

Check it out

A look at our new Phoenix Central Library

Copper, steel, concrete and cable give it shape.

Shelves, reading materials, computers, tables and chairs give it function.

What will make it complete is people.

The Phoenix Public Library's new Central Library — which has been metamorphosing on Central Avenue just south of McDowell Road for months — opens to the public on Saturday.

Inside this section, you'll find a guide to each of its five floors as well as a glimpse into its architectural ingenuity.

The library's exterior mirrors the colors and shapes of the desert. Great libraries of the world provided inspiration for its interior design.

Phoenix's hope for its newest public building is that it will be a monument to Arizona, architecture and, most of all, knowledge.

Phoenix Public Library

And the donors are....

A \$3.1 million fund-raising campaign was recently launched by the Friends of the Phoenix Public Library, who hope to find the money to finish several features of the new Central Library and to buy more furniture for it.

By May 10, more than \$1.9 million in pledges had been made. Donors include: Steele Foundation, \$750,000; John O. Hayden, about \$330,000 (assessed valuation of donated real estate);

Phelps Dodge Corp., \$250,000; Arizona Public Service Co., \$150,000;

BankAmerica Foundation, \$50,000;

Bank One Arizona, \$50,000;

First Interstate Bank Charitable Foundation of Arizona, \$50,000;

The Thunderbirds, \$50,000;

Norwest Bank, \$25,000;

US West, \$25,000;

Claire and Henry Sargent, \$25,000;

Regina and G. Peter Bidstrup, \$20,000;

Jeld-Wen Foundation, \$15,000;

Dial Corp., \$15,000;

America West Employees Foundation, \$10,000;

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Arizona, \$10,000;

Brown & Bain, \$10,000;

Deloitte & Touche, \$10,000;

Fennimore Craig, \$10,000;

Lewis & Roca, \$10,000;

Martori Enterprises, \$10,000;

MCI Foundation, \$10,000;

Snell & Wilmer, \$10,000;

Arthur Andersen, \$5,000;

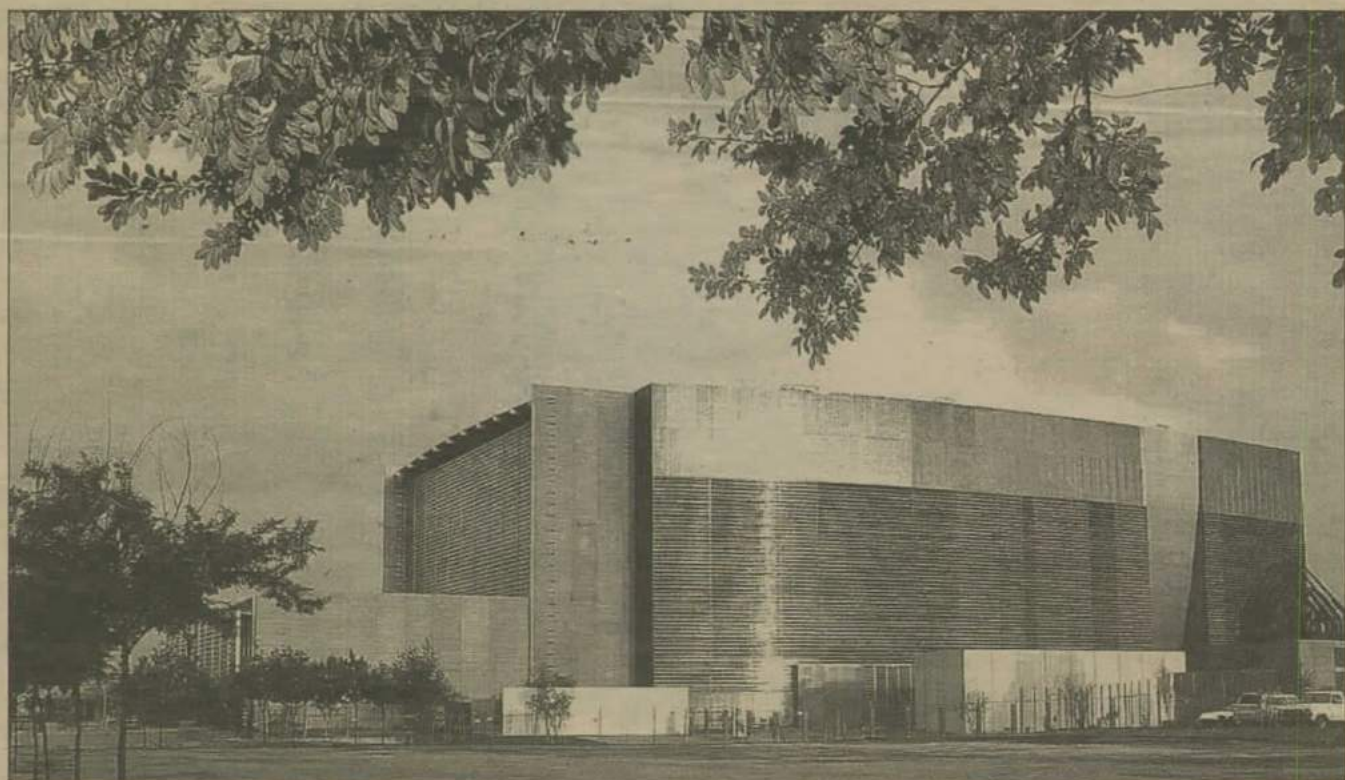
Burch & Cracchiolo, \$5,000;

Gust Rosenfeld, \$5,000;

Harry Rosenzweig Charitable Trust, \$5,000;

Individual donations, \$20,000-plus.

Cover photo by Tom Tingle

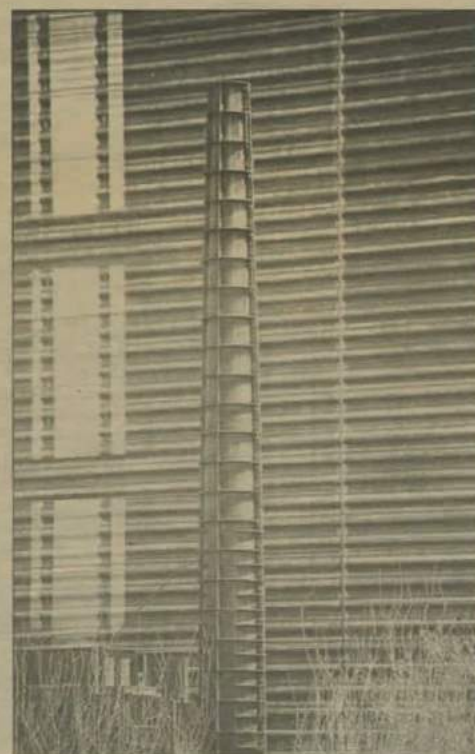


Tom Tingle

■ Morning sun reflects off the copper skin on the east side of the new Central Library.

Central Library to open amid praise for architecture, technology, resources

■ Forms used to build the library stand outside the east entrance, looking like a modern art sculpture. The forms can be used again when the library expands.



Bill Timmerman

Its skin is copper, its body concrete, steel and glass. Its personality is all magnet.

The Central Library — a mesmerizing, five-story ode to Southwestern landscape — opens Saturday after more than seven years of planning.

Already it's winning praise as an architectural wonder. In a decade when many major cities have had to upgrade or rebuild their main libraries, Phoenix's stands as one of the largest: 280,000 square feet, double the size of the old one, and room to accommodate more than 1 million books.

Its fifth-floor Great Reading Room is the largest in the nation.

Plus, the library has capitalized on computer technology to launch it into the 21st century.

A Central Avenue address, two blocks south of McDowell Road, puts the library in the heart of downtown rejuvenation. Expect neighboring Margaret T. Hance Park, more popularly known as Deck Park, to spring to life with the flow of about 2,000 library patrons each day.

