

Found in 1953, City Lights Bookstore was the first all-paperbound bookshop in the country, and by 1955 had launched the City Lights publishing house. Their publication of Allen Ginsberg's *Howl & Other Poems* in 1956 led to his arrest on obscenity charges, and his victory in the trial that followed, set a landmark legal precedent for the publication of controversial works. In 1988 they spearheaded the renaming of twelve streets in San Francisco for authors and artists, the basis for the Bikes to Books literary cycling tour and walking tour of which this zine and burritojustice.com/bikes-to-books-map

261 Columbus St.

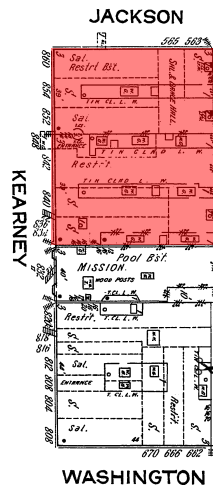
**(12) CITY LIGHTS BOOKSTORE**  
261 Columbus St.

**(11) KEROUAC ALLEY (nee Adler) / KENNETH REXROTH**

Beat legend Jean-Louis "Jack" Kerouac (March 12, 1922 – October 21, 1969), born in Lowell Massachusetts, left an indelible mark on the mythology of San Francisco, despite his only periodic residence here. His seminal 1957 book *On the Road*, detailing a road trip he took to San Francisco in 1947, has never been out of print since its publication.

Kenneth Rexroth (December 22, 1905–June 6, 1982)

One of the last of the old guard bohemians, Kenneth Charles Marion Rexroth, moved to SF in 1927 from Indiana, and stayed until 1968, when he moved to Santa Barbara. He was a columnist, critic, translator, and champion of the arts. He was considered a mentor by Ferlinghetti, and famously presided over the reading at the 6 Gallery where Allen Ginsberg first read "Howl". His street is on the corner of Vallejo and Columbus, a block north of City Lights.



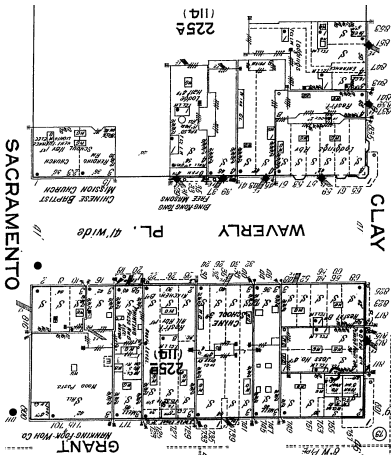
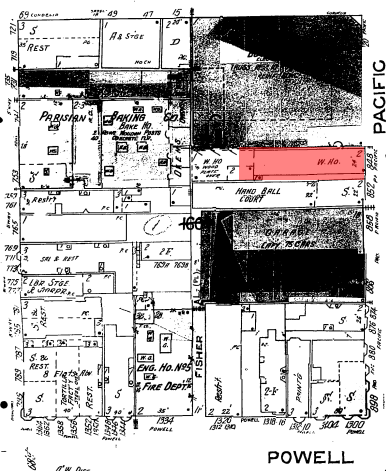
- 1) **BEAT MUSEUM**  
540 Broadway  
between Columbus & Romolo
- 2) **RE/SEARCH**  
20 Romolo #B  
between Broadway & Fresno
- 3) **CAFE TRIESTE**  
609 Vallejo at Grant
- 4) **GRANT STREET COFFEE JOINTS**  
between Vallejo & Green
- 5) **BOB KAUFMAN ALLEY**  
off Filbert  
between Grant & Varennes
- 6) **JACK MICHELINE ALLEY**  
off Grant  
between Filbert & Greenwich
- 7) **VIA FERLINGHETTI**  
off Union  
between Jasper & Stockton
- 8) **GINO AND CARLO'S**  
548 Green Street  
between Stockton & Grant
- 9) **IZZY'S PLACE (RIP)**  
848 Pacific  
between Stockton & Powell
- 10) **CHINATOWN**  
Waverly Place, off Washington,  
between Stockton & Grant  
International Hotel, 848 Kearny  
between Washington & Jackson
- 11) **KEROUAC ALLEY**  
off Columbus  
between Pacific & Broadway
- 12) **CITY LIGHTS BOOKSTORE**  
261 Columbus at Broadway

