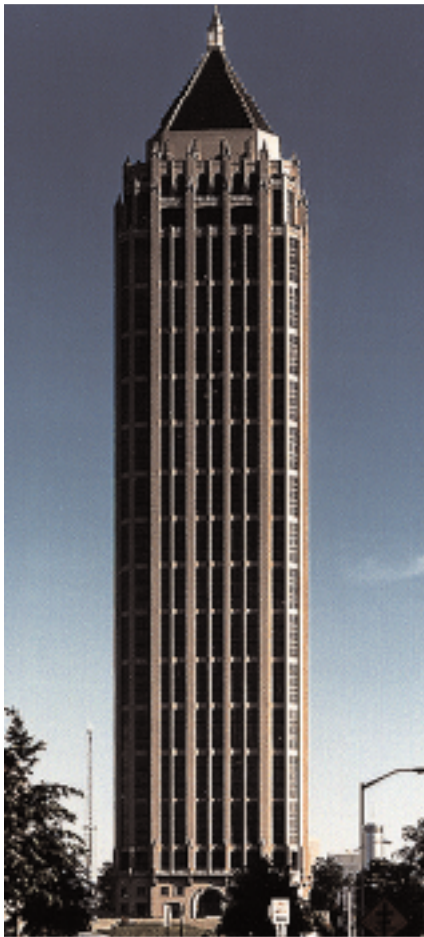


# THE IBM TOWER AT ATLANTIC CENTER

ATLANTA, GEORGIA

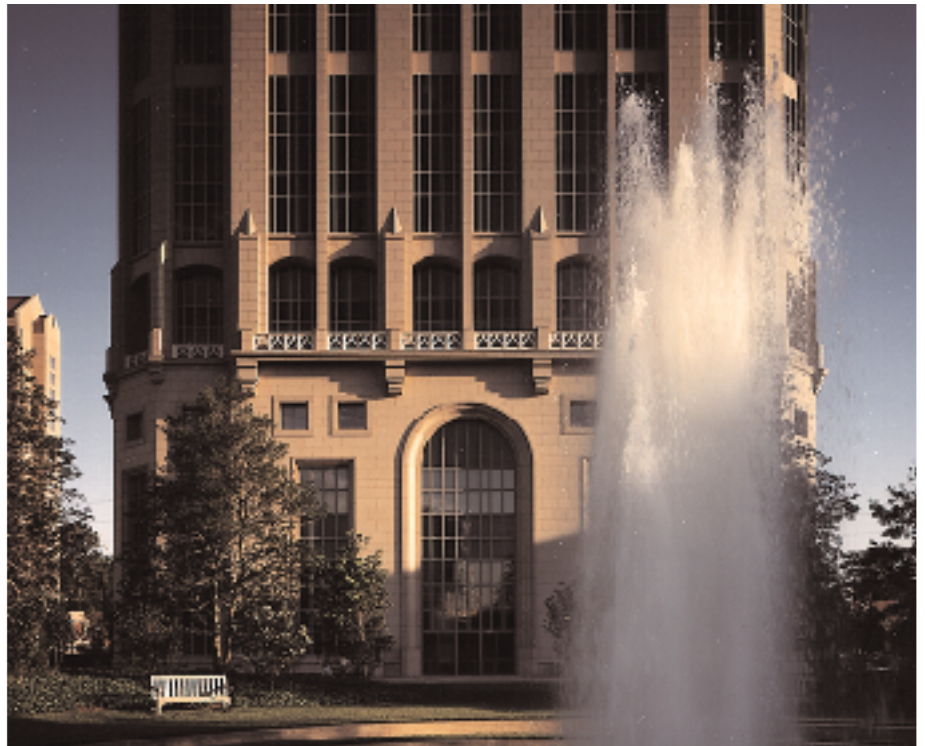
PHILIP JOHNSON • ALAN RITCHIE  
ARCHITECTS



The IBM Tower at Atlantic Center is the first and biggest of a planned, four building, complex in Atlanta's Midtown. At fifty stories and 1,100,000 square feet, the tower is the tallest in Midtown and is visible throughout the city. It is intended to promote traditional architecture in Atlanta, a city in which few worthy historic structures have survived. The tower has proven to be one of the most popular buildings in Atlanta, featured on postcards and newscasts, and the site of more than a few wedding ceremonies.

The building is square in plan, like the traditional steeple or campanile that serves to center a community. A typical floor contains 24,000 square feet. The placement of the windows, into three-story modules, gives the facade an abundance of glass and the appearance of a traditional stone building. The copper-roofed top, with its lantern, completes the composition of this centerpiece for an urban center.

Adjacent to the IBM building is a three-acre, green, park with a fountain that also serves as a performance platform and amphitheater. A wisteria-covered pergola screens the garden from the nearby subway. A path, lined with a two-tiered granite-clad fountain - reminiscent of one at Villa D'Este in Italy - runs along the eastern edge of the site. The parking garage for the complex, situated across the street from the tower, accommodates 2,000 cars in ten stories with three levels underground. Sheathed in granite and precast concrete, the garage has ornamental railings that coordinate with those of the tower. The basements of the garage and tower are connected by a tunnel. A restaurant and retail space is located on the ground floor of the garage and at the tunnel level.



Client: Prentiss Properties  
Completion Date: 1987  
Area: 1,100,000 square feet  
Associate Architect: Heery Architects