

Alternative property rights models and measures

Objective 2.2

To explore alternative property rights models and measures; community, societal and ecological benefits; and the challenges associated with the models. (131 minutes)

Reclaiming the Commons: Mobilizing to Secure Basic Needs

2.5 Read book review of Carving out the Commons with the same title.

Zanghi, Alexis. Review of Carving out the Commons, by Amanda Huron, Jacobin, March 26, 2018.

<https://www.jacobinmag.com/2018/03/carving-out-the-commons-review-cooperatives>

<https://www.jacobinmag.com/2018/03/carving-out-the-commons-review-cooperatives>

"Carving out the Commons" in a system dominated by private property is no easy task. This discussion of Amanda Huron's 2018 book witnesses the important mobilization and intersection of working class citizens, race and civil pressure politics for change, with supportive legal measures and access to government resources. It also issues a caution. Even substantial progress in reclaiming urban commons remains insecure, unless there is a legal form that protects the "commons" that has been reclaimed. This review of Carving out the Commons depicts the history of working class and African Americans in Washington DC organizing in solidarity to resist gentrification, and how they advance the commons through structuring "limited equity cooperatives." Keep close track of the community benefits generated and the vulnerabilities identified. To what extent might gender politics play a role here?