

**American Landscapes:
History, Culture, and the Built Environment**

Course Syllabus
Geography 160
Spring 2019

Instructor:
Dr. Peter Ekman
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3 LeConte Hall
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

This course introduces ways of seeing, describing, interpreting, and speculating on how everyday American built environments have given shape and meaning to social life. To that end, it surveys transformations in the country's vernacular urban, suburban, and (to some extent) rural landscapes, at several scales: houses, yards, storefronts, parks, fences, fields, street patterns, workplaces, transit infrastructures, billboards, gas stations, and more. Addressed at one level to landscape as material culture, the course also assembles an eclectic intellectual history of lay and official attempts to study, define, critique, make sense of, represent, and intervene on ordinary Americans and their space.

Readings include primary as well as secondary sources. Sections will include some exercises in field study, in addition to textual and visual analysis.

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GSI's

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Eve McGlynn: emcglynn@berkeley.edu

There are four discussion sections, each of which meets once a week for an hour in 135 McCone Hall:
Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. (Section 101; Eve)
Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m. (Section 102; Eve)
Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. (Section 103; John)
Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. (Section 104; John)

Lectures happen twice a week: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2:00 to 3:30 p.m., in 3 LeConte Hall.

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Office Hours

Each member of the teaching team will hold two hours' worth of office hours each week. No appointment needed:

Peter Ekman: Tuesdays, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., 561 McCone
John Elrick: Thursdays, 12:00 to 2:00 p.m., 193 McCone
Eve McGlynn: TBD

**Week 1: Methods for a History of the Landscape
(January 22 and 24)**

- J. B. Jackson, "The Word Itself" [1984], in *Landscape in Sight* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1997), 299–306.
- Grady Clay, "Wordgame," in *Close-Up: How to Read the American City* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1973), 17–22.
- Bill Brown, "Thing Theory," *Critical Inquiry* 28 (2001): 1–22.

Recommended:

- Peirce F. Lewis, "Axioms for Reading the Landscape," in *The Interpretation of Ordinary Landscapes*, ed. Donald Meinig (New York: Oxford University Press, 1979), 11–32.
- D. W. Meinig, "The Beholding Eye: Ten Versions of the Same Scene," in *The Interpretation of Ordinary Landscapes*, ed. Donald Meinig (New York: Oxford University Press, 1979), 33–48.
- Carl O. Sauer, "The Morphology of Landscape" [1925], in *Land and Life*, ed. John Leighly (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1963), 315–350.
- Johannes Gabriel Granö, *Pure Geography* [1929], trans. Malcolm Hicks (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997).
- Denis Cosgrove, *Social Formation and Symbolic Landscape* (Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1984).
- Kenneth R. Olwig, "Recovering the Substantive Nature of Landscape," *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 86 (1996): 630–653.
- Jules Prown, "Mind in Matter," *Winterthur Portfolio* 17 (1982): 1–19.
- Dell Upton, "The City as Material Culture," in *The Art and Mystery of Historical Archaeology*, eds. Anne E. Yentsch and Mary C. Beaudry (Boca Raton: CRC Press, 1992), 51–63.
- Dell Upton, "Sound as Landscape," *Landscape Journal* 26 (2007): 24–35.
- John Wylie, "Depths and Folds: On Landscape and the Gazing Subject," *Environment and Planning D: Society and Space* 24 (2006): 519–535.
- John Wylie, *Landscape* (London: Routledge, 2007).
- Sarah Whatmore, "Materialist Returns: Practising Cultural Geography in and for a More-Than-Human World," *Cultural Geographies* 13 (2006): 600–609.

