

SPRING 2020 COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Ph.D. PROGRAM IN ANTHROPOLOGY

SUSTAINABLE SUBURBANISM IN THE AMERICAN WEST

AN UNLIKELY CONVERGENCE OF MINING, MORMON & PLANNING PRACTICE

This talk draws on four summers of fieldwork in an unlikely site for the production of environmental subjects and expertise: a massive master-planned community in Utah spearheaded by one of the largest mining conglomerates in the world and developed with equal parts attention to sustainable suburbanism and values of Latter-day Saints (Mormons). Now 16 years into an anticipated 30-year build-out on remediated mining lands, the suburb in which the project is located is one of the fastest growing U.S. cities and has become an object lesson in sustainable development in politically conservative areas of the American West, including for its award-winning advanced stormwater retention system that integrates landscape architecture, infrastructural design, and earthquake preparedness. My research sheds light on the generative power of diverse temporalities and modes of legitimacy in this long-term build-out, as architects, mining officials, planning non-profits, builders, municipal workers, residents, marketers, master gardeners, and politicians negotiate aspirations for—and anxieties about—the material, social, aesthetic, and environmental future of the American suburb.



RACHEL HEIMAN

THE NEW SCHOOL.

02.28.20

Unless otherwise noted, all colloquia take place 4:15-6:15 pm in rm. C415A at The Graduate Center, CUNY. Refreshments follow in the Brockway Room (rm. 6402).

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