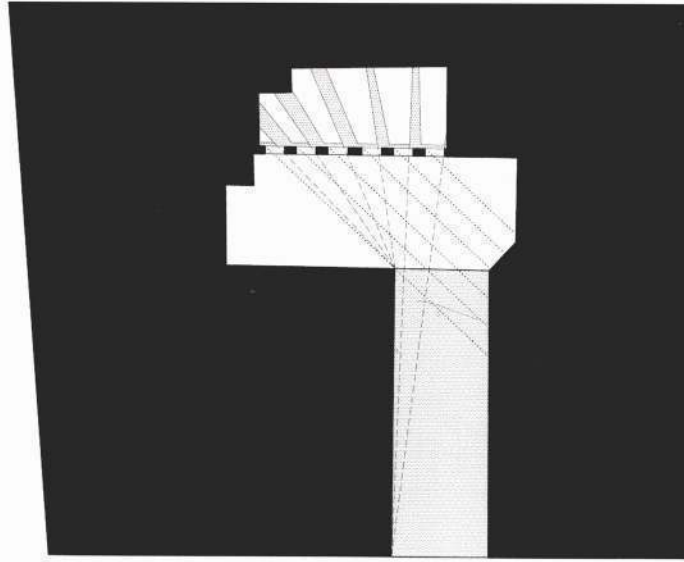


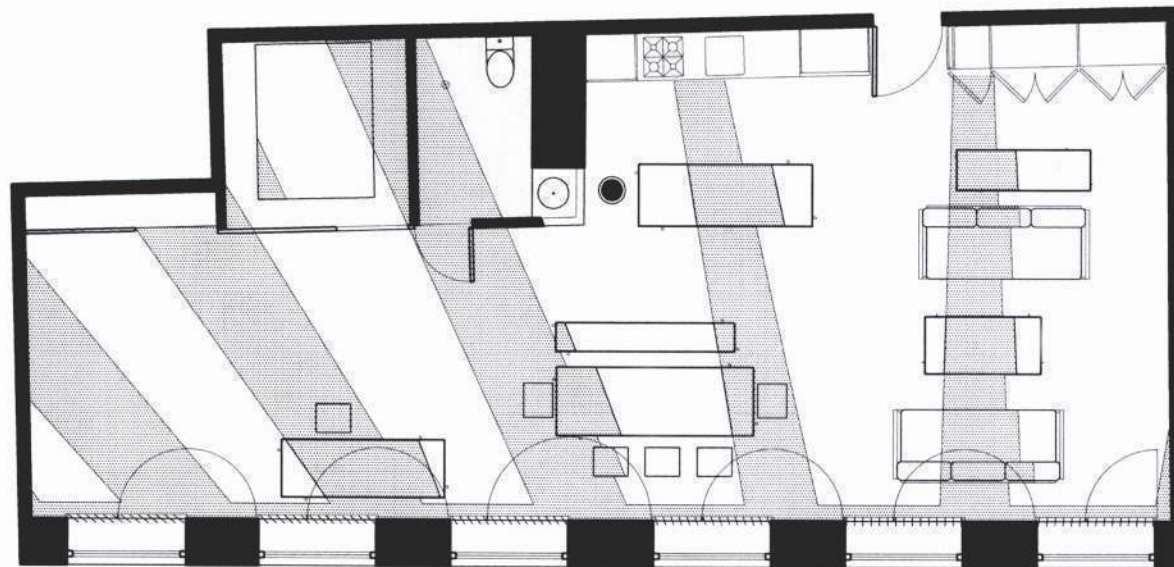
Capturing and maximizing light is a recurring theme in loft design, and architect Alastair Standing has elevated this task to a scientific art. The Rosser loft is housed in a four-story building sandwiched between an eleven- and a six-story building. All aspects of the design, from window treatments to furniture and privacy partitions, were created by the architect to soak up and disperse as much of the available natural light as possible. Old-fashioned electric lights do the rest of the job. Floodlights are concealed in the window reveals and focused to mimic daylight shadows. Task

Site plan



Previous pages: Acid-etched glass and three types of naturally dried wood from diseased trees are used for the tables
Right: Mounting detail of frosted Plexiglas window louvers

Floor plan



ing is focused onto the table surfaces from spots in the ceiling.