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PART I: COLONIAL LANDSCAPES

**Week 2: Town, Country, and Colony in New England
(January 29 and 31)**

- 1/29: Township as Cosmic Order: Organicity and Hierarchy
- 1/31: Fences and Fields: Allocating Land and Landscape

- William Cronon, "Landscape and Patchwork," "Bounding the Land," and "A World of Fields and Fences," in *Changes in the Land: Indians, Colonists, and the Ecology of New England* (Boston: Hill and Wang, 1983), 20–33, 54–81, 127–156.
- Joseph S. Wood, "Village and Community in the Seventeenth Century" and "A World We Have Gained," in *The New England Village* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997), 52–70, 161–180.
- Garrett Dash Nelson, "'The Town Was Us,'" *Places Journal* (July 2018).

Recommended:

Glenn T. Trewartha, "Types of Rural Settlement in Colonial America," *Geographical Review* 36 (1946): 568–596.

Thomas C. Hubka, *Big House, Little House, Back House, Barn: The Connected Farm Buildings of New England* (Hanover, N.H.: University Press of New England, 1984).

Walter Muir Whitehill, *Boston: A Topographical History* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1959).

Perry Miller, *Errand into the Wilderness* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1956).

Herbert Baxter Adams, *The Germanic Origin of New England Towns* (Baltimore: N. Murray, 1882).

**Week 3: Native Landscapes, New Europes, and the Shape of Sovereignty
(February 5 and 7)**

2/5: Openings: Landscape and Life Before Europeanization

2/7: Colonial Closures: Beyond New England

J. B. Jackson, "First Comes the House," *Landscape* 9(2) (Winter 1959–1960): 26–32.

Alfonso Ortiz, "In the Beginning," in *The Tewa World: Space, Time, Being, and Becoming in a Pueblo Society* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1969), 13–28.

Philip J. Deloria, "Natural Indians and Identities of Modernity," in *Playing Indian* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1999), 95–127.

Recommended:

Carl O. Sauer, *Sixteenth-Century North America* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1971).

Stanley A. Stubbs, *Bird's-Eye View of the Pueblos* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1950).

Daniel D. Arreola and James R. Curtis, *The Mexican Border Cities: Landscape Anatomy and Place Personality* (Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1993).

Alejandra Dubcovsky, *Informed Power: Communication in the Early American South* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2016).

Timothy R. Pauketat, *Cahokia: Ancient America's Great City on the Mississippi* (New York: Penguin, 2010).

Timothy R. Pauketat and Thomas E. Emerson, eds., *Cahokia: Domination and Ideology in the Mississippian World* (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1997).

Cole Harris, "French Landscapes in North America," in *The Making of the American Landscape*, ed. Michael P. Conzen (Boston: Unwin Hyman, 1990), 63–79.

**Week 4: Eighteenth-Century Experiments: Plans, Plantations, and the American Enlightenment
(February 12 and 14)**

2/12: Georgian Order: Spaces of a Slave Society in the Tidewater and Points South

2/14: Near Wests: Pennsylvania, the Mid-Atlantic, and the Landscapes of Capital

David Goldfield, "City and Region" and "Pearls on the Coast and Lights in the Forest," in *Cotton Fields and Skyscrapers: Southern City and Region* [1982] (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1989), 1–27.

Dell Upton, "White and Black Landscapes in Eighteenth-Century Virginia," *Places* 2(2) (1984): 59–72.

Recommended:

Henry Glassie, *Pattern in the Material Folk Culture of the Eastern United States* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 1968).

Peirce F. Lewis, "The Northeast and the Making of American Geographical Habits," in *The Making of the American Landscape*, ed. Michael P. Conzen (Boston: Unwin Hyman, 1990), 80–103.

- Thomas D. Wilson, *The Oglethorpe Plan: Enlightenment Design in Savannah and Beyond* (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 2012).
- John Reys, *Tidewater Towns: City Planning in Colonial Virginia and Maryland* (Charlottesville: University of Virginia Press, 1972).
- John Michael Vlach, *Back of the Big House: The Architecture of Plantation Slavery* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1993).
- Clifton Ellis and Rebecca Ginsburg, eds., *Cabin, Quarter, Plantation: Architecture and Landscapes of North American Slavery* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2010).
- Eli Cook, "The Age of Moral Statistics," in *The Pricing of Progress: Economic Indicators and the Capitalization of American Life* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2017), 110–127.
- Caitlin Rosenthal, *Accounting for Slavery: Masters and Management* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 2018).
- Sven Beckert and Seth Rockman, eds., *Slavery's Capitalism* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, 2016).

