Beach House at China Beach

On August 14, 1954, a new beach house was formally opened at China Beach, at the time called James D. Phelan State Park. The $140,000 beach house, funded by a city recreation bond issue approved by voters in 1947, included a lobby, check room, office, first aid station, men's and women's locker and shower rooms, lifeguard room, refreshment stand, and rooftop observation deck.

Today a portion of the Beach House is used by the National Park Service as an emergency aquatic response station. The changing rooms remain open to the many visitors that come to China Beach to play, picnic, sunbathe, and enjoy the stunning views of the Golden Gate.

Top: Beach House dedication at then Phelan Beach, August 1954; Bottom: Oceanside view of the Beach House, 2012.