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## Gentrification

A process whereby new urban gentry occupy and transform working-class quarters in urban areas. Defined in the 1960s by sociologist Ruth Glass, it has evolved rapidly in scale and diversity. It encompasses the transition of inner-city quarters from relative poverty and restricted property investment to **commodification** and reinvestment. Not only is it associated with a distinctive **landscape** of urban renovation and renaissance but it is a significant dimension of contemporary urbanism. It is commonly associated with the establishment and rise of festive (see **Events**), **leisure** and tourism **space**, but may in turn exclude poorer urban residents.

JSA