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PART II: SHAPING THE LONG NINETEENTH CENTURY

Week 5: Gridding City and Country (February 19 and 21)

2/19: New Units, New Lines: The Grid, the Fence, the Camp, and the West

2/21: Street Grids and the Shape of the Urban Future

- Hildegard Binder Johnson, "Postscript," in *Order upon the Land: The U.S. Rectangular Land Survey and the Upper Mississippi Country* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1976), 239–242.
- Patricia Limerick, "Property Values," in *The Legacy of Conquest: The Unbroken Past of the American West* (New York: W. W. Norton, 1987), 55–77.
- Eric Sandweiss, "Lines on the Land" and "The Inhabitants of St. Louis' and Their Land," in *St. Louis: The Evolution of an Urban Landscape* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2001), 23–57.
- Reuben S. Rose-Redwood, "Mythologies of the Grid in the Empire City, 1811–2011," *Geographical Review* 101 (2011): 396–413.

Recommended:

- Dell Upton, "The Grid and the Republican Spatial Imagination," in *Another City: Urban Life and Urban Spaces in the New American Republic* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2008), 113–144.
- Charles Wolfe, "Streets Regulating Neighborhood Form," in *Public Streets for Public Use*, ed. Anne Vernez Moudon (New York: Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1987), 110–122.
- Dan Stanislawski, "The Origin and Spread of the Grid-Pattern Town," *Geographical Review* 36 (1946): 105–120.
- Edward T. Price, "The Central Courthouse Square in the American County Seat," *Geographical Review* 58 (1968): 29–60.
- William Wyckoff, *The Developer's Frontier: The Making of the Western New York Landscape* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1988).
- David M. Scobey, "The Rule of Real Estate," in *Empire City: The Making and Meaning of the New York City Landscape* (Philadelphia: Temple University Press, 2002), 89–133.
- Leslie Hewes and Christian L. Jung, "Early Fencing on the Middle Western Prairie," *Annals of the Association of American Geographers* 71 (1981): 177–201.
- Hallock F. Raup, "The Fence in the Cultural Landscape," *Western Folklore* 6 (1947): 1–12.

Benjamin Madley, *An American Genocide: The United States and the California Indian Catastrophe, 1846–1873* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2017).
David Treuer, *Rez Life* (New York: Atlantic Monthly Press, 2012).
Kerwin Lee Klein, *Frontiers of Historical Imagination: Narrating the European Conquest of Native America, 1890–1990* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1997).

**Week 6: Water, Fabric, Steam, and Steel: Industrializing Space and Time
(February 26 and 28)**

2/26: Infrastructures of “Communication”: Turnpikes, Canals, and Textiles
2/28: Railroad Time: Between Rationality and the Sublime

The Lowell Offering (1840–1845), selections
William Cronon, “Rails and Water,” in *Nature’s Metropolis: Chicago and the Great West* (New York: W. W. Norton, 1991), 55–93.
Richard White, “Spatial Politics,” in *Railroaded: The Transcontinentals and the Making of Modern America* (New York: W. W. Norton, 2011), 140–178.
Wolfgang Schivelbusch, *The Railway Journey: The Industrialization of Time and Space in the 19th Century* [1977] (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1986), 52–123.

Recommended:

Clay McShane and Joel A. Tarr, *The Horse in the City: Living Machines in the Nineteenth Century* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2007).
Nick Yablon, *Untimely Ruins: An Archaeology of Urban Modernity, 1819–1919* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2009).
Diane Shaw, *City Building on the Eastern Frontier: Sorting the New Nineteenth-Century City* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2004).
John Stilgoe, *Metropolitan Corridor* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1982).
David E. Nye, *American Technological Sublime* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1994).
Marvin Fisher, *Workshops in the Wilderness: The European Response to American Industrialization, 1830–1860* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1967).
Thomas Bender, *Toward an Urban Vision* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1976).

