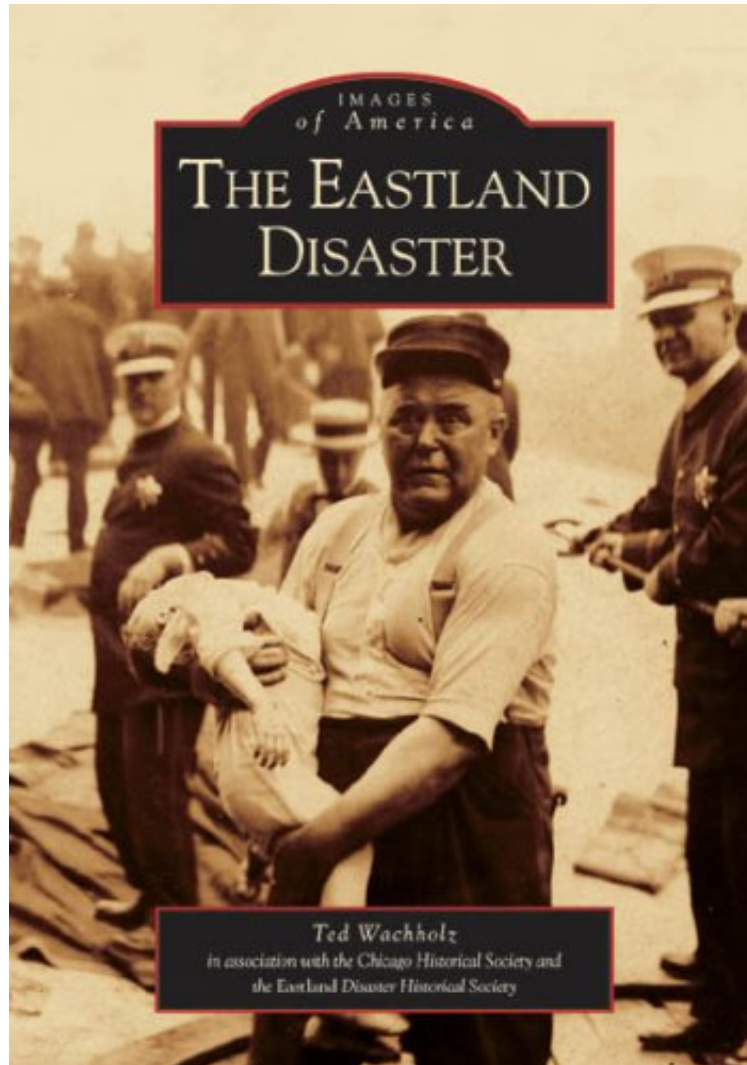


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The Eastland Disaster (Images of America)

Ted Wachholz, The Eastland Disaster Historical Society, The Chicago Historical Society
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Ted Wachholz, The Eastland Disaster Historical Society, The Chicago Historical Society : The Eastland Disaster (Images of America) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Eastland Disaster (Images of America):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Historic But UnknownBy CustomerIt's an event from Chicago history few people ever heard of, and the documentation of the event itself is no more inclusive than it needs to be. The emphasis is on the rescue attempts, the ways and people involved in trying to save the survivors and then cope with those unfortunate enough to have lost their lives. Many photos probably not seen in a century, now brought to the pages, bringing the level of pathos to an extreme, but for a purpose: to show how many cared to try to help after the

ship keeled over in that filthy sewer of a river. See that cover shot? Expect more of that! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Eastland Disaster in Chicago By Kathy Slupik A forgotten disaster that happened 100 years ago in Chicago. Being a Chicago native I was familiar with the Eastland disaster but learned much from reading this book. Fabulous archival photos from Western Electric and newspapers who covered the disaster. An easy read with many photos about a day that was to be relaxing and fun-filled and turned out to be disastrous and very sad. 20 of 21 people found the following review helpful. Why haven't many people heard about this? By microtv I'm going to cheat. I'm going to write one review and use it on three separate books. No doubt I'll offend the review gods at , but this subject merits it. Even though I live only 4 hours away from Chicago, I had never heard of the Eastland until I was searching for something entirely different and found a Western Electric website mentioning it. This is an utterly incredible story. I promptly ordered "The Sinking of the Eastland." The book goes into a fair amount of detail about the tragedy itself, yet its primary purpose is to describe the people involved and how they were affected. The author never claims to be a technical authority and instead makes reference several times to another book "Eastland: Legacy of the Titanic." I promptly ordered that one as well and while searching for additional information I learned of a third book "The Eastland Disaster (Images of America)." That one was ordered as well. Since you have read this far, you are obviously interested in my opinions and in my opinion, all three are required reading to grasp what happened. "The Eastland Disaster" is primarily a collection of relevant photographs which augment the other two books. Many more photographs of the events surrounding the ship, the sinking and the aftermath. And finally, "Eastland: Legacy of the Titanic" is much more technically oriented including the naval architecture concepts concerning the ship itself. I found this book to be especially good as it attempts to provide as much of a balanced view as possible, including several contemporary naval experts analyzing the court testimony of a leading architect of the day. Absolutely fascinating stuff. Not only that, but it is interesting to learn our concern for American jobs being lost to China is not a new thing. Ninety years ago people were worried about the same thing as a result of new regulations coming from the Titanic sinking. All three books solidly contribute to gaining knowledge about the disaster.

More than 7,000 people living in the Chicago area and Michigan City, Indiana, eagerly anticipated Saturday morning, July 24, 1915. This particular Saturday was going to be anything but a routine summer day. Plans had been carefully made for it to be the social and entertainment event of the year, and for some, a lifetime. The fifth annual midsummer excursion and picnic had been organized by the employees of the Western Electric Company's Hawthorne Works. Thousands of carefree merrymakers would enjoy a festive day including a lovely cruise across Lake Michigan to an awaiting parade and day-long picnic. The day would conclude with an evening cruise back to Chicago. For thousands of hard-working immigrant laborers and their families and friends, it was going to be a day to remember. Instead, the days scheduled event turned into a tragedy unlike any other. The SS Eastland, while still tied to the wharf, rolled into the Chicago River with more than 2,500 passengers on board. Nearly 850 people lost their lives, including 22 entire families. The ensuing struggle for survival, and the resulting death, heroism, cowardice, greed, and scandal gripped the city of Chicago.

About the Author Author Ted Wachholz is the executive director of the Eastland Disaster Historical Society. Through his work with the society and in association with the Chicago Historical Society, Wachholz combines captivating images with compelling narrative taken from firsthand accounts from families of survivors, victims, and others directly affected by the Eastland Disaster.