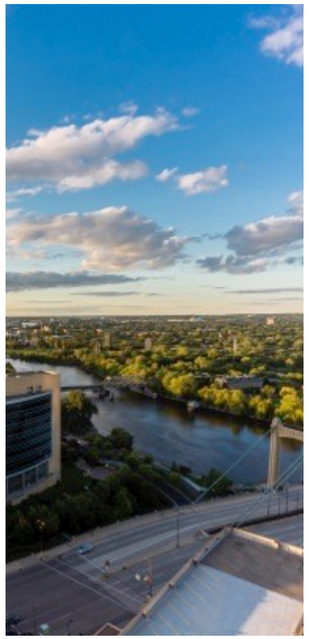
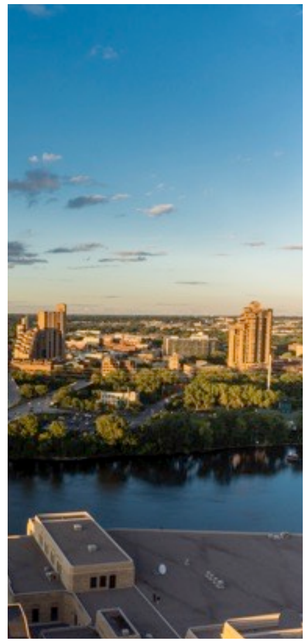
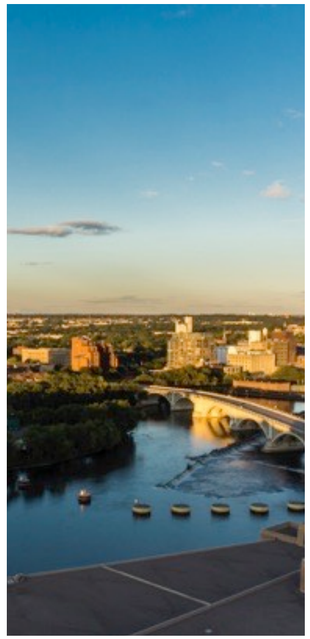
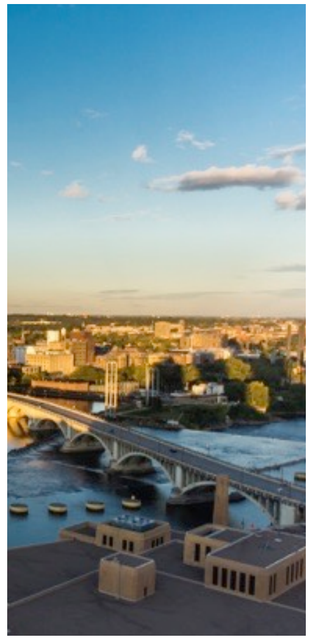
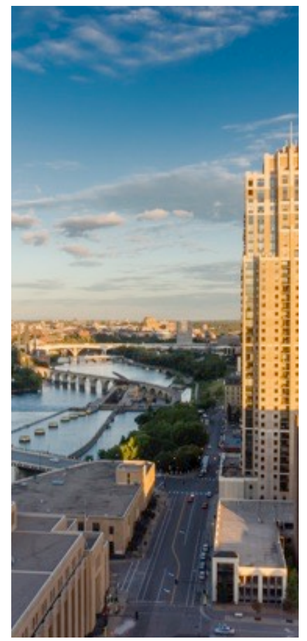


Mid-Century Tower
Situated in a 1965 residential tower, the first in downtown Minneapolis, the project combines two units which had not been renovated in 50 years. The owners have an extensive collection of work from Asia and Africa which they wanted to highlight in the renovation.

