

REFERENCE

SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY
SUNSET BRANCH

Desk Reference
File: Sunset
Branch

The Sunset Branch Library.

The Sunset Branch Library in San Francisco is Italian in Character. The building has two street facades which are faced with matt glazed terra cotta with ornamental frieze, terra cotta cornice with modillions and red tile roof. The frieze contains an inscription giving the name of the branch, while tablets below the Reading Room window give names of authors. A flight of nine steps in terrazzo leads up to the main entrance which is reached through a loggia on the long facade of the building. The loggia has terra cotta columns and ornamented arches.

The entrance doors lead through a vestibule directly into the Main Reading Room which has its delivery desk in the centre. Around the entire room are open book shelves 7'-0" high giving space for approximately 10,000 volumes, all directly accessible to the readers. The room is 44'-0" x 79'-0" in size with an average ceiling height of 19'-0". The walls above the bookcases and the ceiling are plaster. The ceiling is ornamented in color, the centre having a diffusing sash under a large skylight. The windows are large and circular headed.

From the rear of the Reading Room, doors lead to the Juvenile Room which is 24'-0" x 32'-0" in size with book shelves same as in the Reading Room, simple plaster cornice and diffusing sash. This room is separated from the Reading Room by a glazed screen. Stairs also lead from the Reading Room to the basement which contains attendants' Rest Room with adjoining small kitchen and Toilet; Men's and Women's toilets; Store, Bindery and Boiler Rooms; and a Story Hour and Lecture Room which can be reached directly from one of the streets as well as from the first floor.

The structure of the building is entirely of concrete except the roof framing which has concrete trusses and girders but wood rafters. The walls are of brick faced on the two street sides with terra cotta and the balance cemented. All partitions are of wood studs and lath. The floors are of cement finish except the Vestibule which is marble mosaic. The principal rooms will have linoleum.

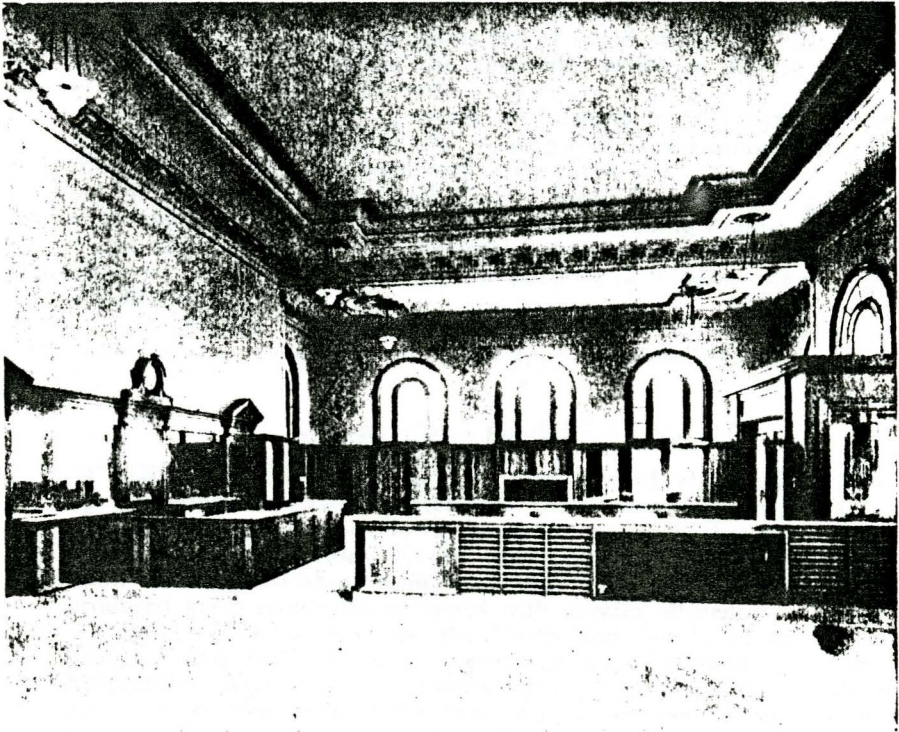
The heating is a low pressure oil burning gravity system with direct radiators. The radiators in the Reading Room are contained in recesses in the bookcases and provided with grille faces.

The electric lighting is all direct. Eight large fixtures will be suspended from points in the ceiling design of the Main Reading Room. On the exterior of the building will be three ornamental light standards each provided with a 500 watt lamp and reflector, for the purpose of flooding the exterior of the building with Electric light.

The total cost of the building, completely equipped, will be approximately \$44,000.

G. Albert Lansburgh, Architect.

March 7th, 1917.



INTERIOR, SUNSET CARNEGIE LIBRARY, SAN FRANCISCO
G. Albert Lansburgh, Architect

The Sunset Branch Library, San Francisco

THE Sunset Branch Library in San Francisco is Italian in character. The building has two street facades which are faced with matt glazed terra cotta with ornamental frieze, terra cotta cornice with modillions, and red tile roof. The frieze contains an inscription giving the name of the branch, while tablets below the reading room windows give names of authors. A flight of nine steps in terrazzo leads up to the main entrance which is reached through a loggia on the long facade of the building. The loggia has terra cotta columns and ornamental arches.

