

Title: Library Design

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Overview

The paper aims to provide inspiration to those Librarians with a general interest in Library architecture and design.

Furthermore, this comprehensive presentation will provide a guide to Librarians who may have a professional role in commissioning new build or refurbishment Library projects. The structured paper covers the following range of topics.

Introduction

Good design should be an integral part of every library, no matter how grand or modest its scale. The ancient pairing of books and architecture has recently inspired a renaissance in library design. The paper features a selection of international projects ranging from the home library to award-winning public buildings.

The knowledge revolution and the need for life long learning poses new challenges for architects, designers and their clients. Furthermore, the demands of new information technologies have required changes to be made in the layout of public libraries.

The discussion on public libraries demonstrates how these challenges are being responded to. Dedicated interior design can provide a welcoming safe space inspiring visitors to engage in the activities within. These buildings contribute to the vitality and viability of the communities they serve. The impact of striking, almost sculptural façades has transformed and uplifted the image of the public library, which has resulted in a significant increase in architectural awards for this type of project.

The authors recognize that private libraries have taken on a greater importance in the 21st century with increasing numbers of people requiring a space within their homes where they can work, read, organize their busy lives or simply relax. This trend is further manifested with book loving clients requesting that their architects design a property with a library as a centerpiece, examples are included of how these needs are addressed.

Part 1: 21st Century Library Function

Social Dimension and Lifelong Learning

The Hybrid Library
The Private Library

Part 2: Commissioning the Modern Library Project

The Project Team
Site Selection and Urban Planning

Part 3: Aspects of Design

Sustainability and Green Factor
Materials Selection and Sourcing
Controlling the Library Environment
Space Allocation
Storage Systems
Furniture

Containing examples of best practice in contemporary library design from leading architects worldwide., this visually stimulating presentation is illustrated throughout with high quality images extracted from our book "Library Design" published in five languages by teNeues in 2007.

Part 4: The Developing World

An appreciation of the basic aspirations of children's reading requirements for sustained social development as demonstrated by the *Room to Read* project.