

ministrator to examine continually how people work within space and then to consider rearrangement of space so that it works better for people and people work better within it.

The book has equal applicability to all kinds of libraries. By numerous diagrams and black-and-white and occasionally color illustrations, the book describes in readable terms the theoretical aspects of building construction. For instance, in discussing lighting the authors describe the visual comfort probability index (VCP). A VCP of 70 or better is good; it means that 70 out of the 100 people are comfortable in the light broadcast by a certain fixture.

On the practical size, a section of the book includes useful energy-saving tips. It may come as a bit of a shock to librarians and some architects when the authors state that sealed structures are more energy hungry than those fitted with windows that open! One very helpful section deals with color and graphics, the latter being more important to libraries than most other buildings, but often poorly treated in new libraries. Architects do not like to distract from their work of art with signs, while many librarians create distracting visual noise by overuse of poor signs.

Although some might have different opinions on minor details, this volume is a most reliable, useful, and up-to-date guide. If I had only one handbook with which to plan a new library or rehabilitate or renew an old one, *Designing and Space Planning for Libraries* would be my choice.—*Selby U. Gratton, State University of New York, College at Cortland.*

"Library Buildings," edited by Nancy Fjällbrant. IATUL Proceedings. V.11, 1979. Göteborg, Sweden: International Assn. of Technological University Libraries, Chalmers Univ. of Technology Library, 1979. 80p.

The papers presented at this meeting of technological university librarians contain information about new library buildings—four British, one Danish, one Swedish, and a general description of seven German libraries. British librarians in general pay scant attention to U.S. librarianship on the assumption that it is not pertinent to them,

and the rest of Europe does not seem to be aware of the extent of the vast and sprawling experimentation in library buildings that was generated in the United States by about five billion dollars' worth of construction during the 1960s.

As a consequence, our cousins abroad go right on perpetuating the mistakes we made during that period, which I, among others, have been in the process of criticizing for the past fifteen years. While I do not recommend it for many things, I certainly recommend the second half of the twentieth century for its achievements in knowledge of library construction. But to read this publication is to realize how slowly much of the world is emerging into this period.

What age is reflected in these words in a professional article: "The main aim of the library is to provide users with information. The reference and bibliographical collections . . . are therefore regarded as the core collections" (Loughborough)?

With how much sympathy can we regard arguments expounding the usefulness of open stacks (one whole article and parts of most others), or of giving up large reading rooms and distributing seating around the perimeter, about offering reference service that reaches out (or *any* reference service), or using movable furniture?

The libraries displayed repeat building elements that are demonstrably bad practice, such as overuse of office landscaping, which does *not* provide privacy of conversation (despite architect Faulkner-Brown's claim); dependence on natural light for reading at the building's periphery; main entrances below main floors; inadequate illumination intensities (thirty-seven footcandles recommended by Faulkner-Brown); high-glare fixtures.

The photographs of the buildings reflect a much higher quality of architectural design on the Continent than in Great Britain. Of the libraries accompanied by floor plans the best by far is the Nottingham University library whose exterior and cross section, derived heavily from the Colorado College library in Colorado Springs, adapt well to a completely new, highly functional interior layout. The worst by far is at Loughborough University, designed by the very same firm, which is an architect's extravagance rem-

insistent of the worst excesses of our odd-shaped high school libraries in the 1960s. But in this case the twist is even more perverse, since they have converted a square-floor-plan building into twin triangles on each floor.

To be highly commended is the British tendency in the polytechnic universities to mount their library science school quarters on the top floor of the library, which is used aggressively as a workshop-teaching facility for library science students, a bedrock-sound practice that has long been abandoned by American schools of librarianship.—*Ellsworth Mason, University of Colorado at Boulder.*

Microforms Management in Special Libraries: A Reader. Edited by Judy H. Fair. Microform Review Series in Library Micrographics Management, 5. Westport, Conn.: Microform Review, 1979. 272p. \$21.95. LC 78-13494. ISBN 0-913672-15-7.

This reader is a heterogeneous collection of thirty-one essays from a wide variety of periodicals and monographs published between 1966 and 1978 in the United States, Australia, and Great Britain. The authors are associated with law, music, map, business, hospital, local history, education, science, and engineering libraries. There are articles on equipment, user attitudes, and computer output microforms applications.

The essays are organized into five sections, each with a short introduction and a bibliography compiled by the editor. Collectively, these and other bibliographies in this volume could serve as basis for a historical reading list on microforms and some special applications. Some of the essays are informative and up to date; others on specialized resources, equipment, and procedures are dated. Information contained in essays on the general topics of microforms in libraries is repetitive. Although the book and all section titles contain the word *management*, it is neither a central nor unifying theme.

In the foreword, the editor states that the search for articles for inclusion in this volume revealed a scarcity of writing on the principles of microform use in special libraries, but she hopes that one or more of the pieces will provide the inspiration for more

communication on microforms. The book lives up to that hope and promise.—*Leo R. Rift, Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York.*

The Map Librarian in the Modern World.

Essays in Honour of Walter W. Ristow. Edited by Helen Wallis and Lothar Zögner. Presented by the IFLA Section of Geography and Map Libraries. Munich, New York: K. G. Saur, 1979. 295p. \$26. ISBN 3-598-10063-9.

This festschrift was compiled to honor Walter W. Ristow upon his retirement as chief, Geography & Map Division, Library of Congress. As with most festschriften, this is a mixed bag.

Four LC staff members give a brief history of the Library of Congress Geography & Map Division from 1897; Helen Wallis of the British Library tells of map librarianship's coming of age; Lothar Zögner of the Staatsbibliothek Preussischer Kulturbesitz discusses the training of map librarians; Roman Drazniowski, curator of the AGS collections, describes the American Geographical Society collections now at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; David Woodward of the Newberry Library describes the Herman Dunlap Smith Center for the History of Cartography; Joan Winearls of the University of Toronto describes map collections and map librarianship in Canada; Ib Kejlbø of the Royal Danish Library describes map libraries in Denmark; Edmond Pognon of the Bibliothèque Nationale describes its map department; Anna Kozłowa of the Lenin Library describes the map collection in that institution; the late Ann-Mari Mickwitz writes of the Nordenskiöld Collection in the University of Helsinki; Antoine De Smet of the Albert I Royal Library in Brussels discusses the sixteenth-century cartophile Viglius ab Aytta; Hans van de Waal of the Rijksuniversiteit Utrecht describes the Dutch union map catalog; and Emil Meynen discusses the cataloging of thematic maps.

Walter Ristow's forty-year career as a map librarian has witnessed the rise and maturation of the map library profession, and he has helped to shape and direct this growth. In a brief preface, Daniel Boorstin, Librarian of Congress, calls Ristow a "scholar-