

Types of libraries

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Femque Tangelder

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Abstract

In this research the question is; What different types of public library where being developed in the post war period from 1960 to 1980? Starting with a chapter on the history of libraries, about the different systems and actors that can be found in the library. Then a chapter on how types make it possible to distinguish and separate different buildings from each other, by means of the classification systems of form, function and space. This is followed by a case study of analyses of libraries from Wassenaar, Utrecht, Leeuwarden, Deventer, Den Haag, Amsterdam and Rotterdam, where the previous chapters work as an instrument to the analysis. This research shows that the type of public libraries being developed in the post war period from 1960 tot 1980 are on a spectrum from monofunctionality to multifunctionality and the number of floors and the order of size of the library. On one side of the spectrum are small libraries with only the primary functions of lending and reading books. On the other side are large libraries with in addition to the primary functions a whole range of secondary functions.

Keywords

Public libraries, History of libraries, Type, 1960/ 1980, Monofunctional, Multifunctional

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Introduction

After the Second World War, during the decades of *wederopbouw*, there was a need for recovery and renewal (Schneiders, 2005). A balance between the two was especially important. In a historical study of the Netherlands at this time, the *openbare bibliotheek* emerged as an example of this controversy. The *openbare bibliotheek* was used as a means of population development, but the plan was accused of not being for the common man, as a *volksbibliotheek* was. Besides, the accessible *openbare bibliotheek* received support from the government, while the *volksbibliotheek* did not. The *volksbibliotheek* was well suited to what people wanted to read, while the *openbare bibliotheek* was only geared towards the population development. This led to the professionalization of the *volksbibliotheek*, but still with attention for the ordinary reader, after which it was given the status of public library and the associated subsidies.

Schneiders text shows that the public library was increasingly intended for the common people instead of only having population development as its goal. This does however not explain any further changes in, and differences between, public libraries at this time, even though every library has different needs and is therefore inherently different. In the preparation of this research various sources were consulted for information about these differences between libraries after the change to public library. None of them could indicate which different characteristics libraries had during this time, leaving a gap in research into whether there were different types of libraries. The aim of this research therefore is to investigate which different types of libraries were built during the reconstruction of the Netherlands after the Second World War. The research question thereby is; What different types of public library were being developed in the post war period from 1960 to 1980?

To answer that question a case study is done of eight libraries, from the cities; Wassenaar, Utrecht, Leeuwarden, Deventer, Den Haag, Amsterdam and Rotterdam. To make this case study evident there is first a chapter on the history of libraries for which the sources 'A history of building types' (Pevsner, 1976), 'Plandocumentatie bibliotheken' (Barbieri 1994) and 'Imagination and participation: Next Steps in Public Library Architecture' (Sternheim & Bruijnzeels, 2021) have been used. This chapter describes the development of libraries in style, involving architectural history, and of function, involving social history. Various library systems, developed over the years and the essential three elements; books, readers and staff are illustrated. The knowledge of these systems and actors ensured that the analysis of the case studies is done in an orderly fashion. In addition, there is a chapter on types within architecture for which the sources 'Ordering space: types in architecture and design' (Franck & Schneekloth, 1994) and 'Ways to Study and Research: Urban, Architectural, and Technical Design' (T. M. De Jong & Van Der Voordt, 1999) have been used. Types make it possible to distinguish between different things and to then separate them. To do this the classification systems of form, function and space are used because they help to describe libraries in a systematic manner. These theoretical chapters help the methodical research of the case studies with the aim of dividing into different types of public libraries, answering the research question.

Libraries

In 'A history of building types' Pevsner (1976) compiles an outline of the history of different building types, with an emphasis on the nineteenth century which he considers a crucial century in the development of these buildings described in his types. This approach shows the development of building types by style, involving architectural history, and of function, involving social history. To this research of different types of libraries, as the library is a type of building according to Pevsner, the chapter on libraries is particularly important. Understanding the different characteristics of libraries helps to better analyse them, later in this research.

History of libraries

The library of Alexandria is one of the first known libraries in the world (Pevsner, 1976). After that it is only from the thirteenth century that libraries start to play a bigger role again. It is then just as much about the production as the collection of books and not yet called a library but an armarium. Regularly located in a niche in the wall or small room of a monastery, or even the roof above the church was used to store books, there they were kept in cabinets as the name armarium already suggests.

Through the growth of cities and trade in the thirteenth century, universities were founded. There the books were not in cabinets but chained to a lectern, shelves above were added (Image 1) and the name stall system came to be. The Italian Renaissance then changed the way of collecting books and the architectural style of library buildings and rooms, with now a clear separation between the lectern areas and hallway. Only with the Reformation came major changes due to the demand for larger libraries and new life in the university and college libraries. This led to the new saal system or wall system (Image 2), in which bookcases were placed along the wall resulting in a spacious saal or hall in the middle of the room. In the first decades of the development of this system the bookcases were low, a few decades later the shelves covered the entire wall. In order to reach the books on top a ladder was necessary, later replaced by a gallery to make it easier to take books from the shelves. It is still quite common for libraries to have shelves cover the entire wall, as introduced in the saal system.

