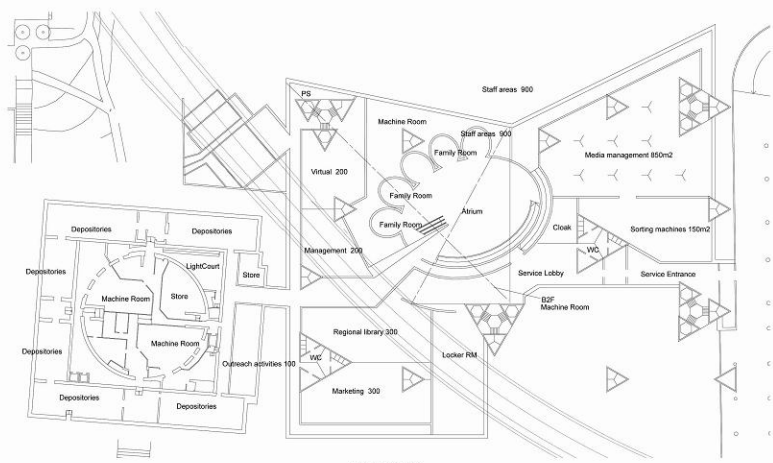
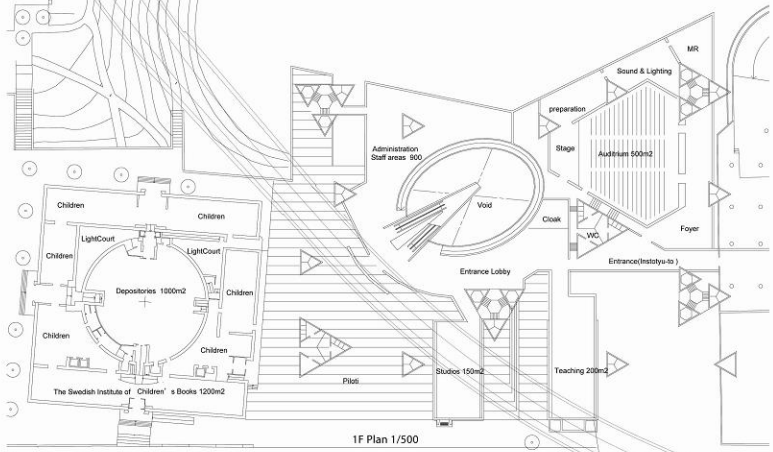


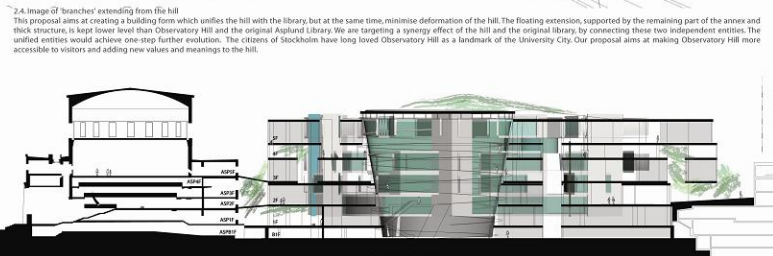
Mistletoe



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1. Current Situation

1.1. Assets: The public library designed by Asplund has been functioning as the main library in Stockholm since it was built nearly 80 years ago. The library is a world-famous building, conceived as an icon for a timeless concept of the library, presenting breathtaking beauty. The architectural quality, through dignified traditional form together with early signs of modernist architecture, Asplund created and his unique design still has a high degree of unique furniture and lighting fittings which have still been repaired and well-maintained. The building remains accessible to the main building and its surrounding park, Observatory Hill, located in the local library for residents in the districts of Vasastaden and Norrmalm. There are currently 3000 visitors a day (1.2million per year), and the public library is the focal point of a major cultural institution concerning the number of visitors. Asplund's architecture provides intangible cultural asset to the city. The Asplund Library building can be termed as 'shrine of books'. The importance of the public library of Stockholm has become much more significant than before because of the increasing number of visitors from all over the area and across generations. The City Planning Administration estimates that there will be 150,000 more inhabitants by the year 2030. If it is the case the library will not be able to provide appropriate service to develop a further rich cultural city of knowledge. However, it will be dangerous to just simply modify the Asplund Library buildings to adapt current and

2. Description of the new buildings

2.1. Mistletoe
We propose a new library where, using existing knowledge base, people can come up with new solutions to confronting problems. The building ultimately provides a space for passion shift.
'Mistletoe' as a building form
The new building spread out from Observatory Hill like 'branches'. Various sizes of spheres are attached to the new building like Mistletoe. The 'branches' (the new building) offers open and bright spaces while the spheres provide more softer atmosphere. In smaller spheres visitors can concentrate on carrying out their own studies and research, and also they can enjoy informal conversation and meetings. The larger spheres can accommodate lectures or formal meetings. Not only the Mistletoe (both small and large spheres) has connecting the third and fifth floors which accommodate open self stacks, but also it offers a symbolic image for a new style of the public library.

