





Making the connection

The humble bathroom is on the move. Depending on the needs of homeowners, bathrooms may be integrated into main rooms or even the outdoors





Return to Arts and Crafts

In this master suite, created by combining three bedrooms and two bathrooms, the owners can use various areas without disturbing each other

Over the years, with a variety of owners, some houses suffer several sets of alterations. Unfortunately, these additions can spoil the original style of the house as well as its flow.

Architect Martha Yunker was asked to renovate the bedrooms and bathrooms on the upper storey of this English Arts

and Crafts-style home. Since the house was built in 1910, its layout had been substantially altered several times.

Prior to the renovations, a small bathroom had opened off the main bedroom, but it couldn't be used because the plumbing leaked. There were also two other bedrooms and a second bathroom in this part of the house. The whole space

has now been transformed into a master suite, with a separate bedroom, sitting room, dressing room and bathroom all opening off a small hallway.

"The owners wanted their bathroom to have all the modern conveniences, yet at the same time to follow the spirit of the era of the house," says Yunker. "They wanted it to look tailored rather than

These pages: The bathroom and dressing room of this master suite are on opposite sides of a small central hall, with a bedroom and sitting room at the end.

A glass block wall and shower enclosure allow the bathroom to borrow light from the dressing room. They also create a feeling of openness between the

dressing room and bathroom, even when the door is closed. A red marble vanity on chrome legs adds color to the mainly white space.



fussy, but at the same time traditional and elegant. We used some fittings from the original bathroom and any new pieces that we added had to blend in."

By retaining the central hallway, the architect was able to limit the number of doors within the suite. The dressing room has a large opening, while the bathroom has a concealed pocket door. Natural light spills across the hall from the dressing room to the bathroom, which has only one small window. A predominantly white color scheme, as well as glass blocks

for walls and the shower enclosure, also keeps the bathroom light.

To re-create the original style of the house, the owners wanted the dressing area to feel like a room, rather than a walk-in closet. The large opening opposite the glass block wall allows this area to feel more spacious, says the architect.

Double doors open from the hallway into the bedroom and sitting room.

"Because the owners often work unusual hours, this arrangement with the bedroom distanced from the dressing

room and bathroom allows one partner to shower and dress without disturbing the other," says the architect.

Panels of stained glass, found by the owners in an antique shop, were placed between the two seats of a double banquette to separate the bedroom and sitting room. The banquette was built in the space that once contained the master bathroom.

Brick-shaped tiles in the bathroom, chrome pipes on the vanity table and chrome fittings are also part of the Arts and Crafts look.



Facing page: The space filled by the double banquetta, which divides the bedroom and sitting room, was once a small master bathroom.

Above: Stained glass windows separate the two halves of the banquetta, providing privacy between the sitting room and bedroom without blocking light flowing from bedroom windows. The main entrance into the suite is via a staircase that opens into the sitting room. The door on the right opens into the hall.

Legend for plan: 1 laundry, 2 dressing room, 3 hall, 4 bathroom, 5 stairs, 6 sitting room, 7 banquetta, 8 bedroom

Architect: Martha Yunker, Yunker/Asmus Architecture
Main contractor: Silver Bullet
Vanity: Entree marble
Beave: Madison from Potcher
Faucets: Chicago in chrome
Shower fixtures: Delta Wive in Driven Champagne from Grohe
Flooring: Ceramic tiles from Hispanik Design
Toilet: Cadet from American Standard
Ventilation: Nature
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