In the seventeenth and eighteenth century this wall system was repeated many times, though new was the goal to make the libraries completely public, consequently the first complete secular library was built. At the same time the first suggestions were made for adding extra functions, such as a lecture hall. A century later the wall system, where books were only placed along the walls of the reading room was no longer sufficient. The reading area was separated from the stacking area. As a first solution the bookcases were placed perpendicular to the outer walls with windows between each one (Image 3), in some cases the windows were placed so high that books could even be stored underneath. Later complete stacking rooms were created, divided horizontally so that there were more floors and no ladder was needed, with long corridors full of bookcases back-to-back, all to make it as efficient as possible. Since then, libraries continue to grow in the number of volumes they hold and new methods for storing, transporting, accessing and issuing are constantly needed.



Image 1 Oxford, Corpus Christi College, library, showing the stall system (Pevsner, 1976)



Image 2 Oxford, Bodleian Library, showing the saal system (Pevsner, 1976)



Image 3 Cambridge, Trinity College, library, showing the reading area separated from the stacking area with bookcases placed perpendicular (Pevsner, 1976)

The last part of the chapter about libraries in 'A history of building types' (Pevsner, 1976) is about the change of libraries due to the need of readers to be able to type, print and read microfilm. The computer did not yet play a role at that time. In the meantime, the library has changed even more. Since the mid-twentieth century books are being presented in an open and pleasant layout and due to the growth of book production, lending books became increasingly important (Sternheim & Bruijnzeels, 2021). Now centuries later, more and more functions are actually being added to the library, the lecture hall is a reality but there are also exhibition, classrooms, catering facilities and more to be found in libraries. The library has become more social and focuses more on other media besides books. It is not only about making these media available but also about the interaction and perception that readers have with these media. The library continues to change, now that lending books is becoming less important, for example the counter, the central point for borrowing books and other logistics, may even go eventually.

Books, readers and staff

Throughout the development of libraries, in the just described history, three elements play an essential role; the books, readers and staff (Barbieri, 1994). The staff ensures that since the separation between the reading area and stacking area books are still accessible to the readers. According to Barbieri there are three types of organization possible in the separation of these areas and the storage of books. The first with a large reading area above and stacking area below, the second with a central reading area surrounded by stacking area and with the counter in the middle providing overview and control and the third with the reading area at the front of the building with the stacking area behind it. The control just mentioned in the second type has long played major role in the development of libraries. Due to modern techniques overview and control are less important, which results in the relation between form and function also decreasing. The social aspect of interaction is now important for the development of the libraries being analysed.

Type

Types provide the organization of thinking, communication and acting in all different aspects of life (De Jong & Van Der Voordt, 1999). They make it possible to distinguish between different things and to then separate them. That allows similarities between things to be identified and consequently being collected. Classification systems, typologies and typological analysis are used to organize and present information for the purpose of description, explanation or regulation. These systems of thought are used to name and group things in different categories or types. This is essential for executing the case study; by using the same classification systems for each analysis the libraries can be methodically compared to each other.

Form, function and space

It is of importance for a systematic description, explanation or regulation that the classification systems being used are distinct (Franck & Schneekloth, 1994). Classification systems significant in architectural research are those of form, function and space, and will thus be use in this research. The analysis of form within architecture stems from art-historical research methods (De Jong & Van Der Voordt, 1999). It distinguishes what things looks like based on the geometrical composition of plans, sections, elevations and volumes, detailed design and texture of surfaces, the diagrammatic program of ornaments, paintings or sculptures and properties of rhythm, scale and proportion, colour, texture, flow of light, opacity and transparency and the use of architectural orders, styles of classical architecture.

Systems of function concern the experience of us as participants or actors, or the indirect experience through observing other actors using a building. Without actors function is drawn from the earlier analysed form and spatial structure, location, spaces, furniture, contents, and equipment. Inscriptions and other text that describe the function can be used to discover the function as well. These words each have a distinct meaning relating to a building with adequate forms and spatial structure, such words indicate different types. This way, form could be predicted from function and vice versa, 'form follows function', because the architectural design reflects the buildings intent.

Spatial structure, space, is not about the geometrical composition like the analysis of form but is about the topology of sequence withing a building. The spaces can be walked through in specific ways, spaces can open into one another, can be reached directly from outside or through many other spaces. Thus, there are various techniques and methods to classify these topological relations. A branching structure with no choice of route, rings where there are alternative routes or different depths; small spaces at the entrance and long spaces in the back. Space therefore related to interaction, control, privacy, isolation and surveillance. Together form, function and space help describe and organise similarities and differences of various buildings.

The classification systems of form, function and space can be utilised by using a systematic description of various buildings within these three systems (Franck & Schneekloth, 1994). This descriptive research annotates only the actuality and facts without explanation of reasoning. In reality, little purely descriptive research is done, and the research lies on a scale from description to analysis and interpretation to evaluation. As also in this study, seeing that without explanation of reasoning it is difficult to classify buildings into different categories or types.

