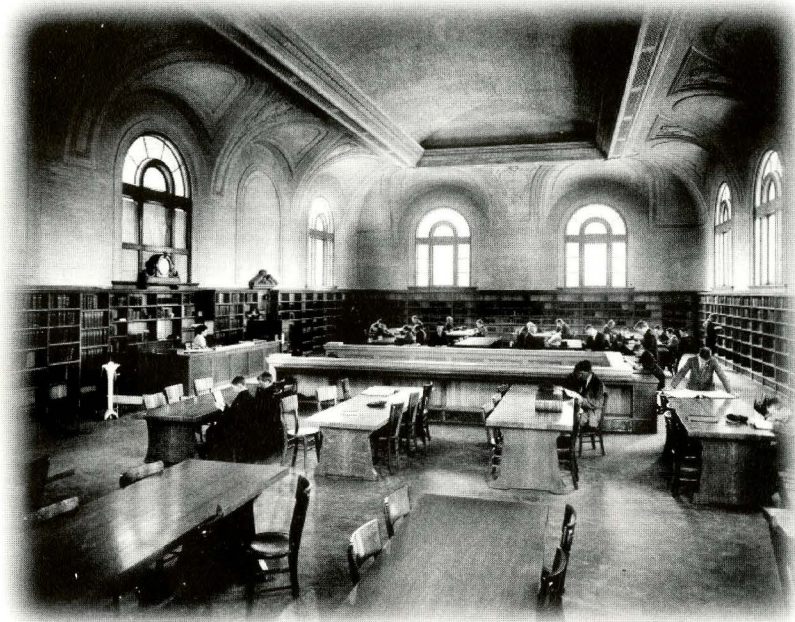


JOIN US
to Celebrate the Rededication of the



Reading Room shortly after opening, circa 1915

MISSION BRANCH LIBRARY

Saturday, May 8, 1999

LIFE in the MISSION

La Vida en la Misión

In the Mission
when we want to read
or listen to a story
we count on our library
with great pride.
Every Saturday
without exception
there is always someone
who is very inspiring,
who will read a story of
action, fiction and with
much imagination.
It is a beautiful honor
to have our very own library
in our "neighborhood".
In the Mission,
there's something
we need to talk about,
what we would like
to change.
From the sixteenth to nineteenth streets
What a sad situation!
We see bars, prostitution and
drug addiction.

In the Mission,
we don't want to see any of
this in our barrio latino.
We want to see healthy people
who are happy in their lives.

In the Mission,
we don't want destruction
we want action.
We will unite
to save Our Mission!

EXCERPT FROM A GROUP POEM BY:

*Edgar Gonzalez, Samuel Martinez,
Celeste Robleto, Maria Rodriguez,
Emmanuel Suarez*

STUDENTS AT SPRING VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

En la Misión,
cuando queremos leer
un cuento o escuchar que
alguien nos lea,
contamos con mucho
orgullo con nuestra
gran biblioteca,
allí todos los sábados,
sin ninguna excepción,
siempre hay alguien que
con mucha inspiración
nos lee cuentos de acción,
de ficción y con mucha
imaginación.
Que bonita distinción
tener nuestra propia biblioteca
acá en el barrio la Misión.

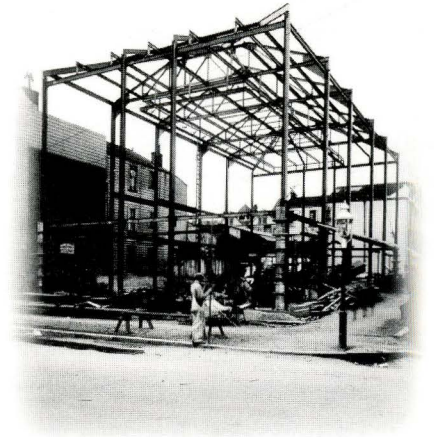
En la Misión,
ahora hay que hablar
de lo que nos gustaría cambiar,
de la dieciséis a la diecinueve
¡Qué triste situación!
Miramos cantinas, prostitución,
y drogadicción.

En la Misión,
no queremos ver nada de esto
en nuestro barrio latino,
queremos ver gente sana
y feliz en el camino.

