

idential maintenance assistance program, and exempting rehabilitation and modernization from local property taxes. Because of Down's recognition of the complexities involved in housing policy, *Opening Up the Suburbs* would be an excellent book for a course on the social aspects of housing.

Sherman Hanna

*Lawyers Title Home Buying Guide*, William Laas, New York: Popular Library Edition, 1973, paperback, \$1.25, 160 pages, index.

This well-written, up-to-date, well-organized book covers various aspects of buying and financing homes. Chapter titles include "Location, Location, and Location," "Dream House Versus Real House," "Dealing with a Developer," and "Elements of Good Design." The book also contains a chapter on buying apartments, i.e., cooperatives and condominiums. There is a fairly strong plug for title insurance, which is not surprising, since the copyright is held by the Lawyers Title Insurance Corporation. Although the book is an excellent how-to guide, it also contains broader, analytic material.

*For Sale by Owner*, Louis Gilmore, New York: Simon and Schuster, 1973, paperback, \$3.95, approx. 190 pages, no index.

This book is specifically and exclusively a how-to guide, covering in detail how to set the right price, prepare selling aids, market your house, etc. It contains thirteen pages of mortgage tables, for amounts from 15,000 dollars to 55,000 dollars, terms from 15 years to 35 years, and interest rates from six percent to nine percent (with quarter percent divisions.)

*Housing the Poor*, Donald J. Reeb and James T. Kirk, Jr. (eds.), New York: Praeger, 1973, hardcover, index, 343 pages.

This book is a collection of papers from a conference in 1971. The varied approaches to the problems of housing for the poor and the overall quality of the papers make this book a useful source for a graduate course on social and economic aspects of housing. The first chapter, "Housing Policy as a Component of Urban Policy," gives a provocative, if necessarily brief, analysis of the interrelationships of housing policy and urban processes. In the paper, "Housing Needs of the Poor: A Reinterpretation," economic and sociological definitions of the concept of housing need are examined. The authors conclude that the housing problem, in a long term context, is really an income problem. Topics in other papers include state housing programs, nonprofit housing, housing for the elderly, rural housing, public housing, housing allowances, housing of public assistance households, and housing goals. — S.H.