Strength emerges from the roots of Gresham, Oregon to be the place-making anchor for a city that lacks definition. A gang and community outreach center will serve as a secondary major function within the library. And for the youngsters who call this place “home,” they will receive that spark of opportunity from the highly flexible and technological amenities provided under the skin of a dynamic facade.

In step with these three items, the library must follow Vitruvius’ main tenants:
Strength - Delight - Commodity.

“Architecture is a social action; what can we do for others?”
Frank Jacobus
Program Document

**Site Specifics**

Every site comes with particular constraints. Here are visual descriptions of only a few of the unique site issues which were considered during the design process. This site requires an FAR of 1:5, no setbacks, and is zoned for Mixed-Use. However for this project, a community library and outreach center has been proposed instead.

**Recent Design Features in Rockwood Town Center**

**Proposed Site enhancements**

**Vehicle Traffic Approach**

**Pedestrian Traffic Approach**

**>150’ From Corner**, will reduce chance of vehicle and pedestrian accidents as vehicles round the strange corner of E Burnside and E Stark.

Rockwood has an interest in this corner. A Strong statement must be made here to anchor the community of Gresham.

Give Us Your Money—We Care.
Program Document: Place

Image depicting the site vicinity.

Program Document: Values

Over time my background as a designer has fostered several major personal goals that show through time and again. This library is a continuation of these values. Precision craft, and care to detail enhance the design of this library in an attempt to make it to last for many generations. I consistently focus on the future of societies, and always attempt to harness new high-technology and efficiently beautiful systems. While at the same time, I see communities as the strongest part of every design, because without the people who occupy these spaces, the architecture would be nothing!

The following is a list of values that define this library and outreach center.
Program Document **In-Your-Face Demographics**

A proportional graphic representation of the population type, city funds allocation, and the range of housing costs within the Gresham area.
**Existing Rockwood Library**

Delineated here is the existing Rockwood Library, which is only a few blocks west of the proposed site, shown on the second page. Notice how the spaces break down, and the open format floor plan in light blue; in this space is where most of the public functions occur. There are also event rooms to the west, for access after hours.
Program Document: Precedents

Each of these projects was selected for their specific uses. Intended to be evaluated for their program spaces as a guide to select the appropriate square footage for circulation, efficiency, comfort, and flexibility. Note that the below graphic floor plan representations are not equal in scale.

**Ste. Genevieve**

- Program Spaces: 20,900sf
  - Group Study: 7400sf
  - Admin.: 610sf
  - Circulation: 5800sf
  - Stacks: 3400sf
  - Quiet Study: 3700sf

Facts:
- Slender Plan
- Large Windows
- User-Controlled Lighting
- Light Material Colors
- Open Floor Plan
- Ideal Sun Orientation
- Beautiful use of Metal
- Non-Boastful Exterior
- Subtle & Strong Materials
- Not All Accessible

**Asotin Library**

- Program Spaces: 11,800sf
  - Circulation: 700sf
  - Admin.: 1275sf
  - Utility: 300sf
  - Event Space: 500sf
  - Children’s: 560sf
  - Computers: 1200sf
  - Young Adult: 370sf
  - Main Stacks: 2200sf
  - Study Desks: 630sf
  - Basement: 1000sf

**Ingleside Lib**

- Program Spaces: 5,400sf
  - Circulation: 875sf
  - Admin.: 1200sf
  - Utility: 280sf
  - Event Space: 560sf
  - Children’s: 670sf
  - Young Adult: 700sf
  - Main Stacks: 900sf
  - Study Desks: 500sf
  - Outdoor: 2000sf

Each of these projects was selected for their specific uses. Intended to be evaluated for their program spaces as a guide to select the appropriate square footage for circulation, efficiency, comfort, and flexibility. Note that the below graphic floor plan representations are not equal in scale.
### Goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Document Issues: Anchor (Durability)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goals</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Define Gresham, OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be a solid functioning monument to knowledge and learning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lasting materials</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Performance Reqs

Rockwood Town Center, centered on the intersection of Stark and Burnside, is planned to be the center of Gresham’s future development. It is only appropriate for this particular site to be that defining language for the rest of the city’s development.

Historically libraries have been embodied strong architectural expression - this library will be no exception. It will utilize obviously strong construction language both in its structure choices and care to quality craft.

The facility must last for 50-100 years. With modern technologies in mind, Steel or Concrete are obvious material choices. One, or both, will be examined in this project, and selected.
### Program Document

**Issues:** Outreach (Utility)

#### Goals

- Crime prevention.
- Flexible community gathering space.
- Open for discussion.