The entrance doors lead through a vestibule into the main reading room and directly toward the delivery desk. Around the entire room are open book shelves 7 feet high, giving space for approximately 10,000 volumes, all directly accessible to the readers. The room is 44x79 feet in size with an average ceiling height of 19 feet. The walls above the book cases and the ceiling are plaster. The ceiling is ornamented in color. The windows are large and circular headed.

From the rear of the reading room, doors lead to the juvenile room, which is 24x32 feet in size, with book shelves same as in the reading room, simple plaster cornice and diffusing sash. This room is separated from the reading room by a glazed screen. Stairs lead from the reading room to the basement, which contains attendants' rest room with adjoining small kitchen and toilet; men's and women's toilets; store, bindery and boiler rooms; and a story hour and lecture room which can be reached directly from one of the streets as well as from the first floor.

The structure of the building is entirely of concrete except that the roof framing, which has concrete trusses and girders, has wood rafters.

The walls are of brick faced on the two street sides with terra cotta and the balance cemented. All partitions are of wood studs and lath. The floors are cement finished except the vestibule, which is marble mosaic. The principal rooms have linoleum.

The heating is a low pressure oil burning gravity system with direct radiators. The radiators in the reading room are contained in recesses in the book cases and provided with grille faces.

The electric lighting is all direct. Eight large fixtures are suspended from points in the ceiling design of the main reading room. On the exterior of the building are three ornamental light standards, each provided with a 500-watt lamp and reflector, for the purpose of flooding the exterior of the building with electric light.

The building was designed by Mr. G. Albert Lansburgh of San Francisco and cost, completely equipped, approximately \$44,000.

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Streamline Buildings Next?

THE movement of the present day toward elimination of waste in building design—or, better said, the prevention of waste in planning and construction—follows the same tendency that is to be noted as the outcome of conditions in the past. Wars or other forces have called upon man for sacrifices which led ultimately to a mental exertion that produced great economies combined with greater efficiency.

"Befo' th' wah" between the North and South, in the olden golden gracious and spacious days, everything was free and easy, liberal and hospitable. After that war, things tightened up; and the buildings today are no more like those of the days of graciousness and spaciousness than buildings of the coming decades will be like those that were built in the last decade, in the matter of method, manner, quantities, bulk or detail. Prevention of waste—that is, consistent practice of the principle—should ultimately lead to undreamt of changes in forms of architectural design. Like all efforts to produce maximum effectiveness at minimum expenditure, this should in turn lead to the production of an art transcending all previous architectural efforts insofar as sheer cleanliness of line, perfect adaptation of means to end, and logical development of the problem, is concerned.

The streamline building is the next outcome!—Building Review, New Orleans.

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Appeal to Architects for Y. M. C. A. Workers

An appeal has been made to the American Institute of Architects to lend assistance in recruiting seven hundred Y. M. C. A. secretaries for service in France and Italy. The work being done by the Y. M. C. A. with the American army in France has made such a favorable impression on the French and Italian military authorities that France has asked for 500 secretaries and Italy for 200 secretaries. Men of executive ability from 31 to 50 years of age who speak French or Italian, are desired; preferably men who learned the languages in France or Italy. Many architects, draftsmen and artists have studied abroad, especially in France and Italy, and speak one or both languages. Such men, if possessed of unwavering enthusiasm, can do splendid service with the allied armies in these countries. Mr. Henry F. Withey, secretary of the Southern California Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, 621 Exchange building, Los Angeles, has been asked to furnish the names of persons willing to undertake the Y. M. C. A. work in France or Italy to the secretary of the Institute.

APPROXIMATE ESTIMATES FOR SUNSET BRANCH LIBRARY.

July 21st, 1916.

Excavating	240.00	Estimated
Concrete (incl.steps)	6500.00	Silverberg
Brickwork	4600.00	Hock
T.C. Ashlar	7800.00	Gladding Mc Bean (no color)
T.C. Roof (set)	1200.00	" (red) add \$455. for green tops)
T.C. setting	900.00	Hock
Tile partitions	300.00	Hock
Skylights, (copper gutter, cornice, flashings & false rafters)	800.00	Forde for Armeo galv. iron (if copper gutter \$1044.-)
Plumbing	750.00	Wilson
Plaster (ext. cement)	3150.00	Lyden & Bickel
Carpentry & Mill Work	2100.00 3000.00	Reduced from Cal. Mill
Glazing	700.00	Fuller (\$415.- if sheet except main entrance)
Marble & Terrazzo	210.00	Vermont (Vestibule, sills, toilet part.) add \$490. for Alaska marble exterior steps.
Electric (no fixtures)	650.00	Hixson
Heating	2200.00	Halley (steam) \$2800.- fan
Painting	900.00	Grafer
Roofing	240.00	Paraffine (no counter flashing)
Hardware	250.00	Joost Bros.
Vitrolite	340.00	Vitrolite Co.
Ornamental Iron	250.00	Patterson
	37080.00	
Save . . .	2000.00	Omitting ashler & substituting brick.
	\$ 35080.00	

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