Of the city's new public buildings, the library is perhaps the most significant "quality of life" project. And it portends more to come, including a renovated Orpheum Theatre and new science and history museums.

See Library, Page 11

A pair of parties Wednesday and Saturday

The opening of the Central Library at 1221 N. Central Ave. calls for a party, and the public is invited to two of them this week.

One is a fund-raiser, the other a free party open to the public. Here are the details:

The Debut Party — Friends of the Phoenix Public Library fund-raiser, 6 p.m. Wednesday. Sponsored by Circle K Stores Inc. and Phoenix Motor Co. Mercedes-Benz. Starts on the first floor and flows to the fifth, offering music, dancing and fine dining along the way. Food has been donated by Valley chefs and restaurants. Special appearances by actress Janet Leigh, novelist Clive Cussler, children's author Shonto Begay and award-winning fiction writer Alberto Rios. Arizona Republic editorial cartoonist Steve Benson will draw caricatures of guests.

And for those who are not yet accustomed to the library's electronic replacements for the old card catalogs, there will be terminal tutoring. Library-card sign-ups will take place, too.

Ticket prices will cover admission and go toward the purchase of much-needed furnishings. An individual ticket of \$200 buys a study chair; \$500, a bookcase; and

\$1,000, a study table. A \$2,500 donation purchases tickets for four people as well as a study table and four chairs.

A \$125 ticket for those 35 and under will help purchase shelving.

Free opening festivities — At 9:45 a.m. Saturday, Phoenix Mayor Skip Rimsza cuts the ceremonial ribbon and kicks off a free "Celebration of Reading" party to be held inside and outside, spilling over to Deck Park with food, exhibits and entertainment until 4 p.m.

Highlights include a Mother Goose storybook characters parade, strolling and stage entertainment and food and beverage vendors, appearances by Arizona authors.

The library will reopen May 21 from 1 to 5 p.m. for an open house and regular library use.

Footnotes

• The Phoenix Central

Library will be closed through Friday to move from 12 E. McDowell Road to 1221 N. Central Ave.

• Any books or materials that come due while the Central Library is closed can be dropped off at any of the 11 Phoenix branch libraries.

Friday Club

Who created Phoenix's first public library?

The Friday Club, a study group of 14 women that met Friday mornings beginning in 1897.

That year they began organizing teas, garden parties and biblical performances at Eastlake Park to raise money. By mid-1898, they had opened a lending library at Washington Street and First Avenue — 700 volumes for the use of Phoenix's 5,000 residents.

The Friday Club initiated a Library Board, which in turn granted operating powers to the city in 1901.

The next year, the Phoenix Women's Club, which included many Friday Club members, began the drive for a new library building. With the help of \$25,000 from Andrew Carnegie, the library opened at 1101 W. Washington St.

That building is now the Arizona Hall of Fame Museum.

In 1995, in tribute to Phoenix's earliest library volunteers, and with the completion of the \$43 million Phoenix Central Library, the Friday Club has been resurrected.

Members — women and men — will serve as greeters and tour guides and acquaint library patrons with the computerized card catalogs.

To be a volunteer, call 262-7939.

— Deborah Ross



File photo

■ The 75,000-square-foot library at Central and McDowell as it looked shortly after its 1952 opening.

Early chapters of library's story started with steel, desert plants

It's the state Hall of Fame Museum now, but the name carved above the door of the pleasing, eclectic brick building tells what it used to be: "Carnegie Public Library."

For nearly half a century, Carnegie was the main public library in Phoenix. The parklike setting at 1101 W. Washington St. was designed by botanist Dorothy McClintock, spark plug of a library movement that began in 1898.

McClintock, whose husband was Arizona historian James H. McClintock, belonged to the Friday Club, a women's history study group. In 1898, the club opened and staffed a small library in two donated rooms of the Fleming Block, a business building at First Avenue and Washington.

The club also lobbied Phoenix to provide a public library. Sarah McGarry, public-services administrator for the modern Phoenix Public Library, says the group involved men in its quest for cultural amenities, unusual for the times. (In another twist, the Friday Club is being resurrected in 1995 to serve as guides and greeters at the new Central Library.)

Phoenix was a town of boosters, working to attract new settlers. Tucson and Prescott already had libraries, a goad to the civic pride of Phoenix.

In 1899, when the Territorial Legislature was considering a bill to let cities establish public libraries, an editorial in *The Arizona Republican* noted:

"Many Eastern people are looking in this direction for future homes. Coming as they do from regions where libraries are regarded as public necessities, they will be guided largely in their selection

by social and educational considerations...."

A bill finally passed in 1901, and Carnegie Library was built on donated land with \$25,000 provided by steel magnate Andrew Carnegie. Carnegie funded 2,500 libraries around the world, two-thirds of them in the United States. The library, with 1,500 volumes, was dedicated Feb. 14, 1908.

By 1928, the library had outgrown its quarters and was experimenting with branches in rented or donated space. By 1947, when Phoenix was beginning its postwar boom, the library had two branches, plus three bookmobiles.

The 75,000-square-foot library at Central and McDowell opened in March 1952, using \$1.5 million from 1938 and 1948 bond issues. An addition was begun in 1959.

As the city's population exploded, more branch libraries were built. They were named for desert plants — Saguaro, Cholla, Mesquite — but citizens call them by their location. For instance, the Yucca Branch at 5648 N. 15th Ave. is popularly known as the Chris-Town branch.

In 1980, the library was merged into the Parks, Recreation and Library Department to give the city better administrative control.

There now are 11 branches, and a 12th is under construction near 75th Avenue and Thomas Road. Following passage of the 1988 cultural bond issue, which also funded the new Central Library, residents of Ahwatukee successfully clamored to have the Ironwood Branch moved ahead of other branches on the schedule. It opened in 1992.

McGarry said libraries would have been even more taxed had they not turned to computers, which store research information more efficiently than do books. A handful of CD-ROMs could contain all the books and data stored in the 1908 Carnegie Public Library.

— James E. Cook



File photo

■ Standing card catalogs like the ones pictured above at the McDowell location have been replaced by computerized listings.

First floor



On this floor

GENERAL AUDITORIUM (1)

Awaiting funding. It will seat audiences of up to 200 for a variety of lectures, concerts, exhibits and public hearings. Walls of maple and an acoustic ceiling with sculpted waves will complement a raised stage and state-of-the-art audiovisual equipment.

CHILDREN'S GARDEN (2)

Awaiting funding. To be a walled area entered from a door inside the Children's Library, with benches and desert plants. No adult admitted without a child. Children can read in the open air, young ones can burn off some energy and parents can converse.

FICTION (3)

Stacks of mysteries, science fiction, Westerns, epics and literary classics, arranged for easy access.

FOREIGN-LANGUAGE COLLECTION (4)

Books, magazines and other publications in 33 languages, housed near the general-fiction area. Also find foreign-language books in the Children's Library.

FRIENDS GIFT SHOP (5)

To open later in 1995. Friends of the Library will sell used books to raise money. Eventually T-shirts, mugs and other souvenirs with library logos will be sold.

MEETING ROOMS (6)

Two private spaces available for rent later in the year, with windows looking out on a John Waddell sculpture of a seated human figure, relocated from the old library.

SPECIAL-NEEDS CENTER (7)

More work spaces than in the old Central Library. Find large-type books, reading machines, Braille embossers, specially adapted computers, printers and software, caption decoders and information on disabilities.

TOYBRARY (8)

Parents and care givers of disabled children can obtain free six-week rental on toys that build skills such as mobility and eye-hand coordination.

VIDEO CENTER (9)

The place to get hard-to-find videotapes — from feature films to travelogues to foreign films to do-it-yourself guides. Rental is free.