SECRET ROUTE LIST (PULL)

**KEEP READING**



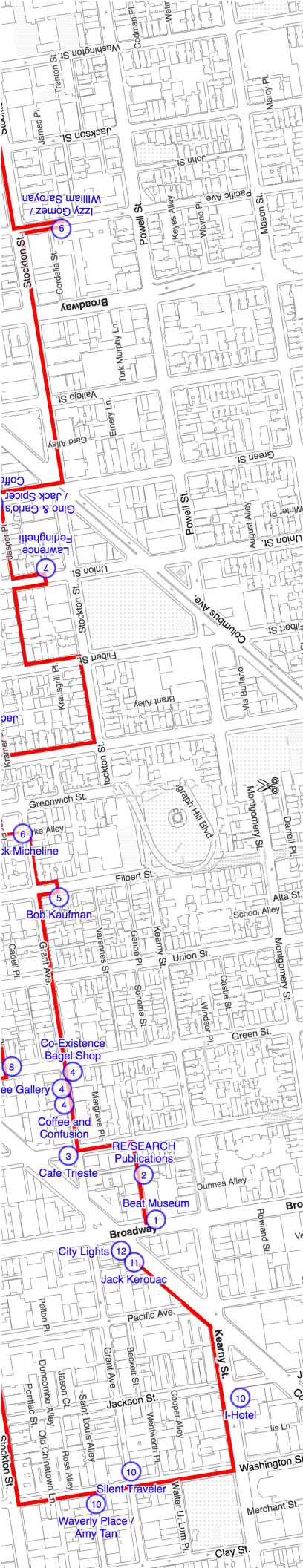
OR TURN THE PAGE



**(9) IZZY'S PLACE (RIP) / WILLIAM SAROYAN**  
848 Pacific

In William Saroyan's Pulitzer Prize-winning play *Time of Your Life* the lives of a motley collection of saloon habitués transcend mean circumstance and offer a romanticized yet infinitely humane portrait of a rough-and-tumble, depression-era San Francisco where Saroyan spent many years. Based on a real-life location called Izzy Gomez' Cafe the fictional "Nick's Saloon" is a place where gamblers, prostitutes, musicians, and working-class drinkers come to escape the grind of their regular lives.

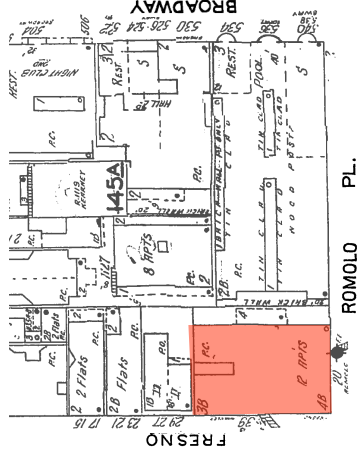
William Saroyan (August 31, 1908 – May 18, 1981), who also has an alley named for him across from Kerouac's, was born in Fresno. A member of a large Armenian-American immigrant community, William Saroyan was living in San Francisco when he caught his first big break as a writer with the short story "The Daring Young Man on the Flying Trapeze," published in *Story* magazine in 1934.



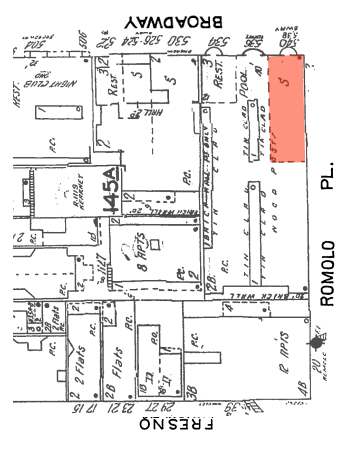
Richard Brautigan (Jan 30, 1935-Sept 16, 1984). According to literary historian, Don Herron, Vale opposed a proposal from City Lights to change Romulo St. to Richard Brautigan Street in San Francisco, though he lived in SF off and on from 1956 until his death, by suicide, in Bolinas, CA.

