A Thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

August 22, 1960

Dean Pietro Belluschi
Dean of the School of Architecture and Planning

Professor Lawrence B. Anderson
Head of the Department of Architecture

Assistant Professor Imre Halasz
Department of Architecture

David McClure Scott
Bachelor of Architectural Engineering
Washington State University 1953
THE ABSTRACT

a. Title: A PUBLIC LIBRARY FOR SPOKANE, WASHINGTON

b. Name of Author: David McClure Scott
   Bachelor of Architectural Engineering
   Washington State University

c. Submitted for the degree of Master of Architecture in the
   Department of Architecture on August 22, 1960

d. Abstract of Thesis:

   The problem of this thesis is the design of a new Public
   Library for the City of Spokane, Washington, and the development
   of the open space surrounding the building.

   The design of this building is based on the anticipated
   needs of the Library for the year 2000. The present capacity of
   the library is 156,000 volumes and the estimated capacity for the
   year two thousand is 400,000. These figures have been established
   by the librarian and the city planning commission for the city of
   Spokane.

   The new building and open spaces will be located in the
   heart of the business district.

   The objectives of thesis have been to investigate what
   library of this size can be, and to create a public building of
   generous dimension, and with a strong backbone within which the
   varying and changing demands of society may take place without
   destroying the usefulness, the life, and the character of the
   building.
Cambridge, Massachusetts

August 22, 1960

Pietro Belluschi, Dean
School of Architecture and Planning
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge 39, Massachusetts

Dear Dean Belluschi:

I hereby submit this thesis, entitled "A Public Library for Spokane, Washington", in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Architecture.

Very truly yours,

David McClure Scott
THE TABLE OF CONTENTS:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TITLE PAGE</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE ABSTRACT</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE LETTER OF SUBMITTAL</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE TABLE OF CONTENTS</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE INDEX TO THE APPENDIX</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE DEDICATION</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE LIBRARY OF THE PAST</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE LIBRARY OF THE PRESENT</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE LIBRARY OF THE FUTURE</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE HISTORY OF THE SPOKANE PUBLIC LIBRARY</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE STATE OF WASHINGTON</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE CITY OF SPOKANE</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE SITE</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE SITE: ACOUSTICAL CONSIDERATIONS</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE PROGRAM</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE SOLUTION OF THE SITE</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE SOLUTION OF THE BUILDING</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FOOTNOTES</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIBLIOGRAPHY</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THE APPENDIX</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THE INDEX TO THE APPENDIX

LETTER FROM THE SPOKANE LIBRARIAN . . . . . . . . . . . 60
THE QUESTIONNAIRE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 62

SPACE DIAGRAMS

CLOSED STACK COLLECTION . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 75
OPEN SHELF COLLECTION . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 76
CIRCULATION AND INFORMATION DESK . . . . . . . . . . . . 77
ONE AND TWO SEAT TABLES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 78
FOUR SEAT TABLES . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 79
NEW MATERIALS LOUNGE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 80
LIBRARIANS OFFICE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 81

ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

LIBRARIANS OFFICE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . 82
ESTIMATE OF CLOSED STACK SPACE REQUIRED . . . . . . . 83
ESTIMATE OF OPEN SHELF SPACE REQUIRED . . . . . . . . . 84
THE MECHANICAL CONSIDERATIONS . . . . . . . . . . . . . 86
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS AND PHOTOGRAPHS

LIBRARY BOOKS .................................................. 10
THE SPOKANE PUBLIC LIBRARY BUILDING ................. 27
THE LANDSCAPE OF EASTERN WASHINGTON ............... 31
THE LANDSCAPE OF EASTERN WASHINGTON ............... 33
THE CITY OF SPOKANE AND THE SITE ....................... 38
MAP OF THE CITY OF SPOKANE ............................... 40
LIBRARY BOOKS .................................................. 55
THE DEDICATION

To my wife Louise and my three children, David Bruce, Lorrel Louise and Robert Roy.
THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I wish to express my gratitude to the following people whose interest, encouragement, criticism and assistance have made presentation of this thesis possible.

At M.I.T.:

Dean Pietro Belluschi
Professor Lawrence B. Anderson
Professor Eduardo Catalano
Assistant Professor Imre Halasz

Visiting Critics:

Harry Weese, Architect, Chicago
Walter Netsch Jr., Design Partner,
    Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, Architects, Chicago

At Spokane:

Kenneth W. Brooks, Architect, A.I.A.
Robert Nixon
Mrs. Gladys Puckett, Librarian for the City of Spokane
    who willingly gave her time to complete a very long and detailed questionnaire.

Black and White Photographs are by Brian Shawcroft
Color Photographs by the Author
"What is the central idea of a public library? To lead those searching for knowledge into the world of books, to stimulate their interest, furnish them with facilities to choose, give them what they want, make them feel at home, while at the same time discreetly watching their progress."

Gunnar Asplund
The first libraries in America were private reading clubs, supported by and limited in their membership to the middle and upper classes. Franklin is credited with founding the first subscription library in 1731. By 1800 there had been one thousand established in New England alone, while in the West and South they were much fewer in number. Most had from 25 to 50 members, purchased the books their members requested, and gave them the quiet and informal atmosphere of a club. They were incorporated, electing officers and setting whatever restrictions they desired on membership. The standard of some of these libraries was quite high, as the Boston Athanaeum indicates, but their economic base was unstable and most of them disappeared or became public libraries before the turn of the century. At this time there were also paternalistic libraries, provided by factory owners with a sense of noblesse oblige, to give workers reading that would keep them contented and circulating libraries, like the present lending libraries, which distributed the 'best sellers' of the day for a fee. None of these experiments gave good service to a broad public and it came to be realized that private enterprise could not provide adequate library service.¹

The recognition of the library as a public function has been ascribed to several causes. Some hold that the public library grew from popular desire for educational opportunity and the need to train citizens for effective participation in a democracy.² Others associate it with the growth of philanthropy and the reform movements which attempted to improve the lot of the working classes, contending that
the library was conceived as an antidote to the saloon. Another group claims that it arose from a demand for the services which it could provide to business and industry. All are probably right in part.

The spread of the public library paralleled that of the public school, and many of the men involved in the fight for schools, like Horace Mann, were also advocates of public libraries. In fact, the first libraries were school district libraries, while the first independent system established was the Boston Public Library in 1852.

The greatest single factor in the rapid development of libraries prior to World War I were the gifts of the Carnegie Corporation. Carnegie visualized the library as a ladder by which an ambitious worker could climb. The Corporation gave $40,000,000 for library construction between 1900 and 1917, the main beneficiaries being the Middle West, the West, and the eastern central states. New England had already acquired many library buildings and the South was unable to meet Carnegie's financial conditions. Since 1917 the Corporation has concentrated its efforts on the training of librarians and on research.

As library use widened, average standards necessarily fell to accommodate the reading tastes of a broader public. Early criticism of the library was focused on this fact and accused the library of being a "god-send to the town loafer, who finds himself housed and amused at the public expense". This is reminiscent of contemporary criticism of the public school as wasting the time of children who could much better be employed in the mills.
As the public library grew toward the end of the last century, it came to reflect the dominant ideals of an 'acquisitive society', that mere accumulation was a sufficient goal in itself. This philosophy was evident in a different field in the art collections of millionaires and their counterpart, the mammoth art museum. The major criteria for a successful library were the number of books it had acquired, the care taken in preserving them, and the monumentality of the structure housing them. Librarians were trained in the custodianship and administration of books and saw the library as a gentleman's club open to the public.

Thus the free public library of today is an entirely modern phenomenon and not the logical development of the learned library of the past, which is now represented by the university and special research collections. The libraries of the Middle Ages, of the Greeks and Romans, and the royal libraries of the Renaissance were limited in their use to a small number of scholars, monks, or nobles. Their books were usually for use within the building. The subscription library of the last century, as we have seen, was not a public library.

