The new studio space created by tearing down a wall.

Mauricio Roman/The Tech

N52 Studio Renovations Complete

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used as storage, and probably had not been cleaned in 20 years. Walls were brown, there were dangling wires, and one half of the drop ceilings were up and down," he said.

Student-led projects are a viable way for the department to afford renovations, Vallecillo believed, and he hoped that students will have a chance to coordinate another project next summer. A possible choice is to make a rooftop deck for building N52, he said.

Department divided between two buildings

Both architecture students and professors are concerned about the department being divided between the main Institute buildings and N52. Last term three meetings were called by students to discuss problems faced by the department, among which was the issue of its physical division. The students recommended to Porter and Jean P. de Monchaux, dean of the School of Architecture and Planning, that all design studios be housed in the same location by September 1990.

Architecture studios had been housed in the same place until last year when "the absolute number of students had grown beyond the capacity of the available space at the main Institute buildings," de Monchaux said in December. Because of this, a large number of students was moved to available space in building N52 last fall, he added. "The close proximity of all levels of the design program permitted a large amount of TA-student interaction," Lambert T. DeVoe '91 said last term, since "in one community there is more to gain from our educational experience."

Most students believe, however, that during the near future Architecture at MIT will remain a split school.