

**Location**

United States

Users

The San Francisco Diggers and residents of San Francisco.

Maintained by

The San Francisco Diggers.

Duration

1960's

Category

economy, social

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The Diggers Free Store

Initiator(s)

The San Francisco Diggers

Description

The Diggers' Free Store was a small ground-floor shop at 264 East Tenth Street, and its name is a simple description, not an advertising slogan. Diggers were part of the hippy generation, who sought to help their neighbours, so everything in the Free Store is given away. The group sought to create a mini-society free of money and capitalism. The Diggers combined street theatre, anarcho-direct action, and art happenings in their social agenda of creating a Free City. Their most famous activities revolved around distributing Free Food every day in the Park, and distributing "surplus energy" at a series of Free Stores, where everything was free for the taking.

Goals

To implement an alternative economy based on giving rather than money.

Beneficial outcomes

The Diggers' Free Store persisted as a tangible model for potentially reformulating local economic relationships.

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