

# New England HOME CT

## *ODE TO CALM*

Restore & Rejuvenate  
in the New Year



# Here & There

DESIGN DISCOVERIES FROM AROUND CONNECTICUT

## *Perfectly Executed*

It's the attention to detail that makes these primary baths sing.

BY ALYSSA BIRD

Designer Melissa Lindsay chose polished nickel for the tub base and the traditional fittings.

"Although polished nickel isn't the easiest to maintain, it has a time-honored quality that you don't get with something like chrome," says the designer.

The bath's focal point comes courtesy of a hand-painted de Gournay panel and a soaking tub from Crosswater London.

"The paper adds depth to the space," says Lindsay.







The shower was kept clean and simple to not detract from the floral panel and tub.

For the floor, Lindsay chose an engineered wood with radiant heating to replace the existing gray tile. "The space felt cold and dead, so we wanted to bring in warmth with the wood."

## TIMELESS BEAUTY

**A few years after tackling the rest** of this eighteenth-century Ridgefield house, designer Melissa Lindsay was tasked with renovating the primary bath. "The large space lacked functionality, and the existing materials felt cold," explains Lindsay. "My goal was to bring in an Old World feel." One of the most critical design choices, according to

Lindsay, was trading in a built-in double vanity for two washstands separated by a cabinet inset with antiqued mirror. "The open washstands with Regency-style metal legs and a traditional curved-stone backsplash are a key element in helping this space feel less like a bath," says the designer. Lindsay worked with builder Rob Liesegang, who created a false wall

behind the vanities to accommodate medicine cabinets. When it came to replacing the tile floor with engineered wood and electric radiant heat, Liesegang had to get creative, as that combination is not an industry standard, and he didn't want to disturb the living room below. "The floors had also settled, so there was a three-inch discrepancy that we had to level out," says Liesegang. A streamlined shower allows the freestanding tub and hand-painted de Gournay panel to take center stage. "It's an elevated design that's simple but sophisticated," says Lindsay. "It feels like it has always been there."

**INTERIOR DESIGN:** Pimlico Interiors by Melissa Lindsay

**BUILDER:** Liesegang Building & Remodeling

The stand-up makeup chest is topped with Blue de Savoie marble, which also appears on the washstands. "Using the same stone makes this item feel like it belongs in the room," says Lindsay.

The custom design of the chest is based on an antique in Lindsay's own home.



Lindsay swapped a built-in double vanity for two washstands with Regency-style metal legs from Palmer Industries and Blue de Savoie marble with a traditional curved backsplash.

Builder Rob Liesegang constructed a false wall to seamlessly integrate the medicine cabinets.

To offset the lack of storage in the washstands, Lindsay designed a cabinet featuring an antique-mirror door. "It adds an element of interest while playing up the Old World aesthetic," she says.





Frosted-glass-and-nickel accordion shutters provide privacy while allowing natural light to flow into the bath.

Almost every surface is sheathed in solid stone, including the Pacific Gray marble walls, the Sugar marble moldings and trim, and the waterjet mosaic floors featuring Carrara, Bardiglio, and Pacific Gray marbles.

Niche accommodates a Victoria + Albert tub, which is paired with a Kohler tub filler.

## LUXURIOUS LAIR

**For a New Canaan couple who travels** extensively, designer Karen Wells created a hotel-like primary bath brimming with carefully considered details and elevated materials. “I wanted to evoke modern European grandeur with a nod to the past,” says Wells, who enlarged the

existing space with the help of builder Hayden Lindsay to accommodate a floating double vanity, a shower, a water closet, and a freestanding soaking tub. Nearly every surface is covered in marble, from the tiled walls to the slab-sheathed shower to the patterned

When the shower is in use, the lighting in the stall automatically turns on, and the vanity mirrors contain a heating element that prevents them from fogging up.



The water closet is concealed with frosted-glass-and-nickel panels that coordinate with the window shutters.

floor. Even the moldings and trim—the crown, baseboards, and casings—are a contrasting marble. Installing this abundance of solid stone required some additional prep work, however. “We had 2,500 pounds of stone sitting above the living room’s grand piano, so we needed to add more support,” notes Lindsay. “There are also several areas where stone and glass come together, and it’s quite challenging to join those materials.” Other accents include leather insets on the vanity, both frosted and white glass, and nickel framing. A combination of sconces and overhead, under-vanity, and shower lighting is key in providing different moods for different activities, whether it’s applying makeup or enjoying a relaxing soak.