**Week 7: Sorting Out the Industrial Metropolis: Urban Form and Progressive Reform
(March 5 and 7)**

3/5: Engineering the American Downtown
3/7: Reforming City Life: Density, Decentralization, and “Efficiency”

Friedrich Ratzel, Preface and “San Francisco,” in *Sketches of Urban and Cultural Life in North America* [1876], trans. and ed. Stewart Stehlin (New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 1988), 1–10, 272–284.
Henry James, *The American Scene* [1907] (New York: Penguin, 1994), 57–156.
Andrew Dolkart, “The Fabric of New York City’s Garment District: Architecture and Development in an American Cultural Landscape,” *Buildings and Landscapes* 18 (2011): 14–42.
Alison Isenberg, “City Beautiful or Beautiful Mess?: The Gendered Origins of a Civic Ideal,” in *Downtown America: A History of the Place and the People Who Made It* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2004), 13–41.

Recommended:

Tom Lutz, *American Nervousness, 1903: An Anecdotal History* (Ithaca: Cornell University Press, 1981).

- Georg Simmel, "The Metropolis and Mental Life" [1903], trans. Edward A. Shils, in *Georg Simmel on Individuality and Social Forms*, ed. Donald N. Levine (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1971), 324–339.
- Gunther Barth, *Instant Cities: Urbanization and the Rise of San Francisco and Denver* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1975).
- Mona Domosh, *Invented Cities: The Creation of Landscape in Nineteenth-Century New York and Boston* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1996).
- Jessica Sewell, "Gender, Imagination, and Experience in the Early-Twentieth-Century American Downtown," in *Everyday America*, eds. Chris Wilson and Paul Groth (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003), 237–254.
- Marta Gutman, *A City for Children: Women, Architecture, and the Charitable Landscapes of Oakland, 1850–1950* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2014).
- Reyner Banham, *A Concrete Atlantis: U.S. Industrial Building and European Modern Architecture, 1900–1925* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1986).
- Megan Kate Nelson, *Ruin Nation: Destruction and the American Civil War* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 2012).
- Erin Stewart Mauldin, *Unredeemed Land: An Environmental History of Civil War and Emancipation in the Cotton South* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2018).

**Week 8: The Edges of the Metropolis: Suburbs of First and Last Resort
(March 12 and 14)**

3/12: Industrial Borderlands; or, The Machine in the Garden

3/14: Residential Suburbs Before the Automobile

- Mason–McDuffie and Baldwin & Howell, *St. Francis Wood* (1912; pamphlet not included in reader).
- Charles Mulford Robinson, "The Sociology of a Street Layout," *Annals of the American Academy of Political and Social Science* 51 (January 1914): 192–199.
- Grosvenor Atterbury, "Model Towns in America," *Scribner's* 52 (July 1912), 20–35.
- Graham Romeyn Taylor, "The Outer Rings of Industry," in *Satellite Cities: A Study of Industrial Suburbs* (New York: D. Appleton, 1915), 1–27.
- Elaine Lewinnek, "Mapping Chicago, Imagining Metropolises: Reconsidering the Zonal Model of Urban Growth," *Journal of Urban History* 36 (2010): 197–225.

Recommended:

- Paul Boyer, *Urban Masses and Moral Order in America, 1820–1920* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1978).
- Carl Smith, *The Plan of Chicago* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2006).
- Daniel T. Rodgers, *Atlantic Crossings: Social Politics in a Progressive Age* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1998).
- Margaret F. Byington, *Homestead: The Households of a Mill Town* (New York: Charities Publication Committee, 1910).
- Aaron Sachs, *Arcadian America* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2013).
- John Stilgoe, *Borderland: Origins of the American Suburb, 1820–1939* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1988).
- Morton and Lucia White, *The Intellectual versus the City* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1962).
- David Schuyler, *The New Urban Landscape: The Redefinition of City Form in Nineteenth-Century America* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1986).
- Leo Marx, *The Machine in the Garden: Technology and the Pastoral Ideal in America* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1964).