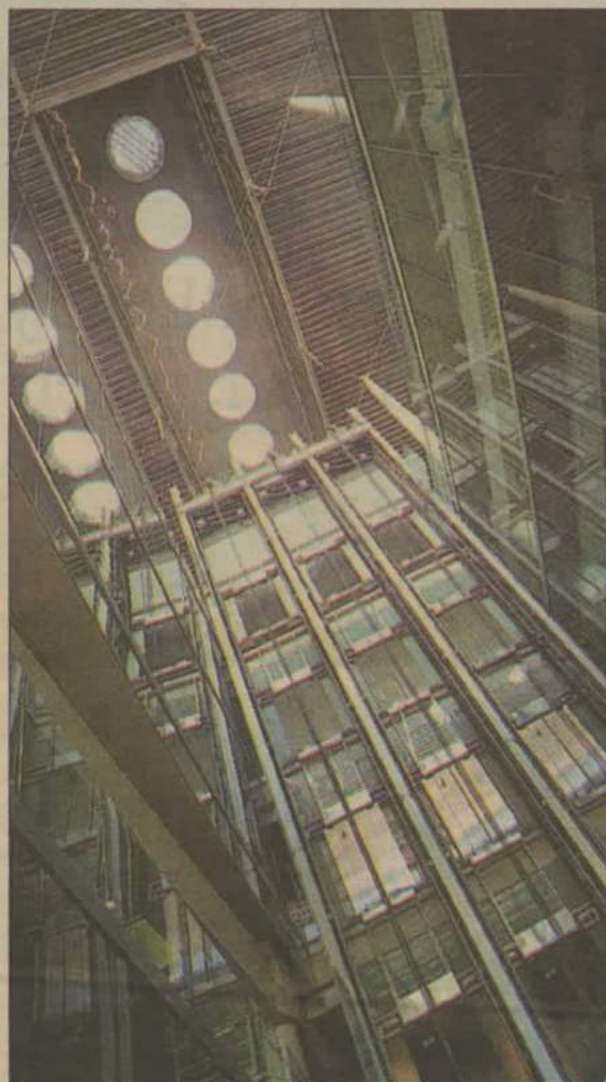
Dramatic 'Crystal Canyon' greets visitors

It's open and airy — but it's huge.

On your first trip to the new five-floor Central Library, you may think it will take hours to find what you need. But the first floor, because it holds the most sought-after materials, is considered the "quick-in, quick-out" floor.

Looking for the new best sellers to rent? A popular video? Books for the kids? They're all here.

Most people are likely to enter on the east side, which is closest to the parking lot. Head down the corri-



Tom Tingle

A wide-open atrium stretches from the first floor to the skylights in the roof of the library.

for preschoolers are separate. The children's service desk and card catalog are close by.

The Children's Library also contains a **story room**. Not only does it accommodate 50 children, but it is also equipped for films, videos and puppet shows. Kids' artwork can be displayed on the room's soft walls, which "heal" the holes made by thumbtacks.

For the first time, the Children's Library has its own restrooms — no small benefit for toddlers and preschoolers.

The showpiece of this area is the First Interstate Bank Foundation Center for Children's Literature. Once finished, it's expected to be a regional resource for anyone — young or old — studying children's literature. Museumlike display cases will house original manuscripts, galleys and paintings from well-known books. Arizona-based authors and illustrators are well-represented.

On the other side of the wall, to the west, is **adult general fiction** — mysteries, Westerns, science fiction and literary classics. Biographies also are shelved in this area.

Moving back toward the main entrance, you'll find the foreign-language and audiovisual areas on the left. The latter will display the library's **music collection**, as well as videos and books on tape, until the fourth-floor Music Library opens.

The checkout area is circular for more efficient queuing. Lines snaked awkwardly during peak hours at the old library.

If you exit on the west side, which fronts Central Avenue, you'll come to the curving flagstone wall, sidewalk and desert landscaping that dip a few feet below street level. A restaurant is envisioned for this side of the library, and the city is seeking a business to operate it.

— Deborah Ross

Behind the scenes

Ralph Edwards is city librarian and director of the

Phoenix Public Library system.

Edwards has

toured extensively in the

United States

and Canada,

studying library building

design and development.

This is Edwards' second

central-library project. He

helped plan Dallas' central

library as its administrator

prior to coming to Phoenix

in 1981.

Edwards also did a stint

with the New York Public

Library and the public-

library systems of the

University of Illinois and

Multnomah County, Ore.,

which includes Portland. He

was also a faculty member

of the School of Library and

Information Science at

Western Michigan University

in Kalamazoo.

Edwards received a bachel-

or's degree and a master's

degree in librarianship from

Seattle's University of

Washington and a doctorate

in library science from the

University of California at

Berkeley.

Footnotes

- The library's design is

inspired by Monument

Valley, its shape influ-

enced by the desert mesa.

- The new Central Library

will have 280,000 square

feet of space, making it

about twice the size of the

old building.

- The library will

accommodate more than

1 million volumes. The

old library has space for

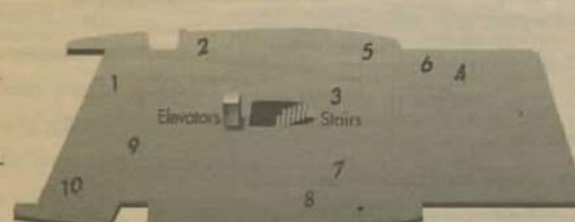
only 650,000, so about

200,000 of the current

collection of 850,000 had

to be kept in storage.

Second floor



On this floor

BUSINESS LIBRARY (1)

Featuring its own reference desk, a section for current business journals and magazines and a local-area network for compact discs on business-related subjects.

CAREER CENTER (2)

The place to find job postings, occupational descriptions, salary surveys, resume and interview guides and computer programs for help in choosing a career. Also available is a program that contains sample questions from various pre-employment tests.

ELECTRONIC ISLAND (3)

The name for a grouping of about 25 public-use personal computers in the center of the second floor. On hard disc and CD-ROM is a multitude of information on business and non-business topics. Examples are the computer version of Facts on File, genealogy information, the MUSE system of identifying musical works (eventually this will move to the Music Library) and a poetry finder. A printer is within reach at each workstation.

GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS (4)

A storehouse of answers on federal, state and local rules and regulations, as well as an area for government-published magazines and handbooks of interest to consumers.

INTERLIBRARY LOAN (5)

A free service for patrons who need to borrow a book from an out-of-town library.

MAP LIBRARY (6)

A new section devoted to all kinds of maps. Find world atlases, international city maps, NASA space maps or Valley hiking-trail maps. An oversize copying machine is available.

MICROFORMS (7)

Many government documents, magazines and newspapers are stored on microfilm or microfiche. The public may retrieve and view them.

PERIODICAL READING ROOM (8)

Current and back editions of more than 2,500 of the world's magazines and newspapers. The collection includes popular fare such as Newsweek and People as well as publications for special-interest groups and hobbyists and scholarly journals. Many had been in storage at the old library.

REFERENCE ROOM (9)

The library has consolidated its non-circulating books on art, literature, politics, philosophy, the sciences, travel and recreation. Medical books, here and on the fifth floor, compose the most extensive public collection in the state.

REPAIR MANUALS (10)

Non-circulating reference books for the do-it-yourselfer or professional. Manuals on cars, trucks, boats, small electronics, computers and appliances.

Business references cover 6,100 square feet

When the 21st century calls, Phoenix Central Library's business and government section will be ready.

It's been reorganized and modernized for the new building. And when you add the library's vast collection of reference books and periodicals, the second floor stands as a gateway to the **Information Age**.

The business-related collections will cover 6,100 square feet, a sixfold increase of space. That means more room for workstations, computers, reference desks and research materials and more efficient ways to serve library users.