**INTERIOR DESIGN:** Karen Wells Design  
**BUILDER:** Lindsay Builders  
**CABINETRY:** DEANE

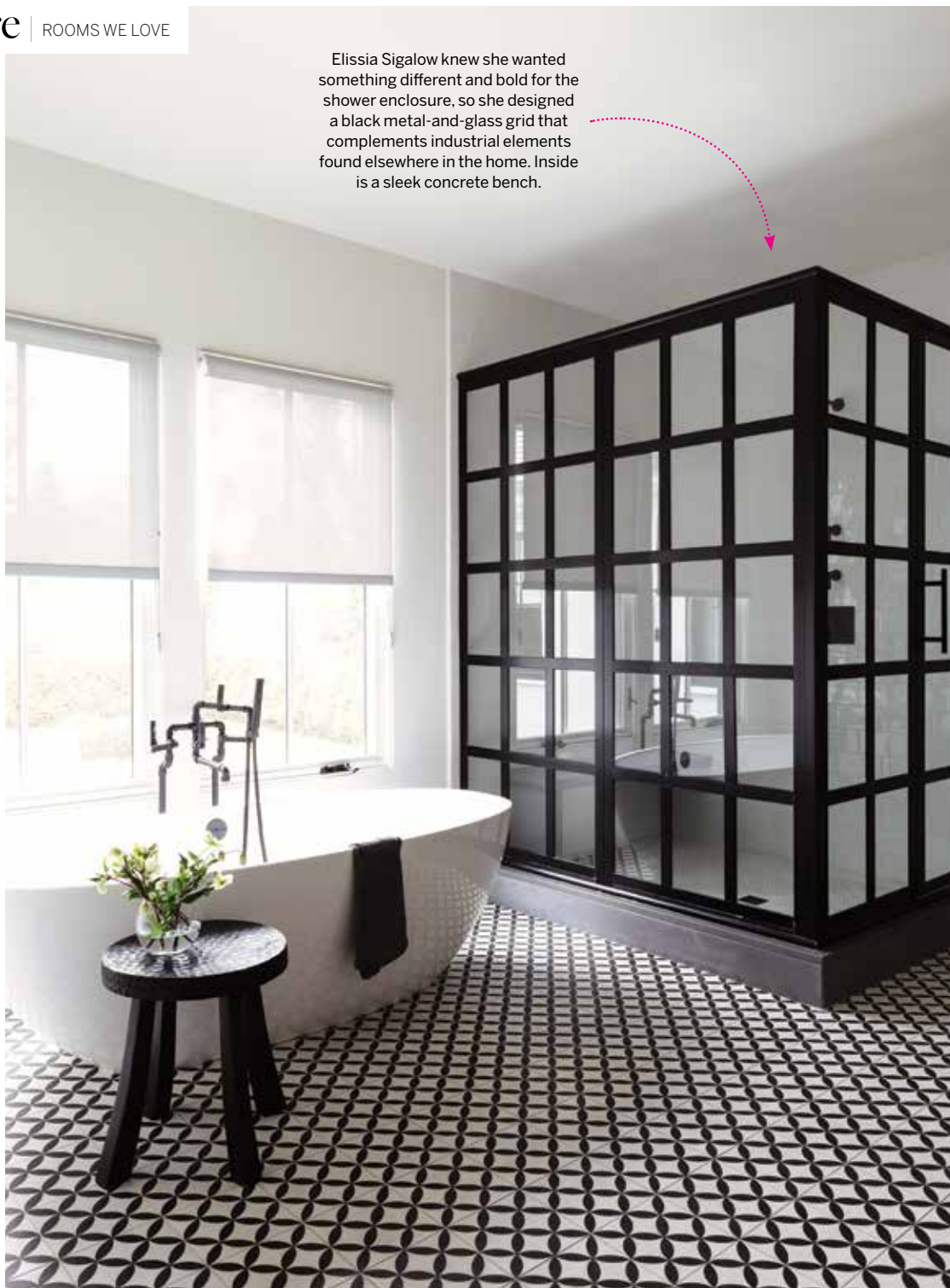


A floating vanity with leather panels and acrylic pulls features under-cabinet lighting as well as Kelly Wearstler sconces from Visual Comfort.

The vanity’s middle cabinet pulls out—almost like a spice rack—to reveal double-sided storage for each of the homeowners’ personal items.

Elissia Sigalow knew she wanted something different and bold for the shower enclosure, so she designed a black metal-and-glass grid that complements industrial elements found elsewhere in the home. Inside is a sleek concrete bench.

Cement tile with a hand-painted pattern pulls together the room's black-and-white palette.



## MODERN MOOD

**In conceiving her own Westport** home from the ground up, furniture designer Elissia Sigalow had the benefit of a blank canvas. “I’m a minimalist, and I liked the idea of using raw materials with a clean look and modern appeal,” says Sigalow. “Both concrete and industrial touches are themes in the rest of the house, so incorporating a concrete

trough sink, cement tiles, and a black metal-framed shower area pulls it all together.” However, crafting a seamless, contemporary look is more complicated than one might think. “This house has no trim, which means there’s no room for error when blending finishes like tile with the doors and windows,” says builder Jamie Duggan, explaining that



Sigalow wanted the focus of the room to be the simple-yet-sculptural soaking tub by Victoria + Albert.

Sigalow often takes inspiration from European and Scandinavian style, and she sourced the pendant lights from the Danish brand Normann Copenhagen.



The lack of hardware on the concrete-topped vanity draws attention to the Watermark sink fittings, which, according to Sigalow, help drive home the industrial look.



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—Designer Elissia Sigalow

moldings can hide a lot. “And the floor tile is hand painted, so we needed to be mindful of how we were making cuts, grouting, and sealing so as not to discolor or disturb the minerals in the tile.” To round out the sleek scheme, Sigalow chose a striking soaking tub, designed a simple vanity without hardware, and installed sink fittings “that are a little industrial and remind me of faucets from the 1950s and ’60s,” says the designer. “I thought a lot about materials and texture, and I took inspiration from both European and Scandinavian design.”

**EDITOR’S NOTE:** For details, see Resources.

**INTERIOR DESIGN:** STOWED  
**BUILDER:** Braydan Construction