

On Design

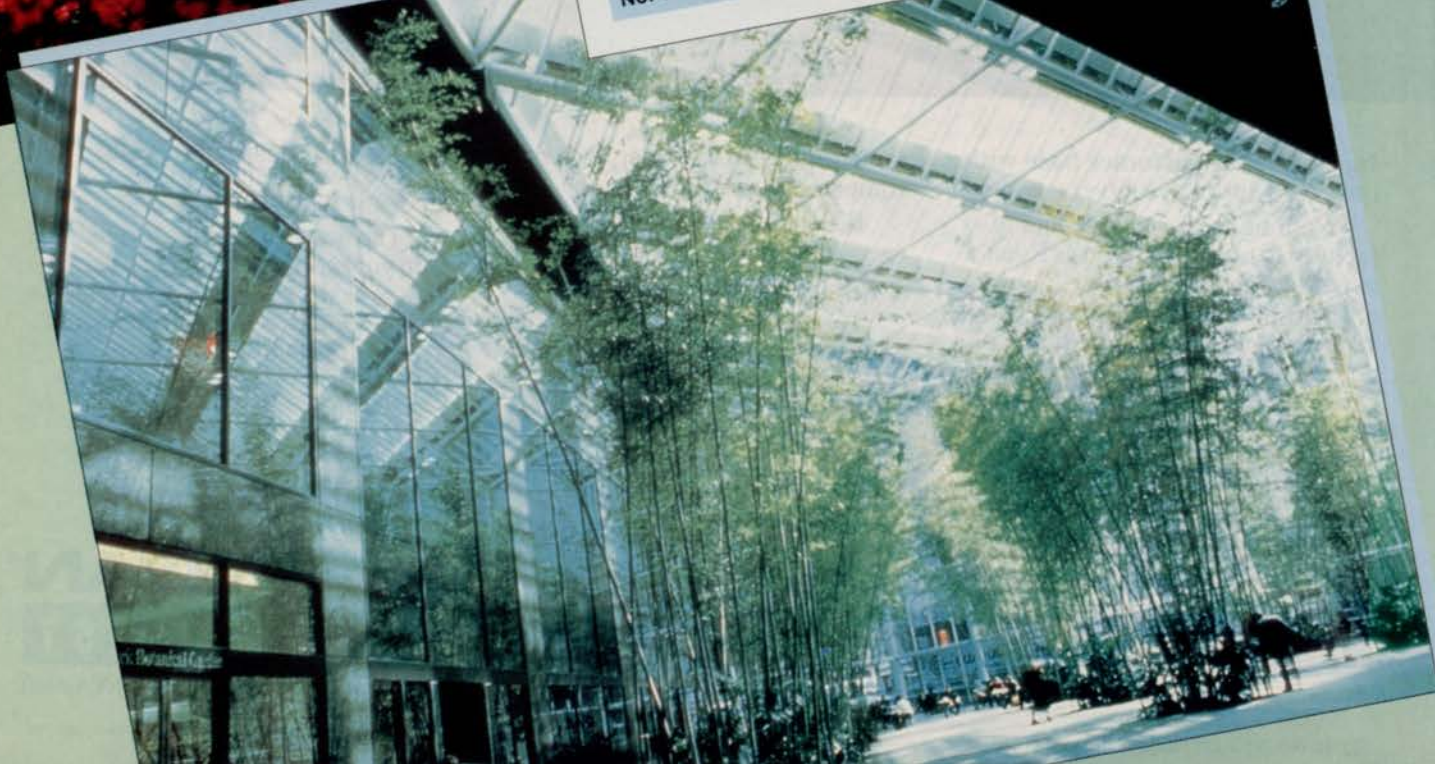
Intriguing Interiors

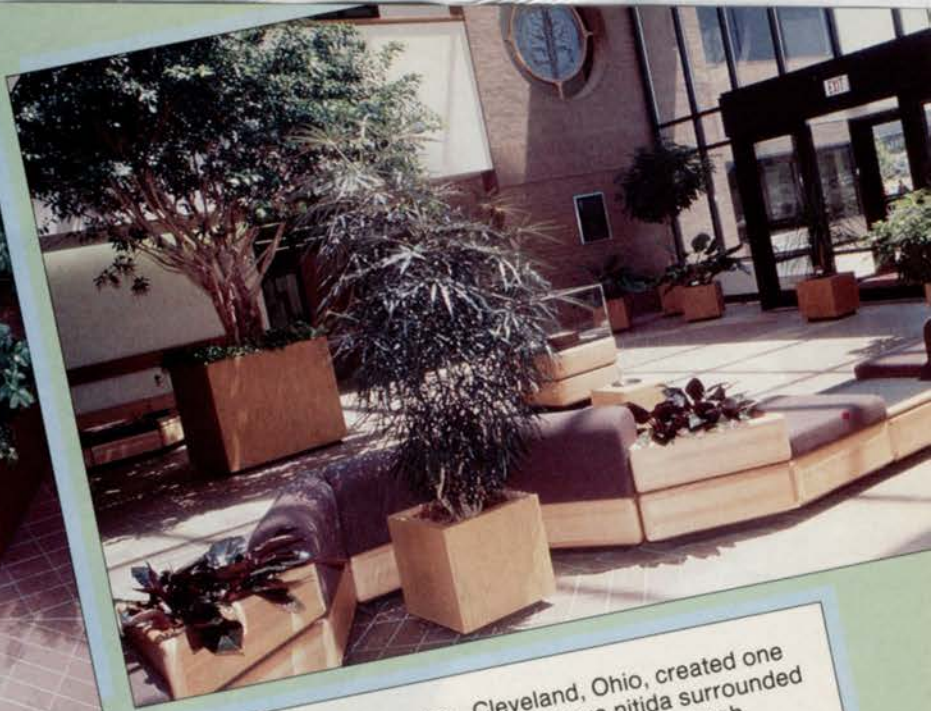
by Heide Aungst, managing editor

The IBM atrium and bamboo garden have received international acclaim as the largest interior bamboo garden in the world. Architect Edward Larrabee Barnes of New York, N.Y., designed the garden in 1982. Everett Conklin of New Jersey installed the project. But by the time John Mini of John Mini Landscapes Ltd., City Island, N.Y. took over maintaining the project in May 1984, problems had set in. Ammonium hydrofluoric cleaning compound contaminated the soil. The plants were under-nourished and infested with spider mites and common bamboo fungus. The 275 bamboo plants (all 30 to 40 feet tall) were about 75 percent browned out. Mini worked with experts from Rutgers University and the New York Botanical Garden to implement a healthy management program. The first step was to set up a permanent inventory at Tropical Ornamentals in Florida. Mini takes soil and tissue samples four times a year, and soil feeding is carefully calculated. The bamboo canes either are tied up or left to weep in a monofilament line, creating the desired canopy. Mini spends more than \$10,000 in maintaining the atrium. The project won a 1986 ALCA "Grand Award" for interior management.

John Mini Landscapes Ltd.: Circle No. 191 on Reader Inquiry Card.

Edward Larrabee Barnes: Circle No. 192 on Reader Inquiry Card.





