Suburbia - Suburban Growth in Modern America
By: System Administrator On: 2014-04-12 12:30 (42762 Reads)
The growth of the suburbs (50s-60s)

1950
20% of Americans lived in suburbs
40% in central cities
40% in small towns and rural areas

2000
50% in suburbs
30% in central cities
20% in small towns and rural areas

Terms

- Decentralization
- Exurbs
- Edge Cities
- Counter-urbanization

Reasons

- white flight
- automobile - highways (decentralizes cities)
- Coming home from WWII, higher TFRs - people having families and wanting cheap housing
- Getting away from the pollution, noise and industry of the 1950s city
- Income segregation (exclusionary zoning)

Design Features

- Automobile
- most trips require the car
- single-use zoning
- parking lots
- Houses
- detached or further apart
- the same (zoned - exclusionary zoning - same income)
- winding streets with cul-de-sacs that often dead end (lowers traffic in the subdivision - push all of the traffic to one or two roads)
- Cannot walk - designed around auto
- More horizontal (parking lots not garages, office parks, malls, strip malls, two-story homes) Sprawl
- Lack alleys
- Driveways
- Chain stores, big box stores, more corporate
- Less ethnic, less ethnic businesses
- Chicago-New Urbanism = pedestrian // Sprawl = only offers the ability to drive
- retaining ponds
- pushes into farmland
- leapfrog