That's important because about 90 percent of Central's on-line database searches and half of all information

requests are business-related. The

Business Library is considered one of Arizona's most comprehensive collections and is a state-designated **Economic Development Information Center**.

Questions from the business community run the gamut from tax rules to patent searches to corporate statistics to regulations for starting a small firm.

Sometimes answers are found in government documents. Half of everything the federal government puts out is available to the Phoenix Library, but until now the public has been able to see only a fraction of that.

On the second floor, 50 percent of the library's **government documents** will come out of storage onto the shelves — even more when additional shelves can be purchased. Government documents include not just bureaucrat-

ic pamphlets but also consumer-oriented magazines and handbooks.

Business, government and law take up the east side of the floor, with the business reference desk immediately to the east of the elevators and stairs.

The **law area** houses Arizona statute books, as well as federal law books, city codes and taxation guides. Also available are do-it-yourself legal forms for divorces, living wills and other matters.

Appropriately in the very center of the floor is **Electronic Island**, a bank of computers available to library patrons for research needs.

The west side of the second floor will be just as bustling, for two reasons: the **Periodical Reading Room** and the general Reference Room. The reading room receives about 400 requests for information a day — from people on the phone or in the library — while the sciences and humanities reference areas field about 1,000 requests.

Periodicals, toward the south, is home to thousands of bound volumes of magazines and research journals as well as a U-shaped rack of current publications. Many more will be available for browsing than before. It's a popular place for news junkies, business researchers and college students.

The **Reference Room**, to the north, is touted as the library's most generic help desk. Non-circulating reference books won't be divided between two floors, as before. The materials here will represent the spectrum from art to zoology. The area will have its own service desk.

Also on this side is the foundations and grants collection, consisting of foundation directories and general advice books. They are important resources to non-profit organizations and researchers seeking funds for various causes.

— Deborah Ross

Behind the scenes

Roger Smith, lighting consultant for

Central

Library,

studied

pre-archi-

tecture

and elec-

trical



engineering at Arizona State University. He is president of Roger J. Smith Lighting Dynamics.

Smith has 19 years of experience, concentrating on developing energy-efficient, technically innovative lighting-control systems.

Smith's lighting designs have been used in a variety of projects, including two with the noted architect Antoine Predock. He provided lighting design and analysis for Predock's work on the University of Wyoming American Centers Art Museum and the Arizona Science Museum in Phoenix.

Footnotes

- The business-

related collections

will cover about

6,100 square feet in

the building, as

opposed to about

1,000 square feet in

the old.

- The new library

will have 506 park-

ing spaces. At the

old facility, 500

spaces were shared

by the Central

Library, the

Phoenix Art

Museum and

Phoenix Theatre.

Architectural
highlights
you'll find inside
the new

Phoenix Central Library

Graphics by: Joe Willie Smith



Light will bathe you, bombard you and bemuse you in the new Central Library.

Many of the library's "gee-whiz" features revolve around innovative uses of light.

"The idea is you always have light in the building," said Wendell Burnette, an architect and co-designer of the project. "A cloud moves over the sun: You don't lose the light. The Arizona sun is always in the building."

The sun's presence is most pronounced in the library's acre-size Great Reading Room, where skylights, glass walls and computer-controlled mirrors, louvers and sails harness the light. When the sun is high in the sky, it leaves the impression that the room's giant ceiling floats atop its walls.

It is more subtly present in the Crystal Canyon, the five-story-tall stairwell and elevator shaft that drinks up the natural light funneled into it and radiates it through translucent walls.

It is playfully present in the library's elevators and the restrooms, where colored light beams bounce off walls.

Innovations in the use of natural light won the library a \$10,000 rebate from Arizona Public Service Co., said Burnette, who worked with architect Will Bruder and designer David Tait on the plan.

In addition, other energy-saving features resulted in a record-setting \$25,000 credit from APS for energy efficiency.

2 SOLAR TRACKING LOUVERS

The automated solar tracking louvers are located on the south end of the library, extending from the third to the fifth levels. The south wall of the library is all glass to take advantage of the view of the South Mountains. Because of the high solar heat gain and glare from this direction, the shades are programmed to react to bright light by closing partly or completely.

Glass wall

A 4-foot gap between the solar shades and the glass wall has two functions, to act as a convection shaft countering heat gain and to allow access for maintenance.



During maximum sunlight the solar shades will be fully closed.

Louver control

Automated solar tracking louvers
Several louver controls activated by a computer track the sun, adjusting the louvers to control glare and heat gain.

1 SHADE SAILS



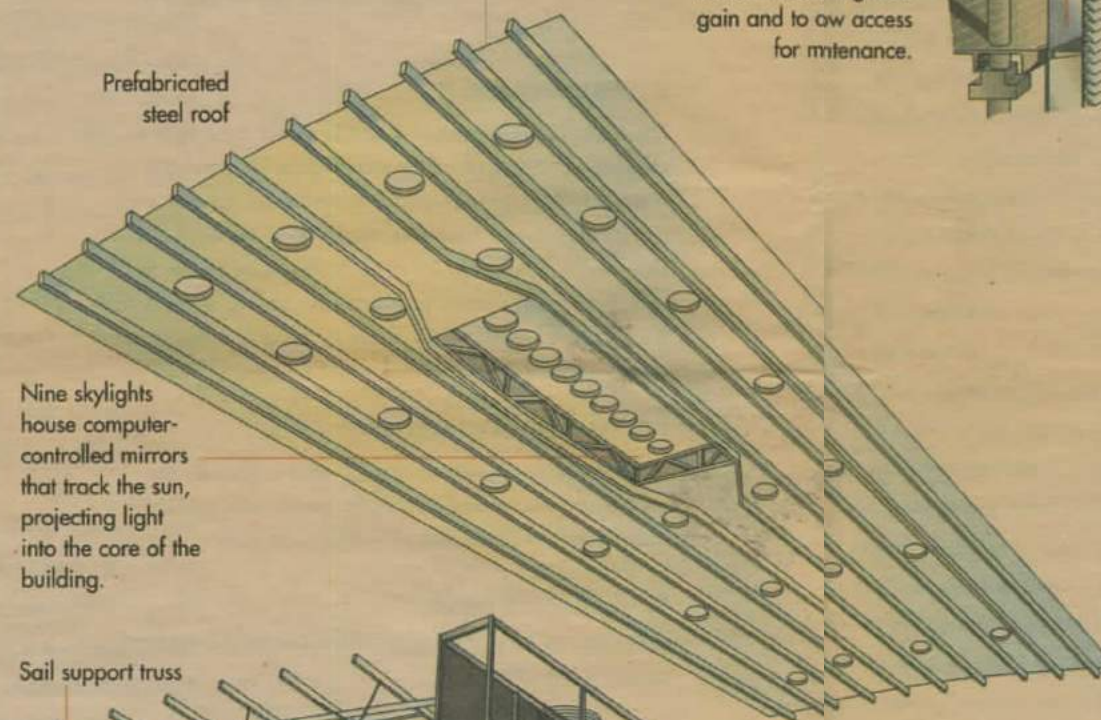
The shade sails on the north end of the library were designed by a sailmaker in Maine. The sails control glare and act as a wind buffer, without obstructing the view of the landscape to the north.

The truss that supports the solar sails is connected to the steel structure through holes in the precast concrete walls.



Nine skylights house computer-controlled mirrors that track the sun, projecting light into the core of the building.

Prefabricated steel roof



Sail support truss

A steel frame supports the precast concrete walls on the east and west.

30-foot-wide slot of stainless-steel panels highlights the east and west entrance.



