Lecture # 2
Development of
Interior Plantscaping
A Historical Sketch

- The Chinese - First evidence for interior use of plants 3,000 years ago.

- The Egyptians and the Babylonians - The Hanging Gardens of Babylon, built around 605 B.C.

- The Greeks - Origin of the true pot gardening.
A Historical Sketch

- The Romans - The first use of plants in architecturally confined spaces;
- Mica or talc - covered hothouse (greenhouse) for the cultivation of exotic plants, after 290 A.D. - glass was used.
A Historical Sketch

- Dark Ages - After the invasion of Rome (476 A.D.) Horticultural knowledge kept alive in monasteries. The Crusades (1100–1300 A.D.) introduced new species.
Renaissance Development - Revival of pot gardening; orangeries and greenhouses were a common feature of the wealthy estates.

The discovery of America (1492), India (1498) and Java (1511) led to the introduction of new plants into Southern Europe.

First botanical garden - Padua, 1545.
A Historical Sketch

- Eighteen Century - Over 5,000 species were introduced; improvements in glass manufacture resulted in clear panels, transmitting more light. The first American hothouse was built in New England in 1737 by Andrew Faneuil.
A Historical Sketch

- Victorian Pursuits (1841 - 1903) - English interest in exotic plants at its peak; by 1820 the Kew Botanic Garden had 8,000 species. N.B. Ward (1831) introduced Wardian Cases (terrariums). Indoor gardening becomes popular in America.
Kew Botanic Garden
Wardian Cases for Ferns
Popular Victorian Plantstands
Recent Developments - In the early years Philadelphia area was the foliage capital of USA. In the late 1930s the interest was renewed with the introduction of dish gardens.

The first modern interior landscape which used plants on a grand scale was installed in 1967 in the Ford Foundation Building in New York.
A Historical Sketch

- Foreign Influences - The Japanese garden - a composition of texture and shape, using stone, water, sand, and plants as the artistic medium.
- Scandinavian countries - contemporary design.
The “Jungle Look” of the 70’s
Where Do Foliage Plants Come From?

Most indoor plants of the temperate zones originate in the tropical and subtropical areas of the world — approximately 3000 miles to the north and south of the equator.

The division between the tropical zone and the subtropical zone is the Tropic of Cancer to the north and the Tropic of Capricorn to the south, imaginary lines that are about 1600 miles from the equator.
The Climates

- Lowland forests.
- Inhabitants are very sensitive to temperature changes.

Light intensity is low (dense shade). Light is enriched in red & far-red, relatively low in blue wavelengths; & relative humidity is very high.

Soil is moist and well drained.
The Climates

- Highland forests.
  Inhabitants from high elevations often experience low temperatures (50°F).
The Climates

- Deserts.
  Inhabitants are well adapted to the intense heat during the day and the extreme cold during the night.

Rainfall is scarce, plants have the ability to store water in their tissues. To protect that conserved moisture plants have physical modifications such as spines.
Origins

- Exploration.
- Mutation.
- Breeding.
Major Foliage Plant Regions of the World

- Tropical America.
- Tropical Africa.
- Tropical Asia.
- Subtropical Asia.
- Australia and South Pacific.
- Europe.
- North America.
The Major Foliage Plant Regions of the World - Tropical America

- Aphelandra
- Beaucarnea
- Begonia
- bromeliads
- cactus
- Calathea
- Chamaedorea
- Cissus
- Columnnea
- Dieffenbachia
- Episcia
- ferns
- Fittonia
- Maranta
- Nephrolepis
- Peperomia
- Philodendron
- Pilea
- Spathiphyllum
- Syngonium
- Tradescantia
- Zebrina
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aloe</th>
<th>Euphorbia</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asparagus</td>
<td>Ficus lyrata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorophytum</td>
<td>Kalanchoe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chrysalidocarpus</td>
<td>Nephrolepis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffea</td>
<td>Saintpaulia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crassula</td>
<td>Sansevieria</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dracaena</td>
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</tbody>
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# The Major Foliage Plant Regions of the World - Tropical Asia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Region</th>
<th>Species</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aglaonema</td>
<td>Hoya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Begonia</td>
<td>Nephrolepis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coleus</td>
<td>Phoenix</td>
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<tr>
<td>croton</td>
<td>palms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Epipremnum</td>
<td>ferns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ficus elastica</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ficus benjamina</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Major Foliage Plant Regions of the World - Subtropical Asia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aspidistra</th>
<th>Fatsia</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aucuba</td>
<td>Ligustrum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citrus</td>
<td>Pittosporum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dracaena</td>
<td>Podocarpus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Euonymus</td>
<td>Rhapis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Major Foliage Plant Regions of the World - Australia and the South Pacific

- Araucaria
- Brassaia
- Cordyline
- cycads
- Dizygotheca
- Howea
- palms
- Polyscias
The Major Foliage Plant Regions of the World - Europe

Chamaerops humilis
Hedera helix
Nerium
Solierolia
The Major Foliage Plant Regions of the World - North America

cacti
Agave
Yucca
The Minor Foliage
Plant Region - Alaska

*Tolmiea menziesii* (Saxifragaceae)
‘Piggy-back Plant’