Hence the function and collection of the public library should be clearly distinguished from that of the scholarly library. While completeness of collection, thoroughness of cross reference, and care in the preservation of books are rightly the criteria of the scholarly library, the public library is now realized to have a different set of standards, which shall be examined later.

Having traced the history and growth of the public
library, we can study its present role in society by the social
groups it serves, by its public, and by its influence as a medium
of information and education.
THE LIBRARY OF THE PRESENT

Operating in a chaotic urban pattern, within ill defined neighborhoods, and against a dormant community spirit, the library cannot serve an active social neighborhood. Therefore, as well as seeking many cardholders, it must work through various groups and organizations.

The library can offer the use of its facilities to special interest groups like labor unions, fraternal orders, and professional clubs, providing them with guidance in developing interesting programs for their meetings. Or, the library may merely attract people whose only common bond is the special attraction being sponsored. In rare cases the library may be located in an area with a predominant racial or nationality group. Then it can orient its collection and programs in their direction. Negro literature or books in foreign languages may be acquired. Programs about Negro problems and opportunities or lectures about the "home country" will draw sympathetic audiences, as branch libraries in Harlem and the Lower East side in New York have demonstrated.

To channelize and cement its public support librarians have encouraged the formation of Friends of the Library, voluntary associations, analogous to the PTA, which help the library through financial contributions or political support.

The library's public is small. Its actual size depends upon what frequency of use is considered indicative of a regular patron. If that is once a year, twenty five percent of the
adult population are patrons; if once a month, ten percent are patrons. This latter figure is generally accepted as the extent of the library's public.

Wide variations in size occur between states. Loans of books vary from one third to more than nine volumes yearly per capita, with a national average of 3.6. The percentage of the population registered as borrowers varies from 2% in Mississippi to 30% in California. A total of 26 million persons were registered in 1939, an average of 18% of the population.8

Library use varies not only in space but also in time. In Middletown circulation increased 108% from 1929 to 1933 and fell considerably afterwards. Most of this increase was in withdrawals of fiction, and it can be ascribed to the enforced leisure of the depression rather than to an attempt to understand the current economic conditions. This can be construed to augur a larger circulation as working hours shorten.9

Within the library's small public there is a great concentration of use. Ten percent borrow fifty percent of the books. Hence approximately one percent of the adult population accounts for thirty percent of book withdrawals.

Three quarters of the public are under thirty five, and of adults, half are under that age. Use seems to decrease with age, a sharp decline occurring after high school.

Women use the library more than men, but men make greater use of the reference service and the more serious material. Single people of both sexes use the library more than the married.
The widest variations in library use occur between occupational groups. The general categories of library patrons are the following:

- Students....................40%
- Housewives.....................1%
- White collar..............12%
- Prof. & Managerial...............10%
- All Others..................19%

Except for students, whose use of the library is mandatory, that group with the greatest leisure makes the greatest use of the library. Next come those whose work involves the greatest use of writing material. Professional groups were interviewed to determine the percentage of library registration among them. Engineers, clergymen, doctors, and lawyers led while businessmen, salesmen, and proprietors had the lowest percentage of library registration.

The middle income groups make the greatest use of the library, the wealthy preferring to purchase books and the poor not being educated to use library facilities.

A definite correlation can be shown between the place of residence and the frequency of use. A study in Cleveland showed that the number of withdrawals decreased six percent for each block the cardholder lives from the library, while the percent registration decreases two percent per block. A more recent survey indicates that patrons living within a quarter mile of a library use it twice as much as those living one half a mile distant and almost four times as much as those living over three quarters of a mile away.10
A correlation also exists between library use and the size of a city. In general there is greater use in urban areas. However, use decreases as the size of a city increases. In a small town the library is usually close to the main shopping center and more convenient to borrowers. A large city offers other entertainment and sources of reading material, while in a small town the library may be a cultural and educational center.\(^{11}\)

Considering its present limited role, librarians are divided on a policy for the future. One conservative group\(^ {12}\) claims that the library's public must be small and the library should be operated for those relatively few who can make serious use of its materials. They emphasize that a large proportion of its present expenditure goes to provide light fiction and conclude that the library cannot enlarge its public without a consequent lowering of standards.
Another and more optimistic group believes that the library will have a different role in the future. The main assumption of free popular education and of the government mail subsidy was that by equipping the people to read and by furthering the dissemination of news, the public, armed with the facts, will make intelligent decisions. Similarly one rationale of the public library has always assumed a wide popular use, asserting as an objective the enlightenment of a large public.

As popular education has advanced, the need for public comprehension of basic issues has increased, both because of the greater complexity of political decisions and of the larger part which popular opinion plays in shaping policy.

On this basis a more democratically minded school, typified by Alvin Hansen in his book, The Public Library—A People's University, believes that the scope of the library's activities must be extended to attract as large a public as possible. There is wide discussion among them as to the research needed to guide library policy and the means to be employed in attracting this wider public.

In the past librarians have encouraged research in bibliograpgy, palaeography, and cataloguing, the technical aspects of librarianship. They confined their investigations to empirical problems of everyday library practice, then considered custodianship and administration. Recently valuable
ground has been broken by the combined efforts of sociologist, educational psychologists, and political scientists toward research outside the library's walls into fields like reading interest, the effect of reading upon people, stimulation of reading, and the geography of reading. Much of this work has been sponsored by the Carnegie Corporation and carried out by the Graduate Library School of the University of Chicago and the Bureau of Social Research of Columbia University. ¹³

The basic research for library policy is a survey of the community background, geography, population, occupations, educational facilities, social organization, and the measurement of library use, which can be determined from registration figures, classified by registrant, by population group, and by subject matter. The survey will indicate what population groups are or are not using the library. One can learn from the experience of libraries with similar publics, and arrange programs, reading guidance, book collections, and the choice of employees accordingly. ¹⁴

Until recently stimulation of reading was not considered a part of the library's function. Twenty years ago publicity depended upon appeals to self-enlightenment and ambition. One poster is typical. A father with a family standing beside him pointed to a winding road up a hillside whose summit was crowned by a mansion and shrouded in clouds. It read,

"THE GLORY OF THE UPWARD PATH
Develop the power that is within Yor
Read Library Books".
Beneath were testimonials of successful men who had 'climbed the upward path' via the library. Modern library publicity is based to greater extent upon the techniques of advertising. It recognizes that the main problem is, as in selling bread, to make reading palatable to those who have never tasted it. Free access to reading material on open shelves, open front building to tempt the passerby in, display windows and exhibits, longer hours of opening, and the special services themselves are evidences of this trend.

Libraries have recently embarked upon a program of special services. These ventures are the major controversy between the two schools which could be labeled conservative and democratic. The conservatives argue that such activities are not the proper function of the library, will lower its standards, will not extend its public, and will merely consume much of the limited budget. The democratic group claims that the special services are the logical extension of the library's activities, that they will be stimulants toward greater use, and that they can be provided more economically than equally effective book service. It is too early to see if these expectations are true.

Adult education has increased sporadically in recent decades but has its roots in the last century in the rise of the lyceum. Recently YMCA's, correspondence schools, night courses, and special colleges like the New School for Social Research have entered the field. Enrollment had increases greatly, totalling
in 1934 over 22,000,000 persons. The logical role for the library is to supply information about these programs and only enter the field where other agencies do not operate. Some libraries have established adult education councils which lend such materials as films, projectors, maps, and reading materials to other agencies. 17

Reader's guidance was the first special service to be widely offered by libraries. The Chicago Public Library has a Reader's Bureau which has prepared over 300 outlines to help patrons who want to read with some continuity a series of related books. 18 A library bulletin listing new purchases is standard practice and brochures on popular topics with references for further reading are helpful.

Lecture programs are a more recent venture. Many people who would balk at adult education in the form of university extension courses because of a fear of pedagogy, entrance requirements, and work assignments might be willing to attend a series of informal talks in a local library. Interest in local history can be stimulated by exhibitions of old maps, photographs, and Americana. Where there is no local museum the library can present art exhibits of local talent or obtain circulating collections from large museums. Some libraries lend out maps, photographs, or framed art reproductions for periods of several months.

