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The Empress Building - Come Grow with Us

National Post August 21, 2010



Vivian Reiss, left, offers office tenants fresh tomatoes during a tasting event at the rooftop garden

There are eggplants and fig trees and artichokes growing in front of the office building just off Yonge Street and a bit south of Davisville Avenue. This six-storey building at 124 Merton Street houses the usual businesses, but high up above the workplace clamour, there's an organic tomato farm where the building's tenants are encouraged to come up and chill.

"It's the perfect place to make private phone calls," says Natalia Vitenski, who was enjoying a glass of chardonnay on the roof last Friday when the building's owner, Vivian Reiss, invited outsiders to sample this year's 34 varieties in

her tomato crop. Reiss says the roof used to be "a black hole, just this horrible waste of dead space," and so she decided to turn it into something that would improve her tenants' quality of life.

"People are into the vibe of the building," says Reiss, a New Yorker who wears pink sunglasses and has bangle bracelets hanging off both her wrists. "Lots of businesses have opened in this building, and when they grow, they just take on bigger spaces — they don't want to move."

At the tomato tasting on top of Vivian Reiss's building, office workers were faced with an occupational hazard of a different sort. It was just after 5 p.m. and the chardonnay was flowing, but Vitenski, who originally had come up to the roof to make a quick private phone call, decided she'd had enough.

"I'd love to stay up here all evening," she says, "but I've got to go back to work."

*Article by Ben Kaplar, National Post
Photo by Dave Chan for National Post*

FOR LEASE > OFFICE SPACE

The Empress Building

124 MERTON STREET, TORONTO, ONTARIO



The Empress Building > Office Space

AVAILABLE SPACE

Suite 202	746 SF	
Suite 300	1,852 SF	
Suite 402	866 SF	
Suite 405	833-SF	LEASED

\$500.00 HBC Gift Card Signing Incentive before Dec. 15/11

NET RENT 2010
\$14.00 PSF

ADDITIONAL RENT 2010
\$12.98 PSF

Building Information

- > An on-site landlord with personal commitment and passion for the building
- > Unique building amenities that include a rooftop vegetable garden, barbeques, garden terrace, home-grown tomatoes in lobby and individual office-front mailboxes
- > Nestled amongst a quiet residential neighborhood, yet just minutes to the Yonge & Davisville subway line
- > Easy accessibility for clients with street side and underground parking
- > Flexible, ready to go spaces
- > Underground parking 1:1,495 sf
- > Bike racks
- > Second floor patio
- > Designer washrooms
- > On site cafe/deli
- > Design inspired lobbies

Click on the following links:

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Building Featured in the following publications:

National Post, Toronto Star, Inside Toronto,
Vancouver Sun, Montreal Gazette,
Spotlight toronto.com

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Photo Gallery



Rooftop Garden



Hallway



TESTIMONIALS

"We find the management to be personable and flexible. Not only is it close to the subway, in the summer we can enjoy the rooftop garden and some the produce. These green spaces are unique in commercial real estate and support a sense of community within the building."

Kate Powadiuk, Cathexis Consulting

"We love having our office in this building! The owners, Irving and Vivian, have created an environment in the lobby and on the roof, that is artistic, and "speaks" to quality of life issues. Since my wife and I originate from the arts community, we feel right at home and are proud to receive our clients in this building."

Joost Pelt, Black Tulip Inc.