First published as a punk fanzine in 1970, *Search and Destroy*, by V. Vale, funded with \$200 seed money from Lawrence Ferlinghetti and Allen Ginsberg, RE/Search expanded its focus to industrial documenting subcultures of many kinds—musical, modern printives, iconoclasts such as JB Ballard and William Burroughs, etc. RE/Search has occupied its current location since 1979.

**2) RICHARD BRAUTIGAN / 20 Romolo #B RE/SEARCH PUBLICATIONS/**



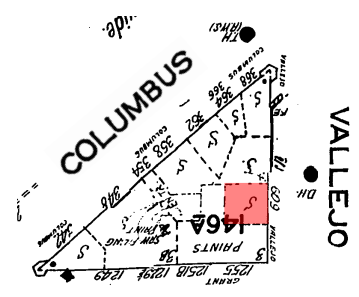
Founded by Jerry Cimino in 2003, the Beat Museum is part private collection of author's shops, and part bookstore/airstream trailer and dubbed "The Beat Museum on Wheels," aka the Beat with John Allen Cassidy, son of Neal and Carolyn Cassidy, to bring his pet project to sustainable life, eventually setting in North Beach, the historic heart of the Beat Generation's San Francisco. Appropriately enough, they most frequent poetry readings and other events throughout the year.



**1) BEAT MUSEUM: 540 Broadway**

**(3) CAFE TRIESTE: 609 Vallejo**

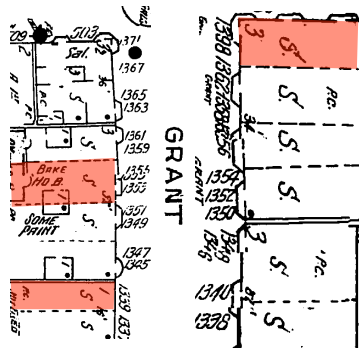
Founded in 1956 by Giovanni "Gianni" Giotta, a fisherman, immigrant window washer, and opera enthusiast, credited with introducing San Franciscans to the cappuccino, is still known as one of the key locations where the beats gathered while visiting City Lights, as well as the hangout for modern-day writers such as former Poet Laureate of San Francisco, Jack Hirschman, and the now-deceased neighborhood poet George Tsongas who wrote a book of poetry about the Cafe, entitled *Trieste Chronicles*. Francis Ford Coppola famously finished his screenplay for *The Godfather* on a manual typewriter in the back corner.



**VALLEJO**

**GRANT**

**GREEN**



**(4) GRANT STREET COFFEE JOINTS (RIP)**

**COFFEE AND CONFUSION: 1339 Grant**  
Boho coffee shop & hangout spot in the 50s & 60s. First place in SF that Janis performed, 24 hours after she arrived in town from Texas, in 1963.

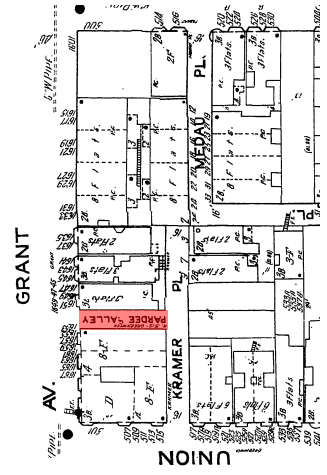
**COFFEE GALLERY: 1353 Grant**  
Coffee Gallery was known in the 50s & 60s for its six-hour jam sessions, David Meltzer's Blabbermouth open mic series, and bohemian vibe. Poets such as Bob Kaufman, George Tsongas, and Lawrence Ferlinghetti performed here, as well as musicians such as Creedence Clearwater Revival, the Grateful Dead, Duke Ellington, Grace Slick, and Janis Joplin.

**CO-EXISTENCE BAGEL SHOP: 1398 Grant**  
Thanks to their daytime hours, open mic events, and a racially-mixed crowd, Co-Existence was a highly influential player in the Beat milieu until 1961. It was also the preferred hangout of Bob Kaufman, and was so often a target of law enforcement, that a tip jar was put out on the counter to collect bail money.

