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BATHROOM CONSTRUCTION

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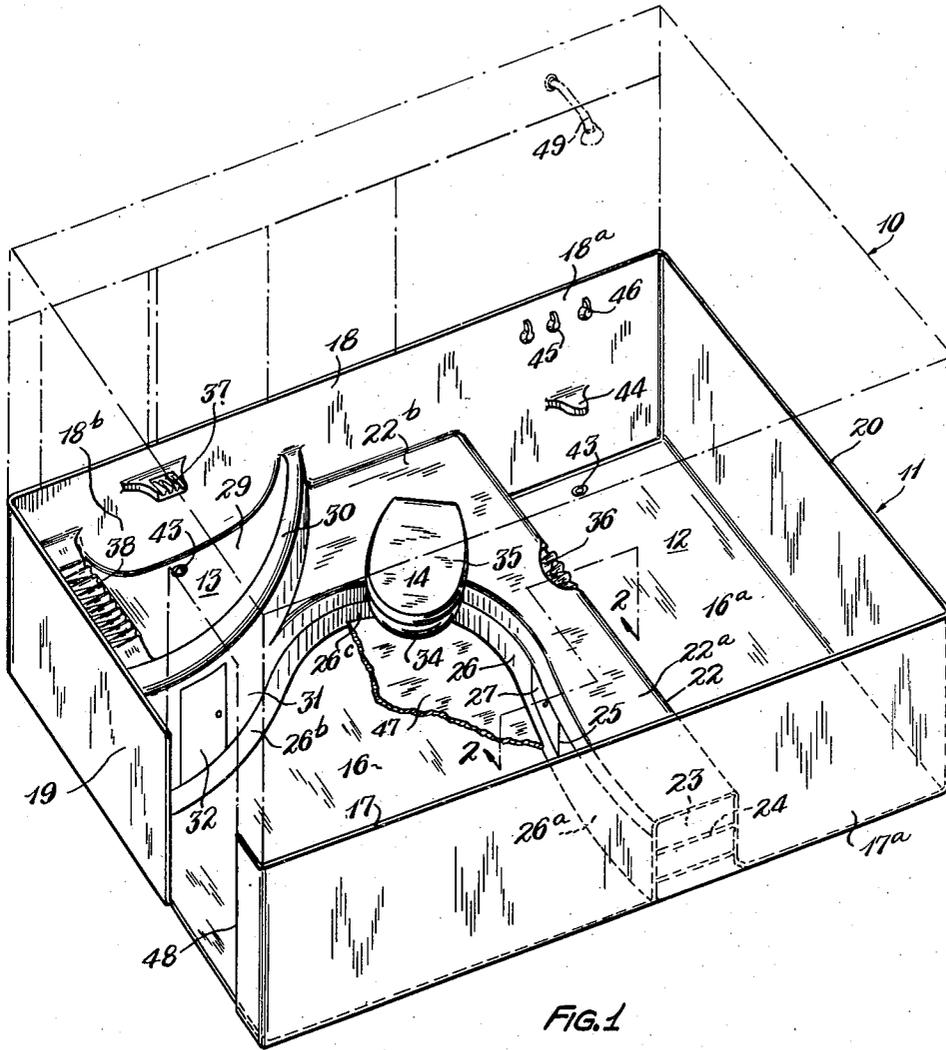


FIG. 1

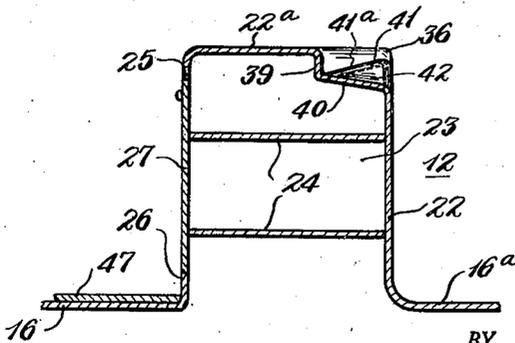


FIG. 2

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BATHROOM CONSTRUCTION

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1

This invention relates to bathroom constructions of the type employing a prefabricated unit or core and, as one of its objects, aims to provide an improved unit of this kind which can be economically manufactured and installed and has one or more toilet fixtures integrally embodied therein.

Another object of this invention is to provide an improved bathroom construction in which building structure is applied to or erected around a prefabricated unit having side and bottom walls and embodying one or more toilet fixtures formed integral with such walls so that said unit forms the lower portion of the bathroom including the toilet fixtures.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide a prefabricated bathroom unit of a unitary construction and embodying one or more toilet fixtures formed as an integral part thereof.