Main Lobby



Main Lobby



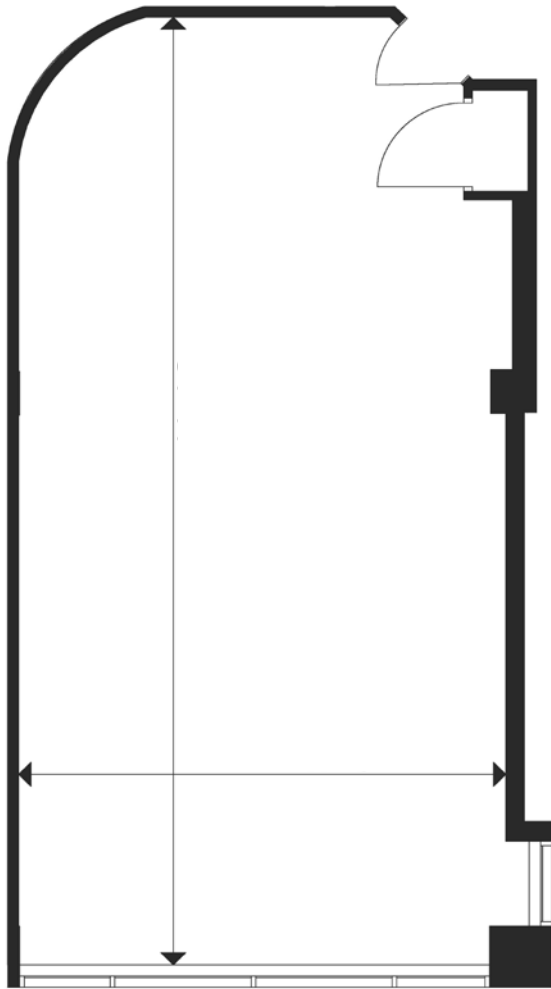
Underground Parking



Bathrooms



Floorplan - Suite 202

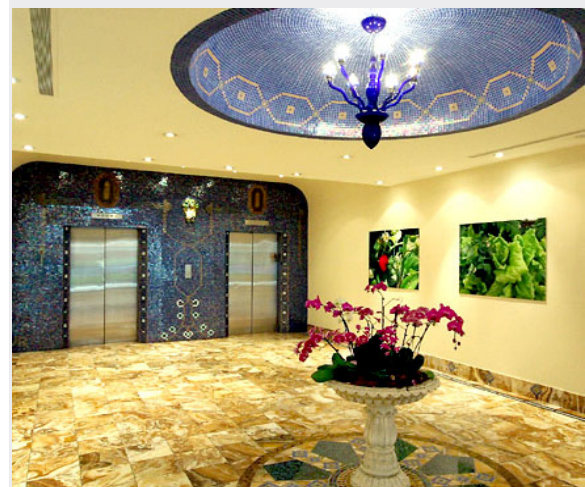


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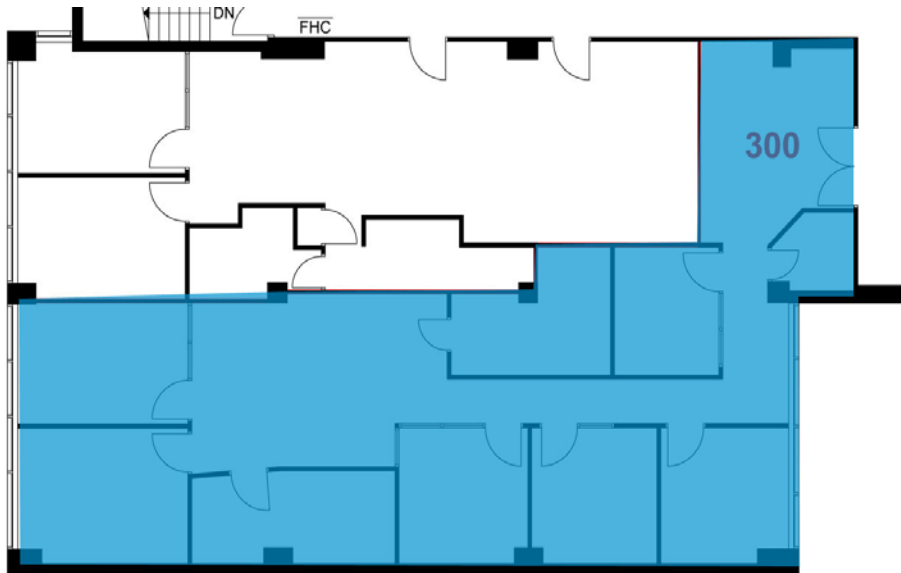
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Floorplan - Suite 300



