Gentofte Public Library

library

central building space lit by skylights

building

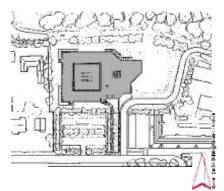
The building is the winning project of an architectural competition held in 1978. With it's site measuring up to 19,000 m², one of the main requirements was to sensitively respond to the landscape and the immediate vicinity, i.e. the old neighborhood and the adjacent Øregårspark. The design for the library describes a two story building with a central area that extends over both levels. While the spaces along the sides predominantly occupy service functions, the core accommodates the book stacks. The juxtaposition of the inward oriented library and the extensive park area around, creates one of the interesting dynamics of the design.

daylight strategy

To emphasize this central "plaza", nine circular overhead skylights, provide a considerable amount of evenly distributed daylight, resulting from their diffuse glazing and deep shafts. Continuous light clefs along the perimeter of this space highlight the galleries. These light clefs have vertical clear glazing in order to transmit changes of the luminance distribution of the sky vault more directly than the circular skylights do.

central space

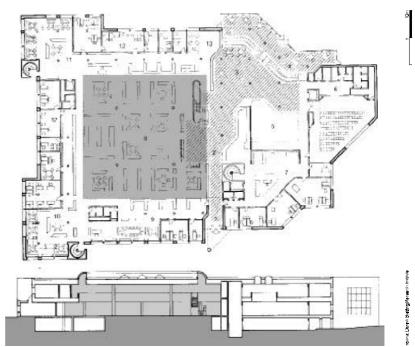
Part of the architects responsibility was the design of the shelving to harmonize with the overall character of the central space, since it visually links all functions of the library. Copenhagen, Denmark 55,7°N, 12,2°E predominantly cloudy



The Gentofte Library is surrounded by a park.



South facade, the two story building is integrated in the park.



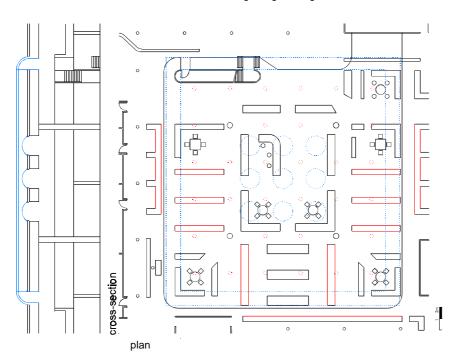
Ground floor plan. The main room of the library is two stores high. Nine circular skylights and continuous light clefs along the roof edges provide natural light in this central area



Interior view of the central area, the relation between the interior landscape in the core of the building and the exterior park is pronounced by the use of different daylighting strategies, skylights in the core and sidelighting in the perimeter area.



Deciduous trees in the park act as seasonal shading devices for large glazing in the ground floor.



building data

size 7 100 m²

.

number of stories 2

architect Henning Larsen

daylight consultant Henning Larsen

year of completion 1985

main area

daylight strategy

skylights

dimensions (depth/width/height)

26 m/26 m/6,5 m

676 m² room area

> light blue, 20% floor

white, 80% wall

door light gray, 70%

ceiling white, 80%

table light gray, 70%

bookshelf white, 80%

skylight white, 80%

light clefts white, 80%

translucent glazing, 45% transm. skylights

windows double glazing

fluorescent lamps lamp types

installed power 10-15 W/m²

density

control strategy manual on/off

facade					rooflights	
data	orientation	zenithal				
	glazed area	90 m²				
	opening index	0.13				
function	daylighting	•				
	view outside	-				
	ventilation	-				
	operable	-			-	
	shading				•	
	redirection	•			•	
systems		light clefs	light shaft	skylight - diff. glass	skylight - light shaft	
function systems	sun shading		•	-	•	
	glare protection		•	-	•	
	redirection		•	•	•	
location	inside		•	-	•	
	window pane		-	•	-	
	outside		-	-	-	
	movable		-	-	-	
	fixed		•	•	•	