A further object of the invention is to provide a prefabricated bathroom unit of the character mentioned, which is made of sheet metal or the like and has integrally connected side and bottom walls and wherein integral portions of the unit cooperate with such walls in defining toilet fixtures in a relative arrangement which utilizes the available space to maximum advantage and enables the required plumbing connections to be readily made.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following detailed description when taken in conjunction with the accompanying sheet of drawings, in which

Fig. 1 is a perspective view showing a bathroom constructed or erected in accordance with the present invention, and

Fig. 2 is a partial transverse sectional view taken through the prefabricated unit as indicated by line 2-2 of Fig. 1.

The accompanying drawing shows a bathroom constituting a part of a dwelling or other building and formed by erecting suitable building structure 10 around a prefabricated bathroom unit 11. The bathroom unit 11 is shown as embodying a plurality of toilet fixtures which in this instance comprise a bathtub 12, a lavatory 13 and a toilet 14. In the bathroom unit 11 these fixtures are located in a desired arrangement utilizing the available space to maximum advantage, but it will be understood, of course, that the bathroom unit can include some or all of these fixtures and that they can be disposed in various other relative arrangements.

The building construction 10 can be any conventional building structure such as side walls

2

and a ceiling constructed from studs, rafters on other frame members and having the usual lath and plaster or wallboard or the like mounted thereon to form the desired wall and ceiling surfaces. Although the bathroom unit 11 is readily usable with building structure of the character just mentioned, it is especially suitable for use with a prefabricated type of building construction in which case the building structure 10 would comprise prefabricated wall or ceiling panels, wardrobe units, cabinets and the like which would be moved into assembled relation against and around the prefabricated unit 11 to cooperate therewith in defining the complete bathroom.

The prefabricated bathroom unit 11 comprises a unitary structure which is made from sheet metal or the like and is, in general, in the form of a box-like structure having side walls and a bottom wall or floor 16. In this instance the unit 11 is quadrangular in plan shape and has pairs of opposed side walls 17, 18 and 19, 20. The side walls can be of any desired height and can extend to the ceiling of the bathroom, or preferably as here shown, are of a height corresponding with the tile wainscoting frequently employed in bathrooms and which extends up the side walls for a distance somewhat above the lavatory 13. In constructing the unit 11 pieces of metal sheets or plates can be formed to the desired shape by cutting, drawing or stamping operations or any combination of these operations, so as to correspond with certain portions of the unit and then connected into unitary structure or assembly by welding, soldering, brazing or the like.

The bathtub 12 can be located at the inner or remote end of the unit 11 and, in this instance, is formed in part by the rear side wall 20 and adjacent portions of the side walls 17 and 18 which form the ends 17a and 18a of the tub. The bathtub is also defined in part by a portion 16a of the floor 16 which forms the bottom of the tub and in part by an upright transverse hollow structure 22 which forms the front wall of the tub.

The transverse hollow structure 22 is here shown as extending across the interior of the unit 11 between the side walls 17 and 18 and having its ends integrally connected with these side walls. The structure 22 is also integrally connected with the bottom wall or floor 16 and is of a height corresponding with that desired for the front upright wall of the bathtub 12. The transverse structure 22 is also made of the sheet metal or the like which is used in the side walls and bottom of the unit 11 and the portion thereof adjacent the side

wall 17 is preferably of increased width and provided with a substantially flat top 22a to enable this structure to serve as a seat. A person using the bathroom can sit on the flat top 22a either with his feet and legs disposed in the bathtub 12 or with his feet and legs located on the opposite or front side of the transverse structure.

The hollow interior of the transverse structure 22 can be used as a storage space or cabinet 23 having one or more shelves 24 therein on which towels or various other articles can be placed. Access to the storage space 23 can be had through an opening 25 in the upright front wall 26 of the transverse structure and which is adapted to be closed by a door 27.

The lavatory 13 is built into the unit 11 as an integral part thereof and preferably is in the form of a corner lavatory which spans the included corner defined by the intersecting side walls 18 and 19. The lavatory 13 includes a downwardly dished structure 29 which forms the curved bottom of this fixture and which is attached to the side walls 18 and 19. In this instance a portion 18b of the side wall 18 cooperates with the dished member 29 in defining the bowl or recess of the lavatory.

The dished member 29 also includes a forwardly and downwardly extending integral portion which defines a hollow arcuate front rim 30 for the lavatory and an upright front wall 31 extending between the rim 30 and the floor 16 and forming a closure for the plumbing space located beneath the lavatory. This upright front wall 31 has an opening therein affording access to the plumbing space and which is adapted to be closed by a door 32 or the like.

The toilet 14 is preferably located in the transverse hollow structure 22 and this fixture comprises a toilet bowl 34 which is formed integral with this hollow structure and on which the usual seat and cover combination 35 is mounted. To accommodate the toilet fixture 14 to best advantage, the transverse structure 22 is constructed with a portion 22b of relatively increased width adjacent the side wall 18 and which wider portion extends along this side wall. The portion 22b is preferably carried along the side wall 18 far enough to engage and merge smoothly into the upright front wall 31 of the lavatory 13.