In the field of audio-visual services, the simplest is the provision of recordings. They can be loaned out as books, or played within the building for group listening at scheduled
concerts or for individual listening through earphones or in listening booths. Another possibility is through FM radio. If the major networks turn their attention to the more lucrative field of television, non-profit organizations may be able to undertake FM broadcasting and present programs for a limited audience.

The most ambitious extension of library service is the showing of educational films. They are probably the most effective technique of adult education, contributing insight that other media cannot and acting as a catalyst to learning by making the process fun.

The use of microfilm reproduction for the branch library is still hypothetical, but there are certain materials that will probably disappear from the local library in their original form. Most bulky are newspapers. Many libraries are acquiring such large quantities of seldom used 'fugitive materials', pamphlets, clippings, periodicals, catalogs, programs, that the space they now occupy must be reduced if they are to be kept. It is conjectural whether microfilming will be used in reducing conventional books and whether the local library will be able to afford the equipment needed to enlarge such materials. High speed electronic machines may revolutionize our techniques for finding information. Such devices may even supplant the card catalog in central libraries, supplying the reader with the full texts he desires by a pushing of buttons.
THE HISTORY OF THE SPOKANE PUBLIC LIBRARY:

Spokane has always felt the need for a library. In 1884, when the population was 1,000 a group of women made a house-to-house canvas seeking donations of books with which to start a library. They later united their library with a reading room which had been established by the labor unions under the name Union Library Association. In 1894, the City of Spokane acquired the association, renaming it the Spokane City Library.

Spokane City Library was changed to the Spokane Public Library when the present building was dedicated and formally opened. Spokane's population was 70,000 and the city was very proud of its spacious new library building, the result of a gift of $85,000.00 from Andrew Carnegie and a $15,000.00 site donated to the city by A. B. Campbell.

Spokane's population increased to 104,402 in 1910 and the 1911 Annual Report of the Library States:

"The main building has become unsatisfactory. It was suitable for a city of 50,000 people, but it cannot long serve twice that number. A building between twice and three times the size of the present one is needed."

A wing was added to the present building in 1929, but the library has not been able to keep pace with the growth of the city.

Spokane's population has continued to increase; the report to the Spokane City Council in 1955, prepared by the Public Administration Service States:
"The present library organization is working under considerable handicap in attempting to provide library services to approximately 182,000 persons from a central library building planned and constructed in 1905 to take care of the needs of the 70,000 people comprising Spokane's population at this time. It is recommended that consideration be given to the erection of a modern, adequately equipped, central library building commensurate with the increasing cultural needs of a growing city like Spokane."

To this date the Spokane Public Library has been serving the needs of only the city, however, there is a movement within the state of Washington endeavoring to create a system of regional libraries which will accomplish three things: (1) provide better library service to all people, (2) reduce the cost of this service; and (3) distribute this cost over a larger tax base. If this movement achieves success, Spokane will serve six countries in the Eastern part of the State.
"...and the city was very proud of its spacious new library building, the result of a gift of $85,000.00 from Andrew Carnegie...."
Perhaps there is no state in America that has such sharp extremes in terrain, climate and vegetation as Washington. Western Washington is mountainous country with acres of untouched and unexplored timber. Central Washington is desert, with cacti and sagebrush growing along the roads where towns are usually separated by 30 or 40 miles; whereas Eastern Washington is rolling wheat land, and in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. The land not used for farming purposes generally is covered with a dense growth of pine, fir, larch and hemlock.

The average annual precipitation ranges from six inches at Hanford in South Central Washington on the Columbia River to 146 inches at Wynoochee Oxbow in the foothills of the Olympic Mountains. The average annual snow fall ranges from five inches on the ocean coast to 600 inches at Paradise Inn located on the slopes of Mount Ranier, where the maximum depth on the ground has exceeded 27 feet.

The climate of Washington is modified greatly by the influence of the Pacific Ocean and the mountain ranges, which run north and south and hence lie athwart the prevailing westerly air currents from the ocean as well as the easterly currents from the interior of the continent. Air reaching the state from the west has acquired much water vapor in passing over the ocean, has a cooling effect in summer and is a warming influence in winter. The marine influence is most pronounced on the coast and decreases inland, especially on crossing the Cascade Range, yet even eastern Washington has milder temperatures than the Northern Plains.
Perhaps the key to the development of the Northwest and in particular Eastern Washington has been water, and its derivatives; power, irrigation and recreation possibilities associated with water. The major industries of the area are agriculture, mining and forestry.

It is in the eastern part of the State of Washington that the City of Spokane lies.
"... whereas Eastern Washington is rolling wheat land, and in the foot-hills of the Rocky Mountains."
"The major industries of the area are agriculture, mining and forestry."
The city of Spokane lies thirty miles from the Idaho border and in the foot hills of the Rocky Mountains. The city like many cities of the world was founded on a water way, the Spokane River, which is the outlet of Lake Cour d'elene, Idaho which in turn is filled by the creeks and streams which flow from the western side of the Rocky Mountains. The city lies at the western end of the fertile valley and was founded at this particular location because of the existance of a water fall known as Spokane Falls to the early fur traders. The water is cold and clear and the falls are perhaps one of the most spectacular natural assets which any city could hope to possess.

The falls provided the power needed for the operation of the arly lumber and flour milling industries of the town. As the town continued to grow and industry expanded, all construction took place along the banks of and back from the river. The railroads were perhaps the greatest offenders in-as-much as they constructed great earth fills and ugly bridges spanning the river diagonally and their stations and yards along the banks until it was possible for a visitor to be in the city and never be aware of the river.

As the business area grew, it took the form of an island surrounded by railroads tracks. The business area was tight and compact, and not a square inch of the down town area was devoted to green or open space.
During the past fifteen years of unprecedented growth, the industries, formerly along the river have abandoned their old warehouses and factories and have constructed new facilities in locations more accessible to truck type transportation. At the present time the majority of these buildings stand vacant.

This is also true with retail businesses and offices which have become decentralized due to the construction of numerous shopping centers in the surrounding suburbs.

In short, the town is dissentigrating and at long last has become the concern of a certain group of influencial business men who have at last been awakened apparently.

The time for the redevelopment of the river and the downtown area is brighter than ever before inasmuch as the railroads are companies considering of consolidating the three lines onto a single set of tracks which would free-up the river banks for development into public use type spaces. Because the majority of the buildings in the downtown area were constructed 50 to 60 years ago when the town was a boom town, due to the wealth created by the silver mines of northern Idaho, and are of wood frame and masonry construction, they tend to be obsolete. It is more economical to demolish and build anew than to attempt to bring the old buildings up to present day building code standards. It is therefore possible to consider the demolition of entire blocks to create open space and or public building sites.
In early 1959, a proposal was made to the City Council by the local Chapter of the American Institute of Architects that certain buildings should be developed as focal points, plazas should be created, the river developed, in order to revitalize the city and to maintain its importance as a cultural, medical, financial, and convention center serving peoples living in an area known as the Inland Empire, which has a radius of approximately 200 miles and serves people in southern Canada, northern Idaho, western Montana, eastern Washington and northeastern Oregon. At the present time, an Architect-Engineering firm has been retained to study the possibilities and to arrive at a proposal for the location of the civic center, the library, and the open spaces. At this time, the proposals are not known and cannot be related to this thesis. The site described in the following chapter has been selected by the author solely on the basis of his knowledge of the town and how he believes it will grow.
"... not a square inch of the downtown area was devoted to green or open space... because the majority of the buildings in the downtown area are obsolete... it is possible to consider the demolition of entire blocks..."
THE SITE

"The building must be placed where it may easily be reached. Those who build on a poor site, not matter how cheap it is, waste the public funds; for library without readers is as flat a failure as a store without customers, or a theatre without an audience: and it must not be assumed that the people will search out the library. The library must be brought to the people. Therefore, the library must be put on the busiest street, in the shopping center or the business area where most people pass."

