**CAPSTONE** 

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**RESEARCH QUESTIONS** 

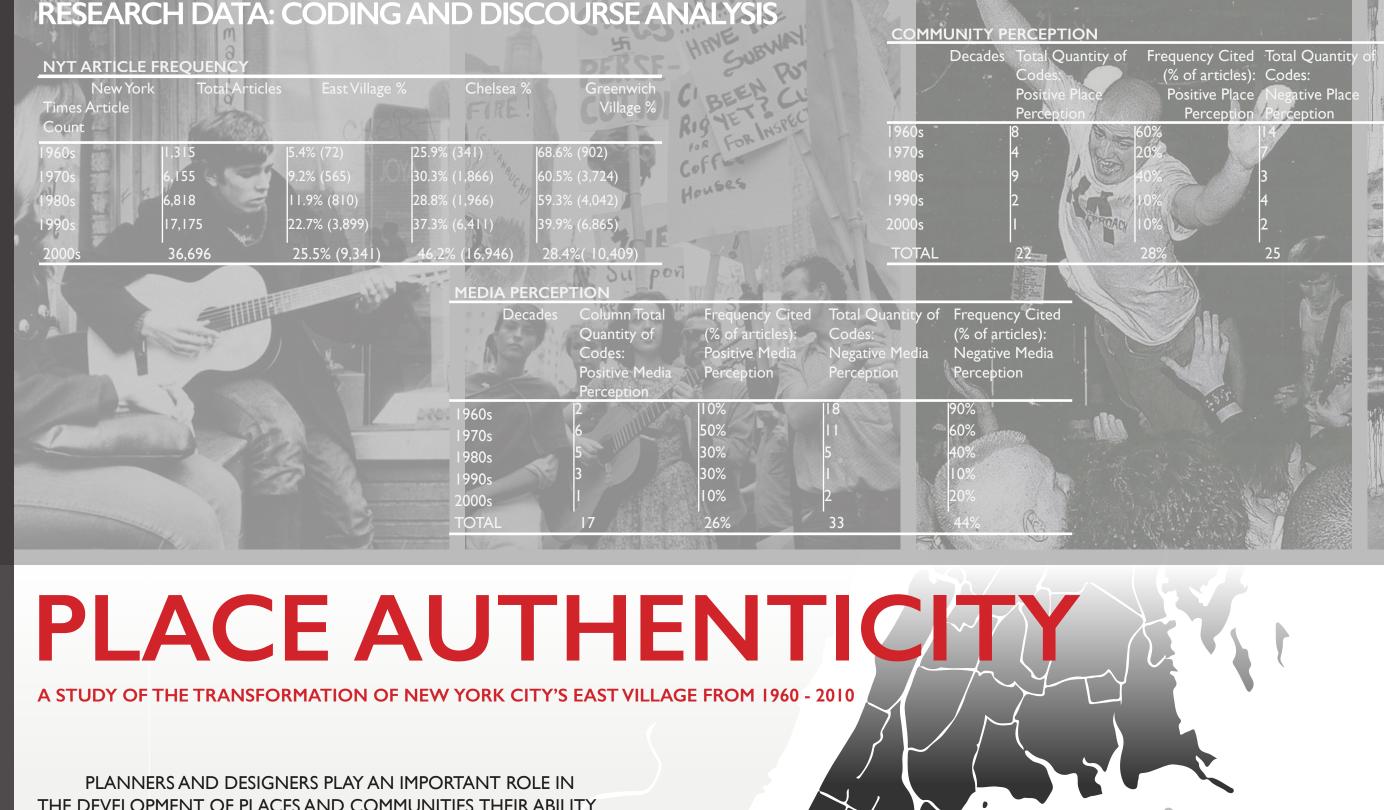
I. HOW HAS THE OVERALL PLACE IDENTITY OF THE EAST VILLAGE TRANSFORMED BETWEEN 1960 TO 2010? A.WHAT WERE THE PREEXISTING **CHARACTERISTICS OF** THE EAST VILLAGE'S PLACE **IDENTITY AROUND 1960?** 

**B.WHAT ARE THE CONTEMPORARY CHARACTERISTICS OF** THE EAST VILLAGE'S PLACE **IDENTITY?** 

C. HOW HAS THE NEW YORK TIMES NEWSPAPER PORTRAYED THE EAST VILLAGE WITHIN THEIR **NEWS ARTICLES BETWEEN** 1960-2010?

D. HAS THE FREQUENCY IN THE NEW YORK TIMES COVERAGE OF THE EAST VILLAGE **CHANGED BETWEEN** 1960-2010? IF SO, WHICH **DECADES EXPERIENCED** A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE OR DECREASE IN MEDIA COVERAGE?

2. HOW ARE ZUKIN AND THE NEW YORK TIMES' PERCEPTIONS OF THE **EAST VILLAGE THE SAME** OR DIFFERENT? WHAT DO THEIR RESPECTIVE INTERPRETATIONS **TELL US ABOUT THE AUTHENTICITY (OR LACK** THEREOF) OF THE EAST VILLAGE?