**SECRET ROUTE MAP (PULL UP)**

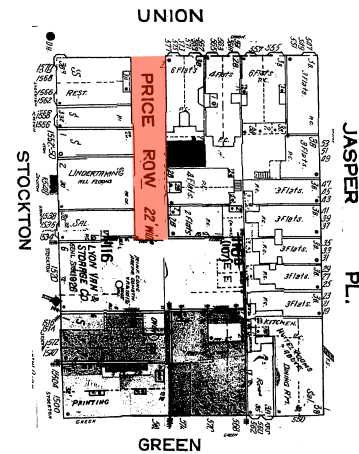
Jack Micheline (November 6, 1929 – February 27, 1998), born Harold Martin Silver, adopted an amalgam of Jack London and his mother's maiden name (which was actually Mitchell) as his preferred moniker. He was a contemporary of the beats, and his first book of poetry, *River of Red Wine*, was written by Jack Kerouac, who influenced a movement of "outlaw" poets, particularly Alan Kaufman, whose *Outlaw Bible of American Poetry* remains a seminal volume of outsider perspective. His street was dedicated in 2003, separate from the original twelve remained in 1988.

**6) JACK MICHELINE ALLEY (nee Pardee Alley Stairs)**



**7) VIA FERLINGHETTI (nee Price Row)**

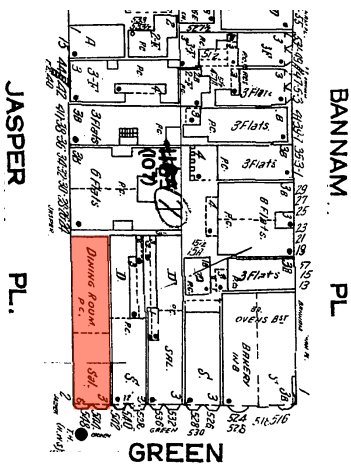
It's impossible to speak of literary San Francisco without invoking poet, publisher, and City Lights bookstore founder Lawrence Ferlinghetti (born March 24, 1919), who spearheaded the renaming of the original twelve streets, and in 1994, was honored by the city of San Francisco with a street all his own: Via Ferlinghetti, smack in the middle of his beloved North Beach. Despite being older than many of the beats, Ferlinghetti has outlived most of them, and still goes into the bookstore to "work" to this day.



**JASPER PL.**

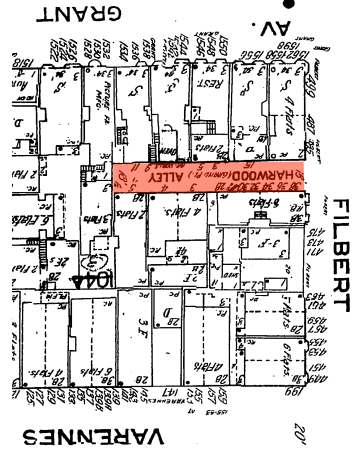
**GREEN**

**5) BOB KAUFMAN ALLEY (nee Harwood Alley)**  
Robert Garnell "Bob" Kaufman, would shout his poetry, unbidden and unrecorded, into the open windows of cars, and doorways of cafes, the second most ephemeral expression of a poetic soul. The first most ephemeral expression of his poetic soul was the ten-year Vietnam war, a silence he broke, characteristically, with a poem: "All Those Ships that Never Sailed" His namesake street, formerly Harwood Alley, was home to Kaufman's friend and fellow poet Neeli Cherkovski, both of whom wrote poems about their time spent together.



**JASPER PL.**

**GREEN**



**8) GINO AND CARLO'S / JACK SPICER 548 Green Street**

One of North Beach's last remaining "old school" Italian bars, Gino and Carlo's was considered the "living room" of 1950's poet, linguist, and lecturer Jack Spicer (January 30, 1925 – August 17, 1965). Co-founder, in 1954, of the infamous Six Gallery, where Allen Ginsberg debuted his iconic poem, "Howl," Spicer along with fellow poets (and fellow homosexuals) Robert Duncan and Robin Blaser formed a coterie they dubbed the Berkeley Renaissance, an offshoot of the greater "San Francisco Renaissance" spearheaded by Kenneth Rexroth and Madeline Gleason, and anthologized by Warren Tallman and Donald Allen in *The New American Poetry: 1945-1960*.

**BANNAM PL.**