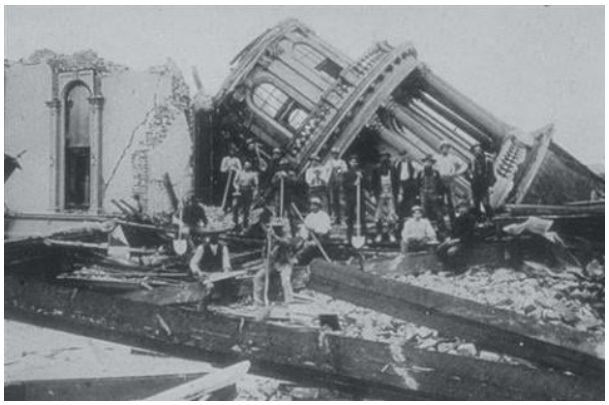
AWESOME stories

SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE



0. SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE - Story Preface

1. SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE

2. CHARLES HOWARD

3. TOM SMITH

4. RED POLLARD

5. SEABISCUIT

6. THE PIMLICO SPECIAL OF 1938

7. GEORGE WOOLF

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10. MORE on HORSE RACING

Much of Northern California - not just San Francisco - was impacted when the San Andreas Fault ruptured nearly 300 miles on April 18, 1906. This image depicts the ruined City Hall in Santa Rosa. Image online, courtesy U.S. Geological Survey. PD

At 5:12 a.m., on April 18, 1906, Charles Howard's adopted city of San Francisco was rocked by an 8.3 magnitude earthquake. (The quake was so massive its effects were noted 9,100 miles away in Gottingen, Germany.) It ruptured 430 kilometers of the San Andreas Fault, which was not yet known by that name.

The devastated city burned for three more days and, it is now estimated, about 3,000 people died. Preserved in the Library of Congress, actual film footage depicts the disaster and reveals how people - who quickly became refugees - reacted to it.

Photographs maintained by the U.S. National Archives also depict the damage caused when the earth shook the city:

- San Francisco's landscape was drastically changed in 1906 when the unexpected earthquake and a resulting fire devastated the city.

- Flocks of San Franciscans fled.

- Jefferson Square became a tent refugee camp as did "Tennessee Hollow."

- Supply and bread lines, plus hot-food kitchens, helped people cope in a badly damaged city.

- A line of horses waited in front of the National Red Cross headquarters, located in the vicinity of McAllister and Gough Streets.

- The general landscape of the city reveals what can happen when buildings in earthquake zones are not reinforced.

- Families, rendered homeless in their burning city, slept on the side of a hill.

- As San Francisco burned, horses were injured and many others were afraid to go near the fires.

- The U.S. Army Signal Corps in the Tennessee Hollow, Presidio of San Francisco, had two of the few automobiles then available in the city.

- The Ferry Building, at the foot of Market Street, provided a place from which to photograph the still-smoldering, surrounding area.

Despite its massive devastation, San Francisco quickly recovered from the tragedy. Because of his generosity and ingenuity during the quake's immediate aftermath, Charles Howard was on his way to becoming a very wealthy man.

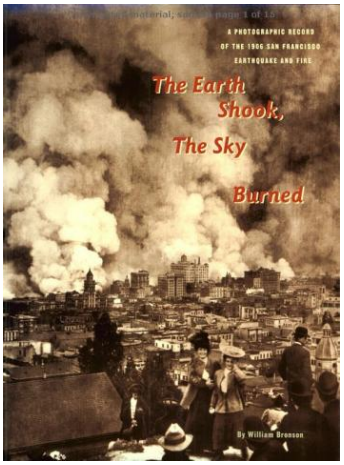
See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:
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http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/SAN-FRANCISCO-EARTHQUAKE-Seabiscuit

Media Stream



San Andreas Fault
Image, described above, online courtesy USGS.
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The Earth Shook, The Sky Burned - by William Bronson
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San Francisco After the 1906 Earthquake
Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.
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San Francisco - Scene After the 1906 Earthquake
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San Francisco Fires Following the Earthquake

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Building Damage in San Francisco

Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.
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People Leaving San Francisco - 1906 Earthquake

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San Francisco Quake - Tents at Jefferson Square

Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.
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People Lived in Tents at Tennessee Hollow

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Handing Out Supplies to the Earthquake Victims

Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.
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Bread Lines for the 1906 Earthquake Victims

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San Francisco - Building Damage, 1906 Earthquake

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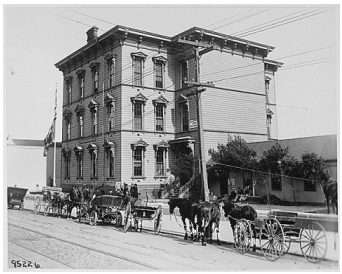
Disaster Canteen to Feed the 1906 Earthquake Victims

Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.
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Feeding the 1906 Earthquake Victims

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Horses Lined Up at Red Cross Headquarters - 1906

Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.
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Line Up for Relief Aid - San Francisco, 1906

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San Francisco Families - Homeless after the 1906 Quake

Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.
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Damaged Ferry Building in San Francisco - 1906

Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.
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Two of the First Automobiles in San Francisco - 1906

Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.
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View of Burning Buildings

Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.
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View of San Francisco Burning

Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.
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View of San Francisco From the Ferry Building

Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.
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San Francisco - On Fire after the 1906 Earthquake

Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.
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San Francisco Fire - Mission District Burns

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View of the Damage in San Francisco

Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.

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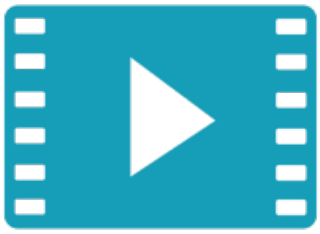
View of Smoldering San Francisco From Ferry Building

Image online, courtesy U.S. National Archives.

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San Francisco - City of Horse-Drawn Carriages in 1906

Historic film footage, by the Edison Film Company, April of 1906.

Video clip online, courtesy the Library of Congress.

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