Type is often used in the same sentence as class and category or even classification (De Jong & Van Der Voordt, 1999). It is seen as a term of functional and structural taxonomy. Type is about identifying different types by distinct collective characteristics. In architecture, characteristics within the systems of form, function and space, of buildings, can be identified as similarities or differences with respect to the characteristics of other buildings, after which they can be divided into different categories. Types can thus be use as an analytical tool, not only through material characteristics but also through interpretation by people who use specific build environments.

Different types of libraries

In his book 'A century of information, education and inspiration' Schneider (2005) writes about the changing from *volksbibliotheek* to *openbare bibliotheek*, as well as the subsequent innovation that came within the library. New objectives and strong social involvement emerged. In the core activity, the service to people for their interest in the information, recreational, educational and cultural fields remains important. The public library stays a place of population development, despite the wishes of the people and thus the content of the services changing.

All the changes in the library during the sixties and the following decennia can, according to Schneider, be divided into five categories; the rise of information and communication technology (ICT), the increasing importance of the informative service provision and cultural-social library work in relation to the primary function of lending and reading books, the cooperation between the library and educational institutions, especially primary schools, the pragmatization of library operations and the demographic revolution.

How these changes have manifested themselves from an architectural point of view is not mentioned, the analysis of case studies in this chapter will. As previously mentioned, the theory of the history of libraries and type are used for this. The history of libraries gives insight into different library systems such as the stall system, the saal system of the reading area separated from the stacking area with bookcases placed perpendicular, but also in the three actors; books, readers and staff, each of which has an influence on the library. Type is that by which the libraries are described. The classification systems of form, function and space, in that order, are used for this. All the libraries will first be elucidated and visually analysed. Based on these eight analyses and the theory used to do these analyses, an answer will be given in the conclusion to the research question; What different types of public library were being developed in the post war period from 1960 to 1980?

Public library Wassenaar

In 1962 architectural firm Schutte en Bellaard (1967) was commissioned to design a new building for the Wassenaar Public Reading Room and Library Federation foundation. The library was located at the intersection of the Van Hogendorpplein and the Luifelbaan on the corner of a building block in the new shopping centre of Wassenaar. In March of 1965 the foundation was laid and just over a year later in May 1966 the building could already open. In the following years various activities in addition to making books available, took place in the library such as the event 'Achter de cultuur aan' (Trouw, 1975) or the opening of the library on Sundays (NRC Handelsblad, 1973).

The library consists of two perpendicular building blocks (Image 4). The purpose of this form was to create an inner courtyard that offers the possibility for a café terrace and flower stall (Schutte en Bellaard, 1967). The functions are divided over the two building blocks. In the lower building block is the lending for adults and in the annex a small discotheque, in the upper building block only the youth library can be found. Where the two building blocks meet a study room, the administration, staircase and traffic areas are located. The space is divided in such a way that the reader can walk from the entrance to the adult lending area or take the stairs up to the youth library.

In the lending area several different library systems have been used (Image 5). There are bookcases along the walls, such as the saal system, but also placed perpendicular with the backs to each other, with reading places between these bookcases.

In conclusion, the library in Wassenaar consist of two building blocks where most of the space is taken by the primary function of lending and reading books, making the library monofunctional.



Image 4 Facade of Hogedorpplein (Schutte en Bellaard, 1967)



Image 5 Lending area adults and teenagers (Schutte en Bellaard, 1967)

Public reading room and library Utrecht

Utrecht 01

The affiliation 'Tuinwijk' of the public reading room and library located on the Ingenhouszstraat in Utrecht, has the appearance of a pavilion due to its single floor, writes Crebas (1967), department head of the public reading room and library in Utrecht.

The floorplan (Image 6) of this single floor library has a clear rectangular shape, with many windows. Upon entering the reader immediately sees the lending desk where the staff is located. The adult and youth lending areas are separated by means of zigzag shaped cabinets in the middle of the library, which also served as an exhibition space.

From the lending desk the library space is clear for both readers and staff, because of the use of low bookcases that one can look over (Image 7). In addition, there are no bookcases against the walls, which makes a lot of light enter the library.

So, the library has a clear rectangular shape with the primary functions of lending and reading books in the form of an adult and youth lending area, making it monofunctional.

