

CELEBRATE PEOPLE'S PARK HISTORY

Rosebud Abigail Denovo (RAD)

MURDERED BY POLICE - AUGUST 25, 1992 - BERKELEY, CA



Rosebud was a runaway hitchhiker, juvenile institution escapee, and anarchist. While coincidentally squatting the same property that Ted Kaczynski had resided on as a UC Berkeley math professor in 1969, Rosebud threw herself into the defense of the three-acre People's Park established that same year.

In 1991, riot police escorted bulldozers to demolish the park's Free Speech Stage and build university volleyball courts in its place. Rosebud was arrested in the ensuing park defense. Days later, police raided her campsite and found a crossbow, a copy of The Anarchist's Cookbook, and a diary entry addressed to the university chancellor: "You're not getting off that easy."

Early on August 25, 1992, Rosebud used a blowtorch to break into the chancellor's house. Police trapped Rosebud inside and shot her fatally in the back. In one hand, she carried a note reading, "We are willing to die for this piece of land. Are you?"—in the other hand, a machete.

Mourners clashed with police for a week after her death. The District Attorney determined that police acted "appropriately" in killing Rosebud. She was 19 years old. The park remains, though it is once again under attack.