En la Misión,
no queremos destrucción,
lo que queremos es acción.
¡Unámonos todos
para salvar la Misión!

HISTORY of the MISSION BRANCH LIBRARY

The Mission Library was the first
San Francisco Public Library branch.
It opened in 1888 in a storefront two blocks
from its present location. The fire following
the 1906 earthquake, which destroyed the
Main Library and eight branches, stopped
four blocks north of the Mission facility.
It was one of only four surviving branches.
However, with the scarcity of commercial
property after the disaster, the branch was
evicted due to rent increases. A new site was
found nearby a year later.



*Mission Branch under construction,
1914-1915*

In 1914, construction began on a new branch under the supervision of architect
G. Albert Lansburgh. The \$40,000 building was funded by the Andrew Carnegie
Corporation. The library reopened at the corner of 24th and Bartlett Streets in
December 1915.

Over the years, branch usage and services have increased dramatically and seen
many changes. In the early 1970s, the Mission Library began a collection of materials
in Spanish and also hired bilingual librarians. Today, the Spanish Language Collection

has grown to 40 percent of the holdings, and most of the staff are fluent in English and Spanish. Chinese and Vietnamese Language Collections were added in the 1980s.

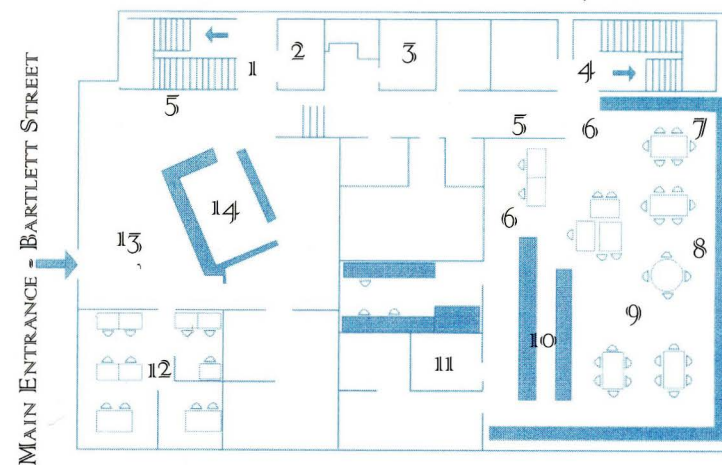
In 1989, computers and typewriters were made accessible to patrons. By 1995, open hours were restored to 55 hours per week and funding for books was expanded when voters passed Proposition E, the Library Preservation Fund. Now one of 26 branches in San Francisco, the Mission branch serves approximately 50,000 residents.

The RENOVATION

The latest renovation began in 1997. The branch, built of unreinforced masonry, required structural and disabled access to bring it up to code standards. Its seismic safety has been upgraded, along with the electrical, heating, and roofing systems. The first floor has been completely redone, moving the main entrance from 24th Street to Bartlett Street. An elevator and two staircases have been added, as well as staff offices. The building's facade and second floor have been preserved; new furnishings and computers were installed for the reopening.

The work was funded by the Library Improvement Bond passed in 1988 to build a new Main Library and renovate branches. Additional funding comes from a federal Library Services and Construction Act grant—nearly \$700,000 administered by the California State Library and additional city bond funds from the Earthquake Safety Program.

