

"It's all free because it's yours!" (The Diggers, 1969)

HOW TO USE THIS KIOSK

This kiosk is a resource-sharing and community-building hub that can be used by anyone to:

- **share items** (leave something, take something)
- **share info/resources** (post a resource "share" and respond to "shares")
- **share communal experiences** (gather here, spontaneously or intentionally, for any reason and for any length of time)

2009

Commons(Commune)

Commons(Commune) is a kit of urban infrastructure 'parts', including this kiosk, designed to turn our public spaces -- our commons -- into "communes," nodes of "free"-dom that act as infrastructure for resource-sharing among citizens.

1969

The Diggers (active in and around San Francisco, 1967 - 1969)

The Diggers were one of the legendary groups in San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury, the world-wide epicenter of the Sixties Counterculture. Shrouded in a mystique of anonymity, The Diggers combined street theater, anarcho-direct action, and art happenings in their social agenda of creating a Free City.

Their most famous activities revolved around distributing Free Food every day in the Park, and distributing "surplus energy" at a series of Free Stores where everything was free for the taking. The Diggers took their name from the original English Diggers (1649-50) "who had promulgated a vision of society free from private property, and all forms of buying and selling."

1649

English Diggers (near Walton-on-Thames UK, 1649 - 1650)

A little group of unemployed laborers and landless peasants gathered at St. George's Hill near Walton-on-Thames in Surrey on April 1, 1649, and began to dig up the common land and prepare for sowing vegetables. At first their activities aroused curiosity and a certain amount of sympathy but as time went on the local lords of the manor aroused the populace and a mob shut these "Diggers" up in the church. They explained that they did not intend to interfere with private property, only to plant and harvest on the many wastelands of England, and to live together holding all things in common. They were certain that their example would be followed by the poor and dispossessed all over England, and in the course of time all men would give up their possessions and join them in community. Thus began a movement that led to what we now know as "communism."