

ART, ARCHITECTURE & CAPITAL FLOWS

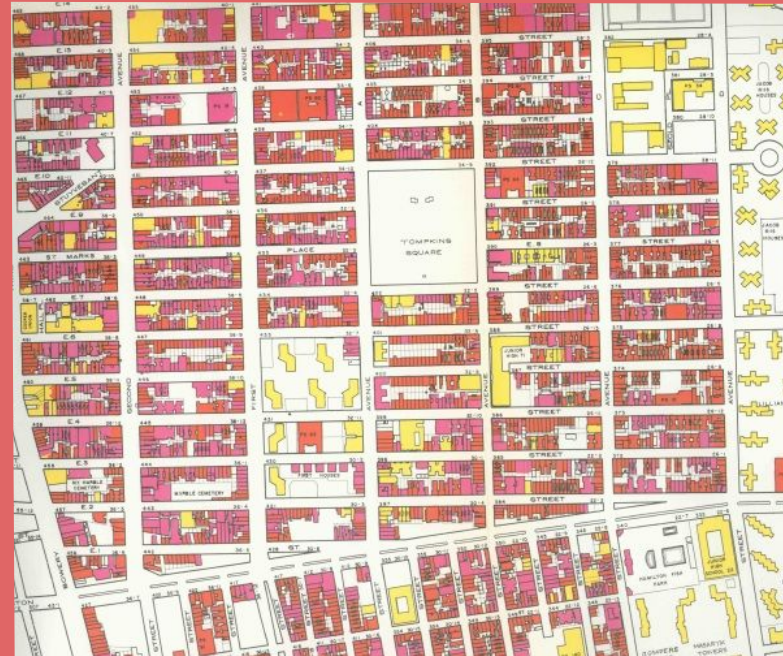
Stephen Zacks

4:00-5:30

30th May

**Barber Lecture Theatre
Barber Institute**

University of Birmingham





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Art, Architecture, and Capital Flows in the Ruins of New York

Based on seven years of research and more than 100 interviews with founders of institutions in Lower Manhattan from the 1960s through the 80s, this lecture re-examines the formation of artists' communities and generative aesthetic practices in New York City and their relation to capital formation and real estate development. Questioning the assumptions perpetuated by the formative example of SoHo in the 1970s, it brings into relief the planning and policy contexts and economic drivers that underpinned the transformation of New York City from the post-war era to today. Throughout this period, an argument emerged about the potential to think of culture as a form of embedded capital; the lecture looks at the limits of contemporary experiments in applying socially engaged design to intentionally reallocate resources in the absence of supportive state and local policies.