The site selected is located in the heart of the business district in downtown Spokane. It is bounded on the North by Main Street and on the South by Riverside Street, the two primary streets in the downtown shopping area, the latter being historically the most important street. It has to this day the finest shops and the best buildings. It is also the most available of downtown properties inasmuch as no new buildings have been constructed on it since the 1920's and in fact during the past year one-quarter of the site has been cleared for a parking lot, and service station. Although the assessed valuation of the property is high, the assessed valuation of the buildings is remarkably low.

The west side of the site is the Federal Post Office which is an eclectic building but one of strength and of quality. To the east are smaller buildings which are purely commercial in character and perhaps will be replaced in the near future.

The site slopes from south to north with a change in grade of approximately 10 feet. The general direction of pedestrian flow through the site would be in the north-south direction also.
THE SITE: ACOUSTICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The basic reasons for acoustic design are simply:

1. to provide a satisfactory acoustic environment or,
2. to provide good hearing conditions.

The primary acoustic consideration of library design is that of providing a satisfactory acoustic environment. That is, one in which the character and magnitude of all noises are compatible with the satisfactory use of the space for its intended purpose.

The average noise level permissible in a library reading room has been found to be 40-45 decibels. The noise level specified in this way is usually taken as the primary specification of an acoustic environment but it is not the only one that counts. It is sometimes important to consider the noise levels at several frequencies instead of using the values given in the tables, which represent an average over a wide range of frequencies.

The tolerance to noise also depends on its quality, (high pitched whine, low pitched rumble, etc.) or on its dynamic characteristics (continuous intermittent in a regular rhythm, etc.) The steady drone of traffic giving 40-45 decibels in a library reading room is not especially disturbing, but the same noise level from a siren, a horn, a diesel truck or a jet aircraft will attract immediate attention.

The noise level generated by automobile traffic in downtown areas ranges from 70-75 decibels, with a course of higher levels at times due to construction, fire engines, etc. Although it is technologically possible to construct a building which would
mot transmit these sounds it is economically unjustifiable in the envelope of the public library.

Because the site is located in the heart of the downtown area of Spokane and bounded on four sides by traffic the noise is not a point source, but must be considered a line source. Any attempt to site the building back from the street will produce negligible results in sound reduction.

The envelope of the building must therefore have a transmission loss of from 30 to 35 decibels if the minimum established criteria is to be met. Because the building is to be totally air conditioned and therefore a sealed building, there is a wide range of materials that will give a db. reduction. (e.g., 1/4" plate glass, 30 db.; 1/2" glass, 32 db.; 4 inch brick, 45 db.; and 8 inch brick, 50 db.)

From this it can be concluded that there is a great deal of freedom in the possible choice of materials for the envelope.
THE PROGRAM

The program for the Library evolved from a questionnaire made out by the author and sent to Mrs. Gladys Puckett, Spokane Librarian, who very kindly filled out all of the requested information.

Following the receipt of this questionnaire, each activity was briefly described in words and then space diagrammed in order to arrive at realistic area requirements and to acquaint the author with the spaces. If time permitted and this were a project which was to be built, each activity would be described in greater detail under the following general headings:

Architectural: To describe the type of light, acoustical treatment, floor treatment etc.

Mechanical: To describe the specific requirements with regard to Heating, Ventilating and Airconditioning; Plumbing; Electrical; and Communications.

Equipment and Furnishings: To describe the exact number of desks, chairs etc.

General Remarks: To provide a description of the use of the space; and its relationship to other spaces.

Included in the appendix is a copy of the questionnaire, seven space diagrams, and one example of an activity description. Due to the expense which would be involved for reproduction only a few of the space diagrams have been included, and the activity description is included to show by example the technique which would we used in developing a comprehensive program.
AREA TABULATIONS:

A. **Materials:**

1. Closed Stack Collection 22,000
2. Open Shelf Collection 11,000
3. Rare Book Room 600

**Materials Total** 33,600 S. F.

B. **Reader Services:**

1. Circulation and General Information 335
2. Public Catalogs 280
3. Readers: Browsing 1,875
4. Readers: Newspapers 1,875
5. Readers: 300-500-600 750
6. Readers: 500-600 750
7. Readers: 700 750
8. Readers: 800-900 750
9. Readers: 900-910-920-100-200 750
10. Readers: 300 100
11. Readers: 500-600 100
12. New Materials Lounges 510
13. Public Typing Room 150
14. Dictionary Stands 50
15. General Reference Books 900
17. Meeting rooms 1 @ 300 & 2 @ 150 600

**Readers Services Total** 10,735 S. F.

C. **Staff and Staff Work Area:**

1. **General Administration**
   a. Offices-Librarian and Ass’t. Lib. 560
   b. Reception and Secretarial Space 600
   c. Business Office 380
   d. Conference Room 225
   e. Toilet and Coat Room 80

   **General Administration Total** 1,615 S. F.

2. **Acquisitions Department**
   a. Office and Work Area 1,230 S. F.

3. **Catalog Department**
   a. Office and Work Area 1,140 S. F.
4. **Mending Department**  
   a. Office and Work Area 720 S. F.

5. **Extension**  
   a. Office 120 S. F.

6. **General Facilities**  
   a. Staff Lounge 850 S. F.  
   b. Womens and Mens rest and shower rms. 250  
   c. Lounge, Women 80  
   d. Kitchen 200  
   e. Staff Work Room 350  
   General Facilities Total 1,730 S. F.

7. **Special Offices**  
   a. Heads of Departments -- 6 @ 80 480 S. F.

8. **Audio Visual Department**  
   a. Dark Room 80  
   b. Reviewing and work room 150  
   Audio Visual Department Total 230 S. F.

Staff and Staff Work Area Total 7,495 S. F.

---

**D. Childrens Library:**

1. **Materials**  
   a. Open Shelf Collection 2,500 S. F.  
   b. Doll Collection 400  
   c. Special Collection 300  
   d. Play Library 150  
   Materials Total 3,350 S. F.

2. **Readers Services**  
   a. Story Hour Room 600  
   b. Readers 2,400  
   c. Circulation and Information 150  
   Readers Services Total 3,150 S. F.

3. **Staff and Staff Work Area**  
   a. Librarians Office 150  
   b. Staff Office 150  
   c. Workroom 100  
   Staff and Staff Work Total 400

Childrens Library Total 6,900 S. F.

**E. Auditorium:**

1. Seating, Stage, Storage & Lounges 7,000 S. F.
F. Ancillary Facilities:

1. Check Room and Public Toilets 900
2. Shipping and Receiving 700
3. Supply Room 1,000
4. Maintenance Shop 1,000
5. Mechanical Equipment 7,000
6. Circulation, Stairs, Walls, Etc. 30,000

Ancillary Facilities Total 40,600 S. F.

GROSS TOTAL 106,330 S. F.

G. Parking Facilities:

1. Provide parking for a minimum of 50 employee cars.
THE SOLUTION TO THE SITE:

In arriving at a solution to the general development of the site and the siting of the building in particular, the following points were considered to govern:

1. The primary entrance should front the major street.
2. The primary entrance should be at or near grade level.
3. The building should be on the highest point of the site.
4. The entrance facade should be bathed in sunshine. With the northern side of the site free for development into an open space, both sides of the building attain a certain significance. From an interior planning point of view, this also means that the occupants of the southern side of the building will have direct sunlight whereas the occupants of the northern side will have north light plus reflected south light from the buildings and trees. Because of the generous dimension between the existing buildings and the library, additional sunlight will shine on the paving of the open space and thus add warmth to the north side of the building which is of particular importance during the winter months.
5. Because the natural flow of pedestrian traffic between Main Street and Riverside is in the north-south direction, the flow of pedestrian traffic through the site should follow this pattern in a natural way while providing the opportunity to walk through the Library Building
during open hours and with the possibility of walking around and seeing into the building at various points both during and after hours, yet in such a way as not to disturb the people using the library.

