----------------------------------------------------------------

COMPANY TOWN

----------------------------------------------------------------

- USA

- Started with extractive industries - coal, metal mines, lumber.

- In US, at their peak, company towns made up of 3% of the housing, totally 2,500 towns. Company towns were dealing directly with affordability, claiming to improve the worker’s conditions by offering higher quality of life that would otherwise be available to the workers: housing and schooling, though the package also came with some “morally uplifting” paternalism. The “welfarism” of the company town was later exchanged for higher wages, and less provisions, a laisser-faire approach that was deemed “more American”.

- Failed due to the lack of elected officials and municipally owned services, workers resented the employer, had no say in local affairs and felt dictated

- Ended after the “New Deal” which make home ownership more accessible to the working class, through low deposit, and low interest loans.

- They were economically successful: made more money from swindling they employees than from what they mined or produced

----------------------------------------------------------------

“Company Town”, Wikipedia, last modified September 13, 2017, <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Company_Town>

Hardy Green, *The Company Town*, (New York: Basic Books, 2010).