Taking back property at GW
Taking back property in the district
Introduction

TAKING BACK PROPERTY AT GW
A STUDENT GUIDE TO
GW, CAPITALISM, AND YOU:
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FALL 2014
PRIVATE PROPERTY

INTRODUCTION

PRIVATE PROPERTY, AND WHY IT MATTERS

SHANNON MIKLE

PRIVATE PROPERTY

TRESPASSING

No

PRIVATE PROPERTY
We can start by seeing our immediate school community and campus as grounding for taking back property through and campus as grounds for taking back community, commoning—practicing ownership and social engagement for the good of everyone involved (and even for those who are not!).

The purpose of this zine is inspire your imagination and motivation. In articles, community profiles and interviews, we examine and discuss existing examples of community/commune ownership, in DC and GW. We hope that you will take this project into your own hands and make commoning the norm on campus—what ever ways you are able.

Creating a commons without resulting in “tragedy” is the result of creating shared access, in which use of the commons is negotiated by the community, with care and responsibility for it being assumed by community members, in order to benefit the community or beyond. Although the idea of taking back private property and sharing it amongst a community seems to be in contradiction of the ideals of modern day democracy, it may allow for more democratic use of space by allowing those who are affected by the space’s use beyond the owner to have a say in how they think the space should be maintained.

What happens when you take apart private property and allow the community at large to reap the benefits? According to economists Garrett Hardin, a great tragedy would happen. The individuals, each acting in their own self-interest by exploiting the “commons”, behave contrary to the group’s long term best interests and destroys that which sustained them. This can occur not only within resources like water, air, but also language, education, health, and scientific advancements. The goal of taking back property is not to lead to a version of everyone’s tragedy, however. It is to create a common space, connected with rules and guidelines by the community members that benefit from it.
Community Gardening in DC:

Local Initiative Profile

In fact, many such cooperatives and worker-owned businesses thrive in D.C. Here is a look at a few of them.

Community Gardens: Building Resilience and Community in the City

Community gardens are a powerful way to foster resilience and community in urban environments. They provide opportunities for residents to come together, learn new skills, and grow fresh food. Gardens can also serve as neighborhood gathering places, promoting social cohesion and environmental sustainability.

Taking Back Property

Larger Community Ownership/Community-Managed in Our DC:

There are many ways of "taking back property," and they do not only involve the collective ownership of resources.
Cooperative Housing in DC

Cooperative Housing Initiative in DC

Neighborhood Farm Initiative

Local food banks and families are producing 8,000 pounds of fresh produce from their gardens, which are donated to help the community and those in need. The gardens are a space for people to come together and share their experiences.

The garden helps foster the community and bring people together.
There are many ways of "taking back property," and they do not only involve the collectivization of resources or physical property. Private businesses and entities have refused traditional modes of private ownership and management for profit, by coming together through mutual needs, interest, care, and working on the basis of "cooperation." Profits and benefits are distributed within their business community, and those outside as well. In fact, many such cooperatives and worker-owned businesses thrive in D.C. Here is a look at a few of them.

The Torpedo Factory Art Center, located in Alexandria along the Potomac, has taken over an abandoned munitions plant for the sake of art and community building. They provide 82 studios, two workshops, and a system of six galleries, all of which are publicly accessible. In fact, it is the largest collection of publicly accessible working artists studios in the U.S. All the economic and non-economic benefits, as well as liabilities of the center are shared equally among the members and involved artists. An example of one of their galleries is Multiplex Exposure. It is a cooperative art gallery of 13 photographers, who come from all over the country and world. It is an art space produced in the local community. The community benefits from the free space given to them for the production of their art.

Dream City Collective is a worked-owned clothing and bookstore that provides both used and new items, while also hosting and promoting educational and community events, raising the spirits of taking back property for the community. In this store, workers equally own and control their own business, but members of the community who come to visit the collective can attend the meetings that can extend regular shifts to people beyond worker control. The goal is to effect the community beyond worker control. They have also pledged to allow the neighborhood to use of their facilities to help support the growth of new cooperatives.

WPFW is a radio station operated by the Washington Peace Center which is a grassroots organization focused on working for peace and social justice. The station helps to provide the Washington Peace Center with the resources and tools to help "radiate" the creative energy of the community in the area of radio and music and produce the program "Arts of Resistance". The station also provides programming that helps to serve the community, particularly the neighborhood where it is located. It is a benefit: a community-organized, grassroots radio station that helps to create a sense of community and feel that they are all owners of those airwaves and have the ability to get their ideas spread.
The property will offer green, shared, and community-owned space. The development will also include a community center, which will serve as a hub for community events, meetings, and gatherings. The community center will be designed to be a place for residents to come together and enjoy a variety of activities, including yoga, art classes, and other community events.

The development will also feature a community garden, which will provide residents with fresh, locally grown produce. The garden will be managed by a community committee and will be open to all residents. The garden will also be used to teach residents about sustainable gardening practices.

