



Behind the Wall: Urban Black Geographies in Arkansas

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COLLECTION EDITED BY Christopher McAuley

COLLECTION
Black Studies

EDITION
1st edition

MARKET
College/higher education
and Professional and
scholarly

This course reading...

- Discusses the urban public policies implemented across American cities prior to and following the U.S. Supreme Court's 1954 national desegregation order and the desegregation of Little Rock Central High School in 1957.
- Presents perspectives of urban public policies through a lens of Blackness, offering context to evolving Black geographies in twentieth century America.
- Is ideal reading for students of US History, African American History, Black Studies, Urban Studies, and Sociology.

How did discriminatory urban planning policies impact Black communities in twentieth century America?

Black urbanization throughout the early 1900s prompted plans for largescale urban renewal, displacing traditional Black communities across America. In a postwar nation, interstates were constructed as a means for national progress. Concurrently, federal interstate construction largely followed the U.S. Supreme Court's 1954 national desegregation order and became a tool to intentionally re-segregate cities such as Little Rock, Arkansas.

Behind the Wall explores how the combination of federal urban renewal projects worked in tandem with discriminatory planning policies at local, state, and federal level to reinforce white supremacy. An analysis of how urban Black geographies have evolved between 1935-1985, this book is ideal reading for US History, African American History, Black Studies, Urban Studies, and Sociology.

Airic Hughes PhD is an entrepreneur, artist, philanthropist, and faculty member in the Department of History at the University of Arkansas.

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Ebook editions: \$20 / £14.99
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