GUIDE TO PRIMARY & SECONDARY SOURCES ON THE SUBURBANIZATION OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

FINDING AID

University of Maryland Department of American Studies
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Name of archive/collection/records: N/A

Date Range of archive/collection/records: N/A

Language of archive/collection/records: English

Background Information: The Department of American Studies at the University of Maryland centers its research around two large themes: the cultures of everyday life and cultural constructions of identity and difference. These themes simultaneously focus and connect the individual research programs of both faculty and students. On the periphery are several “lenses” through which we explore the central themes. Each of these lenses is comparable to an area of concentration with a particular set of questions and methodology. Faculty member Dr. Mary Corbin Sies publishes and teaches on the subject of suburbanization.

Summary and scope of archive/collection/records: N/A

Special Collections: N/A

Format of materials in archive/collection/records: N/A

Suburbanization Subject Terms within archive/collection/records: See publications and courses taught by Dr. Mary Corbin Sies

Access and Use: By appointment only
Open: Mon – Fri.

Contact: Mary Corbin Sies, PhD, Assistant Professor & Director of Undergraduate Studies
Telephone: 301-405-1354

Area of Expertise: Material culture studies, planning history, architectural history, urban/suburban history, and cultural and social history of the U.S. in the 19th and 20th centuries. Dr. Sies is an authority on American suburbs from 1850 to the present, particularly planned, exclusive suburbs and the material and cultural landscapes, values, and everyday lifeways established by their upper-middle class white residents. She has undertaken a collaborative project with historian Andrew Wiese of San Diego State University to investigate and map the relationships between black and white suburbs in North American metropolitan areas between 1900 and 1950. Professor Sies is interested in theorizing and studying issues of race, gender, class, space, and the domestic built environment and processes of community-building. She is actively rethinking the theory and practice of historic preservation to center on the tangible and intangible heritage of marginalized subgroups in the United States and on community-engaged scholarship.

Degrees: Ph.D. American Culture (University of Michigan, 1987), A.M. American Culture (University of Michigan, 1977); A.B. European History (Michigan State University, 1974)
Publications:

- “Greenbelt, Maryland: Beyond the Iconic Legacy” (with Isabelle Gournay), in Richard Longstreth, ed., *Housing Washington: Two Centuries of Tradition and Innovation*


**Courses Taught:**

- American Suburbia (undergraduate)
- Material Aspects of American Life (undergraduate)