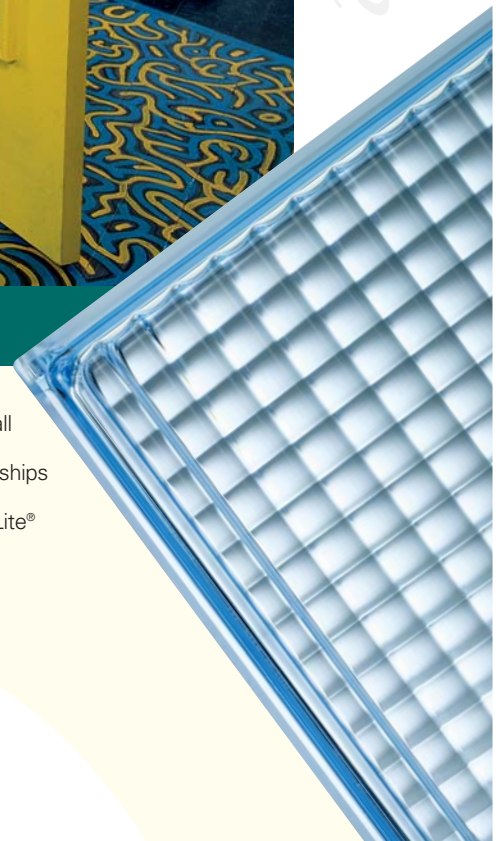




Privacy With Style

From the outside, Brent Bachelder's historic home in Providence, Rhode Island looks similar to all the other homes on the block. Climb up to his third floor attic office, and all that changes. Spaceships soar. Colors abound. And throughout this artistic area, stair-stepped acrylic block walls from Hy-Lite® Products define various living and work spaces for the professional artist.

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To enclose the small kitchen, Bachelder requested a stair-stepped radius wall that brings color and light to the area.

Project Discovery

When Brent Bachelder decided to renovate his attic, only he could clearly envision what was to come. His 1912 home falls in the middle of the historic district, so it would be natural to think of a restoration project that included traditional elements. Not so for Bachelder, whose company specializes in custom artwork.

In order to gain his spacious contemporary work area, Bachelder knocked down walls from two side-by-side houses to create a giant attic. The entire process was filmed and shown to audiences nationwide on *Bob Vila's Home Again* television show.

"I wanted my office to reflect and embrace the work I do," says Bachelder, creative director of Club Neopolsi Creations. "Every inch of the attic has been hand painted including walls, ceilings, floors and beams."

The interplanetary theme of the attic led Bachelder to incorporate Hy-Lite acrylic block products in the design. "We used blue cross rib block panels from Hy-Lite to create a room divider for the kitchen and a private bathroom space. By using the blocks as a window at the top of our stairway, we also brought much-needed light into that area.

"The lightweight aspects of the Hy-Lite acrylic block were essential to the success of this project. We were able to create an enclosure for the bathroom, which helped us gain approval from the historic committee for the skylights. We would have had to restructure the

entire floor and rebeam the area if heavier glass blocks had been used. The Hy-Lite block was roughly 70 percent lighter than installed glass block. That made the entire project much easier to accomplish."

For the bathroom enclosure, Bachelder specified a flat wall with a one-sided



Colorful and unique, every surface in the attic has been hand painted. Contemporary furnishings and the acrylic block walls complement the eclectic design.

stair-stepped surround of blue cross rib acrylic block panels. A block insert in the bright yellow door blends seamlessly with the wall. The kitchen partition also features a stair-stepped design with green and yellow trim to complement bright colors in the room.

"The attic looks terrific in both natural daylight and at night when we have black lights focused on a full wall planetary mural," says Bachelder. "The acrylic blocks play a vital role in the success of this project. They help break up space in a unique way that complements the overall design.

"The house is continually open for tours, street association meetings, art classes and other gatherings. Eventually we'd like to dedicate it as a museum to preserve unique art forms."



A panel of blue cross rib acrylic block adds privacy to the bathroom.



Stair-stepped panels of Hy-Lite block serve as the perfect backdrop for a casual sitting area.

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Project SPECIFICATIONS

Several sets of customized Hy-Lite radius walls were created for this project to define areas in the open attic. Acrylic block products were selected for their contemporary nature and to support the flow of color and light in the large space.

Product Sizes & Styles

Two stair-stepped radius wall partitions, each including 11 panels ranging in staggered sizes from eight inches wide by 56 inches high to eight inches wide by 92 inches high

A 26-inch by 62-inch panel for the bathroom door insert (with special two inch thick block)

Two 44-inch by 98-inch panels for the bathroom flat wall

One 38-inch by 20-inch panel for over the bathroom door

All products made of blue cross rib six-inch square block, three inches thick, in white aluminum frames

Flat end cap was used to attach panels to the floor and to connect panels in the radius

Muntin bars were attached with glazing tape to cover the gap between panels in the radius

Contact Information

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"The entire attic is a one-of-a-kind original."

Brent Bachelder
Club Neopolsi Creations