





GEOGRAPHISCHES
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Von der Wohnbiografie zur politischen Biografie — Der Kampf für Wohngerechtigkeit in Zeiten der Krise

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Gliederung

I. Fallbeispiel Washington, DC

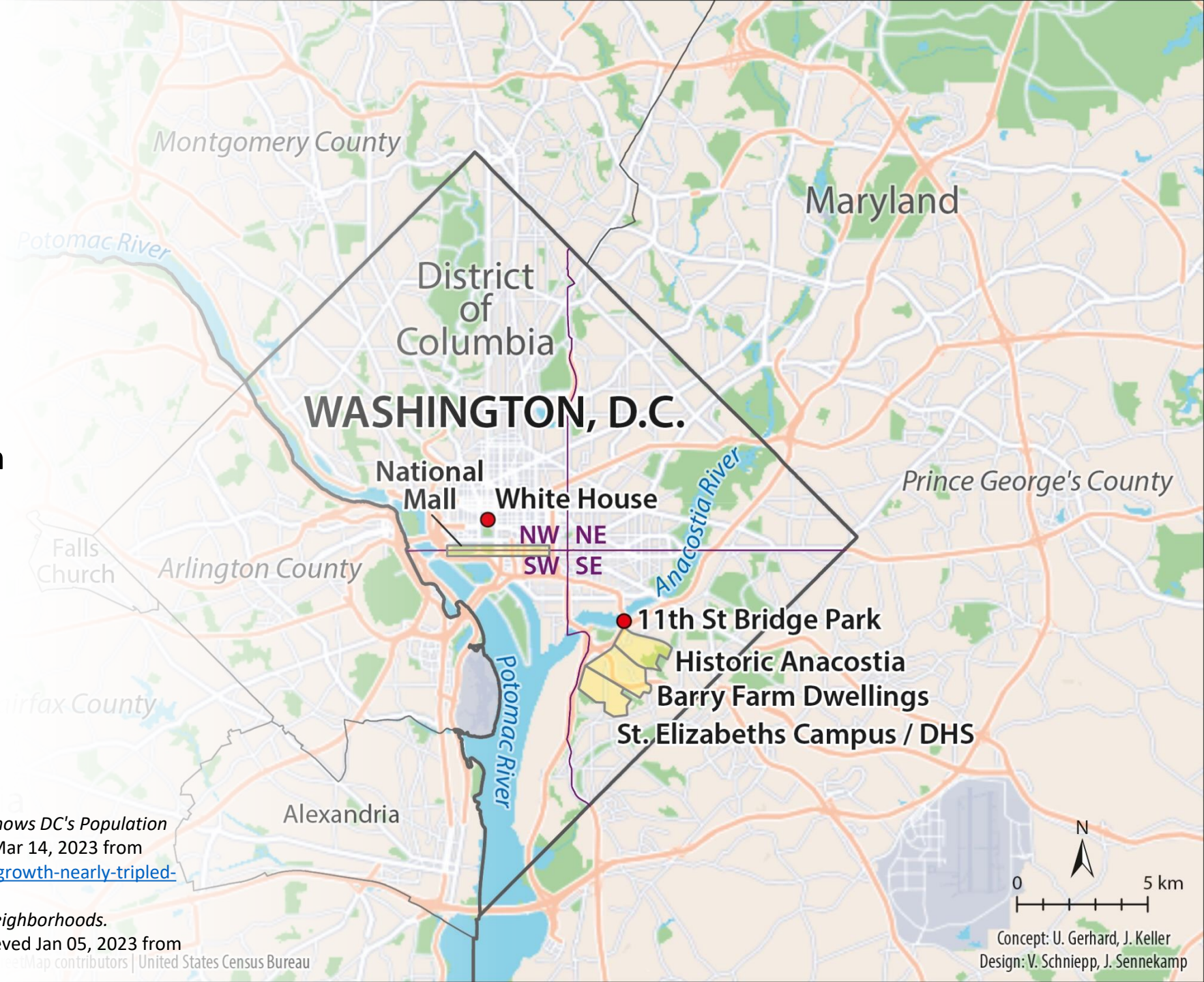
II. Von der Wohnbiografie zur politischen Biografie

III. Methodologische Implikationen

IV. Wege in die Wohngerechtigkeit: Ein Fazit

I. Fallbeispiel: Washington, DC

- 14,6% Bevölkerungszuwachs zwischen 2010 & 2020¹
- Höchste Gentrifizierungsrate in den USA²
- Starke Verdrängung von Schwarzen Amerikaner*innen
- Fokus auf ehemaliges Sozialwohnungsprojekt Barry Farm



¹ EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR. (2021). *2020 Census Data Shows DC's Population Growth Nearly Tripled Compared to Previous Decade*. Retrieved Mar 14, 2023 from <https://dc.gov/release/2020-census-data-shows-dcs-population-growth-nearly-tripled-compared-previous-decade>

² RICHARDSON, J., MITCHELL, B., & FRANCO, J. (2019). *Shifting Neighborhoods. Gentrification and cultural displacement in American cities*. Retrieved Jan 05, 2023 from <https://ncrc.org/gentrification/>

II. Von der Wohnbiografie zur politischen Biografie

- Wo, wie & mit wem wir leben prägt unser Verhalten/unsere Werte
- Wir sind geprägt von unserem Weg durch Raum und Zeit³
- Umbrüche führen zu einer Neuorientierung und beflügeln Aktivismus

³ HÄGERSTRAND, T. (1970). What about people in Regional Science? *Papers in Regional Science*, 24, 6-21.