Week 9: Regional Visions, Neotechnic Landscapes, and Interwar Critique; Also, the Midterm (March 19 and 21)

3/19: Flow and the “Fourth Migration”

Benton MacKaye, *The New Exploration: A Philosophy of Regional Planning* (New York: Harcourt, Brace, 1928).

Clarence Stein, “Dinosaur Cities,” *The Survey* (1 May 1925), 134–138.

Lewis Mumford, “Botched Cities,” *The American Mercury* (October 1929), 143–150.

Keller Easterling, *Organization Space: Landscapes, Highways, and Houses in America* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 2000), 13–53.

The City (1939; film)

Recommended:

Roy Lubove, *Community Planning in the 1920s: The Contribution of the Regional Planning Association of America* (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 1962).

Carl Sussman, ed., *Planning the Fourth Migration: The Neglected Vision of the Regional Planning Association of America* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1976).

Catherine Bauer, *Modern Housing* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1934).

Clarence Stein, *New Towns for America* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1953).

Lewis Mumford, *The Story of Utopias* (New York: Boni and Liveright, 1924).

Lewis Mumford, *Technics and Civilization* (New York: Harcourt, Brace, 1934).

Lewis Mumford, *The Culture of Cities* (New York: Harcourt, Brace, 1938).

Benton MacKaye, *From Geography to Geotechnics* [1950] (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1968).

Volker Welter, *Biopolis: Patrick Geddes and the City of Life* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 2002).

March 21: MIDTERM EXAM

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NO CLASS MARCH 26 OR 28: SPRING BREAK

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PART III: MIDCENTURY MILIEUX

Week 10: Landscapes and Legacies of the New Deal (April 2 and 4)

4/2: Conservation and the Rural New Deal

4/4: The Sub-Urban New Deal: Resettling America, Regionally

Kenneth T. Jackson, “Federal Subsidy and the Suburban Dream,” in *Crabgrass Frontier: The Suburbanization of the United States* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1985), 190–218.

Planning Neighborhoods for Small Houses (Washington, D.C.: Federal Housing Administration, 1936).

Planning Profitable Neighborhoods (Washington, D.C.: Federal Housing Administration, 1938).

Recommended:

- Marc A. Weiss, *The Rise of the Community Builders: The American Real Estate Industry and Urban Land Planning* (Columbia University Press, 1987).
- Gail Radford, *Modern Housing for America: Policy Struggles in the New Deal Era* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996).
- Eugenie Birch, "Radburn and the American Planning Movement: The Persistence of an Idea," *Journal of the American Planning Association* 46 (October 1980): 424–431.
- David M. P. Freund, *Colored Property* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007).
- David Roediger, *Working Toward Whiteness* (New York: Basic Books, 2005).
- Amy E. Hillier, "Redlining and the Home Owners' Loan Corporation," *Journal of Urban History* 29 (2003): 394–420.

Week 11: Wartime Mobilizations, Postwar Mobilities: From Atomic Landscapes to Autopia (April 9 and 11)

4/9: Landscapes of Total War: Nuclearity and Dispersal

4/11: The View from the Road: The Highway, the Strip, and the Art of Motion

- Reyner Banham, "In the Rearview Mirror" and "Ecology IV: Autopia," in *Los Angeles: The Architecture of Four Ecologies* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1971), 3–18, 195–204.
- J. B. Jackson, "The Abstract World of the Hot-Rodder" [1958], in *Landscape in Sight* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1997), 199–209.
- György Kepes, *Language of Vision* (Chicago: Paul Theobald, 1944), 12–62, 200–228.
- György Kepes, Introduction to *The Nature and Art of Motion* (New York: George Braziller, 1965), i–vii.
- Donald Appleyard, "Motion, Sequence, and the City," in *The Nature and Art of Motion*, ed. György Kepes (New York: George Braziller, 1965), 176–189.

