

From Urban Village to
East Village

The Battle for New York's Lower East Side

Janet L. Abu-Lughod and others



BLACKWELL
Oxford UK & Cambridge USA

Contents

List of Plates	vii
List of Illustrations	viii
List of Tables	x
Acknowledgments	xiii
A Note about the Contributors	xv
INTRODUCTION	
<i>Janet Abu-Lughod</i>	1
1 Welcome to the Neighborhood	
<i>Janet Abu-Lughod</i>	17
PART I THE PAST IS STILL THERE	
<i>Janet Abu-Lughod</i>	41
2 The Changing Economy of the Lower East Side	
<i>Jan Chien Lin</i>	43
3 The Tenement as a Built Form	
<i>Richard Plunz and Janet Abu-Lughod</i>	63
4 A History of Tompkins Square Park	
<i>Marci Reaven and Jeanne Houck</i>	81
5 Déjà Vu: Replanning the Lower East Side in the 1930s	
<i>Suzanne Wasserman</i>	99

PART II THE PROCESS OF GENTRIFICATION

- Janet Abu-Lughod* 121
- 6** Neighborhood 'Burn-out': Puerto Ricans at the End of the Queue
Christopher Mele 125
- Appendix:** The Other Side of the Coin: Culture in Loisaida
Mario Maffi 141
- 7** From Disinvestment to Reinvestment: Mapping the Urban 'Frontier' in the Lower East Side
Neil Smith, Betsy Duncan, and Laura Reid 149
- 8** The Process of Gentrification in Alphabet City
Christopher Mele 169
- 9** Public Action: New York City Policy and the Gentrification of the Lower East Side
William Sites 189

PART III CONTESTING COMMUNITY: THE ISSUES AND THE PROTAGONISTS

- Janet Abu-Lughod* 213
- 10** A Resident's View of Conflict on Tompkins Square Park
Diana R. Gordon 217
- 11** The Battle for Tompkins Square Park
Janet Abu-Lughod 233
- 12** The Residents in Tompkins Square Park
Dorine Greshof and John Dale 267
- 13** The Squatters: A Chorus of Voices . . . But Is Anyone Listening?
Andrew Van Kleunen 285
- 14** Defending the Cross-Subsidy Plan: The Tortoise Wins Again
Janet Abu-Lughod 313

CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

- Janet Abu-Lughod* 335

- Bibliography** 355

- Index** 375