THE DEVELOPMENT OF PLACES AND COMMUNITIES. THEIR ABILITY TO RELATE TO PLACES AND COMMUNITIES IS CRUCIAL FOR ESTABLISHING NEW ENVIRONMENTS THAT ACCURATELY ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF ITS INHABITANTS. DESPITE THEIR ABILITIES TO UNDERSTAND AND EVALUATE A VARIETY OF ENVIRONMENTS, SOME PLANNERS AND DESIGNERS OVERLOOK AUTHENTICITY OR DO NOT CAPTURE ITS FULL POTENTIAL WITHIN THEIR ENVIRONMENTAL INTERVENTIONS. THIS CAPSTONE ARGUES THE IMPORTANCE OF AUTHENTICITY WITHIN BOTH THE PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL ENVIRONMENT AS IT DIRECTLY INFLUENCES THE DESIRABILITY OF A PLACE IN ADDITION TO IMPACTING THE PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL EXPERIENCES AND THE COMMUNITY'S SENSE OF BELONGING.

NEW YORK CITY'S, EAST VILLAGE, HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED BY AUTHOR AND SOCIOLOGY PROFESSOR, SHARON ZUKIN AS A NEIGHBOURHOOD THAT HAS RECENTLY DECLINED IN AUTHENTICITY. OVER THE COURSE OF FIVE DECADES, THE EAST VILLAGE HAS SHIFTED AWAY FROM ITS IDENTITY AS A PREDOMINANTLY IMMIGRANT COMMUNITY HOUSED WITHIN 19TH AND 20TH-CENTURY ARCHITECTURE — THE EPICENTRE OF VARIOUS ART, PUNK, AND COUNTER-CULTURE MOVEMENTS IN NEW YORK CITY. TODAY, IT IS QUESTIONABLE WHETHER THESE 1960S CHARACTERISTICS STILL REMAIN WITHIN THE EAST VILLAGE.

THIS CAPSTONE ANALYZES THE EXPERIENTIAL AND CHARACTERISTIC CHANGES THROUGHOUT THE EAST VILLAGE BETWEEN 1960 AND 2010 USING THE PORTRAYALS OF BOTH SHARON ZUKIN AND THE NEW YORK TIMES NEWSPAPER. THE STUDY REVEALS A NUMBER OF CHANGES AND LOSSES TO THE EAST VILLAGE'S ORIGINAL CHARACTER AND EXPERIENTIAL QUALITY, PARTICULARLY IN THE LATTER HALVES OF THE 1960S AND 1980S. DURING THESE PERIODS OF CHANGE, THE COMMUNITY'S PERCEPTION OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD ALTERED FROM POSITIVE TO NEGATIVE. THE NEIGHBOURHOOD CHANGES BETWEEN 1960-2010 ALSO LED TO THE DECLINE AND DISPLACEMENT OF ORIGINAL COMMUNITY MEMBERS. FOR THOSE CURRENTLY REMAINING IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD, THE COMBINATION OF COMMUNITY AND PLACE LOSS HAS LIKELY DECREASED THEIR OVERALL ROOTEDNESS AND SENSE OF BELONGING WITHIN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD.



AST VILLAGE PUNK MOVEMENT (1970s)

**FIGURE 8. SECOND AVENUE IN** THE EAST VILLAGE (2010s)

**AUTHENTICITY IS AN EVER-**FLUID CONCEPT THAT DIRECTLY **INFLUENCES THE DESIRABILITY OF** A PLACE AND CAN SIGNIFICANTLY **IMPACT THE PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL EXPERIENCES ALONG** WITH THE COMMUNITY'S SENSE OF **BELONGING WITHIN.** 

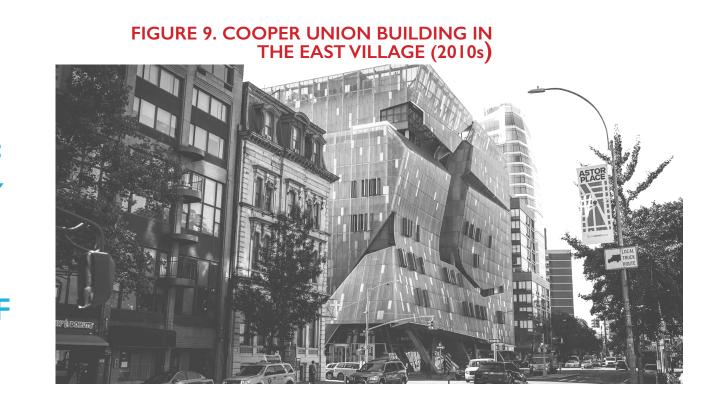


TABLE - COMPARISON OF THE EAST VILLAGE PORTRAYALS: 1960 - 2000

ABSENT CHARACTERISTIC

RE 4, THE EAST VILLAGE ART SCENE (198

PRESENT CHARACTERISTIC

**SHARON ZUKIN** 

NEW CHARACTERISTIC

COMMONALITIES

('60s) Lower income demographic

('60s) Immigrant demographic

5 (50%) 9 (50%) 11 (60%)