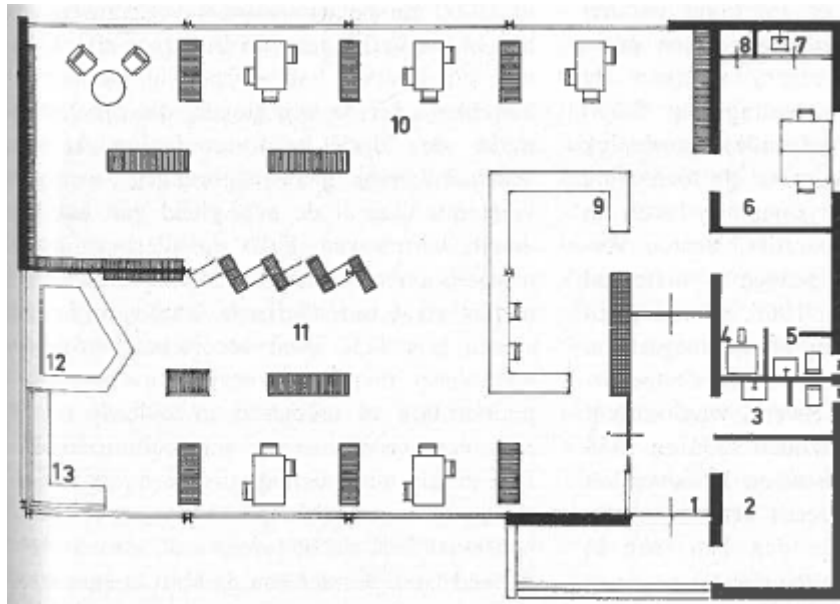


Image 6 Ground floor (Crebas, 1967)



Image 7 Left youth section, right adult section (Crebas, 1967)

Reading room and library Utrecht

Utrecht 02

'In order to achieve the greatest possible contrast with the surrounding linear buildings, a round shape was chosen for this 'book mill'' writes architect van Grunsven (1968). It was built for housing the public reading room and library on the Kanaleneiland in Utrecht, visible from the Bernadottelaan (Image 8)

As mentioned, the building has a round shape, the floor plan (Image 9) is divided into segments by means of radially placed walls. There is a large wall surface for the bookcase between which the reading tables and corners are situated, along a great number of windows. In terms of the number of functions the library in Utrecht is very modest. In addition, to a magazine corner, kids' corner and teenager corner, there are only a few bookcases. The trapezium shaped space, created by the radially placed wall, creates a closed impression allowing reader to make calm choices. In addition, every room is directly accessible from the centre due to the circular shape.

This library in Utrecht is special in its round form and radial layout, in terms of here too, only the primary functions of reading and lending books for various ages can be found, so monofunctional as well.



Image 8 Seen from Bernadottelaan (van Grunsven, 1968)

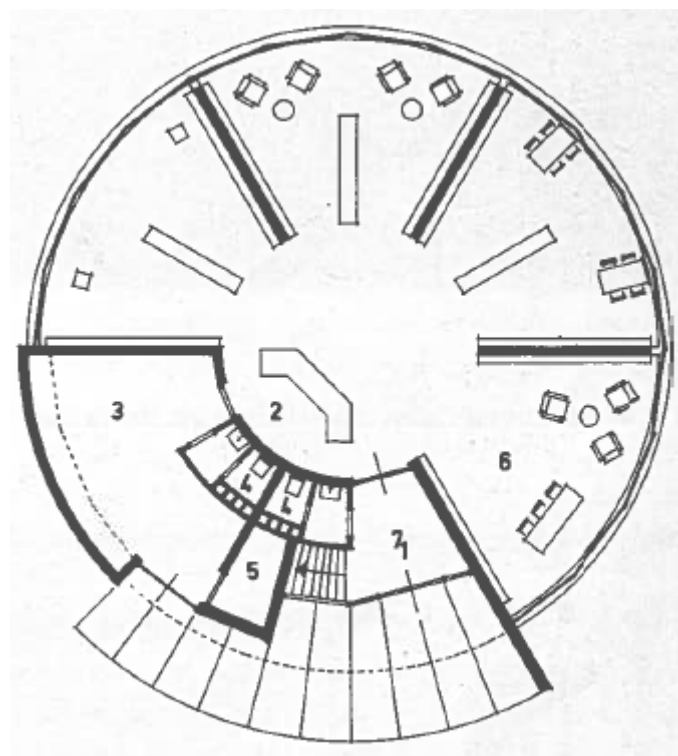


Image 9 Ground floor (van Grunsven, 1968)

Provincial and Buma library Leeuwarden

In 1958 the competition for the provincial and Buma library of Leeuwarden received no less than 165 entries, writes Tauber (1968). A closed competition was announced among the four winners, which Tauber won, after which he continued to develop through discussion with librarian dr. S. Douma. In 1964, construction finally began and in 1966 the library opened.

Tauber (1968) writes that he divided the rectangular shaped building into the reading area and stacking area, as we have also seen in the history of the library. The stacking area was even further divided into a large warehouse for the provincial library and a small warehouse for the Buma library. This Buma library is a collection of books in the field of classical languages, one of the best in Western Europe, left behind by L.A. Buma (Frieze koerier, 1967). A combination of library and educational institution. Almost the entire warehouse can be found in the basement, the reading area on the ground and first floor, where the Buma library is also located.

The rectangular form of the floorplan (Image 10) is divided into many rooms. At numbers 5 and 7 are library functions such as the lending hall and open lending, at numbers 12, 13, 14 and 15 are staff functions such as secretariat and administration. On the right side at number 17 and 18 are secondary functions such as a reception room and exhibition room.

The first floor (Image 11) can be reached via the stairs in the vide. There numbers 1, 9 and 10 are mainly focused on study and there is a meeting room or classroom at number 4. Due to the combination of the provincial library and Buma library there are many secondary functions in this building. The vide in the middle of the space ensures that all these functions are accessible.

