

BLACK POWER AT WORK

Community Control,
Affirmative Action, and
the Construction Industry

Edited by David Goldberg
and Trevor Griffey

ILR Press

AN IMPRINT OF

CORNELL UNIVERSITY PRESS ITHACA AND LONDON

Contents

Acknowledgments	ix
Introduction: Constructing Black Power <i>David Goldberg and Trevor Griffey</i>	1
1. “Revolution Has Come to Brooklyn”: Construction Trades Protests and the Negro Revolt of 1963 <i>Brian Purnell</i>	23
2. “The Laboratory of Democracy”: Construction Industry Racism in Newark and the Limits of Liberalism <i>Julia Rabig</i>	48
3. “Work for Me Also Means Work for the Community I Come From”: Black Contractors, Black Capitalism, and Affirmative Action in the Bay Area <i>John J. Rosen</i>	68
4. Community Control of Construction, Independent Unionism, and the “Short Black Power Movement” in Detroit <i>David Goldberg</i>	90
5. “The Stone Wall Behind”: The Chicago Coalition for United Community Action and Labor’s Overseers, 1968–1973 <i>Erik S. Gellman</i>	112
6. “The Blacks Should Not Be Administering the Philadelphia Plan”: Nixon, the Hard Hats, and “Voluntary” Affirmative Action <i>Trevor Griffey</i>	134
7. From Jobs to Power: The United Construction Workers Association and Title VII Community Organizing in the 1970s <i>Trevor Griffey</i>	161

Conclusion: White Male Identity Politics, the Building Trades, and the Future of American Labor	189
<i>David Goldberg and Trevor Griffey</i>	
Notes	209
About the Contributors	255
Index	257