

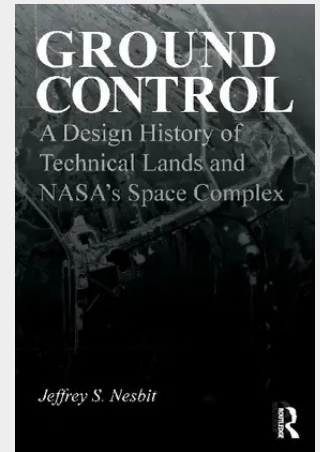
Nesbit

Ground Control

A Design History of Technical Lands and NASA's Space Complex

Ground Control: A Design History of Technical Lands and NASA's Space Complex explores the infrastructural history of the United States rocket launch complex. Working primarily between 1950, the year of the first rocket launch at Cape Canaveral, to 1969, the Apollo moon landing, the book highlights the evolution of its overlooked architecture and infrastructural landscape in parallel to US aerospace history. The cases outlined in this book survey the varying architectural histories and aesthetic motivations that helped produce America's public image of early space exploration. The built environment of the U.S. space complex shows how its expanded infrastructural landscape tended to align with national Cold War politics and themes found in the age of modernity. Examples across often inaccessible sites of remote landscape help explain the contingent histories and deep association of an American aesthetic, land-use, and ultimately a form of nation-building practices. Ground Control offers a new way of understanding how technological uses of place-based science were designed and constructed in support of both industrial and military activities in postwar America. This book will be of interest to researchers, scholars, students, and anyone with a general interest in the history of American infrastructure, land use, and space exploration.

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61,10 €

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Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

Artikelnummer: 9781032770055

Medium: Buch

ISBN: 978-1-032-77005-5

Verlag: Routledge

Erscheinungstermin: 24.07.2024

Sprache(n): Englisch

Auflage: 1. Auflage 2024

Produktform: Kartoniert

Gewicht: 329 g

Seiten: 220

Format (B x H): 152 x 229 mm