The apartment's six large north-facing windows have operable frosted Plexiglas louvers set in

stainless steel frames. The angle of the louvers is adjusted to correspond to the direction of natural light for each window. They obscure direct view of the adjacent buildings with-

out reducing the light level. The Plexiglas is held in tension to the frame by springs.

The interior bathroom has a glass ceiling. The white and gray wall tile traces shadows, an idea continued on the

terrazzo floor, and indeed throughout the apartment.

Shadow lines have been carefully mapped, and through the use of translucent and opaque materials, they have been permanently etched in tables and wall surfaces.



Standing Architecture
New York, New York

Photography: Scott Frances



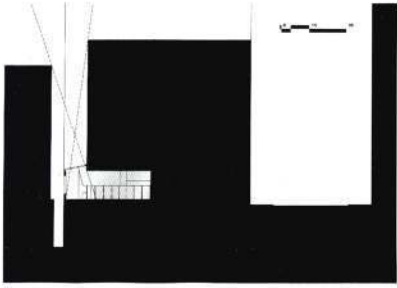


Previous pages:
View of
kitchen/dining
area and enclo-
sures for the
bedroom and
bathroom in the
upper right
Left: Kitchen

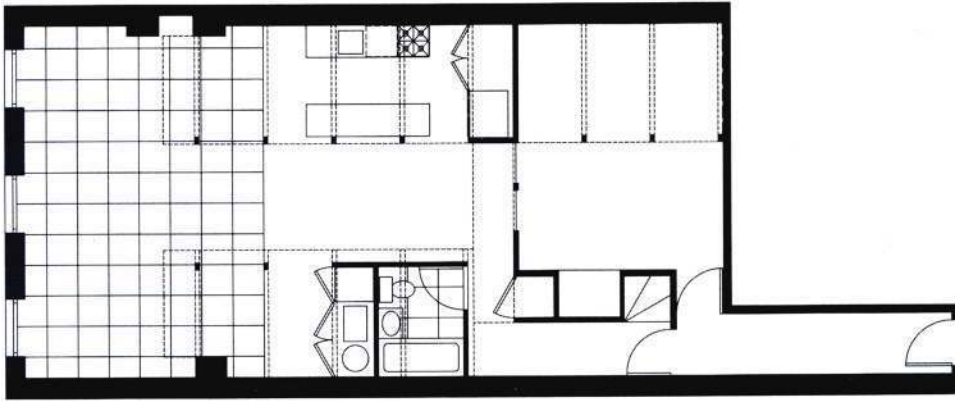


For a dark SoHo loft with a view of a brick wall, the architect hit upon the idea of bringing the sky into the 1100-square-foot space. He achieved this by installing a glass roof and then suspending a 6- by 10-foot one-way mirror beneath it at such an angle as to reflect sunlight into the apartment's darkest reaches. When viewed from the workspace, the mirror becomes a virtual window that partially inverts the horizontal elevation (created by the skylight), reflecting a picture-perfect view of the sky—clouds, birds, planes, rain, and fog. Various computer programs were used to determine which mirror angle would produce maximum reflected light.