6. Advantage should be taken of the slope of the site in order to provide covered and concealed employee parking.

7. Provide an open space in the heart of the city which would be above the level of the northern most street and slightly lower than the southern street and below the first flow of the library in order that a person walks down into the open space from the library and up into the plaza from Main Street.

It is the intent that the open space would be used for exhibition of certain suitable types of materials related to the library or to other community activities of public interest and that the space not be a reading room of the library. It is hoped that it would become a meeting place where people will congregate, wait, or rest with the idea that they will be stimulated by the existence of the library building and the exhibitions on the first floor and the activity on the mezzanine floor to such a degree that they will enter and use the facilities available within the building.
THE SOLUTION TO THE BUILDING:

Two statements concerning libraries stand out:

"What is the central idea of a public library? It is to lead those searching for knowledge into the world of books, to stimulate their interest, furnish them with facilities to choose, give them what they want, make them feel at home, while at the same time discreetly watching their progress."

Gunnar Asplund

"The adult non-fiction collection is one great unit; to remove any subject group is to break the circle of knowledge. In a large library, as in a small, the ideal arrangement is to keep the adult non-fiction collection in unbroken sequence. A library is a living organism, changing daily, every book connected to every other book by the nerves and arteries of ideas and daily use."

Wheeler and Githens

The former states the problem to be solved particularly from the reader point of view. The latter the problem to be solved in the organization of the materials for the reader. The third and one of the basic planning problems of a library is the idea of central control.

In studying the program of the Spokane Public Library it was evident that there would be four major elements in the design:

1. The Stack Collection
2. The Adult Non-Fiction Collection
3. The Children's Library
4. The Auditorium

There are three basic possibilities for the handling of non-fiction collection and the stacks. They are as follows:
Because of a very strong belief in the before mentioned quotations that a library should express the idea of the adult non-fiction collection as one great unit, and the fact that all knowledge and fields of study are very closely interrelated, the idea of the rear stack collection was eliminated in as much as it would create an unbalanced plan and one with a certain strong axis developing between the stacks and the entrance.

The central stack idea was rejected on the basis that it would occupy the most important space within the building, the central space, in which the heart of the library; the card catalog, and the circulation and control spaces should be located. Further, because the stack collection would generally be closed to the public its location above ground was relatively unimportant as long as there was some means of vertical transportation for books and people. The basement location was therefore selected as the basic concept for the Spokane Public Library.

The children's library and the auditorium have in common the need to handle sizeable crowds of people. The auditorium, up to its capacity of 250 people, and the children's library, of crowds which may vary in number from a very few to perhaps 100 to 150 depending
upon the time of day or year and the activities which are being held within the children's library. These large crowds could be very distracting, but because they are a strong part of the library program any person using these facilities should be aware that they are in a library and should feel a part of that library, yet the noise and the activities should not interfer with the normal functions of the library.

Thus the second major decision, to locate the children's library and the auditorium on the first floor, was made toward formulating the final concept of the proposed building.

In studying the problem of the library as a living organism; expanding here, contracting there, it was decided that the basic building form must be simple yet strong, hence the strong form of the mezzanine providing several types of permanent spaces with possibilities of creating additional more flexible spaces.

A need existed for a maximum of flexibility of both the reader and open stack space and the working areas required for the administrative operations of the library, hence the two types of spans, the thirty-six foot span which contains the reading rooms and the open stack areas, and the greater interior spans which provide for the possibility of subdivision for staff and reader service areas which for reasons of privacy and control need to be partitioned into smaller spaces. The larger span also makes possible the location of the auditorium on the ground floor.

In order that the pedestrian may have the opportunity to know and observe the life within the building, the three major areas
are clearly articulated and the major rooms of the building have a certain degree of transparency.

In order that the organization of the building is easily understood upon entering, the major stair to the adult collection is visible in the center; the auditorium is to the right; and the childrens' library is to the left. Upon ascending the major staircase, the organization of the adult non-fiction library is easily understood because the card catalog and the stairways to the mezzanine level are visible from the first landing, and the circulation desk is located at the head of the stairs.

The open stack collection is systematically organized in-order that the method of finding a book will be instantly recognizable and simple because the stacks of the major collection all run in the same direction and each range of books is available from the major central circulation aisle.

The experience of finding a book will be stimulating and enjoyable, because along the central artery of circulation one has the possibility to receive assistance if needed; see views into reading rooms; stop in areas to relax in lounge type chairs and browse through new materials; sit down at desks at the perimeter if privacy is desired; see views into the working areas of the library or reader service areas; and if one continues around the central circulation system the reader returns to the central space for a clear sense of orientation.

The activities which are noise producing and the annoyances caused by the movement of people are confined to certain limited areas. The reference and newspaper rooms and all of the circulation areas are
confined to the center of the building, leaving the perimeter free for quiet reading and the corners to a certain degree isolated for the greatest degree of privacy.

The mezzanine level is devoted to popular reading, audio-visual aids and fine arts collections, and several staff and staff work areas.
"... A library is a living organism, changing daily, every book connected to every other book by the nerves and arteries of ideas and daily use."

Wheeler and Githens
FOOTNOTES

1. Garceau, Oliver, The Public Library in the Political Process
2. Wilson, Louis R., The Geography of Reading
3. Headicar, B.M., The Library of the Future
5. Wellard, James H., The Public Library Comes of Age
6. Tawney, R.H., An Acquisitive Society
8. Berelson, B., The Library's Public
9. Lynd, R.S., Middletown in Transition
10. Horwitz, A.B., The Effect of Distance upon Frequency of Use
12. Haygood, W.C., Who Uses the Public Library
13. Waples, D., Investigating Library Problems
14. McDiarmid, E.W., The Library Survey
15. Wheeler, J.L., The Library and the Community
16. Waples, D. & Tyler, R., What People Want to Read About
17. Wilson, L.R., The Role of the Library in Adult Education
19. Fussler, Herman, Library Buildings for Library Service
20. Wheeler and Githens, The American Public Library Building
THE BIBLIOGRAPHY


Horwitz, A. B., The Effect of Distance upon the frequency of use of Public Library Facilities', in City Planning, July 1933, Vol 9:3 p. 135-7.


McDiarmid, Edward W., The Library Survey, Chicago, American Library Association, 1940.


Wellard, James H., The Public Library Comes of Age, London, 1940.


THE APPENDIX

See page 5 for index to the appendix.
May 23, 1960

Mr. David M. Scott
35 Concord Avenue
Belmont 78, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Scott:

Our plan for the new library is based on a span of forty years (2000), which is the basis that the City Planning Commission asked us to use. The number of volumes in the Main Library at the end of 1959 was 146,162; so by the year 2000, we feel that we should plan for a capacity of 400,000.

Below is an itemized list of the maximum number of volumes for each department. The size of the basement stacks worries me. I shall be very anxious to see whether you can make it the size we feel that it must be.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAXIMUM CAPACITY</th>
<th>IN STACKS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20,000 browsing room</td>
<td>40,000 bound periodicals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>750 oversize</td>
<td>5,000 Govt. serial set</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14,000</td>
<td>20,000 300-500-600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,000 oversize</td>
<td>15,000 Govt. documents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18,000</td>
<td>25,000 800-400-000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,000 oversize</td>
<td>85,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>30,000 900-910-100-200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,000 oversize</td>
<td>159,250 BOOK RESERVE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7,500 N. W. H.</td>
<td>22,750 oversize</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>750 oversize</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2,000 genealogy</td>
<td>182,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,900 oversize</td>
<td>85,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,000 young adult</td>
<td>267,000 stacks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>850 oversize</td>
<td>135,750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>15,000 700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,000 oversize</td>
<td>402,750 Total Capacity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

135,750
Four thousand bound newspapers, folio size, must lie flat. We are now getting most of this material on microfilm, so we will not add greatly to the bound newspapers.