Perforated copper exterior
Heating, cooling, electrical, plumbing and other operating systems are housed in the extreme east and west sides of the building, like saddlebags. This allows heat generated by the systems to be dispersed to the outside. The "saddlebags" are 270 feet long and 25 feet at the widest point.

SITE PLAN

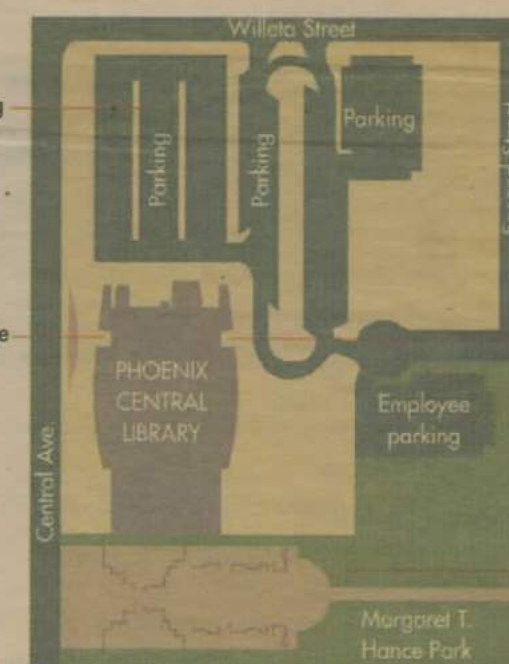
There are four parking areas with a total of 506 parking spaces.

West entrance

The entrance to the parking areas is at Willetta and First streets.

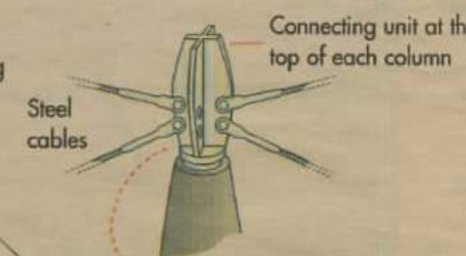
East entrance

The south end of the library connects with Margaret T. Hance Park.



3 STARBURST TENSEGRITY ROOF

The roof works by balancing or counterbalancing any load placed upon it through a system of columns, steel cables under tension, struts and purlins or beams to disperse weight throughout the roof.



Steel cables

Skylight

Purlins (Beams)

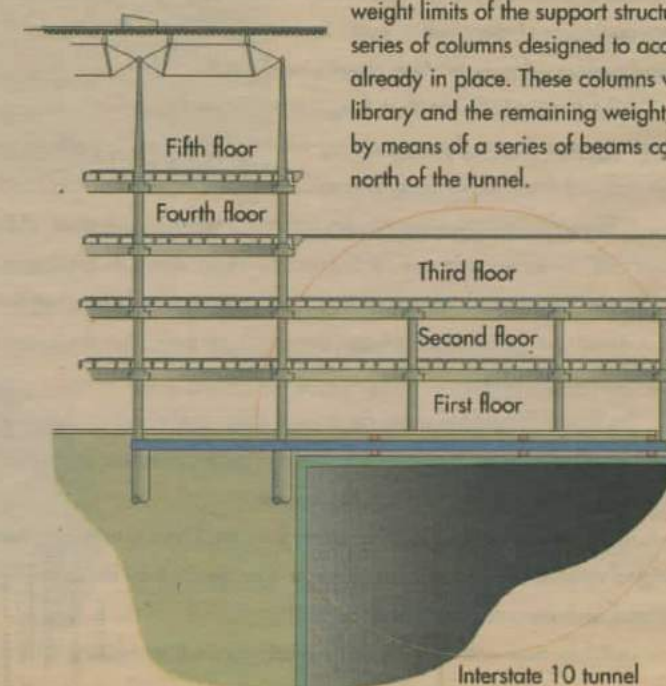
Strut

Skylights on the edge of the roof project sunlight down the east and west walls at about noon each day.

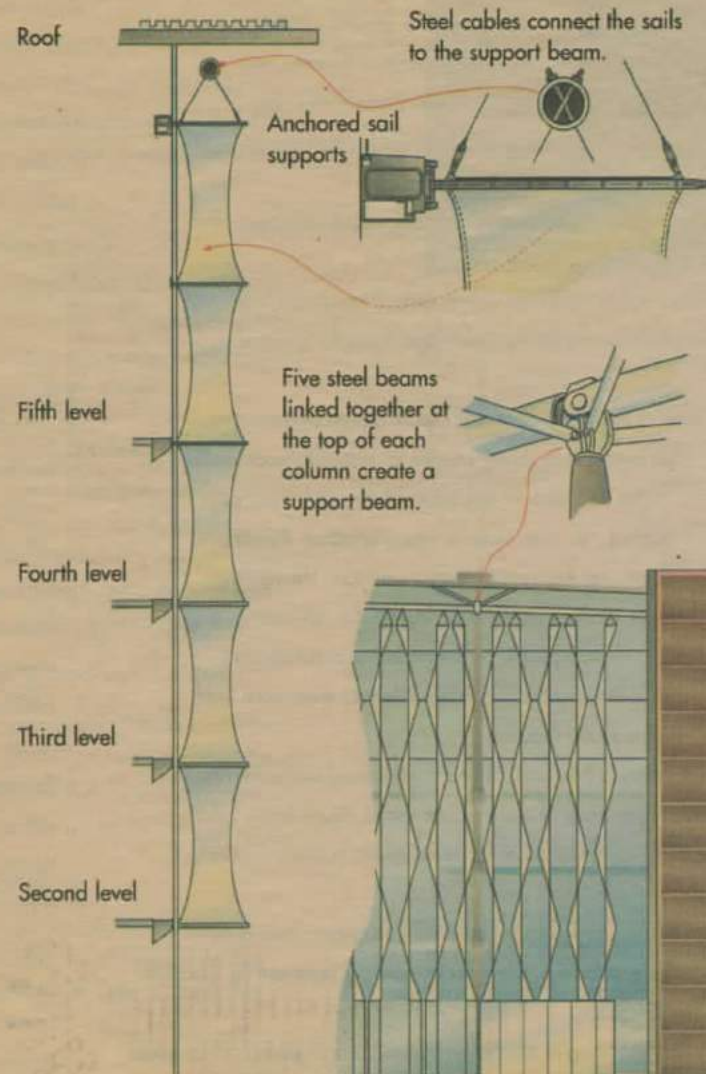
Cables are attached to the building's steel structure through holes in the precast concrete walls.

4 CONSTRUCTION OVER THE TUNNEL

The south end of the library is limited to three floors to stay within weight limits of the support structure of the Interstate 10 tunnel. A series of columns designed to accept a smaller building were already in place. These columns were used to support part of the library and the remaining weight is transferred to the main structure by means of a series of beams cantilevered from supports a few feet north of the tunnel.

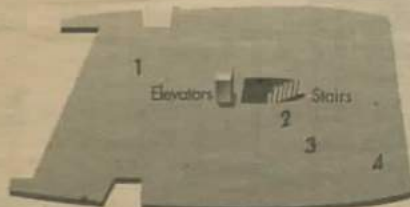


Concrete slab
Cantilevered beams
Columns installed during I-10 tunnel construction
Tunnel ceiling and walls



The precast concrete columns and beams were stacked, then welded and bolted together. Precast concrete floor panels were then laid in place on top of the beams.

Thirdfloor



On this floor

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES (1)

Includes offices for the entire Phoenix Library system

COMPUTER ROOM (2)

The brain center for the Central Library as well as the entire Phoenix Library system. Books are checked in or out, located, selected, ordered and classified. The Computer Room handles communication within the library system as well as between the Phoenix system and local, national and international library networks.

FRIENDS BOOK SALE HEADQUARTERS (3)

Volunteers collect donated books, records and magazines and sift through them for first editions and other treasures.

