

Northlake - Barbara Loar Branch Library

DeKalb County Public Libraries

LOCATION:

Tucker, GA

CLIENT:

DeKalb County Public Libraries

PROJECT DATA:

addition
renovation
children's area
teen's area
circulation

20,000 sf total

SERVICES:

Programming
Interior Design/FFE
Architectural Design
Construction Administration

COST:

\$2,540,000

DATE OF COMPLETION:

2009

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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AWARDS:

2010 Metal Architecture
Best Overall Design Honorable Mention

SUSTAINABILITY:

Recycled content carpet tile
Low-VOC Paints
Low-E Glazing
Energy Star-rated Fixtures
Maximize Open Space (positive way to saying limit site disturbance)
Highly-reflective roof surface
Exceed minimum energy performance
Maintain significant portions of existing building components
Low-VOC interior finishes
Daylight and views for a majority of spaces



The existing neighborhood library was built in 1991 in the post-modern style. The library became outdated and too small for the community, therefore a renovation and addition was required. The goal was to create a welcoming and vibrant center for the community.

The design of the addition and renovation of this library presented an opportunity to create an integrated space, where old and new spaces flow seamlessly together. The architecture of the addition plays off the existing post-modern design, expanding the "ship" metaphor through its literal form. The building provides a variety of spatial experiences for all users from young to old. The expanded children's area occupies the prominent "prow" of the ship. The new teen area incorporates a "space age" aesthetic. Casual reading areas are scattered throughout the collections along with secluded meeting spaces. Interior views are maximized through extensive, playful layout of windows.

The building responds to the functional needs of the client without taking itself too seriously, allowing the library to continue serving the community for many more years.



before

RICHARD
WITTSCHIEBE
HAND



book stacks





information desk

