Library In Context: Re-Asserting Relevance

Perkins&Will
AGENDA

Cultural Project Framework
Route 9 Library & Innovation Center
Norhtown Library
Case Number: 32-15-016593
Are we building the communities we want?

- Mark Zuckerberg
Believe in something. Even if it means sacrificing everything.
You don’t have to be a customer banking that fits everyday life
“CREATE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERENDIPITOUS CONVERSATIONS AMONGST GUESTS AND UNCOVER CONNECTIONS THAT COULD LEAD TO VALUABLE PARTNERSHIPS.”
Current Museum Definition

A museum is a non-profit, permanent institution in the service of society and its development, open to the public, which acquires, conserves, researches, communicates and exhibits the tangible and intangible heritage of humanity and its environment for the purposes of education, study and enjoyment.
Proposed Museum Definition

Museums are democratising, inclusive and polyphonic spaces for critical dialogue about the pasts and the futures. Acknowledging and addressing the conflicts and challenges of the present, they hold artefacts and specimens in trust for society, safeguard diverse memories for future generations and guarantee equal rights and equal access to heritage for all people.

Museums are not for profit. They are participatory and transparent, and work in active partnership with and for diverse communities to collect, preserve, research, interpret, exhibit, and enhance understandings of the world, aiming to contribute to human dignity and social justice, global equality and planetary wellbeing.
Prototypical Design + Efficiency
Cultural Porches
What do we mean by culture?

The behavior resulting from our *learned* and accumulated *experience* which is socially *transmitted* and *distinguishes* one category of people from another.
What do we mean by culture?
What do we mean by culture?
By simply making culture visible, can we inspire tolerance, partnerships, and more inclusive behaviors?
Cultural Porches + Social Infrastructure
If social infrastructure is the foundation to strong communities, can we integrate it into all that we do?
Cultural Porches

+ Social Infrastructure

+ Remembrance Design
Can we use the process of engaging communities to recognize history as a means to design a more inclusive and culturally sustainable future?
ROUTE 9 LIBRARY AND INNOVATION CENTER
Community Demographics
Route 9 Library + Innovation Center, New Castle, DE

- 63% African American
- 23% white
- 13% Latino
- 1% Other
Community Demographics
Route 9 Library + Innovation Center, New Castle, DE

Bachelor's Degree
- US: 17.6%
- Delaware: 17%
- New Castle County: 7%

Master's Degree
- US: 7.2%
- Delaware: 7.7%
- New Castle County: 1.1%
Community Demographics
Route 9 Library + Innovation Center, New Castle, DE

Household Income
- US: $67,315
- Delaware: $70,619
- New Castle County: $48,016

Unemployment
- US: 8.7%
- Delaware: 7.8%
- New Castle County: 14.6%
Site Context
Route 9 Library + Innovation Center, New Castle, DE
Site Analysis
Route 9 Library + Innovation Center, New Castle, DE
Planning
Entry & Future Development
Planning
Community Made Visible
Public Engagement
Program Evolution
Program Map
Special Programs

- Scriptorium
- Vintage Room
- Opportunity Center
- Police Substation + Security
- Cafe
- Black Box
- Maker Lab
- Sensory Room
- STEM Classroom
- Lego Studio
- Bookatarium
who are you?
Community Landmark and Gathering Place:
The concept draws inspiration from a “big tree” in the adjacent historic neighborhood. The library will be a canopy under which the community gathers to learn, share, and build new knowledge.
Building Massing
Route 9 Corridor View
Route 9 Library + Innovation Center
North Arrival
Route 9 Library + Innovation Center
Plaza Approach
Route 9 Library + Innovation Center
Pretty women wonder where my secret lies. I'm not cute or built to suit a fashion model's size. But when I start to tell them, They think I'm telling lies. I say, It's in the reach of my arms, The span of my hips, The stride of my step, The curl of my lips. I'm a woman. Phenomenally.

Phenomenal woman, That's me.

"THERE IS NO GREATER AGONY THAN BEARING AN UNTOLD STORY INSIDE YOU"

MAYA ANGELOU

I KNOW WHY THE CAGED BIRD SINGS
Enhanced Programs

Meet | Gather | Perform

Immersive Story Time

Messy Classroom
Partnerships

Culinary Arts Partnership

Make I Create I Tinker

Sensory Room
Community Demographics
Northtown Library + Housing, Chicago, IL

- 45% White
- 20% Latino
- 16% African American
- 16% Asian
- 2% Two or more
- 1% Other
Community Demographics
Northtown Library + Housing, Chicago, IL

Bachelor's Degree
- US: 17.6%
- Illinois: 20.9%
- Northtown: 26.6%

Master's Degree
- US: 7.2%
- Illinois: 9.6%
- Northtown: 11.9%
Community Demographics
Northtown Library + Housing, Chicago, IL

Household Income
- US: $61,937
- Illinois: $68,058
- Northtown: $50,791

13% below poverty in Illinois
21.3% below poverty in Northtown

Unemployment
- US: 4.4%
- Illinois: 4.9%
- Northtown: 4.4%
Site Context
Northtown Library + Housing

West Ridge
Western ave
1.5 MILES

Chicago Loop
Site Context
Northtown Library + Housing
Design Drivers
Northtown Library + Housing

COMMUNITY AND DEVELOPMENT CENTERED DESIGN
• LIBRARY | HOUSING SYNERGY
• NEW CIVIC SPACE
• MAKE CULTURE VISIBLE
• TELL COMMUNITY STORY
• SET DEVELOPMENT PRECEDENT
TWO UNIQUE PROGRAMS
- RESIDENTIAL
- LIBRARY

CURVED RESIDENTIAL
- EQUITABLE RESIDENTIAL VIEWS
- CREATE VEGETATED TERRACE

LIBRARY VOIDS
- HIGH VISIBILITY COMMUNITY ROOM
- CONNECT PUBLIC
- BLUR INTERIOR/EXTERIOR WITH GARDEN
- VISUALLY INTERCONNECT LIBRARY AND HOUSING
Civic Corner
Transparency From Southeast
Children
Internal Garden
Interconnectivity
APRIL – NOVEMBER DATA:
Visitorship up 25-30%
Circulation up +/- 60%
High use of Community Room and Porch

Housing Completed and Fully Occupied in December
Senior Program Coordinator Hired in December

Municipal Programs for Seniors in Park
Geriatric Fitness Equipment Installed in Park
Thank You.

Derek Jones
E: derek.jones@perkinswill.com