Recommended:

- Carl Abbott, *The Metropolitan Frontier* (Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1993).
- Jennifer S. Light, *From Warfare to Welfare: Defense Intellectuals and Urban Problems in Cold War America* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 2003).
- Marilynn S. Johnson, "Urban Arsenals: War Housing and Social Change in Richmond and Oakland, California, 1941–1945," *Pacific Historical Review* 60 (August 1991): 283–308.
- Greg Hise, "Kaiser Community Homes" and "Building a City Where a City Belongs," in *Magnetic Los Angeles: Planning the Twentieth-Century Metropolis* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1997), 153–215.
- John A. Kouwenhoven, *The Beer Can by the Highway* [1961] (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1988).
- Jeremiah B. C. Axelrod, *Inventing Autopia: Dreams and Visions of the Modern Metropolis in Jazz Age Los Angeles* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2009).
- Timothy Davis, "The Miracle Mile Revisited: Recycling, Renovation, and Simulation along the Commercial Strip," in *Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture, vol. 7: Exploring Everyday Landscapes* (Chattanooga: University of Tennessee Press, 1997), 93–114.
- Norman Bel Geddes, *Magic Motorways* (New York: Random House, 1940).
- Robert O. Self, "White Noose," in *American Babylon: Race and the Struggle for Postwar Oakland* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2003), 256–290.
- Eric Avila, "The Sutured City: Tales of Progress and Disaster in the Freeway Metropolis," in *Popular Culture in the Age of White Flight* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2004), 185–223.

**Week 12: The Forms of the “Formless” Suburb
(April 16 and 18)**

4/16: Single-Family, Single-Use: Landscapes of “Total Living”

4/18: The New Natures of Landscape: Industry, Agriculture, Ecology

Michael Southworth and Peter M. Owens, “The Evolving Metropolis: Studies of Community, Neighborhood, and Street Form at the Urban Edge,” *Journal of the American Planning Association* 59 (1993) 271–287.

Victor Gruen and Larry Smith, *Shopping Towns USA: The Planning of Shopping Centers* (New York: Reinhold, 1960), 15–24.

Louise Mazingo, “Campus, Estate, and Park: Lawn Culture Comes to the Corporation,” in *Everyday America*, eds. Chris Wilson and Paul Groth (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2003), 255–274.

Jenny Price, “Thirteen Ways of Seeing Nature in L.A.,” in *Land of Sunshine*, eds. William Deverell and Greg Hise (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2005), 220–244.

Recommended:

Lizabeth Cohen, “Reconfiguring Community Marketplaces,” in *A Consumer’s Republic: The Politics of Consumption in Postwar America* (New York: Vintage, 2003), 257–289.

David J. Smiley, *Pedestrian Modern: Shopping and American Architecture, 1925–1956* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2013).

Dianne Harris, “Private Worlds,” in *Little White Houses: How the Postwar Home Constructed Race in America* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2013), 111–157.

Wei Li, *Ethnoburb* (Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press, 2009), 29–49.

Wendy Cheng, *The Changs Next Door to the Díazes: Remapping Race in Southern California* (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 2013).

Willow S. Lung-Amam, *Trespassers?: Asian Americans and the Battle for Suburbia* (Oakland: University of California Press, 2018).

Jerry Gonzalez, *In Search of the Mexican Beverly Hills: Latino Suburbanization in Postwar Los Angeles* (New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 2018).

Andrew Wiese, *Places of Their Own: African American Suburbanization in the Twentieth Century* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2004).

Dianne Harris, ed., *Second Suburb: Levittown, Pennsylvania* (Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 2010).

