

# Bathroom features to look out for when buying home

Home is where the heart is... and also where the residents are, according to researchers who track lifestyle trends. People are staying home in droves, according to the experts, and relaxing in the comforts afforded there.

This phenomenon, called cocooning, is making its mark on the bath industry, noted Francis Jones, CKD, Executive Director of the National Kitchen & Bath Association, during the recent Kitchen & Bath Symposium in New York.

"Researchers tell us that people are spending more of their precious leisure time at home. Consequently, they want that time to be more pleasurable, and they want their homes to offer the amenities that make it an enjoyable place," said Jones.

At one time, a room for fulfilling primarily hygienic functions, today's bath has become a "bodyroom" for tending to corporal needs: Relaxing, exercising and rejuvenating.

Today's well-appointed bath could be equipped with a whirlpool tub, steam room, sauna and exercise equipment.

Industry trends indicate that the bath has become the most-remodeled room, followed by the kitchen.

In light of these trends, Jones recommends potential home-buyers consider the following features when looking for a new home:

- **Proper Lighting**—The move towards multi-purpose kitchens and baths is accompanied by more sophisticated lighting needs, noted Symposium speaker Joseph Bracchitta, CKD, Sleepy Hollow Custom Kitchens, North Tarrytown, N.Y.

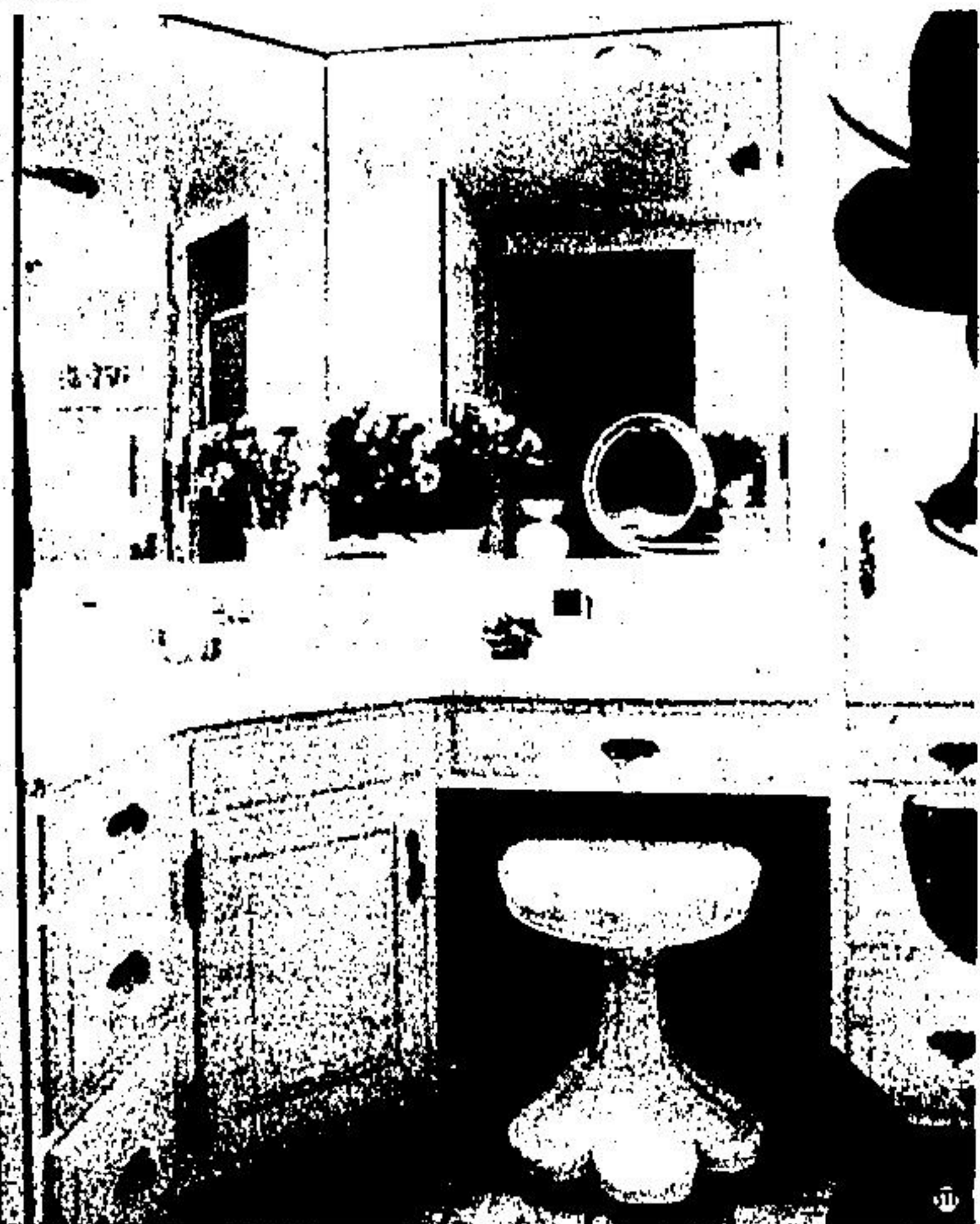
In addition to general illumination, task lighting is needed: Under counters, over the sink, around mirrors, in the shower and other bath "privacy zones," for example. Lighting can also be used to create a mood.