TESTIMONIALS

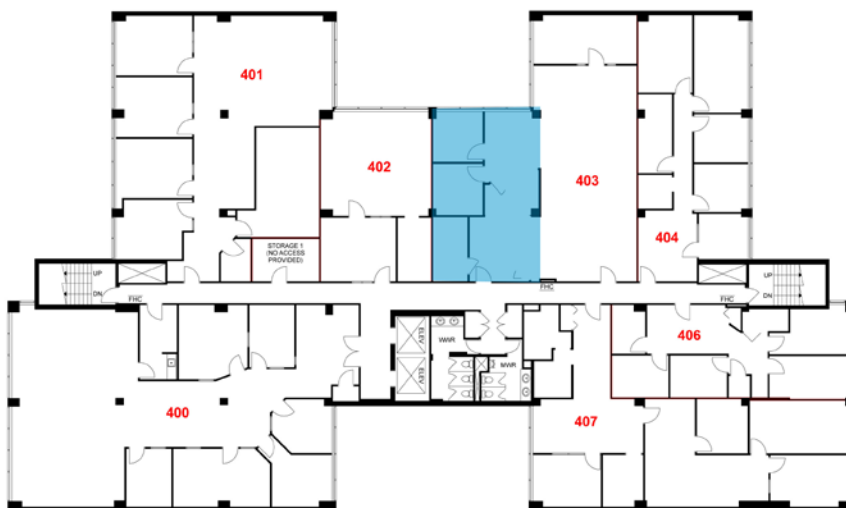
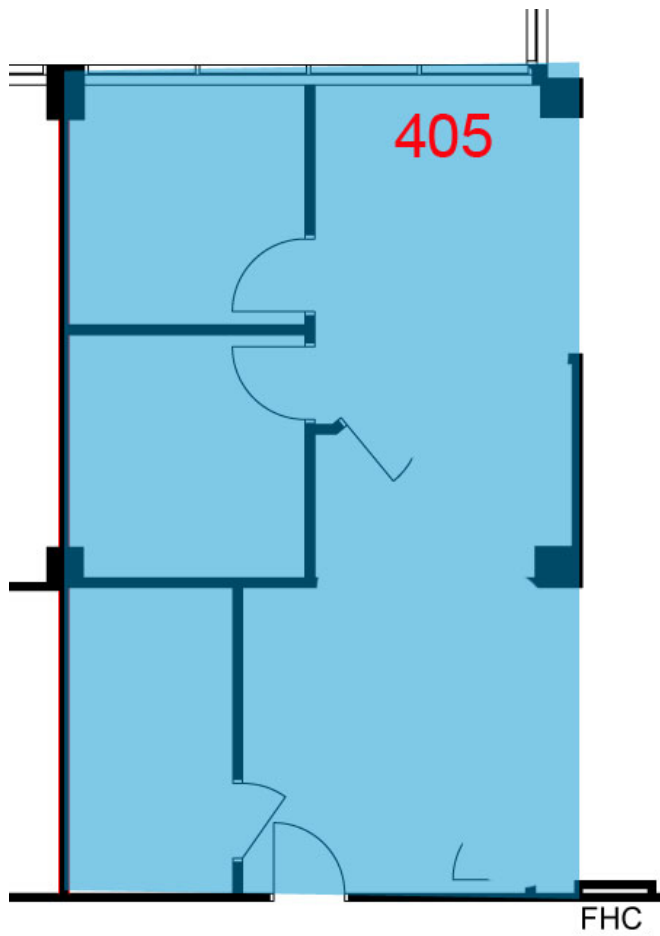
I have been at 124 Merton Street for 2 years. I am, as well as all my patients, thrilled to be in a building with landlords who are constantly trying to beautify their building to make it a more wonderful place for all of us to live and work in.

Bravo Vivian and Irving!!!!

*Dr. Marcel Reux B.Sc. R.P.T.,D.C.,
Davisville Yonge Clinics on Merton*



Floorplan - Suite 405



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