

Project Name: Bathroom Remodel
Residential Bath: \$50,001 to \$75,000
Completion Date: August 18, 2021
Location: Madison, WI



RESIDENTIAL BATH
MADISON, WI
2021

AFTER: VIEW OF NEW MASTER BATHROOM


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2022 REGIONAL WINNER
Residential Interior
\$250,001 to \$500,000

These young clients came to us with a desire to completely redesign their master bathroom. They wanted a design that was clean and modern. They had an old, unused whirlpool tub that they wanted replaced with a freestanding soaking tub, and an existing, bump-out window that needed to remain. The 90's oak needed to remain as well since it matched the rest of the house, so we had the challenge of seamlessly combining the old and new designs together.



BEFORE: VIEW OF EXISTING MASTER BATHROOM

With an unnecessarily large oak vanity, 90's brass accents, and a small, dark and dingy corner shower, this bathroom was in need of a serious upgrade.



AFTER: VIEW OF THE NEW SOAKING TUB AREA

Just by removing the shower, we were already on the right track to brighten up the room. The existing shower plumbing rough-ins provided just the space we needed to add the soaking tub, and to give the bathroom a completely new look and feel.



BEFORE: EXISTING SOAKING TUB AND WINDOW

Directly across from the existing shower, an unused whirlpool tub with a bench and built-in cabinetry was an eyesore. The dark trim around an existing window only added to the dinginess of the space. Although the untempered window needed to remain, and was a good source of light, a complete replacement was not in the budget. We swapped out the window sash for tempered glass to keep it within building code, and removed the trim to waterproof and brighten up the whole wall.



The bump-out was tiled in, and a new white quartz ledge is now the perfect replacement for the 90's tile. This space is bright, clean, and modern, not only showcasing a beautiful design, but also a fully functioning, shower friendly place for necessities or decorative accents for the bathroom.



AFTER: NEW SHOWER AREA

An important item on the client's wish-list was a dual shower head system. To make this possible, and to give the shower some depth, which allowed more freedom in the design, we used the existing plumbing rough-ins from the large whirlpool tub area to have enough room for the client's wishes.



This idea worked perfectly, as the new shower has plenty of room to be used as a dual shower, and plenty of depth to be creatively designed.



AFTER: NEW SOAKING TUB

The dark corner shower area on the opposite side of the bathroom was then used for the plumbing location of the new soaking tub. A perfect fit!



BEFORE: OUTDATED DOUBLE VANITY

Another important wish-list item for the client was for us to somehow reinvent the look of the double vanity. In far contrast to what was existing, they wanted something clean and contemporary, that would give the bathroom a sleek and modern look.



AFTER: SLEEK & CONTEMPORARY DOUBLE VANITY

Our design and production team put their vision and expertise together to create an ideal custom floating vanity.



IN PROGRESS: VISIBLE PLUMBING PIPES TO FLOOR

However, one small caveat to this concept was the fact that the original plumbing pipes came through the floor of the existing vanity. If the vanity was now going to be floating, those pipes would be visible.



AFTER: CONCEALED PLUMBING PIPES

Again, we came up with another solution, to build a small wall around the plumbing pipes. This would give the illusion of a floating vanity, conceal the plumbing pipes below, as well as offer a foundation for the vanity to support itself on - still floating, yet very well supported!

AFTER: WHITE QUARTZ LEDGE



The addition of the small wall beneath the vanity provided a way for another solution. The clients needed a ledge next to the tub, as creating another set of niches was not within their budget. Following the depth of the wall, we created a knee wall, so visually, the wall underneath the vanity does not end, which enhances the illusion of a truly floating vanity. Again, white quartz was used for the accent, mimicking the window ledge nearby.



AFTER: VIEW TO SOAKING TUB

The addition of this wall also brings the freestanding tub out 4 inches, making it a focal point of the bathroom upon entrance, rather than being concealed behind the vanity.