Yours sincerely,

(Mrs.) Gladys S. Puckett
Librarian

GSP gb

Enclosure
Instructions For Filling Out This Form:

1. The purpose of this questionnaire is two-fold:
   (a) to arrive at a philosophy or direction for planning the new Spokane Library, and
   (b) to set forth in as much detail as possible the various items and activities that require floor area today and to attempt to predict the pattern of growth over the next twenty year in order that the new library building will continue to meet the needs of the ever expanding community.

2. Make the answers as brief or as lengthy as you desire, using the back side of the form or other paper. (The space between questions was only an estimate of the space required for each answer.)

3. Feel free to make additional comments on any item that you think is not included.

4. Please estimate any statistical data that is not readily available in the form as shown (e.g. linear feet of shelving, rather than number of books, etc.).

5. Addenda and correction to form - Page 7, 8, 9; Items 1 through 8:

   Please comment on the annual rate of growth of each of these sections of the book collections. Is it true in Spokane, that these will double in twenty years?
LIBRARY QUESTIONNAIRE - APRIL 1960

PART I

1. What is the history of the present library? (Please use blank page at end of questionnaire.) If this information is available in some printed form, I should like to save you the time of writing anything extensive. I shall be glad to return any information that you send.

2. Do you have an organizational chart such as the one I have enclosed? If so, could you please furnish me with a copy? This would help me a great deal in determining space requirements for the various offices and departments. The organizational chart for Detroit belongs to the MIT Library, so I would appreciate its return.

3. What is the philosophy of the Spokane Library with regard to public service? This may be confused with the function of a library, but I am thinking that the philosophy is perhaps to some degree personal and depends very much on the librarian and the staff. You may or may not agree on this point. Please comment. (Use blank page at end of questionnaire.)

4. Policies of the Library With Regard to Branches
   What administrative jobs are accomplished for the branches from the main library and what storage facilities are required at the main library in order to service the branches? Estimate number of volumes stored.
   Each branch has its own book fund to purchase a book collection.
   Any necessary borrowing is from the regular circulation or children's collection. We do not have a special storage collection.

5. Policies of the Library With Regard to School Services
   What administrative jobs are accomplished for the school services? Books are loaned to individual teachers from the Children's Department collection - 20 at one time for 2 month period. During summer there is no loan to teachers, so around 5,000 books (children's) have to be shelved until September when school opens.

   NOTE: This storage is included in the figures for the Children's Room stacks in the basement.

   What storage facilities are required at the main library to service the schools?

   Is this a summer storage requirement only? (Yes or No)
Could this be handled from a different location more conveniently and to greater advantage? Explain.

No, these books have to be shelved where they can be used for the students of four nearby colleges who may be taking Children's literature or Education courses if needed.

6. Policies With Regard to Bookmobiles
   Do they utilize the resources of the main library or do they have their own stock? What do you think would be best?

   They have their own stock. This is essential. The circulation of the Bookmobile Department is as large as that at the Main. We could not possibly supply them from Main resources.

   How many bookmobiles are used today? ___ Are they garaged in the central library? (Yes or No) No. What are the plans for the future expansion of bookmobile service?

   Other comments: It is housed in the basement of the Heath Branch where there is plenty of space. We intend to leave it there. We hope to build a garage for the Bookmobiles on the branch grounds.


   Number of volumes? ______ Is the book collection open or closed?
   Open

8. Does the library have any special sections peculiar to this library due to the specialization of industry in the region (e.g. Agriculture, Mining, Lumber, etc.)? ______ If "yes", what are they?

   We emphasize Agriculture, Mining, and Lumbering in our buying, but none.

   Number of volumes ______ Is it expanding? (Yes or No) No ______ are a special collection.

   Estimate rate of expansion per year in volumes ______

   Readers require ______ seats.

9. What is the librarians opinion or attitude on the following:
   a. Public lunch room, cafeteria and kitchen:

   No public lunchroom or cafeteria, but we would like a small, adequately equipped kitchen for tea and light refreshments in connection with the auditorium.

   b. Pay phones:

   Yes
Question 9 continued:

c. Conversation rooms - Estimate number of seats

Three small committee rooms, each of which will hold a good-sized table to seat eight comfortably.

d. Public writing or typing rooms:

A small typing room which will accommodate three typewriter stands.

e. Combination registration, charging, return and information desk - Should they be separated?

Registration and return desk together. Charge out separate. Information near the main catalog.

f. Display cases: (Yes or No) Yes. If "yes", what type of display material?

To display books and book jackets

g. Accession display racks and should they be open or closed?

Open.

h. Public catalog - Number of drawers in 1960. How many drawers were added during the last year?

We estimate that the new catalog should have twice that many drawers.

i. Is an official catalog (duplicate of public catalog) required?

Yes, in the Catalog Department. It now has 240 drawers, does not grow as fast as the public catalog because only an author card is filed.
Question 9 continued:

j. Is a Library of Congress, or other depository or Union catalog required? If "yes", how many drawers?

We would have the Library of Congress Catalogue, which is bound volumes. We would need about 500 feet of shelving in the Order Department.

k. Do you as the librarian have any strong beliefs on modular planning? Yes.

l. Are carrels desired?

Only one or two. As a rule, the stack will not be open to students. I believe public libraries do not use carrels as college libraries do.

m. Fire-proof vaults? If "yes", what capacity in volumes?

One in the basement stacks for valuable books. It should be large enough to hold 150-200 books but many of these would be oversized.

n. Smoking rooms?

No.

o. Reading rooms in which one can smoke?

If city authorities will permit, we should like to allow smoking in the browsing and newspaper rooms.

p. Outdoor reading rooms?

no.

q. Open stacks vs. closed stacks:

The stacks on the first and second floor should be open, but there should be a large closed stackroom in the basement.
PART II

The Library Board has made recommendations for a tentative arrangement of the building which appears to be very sound and logical. I have listed each floor with its respective rooms, and some questions that require answers in order to estimate necessary areas.

A. Basement

1. Boiler Room (Estimate to be based on fully air conditioned building) - (No answer required)

2. Work Room - 18' x 21'
   a. What activities will take place in this room?
   Repair and small carpentry.

3. Small Office
   a. What furniture is required besides desk, chair and file cabinet? None.
   Telephone would be in here; therefore, it should be fairly sound-proof so noise of boiler room will not interfere with conversation.

4. Loading and Receiving Dock
   a. Will this be the dock that services the bookmobiles, school and branch delivery, as well as mail deliveries?
   Will receive everything but bookmobiles.

5. Closet
   a. Is this the janitor's closet? Yes.
   Tools and cleaning supplies.

6. Store Room
   a. What items will be stored here?
   Maintenance supplies ordered by maintenance superintendent rather than library supply clerk. There has been some discussion of combining this store room and the supply room as one in the basement close to the shipping dock.

7. Washroom - (No answer required)
8. Supply Room
   a. What items will be stored here? Large quantities?
      Estimate volume.
      All library and office supplies. We buy in quantities to save
      money, so the supply room should be good sized, possibly 30' by 30'.

9. Dark Room
   a. What equipment will be required?
      The darkroom should probably be in the audio-visual department.
      Table, chairs for about twelve, dark curtains, outlets, copying
      machine, and projector.