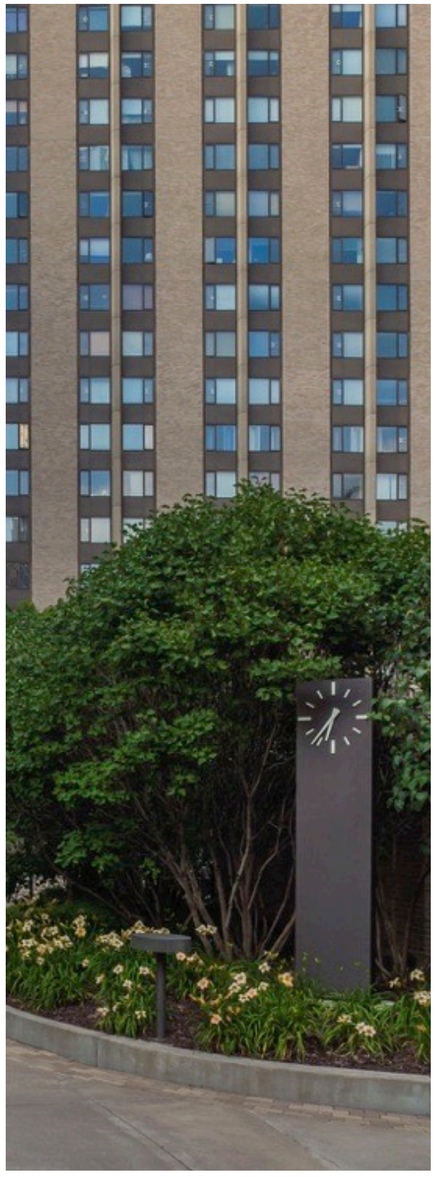
The Mississippi River and rolling bluff landscape views extend across the windows where eleven bridges can be seen. Soft northern light fills the space.

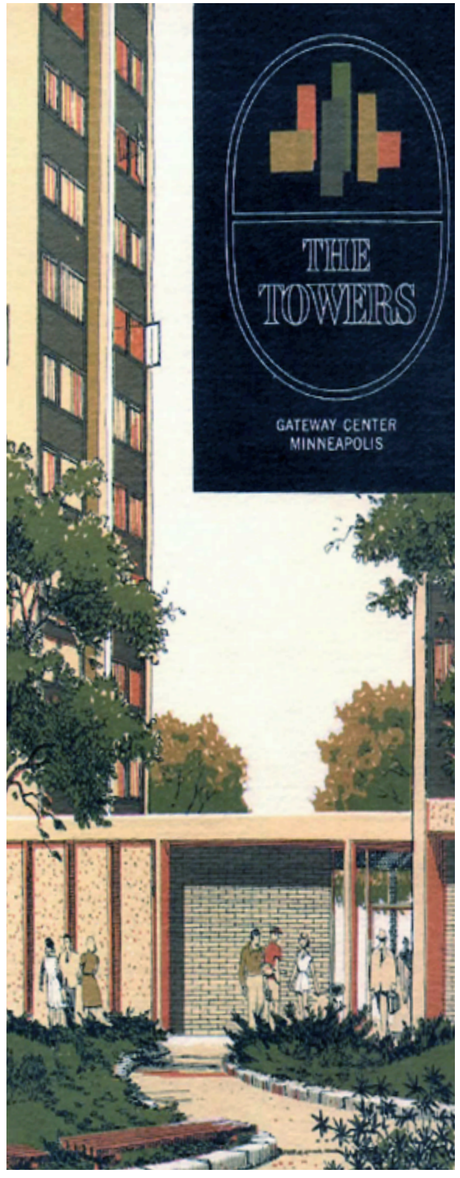
Open Plan Stretches Along Seven Windows
Combining a one bedroom and two bedroom, the plan maintains a core along the residential corridor with two baths, a kitchen and laundry space. All the remaining walls have been removed to create a long linear space that accentuates the Mississippi River views that link from window to window.