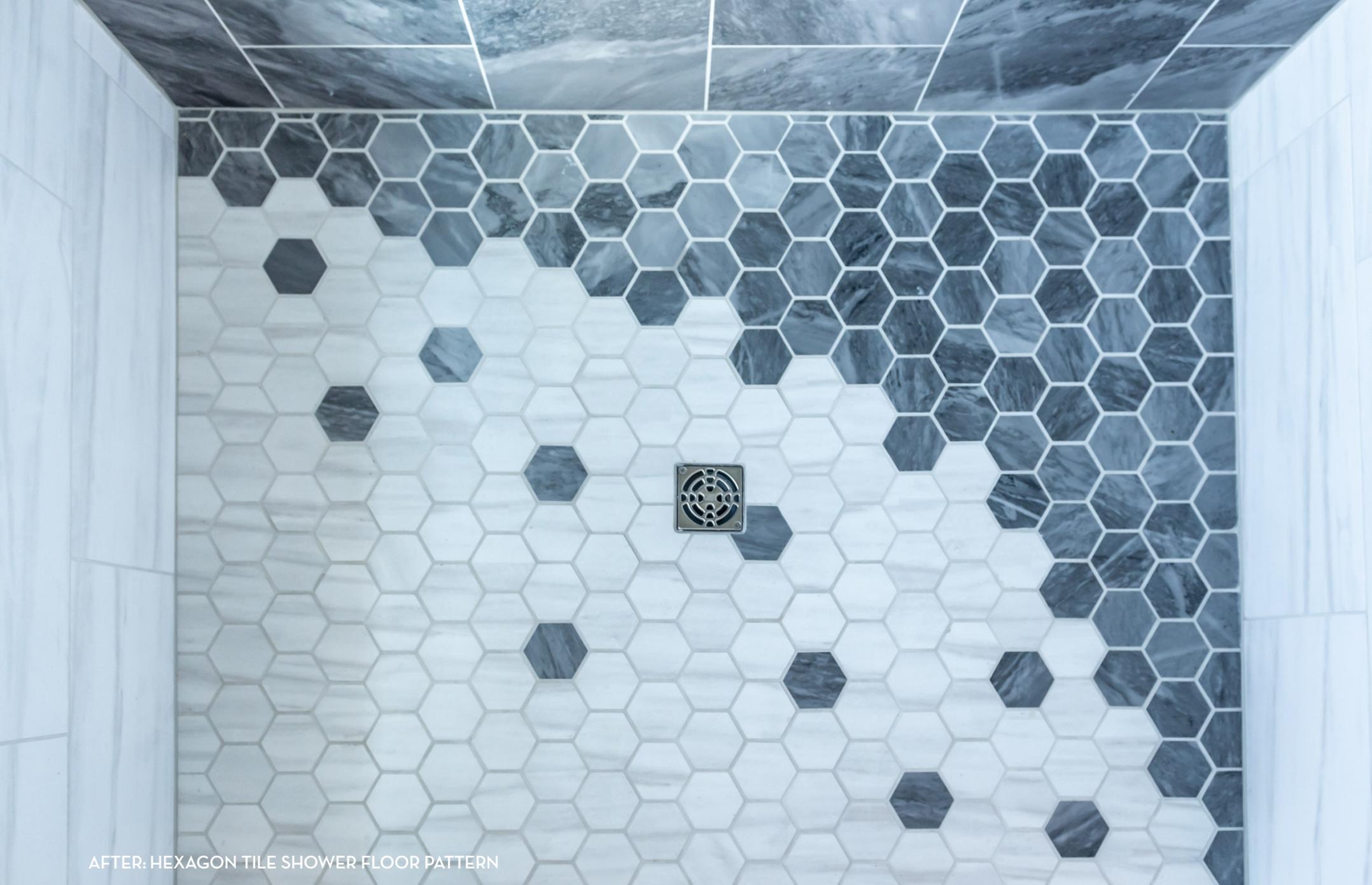


AFTER: HEXAGON TILE



AFTER: HEXAGON TO LINEAR TRANSITION

One of our favorite features in this project is the design of the tile. The dark wall provides depth and anchors the entire space, which allowed for creativity with the waterfall concept within the hexagon tiles. Turning the gray tiles vertically, mimics the linear tile floor to wall pattern and truly accentuates the waterfall concept!



AFTER: HEXAGON TILE SHOWER FLOOR PATTERN

The hexagon tile pattern is another key element to the design. As the dark gray linear tiles help to anchor the walls, the mix of gray and white tiles on the floor help to anchor the whole concept, creating a design that is completely intentional! The waterfall effect works well between the hexagonal tiles, and to add even more interest and dimension to the design, the gray tiles were infused into the white, incorporating yet another design element.

