

The Artful Lodger/Nancy McKeon

WIRED FOR THE FUTURE

“...Each loft in this TriBeCa building will be equipped with a computer terminal, for working at home day and night...”



JONATHAN ROSE HAS SEEN THE future, and it works—at home. Which is why each condominium loft in his newly restored American Thread Company building, at 260 West Broadway, in TriBeCa, will be equipped with a computer terminal hooked up to a data bank. And why there will be a coin-operated photocopying machine in the basement. And why bathrooms are at opposite ends of each loft (to make it easy to divide living space from working space). All this in addition to hooking the building up to cable TV for stock-market news, of course.

All these manifestations of future shock are housed in a late-nineteenth-century shell, an imposing brick-and-masonry building that was put up for the New York Wool Exchange. The prices are twentieth-century, though—\$128,000 to \$388,000, plus nominal monthly charges for all the electronic gadgetry.



A house divided: A model room (above) at 260 West Broadway demonstrates the division of living and working space.

Man and machine: Jonathan Rose (left) poses with one of the computer terminals that will be included in the purchase price of each condominium. Hooked up to the Source, a data bank, the terminal will permit information retrieval, paid for by the minute, at any hour.

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