

AQUATIC PARK (NPS)

San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

San Francisco

Aquatic Park, developed from 1936 to 1939, was one of California's largest Works Progress Administration (WPA) projects. The centerpiece of this group of "streamline- moderne" structures, all employing nautical metaphors, is a multipurpose structure containing the bathhouse, concession stand, and lounge. Its rounded walls, recessed upper stories, tubular steel railings, and porthole windows were purposely designed to create the illusion of an ocean liner. Murals and other artwork carry out the nautical theme. The main building, lifeguard stations, stadium, Sea Scout building, a seawall and a semicircular pier form the Aquatic Park Historic District, now part of the San Francisco Maritime National Historic Park.