

Reconsidering Gowanus Baruch College 473946

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the surprising history of the gowanus canal and its role in the building of brooklyn for more than 150 years brooklyn s gowanus canal has been called a cesspool an industrial dumping ground and a blemish on the face of the populous borough as well as one of the most important waterways in the history of new york harbor yet its true origins man made character and importance to the city have been largely forgotten now new york writer and guide joseph alexiou explores how the gowanus creek a naturally occurring tidal estuary that served as a conduit for transport and industry during the colonial era came to play an outsized role in the story of america s greatest city from the earliest dutch settlers of new amsterdam to nearby revolutionary war skirmishes or the opulence of the gilded age mansions that sprung up in its wake historical changes to the canal and the neighborhood

that surround it have functioned as a microcosm of the story of Brooklyn's rapid nineteenth century growth highlighting the biographies of nineteenth century real estate moguls like Daniel Richards and Edwin C Litchfield Alexiou recalls the forgotten movers and shakers that laid the foundation of modern day Brooklyn as he details the pollution crime and industry associated with the Gowanus stretch back far earlier than the twentieth century and helped define the culture and unique character of this celebrated borough the story of the Gowanus like Brooklyn itself is a tale of ambition and neglect bursts of creative energy and an inimitable character that has captured the imaginations of city lovers around the world

Green gentrification looks at the social consequences of urban greening from an environmental justice and sustainable development perspective through a comparative examination of five cases of urban greening in Brooklyn New York it demonstrates that such initiatives while positive for the environment tend to increase inequality and thus undermine the social pillar of sustainable development although greening is ostensibly intended to improve environmental conditions in neighborhoods it generates green gentrification that pushes out the working class and people of color and attracts white wealthier immigrants simply put urban greening enriches and whitens remaking the city for the sustainability class without equity oriented public policy intervention urban greening is negatively redistributive in global cities this book argues that environmental injustice outcomes are not inevitable early public policy interventions aimed at neighborhood stabilization can create more just sustainability outcomes it highlights the negative social consequences of green growth coalition efforts to green the global city and suggests policy choices to address them the book applies the lessons learned from green gentrification in Brooklyn to urban greening initiatives globally it offers comparison with other greening global cities this is a timely and original book for all those studying environmental justice urban planning environmental sociology and sustainable development as well as urban environmental activists city planners and policy makers interested in issues of urban greening and gentrification

Humanity is deeply committed to living along the world's shores but a catastrophic storm like Sandy which took hundreds of lives and caused many billions of dollars in damages shines a bright light at how costly and vulnerable life on a shoreline can be taking chances offers a wide ranging exploration of the diverse challenges of Sandy and asks if this massive event will really change how coastal living and development is managed bringing together leading researchers including biologists urban planners utilities experts and climatologists among others taking chances illuminates reactions to the dangers revealed by Sandy focusing on New Jersey New York and other hard hit areas the contributors explore whether Hurricane Sandy has indeed transformed our perceptions of coastal hazards if we have made radically new plans in response to Sandy and what we think should be done over the long run to improve coastal resilience surprisingly one essay notes that while a large majority of New Jerseyans identified Sandy with climate change and

favored carefully assessing the likelihood of damage from future storms before rebuilding the shore their political leaders quickly poured millions into reconstruction indeed much here is disquieting one contributor points out that investors scared off from further investments on the shore are quickly replaced by new investors sustaining or increasing the overall human exposure to risk likewise a study of the gowanus canal area of brooklyn shows that even after sandy swamped the area with toxic flood waters plans to convert abandoned industrial lots around the canal into high density condominiums went on undeterred by contrast utilities emergency officials and others who routinely make long term plans have changed operations in response to the storm and provide examples of adaptation in the face of climate change will sandy be a tipping point in coastal policy debates or simply dismissed as a once in a century anomaly this thought provoking collection of essays in taking chances makes an important contribution to this debate

this study examines information about the quality of the tests used by the city university of new york to decide who must take remedial courses it also presents information about the relationships among various test scores and grades at cuny and makes recommendations for improving the system

this guide contains complete and up to date profiles of more than 300 colleges charts that offer quick comparison of school statistics and an annually updated best buys list

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