

**Washington-Centerville Public Library
Woodbourne Library Renovation/Addition
Centerville, Ohio**

The Woodbourne Library provides patrons with enriching educational and cultural experiences following a complete renovation of the existing historic building (21,000 SF) and a 9,200 SF addition.

The existing space, originally a bank branch designed by Cincinnati architect Woodie Garber, opened in 1965. One of the building's prominent features is a steel sunscreen designed by Harry Bertoia, a sculptor and Garber collaborator.

An addition was built in 1980 as the bank was converted to a library. A campus master plan was created in 2015 to create a unified campus from three contiguous parcels owned by the library. The master plan included the siting of a new 9,200 SF addition and the goal of creating a new identity with a strong entry while embracing the original site of the bank.

The building project was approved in mid-2015 and the scope included a complete interior renovation of the existing building as well as the 9,200 SF addition. The design is a deliberate decision to build upon the modern design created by Garber and Bertoia while still telling a new story about the modern library of today.

The main entrance to the library has been relocated to the addition, a glass-enclosed space that serves as a welcoming beacon to patrons and glows in the twilight of the evening. The round entrance has a transitory color and changes from green to copper tones as the sun reflects off of the structure throughout the day. The patio tile and carpet tiles inside the library provide a seamless outside-inside connection and connect the new and historic buildings in a holistic, but identifiable experience.

The project is interior driven and successfully unifies the existing building and addition. A transition from old to new has been created through the noticeable change from a finished ceiling in the existing building, to a partial ceiling in the addition, to a fully exposed structure in the addition.

The ceilings, lighting and carpet are all used to fuse and connect the building. Carpet tiles in particular, have been selected to enhance wayfinding and branding, as well as to identify program zones and areas.

New amenities include small meeting rooms and an expandable community room, children's garden, teen area, creativity space, four original works of art and a quiet reading area. The design of the interior reflects the transformation of libraries as quiet places to spaces designed specifically for meetings of various sizes as well as group collaboration.

The Woodbourne Library strikes an effective balance between respecting the building's historic character while creating vibrant and flexible spaces to meet the program needs of current and future patrons.