Naiad Cove

This small recess in the shoreline lays south of Point Lobos, north of the Cliff House, and just east of Seal Rocks. In the past, it was also known as Fisherman's Cove and Sutro's Cove.

For millenia before the arrival of Europeans, the area's native Ohlone residents camped in the sheltered surroundings of the cove.

The ruins of the Sutro Baths now sit there, but before they were built Naiad Cove was just another small secluded beach. A spring-fed creek flows into the cove from the east, which may have been the reason why American settlers named it after the mythical nymph who has power over creeks and springs.

By the mid-19th century San Franciscans began to visit the cove to sunbathe, swim, and beachcomb. Adolph Sutro bought the inlet in the 1880s, after which it became the site of his Aquarium and eventually the Sutro Baths.

Top: Naiad Cove painted by Gilbert Munger in 1870; *Bottom:* Naiad Cove today, with the ruins of Sutro Baths.