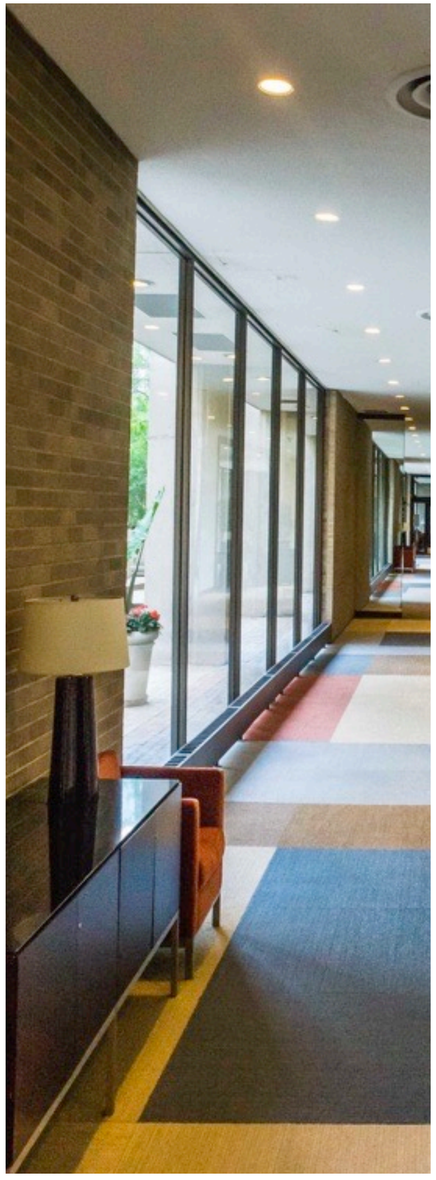
Columns that had been incorporated into walls are now freestanding. Mechanical pipe risers that were in walls are wrapped in rope. A sleeping area can be separated through rolling pocket doors.

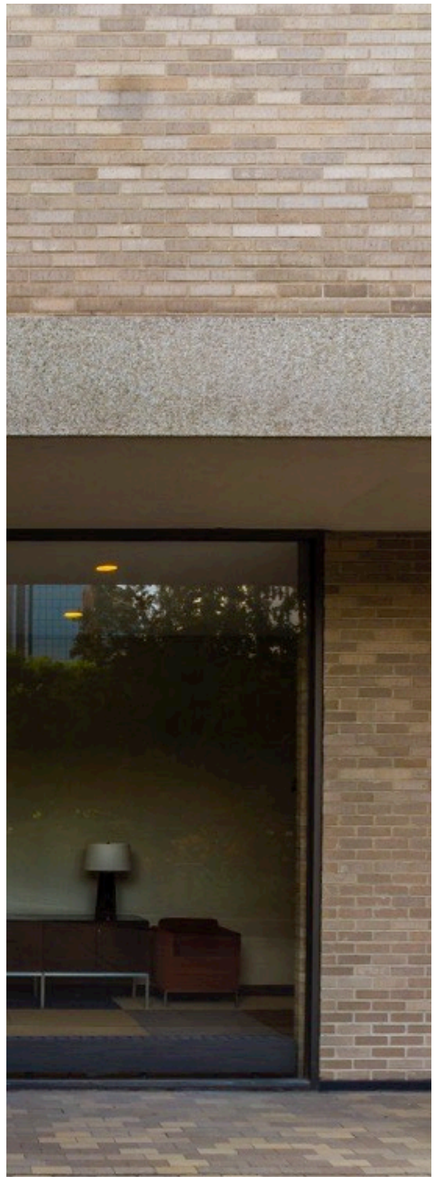
Plaster and Oak Walls Reinterpreted
The original construction utilized floor to ceiling oak paneling and thin plaster walls which provided the impetus for the new design. In the new design, the thin plaster walls float and are accentuated by oak paneling, shelving units and sliding doors.