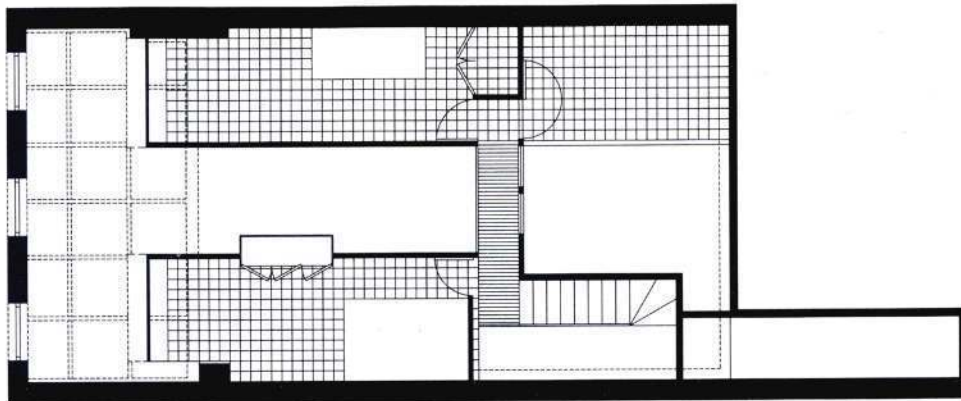
Site



First-floor plan



Mezzanine-floor plan



Previous page: View from elevated bedrooms of the suspended mirror and glass block floors

The loft's 16-foot ceilings

allowed the two bedrooms to

be elevated on glass block

floors that allow light from the

skylight to pass through to the

living areas below. Privacy is

controlled by a combination of

diffused glass blocks and area

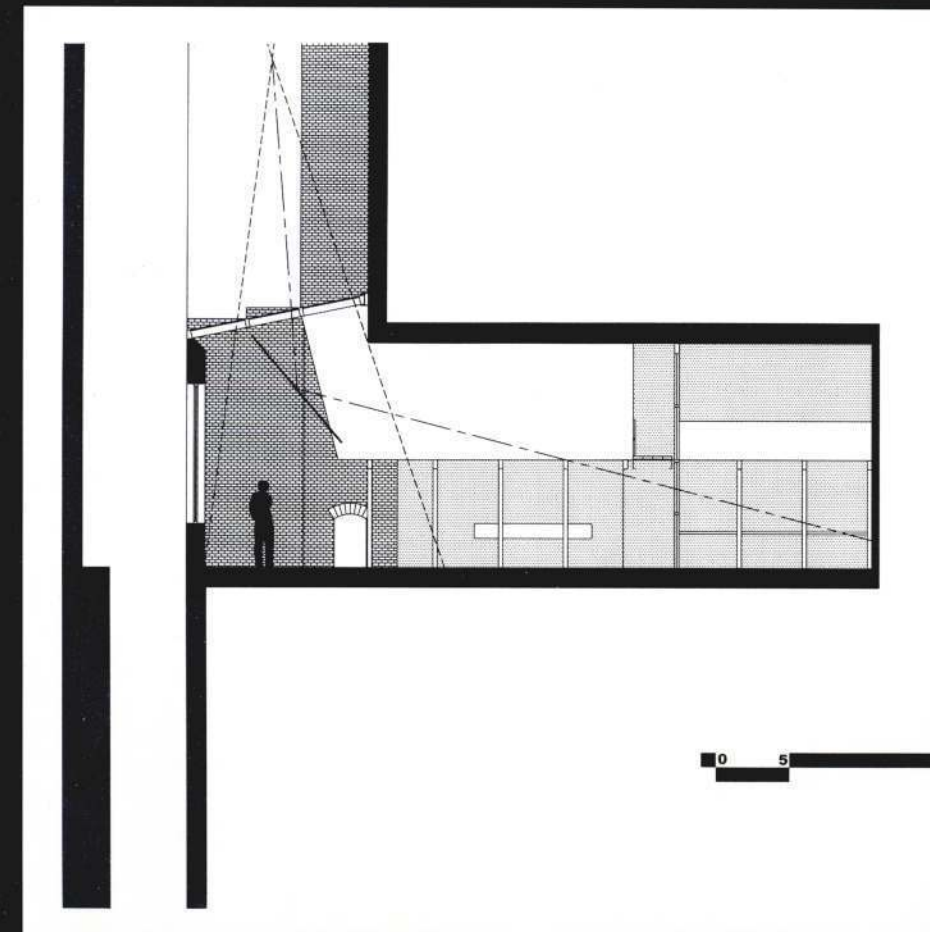
rugs. Artificial light for the

lower spaces is concealed

below the bed platforms and is

filtered by the color of the glass

floors.



Standing Architecture
New York, New York

Photography: Adam Fuss



Above: View of the catwalk connecting the two bedrooms
Left: View of the suspended mirror and the dining table
below



Above: View of kitchen and dining area
Left: Mirror detail