Zwangsgeraümt

“2017, 2018 is when they cleared off the property of residents and they had to relocate all over the city. So, no one is across the street from each other anymore. It was a lot of families in Barry Farm that lived like in the same neighborhood, as we’re a family. And I, and that was the good thing about it, that I had lived right across the street from my mother, for about five or more years, that we were able to live like that. And it really helped, you know, it helped a lot for my daughter to go visit her grandma all the time, so as to eat meals together and, you know, always connect. It was so vibrant in Barry Farm, we loved it, you know.”

Kollektive Erfahrung

“It’s kind of a convoluted history for all of us who lived, who grew up over there (referring to Barry Farm) because of the changes that came to the community. (...) Well, across the nation (...) when you’re on the highway, and you see an exit for Martin Luther King Boulevard, whatever, you’re in a Black neighborhood. They ran those interstates (...) through a Black community. And so those communities were, the integrity of those communities was destroyed, and that happened to all of our neighborhoods, or most of them anyway, whether or not it was an interstate, highway, or something else. And that is what happened, and what is happening over there now.”





Widerstand

“I didn’t know anything about, ehm, organized meeting or grassroot projects or, you know, anything about fighting for your rights in housing. I didn’t know like what was happening in housing. So, I got educated. (...) I didn’t know that, ehm, coming up there were other neighborhoods, friends and everything that, ehm, had their neighborhoods demolished, torn down and people were relocated (...) and then it happened the same in my neighborhood, and then we have to move to another neighborhood, and they’re gonna do it there too. Then where’s everybody gonna go? So that’s what became more of the like, I need to get involved and learn and, ehm, go and talk to my neighbors and organize and go to meetings and speak out and ask questions and, and yeah then, even demand things being done, and *be a change.*”



Wege zurück?

“I’ve been involved from the beginning, from the beginning, because I believe, we need to come back to Barry Farm. I want to know, I’ve been asking, and maybe you can answer this, but maybe not, what is affordable living? What is affordable living? You know, for people that lived in Barry Farm or in the Ward 8 area. (...) It should be all around the table, you know, people that don’t have a whole lot of income, because these places that they’re doing, they are small, and they want all that money, that’s not affordable (...) I’ve been asking that, and asking that in these meetings, what is affordable living? I *never* got an answer.”

Recht auf Wohnraum

“It’s not about affordable housing, it’s about the way the, the way they’re treating the people that live here. (...) I’m fighting for myself, but I’m also gonna fight for my neighbors too. I know what we’re supposed to be seeing, know what they’re supposed to be doing, that’s why I started the chain of command, that’s why I went to the mayor, to let them know about ... that they’re *not* doing what they should.”



II. Von der Wohnbiografie zur politischen Biografie

- Persönliche Erfahrungen werden in den politischen Kontext eingeordnet (*pars pro toto*)
- Nicht romantisieren!!
- Alternative Wohn- und care-Praktiken
- „Lebendige Infrastruktur“
- Kann sich auch *NIMBYism* ausdrücken

III. Methodologische Implikationen:

Arbeit mit
Erfahrungsberichten
(*testimonio*)⁴ in der
Wohnraumforschung

1: Hinterfragt, wie und von wem (geographisches) Wissen konstituiert wird

- Bottom-up Wissensproduktion zur Wohnraumkrise in den USA → Erfahrungs-wissen von Betroffenen, anstatt von Expert*innen.

2: Unterstricht, dass Wissen relational und kollektiv produziert wird

- Einordnung in den historischen Kampf gegen Diskriminierung & Verdrängung auf dem Wohnungsmarkt

- Stellt die Verbindung zwischen persönlichen Erfahrungen und ihrer politischen Dimension her

→ **Link von Wohnbiografie und politischer Biografie**

3: Verbindet Forschung und soziales Engagement

- Was ist die Rolle der Wissenschaft? Wie positioniere ich mich als Wissenschaftler*in?

⁴ CAHUAS, M. C. (2021). Voicing Chicanx/Latinx feminism and situating testimonio in geographical research. *Gender, Place & Culture*, 29(11), 1514-1527.

IV. Wege in die Wohngerechtigkeit: Ein Fazit

- Räume für Dialog zw. Forscher*innen und Forschungsteilnehmer*innen
- Verantwortung übernehmen⁵
- “intellectual humility“⁶ → Bescheidenheit der Forschenden
- Hinterfragen der eigenen Rolle/Position

⁵ HILBRANDT, H. et al (2023). Towards a Radical Housing Responsibility. *Radical Housing Journal* 5(1), forthcoming.

⁶ KOCH, N. (2020). Deep Listening: Practicing Intellectual Humility in Geographic Fieldwork. *Geographical Review*, 110(1-2), 52-64.

Soziale Gerechtigkeit

“Yeah, well, it's been crazy because, now again, you know, living this struggle and fighting this fight. And, you know, a lot of the people who are in better positions. Look at us! We wind up homeless and no jobs, and you know, it's like everything else keeps going because other people are better situated. *But we are still important to the pie.*”



Fragen? Ideen?

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