The library has a clear form of three stacked floors, these floors are divided into many different rooms and functions, such as the; lending area, study rooms, consultation room, reception room, exhibition hall and the multiple stacking areas for both the provincial and the Buma library. The collaboration with this educational institution makes this library semi multifunctional, even though it has only a few floors and is not very large.

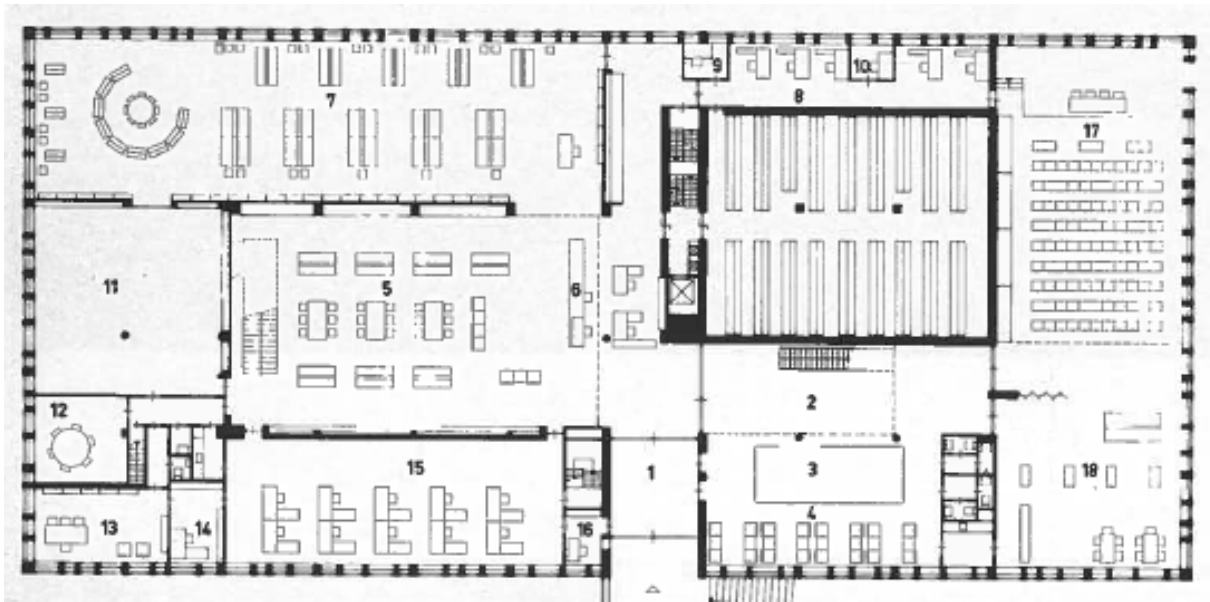


Image 10 Ground floor (Tauber, 1968)

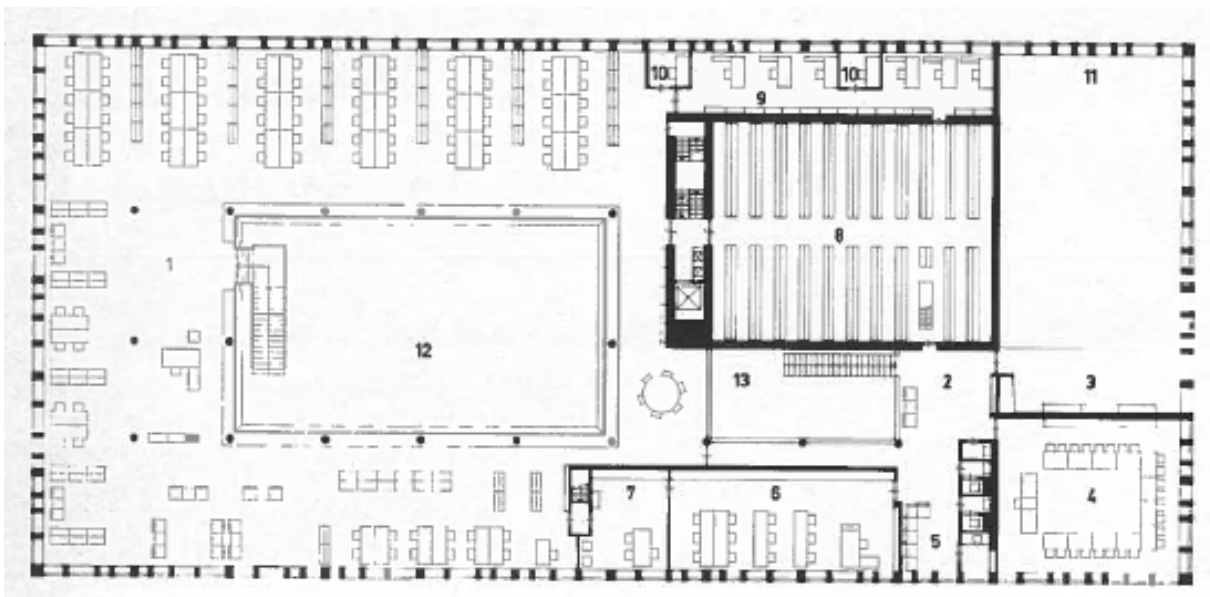


Image 11 First floor (Tauber, 1968)