#### Performance Reqs.

Gresham is ridden with crime and gang violence. The city lacks a great amount of resources to mitigate this violence, the library will incorporate into its purpose a Crime and Gang Prevention Outreach function.

Gathering spaces have been the tradition place for communities to group together and resolve problems throughout history (whether aggressively or friendly). This library must provide the space for these gathering functions that allow them to be an alternative outreach source.

Many libraries boast intimate spaces for person knowledge growth. Although this library will support individual brain expansion, the main function will allow people to mingle with each other, with no separation of culture or race. Encouraging this mix is one of the simple best ways of reducing inter-racial violence - allowing people to be who they are with each other.
## Issues: Technology (Delight)

### Goals

- Automated systems.
- Sustainable practices and materials.
- Celebrated waste recycling strategies.
- Respect the past, while moving forward.

### Performance Req's.

- The post construction cost of this facility will be reduced with properly programmed lighting, HVAC, and other electric systems that are mechanical in nature.
- Use of energy-saving products, and passive systems. Incorporate ‘green energy’ strategies when possible, as well as environmentally responsible materials.
- Easily discernible differences for proper disposal of waste.
- Books and stationary are the mediums that transferred knowledge from one mind to another for the last two millennia. Although we may be moving away from this medium in the next century, room will be made for books.
Goals

- ADA accessible.
- Easily navigable plan.
- A desirable place to seek refuge.
- Free to all users.

Program Document

Issues: Human

Performance Reqs.

This library should provide accessibility to the mobility, sight, and hearing impaired. It will be important to make accommodations for children and elderly, i.e. seating more fit for their needs, etc.

There should be clear visibility between circulation spaces. This library will avoid extraneous material usage to prevent confusion for the sight impaired.

Day, night, sun, or rain, the spaces where relaxation and study take place must encourage occupant use by visually linking their experience to the exterior or interior depending on the conditions.

It will be important for this facility to remain free to users. Without this component, individuals may be discouraged from occupying the intended spaces.

Concepts
Program Document **Spatial Bubble Diagram**

A Spacial Diagram delineates the relationship of spaces between program areas. How two spaces relate to each other is very important, especially when considering the connections between public and private. Although a library does not necessarily carry a significant amount of sensitive data, the public must not interact with the private zones. The library operators must be able to function in their administrative spaces without receiving interruption from a customer searching for a book, for example. Below is just one option for how these different spaces may relate to one another. Take special note of the overlaps.
**Program Document**

**Brown Sheet**

The ‘Brown Sheet’ provides a quick view to determine program spaces. Each square is 10’x10’ (100sf). Below is a delineation of program requirements based on precedent analysis, then adjusted to fit the program for the Rockwood Public Library & Outreach Center. The project square footage goal was 10,000sf.

**Site = 46,825sf**

- Parking & Driveways = 24,112sf
- Entry Patio = 1,645sf
- Rear Patio & Pond = 2,325sf
- Roof Area = 13,400sf

**Building Footprint = 10,142sf**

- Meeting Rm = 800sf
- Mech. = 315sf
- Restrooms (Men & Women) = 150sf each
- Bike Carousel & Entry Hall = 1,118sf
- Kids Area = 674sf
- Computer Areas (combined) = 1,090sf
- Book Carousel = 462sf (994 shelves x 11 books/shelf = 10,934 books)
- Teen Area = 600sf
- Point Gravity Zone = 850sf
- Flex Space (Around Point Grav to the Southeast) = 1,070sf
- Administration, Outreach, & Reception = 1773sf

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100sf (Typical Office) Program Spaces
Program Document  Progression of Concept Diagrams

Although the “parti” or “concept diagram” should hold a firm grasp over the design from start to end, this project has undergone continual improvement - open to change. Here are a few of the many concept diagrams for this project.
"NO VIEWS ON CREATING MUSEUM!

- Buffer from street:
- Buffer building from sidewalk.
- Computers don't need to be near daylight like other activities do."
Program Document  

Influences

A background in science, technology and community interests was the primary value brought into this project. These values are present in the new Rockwood Public Library, Outreach & Technology Center. Strong architectonic forms, a broad overhang for public events, and spaces for high-technology intended to be used by the public.

One integral influence in terms of bike storage was how to keep bikes from being stolen. The librarians at the existing library claimed that most of the youngsters who hang out there, do not bring their bike, because they know the high likelihood for it being stolen. (Design Philadelphia, 2013)

Portland is a beautiful city from the right angles. The structural influence for this library comes from the strong structures seen throughout the city, such as the Fremont Bridge.

