

TITLE

Grand Domestic Revolution

AUTHOR(S)

Dolores Hayden

PUBLICATION TYPES

Book

PUBLISHED

1981

PUBLISHER

MIT Press

LANGUAGES

English

TOPICS

Domesticity, Feminism

LINKS



Collections and Annotations that reference this Citation

Annotation

Anne-Marie Armstrong on Grand Domestic Revolution

Annotation

Stéphanie Dadour on Grand Domestic Revolution

Annotation

Adam Caruso on The Grand Domestic Revolution

Collection

ETH Zurich Studio Caruso Autumn Semester Readings 2021

Collection

Reading Room

Collection

DRAG Lab Book Club (2021)

Collection

Conversations in Preparation

Collection
ETH Zurich Studio Caruso Semester Readings
(2011-2021)

Collection
Radical Domesticity: Modernism, Gender, and
Building the Future 2021

Anne-Marie Armstrong on Grand Domestic Revolution

15 June, 2021

Dolores Hayden was my professor in graduate school, this book was read in one of her seminars that centered on gender in architectural and urban design. Her work provided me with a new and deeper understanding of the history of modern housing in America and the central role women played in its development.

Stéphanie Dadour on Grand Domestic Revolution

25 March, 2021

This is a book that should be read by anyone working in the field of architecture, town planning, or housing. It operates on two levels.

The first is related to historiographical methods. Hayden mobilises and encounters archives that were unknown. She inscribes them in a socio-historical context that reflects feminist thought and its political practices. This research questions the writing of history: what stories are we writing? From where? Why? What archives do we mobilise?

The second concerns content. Those she calls material feminists are concerned with economic and spatial questions that lie at the foundation of material life. Hayden writes this book to make visible the contribution of these women: the strategies, plans and programs they plan for an egalitarian world. In so doing, she also demonstrates the political significance of the built environment. Hayden is particularly interested in women reformers of space – more rarely, the involvement of architects – in order to reveal the architectural practices that are not part of the canon. The interest of this book also lies in the consideration of the private sphere as a public affair, which deserves a social reading taking into account gender, class, and race.

Adam Caruso on The Grand Domestic Revolution

11 March, 2021

Dolores Hayden's *The Grand Domestic Revolution* is a very important book. I still don't understand how it took almost 40 years from the time of its original publication for me to read it. The hidden stories that Hayden rescues, tell the story of how a series of decisions taken in the first decades of the 20th century with regards to economic and urban policy in the United States, were specifically intended to suppress women's role and power in society. The civic socialism of Frederick Law Olmsted, which shows the great landscape designer to be both a socialist and a feminist, is reclaimed alongside Charlotte Perkins Gilman's uncomfortable history of the separation of home and work. There was no shortage of voices articulating the conditions of modernisation around the turn of the twentieth century by, and about women. Rather it is just that those powerful and compelling stories were officially suppressed. Hayden must have been working on this landmark book in New York at the same time that Kenneth Frampton was writing his *Modern Architecture: A Critical History*. That book was the main text in my first year history course, and looking back I wonder about the complete absence of Hayden's histories within its pages.

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