2.2. Inheritance from the Asplund's design

The main building of the Asplund Library remains untouched and will be further utilised. The new buildings share visual and functional aspects with the original building. In the original building, visitors have entered from the main entrance and gone up through a visually rich staircase, and then they have reached the main lending hall. Analogically, in the new building, visitors go up through a vast, but closed, staircase to the open void space in this void space, we inherit image of printed media constructed by Asplund while expressing an interpretation of new media. Instead of enormous number of book spines which were crammed along the original reading area, the new building projects many letters deriving from newly coming-up words on the oval-shaped side walls in the void space. The internal side walls will be filled with these letters.

2.3. Family activity

The original library has a storytelling room providing a space where children can enjoy reading. The new building attempts to offer particular spaces where children can physically and psychologically stay close to their parents and family. On the ground floor, there is a space created for children, which looks like an indoor park. This space is not just filled with a range of book shelves, but it contains various facilities where children can play hide-and-seek or enjoy climbing. They can find their favourite books and read them in their favourite places. Through visiting this space, they would stimulate their sensibilities while receiving various excitement and encouragement. This space is useful for children to build up voluntary and creative attitude to the world. Children might find their own space, or might set up community among themselves. There are slopes leading to the upper floor, around which several booths are placed for children to stay in with their parents or friends. Through activity of reading books, they can initiate conversations with parents or elderly people in neighbourhood. These spaces look like a living room or tea rooms in the city where they can communicate in a relaxed atmosphere, and learn about comfort phrases or family issues which they will encounter in their life. At the beginning they might be brought by parents to this particular space, but eventually they would become eager to come there to cherish their own dream.

2.4. Evaluation of the Concept: The purpose of gathering many citizens and enhancing the value of Asplund's work

Partnership between the local government and the Asplund's original library is a key to providing a significant amount of value to our society. The Asplund's original library is a landmark in the city. The building is a landmark in the city. The original building is a landmark in the city. The building is a landmark in the city. The building is a landmark in the city.

3. Effect to the surrounding areas

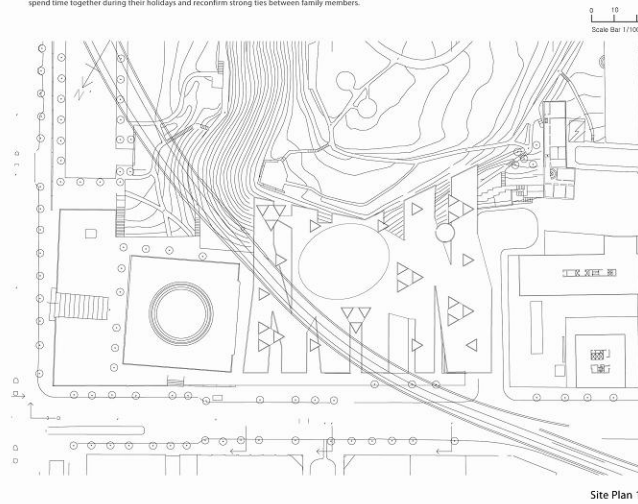
3.1. The public library becomes as node in the city

3.1.1. Historic node
On the hill time flows silently, while in the town time flows with noises from trams and vehicles running on the main streets. The new 'branches' of the library connect these two distinct flows, creating its own flow of time. Visitors entering into the library from whichever directions are suddenly surrounded by the distinctive time flow and atmosphere of the library.

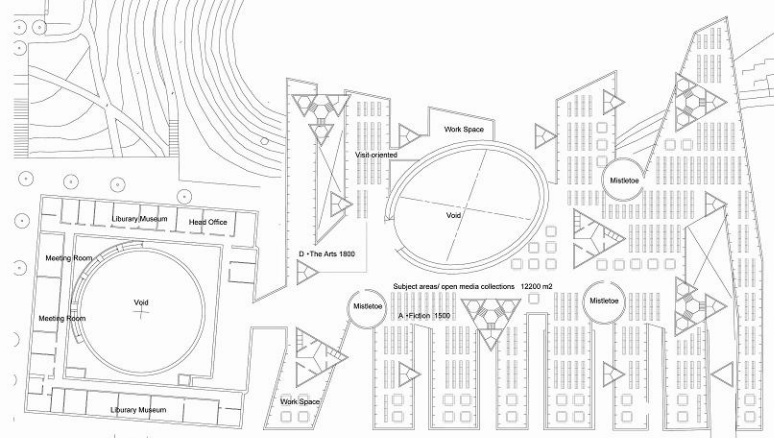
3.1.2. District transport and communication
Odenstad to Observatory Hill, the new plan offers people to enter into the library from everywhere, and thus the space can generate an open community. The 'branches' like building form does not allow simple go-through visitors, but visitors receive exciting stimulus from lights and encounters from all directions.

