

Spanish lesson

Although within a new addition to an historic home, this suite respects the 1920s Spanish architecture



architecture of such a home this project demonstrates. The suite is within a new addition to a 1920s home, which has a historic preservation zone, the

Architect Linda Brettler says the addition adds a generous 4000sq ft to the house, and accommodates the entire master suite.

"We had the advantage of a But respecting the historic high ceiling, as the addition is stepped down from the rest of can bring plenty of rewards, as the house, but the roof height remains the same," she says.

"Because the house is in an

suite needed to complement the architecture, so we chose to introduce key Spanish motifs, including arches, niches and alcoves. This was also a way to break up the space and make it seem more private and intimate. We didn't want a great sense of openness."

Brettler says the palette needed to be guiet and serene, so the points of difference are in the detail, rather than color

accents. However, Brettler did choose a dark wood stain for the handcrafted vanity to help ground the space visually.

"In true Spanish style, the dark wood vanity is like a piece of furniture. Because the rest of the room is light filled, it provides a balance. The cabinetry also reinforces an Arts and Crafts element that can be seen elsewhere in the house."

The architect created three

separate niches, each framed by a Spanish arch - one to accommodate a large tub, one for the toilet room and one for the shower stall.

"I added a half wall to the side of the tub that meets the vanity, so the wood is not right up against the tub," says Brettler. "It also makes the niche look more substantial."

In keeping with tradition, the architect introduced a

tiled wainscoting that wraps around the entire room. This features high-gloss Ann Sacks Earthenware tiles. The soft grav tones complement the Walker Zanger Vintage glass mosaics that line the wall behind the vanity, and above the wainscoting in the shower.

"We paid a lot of attention to scale," says Brettler. "While the mosaics are very small, the wainscoting tiles are medium

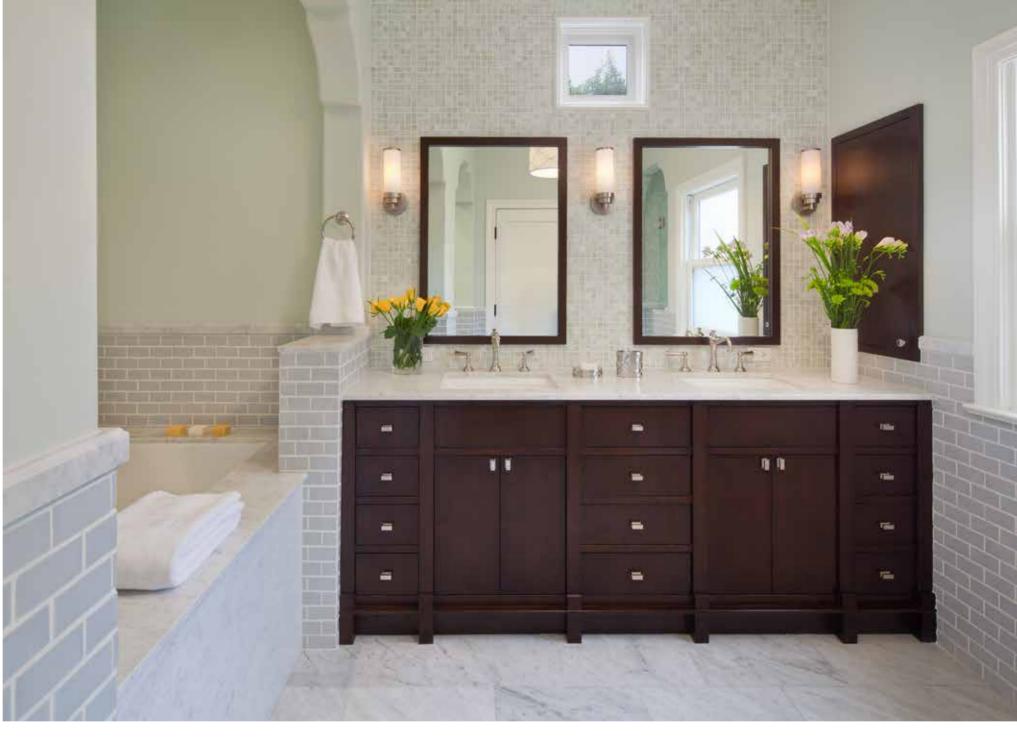
sized, and the Walker Zanger Venatino floor tiles are large. And instead of capping tiles on the wainscoting, we have used slabs of marble, so the trim is continuous. It creates a very finished look.'