- **Adequate Ventilation**—Adequate ventilation is important in the bath, where a moist environment can wreak havoc with wallcovering, laminates and tile grout.

Studies have shown that the moisture content in a ventilated bath two minutes after the shower is turned off is lower than it would be after 20 minutes in an unventilated bath.

- **Safety Considerations**—The National Kitchen & Bath Association estimates 25 percent of all household accidents occur in the bath. Features such as grab bars, slip-resistant surfaces and ground fault circuit interruptors can help prevent accidents.

Consumers should request non-skid tile or other flooring in the bath, noted Symposium presenter Nicholas Geragi, Jr., CKD, Kitchens by Nicholas, Herkimer, N.Y.



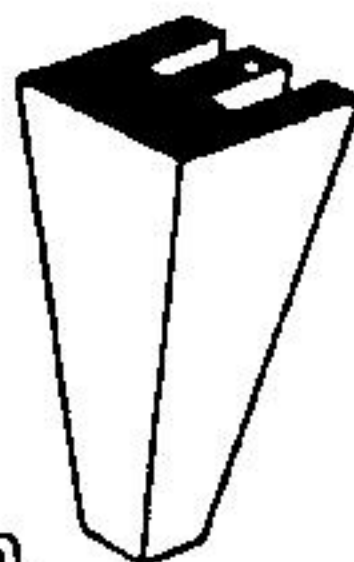
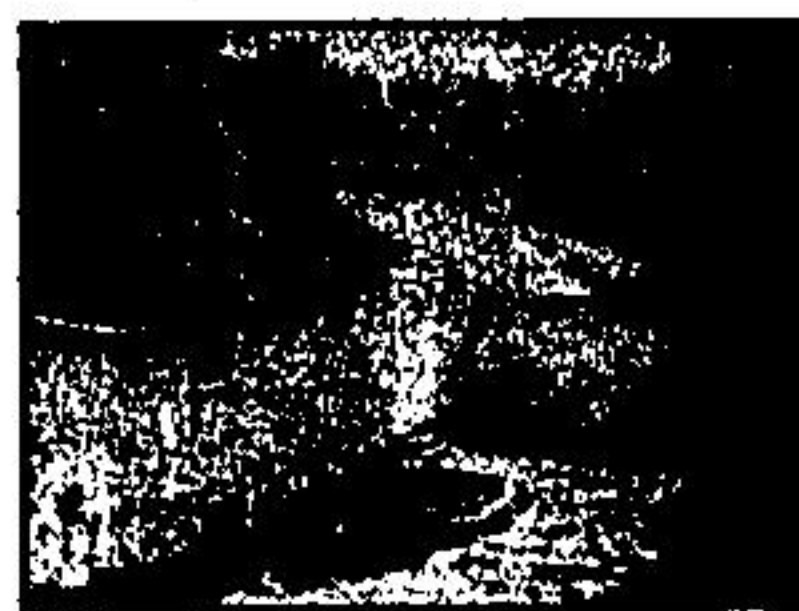
INDUSTRY STATISTICS prove that well-designed baths help sell homes faster. Proper planning can turn even a small bath such as this one by Randy Brandes, CKD, Kitchens by A & B, Wyckoff, N.J., into an award winner. His design won a first place award in the 1987 National Kitchen & Bath Association Design Contest.

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### 1850's Cont'd

Other industries at this time where John Kennedy's mill, foundry, sawmill and blacksmiths shop which were located in the "Silver Creek Tower" area.

A brewery was also established in the 1800's. This was located on the 8th line, one mile east of Hornby and although somewhat removed from the other factories, it was considered one of the "Hungry Hollow" industries. It started off as a log structure, but eventually was constructed of brick. Mr. John Brian, its owner, produced about five thousand barrels of beer annually, using hops grown locally. The brewery employed its own coopersmith who made the barrels. Winter ice from a nearby pond was used to cool the beer in summer. The beer could be left for several weeks in an open pail without going flat. It's alcohol content was 30% and transportation to nearby hotels was provided by horse drawn carts.

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Thank you for the very valuable information provided by Walter Lewis, Elaine Bertrand and John McDonalds "Hulton Sketches". Your comments are invited.



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