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Civitas by Design: Building Better Communities, from the Garden City to the New Urbanism

By Howard Gillette

University of Pennsylvania Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Civitas by Design: Building Better Communities, from the Garden City to the New Urbanism, Howard Gillette, Since the end of the nineteenth century, city planners have aspired not only to improve the physical living conditions of urban residents but also to strengthen civic ties through better design of built environments. From Ebenezer Howard and his vision for garden cities to today's New Urbanists, these visionaries have sought to deepen civitas, or the shared community of citizens. In Civitas by Design, historian Howard Gillette, Jr., takes a critical look at this planning tradition, examining a wide range of environmental interventions and their consequences over the course of the twentieth century. As American reform efforts moved from progressive idealism through the era of government urban renewal programs to the rise of faith in markets, planners attempted to cultivate community in places such as Forest Hills Gardens in Queens, New York; Celebration, Florida; and the post-Katrina Gulf Coast. Key figures-including critics Lewis Mumford and Oscar Newman, entrepreneur James Rouse, and housing reformer Catherine Bauer-introduced concepts such as neighborhood units, pedestrian shopping malls, and planned communities that were implemented on a national scale. Many...



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