The walls above the tiled wainscoting are painted in a very soft shade of pale green.

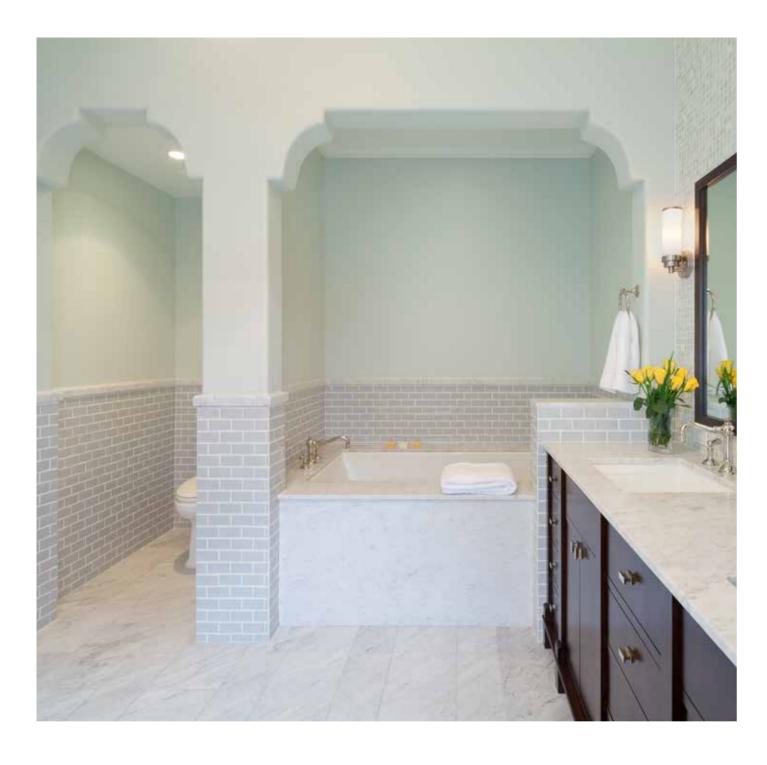
"A pure white bathroom would not have been nearly as interesting," says the architect.

Facing page: This bathroom in a new master suite needed to complement the design of an historic Spanishstyle house built in the 1920s. Architect Linda Brettler introduced Spanish architectural motifs. including arches, niches and alcoves

Above: A dark wood vanity, cabinet door and mirror frames help to counter the light tiled elements in the bathroom. Brettler specified tiles in three sizes - small glass mosaics, medium wall and large floor tiles.



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Above: The toilet also has its own alcove with an arched entry. Setting the bath within a deep surround has provided ledges for bath products and towels.

Facing page: Watery blue-green glass mosaics line the upper walls and ceiling in the shower stall. The railing around the top of the wainscoting extends right into the shower. The same marble also features on a bench seat, and in the floor tiles.

In addition to the main windows, there is a small square window above the vanity, and a rectangular window in the shower area. This niche is fully tiled, with glass mosaics lining the ceiling as well as the walls, creating an inviting watery sanctuary.

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Architect: Linda Brettler AIA, Linda Brettler Architect (Los Angeles) Builder and cabinet company: Metropolis Construction

Bathtub: American Vivo Vanity cabinetry: Dark-stained wood Vanity tops and edge on

wainscoting: Carrara marble Basins: Kohler Memoirs Faucets: Newport Brass with Jacobean

finish in polished nickel Shower fittings: Kohler Margaux in

polished nickel Toilet: Toto

Tiles in shower stall and above

vanity: Walker Zanger Vintage Glass tiles in Pearl Luster in upper portion; Ann Sacks Earthenware tiles in Dew with gloss finish in lower portion

Floor tiles: Walker Zanger Venatino in

Wall tiles: Ann Sacks Earthenware in Dew gloss

Lighting: Artcraft Steven & Chris Collection

Story by Colleen Hawkes Photography by Jim Simmons