BEFORE: EXISTING TOILET ROOM

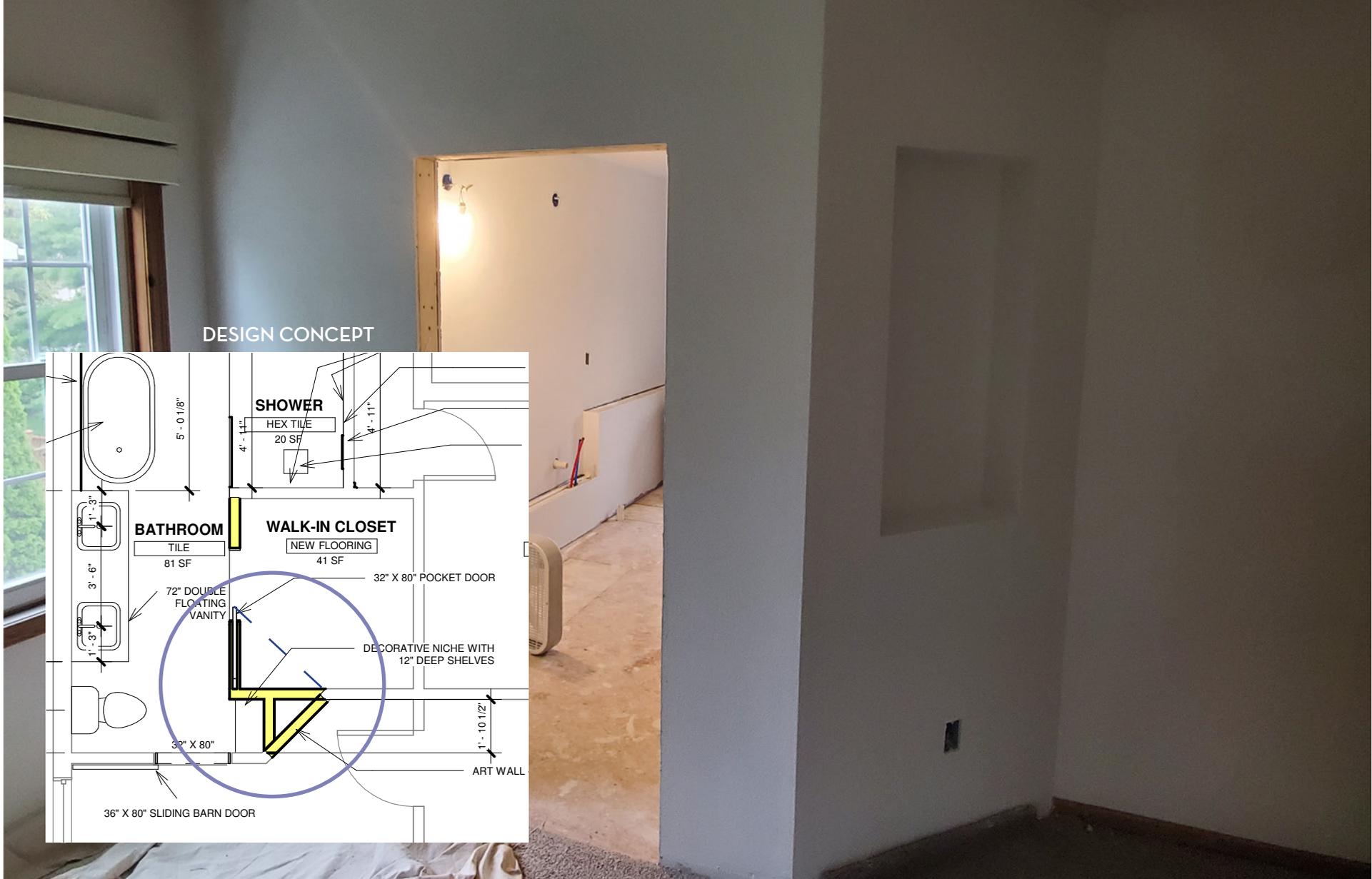


Originally, the clients had a toilet room in their master bathroom. They wanted this removed, but this caused a problem. If we were to remove the toilet room door and keep the plumbing locations where they are, which was necessary to remain within budget, then the first view you would see when opening the master bathroom would be the toilet. This seemed to defeat the purpose of a remodel.



BEFORE: EXISTING TOILET ROOM DOOR

IN PROGRESS: DOORWAY WAS MOVED DOWN AND WALL BUMPED OUT FOR ADDITIONAL SHELVING



As a solution, we bumped out an unusable corner of the master bathroom walk-in closet to take it from a 45° angle to a 90° angle. This would now make the entire closet usable space. Since the wall was being squared off, we took advantage of the extra space and created an art wall for shelves at the main entrance of the room.



AFTER: DECORATIVE SHELVING



Which allowed for extra storage space behind for some additional open decorative shelving in the master bathroom.

AFTER: VIEW INTO THE MASTER BATHROOM



Thanks to squaring off the walls, you now look past the toilet instead of at the toilet!



AFTER: MODERN BARN DOOR

We also moved the master bathroom door down towards the master bedroom window to change the direction of the view upon entrance. By using a custom barn door for the bathroom entrance, this eliminates the concern of a door swinging right into the toilet.



