PUBLIC PHENOMENA

Informal modifications of shared spaces





PUBLIC PHENOMENA

Introduction

Since Temporary Services' inception in 1998, we have taken an active interest in the vernacular culture found in publicly trafficked space. We have built a large archive of compelling phenomena that we photographed outdoors around Chicago and in other cities.

All of the photos in this booklet were taken in Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin between 1998 and 2005.

The photos in this booklet show:

Roadside Memorials: These are constructions that appear alongside interstate roads, intersections, and on sidewalks at the site of car accidents, murders, and other violent events. Though frequently erected in a temporary manner without permission, they often stay in situ for months or even years.

Parking Place Savers: It is a common behavioral trend in Chicago for many car-owners to place objects in the street to save their parking spaces after shoveling them out following snowstorms. This practice is illegal, however, even our current mayor has suggested that citizens respect the crap that their neighbors use to hold their spots. According to legend, those who move their neighbors' old chairs and junk to take their cleared parking space may risk extensive vandalism to their cars.

Block Club Signs: These striking signs appear largely on the West and South sides of Chicago and exist in numerous variations. Each sign welcomes visitors to a particular block and then outlines the things visitors are not permitted to do. These signs are often found in neighborhoods where police patrols may be ineffective or where it is hoped that people might respect their neighbors more than they respect the police.

Basketball Hoops: One often finds basketball hoops in Chicago alley ways and nailed to trees. These are primarily located in neighborhoods that are underserved by playgrounds and other recreational facilities for kids. A popular design features a plastic milk crate with its bottom removed in place of a hoop and a net.

Truck in Tree: The photo on the back cover is an anomaly. It was taken near Beloit, Wisconsin and we cannot explain what compelled a person to take their truck apart and rebuild it in a tree by the side of the road.

What is Temporary Services?

Temporary Services is a group of three: Brett Bloom, Marc Fischer, and Salem Collo-Julin. We are based in Chicago. You can find out more about our varied activities by writing us below, or looking at our website: www.temporaryservices.org. You can also email us at: servers@temporaryservices.org

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Steve C. Glazer Jr.













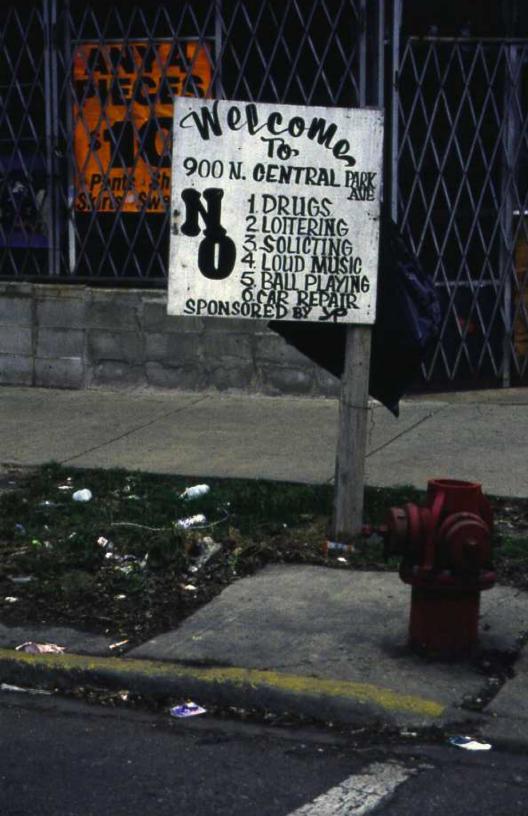


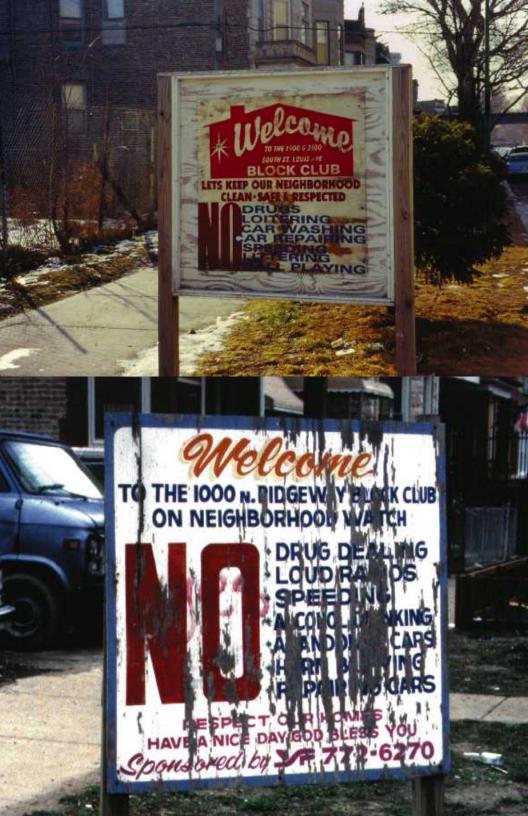
















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- KEEP OFF THE GRASS . NO CAR WASHING
- . NO BALL PLAYING
- NO CAR REPAIRING
- NO SPEEDING
- . NO LOUD MUSIC
- NO HORN BLOWING NO DOG CURBING

Welcome To The 800 N. HARDING BLOCK The Original Super Block

- 1. BALL PLAYING ON FRONT GRASS!
- 2. LOUD MUSIC!!
- 3. LITTERING!!
- 4. DRUGS !!!
- 5. DRINKING!!
- 7. CAR REPAIR!!
- 8. CAR WASHING

Thanking You In Advance,



YOU ARE NOW LEAVING the 8100 ST. LAWRENCE BLOCK

> WE ARE PROUD OF OUR BLOCK PLEASE KEEP IT CLEAN







