

BUILDING THE COMMUNE

SUMMER//FALL
DISCUSSION SERIES

AUG 20 | FROM INSURRECTION TO REVOLUTION

Reading from "First Revolutionary Measures" with a listening component from episode two of the "It Could Happen Here" podcast titled "The Revenge of Rural America."

AUG 27 | THE CONSEQUENCES OF FRAGMENTATION FOR BUILDING A REVOLUTIONARY FORCE

Presentation on the meaning of revolution when the very order that revolutionaries would fight against - liberal democracy - is coming apart.

SET 03 | "HOT" CIVIL WAR: NO MORE UNITED STATES

Episodes 1, 2, 3, and 5 of the It Could Happen Here podcast about what an open civil war would look like in the US.

SEP 10 | POLICING, WARFARE, AND INSURGENT POSSIBILITY

"What is Policing?" and "Tactical Terrain Analysis: a How-To Guide" by anarchist theorist Tom Nomad.

SEP 17 | ENVISIONING DESTITUTION AND COMPOSITION IN CHICAGO STRUGGLES

Readings from Kristen Ross' "The Long 1960s and 'The Wind from the West'" and "The ZAD and NO TAV" by Mauvaise Troupe Collective. Our aim will be to discuss potential struggles in Chicago (e.g. against development in the city) in terms of destituent composition.

OCT 01 | BOOMTOWN CHICAGO: FINANCE, GRAIN, AND THE POLITICS OF CAPITAL

Selected excerpts from William Cronon's famous history of Chicago, "Natures Metropolis".

OCT 15 | GANGS, COPS, AND THE LEFT: A CHICAGO APPARATUS?

"Blackstone Rangers: U.S. Experiment Using 'Gangs' to Repress Black Community Rebellion" & "If you don't close down, the mortar between the bricks will be blood" by j. sakai and Toussaint Losier, respectively.

NOV 12 | "ROBERT TAYLOR HOMES" AND THE POLITICS OF 1980S CHICAGO HOUSING

Readings TBA. Our discussion will focus on the history of public housing amidst the rise of neoliberalism and the withdrawal of revolutionary politics in Chicago.

NOV 26 | 'WOMEN DON'T STICK TOGETHER': IN THE SHADOW OF 'ORGANIZED' RESISTANCE

Presentation on the potential and limits of resistance in the women's division at Cook County Jail, considering the tensions between the politics of survival/the everyday and the politics of organized mobilization.

DEC 10 | INFRASTRUCTURE AND INSURRECTION IN CHICAGO TODAY

Join us to discuss city planning, real estate, squatting, and the next market crash. Readings are TBA.

DEC 17 | COLLECTIVE RESEARCH DISCUSSION ON CHICAGO'S INSURRECTIONARY HISTORIES

Join us for a round-table style discussion amongst BTC participants as we talk about our research into Chicago's assemblage of infrastructures and the histories of rebellion.