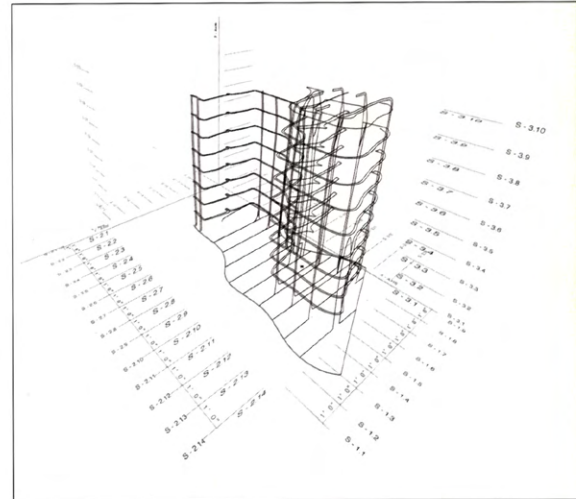


THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART, NEW YORK

The Un-Private House



Production diagram of fiberglass for master sleeping and bathing area



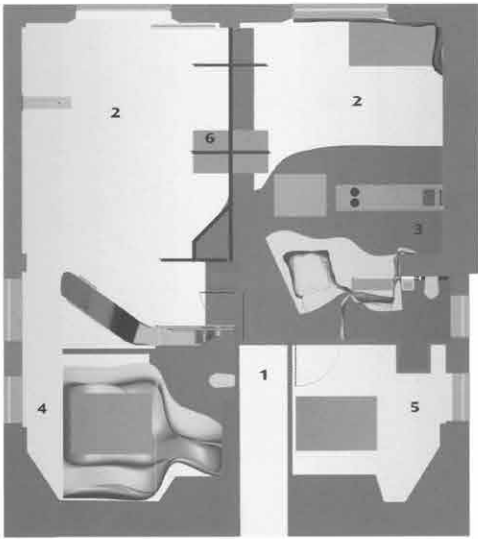
Left and above: Master sleeping and bathing area



View of partition pivoted to serve as dining table

limited to single programmatic functions.

An example of the resulting structures—which the architects describe as “synthetic topographies” or “domestic scapes”—is the overlap between what might normally be considered a bedroom and a bathroom. Its forms were seamlessly cast in integral-color fiberglass, using digital information. The horizontal surface, or “plateau,” of the bed is separated from the bathtub by a single sheet of glass.



The Ost/Kuttner Apartment in Manhattan was designed by Sulan Kolatan and William Mac Donald for use as a pied-à-terre by a couple whose principal residence is in Virginia and, less frequently, as a corporate apartment for their business visitors. To meet these needs, the architects had to create a flexible design. The 1,600-square-foot space, obtained by combining and reconfiguring two contiguous apartments, offers three sleeping areas with varying degrees of privacy. A paneled partition divides the loftlike space or opens into a grand dining table for entertaining.

- Plan*
- 1 Entry
 - 2 Living area
 - 3 Kitchen
 - 4 Master sleeping and bathing area
 - 5 Bedroom
 - 6 Partition/dining table

View from living area toward kitchen and master sleeping and bathing area

Clearly evident in the Ost/Kuttner Apartment is Kolatan's and Mac Donald's fascination for curved, topological forms developed with the aid of sophisticated computer software. They conceived the apartment as a kind of miniature urban setting, with various "sites" available for development. For these sites, the architects created new structures that merge and thereby move beyond traditional domestic forms. They electronically cross-referenced and melded sectional profiles of everyday interior furnishings, such as a bed, sink, sofa, and shelf, to generate forms that are, in their words, "unknown and impossible to preconceive or predict" according to any traditional measure. This process establishes "a chimerical condition between furniture, space, and surface," producing objects and areas that are not

