

Lands End Station

Only one structure stood along the Lands End section of the Ferries & Cliff House Railway route: Lands End Station. It was situated about two-thirds of the way along the portion of the route that hugged the cliffs of Lands End. The original Lands End station was a wooden building with a gable roof, open on the south side facing the track.

In 1905, when the steam railroad was converted to electric streetcar, that simple depot was replaced with a hexagonal building containing a waiting room, snack shop, souvenir stand, and restrooms. Around this time, the concession's operators, Charles and Goldie Harris, acquired an out-of-use cable car and set it up as their family residence on the hillside below the station.

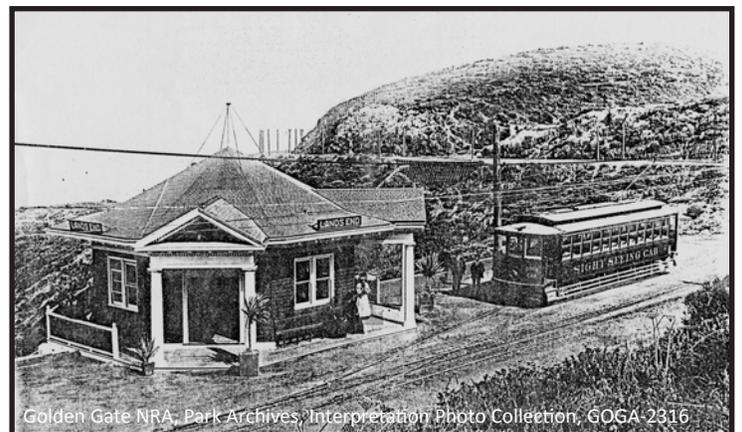
The Harris family continued to operate the station even after the railroad stopped service in 1925. Charles Harris was often referred to as the "Mayor of Lands End." Goldie Harris was locally famous for her lifesaving skills, pulling at least two attempted suicides from the Lands End surf.

By the 1930s the always unstable cliff on which the buildings sat was eroding rapidly. In 1937 the station, which had slid 10 feet downhill from its original location, was finally demolished.

Top: Original Lands End Station in 1905; *Middle:* Lands End Station and railroad car, ca. 1908; *Bottom:* Lands End Station affected by the eroding hillside, 1936.



Photo courtesy of San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency



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