Public reading room and library Deventer

In 1960 the Deventer Dagblad wrote 'Renovation of five buildings for public reading room and library' This after the municipality was able to buy a late gothic building and old office buildings to restore and repurpose into a library (Knuttel & Knuttel, 1965) A few years later, at the end of 1964, Drs. L. J. M. van de Laar, the State Secretary for Education, Arts and Sciences opened the new building, which stands on the same site where the reading room had been located since 1918, now three times as large as before (Twentsch dagblad Tubantia, 1964).

The floorplans of the ground, first and second floor (Image 12) show that this library is rectangular shaped like many others, only in this case it consists of multiple buildings, with a patio in the middle. These buildings contain many different functions, with on the left side the functions for the readers and on the right side the function for staff and stacking. On the ground floor, for example, on the left side at number 4, 5, 6 and 7 are the front room with lending office and back room with information desk and right at the back at number 10 the magazine and newspaper reading room. Number 16 on the right side is the warehouse for staff only, showing this clear separation. On the first floor an extra floor has been added on the right staff side, only the reader functions of music library and discotheque are located here. The reading rooms only contain a gallery and have been left high for user experience. On the second floor there are many different functions such as the youth library, space for the central school library and many functions for the staff, once again on the left side.

The architects' goal was that; 'all publicly accessible spaces should be of such a shape, size and layout that the visitor feels at home there and can make his choice as independently as possible' (Knuttel & Knuttel, 1965). That is why they kept the floor height of 5,60 metres and placed galleries along the walls ensuring that the space remains clearly visible and very pleasant (Image 13).

The form of the library is quite common but unique is that it consists of multiple buildings, within these all the libraries functions are divided over the three different floors with the most primary library functions located on the ground floor. On the third floor there are also cultural-social functions such as the music library, discotheque and educational functions such as the central school library, making it semi multifunctional.



Image 12 Ground, first and second floor (Knuttel & Knuttel, 1965)



Image 13 Back area with information desk (Knuttel & Knuttel, 1965)

Royal library The Hague

The royal library in the Hague plays an important role in the connection with the national archives and the ministry of foreign affairs near the central station (Hagoort et al., 1983). The transition areas between these buildings and the pedestrian experience were particularly important.

The difficult task of designing this library has led to a large white aluminium clad building in a very articulated and varied building mass (Image 14). This form arose by the limited plot on which the library had to be built and the division of functions within it.

A cross-section (Image 15) over the length of the building helps to orient and understand the large range of function. Due to an effort to limit the building height, the warehouse is located in the two basement floors (Hagoort, A. et al., 1983). 'On the ground, the first and second floor are the functions accessible to the public, above that the spaces for the library business are located' writes Hagoort, A. et al. (1983) about the above ground part of the library. Due to the complex pedestrian accessible program at ground level there are many overhangs and walkways and the central public space is located on the first floor (Barbieri, 1994). From the third floor and upward, the library company functions are located such as restoration, reproduction and bindery, but also space for the national office for art historical documentation. In addition, the library and the general national archives also share functions such as a canteen, auditorium and meeting facilities.

The spaces are divided according to grids of 7.50 by 8,10 metres, which makes for an efficient arrangement of bookcases in the warehouses (Barbieri, 1994). In addition, this ensures an easy change of functions, so that the building remains flexible in its layout. There are also many voids in the building allowing daylight to enter the core (Image 15). In these large spaces, extra central areas have been added on some levels.

The royal library of the Hague has a unique form and not only has many secondary functions itself but also borders to various other buildings with different functions and shares functions with these buildings. Due to the special shape and the large range of functions of; warehouse, reading rooms, restoration, reproduction, bindery, space for the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions and the PICA organization for library automation, this building can be classified as multifunctional, reflected in the number of floors and the size of the building.



Image 14 From the Prins Clauslaan from the north (Hagoort et al., 1983)