TELEPHONE REFERENCE CENTER (4)

Two hundred thousand calls a year come into the library's database.

Administration, technology share space

Of the library's five floors, this likely will be the one least traveled.

Unless, perhaps, you are summoned to explain how copies of *The Bridges of Madison County* and *The Joy Luck Club* you checked out were irreparably damaged by tear stains.

Or if you work for the library. The third floor is home to administrative offices, including that of head librarian Ralph Edwards.

It is also the heart of all things technological. The computer system that services the library system's 11 branches is housed here.

As is the Telephone Reference Center, which handles some 200,000 inquiries each year — from how one determines the temperature by listening to the chirps of a cricket to whom to lobby at Coca-Cola Co. for the return of New Coke.

Staffers of Collection Development and Technical Services are stationed here, too. In short, people like Carol Alabaster go through an exhaustive process of selecting new works that the public may want or need (about one in four new titles ends up on the list), from which the Central Library and the satellite branches could order.

The purchases of works are done here, electronically.

Don't expect this floor to be drab or stuffy, however.

Some of the offices sport the very same funky, reflective Venetian-plaster walls that are found in the lobby and other floors. And in color schemes of brilliant yellow, blue and green — so that the offices, unaligned, look like giant play blocks spread around.

Another prominent feature is the wood paneling, an integral part of what architect and co-designer Wendell Burnette referred to as the "warmth of maple and color."

A metal hallway of work spaces — with honeycomblike openings in place of windows — highlights a section of the third floor. This is where new books are brought in to be cataloged and books with minor damages are repaired.

— Abraham Kwok

Behind the scenes

David Tait, the Central Library's solar consultant, heads Tait Solar Co. Inc. in Tempe and is a faculty associate with the Arizona State University College of Architecture.



Tait designed the new library's automated day-lighting system in the atrium, the automated louver system on the south side, and the Great Reading Room column skylights on the fifth floor. He also did the north side's glazing analysis.

His company has worked on projects around the world, including the Hong Kong Bank, the Westpark Corporate Center high-rise in Minneapolis and The Phoenixian resort in Phoenix.

Tait worked on the Arizona Public Service Co. Showcase Demonstration House, the ASU Energy House and designs for the 1982 "Dad's House," an energy-efficient-home demonstration in Fort Myers, Fla.

He has analyzed tent energy and comfort factors for the Army. His other library projects include the Juniper Branch Library in Phoenix, the Cleveland Public Library and the Teton County Library in Wyoming.

Tait has a master's degree in environmental planning, solar energy and technology from ASU.

Tait has a master's degree in environmental planning, solar energy and technology from ASU.

Footnotes

• The Music Library will be a new feature for the Phoenix Library system, for reading (musical scores, research material) as well as listening (12 stations for electronically transmitted discs, cassettes or records).

• The Art of the Book Room. Hidden among the administrative offices of the old library, the Art of the Book Room will now come into its own, nestled near the Music Library. Its 3,000 items require storage in a vault kept at 60 degrees Fahrenheit, but that page from the Gutenberg Bible or Babylonian clay tablet will be retrieved for you so you won't get chilled. (You'll also be observed as you peruse it — the contents of this collection are valued in the many millions of dollars.)

• The treasures (4,000-year-old Babylonian tablets, ancient scrolls, rare books) of the Art of the Book Room will come out of the closet. Lack of space confined them to a small room squeezed between administrative offices in the old library. They will be exhibited year-round on the new building's fourth floor.

— Kenneth LaFave

Fifthfloor

Footnotes

• The 43,000

square-foot Great Reading Room, covering the entire fifth floor, is more than an acre in area. It will be the largest reading room in the nation. Its unusual 32-foot-high "floating ceiling" is held up by cables.

• At about noon

each day, light filtering through fifth-floor skylights will wash down the walls, making the ceiling appear to float.

• Only about 30

percent of new library furnishings, including tables and chairs, will be in the library when it opens. The rest must be financed by the Friends Giving to Friends capital campaign.

• There will be

61,000 shelves when furnishing is completed, the equivalent of 35 miles of bookshelves if laid end to end.



Michael Chow

■ Sailcloth frames the view from the north windows of the library.

The greatest reading room

Every great library has a great reading room. From the British Museum to the New York Public Library, the heart of the institution is the shelves and broad tables with books spread across them.

In the new Central Library, the main reading room takes the whole of the fifth floor and covers nearly an acre. In fact, it is bigger than the great reading rooms of either the New York Public Library or the Library of Congress.



Tom Tingle

■ Once a year, on the summer solstice (June 21 this year), sunlight will hit the tip of each column, causing it to glow like a candle flame.

■ Fiber optics between the walls can be viewed through peepholes.



Michael Chow

block the glare. North-facing windows are lined with sailcloth panels that will shield the room from the early-morning and late-afternoon sun.

The bookshelves sit in rank and file in the aisles of the room, with the nave left open for the giant reading tables, each with yellow-shaded banker's lights for illumination.

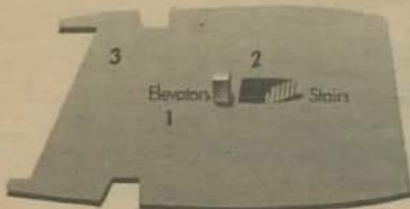
The shelves are organized by Dewey Decimal System, with "000" beginning in the north-east corner of the room, and "999" ending at the southwest corner.

Bathrooms on east and west sides of the room are modern and stylish, with the added flourish of fiber-optic colored lights flashing on the walls, almost like twinkling stars.

From the blue carpet to the suspended ceiling, 32 feet above, the room is light, airy and a grand place to read.

— Richard Nilsen

Fourthfloor



On this floor

THE ARIZONA COLLECTION (1)

A collection and chronicle of Phoenix and Arizona history. The Arizona Lecture Hall will offer space for public programs of a historic nature.

ART OF THE BOOK ROOM (2)

A showcase for rare books and manuscripts. It contains the collection of Alfred Knight, with a second-folio edition of Shakespeare's plays.

THE MUSIC LIBRARY (3)

It houses music scores, reference materials, periodicals and recordings for all who love music.

Rare collections on display — eventually

A letter from Napoleon, a map of the Lost Dutchman Mine.

Rock videos and Beethoven's piano sonatas.

Advice for bikers and a second-folio edition of Shakespeare.

Taken together, the three special collections on the fourth floor will certainly offer something for everyone.

The collections are:

• The Music Library. A spacious room will contain scores, books and periodicals about music, and recordings and videos of every kind of music. The recordings will include compact discs, cassettes and — just when you thought you'd never see them again — vinyl LPs.

• The Arizona Collection. Everything you ever wanted to know about Arizona and the Southwest will occupy a large room next to the Music Library. About 22,000 books, periodicals and maps tracing the evolution of our state and describing its topography will be available for hikers, scholars and the just plain curious.

• The Art of the Book Room. Hidden among the administrative offices of the old library, the Art of the Book Room will now come into its own, nestled near the Music Library. Its 3,000 items require storage in a vault kept at 60 degrees Fahrenheit, but that page from the Gutenberg Bible or Babylonian clay tablet will be retrieved for you so you won't get chilled. (You'll also be observed as you peruse it — the contents of this collection are valued in the many millions of dollars.)

The floor is designed to create the sense of space conducive to study. Adjacent to the Arizona Collection, a lecture hall will provide space for private forums and public presentations. Want to listen to an LP or CD without checking it out? There will be 12 listening stations available.

There's only one problem with the fourth floor: You'll have to wait to go there. There was not enough money in the original construction bid to cover finishing the floor. Bond money designated for library land but unused was eventually located, and now a new bid is being awaited.

Until then, most materials from the three collections will be available by appointment and special request.

