# Little White Houses

How the Postwar Home Constructed Race

in America

### Dianne Harris

A rare exploration of the racial and class politics of architecture, *Little White*Houses examines how postwar media representations associated the ordinary



single-family house with middle-class whites to the exclusion of others. Drawing from popular and trade magazines, floor plans and architectural drawings, television programs, advertisements, and beyond, Dianne Harris shows how the depiction of houses and their interiors, furnishings, and landscapes shaped and reinforced the ways in which Americans perceived white, middle-class identities and helped support a housing market already defined by racial segregation and deep economic inequalities.

Richly detailed and heavily illustrated, *Little White Houses* adds a new dimension to our understanding of race in America and the inequalities that persist in the U.S. housing market.

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