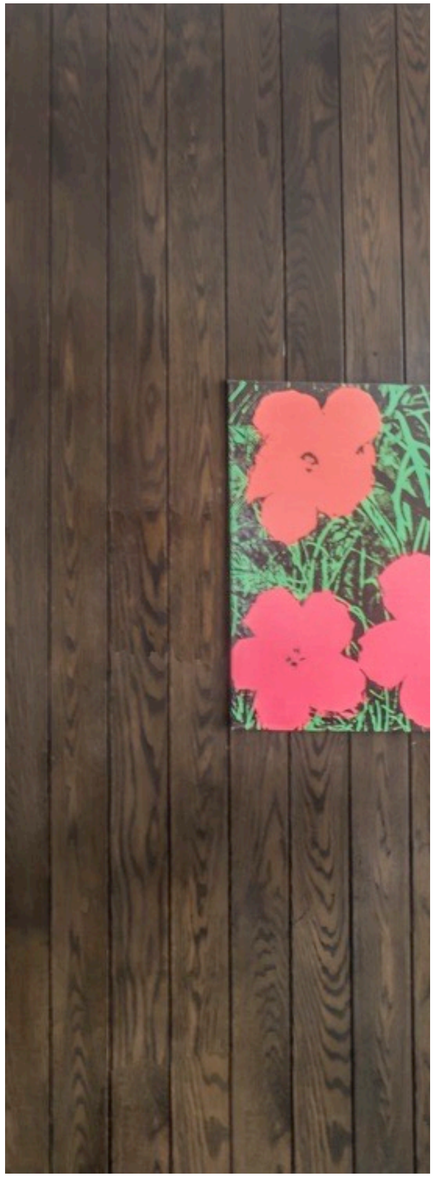
The 1965 building's oak paneling in common spaces and in the residential corridors had been stained dark. The architect's chose to keep the interior white oak paneling natural to compliment the art work which has many wood pieces.





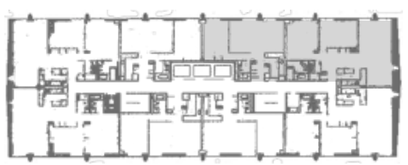


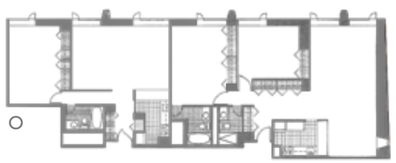


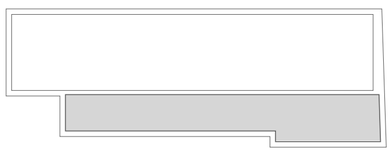


The Original 1965 Construction Utilized Floor to Ceiling Brick in the Lobby and Dark Oak Paneling in other Common Spaces Including all Hallways.

