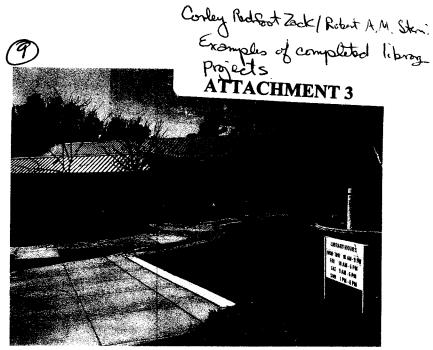
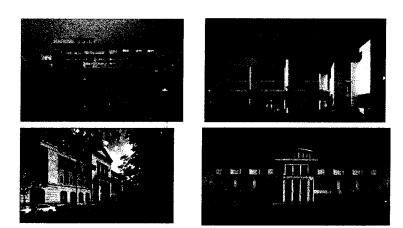


Proposal for Design Services **Town of Chapel Hill Library Expansion**













robert a.m. STERN architects



NASHVILLEPUBLICLIBRARY



CLEARWATER PUBLIC LIBRARY



MIAMI PUBLIC LIBRARY



JACKSONVILLEUBLIC LIBRARY



COLUMBUS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Libraries

The planning and design of public libraries is a central interest of Robert A.M. Stem Architects. We have designed libraries with a total construction cost of more than \$250 million in the last five years, and have significant in-house expertise in all aspects of library design.

Libraries, the most democratic of public places, are important investments in the future of our communities. We have established an outstanding reputation for the design of libraries and other civic buildings that are carefully crafted to meet specific programmatic needs and that at the same time capture the spirit and enhance the character of the communities they serve.

We have designed new public libraries that are currently under construction in Lakewood, Ohio; and Calabasas, California; and have completed libraries in Nashville, Tennessee; Jacksonville, Clearwater, and Miami Beach, Florida; and Columbus, Georgia. We have also added to and renovated historically significant libraries in Bangor, Maine; in East Hampton, New York; and at the Harvard Business School. This broad range of library experience allows us to work closely with consultants, suppliers, and vendors to bring our clients first-rate service and a depth of understanding of this important building type.

We begin by taking a broad and sympathetic view of each particular project context and its historical roots. Each of our designs is a reaction to its immediate environment, its sense of place. We have demonstrated our ability to create buildings that capture the spirit of existing, historical surroundings. We believe buildings can be technologically sophisticated without resorting to high-tech expressionism. We believe it is possible to design both formal and flexible spaces; both requirements must be met in a responsive, community-oriented design. We believe in integrated-designs that provide both intimate and civic scales and link one with the other. We feel that while it is important for a building to represent its moment in history, it must at all costs avoid trendiness, as the latest fashion can soon seem hopelessly dated. We seek to design library buildings that both participate in and mirror local

history and culture, and meet their users' needs. We demand high quality materials and a high standard of workmanship.

We also understand the transformations brought about by the development of new technologies, and how they can be most appropriately applied in a public library setting. As a member of the Architects for Public Libraries Committee of the

American Library Association, Project Partner Alexander Lamis works regularly with librarians and architects to help define **new** roles for libraries that technology makes possible, as well as the most appropriate ways to balance these roles with libraries' traditional strengths. We take pride in our ability to work with a broad range of constituencies, and make a clear and convincing case for the importance of libraries in an information age.

We find no conflict between our dedication to high-quality design and construction and the goals of efficiency and sustainability. We are also committed to enhancing the environmental sustainability of our new projects using, where possible, materials that are non-destructive in their manufacture, that promote energy efficiency and water conservation, and that promote high levels of indoor environmental quality. Robert A.M. Stern Architects is a member of the U.S. Green Building Council, and Project Partner Alexander Lamis recently contributed a chapter on sustainable design in libraries to the book Planning the Modem Public Library Building (Westport, Connecticut: Libraries Unlimited, 2003).

Beyond the planning and technical challenges of the design, an important quality in the selection of an architect should be a clear sense of vision and purpose. We are dedicated to designing successful, cost-effective,

welcoming, long-lasting, memorable ones. We also work hard to ensure that uour buildings efficiently satisfy real needs. We believe in the power of architecture to transform the everyday experience of users and to communicate the mission and identity of a cultural institution.