

older area of single-room occupancy hotels, and the Western Addition. There was tenant resistance by poor blacks, whites, and Asians to the redevelopment schemes of the elites. However, after the 1970s, elite opposition, tenant disunity, and budget cuts to SFHA reduced tenant activism. The privatization of public housing further diminished tenant activism, and elites painted public housing as a giant failure. A surge in tenant activism occurred in the Mission District where a mostly Latino (Mexican and other Central American) community gentrified into a dot.com yuppie heaven in the 1990s. Activists increasingly bypassed the SFHA and organized voters and nonprofits in the quest for power and affordable housing.

This is a solid history, very well researched, and clearly written. As the city's housing crisis continues, the book provides sharp analysis of how elites increasingly catered to business interests to produce a city where poorer and even middle-income residents find it very difficult to remain in the city. However, the history of tenant activism suggests a pathway to a more equitable housing future.

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

JOSEPH A. RODRIGUEZ

*The City Is More Than Human: An Animal History of Seattle.* By Frederick L. Brown. (Seattle, University of Washington Press, 2016, 331 pp.)

Frederick Brown extends the history of Seattle to include the animals critical to the city's founding and growth. Most observers considered cows, horses, dogs, cats, chickens, and salmon beneath mention. Of course, the animals wrote nothing, so they forfeited the job of explanation to a self-absorbed species that viewed them primarily as food and property. Without a whole lot of direct evidence to go on, Brown mulls absences and silences. He ponders the impressions the animals left in the historical record.

Brown argues that animals entered and exited the city via the politics of sorting and blending. From the start of Seattle's history, people drew lines with animals. Wild animals belonged outside the city; and the harvesting of salmon, deer, bears, and other unowned creatures for subsistence was deemed savage by the early white settlers, who adopted cows as their totems of progress and civilization. Decades later, the cows lost their hoof-hold on the city when middle-class improvers denounced them as remnants of the frontier and ruiners of flower gardens. Official line-drawers sorted cows, pigs, and sheep to the rural outskirts while horses remained, overlapping with trucks

and cars in the early twentieth century. Automobiles eventually supplanted horses, but the city remained home to a menagerie of pets. Dogs and cats took over, first as servants who protected property and hunted mice and then as companion animals who accepted and perhaps reciprocated love. Seattle remains a beastly place to this day. Arguments over leash laws and Native salmon fishing rights prove that the politics of sorting endure.

Brown performs the first job of a historian extremely well: he shows how time and power rather than nature or technology determined which animals stayed, left, or died in Seattle. Few animals fit perfectly in the city, just as few animals were biologically opposed to the metropole. The species and the city accommodated one another, until they did not. Horses were a perfect example of this phenomenon. City planners widened streets to help horses pulling wagons to pass one another and turn corners. They orchestrated calm, asking road builders to nix architectural elements that might frighten the animals. Most horses became inured to the urban cacophony, but they struggled with the paved streets. Hard and slick pavement damaged hooves and triggered falls. Heavy wagons, however, required hard roads. Horses remained in the city because they hauled bulky things, yet the things they hauled undercut their urban existence. Advocates for the humane treatment of animals protested the harsh treatment of work horses. Sentiment shifted against having horses in the city. Automobiles solved the horse, wagon, and road surface conundrum, but the machines' supremacy was never preordained. Horses made sense in the city for decades until urbanites changed their minds and shifted the boundaries of who belonged in Seattle.

Millions of people have lived in, traveled through, and thought about Seattle without considering animals. This book exposes that failure of imagination and renders it unrepeatably. Brown's book is a welcome addition to the thriving study of animals in urban and American history.

University of Notre Dame

JON T. COLEMAN

*Seismic City: An Environmental History of San Francisco's 1906 Earthquake.*

By Joanna L. Dyl. (Seattle, University of Washington Press, 2017.

xvi + 355 pp.)

Joanna L. Dyl's environmental history delivers a unique portrait of the 1906 disaster. With her focus on the earthquake, Dyl offers a layered reading that excavates and upends one of the disaster's most enduring