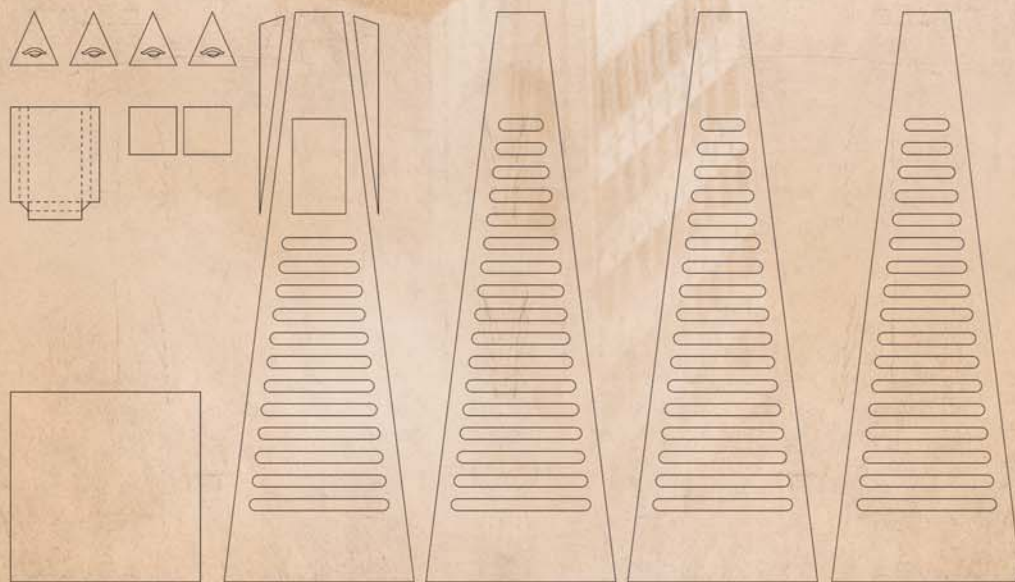


Transvisionary Oracle

Atop the remains of the Ship Niantic

AROSE A TOWERING BEACON

San Francisco's Transamerica Pyramid was built adjacent to the final resting place of the Ship Niantic. The San Francisco Enlightened believe this location is of special importance to the understanding of XM and the Shapers. In an attempt to enhance communication with the shapers via the ephemeral glyph language, San Francisco's Enlightened have built a stylized replica of the Transamerica Pyramid called the *Transvisionary Oracle*.



Transvisionary Oracle

A Place At The Bay

The earliest evidence of heritage habitation in what is now the city of San Francisco dates to 3000 BC. Native Americans who settled in this region found the bay to be a resource for hunting and gathering, leading to the establishment of many small villages. Collectively, these early Native Americans are now known as the Ohlone, and the language they spoke belonged to the Miwok family. Their trade patterns included places as far away as Baja California, the Mojave Desert, Yosemite and beyond.

European visitors to the San Francisco Bay Area were preceded at least 8,000 years earlier by Native Americans. According to one anthropologist, the indigenous name for San Francisco was "*awasté*" meaning, "place at the bay."



Engraving by G. S. Cooper, 1846, from The Annals of San Francisco

Engraving by G. S. Cooper, 1846, from The Annals of San Francisco

Vue du port franciscain

Transvisionary Oracle

Obscured by Fog

San Francisco Bay, one of the great natural harbors of the world, lay undiscovered for over two centuries from the time of first navigation along the California coast. Throughout the second half of the 16th century, Spanish, Portuguese and English navigators sailed along the California coast in search of a safe harbor yet repeatedly failed to sight the entrance to the great bay. Geography, fog and 'chance' forever altered the region's history by hiding awasté and delaying the beginnings of modern settlement along the bay.

The earliest Europeans to reach the site of San Francisco were a Spanish exploratory party in 1769, led overland from Mexico by Don Gaspar de Portolà and Fra. Juan Crespi. The Spanish recognized the location, with its large natural harbor, to be of great significance.



Transvisionary Oracle

Obscured by Confusion

After Portolá's accidental discovery of San Francisco Bay in 1769, exploration of the region only resumed in 1772. The next significant exploration of the San Francisco Bay was under the command of Lieutenant Juan Manuel de Ayala. On August 5, 1775, Ayala, in command of the ship San Carlos, became the first European to sail through the Golden Gate to lay eyes on awasté.