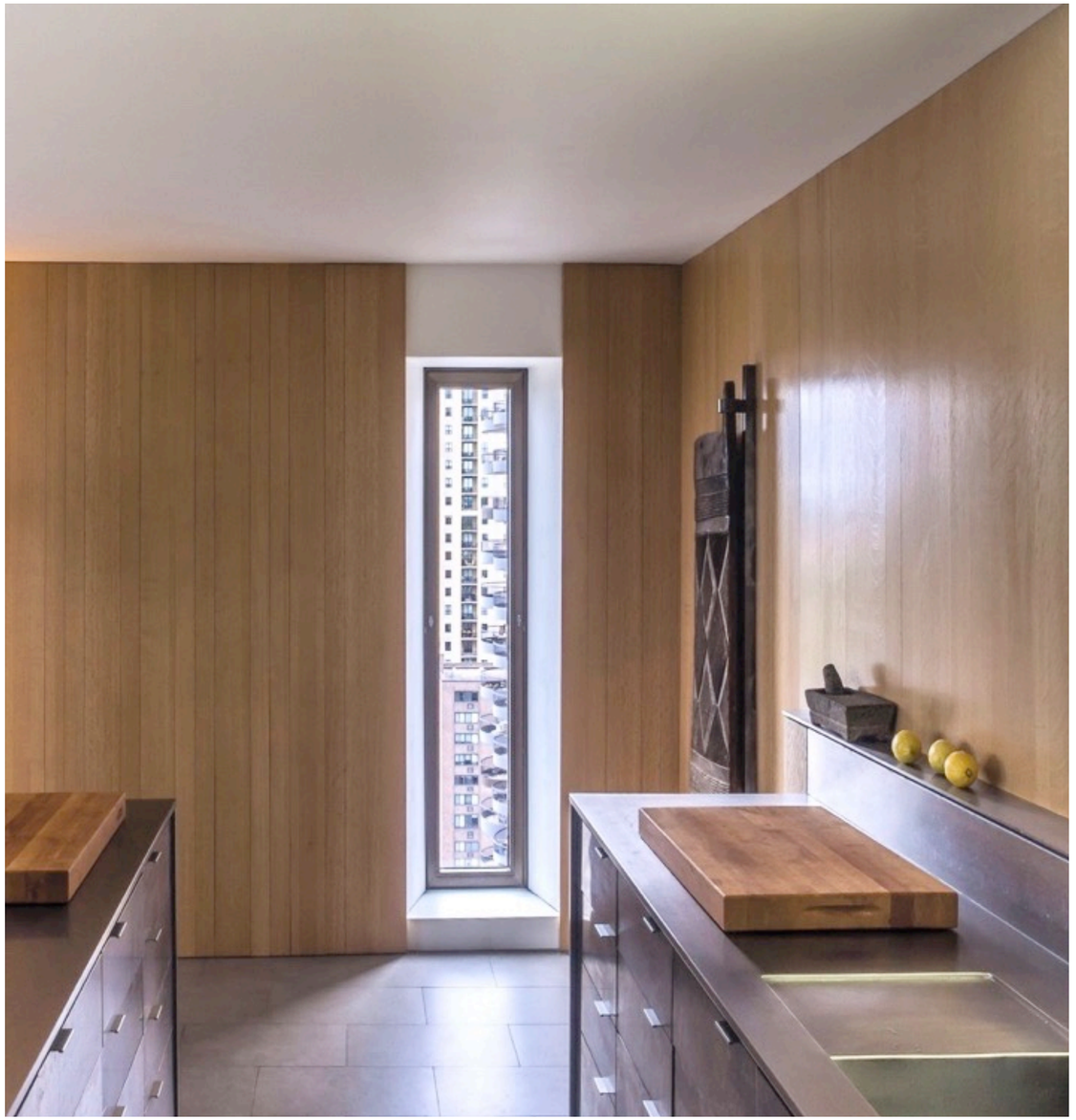
A Sleeping
B Closets
C Writing
D Playing
E Sitting
F Dining
G Bath
H Laundry
J Bath
K Closet
L Entry
M Pantry
N Kitchen
O Original Plan