The front wall 26 of the transverse structure 22 is carried continuously along the front of the relatively wider portion 22b and also engages and merges into the front wall 31 of the lavatory 13. The front wall 26 preferably follows a curved path and, in this instance, the end portions 26a and 26b of this wall adjacent the side walls 17 and 19 are convexly curved and the intermediate connecting section 26c which extends along the front of the relatively wider portion 22b of the upright structure 22, is concavely curved. The bowl 34 of the toilet fixture 14 is preferably located in the upright structure 22 so as to overhang the concavely curved portion 26c of the upright front wall 26. The top portions of the structure 22 which are located on opposite sides of, and to the rear of, the toilet fixture 14 are substantially flat and can be used as supporting surfaces on which various toilet articles or the like may be placed.

The bathtub 12 is provided with a soap holder 36 and the lavatory 13 is provided with similar soap holders 37 and 38. These soap holders are formed as integral parts of the unit 11 and, as shown in the sectional view of Fig. 2, each holder comprises a rear or upright wall portion 39 and

a lateral or horizontal wall portion 40. The lateral wall 40 is provided with a number of substantially parallel upstanding integral ribs 41 forming a rest upon which a cake of soap is adapted to be received in spanning relation to such ribs. The ribs 41 are constructed with the tops 41a thereof sloping downwardly and rearwardly toward the wall 39 and with the bottoms of the intervening grooves or slots 42 sloping downwardly and outwardly. The rearwardly sloping tops 41a of the ribs cause the cake of soap to tend to shift toward the rear wall 39 and will prevent the soap from being unintentionally dislodged from the soap holder. The downwardly and outwardly sloping grooves or slots 42 between the ribs will provide drain passages through which water can readily escape from the soap holder.

The bathtub 12 and the lavatory 13 are provided with the usual drain openings 43 at the bottom thereof and are also provided with suitable water delivery nozzles 44 and the usual drain and faucet control members 45 and 46. In the case of the lavatory 13 the delivery nozzle can be located in or under the soap holder 37.

As mentioned above, the bottom wall or floor 16 of the bathroom unit 11 is formed as an integral part of the unit. This bottom wall forms the floor or sub-floor which is adapted to receive any desired finish or covering. When the bottom wall 16 is used as a sub-floor a finished floor 47 formed of tile, linoleum, cement, composition or any other desired material can be applied thereto. One of the side walls of the unit 11, in this instance the front wall 19, is provided with an opening 48 therein which forms a part of the doorway leading into the bathroom. The portion of the building structure 10 which is located above the end wall 18 of the bathtub 12 can be provided with a conventional shower fixture 49.

From the foregoing description and the accompanying drawing it will now be readily understood that this invention provides a novel bathroom construction in which a prefabricated unit or core is employed and which unit is of an integral or unitary construction and embodies one or more toilet fixtures constituting an integral part of the unit. It will also be seen that this invention provides a bathroom unit of this character which can be economically constructed from sheet metal or other suitable material and that when this unit is enclosed by appropriate building structure it forms a finished inner and lower part of bathroom and provides toilet fixtures in a desired relative arrangement in such room.

Although the bathroom structure of the present invention has been illustrated and described herein in more or less detail, it will be understood, of course, that the invention is not to be regarded as being correspondingly limited but includes all changes and modifications coming within the scope of the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

1. A bathroom unit comprising an integral prefabricated box-like structure made of sheet metal and having a bottom wall and side walls including a pair of intersecting side walls defining an included corner, an upstanding transverse sheet metal structure extending across said unit integrally connected with said bottom wall and certain of said side walls so as to cooperate with said bottom wall and said certain side walls in defining a bathtub, a dished sheet metal struc-

5

ture connected with said pair of intersecting side walls so as to span said included corner and cooperating with said intersecting walls in defining a lavatory having a front rim, said dished sheet metal structure including an upright wall portion extending between and integrally connected with said front rim and said bottom wall and said transverse structure having a portion of relatively increased width connected with and merging into the upright wall of said dished structure, and a toilet bowl located in said portion of relatively increased width.

2. A bathroom unit comprising an integral prefabricated box-like structure made of sheet metal and having a bottom wall and side walls including a pair of intersecting side walls defining an included corner, an upstanding transverse sheet metal structure extending across said unit and integrally connected with said bottom wall and certain of said side walls so as to cooperate with said bottom wall and said certain side walls in defining a bathtub, a dished sheet metal structure connected with said pair of intersecting side walls so as to span said included corner and cooperating with said intersecting walls in defining a lavatory having a front rim, said dished sheet metal structure including an upright wall portion extending between and inte-

6

grally connected with said front rim and said bottom wall, said transverse structure having a portion of relatively increased width adjacent one of said certain side walls and said portion of increased width having a concavely curved upright front wall connected with and merging into said upright wall of said dished structure, and a toilet bowl located in and formed integral with said portion of increased width and overhanging said concavely curved front wall.

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