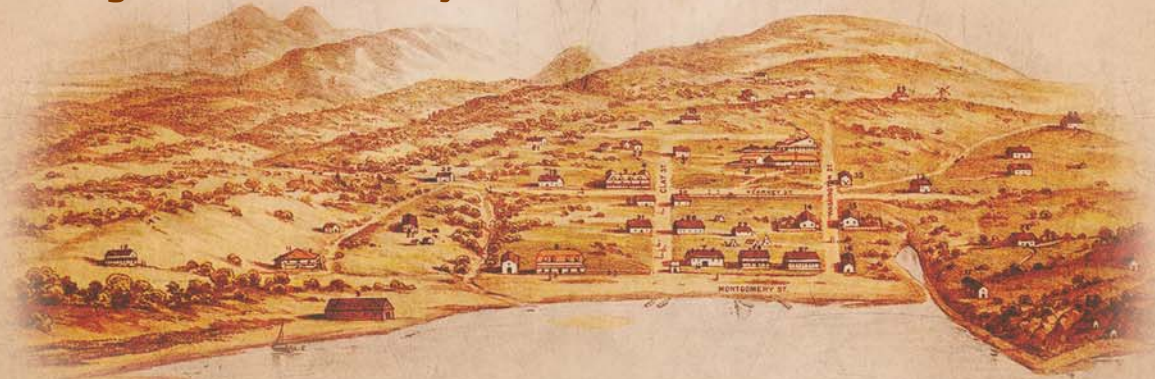
Ayala spent 45 days in the bay, mostly at anchor off of Angel Island and kept a detailed log of the trip, giving many of the islands of the bay their present-day names. The island he was anchored off he named Isla de los Angeles. Ayala named the other large island of the bay (today's Yerba Buena Island) Isla de los Alcatraces for the numerous pelicans he saw there. Today's Alcatraz Island, Ayala originally named Yerba Buena for the herb yerba buena which was growing wild on the island. A British sea captain named Frederick Beechey, mapping the bay in 1826, was possibly under the influence of a rudimentary Trans-Bay Mind Control Field when he accidentally switched the two names and the islands have kept these inverted names ever since.

Transvisionary Oracle

Native Enlightenment

It is believed that the early occupants of awasté held beliefs tied to the natural focal points of the San Francisco Bay. Yerba Buena Island, Alcatraz, *Los Pechos de la Choca* (Twin Peaks) and other landmarks made up what could be viewed as an early map of exotic matter in the region. Such landmarks were a vibrant connection to the natural outpouring of XM throughout the area.

It is apparent that the pre-contact civilization had distinguished medicine persons among them. Some healed through the use of herbs, and some were believed to heal through their ability to contact the “spirit world.” Some shamans were also believed to be able to tell and influence the future, therefore they were equally able to bring about fortune and misfortune among the community.



Transvisionary Oracle

Colonization

Colonization of the Bay was assigned to Juan Batista de Anza, who led a land party of 240 men, women and children, from Tubac. The advance party under Anza's leadership reached the tip of the San Francisco peninsula on March 28, 1776. At the site now occupied by Fort Point, Anza had a cross planted to mark the location of the future presidio.

On June 29, 1776, the settlers celebrated a mass at la Laguna de los Dolores. This celebration, held just five days before the Declaration of Independence, is regarded as the official founding of San Francisco. Construction of both the presidio and mission began in July, and the first non-Indigenous portals began to take shape in *awasté*.



Transvisionary Oracle

Gold! Gold!! GOLD!!!

The population of the port dubbed Yerba Buena grew slowly from its founding, and in 1847 it had reached approximately 1,000 Europeans, much to the dismay of the indigenous inhabitants. Scholars believe that towards the end of 1847, tribal Shamans from throughout the region constructed a 'Green Thumb' from *Tuyshtak* (Mount Diablo) to *Támal Pájis* (Mount Tam) to *Los Pechos de la Choca* (Twin Peaks) in order to encourage the colonists to settle elsewhere.

This plan backfired, however, as it apparently led directly to the discovery of gold at Sutter's Mill on January 24, 1848. Between January 1848 and December 1849 the population of what was now known as San Francisco increased from 1,000 to 25,000 and it continued to expand, reaching 150,000 by 1870.

The ship *Niantic* was one of the first ships to bring gold seekers to San Francisco, arriving at 11PM, July 5, 1849.



Transvisionary Oracle

The Ship *Niantic*

On September 16, 1848, the *Niantic* sailed from Warren, RI with Captain Henry Cleaveland in command. After arriving in San Francisco, most of the crew deserted to join the gold rush. The ship's log ends a mere 8 days after her arrival.

Without a crew to sail, *Niantic's* officers were instructed to sell the vessel. With the aid of her empty whale oil barrels tied to her hull for extra buoyancy, the ship was floated on a high tide into shallow water, just offshore from the intersection of Clay and Montgomery Streets. Now hard aground, *Niantic* was converted for use variously as a warehouse, store, offices, and hotel.

