosa Celeste equaled Cooke's dramatic accomplishment by successfully walking to the rocks even after one of the guy wires snapped.