

Boxtown is a neighborhood just south of

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

First established by freedmen during the Civil War, Boxtown was a shantytown on the edges of Memphis well through its incorporation in the early sixties. In 2021, its residents fought off a pipeline that would have cut the neighborhood in half and endangered the Memphis Sand Aquifer, a critical source of freshwater for over a million people in the deep South.

It is currently the site of Elon Musk's

XAI "COLOSSUS" DATA CENTER

The facility draws one million gallons of water from the aquifer daily and pollutes the Black neighborhood's air with gas emissions. It is not a coincidence that Musk's new project follows on the heels of a blocked pipeline. Peripheral towns and neighborhoods like Boxtown have become important sites of struggle as the demands of global capital conflict more and more clearly with the conditions for shared life on Earth.