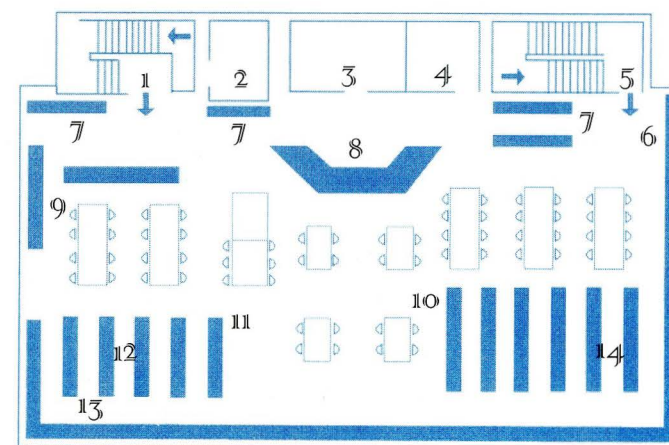
FLOOR PLANS



FIRST LEVEL
24TH STREET

FIRST LEVEL

- 1 Stairs
- 2 Elevator
- 3 Public Restroom
- 4 Stairs, Emergency Exit
- 5 Public Art by Emmanuel Montoya
- 6 Reference
- 7 Spanish Language Collection
- 8 Fiction
- 9 Children's Room
- 10 Nonfiction
- 11 Children's Restroom
- 12 Computer and Tutor Room
- 13 Lobby
- 14 Checkouts and Returns



SECOND LEVEL

SECOND LEVEL

- 1 Stairs
- 2 Elevator
- 3 Staff Office
- 4 Staff Office
- 5 Stairs, Emergency Exit
- 6 English Fiction
- 7 Reference Collection
- 8 Information Desk
- 9 New Books
- 10 Teen
- 11 Chinese and Vietnamese Language Collection
- 12 Spanish Language Collection
- 13 Latino Interest Collection
- 14 English Nonfiction Collection

HISTORIA de la SUCURSAL de la MISIÓN de la BIBLIOTECA

La Biblioteca de la Misión fue la primera sucursal de la Biblioteca Pública de San Francisco. Abrió sus puertas por primera vez en 1888 en un local de tienda a dos cuerdas de su actual ubicación. El incendio que siguió al terremoto de 1906, y que destruyó la Biblioteca Central y ocho sucursales, paró a cuadro cuerdas al norte de la sucursal de la Misión. Fue una de las cuatro sucursales que sobrevivieron. Sin embargo, con la escasez de propiedad comercial que siguió al desastre, la sucursal fue desalojada a causa del aumento de los alquileres.

En 1914, comenzó a construirse una nueva sucursal bajo la supervisión del arquitecto G. Albert Lansburgh. El edificio de \$40.000 fue financiado por la Corporación Andrew Carnegie. En diciembre de 1915, la biblioteca volvió a abrir sus puertas en la esquina de las calles Bartlett y 24.

Con el transcurso de los años, la utilización y servicios de la sucursal han aumentado dramáticamente. A principios de la década de 1970, la Biblioteca de la Misión comenzó a coleccionar materiales en español y también contrató bibliotecarios bilingües. En la actualidad, la Colección en Español constituye el 40% de los materiales, y la mayoría del personal se maneja competentemente en inglés y en español. En la década de 1980 se añadieron la Colección en Chino y la Colección en Vietnamita.

En 1989 los usuarios obtuvieron acceso a computadoras y máquinas de escribir. Hacia 1995, el horario de atención se restituyó a su nivel de 55 horas por semana y se expandieron los fondos para la compra de libros cuando los votantes aprobaron la Proposición E, el Fondo de Preservación de las Bibliotecas. Hoy en día, la sucursal de la Misión es una de 26 en San Francisco, y provee servicios a aproximadamente 50.000 residentes.

La RENOVACION

La última renovación comenzó en 1997. Para cumplir con las normas legales, esta sucursal, que está hecha de mampostería, necesitaba arreglos estructurales y adaptación para proveer accesibilidad. Se han actualizado tanto su seguridad antisísmica como los sistemas de electricidad, de calefacción, y el techado. Se ha remodelado por completo el primer piso, y la antigua entrada principal sobre la calle 24 fue reubicada sobre la calle Bartlett. Se han agregado un ascensor y dos escalinatas además de oficinas para el personal. La fachada y segundo piso del edificio fueron conservados. Se instalaron nuevas computadoras y muebles para la reinauguración.

La obra fue financiada gracias a los Bonos de Mejoras para la Biblioteca, aprobados en 1988 para construir la nueva Biblioteca Central y renovar las sucursales. Los fondos adicionales provienen de un obsequio otorgado por medio del Acta de Servicios y Construcción de Bibliotecas: casi \$70.000 administrados por la Biblioteca Estatal de California y fondos adicionales de bonos municipales provenientes del Programa de Seguridad Antisísmica.

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MAYOR OF SAN FRANCISCO

Regina Minudri
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