

## Owners' Bedroom (Mrs. Sclater's Bedroom)

205

This room should be interpreted as Mrs. Sclater's Bedroom. Although it is proposed that Guest Bedroom No. 1 be interpreted as Mr. Sclater's Bedroom, it is assumed that when guest needs arose, Mr. Sclater would temporarily move into this bedroom with his wife.

The room had coral painted plaster walls, a white plaster ceiling, and glossy cream woodwork and doors. The fireplace had cream painted trim around brick. The floor should receive wall to wall strip carpeting in a coral color as closely matched to the walls as possible. Windows should be dressed in a fashion similar to those in the Morning Room. It is proposed that the room be decorated in the colonial revival style and be feminine in character. Small decorative items in the French tradition would not be out of place.

Original cabinetry has been removed from the west side of the room and a closet installed in its place. The closet should be removed and the cabinetry reconstructed from the MacLaren drawing, Illustration 35, following carpentry technique found elsewhere in the house. An entry to Closet 205a has been relocated to the Lobby 204. The 204 opening should be closed, and the 205 access reopened.

Furnishings for the room could include one or two beds. In an article in *House Beautiful*, December 1904, titled "The Vital Things in the Home from a Decorator's Standpoint," the author writes "Twin beds are now generally provided in chambers occupied by two persons." Many historic photographs show a pair of three-quarter or full size beds. There are, also, many examples which show one double bed only. A four poster bed might have been chosen. An article on "How to Dress a Four Poster" from the January 1905 *House Beautiful* is included in the chapter "Curtains and Bed Linens."

The December 1904 *House Beautiful* article goes on to state "The requisites of the bedroom (besides the bedstead, rug, and wall covering, window shade and curtain) are a dressing-table or dresser, long mirror and clothes rack, a chiffonier or chest of drawers, a night stand, washstand, and screen, a slipper chair, arm-chair, and rocker, a lounge and writing-desk." In the case of Mrs. Sclater's Bedroom, all of these items are not necessary since her Dressing Room would have contained some of these items.

Another *House Beautiful* article, this one from June 1905, gives the following list of items for the bedroom of a young married couple:

Plain iron beds, preferably two single, white or black, no scroll work or gilt trimmings.

Good springs and mattresses

Built-in dressing-table

Bureaus

Home-made muslin curtains with full ruffles

Inexpensive rocking chairs, preferably porch chairs of Shaker hand-turned wood or bamboo. These can be covered with gay chintzes to match dressing-tables if desired.

Writing desk

Sewing-table

Built-in shelf with few favorite books

Good reading-lamp by bed

Waste baskets

Mattings of fiber carpet

The following illustrations are applicable to Mr. Sclater's Bedroom (Guest Bedroom No. 1) and the Guest Bedroom (Guest Bedroom No. 2) as well as to Mrs. Sclater's Bedroom. The primary difference is that since her bedroom is part of a suite that includes a dressing room and a private sitting room (the Morning Room), and because there are built-in storage units within the suite, there is not the need to have such a wide variety of furniture types within this bedroom as there might be in the other bedrooms. For example, any writing table for Mrs. Sclater's use would be in the Morning Room rather than her bedroom. Likewise, the dressing table generally located in the bedroom might be found in the Dressing Room.