3.1.3. Information node
Information from all over the world, in various genre and media, is accumulated in the library. The information transmitted from the library reaches all over the world through all sorts of media.

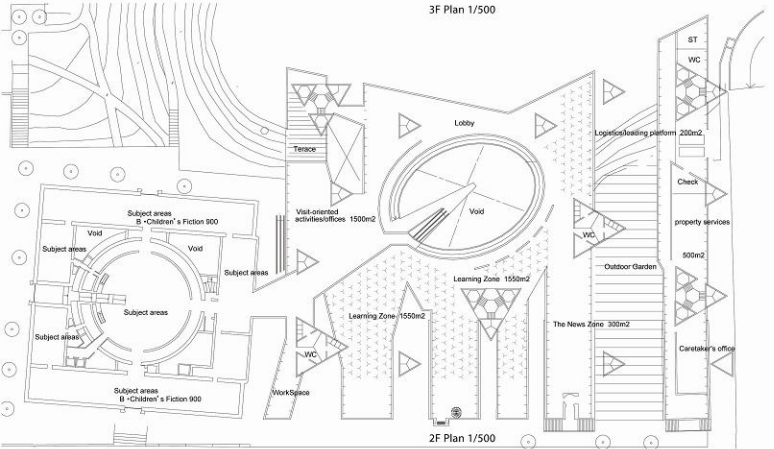
3.1.4. Family node
The library becomes a space where members of family recognise that they now share various things, time and ideas, in a different way from the past. They can discuss how to spend time together during their holidays and reconfirm strong ties between family members.



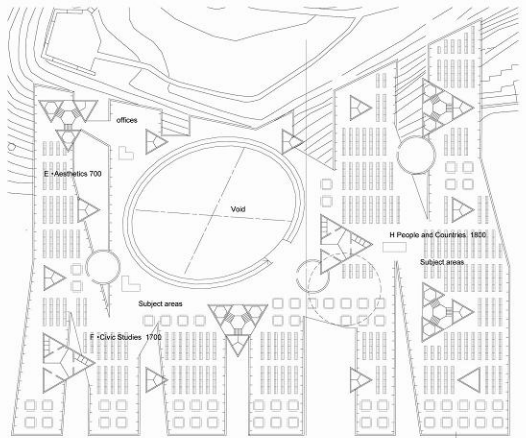
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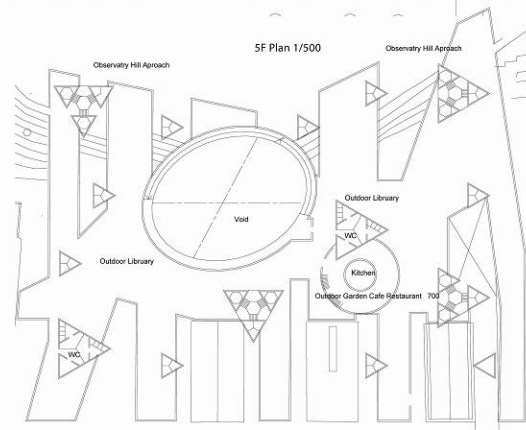
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5F Plan 1/500



4F Plan 1/500

2.5. Accessing and browsing
 On the third and fifth floor many 'open media collection corners' are placed, displaying new digitised music, film, images and traditional books which are all sorted by genre. These corners represent a new form of libraries which would satisfy visitors' great curiosity. Each corner is set along side the 'branches', that is, the proposed form of the building. The corner spaces are separated not by permanent partitions but only by facilities required for that corner they play. They are separated from each other according to visitors' spontaneous movements.
 Within the individual 'branches' a number of movable shelves are placed in the middle other randomly. Along side glassed side walls of the shelves visitors can find numerous small spaces with desks and chairs surrounded by booths, where they can discuss in a small group or concentrate on their study. It is up to visitors to decide how to use these spaces.
 Layouts of these floors, including the access-bridge to the Alplund Library, are designed in a flexible way, so that book shelves and other furniture can be removed and relocated according to needs of visitors from different areas, genre, and time.

2.6. Connecting original and new buildings - 'Garden library'
 On the fourth floor of the extension we create a 'Garden library' whose people can read books in open air (it is open air but still inside of the library boundary. An appropriate security system is installed). When weather is fine, people come together for reading or for chatting. Also, there is a restaurant overlooking Observatory Hill and the city centre which provide marvellous views. We propose a space unifying the hill and the new library which introduces a new way of using Observatory Hill.



North Elevation 1/500



East Elevation 1/500

