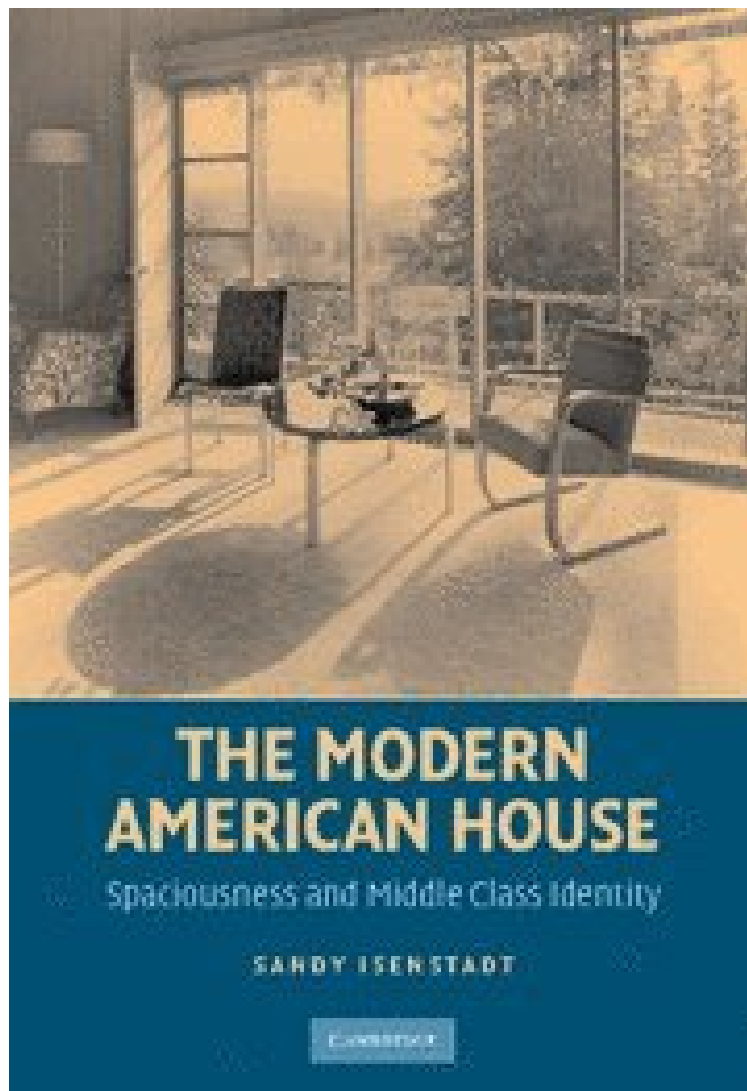


(Mobile pdf) The Modern American House: Spaciousness and Middle Class Identity (Modern Architecture and Cultural Identity)

The Modern American House: Spaciousness and Middle Class Identity (Modern Architecture and Cultural Identity)

Sandy Isenstadt

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Sandy Isenstadt : The Modern American House: Spaciousness and Middle Class Identity (Modern Architecture and Cultural Identity) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Modern American House: Spaciousness and Middle Class Identity (Modern Architecture and Cultural Identity):

4 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A wide-ranging survey of how visual space became entwined with

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Sandy Isenstadt examines how architects, interior designers, and landscape designers worked to enhance spatial perception in middle class houses visually. The desire for spaciousness reached its highest pitch where it was most lacking, in the small, single-family houses that came to be the cornerstone of middle class life in the nineteenth century. In direct conflict with actual dimensions, spaciousness was linked to a tension unique to the middle class - between spatial aspirations and financial limitations. Although rarely addressed in a sustained fashion by theorists, practitioners, or the inhabitants of houses themselves, Isenstadt argues that spaciousness was central to the development of modern American domestic architecture, with explicit strategies for perceiving space being pivotal to modern house design. Through professional endorsement, concern for visual space found its way into discussion of real estate and law.

"College-level students of architecture, design and social issues will find a fine study in *The Modern American House*, which considers how home designers worked to enhance spatial perception in middle-class houses." Midwest Book Review
"The book's themes are always intriguing. With its emphasis on viewers' experience of spaciousness rather than architects creating spaciousness, the book fits into recent vernacular architecture studies that examine inhabitation as a primary influence on buildings." *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*
"Isenstadt's book shines as a model of interdisciplinary writing ... His scholarly thoroughness and rhetorical openness make his work a pleasure to read and contemplate." *The American Historical Association*
About the Author Sandy Isenstadt is Assistant Professor of Art History at Yale University. A scholar of modern architecture, he has written on the work of Richard Neutra, Josep Lluís Sert, Leon Krier, and Rem Koolhaas. His work has been supported by the Center for Advanced Study of the Visual Arts (National Gallery of Art), the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Graham Foundation.