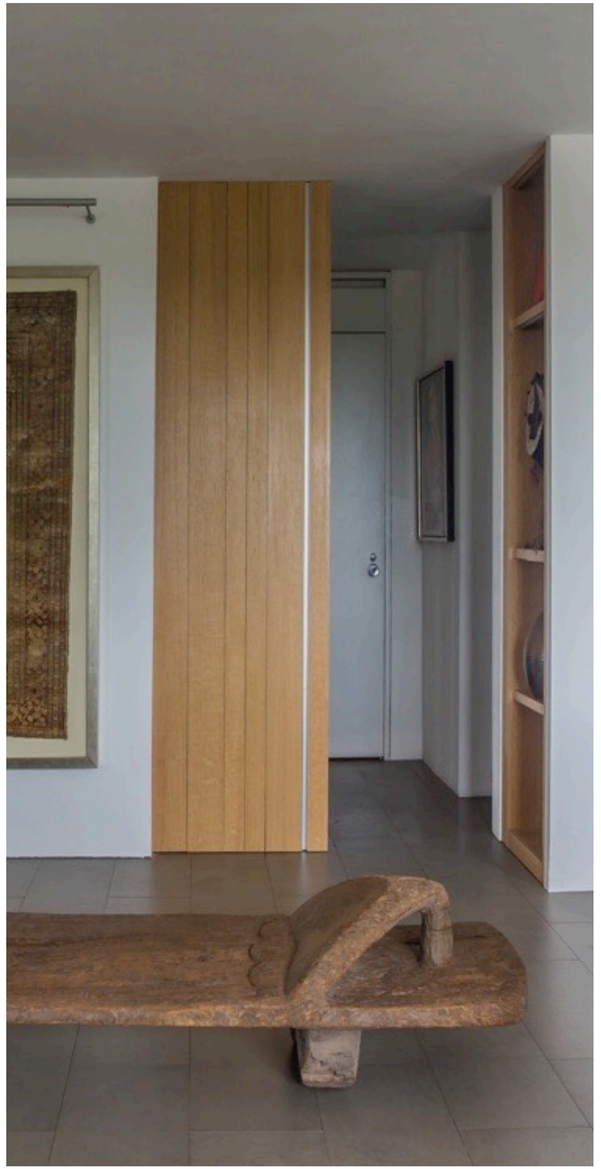




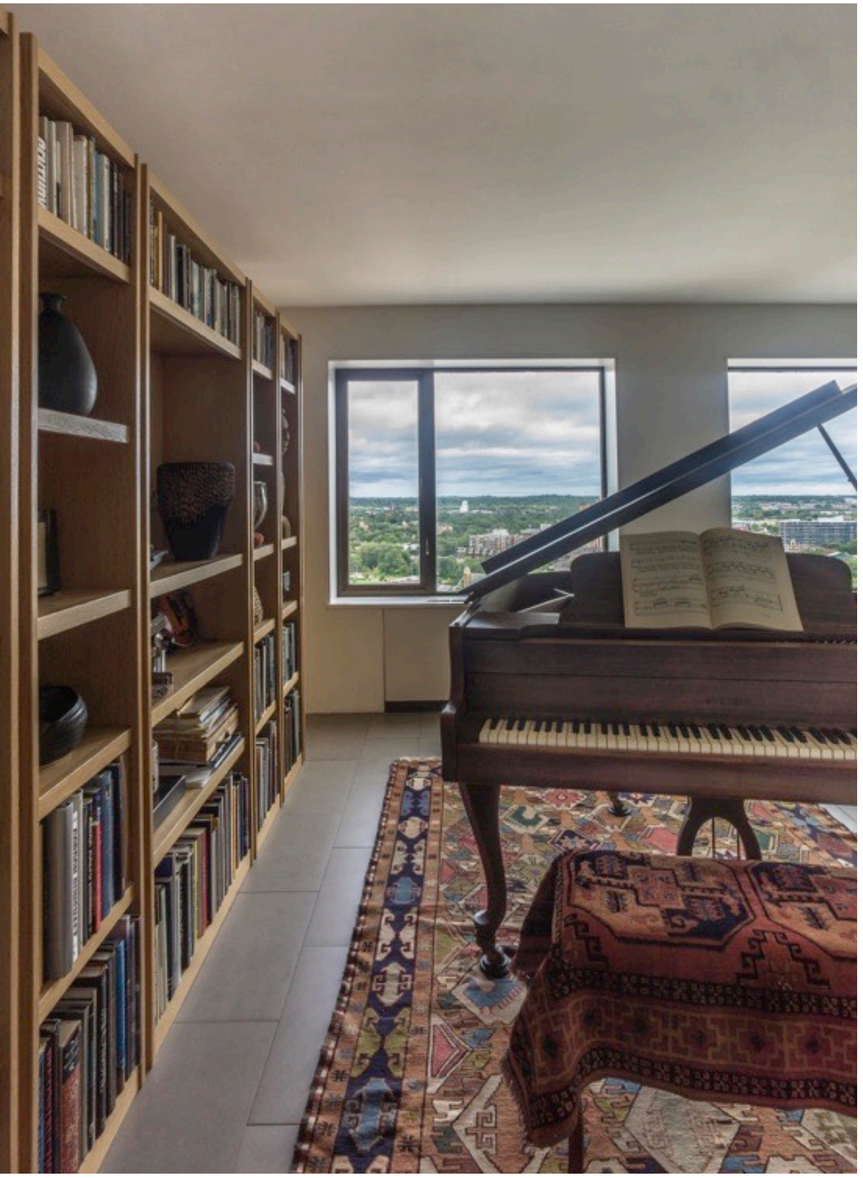


Combined Unit Plan Changes Orientation Toward the North Panoramic Mississippi River Views Supported by Core Functions