Christopher Grampp, *From Yard to Garden* (Chicago: Center for American Places, 2008)

Virginia Price Jenkins, *The Lawn* (Washington: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1994)

**Week 13: Between Demolition and Reuse: New Downtowns for Old
(April 23 and 25)**

4/23: Beyond the Federal Bulldozer: Urban Renewal as American Vernacular

4/25: After the Planners: New Uses for Old Cities

Francesca Russello Ammon, “‘Armies of Bulldozers Smashing Down Acres of Slums’: Urban Renewal Demolition in New Haven, Connecticut,” in *Bulldozer* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2016), 140–181.

James W. Rouse, “How to Build a Whole New City from Scratch,” *Savings Bank Journal* (October 1966): 26–32.

Form, Design, and the City (1962; film)

Frank O’Hara, “Song” [1951], in *Poems Retrieved*, ed. Don Allen (San Francisco: City Lights, 2013), 11.

- Frank O'Hara, "A Step Away from Them" [1956], "The Day Lady Died" [1959], "Naphtha" [1959], and "Personal Poem" [1959], in *Lunch Poems* (San Francisco: City Lights, 1964), 15–17, 25–26, 30–33.
- Frank O'Hara, "Commercial Variations" [1952], in *Collected Poems of Frank O'Hara*, ed. Donald Allen (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1995), 85–86.
- Delmore Schwartz, "America! America!" [1954], in *Last and Lost Poems* (New York: New Directions, 1979), 4.
- Lawrence Halprin, "Choreography," in *Cities* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1963), 193–220.

Recommended:

- Samuel Zipp, *Manhattan Projects: The Rise and Fall of Urban Renewal in Cold War New York* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2010).
- Christopher Klemek, *The Transatlantic Collapse of Urban Renewal: Postwar Urbanism from New York to Berlin* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2011).
- Alison Isenberg, *Designing San Francisco: Art, Land, and Urban Renewal in the City by the Bay* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 2017).
- Jane Jacobs, "The Kind of Problem a City Is," in *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* (New York: Vintage, 1961), 428–448.
- Jane Jacobs, *Vital Little Plans*, eds. Samuel Zipp and Nathan Storrington (New York: Random House, 2016).
- Gordon Cullen, *The Concise Townscape* [1961] (London: The Architectural Press, 1971).
- Sharon Zukin, *Loft Living: Culture and Capital in Urban Change* (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1982).
- Matthew Lasner, *High Life: Condo Living in the Suburban Century* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 2013).
- Suleiman Osman, *The Invention of Brownstone Brooklyn* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2012).
- Jed Perl, *New Art City: Manhattan at Mid-Century* (New York: Knopf, 2005).
- Nelson Algren, *Chicago, City on the Make* (New York: Doubleday, 1951).
- Alfred Kazin, *A Walker in the City* (New York: Harcourt, 1946).

April 25: Final paper due

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CODA

Week 14: Goodbye, Twentieth Century: Abandonment, the Ruinscape, and the Future (April 30 and May 2)

- Mark Binelli, "Fabulous Ruin," in *Detroit City Is the Place to Be* (New York: Picador, 2012), 269–287.
- Paul Reyes, *Exiles in Eden: Life among the Ruins of Florida's Great Recession* (New York: Henry Holt, 2010), 1–74.
- William James, "On Some Mental Effects of the Earthquake" [1906], in *Writings, 1902–1910* (New York: Library of America, 1987), 1215–22.
- J. B. Jackson, "The Necessity for Ruins," in *The Necessity for Ruins* (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 1980), 89–102.

Recommended:

- Camilo José Vergara, *The New American Ghetto* (New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 1995).
- Jefferson Cowie and Joseph Heathcott, eds., *Beyond the Ruins: The Meanings of Deindustrialization* (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell University Press, 2003).

George Steinmetz, "Colonial Melancholy and Fordist Nostalgia," in *Ruins of Modernity*, eds. Julia Hell and Andreas Schönle (Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 2014), 294–320.

