

John Parkinson  
and  
Donald B. Parkinson  
Architects  
Title Insurance Building  
Los Angeles

April 5, 1940

DESCRIPTION

HOLLYWOOD BRANCH LIBRARY

The new Hollywood Branch Library, designed by John Parkinson & Donald B. Parkinson, Architects, is revolutionary in Library Design. The severe simplicity of the Ivar Street elevation is accentuated by the concentration of detail at the main entrance. At this point a colored tile fountain with flowing water emanating from a bronze detailed spout suggests a delightful entrance. The walls surrounding other sides of the building are carried out in the same tone with the fenestration affording all detail.

The design problem confronted by the Architects was that of constructing a library to incorporate the present building which was moved from its previous site on Hollywood Boulevard to the new location. The solution shows a skilful handling of Book circulation and library control. Directly inside the entrance is the main Book Circulation Room which is flanked on the right by the Reference Room, Stairway to the second floor, Check Room and public lavatory facilities. This room is divided off to give the greatest ease in controlling the Book circulation from every aspect. In connection with this the Architects have incorporated the idea of indirect lighting and paint harmony with an acoustically treated ceiling to afford the maximum comfort for both reader and Attendants. The reference room has been handled in the same manner with the control being placed at the main and a secondary entrance. This was done to offer the readers every opportunity for convenience in direct entrance to one room or the other.

Connecting directly with both these rooms are their respective book stack rooms. These rooms are interconnecting with themselves, the Managerial Offices and the Work Room. This gives exact control of all books for the office and ease of book circulation to the public. The book stacks are con-

*Miss Schubs  
note capitals  
not ones*

structed of steel and rise to a second level. The rooms are both indirectly lighted to maintain the maximum light intensity at all points of the room.

In conjunction with the ~~Managerial~~ <sup>are</sup> Offices ~~is~~ the most modern of kitchen and dining facilities. These were incorporated into the design by the ~~Architects~~ to give the ultimate in comfort to all concerned with the Library's welfare.

The ~~Architects~~ have devoted the entire second floor for the exclusive use of children. They have embodied a story hour room and work room in connection with the main reading room. These rooms have been accoustically treated and indirectly lighted to offer the children a pleasant room in which to spend their idle moments. However, the ~~Architects~~ have gone one step further by providing the colors in these rooms so as to conform to and be in keeping with children's activities. In order to provide additional comfort for the young reader the Architects have provided the latest lavatory facilities.

The building has been entirely gas heated and conditioned to surpass all previous ~~Library~~ design.