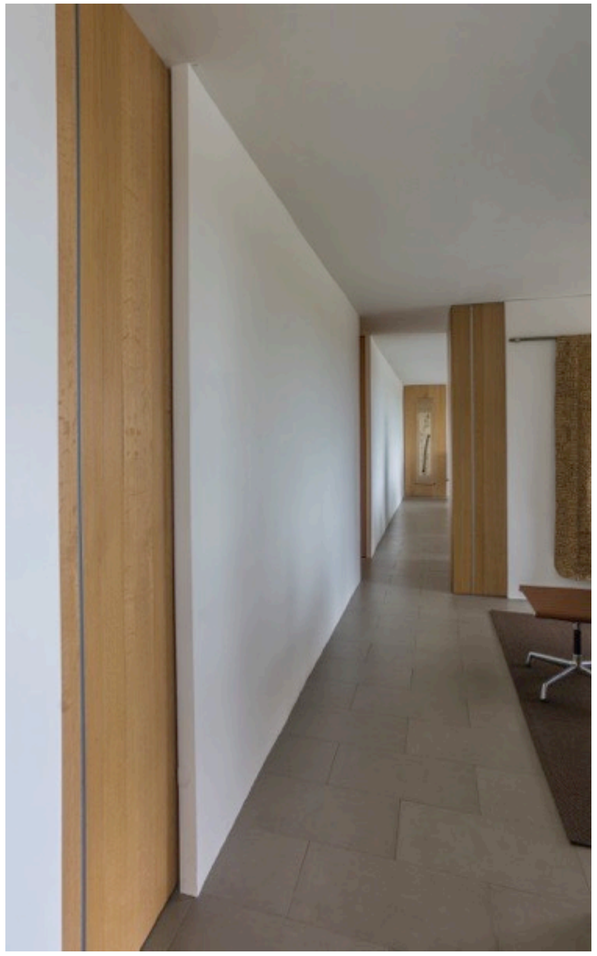


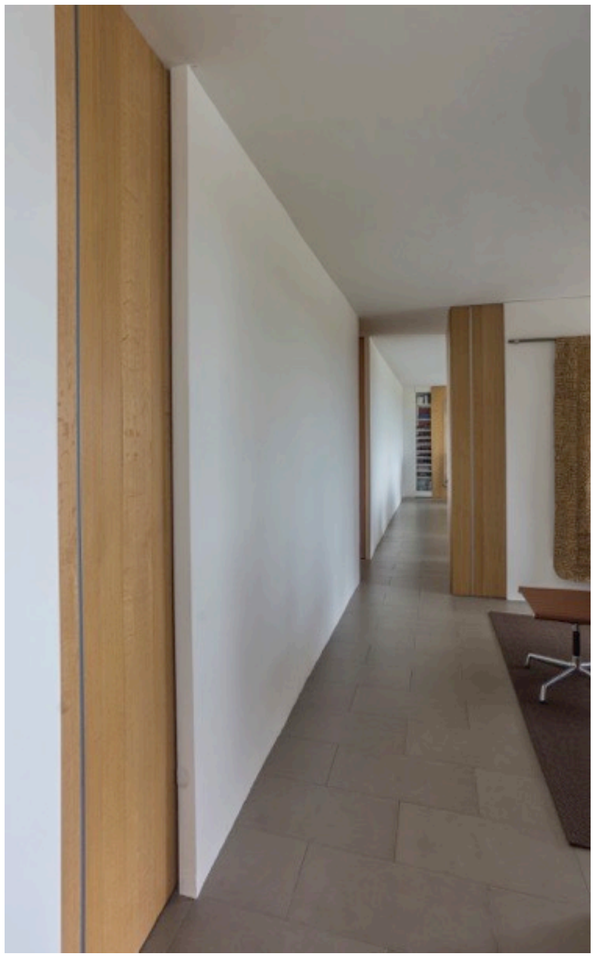


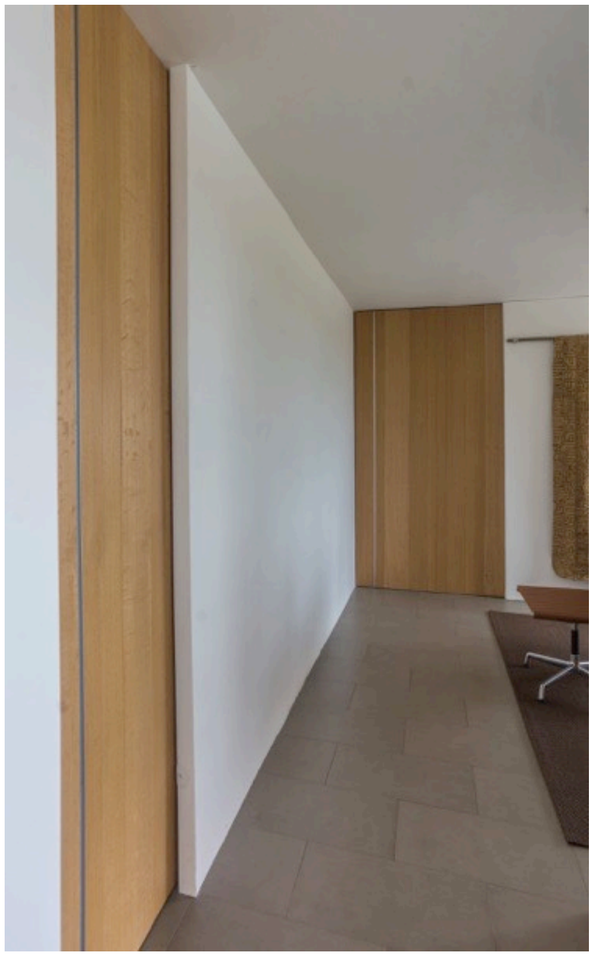
Sliding Oak Panel Separates the Entry Vestibule from the Living Spaces

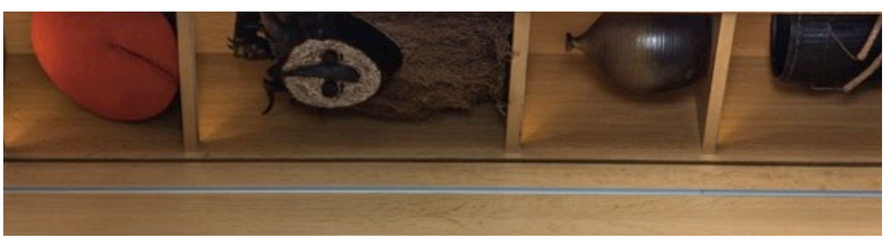
