



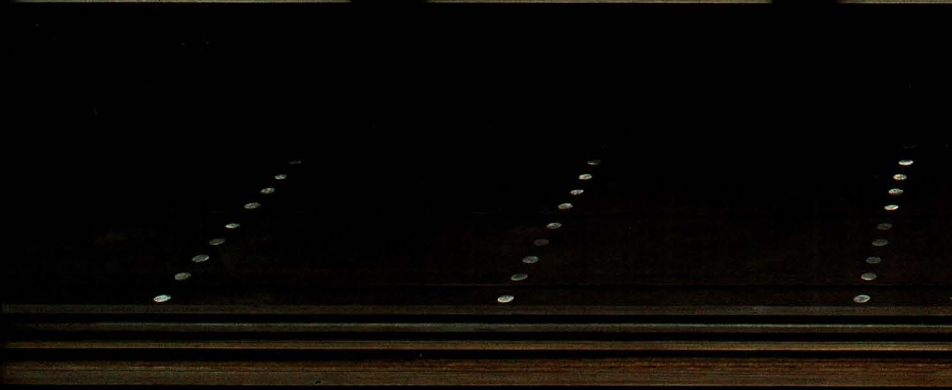
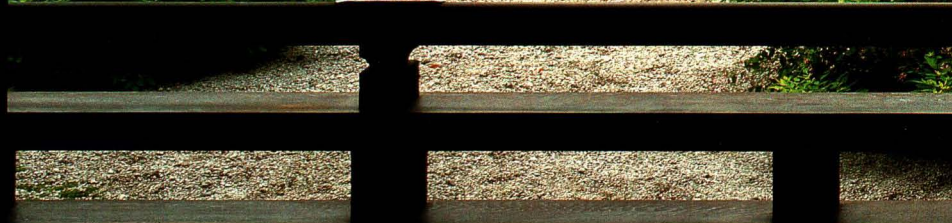


Fujitsubo, Kyoto Imperial Palace

The courtyard garden of the Higiyosha, a building in a distant part of the palace. A single, eminently dignified wisteria vine grows on a stretch of silver sand surrounded by the elegant structures of the palace. One can still see here a prototype of today's tsuboniwa.

Hagitsubo, Kyoto Imperial Palace

An unpretentious garden situated at the rear of the Seiryoden, the Emperor's personal quarters. Simplicity itself, the garden consists only of twenty bushclover (*hagi*) plants; yet, surrounded as it is by buildings in the ancient *shinden-zukuri* style, it breathes a courtly elegance that marks it definitively as a tsuboniwa of the Heian period.





Kyokusui Garden, Matsunoo Shrine

The shrine offices are connected to two buildings, used for ceremonial purposes and to house the shrine's treasures, by a long, open corridor. The generous space thus formed is occupied by a garden with a stream that meanders gently between the rocks, its clear water provided by the Mitarashi River that runs down from the hills behind the shrine. The gentleness of the stream and the strength of the arrangement of high and low rocks on the azalea-planted hillock create a pleasing harmony.



Kyokusui Garden, Matsunoo Shrine

The azaleas on the hill, which are pruned rigorously in order to preserve the garden's original appearance, normally have a sparse showing of blooms, but once every five or six years they are covered with a mass of blossom that seems to fill the whole garden with crimson. One wonders if the designer of the garden had such an effect in mind.



Ninnaji Temple

A small garden enclosed by the open corridor leading from the Kuro-shoin to the Shinden. A small species of bamboo flourishes on a carpet of moss set with four smallish rocks. A sophisticated, tasteful garden that preserves the atmosphere of the traditional palace tsuboniwa.



Zuishin'in Temple

This garden was designed to be viewed from various angles. The rocks that give variety to the even carpet of moss blend well with the abundance of vegetation. In late spring and early summer, the most eye-catching features are the comparatively plain rhododendron, followed by the more colorful azalea.



Totekiko Garden, Ryogen'in Temple

When snow settles on one of these tiny gardens, symbolically embracing all the varied natural phenomena of the universe, it seems to intensify still further their symbolic and spiritual qualities. The utter simplicity of this particular tsuboniwa exerts a purifying influence on the minds of temple visitors.

Totekiko Garden, Ryogen'in Temple

A veritable "small jewel" of a garden created at the heart of the temple. As the ripples from a single drop of water extend into a mighty ocean, so a tiny tsuboniwa can symbolize the whole universe. Here, the rays of the sun that strike down into the garden add an important element to the composition. ►





Kodaiji Temple

This garden is designed both to give pleasure to the eyes of visitors as they walk toward the Kyakuden, and to serve as a front garden for those quarters themselves. The rocks set in the moss against the background provided by a roofed, white plaster wall are intended to suggest a triad of Buddhist divinities. The wash basin, stepping stones, and the like are all rather massive, contributing to the leisurely feeling of the whole.



Reikanji Temple

This garden, enclosed by temple buildings and an open gallery, is so full of maples and azaleas that no rocks or the like are visible at all. So be it: this is the place famed in Kyoto as the “flower temple,” and one comes to enjoy, not so much the garden proper, as the flowers of the various seasons that grow there. The azalea in particular makes a brilliant showing.



Daishin'in Temple

A garden bounded by the open corridor linking the Hojo, the Kuri, and the Shoin. The most striking feature is the huge, 360-year-old azalea, whose beauty when it blooms in early summer is enough to take the visitor's breath away.



Hashimoto Teru Orimono

As is shown by the pagoda, the "island" floating on a sea of white gravel symbolizes Mt. Sumeru, said in Buddhism to stand at the center of the universe. The gentle curves of eight types of trees are intended to suggest mountain ranges. Access to the island is provided by the stepping stones in the sea. A stone wash basin stands on the "beach."



Shosuikaku, Nishijin Asagi

A small, roji-style garden, bounded by a corridor, lies between a main room and a converted storehouse, which was remodeled as a display room for Nishijin fabrics. The wash basin, of superior Kurama stone, is skillfully situated in a hollow, and the trees and bushes about it are small, with gentle lines. The garden is mainly intended for viewing from within, but it is also attractive as seen from the corridor on the way to the display room.



Orinasu Museum

The group of stones suggesting a waterfall—a bold arrangement of large pieces quarried at Kifune, in the northern outskirts of Kyoto—calls to mind, to stunning effect, the swift-flowing stream that carves its way through the rock in that area. Two stone wash basins recall one to the everyday world in a fascinating blending of the concerns of nature and man.