AFTER: VIEW OF MASTER BATH

It also adds a modern twist that prepares the viewer for what comes next, all while supporting the medium oak stain found throughout the rest of the home. Once opened, the barn door provides a great view into the beautiful areas of the bathroom. To continue with the theme of the barn door, a pocket door with a glass insert was used for the walk-in closet.



AFTER: VIEW OF POCKET DOOR



AFTER



AFTER



AFTER



CRITERIA RESPONSES

To what degree were the expressed needs of the client met?

As a new young couple who had recently purchased their home, these clients had a dream of a master bathroom that would be clean, modern, and contemporary without competing with the rest of the home. They had a toilet room that they felt was unnecessary, and saw the potential in the space. They knew that they wanted a dual shower and soaking tub, and needed to use the original plumbing locations, but beyond that didn't know where to begin. They also had no idea of what finishes they would like, and depended on us for all inspiration. We met their needs with the following.

- we opened up the toilet room
- we designed a new custom clean and contemporary vanity
- we installed a perfectly sized modern style soaking tub
- we brightened the bathroom so that it is a modern space with clean lines and aesthetically pleasing
- all selections were presented to the client

To what degree does the project enhance the existing structures functionally?

The shower has plenty of room and allows for two people. The closet functions much better now that it has been squared off, providing more room for storage. The shelves, ledges, and niches throughout the bathroom provide a convenient place for everything within arms reach. An awkward angled entrance was eliminated, and a crowded toilet room was integrated with the main bathroom. By eliminating the awkward entrance, we were able to create an art wall with shelving in the master bathroom where the client can showcase some of their favorite items.

To what degree does the project enhance the structure aesthetically?

The floating vanity provides a true sleek finish to the bathroom, and visually guides the eye to the seamless floor to wall connection of the tile. The matching white tile of the recessed window ensures that there is no visual interruption to the wall, and filters in even more light. The combination of the tiles surrounding the bath and shower area make the bathroom bright, modern, and beautiful. While the combination of the gray and white tiles help to anchor the design and introduce an intentional design element. The waterfall effect of the bathroom tile in the linear tiles and hexagon tiles enhances the visual appeal and adds interest to the space.



CRITERIA RESPONSES (continued)



Is there evidence of superior craftsmanship?

- In order for this tile concept to work, it had to be installed flawlessly - which it was.
- Precision carpentry and cabinet making skills were needed to execute the design of the floating cabinet transition to the tub ledge.

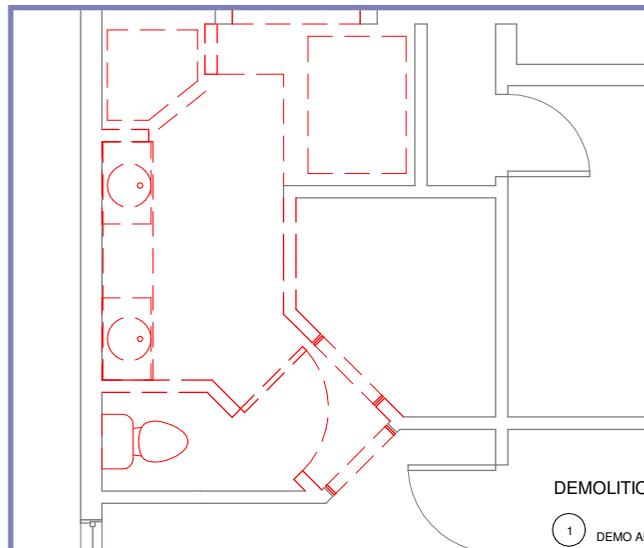
Were innovative uses of material and/or methods of construction used in the project?

- Innovative and creative methods of construction were needed to come up with a solution for the wall beneath the floating vanity, and further into the ledge next to the tub. The creativity behind the solution helped to address two potential problems. 1. Visible plumbing pipes. 2. Ledge for convenient storage.
- The solution to flip the tiles vertically required thinking "outside of the box", and ended up being the more preferable of the two options.
- The tiling of the bump-out window and replacement sashes with tempered glass for building code, rather than an expensive window replacement.

Did the contractor overcome difficult obstacles?

The most difficult obstacle was the linear tile. Although both the gray and white came from the same manufacturer, the gray tile ended up being 5/16" narrower than the white tile. This essentially made a seamless corner impossible. The decision was made to flip the tiles to be installed vertically, rather than horizontally, which also enhanced the visual waterfall effect.

DEMO DRAWINGS



NEW FLOOR PLAN

