Two Tales of a City: Rebuilding Chicago’s Architectural and Social Landscape, 1986-2005

by Gail Satler


The two halves of Gail Satler’s book are two case studies of urban change: one in the neighborhood of the area around the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) and the other in the Old Town neighborhood of Chicago. Each case study is based on a thorough review of the architectural and social landscape of the area, and both studies provide valuable insights into the ways in which urban change occurs.

In the first case study, Satler examines the changes that occurred in the IIT neighborhood, which was once a predominantly African American community but has now become a largely Hispanic neighborhood. She describes the ways in which the presence of the university has changed the character of the neighborhood, and she discusses the challenges that have arisen as a result of these changes.

In the second case study, Satler explores the changes that occurred in Old Town, a neighborhood that has a long history of cultural and intellectual significance. She describes the ways in which the neighborhood has been transformed by the influx of students and faculty from the university, and she discusses the ways in which the area has changed as a result of these changes.

Satler’s book is a valuable resource for anyone interested in urban change, and it provides a rich understanding of the ways in which architectural and social landscapes can be transformed over time. It is a must-read for anyone interested in the history of Chicago, and it is a valuable addition to the literature on urban change.
1986-2005 looks like an interesting read, and has a forward Chicago's redevelopment machine and blues clubs in
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