

## **LeeAnn Lands**

LeeAnn Lands is Associate Professor of History and American Studies at Kennesaw State University. Her research, writing and public scholarship focuses on housing and spatial inequality and housing cultures in the 20<sup>th</sup> century U.S. south. Her book, *The Culture of Property: Race, Class, and Housing Landscapes in Atlanta, 1880-1950*, will be published by the University of Georgia Press in November 2009.

Lands is currently investigating grassroots housing rights actions since 1945, including tenant rights and fair/open housing movements. She is also working with Emmaus House/The Lokey Center in the Peopletown neighborhood of downtown Atlanta to document that institution's advocacy on behalf of clients and the neighborhood and on-going work combating inequality.

Lands works closely with undergraduate students on inquiry-based projects investigating place and community in American life. In January 2008, she and an interdisciplinary group of undergraduate researchers launched The Housing Projects, a long-term initiative that facilitates research, analysis, and interpretation of metropolitan housing and cultures; fosters undergraduate research, collaborative and community-based inquiry; and assesses learning and professional outcomes of undergraduate research in the humanities. In 2008-09, The Housing Projects student-researchers investigated such things as how people read visual cues in shopping for neighborhoods in the Atlanta suburbs.

In 2006-07, Lands and a small group of alumni and undergraduate students launched Taking Place I: A Community Examination of its Place, a project investigating how place and community were realized in South Rome, Powder Springs, and the Highway 5 corridor (Woodstock to Canton). The group produced a series of radio documentaries available at [www.taking-place.org](http://www.taking-place.org). From 2003 to 2005, she, students, and alumni documented and interpreted the historically black neighborhood of Summer Hill in Cartersville, Georgia (see [www.summer-hill.org](http://www.summer-hill.org)).

Lands was a finalist for the Kennesaw State University Distinguished Teaching Award in 2006. With her students and Melissa Massey, she was the winner of the Georgia Board of Regents Prize for Excellence in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning for The Summer Hill Project. She is a KSU representative to Imagining America: Artists and Scholars in Public Life, a member of the Board of Directors of the Urban History Association, and a Councilor for the Arts and Humanities for the Council on Undergraduate Research.