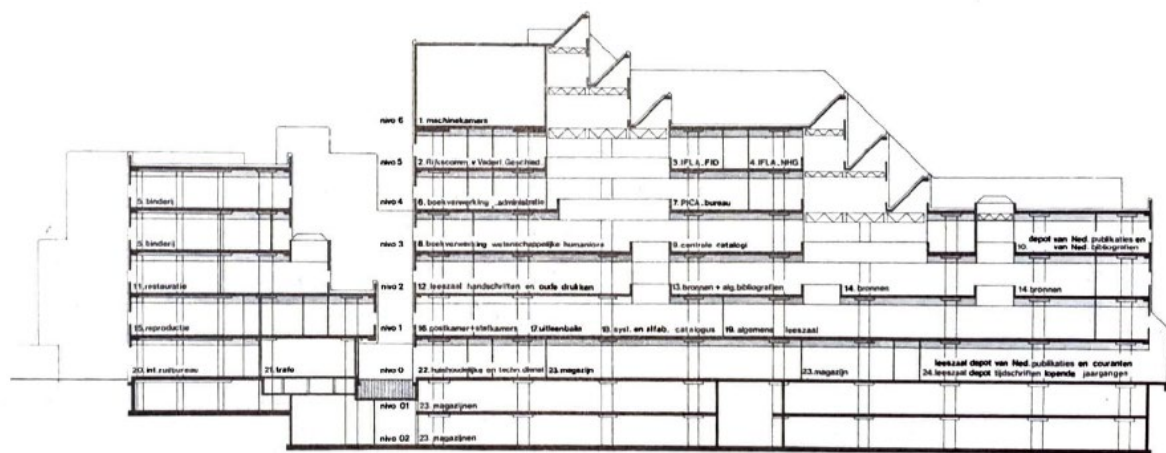


Image 15 Section (Hagoort et al., 1983)

Public library Amsterdam

The demolition of the garment factory between the Prinsengracht and Keizersgracht offered the Amsterdam public library the opportunity for a new location (Nord, 1977). The current building on the Keizersgracht became too small and had little expansion possibilities. A new layout was started for the Prinsengracht, in which a division between readers and staff could be realized, as we have seen before. The building was completed in a short time and opened in 1977 by Prime Minister Den Uyl (Nederlands dagblad, 1977).

The ground floor (Image 16) consists of both buildings, on the right side the Prinsengracht and on the left side the Keizersgracht. The form of the building was created from existing buildings on these streets. The special thing about it is the outdoor area that was created and the connection in the middle of the two buildings. Little else has changed in the shape, compared to before it was a library, most adjustments have been made in the layout of the building. The traditional arrangement of the bookcases perpendicular was used, in this case to form different rooms.

On this ground floor (Image 16) a great quantity of functions is located. In the building on the Prinsengracht alone the cloakroom, lending desk, catalogue machine, auditorium, newspaper room with coffee and reference works are located. On the Keizersgracht are also the archive, order administration, book processing and catalogue. The still vacant area on this side even offers expansion possibilities to this already very multifunctional building.

The ceiling inside the library is not very high as we have seen in other libraries, the space is therefore very closed in (Image 17). The rooms formed by bookcases give an enclosed feeling and give little overview to the staff. Only where there are voids and a larger number of windows the space is more pleasant.

Even though this library uses existing buildings we still see influence of the form, mainly in the layout of the spaces to be able to accommodate all the various primary and secondary library functions, that make the building multifunctional, which is also reflected in the size of the building.

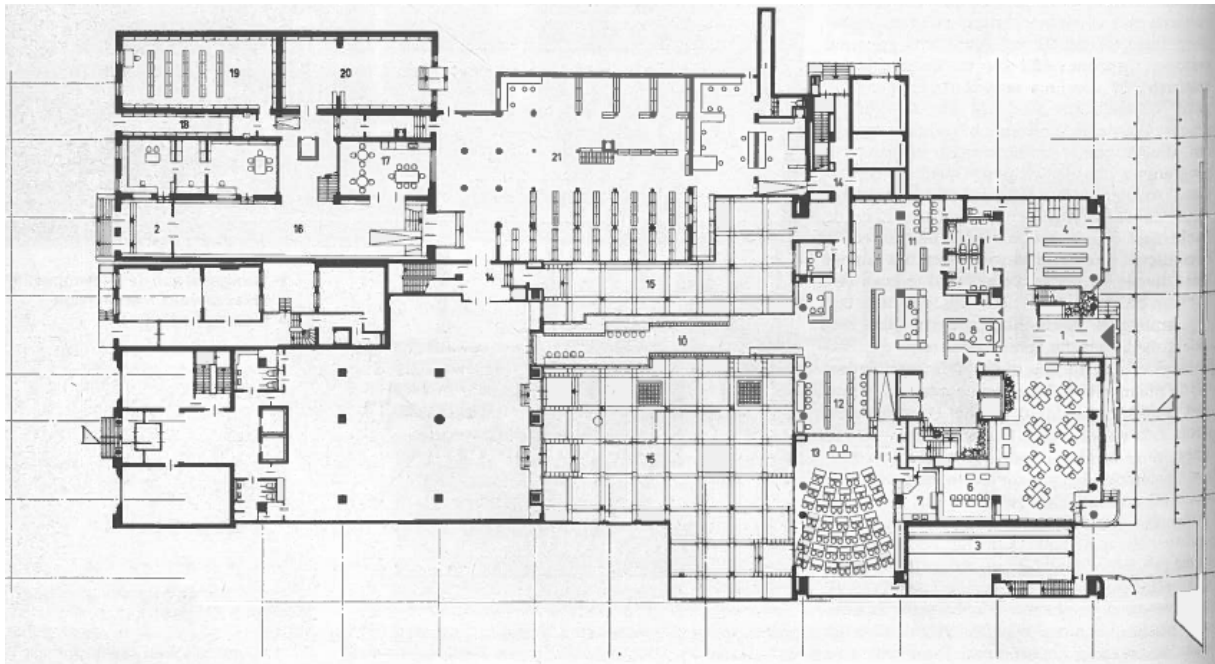


Image 16 Ground floor (Nord, 1977)



Image 17 Information desk music library and discotheque on the fourth floor (Nord, 1977)

Central library Rotterdam

In 1974 the councillor of Rotterdam commissioned an open, inviting, centrally located and accessible central library for everyone (Boot, 1984). The building is located in the heart of Rotterdam on the Markt and Hoogstraat and attracted on the first open day immediately 40,000 visitors, so mission accomplished (Nieuwsblad van het Noorden, 1983).

