Commons Reading 2015 Resources and Opportunities: Neighborhoods and Gentrification

Interactive Maps
Echo Park: http://maps.latimes.com/neighborhoods/neighborhood/echo-park/

Edgehill or other Nashville neighborhoods: http://www.city-data.com/neighborhood/Edgehill-Nashville-TN.html

Racial Segregation in the U.S.: http://www.wired.com/2013/08/how-segregated-is-your-city-this-eye-opening-map-shows-you/

Gentrification

Echo Park
News articles (published in July and August 2015):

• Developers Flipping Rent-Controlled Echo Park Bungalow Site for $2.6M
  http://la.curbed.com/archives/2015/08/developers_flipping_rentcontrolled_echo_park_bungalow_site_for_26m.php

• Echo Park’s Very Own Blue Bottle Coffee Shop Opens Next Week
  http://laist.com/2015/07/30/blue_bottle_echo_park.php

• The Rest of the Story of a Now-Famous Echo Park Bungalow

• Echo Park Rising Announces 2015 Lineup (about new Echo Park music festival)

Documentaries:

• Echo Park Gang Injunction (short version, 3:17 min.) (Published on May 7, 2014)
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YsFapQxUUMc

In 2013, a Los Angeles County court issued a permanent gang injunction in Echo Park despite crime being at it’s lowest since the 1950’s. Youth CineMedia interviews one of the defendants of the injunction, Mike Contreras, who describes how a historical Latino community is being displaced by upper class "hipsters", and how generations of families can no longer afford to live in Echo Park and are being "pushed out."

Echo Park Gang Injunction (long version, 13:28 min.) (Published on Feb 19, 2015)
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pb9Wx_DSy-8
Chavez Ravine

Gentrification and Displacement of the Community
See p. 27 of *The Madonnas of Echo Park* for a reference to the Chavez Ravine neighborhood and “Aurora Salazar.”

The fictional Aurora Salazar references Aurora Vargas who was forcibly removed from her home before it was bulldozed. The neighborhood of Chavez Ravine became the home of the Dodgers Stadium.

- **History of Chavez Ravine**  
  [http://www.kcet.org/updaily/socal_focus/history/la-as-subject/history-of-chavez-ravine.html](http://www.kcet.org/updaily/socal_focus/history/la-as-subject/history-of-chavez-ravine.html)

- **Documentary: Chavez Ravine (23:40min)**  
  [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hd7YJ1FVZK0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hd7YJ1FVZK0)  
  The complex story of the displacement and razing of the community to build a public housing project, which was scrapped to build the Dodgers Stadium. Local politics meet Cold War politics: one of the leaders behind the new housing project was ousted, accused of communist ties, and jailed as plans for the stadium were developed. The documentary shows Aurora Vargas’ removal from her home.

Edgehill

Organized Neighbors of Edgehill  
[www.edgehillcommunity.org/](http://www.edgehillcommunity.org/)

Edgehill Neighborhood Map:  

Resource page about “livability” of Nashville neighborhoods  

What does and doesn’t such a page tell us about a particular neighborhood? Who is such a site designed to serve?