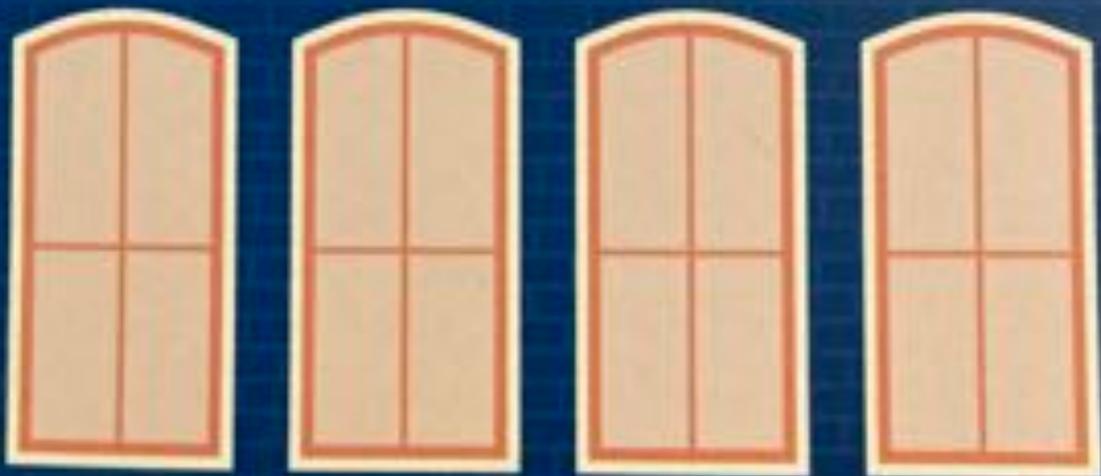


THE WAY THINGS WERE SERIES

MAIN

An Anthology edited by Donna Talarico





HOW TO PAINT: TIPS FROM A SMALL-TOWN CONTRACTOR

KRISTINE KOPPERUD

First, you'll need to choose a color. Consider that any paint's faint undertones will come out on the wall. A greenish gray will feel green. A silvery terra cotta will read pink. You'll need two gallons for every 400 square feet. Three, if you're changing the room from a light buttercream, say, to crimson, or vice versa. Don't rely on the Glidden website, which says a single gallon goes 400 square feet. Paint-and-primer-in-one, which is standard these days, is thick. It covers better than the old latex, way better than oil-base, but it doesn't go as far.



My dad grew up milking Holstein cows by hand and tuning the radio to WCCO to hear the Minnesota Twins play, lying with his fingers laced behind his head, next to his older brother, Russ, listening in the dark. Their second-