10. Stack Room
    a. Shall the stacks be in one large unit or supplemented
       by stack annexes to various reading rooms?
       One huge unit which would store books, bound periodicals, and
       bound newspapers, Government documents. There will have to be
       a workroom for sorting Government documents, newspapers, etc.
    b. Is there to be free public access to stacks?
       (Yes or No)
       No.
    c. Who will supervise access to stacks?
       There would be a full-time supervisor in the stacks.

    d. Number of ordinary size volumes: 159,250
    e. Number of oversize volumes: 22,750
    f. Number of periodicals: 40,000
    g. Number of newspapers: 4,000 bound folio size.
    h. Are fire proof vaults required? Yes, one able to hold 150-200
    i. Are carrels required? Yes
    j. Are study rooms required? No. If "yes", estimate number:
    k. Special Equipment Necessary - Sorting tables: 2
       If "yes", estimate size:
       Elevators: Book lift (Electric operated): Yes

I hope we can afford an elevator for public which would go to the
basement.
11. Public Rest Rooms (No answer required)

12. Auditorium
   a. How many seats? 100, 150, 200? 200 to 250

13. Sub-basement - Staff Parking (No answer required)

B. First Floor

1. Browsing: Popular Library, Periodicals, Newspapers
   a. Separate entrance? (Yes or No) No.
   b. Who will supervise?
   c. Estimate number of volumes in Popular Library 20,000
   d. Estimate number of periodicals 125.
   e. Estimate number of newspapers 100.
   f. Estimate number of readers 75.
   g. Comments: The newspaper room adjoins the browsing room with low bookcases between. One person will supervise both. Should be 75 seats in newspaper room also.

2. 300-500-600 (Science, Technology, Business, Sociology)
   a. Who will supervise? Head of Department
   b. Estimate number of volumes ordinary size 14,000
   c. Estimate number of volumes oversize 1,000
   d. Estimate number of readers 30
   e. Comments:

3. 800-400 (Literature, Fiction, Language)
   a. Who will supervise? Head of Department
   b. Estimate number of volumes ordinary size 18,000
   c. Estimate number of volumes oversize 1,000
   d. Estimate number of readers 30
   e. Comments:

4. 900-910-920-100-200 (History, Travel, Biography, Philosophy
   Religion, Genealogy, Northwest History)
   a. Who will supervise? Head of Department.
First Floor - Question 4 continued:

b. Estimate number of volumes of ordinary size: 20,000

c. Estimate number of volumes oversize: 2,000

d. Estimate number of readers: 30

e. Comments:

5. Young Adult

a. Who will supervise? Head of Young Adult Department

b. Estimate number of volumes ordinary size: 5,000

c. Estimate number of volumes oversize: 850

d. Estimate number of readers: 20

e. Comments:
   If possible, we hoped this department could be situated between the children's wing and the browsing room.

6. Center Section

a. Main Catalog - Size today: See b., page 3. Number of drawers: 360 Comment: How many drawers are added in a normal year?

b. Information - Number of staff: One or two, according to the demand for help.

Comments:

c. Registration and Circulation
   Number of staff Can these two functions be combined or should they be separated? Separated

d. Comment on what arrangement for these facilities has worked best in Spokane:
   The registration and return book desk should be together. Will require two staff members. Ongoing book desk separate with one attendant.
Children's wing (with special outside entrance)

Main Room

a. Who will supervise? Children's Librarian plus staff of three.

b. Estimate number of ordinary size volumes 14,700

c. Estimate number of oversize volumes 300

d. Estimate number of readers, 5,411 children, 1,000 teachers.

e. Would an outdoor reading room be desirable? Yes, if we had staff to supervise.

Story Hour Room

f. Estimate number of seats: 60

g. Puppet stage - Size

Special Collections

h. Estimate number of volumes 300. These would include special illustrated books and a model library.

Doll Collection

These could be shelved in the story hour room.

j. Would a fireplace be desirable? Yes.

Other Comments:

Story hour room should have raised part at one end for story teller. Puppet stage should probably be able to be folded and stored when not in use.

Office

k. Estimate number of people and list of equipment:

Probably not more than two people in office at one time. Typewriter and desk, librarian's desk, microfilmer reader and stand, two chairs, 20 drawer catalog cabinet, shelves for about 50 books.

8. Basement of Children's Wing

Rest Rooms for children - (No comment required)

Stacks

a. Are these stacks for children's books? Yes.
   If "yes", how many volumes? 8,000.
   This figure includes the 5,000 which have been borrowed during the year by teachers and have to be stored in the summer.

C. Second Floor

1. 700 - Music, Art, Audio Visual, Record, Treasure Room

   a. Who will supervise?

b. Estimate number of ordinary size volumes: 8,000

c. Estimate number of oversize volumes: 4,000

d. Estimate number of prints: 300

e. Estimate number of framed pictures: 50

f. Estimate number of rolls of film: 8 mm. 16 mm. 2,000

The framed pictures are for circulation and should be hung on wall or on pull-out racks so public can see them. There should be locked cases for expensive reference records.
Second Floor - Question 1 continued:

We prefer the maps filed in the 900 section. 
Pamphlets will be filed in proper subject section.

Records 15,000  
g. Estimate number of film strips 2,000  
h. Estimate number of slides 5,000  
i. Estimate number of stereo-slides  
j. Estimate number of maps  
k. Estimate number of pamphlets  
l. Audio Visual Aids: 
   Number of projectors 2 Screens 2  
   Other equipment: One projector and screen in auditorium, the other in small darkroom in this section, should be partitioned off workroom for rewinding films and cataloging records. There should be soundproof room for listening. (This department is indeed a challenge. I am anxious to see what you can do with it.)
m. Treasure Room: 
   What is it's function and what will be stored in this room? Please comment: 
   This room is not for storage, but a spot in which to exhibit our rare books and yet protect them. Should have cases with glass doors and locked flat cases for about 1500 books, many oversized.

n. Please comment on the rate of growth of each of the above collections: 
   The audio-visual department (films and records) will grow rapidly. Books in regular 700's about same rate as other books in library. Books in treasure room will increase slowly.

2. Exhibit corridor 
   a. Is this primarily intended for paintings? 
      Comment: Posters, prints, framed pictures. 
      Exhibits that will be changed from time to time.

3. Order, Cataloging, Mending and Binding 
   a. How many employees work in this area?  
   b. Does the public need access to this room? 
      Comment: 
      Six people in Order, eight in Catalog, and four or five in the Mending Department.

The public sometimes wish to consult tools in the Order Department, not in the other departments.
4. Extension
Now ten branches.
Should be at least five
as soon as possible.

a. How many employees work in this room? Two regularly
b. Does the public need direct access? No.
c. What is the function of this department?
Comment: This is the department that handles the branches.
Office for branch supervisor, large room with bins to hold
books and materials to go out to each branch.

5. Staff Rooms
a. Large room including lunch alcove, kitchenette,
quiet room, dressing room with shower and lavatory,
locker room - Estimate number of people 75
Any men? Probably, though we have none at the Main now.
Should have 100 lockers with room for more later.

6. Consultation Rooms
a. What type of consultation?
See page 3, item C.

b. Furniture in each room?
Table and 6 or 8 chairs.
c. Estimate number of rooms Three.

7. Study Room
a. For groups? No. If "yes", how large? Consultation rooms will
take care of this.
b. For individuals? No.
c. Estimate number of rooms of each type:
Group_________ Individual_________

8. Mens and Womens Lavatories
a. Open to the public? (Yes or No)
Should be public lavatories in basement.

D. Third Floor
1. Librarians Office
a. Work room combined or separate?
Comment:
Workroom connected with business office rather than
Librarian's office. There should also be an assistant
Librarian's office.
2. Business Office
   a. Describe function:
      Accounting, personnel, purchasing, secretarial.
   
   b. Estimate number of people who will work in this office: three.
   
   c. Does the public need direct access? Yes.

3. Switchboard (No comment required)

4. Board Room
   a. Estimate seating capacity required
      At table 6 Other 5 or 6

5. Work Room - (Publicity, Displays)
   a. Special Equipment List:
      Mimeographing and copying machine, posters, booklists, etc.
   
   b. Estimate number of employees and what are their jobs?
      At present the workroom would not require a special staff. Eventually there probably will be a full-time person in there.