Behind the scenes

Steve Martino, the new library's landscape architect, has won more than 75 local, regional and national design awards. His work has been featured on the national PBS-TV series *This Old House* and *Victory Garden*.



He has worked on large-scale communities such as Scottsdale's 10,000-acre Desert Mountain and SunCor's 9,000-acre Litchfield communities. Other projects range from the College of Architecture at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas to the Desert Botanical Garden, Phoenix Zoo's Mexican-wolf exhibit, the Heard Museum, Tempe's Rio Salado planning and the Phoenix Cardinals Training Facility.

Martino is a principal with Martino & Tataschiere Landscape Architects. He studied architecture at Arizona State University and art at Glendale Community College.

The keys to getting linked up

To reach the Central Library's on-line service after May 20, call 534-7777 (broad rate of 1200 or less) or 534-8888 (broad rate of 2400-9600). Use the following terminal settings for your modem:

Data bits — 8
Stop bits — 1
Parity — none
Duplex — full
Echo — off
Flow control — XON/XOFF
Terminal emulation — VT100 or VT102.

Your modem's baud rate will connect at 1200, 2400, 4800 or 9600 bps (bits per second).

Once connected, follow the instructions on the screen.

Online connection will open thousands of sources to those with computers

Have you heard that if you took all the books, magazines, music and videos available at the new Central Library and digitized them, all that information would fit on one CD-ROM?

Well, it wouldn't. Not even close. Unless the CD-ROM was the size of Papago Park, which would make it difficult to fit inside a computer.

But the library is trying to make itself more electronically accessible. If you hate to leave your den but need another 72 references for your book *Dairy Product Art: Moments Frozen in Cheese*, simply have your computer call the library's computer and scan the latest retro-art stories.

When the new building opens Saturday so do the library's expanded online services. You can gain access to thousands of magazines and journals without the discomfort of social interaction. Let your modem do the walking.

Call the library's online service

and search one of three periodical-filled databases — indexes for magazines, businesses and health-related journals.

Type in a few keywords, perhaps "barnyard animals" and "global warming," and within seconds you'll see a list of articles dealing with the effects of bovine gas on the ozone.

Less than half of the stories in the databases will be available to you at home. About 40 percent of the listings dated 1992 and later will include the full text of the articles (the databases' indexes will go back to 1985).

Ross McLachlan, technical services administrator for Phoenix Library, wishes every article could be available. One problem is space. Only so much will fit on the hard drive. Limitations also are placed by publishers.

"They don't always make information available electronically, because they prefer you buy the magazine," McLachlan said.

Within six to eight months, the library will offer a small slice of the Internet — not quite the information superhighway, more like a quaint country road.

After dialing in, you'll be able to go to such places as Arizona State, the University of Arizona, other Valley libraries and perhaps the White House. But don't expect to put the top down and cruise the Internet.

"Access will be extremely limited," McLachlan said. "We may expand it, depending on popularity, but we'll never have full Internet capabilities."

Outside users eventually will be able to dial into the library's in-house computer network. The network, a cluster of computers on the second floor, has access to a wide array of information on CD-ROMs, including car-repair help, a directory of lawyers, a business and marketing index and mapping software.

The library's card catalog is

already available online. The system allows patrons to look up books, reserve them if necessary and review their accounts (books borrowed and fines owed).

Teresa Landers of the library's business and science department says the goal is to make the library as accessible as possible to "invisible" patrons.

"The only things holding us back are money and security," Landers said. "If we had the funds and were able to work out security problems, the online possibilities would be incredible."

The only online drawback: books. If you want *Moby Dick* or *The Grapes of Wrath* or *Migratory Habits of North American Waterfowl*, you'll have to scrape your eyes off the computer screen, go to the library and pluck the book off the shelf.

The good news is that books are much easier to read in bed, and they don't need an extension cord.

— Scott Craven

ValleyCat

The ValleyCat computerized card catalogs include more than book information now.

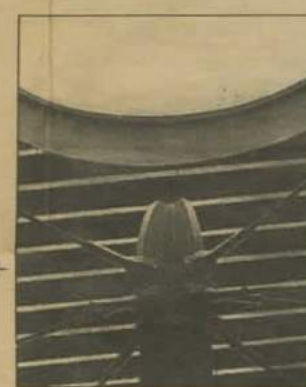
Terminals on Floors 1, 2 and 5 will give access to Infotrac and its two features:

The General Business

File, a comprehensive subject index to business news and magazines, with company information that you can search by name, industry classification or city.

The Magazine Index, a subject index to general and consumer periodicals.

Also on some terminals will be the National Newspaper Index, a subject index to articles in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Los Angeles Times* and *The Christian Science Monitor*.



Tom Tingle

Hottest place to be during next solar eclipse

One of the hottest spots to be the next time Phoenix gets a partial solar eclipse will be the Great Reading Room of the new Central Library.

That's because the reading room's ceiling has tiny holes drilled through the center of the skylights that dot the room. The holes will act as reflectors of the eclipse, producing the crescent-shape shadows that are typical of an eclipse effect. The shadows will bounce off the reading room's many columns and its expansive walls.

The next partial eclipse visible in the Phoenix area is scheduled to arrive March 24, 1997.

Library

— From page 2

They are all part of a \$1.1 billion bond program voters approved in 1988.

"It's bold, it's breathtaking and I believe it will become one of the true monuments of the state," said Terry Goddard, the former Phoenix mayor who pushed the bond program as part of his vision of a more dynamic city.

Goddard said the library is another sign that "signifies Phoenix's coming of age."

Architecture critics praise the design, as well as the look of the Great Reading Room — concrete, sun-dappled walls with what appears to be a floating ceiling.

The exterior design is intended to evoke images of an Arizona copper-colored mesa, with a canyon cutting through it. Inside the library, the canyon image is amplified by a five-story glass atrium, or Crystal Canyon, and skylights.

Throughout the building are architectural details that will amuse and surprise — from huge, computerized louvers to brightly painted walls.

The library promises to make a critic of everyone. It'll be hard to be indifferent to the corrugated flat-paneled copper skins that cover the building's east and west sides. Or the fiber-glass sails that hang on the north, designed to counter the harsh morning glare and

afternoon heat.

Or being able to see the innards — the structure's stairwells and power/electrical machinery — at night as one drives along Central Avenue.

The structure will not be ignored.

Ironically, the library almost didn't come to be, when the economy soured. But supporters lobbied against a delay, and the City Council in 1992 came up with a "floating" property-tax rate that kept some of the bond projects, including the library, on schedule.

One other major obstacle: the razing of Park Plaza Apartments.

It meant uprooting about 80 senior citizens on fixed incomes. After an exhausting fight, the city built a similar complex a few blocks away.

All told, Phoenix spent about \$43 million on the new library. Construction came to about \$28 million, or less than \$100 a square foot — considerably lower than libraries built recently in San Francisco, Chicago and other U.S. cities.

But money still lags for several of the library's interior features. A Friends of the Phoenix Public Library campaign is designed to raise enough funds to finish the fourth floor, which will house the Arizona Room, the Art of the Book Room and the Music Library.

Also incomplete is the auditorium, which is expected to have high use. And many needed tables, chairs, shelves and lights await purchase.

In the meantime, library users can enjoy

the many improvements over the old building:

Thousands of books, magazines and government documents are coming out of storage.

Most of the library's circulating non-fiction books — the ones available for checkout — have been consolidated on the fifth floor.

The children's library has expanded to include a story room and literature research center.

The business collection has a new emphasis on computer resources, and its patrons have access to an ever-growing storehouse of periodicals and reference books on the same floor.

In addition, the library's most popular items, such as best-selling fiction, genre novels, videotapes and foreign-language books, have been clustered on the first floor to serve those who like quick trips.

In general, things are more coordinated and less confused, library administrators say.

