The Plague Files: Crisis Management in Sixteenth-Century Seville

By Alexandra Parma Cook, Noble David Cook

Lsu Press, United States, 2012. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Reprint. 228 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. In the first half of the 1580s, Seville, Spain, confronted a series of potentially devastating crises. In three years, the city faced a brush with deadly contagion, including the plague; the billeting of troops in preparation for Philip II s invasion of Portugal; crop failure and famine following drought and locust infestation; an aborted uprising of the Moriscos (Christian converts from Islam); bankruptcy of the municipal government; the threat of pollution and contaminated water; and the disruption of commerce with the Indies. While each of these problems would be formidable on its own, when taken together, the crises threatened Seville s social and economic order. In The Plague Files, Alexandra Parma Cook and Noble David Cook reconstruct daily life during this period in sixteenth-century Seville, exposing the difficult lives of ordinary men, women, and children and shedding light on the challenges municipal officials faced as they attempted to find solutions to the public health emergencies that threatened the city s residents. Filling several gaps in the historiography of early modern Spain, this volume offers a history of not only Seville...

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