30 (40%)

**NEW YORK TIMES** 

('60s) Puerto Ricans

('60s) African Americans

('60s) Caucasian Americar

('70s) Apolitical Outcasts

('60s) Immigrant cultures

drugs, violence, and crime ('70s) Creative Culture ('70s) Sense of Community

('60s) Lack of Cleanliness

('60s) Ethnic Restaurants

('60s) Homeless encampments

(2000s) High-Rise Structures

'80s) Community Displacement '80s) Stronger contrast between

('80s) Divisions between the new and ol

(60s) Community disconnection caused by

('60s) Europeans

('60s) Jewish

('60s) Artists

('60s) Writers

('90s) LGBTQ

('70s) Punks

CE CREATION CODE CITATIONS

52 (44%) 43 (36%)

52 (36%) 191 (32%)

**EAST VILLAGE COMMUNITY,** CHARACTERISTICS, AND INFLUENCES

**COMMUNITY INSIDERS** 

**COMMUNITY OUTSIDERS** 

('60s) Puerto Ricans ('70s) Punks EAST 14TH STRE

('70s) Rockers

(2000s) Young Women

PLACE CHARACTERISTICS: SOCIAL EXPERIENCE

(2000s) Hipsters

(2000s) Foodies

('60s) Decline and disinvestment ('80s) Safe Place for Social Outcast

PLACE CHARACTERISTICS: (60s) Lower Quality Housing PHYSICAL EXPERIENCE

(60s) Locally Owned Businesses (2000s) Upscale Housing

**EXTERNAL INFLUENCES** 

('90s) Municipal Government Branding

('60s) Homeless ('70s) Community Activists

(2000s) Upper-middle Class (2000s) Young Upper-Middle Class Families (2000s) Asians (2000s) Hipsters

(60s) Community Protests (about gentrification)
(60s) Political Conflicts (about gentrification) (\*60s) Social Class Conflict

(160s) Ethnic group conflict (2000s) Stronger contrast between the affluent and the less affluent social classes (2000s) Entertainment place for upper-middle class

(2000s) Nighttime activity ('60s) Simple and modest structures ('60s) Affordable

(60s) Locally Owned Business ('60s) Commercial Longevity ('60s) Gritty ('60s) Decline and disinvestment

('80s) Art Galleries (1905) Upscale Designer Clothing Stories

(2000s) Trendy restaurants (Upscale)
(2000s) Flourishing Development and Economic Activity (2000s) Cafés (2000s) Hotels (2000s) Multinational Commercial Businesses (2000s) Luxury Housing

('60s) Increased Law Enforcement ('80s) Media (positive perception of East Village) ('90s) Municipal Government Interventions (2000s) Developers

('80s) Developers ('90s) Fluctuations in the New York Economy

FIGURE 10 WITHIN THEIR ANALYSIS OF THE EAST VILLAGE, ZUKIN AND THE NEW YORK TIMES IDENTIFIED A

THE EXTERNAL INFLUENCES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- THE NEIGHBOURHOOD'S PROXIMITY TO DOWNTOWN MANHATTAN;
- THE EXPANSION OF THE NEW YORK UNIVERSITY CAMPUS;
- THE INCREASINGLY COMPETITIVE DOWNTOWN REAL ESTATE AND HOUSING MARKETS; THE ARRIVAL OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD'S TRENDY ART SCENE IN THE 1980S;

VARIETY OF EXTERNAL INFLUENCES THAT HAD PRESUMABLY IMPACTED THE CHARACTERISTICS AND

EXPERIENCES OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD THROUGHOUT THE LATTER HALF OF THE 20TH CENTURY.

THE INFLUX OF TRENDY BOUTIQUE STORES, CAFÉS, BARS, AND RESTAURANTS; AND 7) THE INCREASED LAW ENFORCEMENT.

THE EXISTENCE OF THE ORIGINAL COMMUNITY AND THE NEIGHBOURHOOD CHARACTERISTICS FROM THE 1960S HAVE CONTINUED TO INTO THE 2000S. AN APPARENT TREND OF COMMUNITY DISPLACEMENT OCCURRED BETWEEN THE 1980S AND THE 2000S. ONLY REMNANTS OF THE ORIGINAL COMMUNITY WHO LIVED IN THE FEW REMAINING LOW-COST HOUSING OR THOSE WHO COULD AFFORD THE HIGHER RENTS IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD COULD MAINTAIN THEIR PLACE WITHIN. IF THESE DISPLACEMENT TRENDS CONTINUE INTO THE FUTURE, IT SUGGESTS THAT THE ORIGINAL COMMUNITY IN THE EAST VILLAGE WILL AT SOME POINT BECOME FULLY DISPLACED. AS FOR THOSE CURRENTLY REMAINING IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD, THE COMBINATION OF COMMUNITY AND PLACE LOSS HAS LIKELY DECREASED THEIR OVERALL ROOTEDNESS AND SENSE OF BELONGING WITHIN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD.

I) THE VARIOUS INITIATIVES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW YORK CITY;