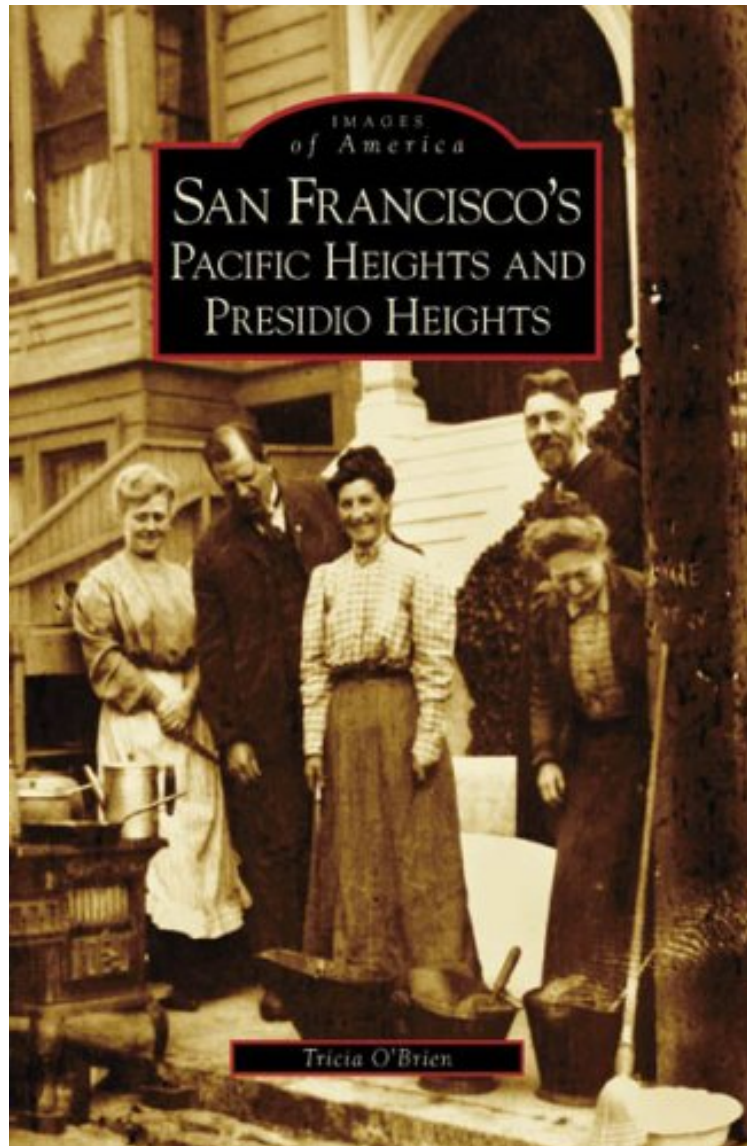


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## San Francisco's Pacific Heights and Presidio Heights (Images of America: California)

*Tricia O'Brien*

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**Tricia O'Brien : San Francisco's Pacific Heights and Presidio Heights (Images of America: California)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised San Francisco's Pacific Heights and Presidio Heights (Images of America: California):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The old "hood"!By CustomerMy old neighborhood. It has

changed!dayamo1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Guide to Architecture and High Society Found in Famous NeighborhoodsBy interested\_observer"San Francisco's Pacific Heights and Presidio Heights" [= 'Heights'] is part of Arcadia Publishing's standardized series of books, many covering neighborhoods of San Francisco. The books are mostly photographs with captions, all introduced by a short essay. This particular edition was unusually well researched. Although most books in the series say, "Here is a picture of some people doing something or of a building that was in existence then," 'Heights' does a bang-up job of identifying pretty much all people, including their names and some of their major accomplishments, and giving details on who built the buildings when and for what purpose. I have many books in the series, and this one gives the reader the feeling of being an insider on the architecture and society in earlier times in these neighborhoods. While I can come up with additional buildings and people, for a book of standardized length, this one does very well. The one item that seemed odd to me was a mention of Grant Primary School on page 74, which was said to have been around from 1889 through 1972 on Broadway near Broderick and is shown as a fancy wooden building. I attended there several years around 1960, when the school was an undistinguished Mission-style concrete affair, later torn down as an earthquake hazard and turned into condos. The photo is from an earlier period only. I would have liked some attention to have been paid to the natural history of the neighborhood - its configuration, hills, geology, soil, drainage, plants, and animals before development occurred. A series of photographs taken from the Bay over the years might have captured the pace and impact of settlement. Still, for having a stroll about the neighborhood and getting a sense of the value its previous residents added to the larger community, this book is terrific. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. An outstanding selection for any California history collectionBy Midwest Book ReviewThe prestigious Pacific Heights and Presidio Heights areas of San Francisco receive a fine visual history in this latest addition to the Images of America series, which uses archival photos and local history to provide an early coverage of some of the City's key neighborhoods. From banker's mansions to pre-Earthquake structures and major figureheads who resided in these neighborhoods, SAN FRANCISCO'S PACIFIC HEIGHTS AND PRESIDIO HEIGHTS is an outstanding selection for any California history collection. Diane C. Donovan California Bookwatch

The prestige of Pacific Heights and Presidio Heights has long fascinated and awed San Francisco residents and visitors. The westward expansion of the city, followed by the addition of cable car lines, quickly transformed these once-barren outlands into gardens, schools, consulates, and homes, both extravagant and simple. Attracted to the stunning views and unique architecture, prominent and humble families alike have formed the fascinating role of Pacific Heights and Presidio Heights in San Francisco lore.

Title: Book series is perfect San Francisco present Author: Ken Garcia Publisher: The Examiner Date: 12/18/2008 They might be a tad large for stocking stuffers, but there are two new items that ought to satisfy the enduring interests of San Franciscophiles everywhere. They're the latest entries in the popular neighborhood series created by Arcadia Publishing that has rolled out the photo-driven books on districts such as the Castro, Sunset and Richmond. The newest members of the line include Pacific Heights, Presidio Heights and Westlake, which is kind of like the Sunset South. The Pacific Heights book was put together by Tricia O'Brien, who penned an earlier one on the Bayview. And I can verify the veracity of the Westlake edition done by Bunny Gillespie, because when I was writing a lot about Henry Doelgers development of the Sunset years ago, Gillespie was undoubtedly the go-to historian on the subject. O'Brien said the Pacific Heights book was tougher to do than her previous one because its almost entirely residential and lacked some of the variety of the Bayview, which boasted an area called Butcher Town. But the photos of some of the homes crafted by some of the finest architects in the West are priceless. It was hard to get some of the information, because people in the area are so private, O'Brien said. But I tried to put things in the book that a lot of people don't know, and that was a lot of fun. The books are available at stores everywhere. They're great for viewing history in a hurry. About the Author Raised in Presidio Heights and educated in Pacific Heights, San Francisco native Tricia O'Brien presents here the story of these prominent neighborhoods in vintage imagery. O'Brien, also the author of San Francisco's Bayview Hunters Point, draws from the collections of her neighbors, family, and friends, as well as institutions such as the San Francisco Architectural Heritage collection. These photographs and ephemera offer a personal and historic peek into the genesis and evolution of these iconic neighborhoods. With commanding early views of streets such as Jackson, Pacific, and Broadway, this collection harkens back to the earliest days of the city's history and with it the stories and people that made these two districts into two of San Francisco's true signature neighborhoods.