



The Stretch Of Ruin From Nob Hill, Across Russian Hill, To Telegraph Hill



Ruins Of Chinatown From Telegraph Hill

1906 Quake Havoc Shown In 'Find'

By Margaret Koch

A city fought for its life 57 years ago this week.

It fought in the roar of violent shakings of the earth beneath it.

The crackling of flames furnished the background music. And the near swan-song was punctuated with the crash of falling buildings and the screams of trapped human beings.

The bomb-like devastation wreaked on San Francisco by the earthquake and fire of April 18, has come alive again in a set of rare old photos.

They were found — rolled up, fragile, brittle, and dated 1906 — inside one wall of what was originally a three-room cabin at Ben Lomond. Mr. and Mrs. George Gianera, who came here from San Francisco and bought the cabin about eight years ago, discovered the fine old pictures in the process of making repairs.

Mrs. Gianera is seen with them in photo at left.

Who put them there — how long they were in the wall — these are mysteries. The former owners of the house, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Shaffer, are dead. So there is no one to ask.

But questions are really not necessary. Because the pictures speak for themselves. And it's a tale of destruction and sudden death.



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