6. Please comment on how the expansion of the library over the next 20 years will affect the increase of personnel:

   We were asked to plan a building that would be adequate for 40 years. We estimated that the staff would probably double at that. We should have staff of 75 when we go into the new building. In 20 years it would probably be 125.
BOOK STORAGE CRITERIA:

1. Spacing may vary from 4' to 4'-6" c to c of stack ranges.

2. 7 volumes/ ft. of shelf--working capacity

3. 147 volumes/ 3' compartment for octavos size books
   67 volumes/ 3' compartment for quartos size books

4. 10 Sq. Ft./ 3' compartment allowed including both major and minor aisles, but does not include stairs, carrels, etc.
BOOK STORAGE CRITERIA:

1. Spacing of stack ranges open to the public vary from 5'-6" to 6'-0". An average of 6'-0" has been assumed throughout this building.

2. 7 volumes/ft. of shelf—working capacity

3. 147 volumes/3' compartment for octavos size books
   67 volumes/3' compartment for quartos size books

4. 11 Sq. Ft./3' compartment allowed including a minor aisle, but does not include major access, stairs, carrels, desks, etc.
Preliminary Space Diagram
Reader Services
Circulation and General Information
Preliminary Space Diagram
Reader Services

Area Required:

Table by wall and major aisle: 27 SF per Table
27 SF per Reader

Table along wall: 20 SF per Table
20 SF per Reader

Area Required:

Free Table by major aisle: 63 SF per Table
32 SF per Per.

Free Standing Table: 54 SF per Table
27 SF per Rea.

Weighted Average: 59 SF per Table
30 SF per Rea.
Quad Table: 72" x 48" with 4 Chairs

Area Required:

Free table by major aisle: 95 SF per Table
                        24 SF per Reader
Free Standing table:   81 SF per Table
                        21 SF per Reader
Weighted Average:      90 SF per Table
                        23 SF per Table
New Materials Lounge

1. Display Table
2. Counter High Book Cases
3. Lounge Seating for 6 people

Area Required 255 SF
Preliminary Space Diagram
Staff and Staff Work Area
General Administration

Area Required: 280 SF.
Preliminary Program Requirements
Staff and Staff Work Area
General Administration
Offices--Librarian and Assistant Librarian

ARCHITECTURAL:

1. Natural light required.

2. Acoustic treatment to produce a very quiet office space as well as privacy.

MECHANICAL:

1. Heating, Ventilating and Air Cond.--No special requirements.

2. Plumbing: Private toilet accessible to the Librarian, staff and the small conference room.

3. Electrical:
   a. Lighting--50 ft. candles maintained at 30" above floor.
   b. Special outlets and fixtures to suit interior design.

4. Communications:
   a. Intercommunications with secretarial staff, all departments and desks.
   b. Exterior phone required.

EQUIPMENT AND FURNISHINGS:

1. One standard size desk
2. One desk chair
3. One davenport
4. Two lounge chairs
5. Coffee or lamp tables as necessary for sound interior design
6. 15 to 20 feet book case, built in or free standing.

GENERAL REMARKS:

1. Description: Office space for librarian and assistant Librarian. Small committee meeting conducted here and visitors received.

2. Relation to other spaces:
   a. Should be accessible to the public
   b. Librarians and Ass't. Librarians offices should be private.
   c. Should be adjacent to secretarial space.
   d. Need not be directly related to any particular department.
ESTIMATE OF CLOSED STACK SPACE REQUIRED:

Estimate number of 3 foot compartments required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Number of Volumes</th>
<th>Volume per Compartment</th>
<th>Units Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Octavos (6&quot;x9&quot;)</td>
<td>159,250 vols.</td>
<td>147 vol. per 3 ft. compartment</td>
<td>1,008 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarto (9&quot;x12&quot;)</td>
<td>22,750 vols.</td>
<td>67 vol. per 3 ft. compartment</td>
<td>336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bound Periodicals</td>
<td>40,000 vols.</td>
<td>105 vol. per 3 ft. compartment</td>
<td>380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Serial</td>
<td>5,000 vols.</td>
<td>105 vol. per 3 ft. compartment</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gov't Documents</td>
<td>25,000 vols.</td>
<td>105 vol. per 3 ft. compartment</td>
<td>238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Documents</td>
<td>15,000 vols.</td>
<td>105 vol. per 3 ft. compartment</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Childrens</td>
<td>8,000 vols.</td>
<td>147 vol. per 3 ft. compartment</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Units Required</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>2,218</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Converted to square feet using 10 square feet per three foot compartment means that a total of 2218 x 10 sq. ft. = 22,180 SF.

* Area includes major and minor aisles.
**ESTIMATE OF OPEN SHELF SPACE REQUIRED:**  
(Based on the projected ultimate capacity)

Estimated number of 3 ft. wide by 7'-0" high compartments required in the Adult Library:

**Browsing:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Volume per Compart.</th>
<th>Per Compart.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Octavos</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>$147 vols$</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quartos</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>67 vols</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>147</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**300-500-600:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Volume per Compart.</th>
<th>Per Compart.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Octavos</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quartos</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**800-400-000:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Volume per Compart.</th>
<th>Per Compart.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Octavos</td>
<td>25,000</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quartos</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>181</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**900-910-100-200:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Volume per Compart.</th>
<th>Per Compart.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Octavos</td>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quartos</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**N. W. History:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Volume per Compart.</th>
<th>Per Compart.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Octavos</td>
<td>7,500</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quartos</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Genealogy:

Octavos 2,000 * 147 vols per 3 ft. compart. = 144
Quartos 1,900 * 67 vols per 3 ft. compart. = 28
Total 42

Young Adult:

Octavos 5,000 * 147 = 34
Quartos 850 * 67 = 13
Total 47

700:

Octavos 15,000 * 147 = 100
Quartos 4,000 * 67 = 60
Total 160

Total Number of Units Required 1,009

Converted to square ft. using 9* sq. ft. per 3 ft. compartment means that a total of 1,009 x 9 = 9,081 sq. ft. of area required.

*Area includes only the aisle necessary for the immediate access to the compartment.
THE MECHANICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

The importance of air conditioning for libraries has been demonstrated in research projects carried out by the Bureau of Standards, which dealt with the preservation of records and books in libraries. The results of this study indicates that the optimum conditions to be maintained in libraries are: relative humidities of 40-50 percent; maximum summer temperature of 80 degrees F.; and minimum winter temperature of 70 degrees F.

Besides maintaining these temperature and relative humidities, provision should be made in the equipment for the removal of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) by the use of spray type dehumidification with water treatment, or the use of activated charcoal. Also effective air cleaning devices as well as adequate controls and air distribution are required.

Air conditioning of libraries has the following advantages:

* 1. Eliminates particles of abrasive dust, which:
   a. Have detrimental action on paper and bindings of stored document.
   b. Act as nuclei for the condensation of moisture (sometimes acidic)

2. Retards discoloration of paper, parchment, textiles, and leather.

3. Maintains proper air motion and proper humidity which:
   a. Retards "brittling" caused by the air being too dry.

86
b. Eliminates brown blotches, known as "foxing", found on papers stored in damp places.

c. Tends to prevent paper from becoming soft and fuzzy as a result of dampness.

d. Reduces the prevalences of molds, fungus, and mildew found in damp places with inadequate air motion.

e. Materially lengthens the life of the adhesives or plastic bookbinding material.

f. Reduces susceptibility to decay of paper, cloth, thread adhesives and leather from chemical changes stimulates by adverse humidities (and, in some cases, temperature)

4. Eliminates damage due to sulfur dioxide (provided water in air washer is properly chemically treated.)

5. Prevents precipitation of moisture on stored materials by sudden changes in temperature during humid weather.

Mildew is caused by a variety of vegetable organisms which propagate by means of spores nearly always present in the air. They grow very slowly below 40 degrees F, very rapidly at the optimum temperature, which varies with the species; they are killed by elevated temperature. They require an abundance of water for growth. If the relative humidity is kept below 80 per cent, paper, cotton, and leather will not contain enough moisture for the growth of mildew but glue and starch will. The latter can be protected, however, by the use of a bactericide, such as betanaphthol."
A PUBLIC LIBRARY
FOR SPOKANE WASHINGTON
WEST ELEVATION
WEST ELEVATION