"Over the gaping wound in her stout oaken side, where a doorway was cut for a public entrance, was inscribed the hospitable legend:

**'Rest for the weary
and storage for
trunks.'**"



Transvisionary Oracle

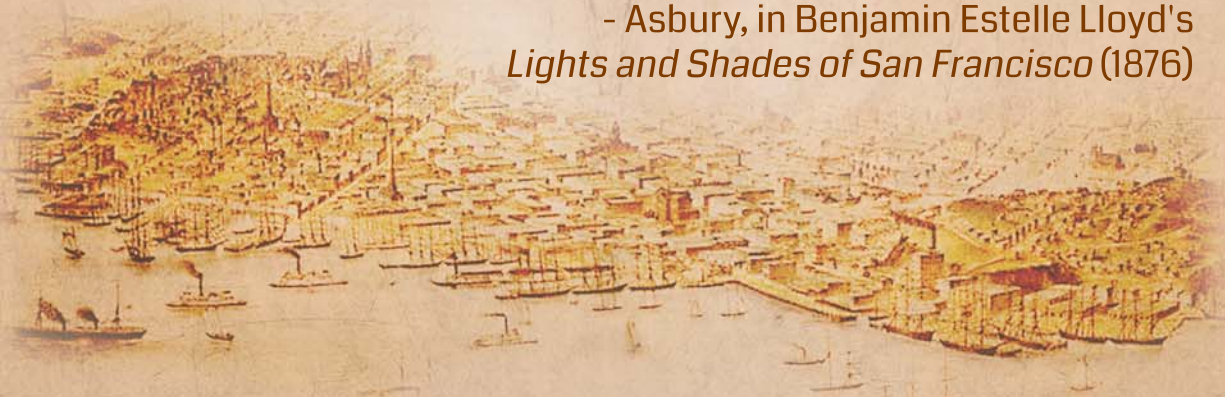
The Barbary Coast

The draw of gold kept the influx of the hopeful at an ever increasing rate. The outflow to the gold fields, while comparable, didn't quite match, and the city continuously overflowed.

In the 1860's the city's roughest district was dubbed "The Barbary Coast" after the coast of North Africa where pirates and slave traders launched raids, and would conscript new recruits from dive bars. This new area of town quickly became renowned for its many "points of interest" which spawned numerous XM exuding Portals, left uncaptured and unchecked.

"The Barbary Coast is the haunt of the low and the vile of every kind. The petty thief, the house burglar, the tramp, the whoremonger, lewd women, cutthroats, murderers, all are found here.... Licentiousness, debauchery, pollution, loathsome disease, insanity from dissipation, misery, poverty, wealth, profanity, blasphemy, and death, are there. And Hell, yawning to receive the putrid mass, is there also."

- Asbury, in Benjamin Estelle Lloyd's
Lights and Shades of San Francisco (1876)



Transvisionary Oracle

The Dawn of Vigilance

The unebbing flow of raw XM into such an already pliable populous pushed the young city closer and closer to the brink of chaos.

Historians theorize that the first and second Vigilance Committees were started by early Resistance Agents who had been drawn to San Francisco in order to help control the mayhem. And control it they did. Using the only technologies of the time, they managed to cap (not capture) the most prolific of the XM Portals in the city, slowing their influence on a gold-crazed mob that called itself a city.

Over the next several years, the majority of the non-native Portals which had erupted all over the city were plugged, and their influence waned.



Transvisionary Oracle

1906

The unending flow of XM can only be staunched for so long before cataclysmic stresses erupt in any way they possibly can. The plugged Portals ruptured one hour and twelve minutes after what would have been the 4AM checkpoint, causing a 7.8 magnitude earthquake that leveled the city.



Transvisionary Oracle

A City Reborn

During the first few days after news of the disaster reached the rest of the world, relief efforts reached over \$5,000,000. London raised hundreds of thousands of dollars. Individual citizens and businesses donated large sums of money for the relief effort: Standard Oil gave \$100,000; Andrew Carnegie gave \$100,000; the Dominion of Canada made a special appropriation of \$100,000 and even the Bank of Canada in Toronto gave \$25,000. The U.S. government quickly voted for one million dollars in relief supplies which were immediately rushed to the area, including supplies for food kitchens and many thousands of tents that city dwellers would occupy the next several years... Citizens as far away as Idaho and Utah were known to send daily loaves of bread to San Francisco as relief supplies were coordinated by the railroads.

Early Agents of both factions rushed to assist as well, in order to try to stem the outpouring of XM that was once again engulfing the city.



Transvisionary Oracle

The Transamerica Pyramid

It has long been believed that the Transamerica Pyramid's name was derived from Across (Trans) America. However, Enlightened scholars studying ancient portals and scanner devices in the Middle East have posited that it actually refers to the doorway (transom) to *Merica*.

The ancient Mandaean believed in a western paradise "marked by a star, the name of which is '*Merica*,'" which was called "those carried away by truth" or *msunia kušta*. This belief was carried on by the early Knights Templar, and Charles Martel, grand master of masons, sent a contingent of Freemasons from France to Merica in 701 to "restore the craft" after several hundred years of neglect.

Should it be surprising then, that during the reconstruction after the earthquake, San Francisco's Enlightened Freemason founders (Fremont, Stevenson, O'Farrell and Montgomery) arranged a configuration of streets and buildings culminating in the Masonic Pyramid being carved into *awasté's* street map itself, with the Transamerica Pyramid standing where the All Seeing Eye would be, right beside the ship *Niantic*?