Also, it's an expandable library, they say. Should funds become available to build an addition as Phoenix grows, the structure can accommodate that and expand to the north. And as high-technology improvements are needed, the library is poised to offer them.

"We did a lot of hard, hard planning on this building to try to make it the most efficient and flexible space that we could," administrator Rosemary Nelson says. "We'll see when it opens how well we've done."

— Deborah Ross and Abraham Kwok

About this section

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Kristi Frush started attending Rio Salado in the Spring of 1994, while she and her husband were expecting their first child. Her daughter



Karina is now one, and Kristi continues to take Distance Learning courses by video and teleconference.

"It (Distance Learning) enables me to be at home with Karina. I don't have to be away from her and I can finish school at the same time."

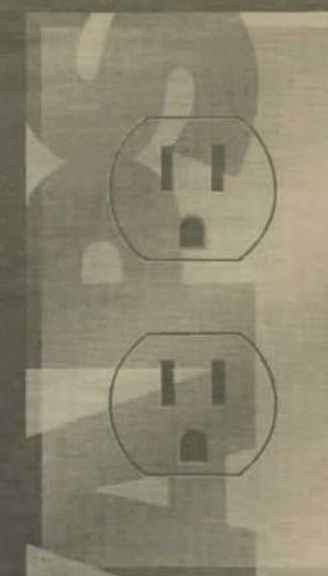
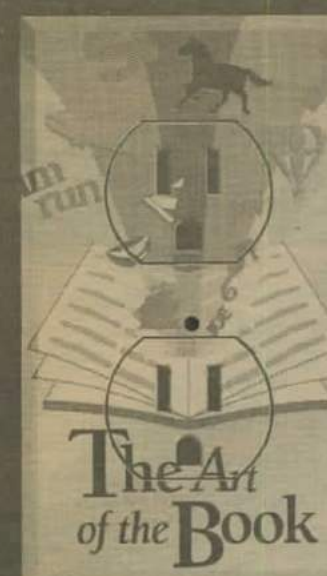


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A FEW PLUGS FOR THE NEW PHOENIX LIBRARY

The beautiful, new library in downtown Phoenix is about to open, and APS is proud to play a part in this exciting addition to our Valley's cultural riches. We invite you to visit the new Central Library and stop by the APS "Art of the Book" room. View not only rare books, but book binding and historic samples of printed communication. Exhibits range from 4000-year-old Babylonian tablets to a letter from Napoleon to a French soldier. By supporting the "Art of the Book" room, and the library itself, APS continues its tradition of building a stronger, brighter community for everyone. Congratulations, Phoenix, on an addition to the community we can all be proud of.

APS

Footnotes

- The new library's cost per square foot is \$97.60. According to Library Journal statistics, Sacramento's new central library, completed in 1992, came in at \$123.64 per square foot, and Chicago's was completed in 1991 for \$190 per square foot. San Francisco's, opening this year, cost \$212 per square foot.
- About 100,000 pounds of copper cladding have been installed on the building's exterior. That's the equivalent of 17,500,000 pennies—but cost about one one-hundredth as much. The price is comparable to other standard wall treatments but is generally less expensive to maintain. It will eventually patinate to the color of an old penny and reflect the earth and sky, changing hue to reflect the day's climate.
- There are about 18,500 cubic yards of concrete in the building, 60,000 square feet of glass, more than 2.5 million pounds of steel, 1,400 yards of sailcloth, 30,000 feet of computer cabling, 206 pillars, and 440 shade louvers.
- There are seven sets of public restrooms, 15 service (information) desks, one grand staircase and four emergency staircases and five elevators (two service and three public).
- The five-story building is 100 feet high and 300 feet long. Its size is equivalent to seven acres.
- The new library is very energy-efficient and has received the maximum credit rebate offered for a commercial building by Arizona Public Service Co. (cash value \$24,000). APS is now reviewing the rebate for an additional credit for use of sunlight in lighting the interior.

Building reflects heart of its architect

Will Bruder is an architect who isn't an architect.

Trained instead as a sculptor, he has nevertheless become the most visible architect in the state with his "bad boy" approach to building design.

His new public library was a gamble by the city, which took a chance on an architect with a reputation for weirdness. It paid off big time.

Designed by Bruder in conjunction with his design team, bruderDWLarchitects, the new building has many of the features one expects in a Bruder

Behind the scenes

building. Ductwork functions as modern sculpture, sunlight is bounced around the interior, inexpensive materials are made to look spiffy, and unorthodox solutions are found for perennial engineering problems.

"It was never my intention to be the 'bad boy,'" Bruder says. "But I have a hard time hiding my feelings and my joys and disappointments architecturally."

He was born in 1946 in Milwaukee and got his Bachelor of Fine Arts in sculpture from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, in 1969.

But he had an interest in architecture from a very early age.

"I had a great sandbox and, later, a great fifth-grade teacher who introduced me to making things. It was always there. The sandbox became cities, and the model railroad became a planned city. I've always had a sense of order."

In 1967, he spent a summer working with Paolo Soleri in Arizona and later moved here to apprentice with the visionary architect. Three years of apprenticeship there and with several Phoenix architecture firms led to being licensed as an architect in 1974.

"I owe so much to Paolo Soleri," he says. "He taught me how to do a lot with a little."

He also got married, bought 10 acres in New River and built his first home in one month for the grand sum of \$12,000. The house was featured in *Architectural Record* magazine.

Bruder still lives there with his wife, Simon, who is an archeologist with Dames and Moore in Phoenix.

They have a view from the side of Daisy Mountain north to Black Mesa that they share with seven cats and two gigantic dogs with friendly, slobbering tongues.

And although he never attended architecture school, he was accepted by the Illinois Institute of Technology out of high school. The great modernist master Mies van der Rohe was the director. But Bruder turned that down to study sculpture.

"Why go through formal schooling?" he asked himself. "I learned more about building from working with my hands with real materials."

"The problem with architectural education is that it is too specialized. It doesn't have the scope of comprehension you find studying the arts and culture."

Indeed, Bruder calls himself an artist rather than an architect. He doesn't even have a business card.

"Architecture has its pragmatic side, but it also needs to be a search for poetic possibilities."

He jousts with academicians, he says, because their process is "from the mind to the hand." For me, it's from the heart to the mind to the hand. "I'm always striving to create serious experiences that get to the imaginations of everybody."

"I believe architecture is something like life. Everyone can find beauty in it; it doesn't need great intellectual understanding. It's about light, touch, materials."

"We live in a very unromantic, analytic world. The ability to see beauty in the ordinary is an important grounding for my work."

"I look for the unique and special qualities of the real world and sift away layers of fashion and novelty to get to man's simplicity, where there's something basic and good."

— Richard Nilsen

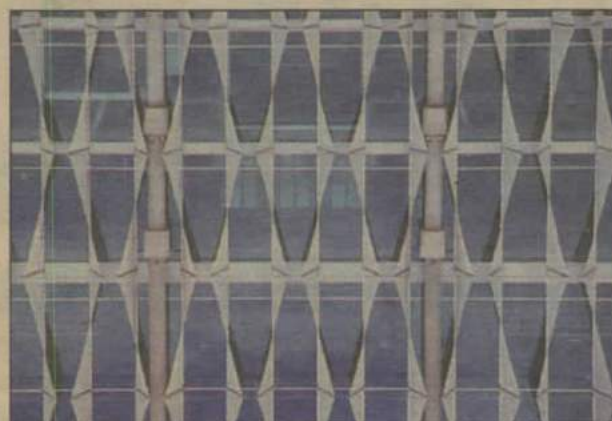


Tom Tingle



Tom Tingle

Concrete "joints" support the library's columns and beams.



Bill Timmerman

Sailcloth on the north windows breaks the glare of the sun without spoiling the view.