Historian Katie Pickles argues that the Christchurch earthquakes have exposed major tensions in the city's history, such as the dominant Anglican tradition and Englishness, the denial of a Māori past, and the environmental pitfalls of building a city on a swamp.

Her BWB Text insists that there can be no going back from the rupture: Katie Pickles argues it is unhelpful and inaccurate to cling to an imagined city, to aspects of the past that were long gone before the earth moved. This lively Text argues that due to the earthquakes, the city has a unique rupture, or ending point, for its colonial history.

Christchurch Ruptures draws upon significant aspects of the city's social, cultural, political, economic and environmental history, each of the five chapters analysing an area of rupture.

2016 publication; 200 pages; includes sources.

THEMES
Christchurch history; colonialism; architecture; cities; Ngāi Tahu history; social history; rebuilding after earthquake; public debate

SOME CONNECTIONS
- *The Villa at the Edge of the Empire: One Hundred Ways to Read a City* by Fiona Farrell
- *Edge of Empire: Post-colonialism and the City* by Jane M. Jacobs

CURRICULUM AREAS
History; geography; social studies; English

TEACHER SUGGESTIONS
- **Social studies/English:** On page 163 Katie Pickles uses the term 'earthquakery'. Students discuss what is meant by this term and write a definition. They identify examples of it, and write about the importance of these examples to the people who have collected them.
- **Geography:** Consider Katie Pickles's arguments in analysing the contemporary issue that Christchurch faces in rebuilding the city.
- **History:** Analyse different perspectives of the European settlement of Christchurch and the Canterbury Plains.

Christchurch
Ruptures

KATIE PICKLES

THE PAST CAN HELP TO MAKE SENSE OF THE PRESENT

BWB Texts

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