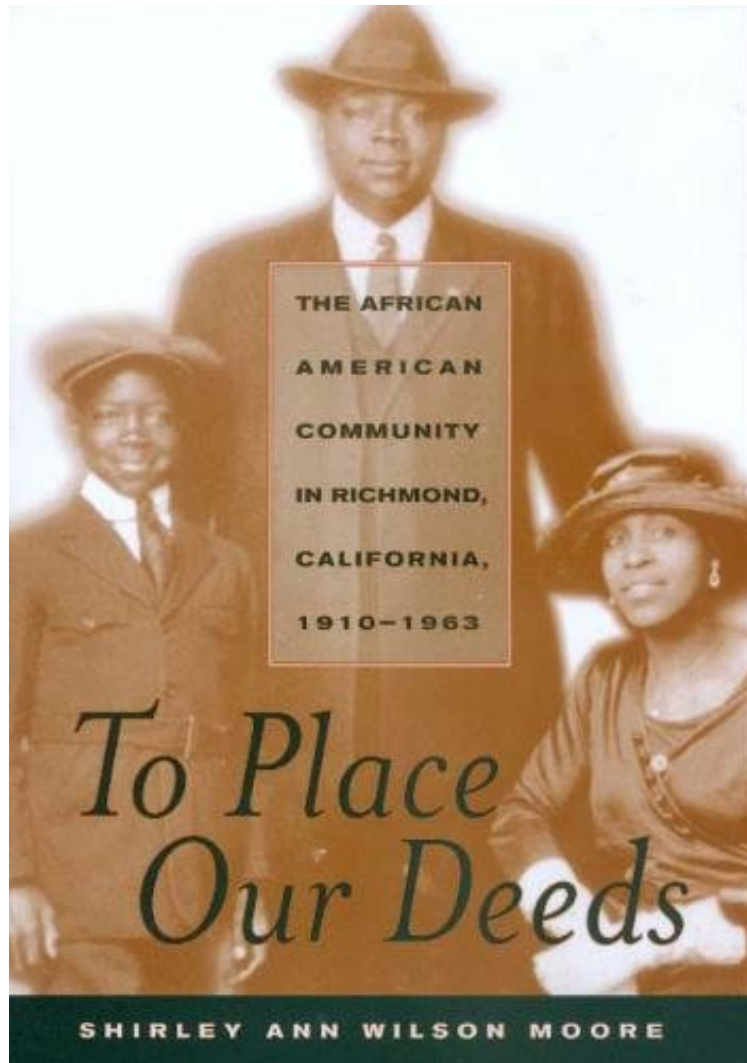


(Mobile ebook) To Place Our Deeds: The African American Community in Richmond, California, 1910-1963

To Place Our Deeds: The African American Community in Richmond, California, 1910-1963

Shirley Ann Wilson Moore

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Shirley Ann Wilson Moore : To Place Our Deeds: The African American Community in Richmond, California, 1910-1963 before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised To Place Our Deeds: The African American Community in Richmond, California, 1910-1963:

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helpful. PostiiveBy jahyunLiked it because received what I expected. A new book. Also it came really quickly... Around 2-3 days I think,.8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. A well-researched and insightfully written gemBy Jayne MacManusRichmond, California became a World War II boomtown. And almost as quickly as it burst at the seams with shipyard productivity, population surges, and overflowing housing, schools, and day care needs, the boomtown deflated. To a San Francisco-centric mindset, Richmond is no more than a sprawling urban ghetto. But it's a community that deserves more than quick dismissal. As Shirley Ann Wilson Moore writes, "This book examines the history of the African American community in Richmond during the critical transitional years of the first half of the twentieth century. It places the activities of black working-class men and women, regarded by some as unlettered peasants who were spatially and intellectually isolated from larger social currents, at the center of the nation's most profound, transformative events."Published dissertations generally have an awful density about them -- a frustrating compression of stats, dates, and repetitious topic statements. Moore's book is somehow magically void of this while maintaining its scholarly value and dignity. Richly supported by oral histories, the book is unique for telling a community story of California, the American WW2 home front, and the African American experience all at once.Moore's work is an insightful and appropriately succinct package encompassing the exodus of thousands of African Americans from the Jim Crow south to establishment of community, church life, self-sufficiency, war work, blues clubs, prosperity and stability in Richmond -- if not for all, at least for some instead of none. These Richmondites were urban pioneers who laid the basis for the Civil Rights Movement in following generations.

To Place Our Deeds traces the development of the African American community in Richmond, California, a city on the San Francisco Bay. This readable, extremely well-researched social history, based on numerous oral histories, newspapers, and archival collections, is the first to examine the historical development of one black working-class community over a fifty-year period.Offering a gritty and engaging view of daily life in Richmond, Shirley Ann Wilson Moore examines the process and effect of migration, the rise of a black urban industrial workforce, and the dynamics of community development. She describes the culture that migrants brought with them—including music, food, religion, and sports—and shows how these traditions were adapted to new circumstances. Working-class African Americans in Richmond used their cultural venues—especially the city's legendary blues clubs—as staging grounds from which to challenge the racial status quo, with a steadfast determination not to be "Jim Crowed" in the Golden State.As this important work shows, working-class African Americans often stood at the forefront of the struggle for equality and were linked to larger political, social, and cultural currents that transformed the nation in the postwar period.

"The great virtue of Moore's work is its concentration on the effects of broad national and international developments on the everyday lives and times of ordinary people. Her analysis is both an important piece of social history and a point of departure for future studies of how African American communities respond to the new realities of the post-industrial era."--Charles Wollenberg, CALIFORNIA HISTORYFrom the Inside Flap"A fascinating study. . . . It truly comes alive in its expert use of African American oral histories"—Waldo E. Martin, University of California, Berkeley