

## Port Walk #5



### **The Work is Never Done**

In the fishing industry, the work doesn't end when the boat arrives at the dock. Jobs vary, from mending a hole in a net to fixing a 100-pound crabpot, to having the radar rebuilt, to doing laundry and outfitting the boat for the next trip. Fishermen and women make small repairs to their boats here in the harbor, but sanding, scraping, and major repairs are not permitted because they could pollute the water.



### **Setting Lines**

During the past 100 years, some chores changed as technology evolved. However, other tasks, like mending nets, repairing traps, and setting lines are still done by hand, as they always have been.

### **Monterey Clippers on the Way**

The building you see here was originally used for boat repair, with wooden ramps, called "ways", leading from the lagoon. The state owned the ways, and, for a small fee, owners could take their boats out. Once the boats were out of the water, boat owners could brush, scrape, repair, and paint hulls here.



### **Old Italian Fisherman**

Sunday was the time we mended the nets. But it wasn't just us fishermen. On Sunday, Italian families and friends gathered at the wharves to repair our nets, tinker with the boats, sing songs, and to eat and drink. It was our big social occasion. That's why we wore our suits, our Sunday best. Fisherman's Wharf became a sort of Sunday picnic grounds for the Italian fishing families.

- Adapted from *The Italians of San Francisco: Their Adjustment and Acculturation*, 1935.