

ORANGE PARK BRANCH LIBRARY

Orange Park, Florida

VRL Architects, Inc.



Client/Contact:

Clay County Board of County
Commissioners
Clay County Public Library
Arnold Weeks, Director
(904)278-4750

**The 29,000 square
foot library was
built for less than
\$67 per foot
including
furnishings.**

Location:

Orange Park, Florida

Project Size:

29,200 SF

Completion Date:

November 1996

Construction Cost:

\$1,870,000.00
(Including Furnishings and
Equipment)

Civil:

Kohler Engineering
Orange Park, Florida

Structural:

H.W. Keister & Associates
Jacksonville, Florida

M.E. P:

Powell & Hinkle Engineers
Orange Parke, Florida

Library Furnishings and Equipment:

The Design Team was challenged to incorporate an existing 8,000 square foot brick-clad pre-engineered metal building with a 21,000 square foot addition. The design was modeled into two construction phases in order that the existing building housing the library remain in full operation. Safe patron access was required for Phases I and II.

The separation of staff and public functions was achieved for both vehicles and pedestrians. A drive-under canopy defines the main public entry. A separate entry is defined for after-hours meeting spaces. The after-hours lobby separates the public rest rooms and pay phones from the main library functions.

The Children's Library is separated from the main library with its own celebrated entrance and includes an architect designed Story Hour Room with Puppet Theatre. Access is available directly from the Children's Library to the multi-purpose areas for expanded programs.

The Main Library has a large new book display adjacent to a spacious circulation desk. The young adults have their own space which may also be discretely monitored from the main circulation desk. The Reference Area is separated from the other library functions with a saw toothed glass wall for sound isolation. Quiet Study Rooms create additional sound isolated areas. Copy machines are located within enclosed sound isolated rooms.

Existing furnishings and library equipment were evaluated for re-use. Most of the children's furnishings were re-conditioned for re-use; i.e.: new fabric, new finish. Significant savings was achieved through recycling furnishings and equipment.