



Model City Blues: Urban Space and Organized Resistance in New Haven

By Mandi Isaacs Jackson

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"Model City Blues" tells the story of how regular people, facing a changing city landscape, fought for their own model of the "ideal city" by creating grassroots plans for urban renewal. Filled with vivid descriptions of significant moments in a protracted struggle, it offers a street-level account of organized resistance to institutional plans to transform New Haven, Connecticut in the 1960s. Anchored in the physical spaces and political struggles of the city, it brings back to center stage the individuals and groups who demanded that their voices be heard. By re-examining the converging class - and race-based movements of 1960s New Haven, Mandi Jackson helps to explain the city's present-day economic and political struggles. More broadly, by closely analyzing particular sites of resistance in New Haven, "Model City Blues" employs multiple academic disciplines to re-define and re-imagine the roles of everyday city spaces in building social movements and creating urban landscapes.

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