Visitors to the botanical paradise at Longwood Gardens in Kennett Square, Pa. can sit and admire the gardens' beauty on a variety of teak wood benches. The Chelsea grouping, marked by intricate latticework, is manufactured by Lister Teak. Longwood Gardens consists of 1050 acres, 350 of which are turf and flower beds. A new rose garden will use 20 teak benches. The turf is a 60 percent blend of Fylking, Merit and America Kentucky bluegrass and 40 percent Fiesta and Manhattan ryegrass. A crew of more than 40 people care for the flowers, lawn and trees. The crew mows the turf weekly at 2-2 1/2 inches. All areas are irrigated. "One inch of water a week is good practice for turf and annuals," says Carroll Clark, supervising foreman of outdoor horticulture. Clark says the flower beds progress through the season from pansies and tulips in the spring to a variety of annuals in the summer such as petunias, to chrysanthemums in the fall. Turf is fertilized in the spring and fall, usually with a 10-6-4 slow release fertilizer, while flower beds are fertilized according to soil demands. Longwood also uses an extensive I.P.M. program.

Lister Teak benches: Circle No. 200 on Reader Inquiry Card. Longwood Gardens: Circle No. 201 on Reader Inquiry Card.

No endorsement by Longwood Gardens is implied.

On Design

BENCH WARMERS

by Heide Aungst, managing editor
The Leawood Office Centre in Kansas City, Ks. blends landscaping and hardscaping to fit the corporate, yet natural design. The custom-built redwood benches shown here stretch four feet and 11 feet. Gametime Inc. manufactures the wall-mounted benches in their line of Ultrum site furnishings. Landscape architect Fred Markham and Assoc., Kansas City, Mo. specified the plant materials, while Colonial Nurseries, Blue Springs, Mo. installed the site in August 1986. The turf near the entrance is bluegrass sod. Shrubs consist of Wards yews and blue carpet (Wiltonii) junipers. The tree near the entrance is a River birch. Architects Fullerton, Carey and Oman of Kansas City chose the Ultrum furnishings and Devine 50 watt high pressure sodium lights.

Gametime/Ultrum furnishings: Circle No. 202 on Reader Inquiry Card
Fred Markham and Assoc.: Circle No. 203 on Reader Inquiry Card
Colonial Nurseries: Circle No. 204 on Reader Inquiry Card
Fullerton, Carey and Oman: Circle No. 205 on Reader Inquiry Card
Devine lighting: Circle No. 206 on Reader Inquiry Card

The small park area between the Hillcrest professional buildings in Cleveland, Ohio allows patients or employees to take a leisurely break in the day. Park visitors can lunch or just relax on a redwood flat-top or contoured-back (rear of photo) bench manufactured by Kadee Industries. The entire park area is only about 2500 sq. ft. Jeff's Lawn Care Co. of Independence, Ohio renovated the park area in April 1987 after an irrigation pipe burst in the area. The company sodded the area with 200 sq. yards of Merion bluegrass. It is mowed about once a week, depending on growth. The crew uses string trimmers for the turf around the benches' concrete pedestals. The Colorado blue spruce is pruned as needed. The entire renovation, including a new Toro sprinkler system, sod, three benches and a Kadee trash receptacle cost about $3000.

Kadee Industries: Circle No. 207 on Reader Inquiry Card
Jeff's Lawn Care Co.: Circle No. 208 on Reader Inquiry Card

Residents at this private home in Potomac, Md. enjoy summer barbecues on their back porch. The paved patio, constructed of hand-made Cushwa brick, is a mutual design of the home owners and builder Patrick Cullinaine. The design allows for colorful annuals, such as the petunias shown here, to add flair to the red brick. The Country Casual Petite Lutyens bench highlights the patio. The solid teak bench, made in England, is both practical and beautiful in this setting. The seat area stretches six feet, one inch and is slightly contoured. The bench cost less than $1000, while the patio cost about $11 a square foot to install.

Country Casual benches: Circle No. 209 on Reader Inquiry Card.