

T BATHROOM TRENDS

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Ease into the day

An unusual linear layout creates a relaxing design for this master bathroom suite

Getting up weekday mornings is a chore many of us do not look forward to. However, waking up to the thought of having your very own suite of rooms in which to prepare for the day ahead would go a long way to easing the burden.

The owners of this home lead busy lives. Often, the only time they get to pamper themselves is in the morning, says Philip Liederbach of Liederbach and Graham Architects.

"Mornings can be very jarring, and this master bedroom suite creates a very pleasant way to slip oneself into the day," he says.

"Rather than design one large space, we divided the master suite into a linear series of rooms," says Liederbach. "The bathroom occupies a space in the sunnier, south side of the home, with large windows flooding each room with morning light."

Interior French doors open from the bedroom into a compact washroom with twin basins. Beyond this point is a small dressing room cum powder room.

"The large built-in dresser in this center room maintains order in the master suite, with numerous custom drawers, including compartments for shavers and hair-dryers, complete with power outlets," says Liederbach.

The relatively compact floor area of the dressing amplifies the dwarfing effect of a 14ft-high ceiling, creating an almost cathedral-like ambiance. From here, a 6ft by 8ft arch leads to the bathing area.

Three alcoves in the bathing area – one at each end of the bathtub and one on the back wall – help break up the shape of this room, creating a more intimate ambience than one might expect. These alcoves provide convenient areas for candles, or art, such as the statuette above the bath, or the shelf created by the bricked-in arch.

"Although the combined length of the rooms is approximately 40ft, spacial character defines each area, while contributing to the overall intimate aesthetic," says Liederbach.



Above: This master bedroom suite by Philip Liederbach, is broken up into a series of five intimate spaces.

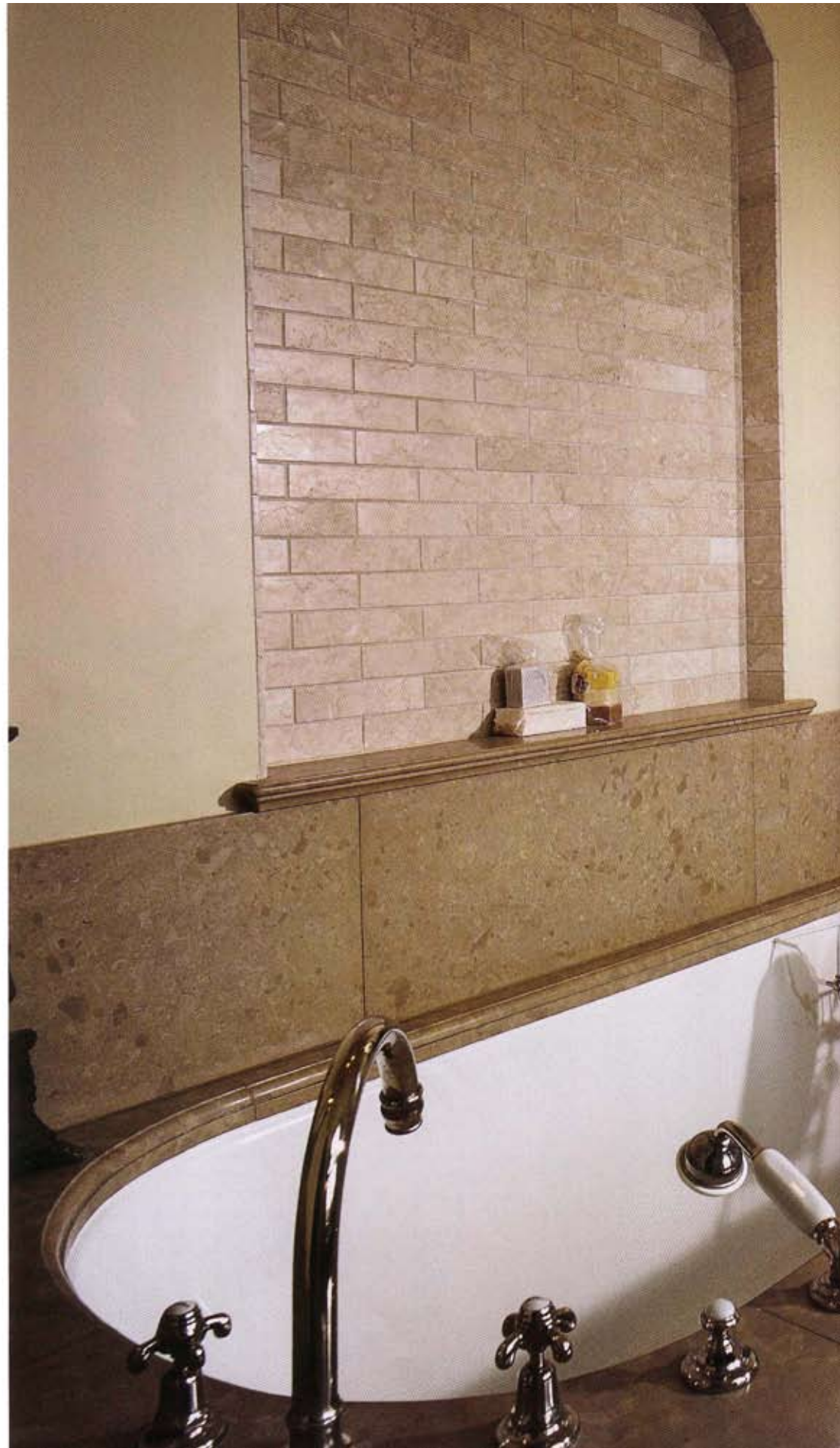
Right: Interior designer Alan Boyd contributed to the decor of the master suite, by including subtle design elements, such as the alabaster chandelier, seen reflected in the mirror above the washbasin.





Above: Legend for plan: 1 shower room, 2 bathing area, 3 lavatory and cabinetry, 4 wash room, 5 master bedroom

Right: Saint Marcs limestone reflects the grandeur of this home. The nickel faucet and hand shower continue the theme introduced by the nickel dressing stool. The hand shower is convenient for rinsing hair and washing the bath after use.



Architect: Principal architect: Philip Liederbach; Project architect: Erica Weeder, both from Liederbach & Graham Architects (Chicago)
Interior designer: Alan Boyd, Alan Boyd Inc
Main contractor: Dennis Smalley Builders
Bed: Pranich & Associates
Cabinets: Wilmot Woodworks
Lighting: Besselink, Jones & Milne
Tub: Waterworks
Faucets: Chicago Faucets and Waterworks
Basin: Kohler
Vanity tops: Massasgis Jaune limestone
Flooring: St Marcs limestone

Photography by
 John Umberger



Above: Quality materials have been used extensively throughout this bathroom, including St Marcs limestone for the flooring and Massasgis Jaune limestone on the countertops. The scale of the design relates to the architecture of the rest of the house. The spaces in this suite can be compartmentalized using sliding doors, which sit flush within the entrance arches when open.