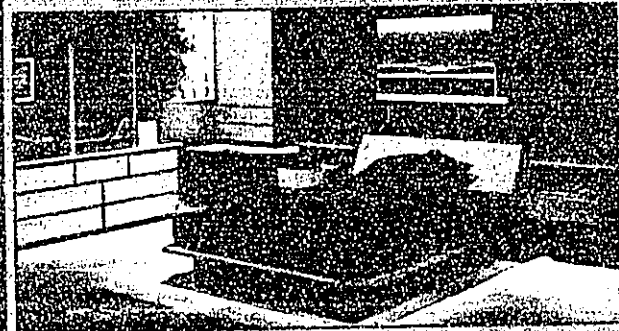


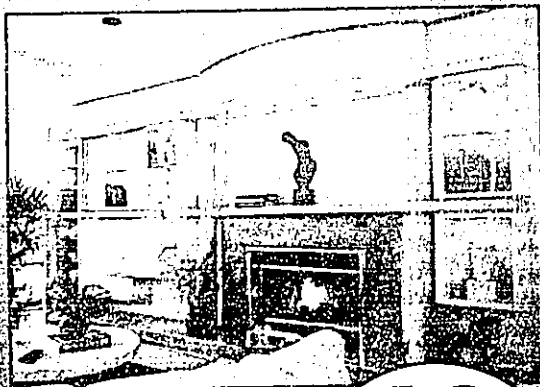
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## GARDEN SPOT

# New garden books cover many subjects



MARTY FIGLEY

"The City & Town Gardener: A Handbook for Planting Small Spaces and Containers," Linda Yang (Random House, \$18, soft), has been updated and renamed (originally it was titled "The City Gardener's Handbook").

Yang is the garden writer for The New York Times and has seen innumerable small gardens and has one of her own. She shares photographs of before and after sites to better illustrate her points that show what a remarkable transformation can be accomplished with the correct scale and plants.

The book is very well organized with no question left unanswered as she explains the thought (watering, weight, obstructions, etc.) processes that must precede actual planting. Anyone who is challenged with a small space will find expert advice for all seasons of the year.

### Rosy outlook

In "The Rose Book: How to Grow Roses Organically and Use Them in Over 50 Beautiful Crafts" (Rodale, \$24.95), Maggie Oster takes the guesswork out of the various types of roses and follows this with excellent information about using them correctly in the landscape.

She has left no stone unturned as she shares cultural practices, including information about insects and diseases, pruning and training. The explanation about layering roses for propagation is very clear and easy to understand (as is all the advice).

Oster also suggests particular roses for specific needs, i.e. how to select ones for cutting. The crafts are accompanied by line drawings. I made the bath salts, which smell wonderful, although I needed to know how to get the petals finely ground. (I pulverized them in a blender.)

"Vanishing Flora," Dugald Stepmar

See FIGLEY, 5D

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