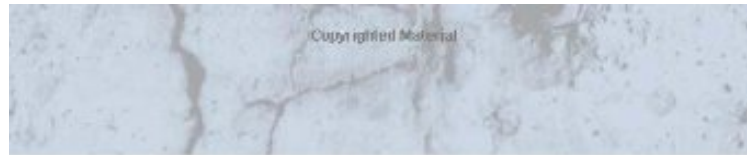


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# Saving San Francisco: Relief and Recovery after the 1906 Disaster

*Andrea Rees Davies*

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## SAVING SAN FRANCISCO

Relief and Recovery after the 1906 Disaster



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5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. This is a very good book! By maryannirwin Beautifully organized, deeply researched, well written. I love the little asides. The story about Clara Barton and Edward Devine, for example, strikes just the right note, giving depth to development of the actors without feeling like the overall narrative is being derailed. Davies's handling of class, gender, and race are spot on perfect: reforming ladies and working-class women, Chinese survivors and merchant-leaders are all there, speaking for themselves, behaving as the historical actors they

were. Well done!

How the relief and rebuilding efforts after the 1906 disaster reproduced the class and racial divisions of pre-quake San Francisco

"Saving San Francisco makes an original contribution to San Francisco history and to the study of how cities respond to natural disasters. Davies has written the first systematic social and political history of the recovery efforts after the earthquake and fire of 1906. Using a rich variety of archival evidence, including an excellent selection of personal stories, she contributes to both social welfare and Progressive Era scholarship. This is a convincing revisionist account that shows how the recovery process was shaped by existing gender, class, and racial fault lines in San Francisco society." -William Issel, Professor of History Emeritus at San Francisco State University and coauthor (with Robert W. Cherny) of *San Francisco, 1865-1932: Politics, Power, and Urban Development* "Davies uses the 1906 disaster as a lens through which to ask hard questions about the social and political life of San Francisco. She successfully weaves together the intricate stories of ordinary people's struggles and daily lives with high politics, urban history, and analyses of race, class, and gender. Important, smart, and crisply written, *Saving San Francisco* is both forceful and lively, and Davies's Epilogue about master disaster narratives is a graceful, moving close to what will become 'the' book on this subject for years to come." - Barbara Berglund, Associate Professor of History at the University of South Florida and author of *Making San Francisco American: Cultural Frontiers in the Urban West, 1846-1906* About the Author Andrea Rees Davies is an Assistant Professor in the Department of History at California State University, Northridge.