Simple lines, simple greenery. Designer Joanne Troutman of Plantscaping Inc., Cleveland, Ohio, created one focal point in the atrium of the new Cleveland Heights City Hall: an 18-foot multi-trunk ficus nitida surrounded by pothos. Other plants include Prince Albert philodendron, Plutos, aralia elegantissima, arboricola bush, ponytail palm and a seven-foot braided arboricola. The plants grow in custom-designed planters. The tall planters, built by Reserve Millworks, complement the oak finish throughout the building and match the soft-seating and low planters by Landscape Forms. The design won a 1987 "Best Project" award from *Interiorscape Magazine*.

Landscape Forms: Circle
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Reserve Millworks: Circle
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Interior landscape designer Kim Parker Associates, Inc., San Jose, Calif., created a park/forest environment in the Corvus Systems building, San Jose, Calif. The company devoted more than 5,000 sq. ft. to the interiorscaping. Parker worked closely with building architect David Birskevich and landscape architect Hoffman Associates, in developing the area. KPA used ficus Benjamina trees ranging from 8 to 14 feet tall. She used aglaonema as ground cover and impatiens for color. Other plant materials include silver queen and king, baby's tears, spathiphyllum and aspidistra. Norfolk island pines surround a seating area to create a forest atmosphere. KPA eliminated the need for manual watering by designing and installing an automatic drip irrigation system. The atrium cost \$150,000 and won a 1986 "Excelsior Award" from the California Landscape Contractors Association.

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