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The Democratic Plan Analysis and Diagnosis

By Alan March

Ashgate Pub Co. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Hardcover. 190 pages. Dimensions: 9.3in. x 6.1in. x 0.7in. In the wake of ongoing attacks from postmodern, feminist, Marxist and neoliberal perspectives, to name but a few, urban and regional planning now lacks deeper organising principles for self-understanding, action and critique. Alongside this crisis of identity, and despite ongoing technical and professional advances, urban and regional planning is often far less effective than we might hope. This book seeks a beginning for resolving these problems by providing a clear theoretical position derived from the work of Juergen Habermas. The book examines urban planning as a process of democratic governance, joining practical planning ideas with political philosophy. It explores the primary mechanisms through which collective knowledge is developed and collective steering is undertaken in a planning system, as the core purposes of planning itself. These processes represent certain resolutions of democratic dilemmas, the apparently unresolvable conflicts in the range of competing precepts citizens typically expect any planning system to satisfy. The work begins with communicative planning, but revisits its grounding in the work of Habermas. While communicative planning is one of the most influential recent theoretical understandings of urban planning, it is imperfect in many...



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