

NEW YORK

# SPACES

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## SPRING!



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**THE NEST LIFE** Each micro-unit in Carmel Place has the cozy feel of a tiny, perfectly appointed bird's nest, with a place for everything and everything in its place. Resource Furniture has made sure of that, with custom cabinetry and furnishings made exclusively in Italy by Clei.

## MICRO LIVING: MACRO LIFE

CARMEL PLACE IS A NEW  
APPROACH TO LIFE IN GOTHAM

TEXT DEBORAH L. MARTIN

**NEW YORK CITY** living is not for the faint of heart. First of all you have to find a place in a highly competitive market. And then there's the cost. And the square footage. And the view, and the light, or lack thereof. What about location? Do you try to find something near work? Do you attack the boroughs? And then there is that dreaded word: roommate. The picture can seem pretty bleak.

Enter Carmel Place, a nine-story, 55-unit, micro-apartment building in Kips Bay. Yes, you read that correctly: micro apartments. The modular units (assembled at the Brooklyn Navy Yards) range from 265 to 302 square feet, and as Tobias Oriwol, the project developer says, "302 square feet is 302 *usable* square feet." Designed by nArchitects and built in partnership with Monadnock Development, the furnished apartments are outfitted with space-saving furniture by Resource Furniture. The bed folds into the wall (this isn't your mother's Murphy bed), the table folds out to accommodate 10(!) dinner guests. Cabinets and closets are built in, and kitchen storage is maximized both above counter and below. The units are fully accessible, so there are no tiny hallways or miniature bathrooms here. Eric Bunge, principle of nArchitects says, "The main room is 250 square feet, but when the bed is down it's a 250 square foot bedroom. When the table is out it's a 250 square foot dining room, and when the living room is in use you have a 250 square foot living room." Everything folds away, making the apartment feel much more spacious than

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**LIVING LARGE** *TOP:* The Penelope sofa can seat three, comfortably. The Mini-coffee table lifts up to desk height or collapses for storage—just slide it underneath the wall bed! In the entryway, the Goliath expands from a console to a dining table that seats 10—comfortable Pocket chairs fold away into the front closet. *BOTTOM:* The Penelope wall bed folds out and over the sofa and can be put away fully made. Flanking the bed, the wall cabinets contain rods that emerge for more hanging space. The sliding glass doors and Juliet balconies give each unit an expansive and open feel. Resource Furniture custom-designed all the furniture, closets, and cabinetry.

it actually is. Adding to the feeling of expansiveness are the 9'6" ceilings and the sliding glass doors with Juliet balconies in each unit. The line of sight is open and inviting.

Each apartment comes with an amenity package provided by Stage 3 Properties/Ollie. Christopher Bledsoe, principle at Stage 3 says, "what you are giving up in square footage, we are giving back in time." Everything from a butler, to Wi-Fi and cable, to a customized interior design package, is provided for you once you move in. Need a prescription picked up? Or dry cleaning? Do your shoes need to be resoled? Ollie is there.

The public spaces of Carmel Place are as important as the private. The building is equipped with large rooms for social interaction, dens for game night, a gym, a rooftop deck area, and storage rooms and laundry in the basement. In addition, small corners and nooks will be utilized as comfy meeting areas or places to curl up with a book. Says Bunge, "Everyone needs their privacy but let's face it, living in New York is also about human interaction. Our hope is that this will be a community where people will interact and live in both the public spaces and private."

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