



Thursday, March 9, 2017, 4:00 p.m., CHC

The Suburb in American Culture – The Suburb in Silicon Valley

Lawrence Coates, author and Professor at Bowling Green State University, Ohio

Beginning in the post-World War II era, housing development in the Santa Clara Valley has largely been on the suburban model – communities of homes within a linear parkland. While the original suburbs were designed with near utopian ends, as a combination of the benefits of urban living with the charms of nature, they have frequently been denounced as a "Geography of Nowhere," a place where the traditional connections of community life have been lost. Novelist Lawrence Coates will discuss the origins of suburban space that lay deep within American culture, and also how those have played out in present-day Silicon Valley, based on the research that underpinned his latest novel, *The Goodbye House*.