

# One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest

Context

# Cultural Context

- Counterculture Movement 1950s/1960s
  - Greasers, Beats, Hippies vs. the Military-Industrial Complex
  - Cleveland Rock n Roll (Alan Freed / Dick Clark) to Haight-Ashbury Psychedelics
  - Teenage Pop Culture – Music (Beatles / Elvis Presley) and Film (The Wild One / Rebel without a Cause)
  - Suburbia, Disposable Income, Downtime

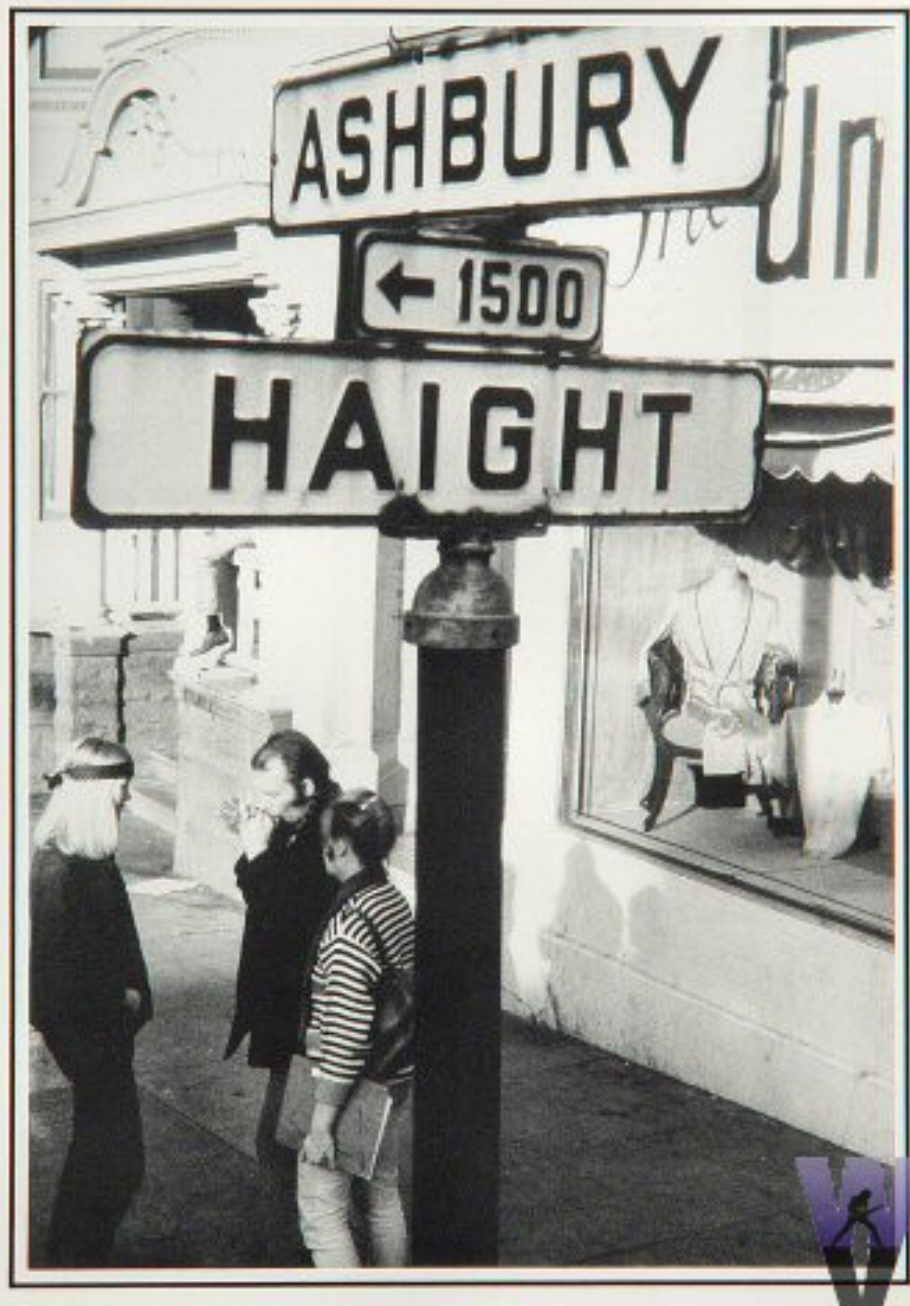
# Biographical Context

- Ken Kesey
  - Wrestler
  - Oregon and Stanford Writing Programs
  - Merry Pranksters
  - Menlo Park Veterans Administration Hospital (VAs)
  - CIA-financed LSD experiments at Stanford
    - Project MKULTRA
- Timothy Leary
  - Tune In, Turn On, Drop Out













**710 Ashbury**







# Themes and Take Aways

- Individual vs. Institution (McMurphy vs. Ratched)
  - Compromising, Selling Out, Losing Self in Social System
- Definition of Masculinity
- Definition of Sanity / Normality
- Role of Laughter
- Emptiness of Institution Speak
- Passive vs. Active Living (Rabbits)
- Definition of Anti-Hero
- Abuses of Mental Institutions