8-2011

From Production to Consumption: Gentrification, Preservation, and the Uneven (Re)development of Pittsburgh's South Side

Nicholas Joseph Holdzkom

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Follow this and additional works at: http://knowledge.library.iup.edu/etd

Recommended Citation
http://knowledge.library.iup.edu/etd/1055

This Thesis is brought to you for free and open access by Knowledge Repository @ IUP. It has been accepted for inclusion in Theses and Dissertations (All) by an authorized administrator of Knowledge Repository @ IUP. For more information, please contact cclooser@iup.edu, sara.parme@iup.edu.
FROM PRODUCTION TO CONSUMPTION: GENTRIFICATION, PRESERVATION,
AND THE UNEVEN (RE)DEVELOPMENT OF PITTSBURGH’S SOUTH SIDE

A Thesis
Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies and Research
in Partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for the Degree
Master of Arts

Nicholas Joseph Holdzkom
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
August 2011
Indiana University of Pennsylvania  
School of Graduate Studies and Research  
Department of Geography and Regional Planning  

We hereby approve the thesis of  

Nicholas Joseph Holdzkom  

Candidate for the degree of Master of Arts  

_________________________  
Richard J. Hoch, Ph.D.  
Professor of Geography and Regional Planning,  
Advisor  

_________________________  
Robert B. Begg, Ph.D.  
Professor of Geography and Regional Planning  

_________________________  
Benjamin L. Ford, Ph.D.  
Professor of Anthropology  

ACCEPTED  

_________________________  
Timothy P. Mack, Ph.D.  
Dean  
School of Graduate Studies and Research  

iii
The city of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, is the result of more than 250 years of capitalist development. Pittsburgh’s South Side reflects the uneven economic development that has taken place during the city’s industrialization, deindustrialization, and gentrification. The South Side is now a space of service and recreation consumption, rather than a space of industrial production and accumulation. No longer a group of organic neighborhoods produced by local agents, it is now a space produced by non-local finance capital, aided by local public policy promoting historic preservation as a method of branding. The goal of this research is to show that contemporary gentrification in the South Side is part of a larger set of processes understood through neoliberalism and uneven development. This research contributes to the gentrification discourse and shows how historic preservation is now part of the gentrification process. This paper researches the geography of capitalism in an under-researched area.

Keywords: Gentrification, Uneven Development, Historic Preservation, Pittsburgh