And The form of the new library partially came from the need to generate a lasting, heavy, anchored aesthetic. As mentioned earlier, Rockwood lacks any real identifying characteristics, outside of its diversity culture. One means of achieving such an impressive presence, was to see what other buildings have successfully created human scale buildings, with monolithic appearance.
Program Document Final Design

At last, the final design, the new library came to fruition.
Here are the program spaces organized in colorized fashion. This diagram may be used in reference to the following page. The most important spaces for the design were:

1) Outreach Center, mixed into the Administration space, in red,
2) “Point Gravity Zone” (Maker Space), where creative ideas happen, in black,
3) Book Carousel, the autotronic mechanized revolving bookwall, in gray,
4) Bike Carousel, also with a mechanized motif, to carry the machine aesthetic throughout the library, in dark green.

Site = 46,827sf

Parking & Driveways = 16,362sf
34 Parking Spaces
Entry Patio = 12,111sf
Landscaping & Swales = 8,207sf
Roof Area = 17,979sf

Building Footprint = 10,076sf

- Meeting Rm 800sf
- Mech & Rest 610sf
- Bike Carousel 1,100
- Kids Area 660sf
- Computer Area 1,080sf
- Book Carousel 554sf (5,800 books)
- Teen Area 540sf
- Maker Space 860sf
- Flex Space 1,040sf
- Reception 220sf
- Administration 800sf
**Program Document**

**Sustainability & Comfort Strategies**

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**Evapotranspiration**
“Cools the plants, soil, and contiguous air.” A valuable sustainability effort to help reduce the heat island effect, especially in major cities.

(Lechner, 2009)

**Bioswale**
“Designed to attenuate and treat stormwater runoff.” This catchment system will help clean water of contaminants from the site and roof before it gets into local streams and the sewer.

(Kwok & Grondzik, 2011)

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**Siliconized Polyester - Partially Reflective Roof**
In hot climates, a designer may consider a bright white coating, or bioroof. In cold climates, one may find a dark roof, or a bioroof, to be of value.

Here a darker-than-white material was chosen to partially reflect sunlight. Since Gresham is between a Hot and Cold climate, this roof material choice will help reduce unwanted solar collection in Summer, but increase heat-storage in Winter.

(Brown & DeKay, 2001)

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**Stormwater Collection**
These specialty curb cuts will direct the water around the site paving to prevent the need for sewer grates to be located where cyclists, pedestrians, or folks in wheelchairs may be impeded in case of heavy rainfall.


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**Large Overhang**
With an area of 5,400sf over the entry, the roof provides ample protection from precipitation in the winter, and blocks the majority of summer sunshine during the summer from overheating hardscape as patrons enter the library. Surrounding the building is a minimum 6ft overhang to provide pedestrians refuge from inclimate weather, for at least some of their walk along E. Burnside.


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**Photovoltaics**
1,740sf of PV panels fill the Southeastern facing roof slopes. Although they will only receive about 50% efficiency compared to southern-facing PVs, the system will collect:

\[
(27.6\text{Wh/sqft})(1,740\text{sf})(50\%) = 24,012\text{Watt-hours per year}
\]

Which means two things:
1) Sustainable choice,
2) Public Money Saved.

(Brown & DeKay, 2001)

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**Sources**


Program Document

**Elevation and Section**

The triangular exterior form helped provide a strong, honest, lasting facade. The structure is intended to allow for two different forms of construction: the first option being Steel, the second being 3-D Printing. Since this is a library of the future, and a highly technological facility, being the first building to be 3-D printed would be a significant step in architectural evolution. The roof and simple shell of the building would be printed, then the interior functions and hyper-glazing inserted after.

**Elevation - E. Burnside St**

**Building Section - Southeast to Northwest**
Program Document

Exterior Views

Southeast Street View - Light Panels at Dusk

Overhang Entry

Book Carousel from Sidewalk

Admin. & Mechanical Access
Program Document *Interior Views*

**Bike Carousel**

**“Point Gravity Zone”**

**Library Kids Zone and Book Carousel**
Program Document

**Learning Lessons**

The values that I learned from this design exercise are as follows. I realize now that there is a specific order in which design must move forward successfully.

1) The design process should start with the intent of the project, form the client;
2) Following intent, the site analysis commences. This investigation must be very thorough and involve in-depth context analysis and research;
3) In tandem with site analysis, the sustainability goals must be realized, to best match strategies with the intentions;
4) A design concept statement, drawing, and or model must be developed to commence designing.

From there, the rest of the design should be successful. In the future, I will test the above model and make observations of its success.

Overall this project was a success. Although some design choices were overlooked, the lessons will be carried into future design. -Thank you Gerry Gast and Suenn Ho, Professors of Architecture, University of Oregon, PDX

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Program Document

**Bibliography**

Collected cited works.


