

# SANCTUARY OF MARBLE

MASTERFUL ADDITION  
by trish MUYCO-TOBIN

Even before the plans were drawn for the master bath in Shelley Marglous' Frontenac home, she knew the addition was going to be fabulous. "I knew what I wanted, and we designed it from scratch," she says. In the spring of 2004, Marglous and her husband, Steve, moved into the Mediterranean-inspired home previously owned by her parents for almost 30 years. Before the couple moved in, the house was completely gutted and renovated, and work on the master bath addition began. "The original bath was too small for everything else that was so big," Marglous explains. "I admit it probably got out of hand, but once we started, we wanted to do it right."

The design concept was to create a special place apart from the rest of the world, according to Scott Krejci, president of Krejci Associates Architects. "A bath is a



A brass chandelier once belonging to Shelley Marglous' mother hangs from a custom-made dome in her all-marble master bathroom.

sanctuary, a personal care space," he says. "Though you may only spend 15 to 20 minutes there in the morning or at night, that time is very important. It can help prepare you physically and mentally for your day. It's a question of whether you are going to give yourself merely what you need or something that will inspire you for the rest of the day."

Inspiration came from a solid brass chandelier once belonging to Marglous' mother. "It used to hang over the formal dining room, but now that the front of the house is more contemporary, I needed to find a new place for it," Marglous says. "I always envisioned a chandelier in the bath, so it turned out to be a beautiful focal point." But perhaps the one feature that transforms the bathroom into a grand space is the custom-made dome in the middle of the room. "It was such a great idea," Marglous says. "It tied in with the rest of the home—the pillars, the arches—and it matches the 'wow' factor that you get when you walk into the courtyard."

The entire bathroom is surrounded by marble—from the heated floors and crown molding to the countertops and base of the settee underneath the dome. Marglous says her preference for neutrals inspired the light beige and caramel color scheme. "I don't tire of things. I already had the soap dish, tissue box and waste can, and I liked the colors, so we used them for the new bathroom," she says. The neutral shades extend to the patterned floors, keystones and other detailed trim that complete the space's elegant look. The room has separate shower and toilet areas and rope lighting underneath the vanities and around the dome.

The home's master bedroom and study were updated with columns and other details to fully integrate with the new bathroom and to transform the entire space into a suite, complete with walk-in closet and dressing room. The original bathroom is now

the laundry room.

In contrast to the new bath addition, the powder room near the front of the house was renovated when the Marglouses moved in. Its bolder use of color represents a slight departure from the home's overall neutral scheme. Marglous says the first piece she found for the room was a clay, terra cotta vessel. "I saw it and thought, 'Wow, this would be fun and different,'" she recalls. The color of the vessel inspired the copper and brass theme throughout the room, from speckled wood molding and wallpaper to the vanity trim and light fixtures.

The powder room's dramatic ambience is enhanced by the personal items Marglous has placed there. A music box from a trip to London and ornamental hairpins once owned by her mother dot the marble vanity. Also hard to miss is the miniature perfume bottle collection. "I don't even like perfume, but the bottles are works of art," Marglous says.

The vanities, shelving, pillars, arches and other structural features in both the master bath and powder room were custom built on-site by R. Stonich and Sons, who also worked on the renovation of the entire home. ✦



Vanities on both sides of the room have elegant glass shelving and rope lighting underneath the cabinets.



Shelley Marglous