

ST. JOHNS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

St. Augustine, Florida



Client/Contact:
St. Johns County
Board of County Commissioners
St. Johns County Public Library
Mary Jane Little, Director
(904)823-2651

Location:
Davenport Park, St. Augustine, Florida

Project Size:
15,000 SF

Completion Date:
June 1987

Construction Cost:
\$1,100,000.00
(Including Furnishing and
Equipment)

Civil:
Morales and Shumer Engineering,
Inc.

Structural:
Morales and Shumer Engineering,
Inc.

M.E. P:
Turknett/MPS Engineers

Library Furnishes and Equipment:
VRL Architects, Inc.

A constricted site and strong, budget limitations were the greatest challenges facing the Design Team for this 15000 SF library. The St. Johns County Public Library is the hub of a county-wide library system. The site is located on U.S. 1, adjacent to Davenport Park and the Garden Club. Future expansion was anticipated to the north, toward the Armory facility

Sufficient parking was available to address the City of St. Augustine parking requirements but still below national library standards. The Architect recognized an existing unsafe parking situation at Davenport Park and proposed to the City that if a small portion of the park could be used, the county would pay for design and construction of a safe efficient parking area for use by both the city and county. The proposal was favorably implemented thereby demonstrating cooperation between two governmental entities.

The Library Plan allows secured after-hours meeting room & toilets, a separate Children's Room and spacious, well lit Reading Rooms. Care was taken to maximize the views of the adjacent Park and its tree canopy. The library opens very reluctantly toward U.S. 1. The tile roof, arched windows and stucco were all intended to reflect the Spanish Motifs of St. Augustine.