Rebecca Solnit, "The Ruins of Memory," in Mark Klett, *After the Ruins, 1906 and 2006: Rephotographing the San Francisco Earthquake and Fire* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 2006), 18–31.

Barry Bergdoll and Reinhold Martin, eds., *Foreclosed: Rehousing the American Dream* (New York: Museum of Modern Art, 2012).

Robert Smithson, "A Tour of the Monuments of Passaic, New Jersey" [1967], in *Robert Smithson: The Collected Writings*, ed. Jack Flam (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1996), 71–74.

Mohsen Mostafavi and David Leatherbarrow, *On Weathering* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 1993).

Jill Stoner, *Toward a Minor Architecture* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 2012).

Elizabeth Grosz, *Architecture from the Outside* (Cambridge, Mass.: MIT Press, 2001).

Georg Simmel, "The Ruin" [1911], trans. David Kettler, in *Essays on Sociology, Philosophy, and Aesthetics*, ed. Kurt H. Wolff (New York: Harper, 1959), 259–266.

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"RRR": May 6 to 10

Final exam: Monday, May 13, 11:30 a.m.

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Readings

One bound reader containing all assigned texts is available for purchase at Copy Central at 2411 Telegraph Avenue. Note that there are multiple Copy Central locations within reach of campus; only the one at 2411 Telegraph has the reader. Buy the reader. Virtually all the books and journal articles reprinted therein are available in the Berkeley library system, and one copy of the reader will be kept on reserve in Doe Library, but the readings will not be posted online. You are, of course, free to buy any of the books excerpted in the reader (or to consult Peter Ekman for further recommendations on any topic). The readings marked "recommended" on the syllabus are purely optional. They represent small, curated extracts of conversations that have been going on for generations.

The following required books will be available for purchase at the Cal Student Store (or elsewhere):

Henry James, *The American Scene*;
Benton MacKaye, *The New Exploration*; and
Paul Reyes, *Exiles in Eden*.

One copy of each of these books will be on two-hour reserve all semester long at the Moffitt Library circulation desk.

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Grading

Section participation: 25%
Midterm exam: 20%
Research paper: 25%
Final exam: 30%

Attendance is not formally part of the grading calculations. That is to say, you are not awarded points solely for showing up. There are only deductions for absences. It is assumed that you will be present for both lecture and section. Attendance will occasionally be taken in lecture without warning. More than one unaccounted-for absence from section will readily put your grade in jeopardy.

The major written assignment for this course, due at the last lecture, is a research paper on an American landscape, or a set of landscapes, of your choosing. Your topic need not be local. You will have considerable freedom in choosing a paper topic. Details on this assignment will come later in the term.

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Technology and Plagiarism

The use of electronic devices — laptops, tablets, phones, cameras, voice recorders, etc. — will categorically not be allowed in the classroom during either lecture or section. A significant body of research shows that humans learn better when taking notes by hand. Even without confirmation by said research, it is perfectly obvious that these devices, while useful, pose distractions to you and to others.

There will be a bCourses site for Geography 160, through which Peter Ekman may occasionally send resources or reminders. Your GSI may set up a section-specific bCourses site as well.

Plagiarism of any sort will result in the severest punishment allowable. Refer to Berkeley's Campus Code of Student Conduct if you are unclear about what constitutes plagiarism, academic dishonesty more broadly, or their consequences.

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Health Resources

Counseling & Psychological Services (CPS) and Social Services (SOS), both housed at University Health Services at the Tang Center, make themselves available for students in need. The Student Learning Center (SLC) offers various forms of academic support, including tutoring, advising, and assistance with written work. Consult the website of any of these units to schedule an appointment.

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Welcome

Although this is an upper-division course, there are no prerequisites. Students from absolutely all departments and disciplinary traditions are welcome. Previous iterations of this course were cross-listed with Environmental Design and American Studies. Students have often come from History, Art History, Rhetoric, the various CED tracks, the various social sciences, and ESPM, in addition to Geography.