The cross-section (Image 18), and with that the form of the building, rises in irregular steps. According to Barbieri (1994) inspired by the Centre Pompidou. In the compact building mass there is a vertical traffic system of stairs, escalators and elevators in the core for both readers, staff and books. Around this core are the various functions, and so it serves as a clear middle, through voids and an open interior. To emphasize this open interior even more, the bookcases are in the middle of the space, allowing a lot of daylight to enter through the windows.

On the ground floor by means of functions such as the newspaper department and a large kiosk, an attempt has been made to create a link between both sides of the building (Boot, 1984). However, the second floor of the building (Image 19) forms the heart of the library. Here the information room, silent reading room, magazine room, canteen for staff, administration, organization and personnel affairs are located. The third to the sixth floors contain the study books, music, audiovisual materials and the associated warehouses, which means that the warehouse space in the basement is limited.

The core in the middle and the clear an open interior make the space very pleasant. Since the core reaches all the way to the roof, you can see immediately how the building is put together which gives a nice overview.

The building has a unique shape, with different styles on either side, this due to the clear division of all functions, which immediate makes is feel spacious. With the newspaper department and kiosk, secondary function can already be found on the ground floor. In addition to the primary functions of; information room, silent reading room, magazine room, canteen for staff, administration, organization and personnel affairs, there is also a cooperation between the library and education in this library though a natural sciences, technology and arts and social sciences floor, making this a large multifunctional library as well.

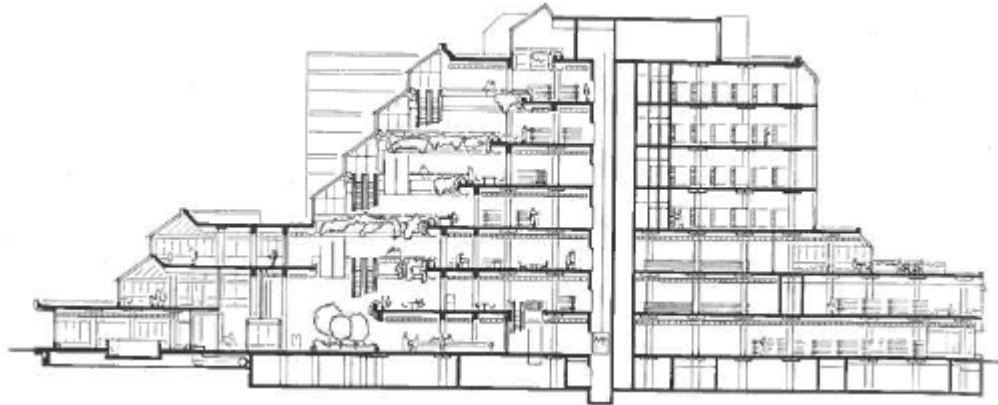


Image 18 Section (Boot, 1984)



Image 19 Second floor (Boot, 1984)

Conclusion

The aim of this research was to answer the question; What different types of public library were being developed in the post war period from 1960 to 1980?

Therefore, in the first chapter, research was done into the history of the library, which showed various library systems such as the stall system, saal system, separation of reading and stacking area, and that in recent years more secondary functions beside the primary library function of lending and reading books are being added to the library. In addition, this chapter discussed the relationship between the books, readers and staff. This was followed by the chapter on type. There the importance of classification systems was explained as well as that in architecture characteristics within the systems of form, function and space can be identified as similar of different after which the buildings, in this case libraries, can be classified into categories or types.

The knowledge of these systems, actors and classification systems helped in the analysis of the, case study, libraries. It can be concluded that similar characteristics are the primary library functions of lending and reading books. Some libraries such as the one in Wassenaar and the two in Utrecht actually only have this primary function and therefore are monofunctional. On the other side of the spectrum are the libraries in The Hague, Amsterdam and Rotterdam. These libraries contain dozens of secondary functions on top of the primary library functions, and in the case of The Hague are even connected to buildings with even more functions, and are therefore multifunctional. The libraries can therefore be divided according to the gradation of how multifunctional they are, where the number of floors and the size are significant as well.

This research shows that there were three different types of libraries being developed in the post war period from 1960 to 1980. Those that are monofunctional, with only a few floors, staying very small like the libraries in Wassenaar and Utrecht. The ones that are multifunctional, but medium in the number of floors and size like the libraries in Leeuwarden and Deventer. And those who are the most multifunctional with many floors and a large volume like the libraries in The Hague, Amsterdam and Rotterdam.

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