In addition to the community center and garden, the development will also feature a community library, which will be stocked with a variety of books and resources. The library will be open to all residents and will be staffed by volunteers.

The development will also feature a community playground, which will provide children with a safe and fun place to play. The playground will be designed to be inclusive and will feature a variety of equipment, including swings, slides, and climbing structures.

Overall, the development will be designed to be an inclusive and welcoming community space, which will provide residents with a variety of opportunities to connect with one another and to enjoy a range of activities and services.
The Internet as a Commons

Knowledge Commons & Open Access Ownership

Opinion Illustration by Andrew

Opinion Piece

In the internet we trust. We would expect our multiplex, and we do. But the opportunities are enormous. The Internet is a complex, interdependent network of interconnected nodes. The more we explore, the more we realize that the Internet is not just a collection of nodes, but a living, breathing ecosystem. The Internet is not just a tool, but a fundamental part of our society. It is a medium through which we communicate, learn, work, and play. The Internet is a commons, a space where we can all contribute and benefit.

The Internet is a commons, a space where we can all contribute and benefit. It is a space where we can learn from each other, share knowledge, and work together to create something greater than ourselves. The Internet is a place where we can all be equal, where we can all have a voice. It is a space where we can all be free to express ourselves, to communicate, and to learn. The Internet is a commons, a space where we can all be connected, and where we can all be free.
Dorm Commoning

Nick

A creative approach towards community ownership on campus.

"Taking back property" is already happening in the GW community on our school campus. There are a small number of progressive student-led initiatives working to strengthen human relations on and off-campus. The University has imported through commoning and community ownership-based practices. Here are two: The University has introduced laundromats and traveler's nurseries but we believe that these student-powered projects in academic buildings can go nearly anywhere they want to inside of all the dorms, cleaning their places in the sink, and those who could not clean the amount of people who could in the small kitchen began spreading across the whole dorm. Proper use of one person whose the door property is to take back the economy. The access to the dorm property is also for the dorms are community-owned. Years of their lives, the dorms are integral parts of their rooms, and owned by people who see the college dorms in institutional run and nomadic by college students. As a consequence, the campus was the education and public resource that the campus was.

The next day, the same students were next door; this time getting to their own dorm and stop by when they walked by. The next day, the same students were next door; this time getting to their own dorm and stop by when they walked by.

The cups are still dripping, water stained on an old locker.

Nick
community garden. So would not call it a "community garden," but I would call it a "community green." I would say that the green is part of the community garden, but it is also part of the overall community. I think that the green is an important part of the community, and it is something that we should be proud of.

How do you feel about the gardens relationship with the

Do the gardens embody principles of community/cooperative ownership?

Yes, the gardens do embody the principles of community/cooperative ownership. They are run by the community, and the community makes decisions about what goes on in the gardens. The gardens are open to everyone, and anyone can join and participate in the activities. The gardens are also used for education, with workshops and classes being offered.

What do you do about the gardens operations? How is it

The gardens are self-sufficient and are run by the community. The community is responsible for all aspects of the gardens operations, from planting and tending the plants, to managing the finances and maintaining the garden. The community also has a committee that oversees the gardens and ensures that everything is running smoothly.

GW Community Garden

Community Garden Resource for Community Benefit

Services Center

The ALEC is a multi-cultural student organization that works to promote diversity and inclusion on campus. It is located on the first floor of the Student Union Building, and it is open to all students.

The difference on campus is that the GCF office is not as visible as the ALEC office. The GCF office is located on the second floor of the Student Union Building, and it is open to all students.

The ALEC is a student organization that promotes diversity and inclusion on campus. It is located on the first floor of the Student Union Building, and it is open to all students.

The GW Community Garden is a community garden that is run by the community. It is located on the campus of George Washington University, and it is open to all students.

The GW Community Garden is a great resource for community benefit. It provides a space for people to come together and work on community projects. It also provides a space for people to learn about sustainability and environmental issues.
So what can we as individuals, or organized groups of students, do? The key thing that must happen is to develop a sense of community. In all of the cases described it is as simple as going out and establishing human connections and friendships, and devoting awareness to the environment. If people can meet and care about each other, property will continue to be taken back. And it will start small. With people banding together to form bonds in apartment buildings or neighborhoods it can then become ingrained in society. We will see a development of city-wide, even nation-wide commons, where together we can share knowledge, property, and community. With consideration for the Earth around us.

We hope that you will take this project into your own hands and make community ownership the norm where you are right now: GW, and the wider D.C. community it exists in.

6. Reclaiming student commons on campus:

3. Student-driven reform of the Grow Garden:

1. Common bank of bikes for GW Students:

2. GW Housing: Upcycling & "Hand-me-down" Programs:

- Students clean out and donate un-usable materials for the benefit of all students.
- Starting: Students can trade furniture to students.
- GW Housing in exchange for a small amount of GW housing fee, which could then be sold to incoming students at the same GW rate.

- GW students can "hand-me-down".

Some Project Ideas: Check it!

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