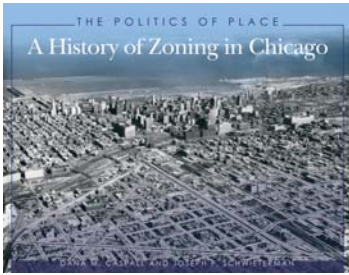


Reviews and Endorsements for



The Politics of Place

A History of Zoning in Chicago

By Joseph Schwieterman and Dana Caspall

“*The Politics of Place a History of Zoning in Chicago* is written by a highly credible team with impressive academic credentials and extensive practical experience. **The research for this book is thorough. The documentation is impressive.** Schwieterman and Caspall have given us extraordinary insight into the personality of Chicago’s creative leadership as well as the dynamic growth resulting from their efforts. Perhaps of greater significance, zoning is shown to be an important planning tool that is given the attention it deserves for the first time.”

—Miles Berger, author of *They Built Chicago, Entrepreneurs Who Shaped a Great City’s Architecture*

“A new book on urban planning, *The Politics of Place: A History of Zoning in Chicago*, is **not just for academics and urban planners**. It looks at the city’s development from the time of Ft. Dearborn through the aftermath of the Chicago Fire to the time the first limits were placed on building heights and into the 21st Century. **Lots of great historical photos**—one shows a nearly unbelievably jam-packed downtown intersection in 1909—are included in this book by Joseph P. Schwieterman and Dana M. Caspall.

—Terri Colby, *Chicago Tribune*, Books, April 2, 2006

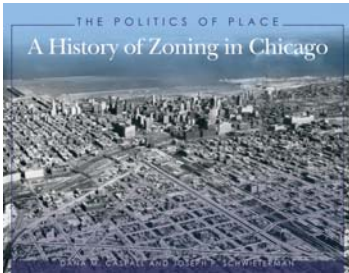
You probably don’t normally think of zoning as sexy. Your eyes flit over a headline about your city planning commission’s latest tussles over development and land use, and you don’t exactly hunker down to savor a captivating read, now, do you? You’re missing a hell of a drama.

Schwieterman and Caspall offer a dynamic look at how Chicago came to have its signature skyline and noteworthy neighborhood developments. Those of you who think it’s all about maps and ordinances and geeks with surveying equipment are overlooking the visionary zeal, rough-and-tumble politics, heated debate, and intense activism that comprise the forces of urban evolution. This is a lively, big-shouldered tale about the City of Big Shoulders, but **its depth of insight and attention to wide-ranging detail are a valuable general education on cities as living, growing, changing entities.**

A book of this sort is an ambitious task. Exploring the important historical events, technological innovations, competing needs for existing space, changing social issues, and resource stewardship that impact a major metropolitan area’s tourist appeal and quality of life could come with a built-in dare for a general readership: Try not to snore. No danger of that here. Leave it to the folks at Lake Claremont Press to present **an engaging, well-researched, photo-rich, eye-opening read that fascinates on many levels.**

—Jean Kozlowski, *Cricket in the Corner*, “Rich Legacies,” June 1, 2006

More Reviews and Endorsements for



The Politics of Place

A History of Zoning in Chicago

By Joseph Schwieterman and Dana Caspall

“**For people who love the city of Chicago** or who are interested in the intricate details of how cities are laid out to accommodate diverse activity, this book was meant for you. **This is a well written and thoroughly researched documentation of the history of zoning in the city of Chicago.** Zoning, regulations that separate residential and industrial activity, is a complex process whose idea germinated from Daniel Burnham’s 1909 Plan of Chicago, which supported the need for the city to control its cultural and economic identity. After years of planning and drafting, the Chicago City Council adopted the zoning ordinance on April 5, 1923, thus the beginning of the development of Chicago as we see it today.

As zoning needs changed in the 1950’s, planners sought to establish Chicago as a world-class city and used zoning to do just that. They began to promote high-rise, high-density office and residential development based on population forecasts which predicted dramatic growth in the city. As controversial as zoning became over the years, the city gained much experience in working with developers, residents, and grass-roots organizations that wanted a say in how their neighborhoods were being developed. Skyscrapers were shooting up everywhere and many were concerned they would smother the openness of the retail districts and views of the lake. Over the years, height and volume limits increased making Chicago what it is today, the architectural genius and much coveted work/leisure city of the world.

Published in 2006, *The Politics of Place: A History of Zoning in Chicago* gives a brief overview of the early development of Chicago from the time it incorporated as a village in 1833 through today. There are some interesting aerial views of the city as well as residential and commercial developments. **This would make a nice gift for an architectural historian or people who work in commercial or residential planning and development.”**

—Kathleen Dowdell, *Reader Views*, June 6, 2006

Also in Print

Daily Southtown, “Homegrown authors, local topics vie for attention,” April 2, 2006