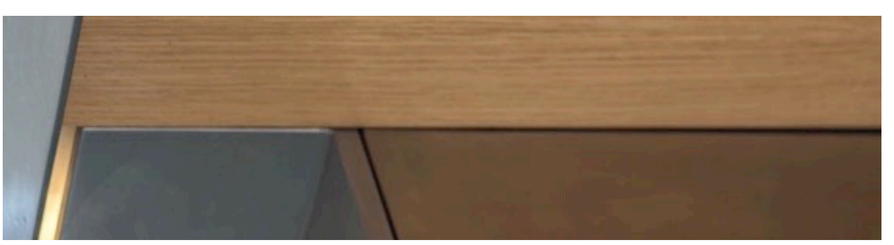
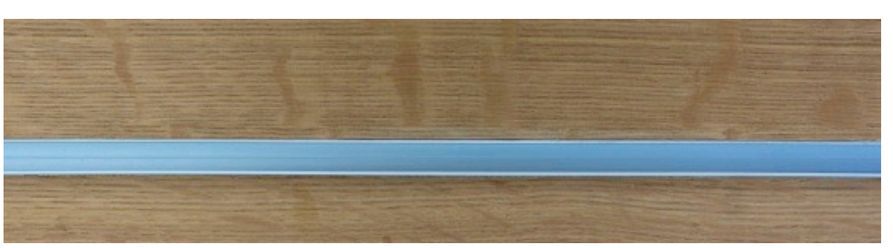


CENTURY
GORDON BUNSHAFT
Alvar Aalto







Sliding Oak Panels Define and Transform the Living Space from Public to Private

Alvar Aalto
GORDON BUNSHAFT