



CITY COUNCIL STAFF REPORT

DATE: May 21, 2014 PUBLIC HEARING

SUBJECT: CITY COUNCIL REVIEW OF THE HSPB DECISION TO APPROVE AS
CONDITIONED THE INTERIOR DESIGN OF THE WELWOOD MURRAY
MEMORIAL LIBRARY.

FROM: David H. Ready, City Manager

BY: Special Projects Coordinator

SUMMARY

Pursuant to Palm Springs Municipal Code § 2.06.030, the City Council will review the May 13, 2014, decision of the Historic Site Preservation Board to "Approve with Conditions" the interior of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library (WMML).

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Open the public hearing and receive public testimony.
2. Review the action of the Historic Site Preservation Board concerning the Interior of the WMML to uphold, modify or reverse said actions.

STAFF ANALYSIS:

Palm Springs Municipal Code Section 8.05.195 states the Historic Site Preservation Board "may not consider the interior arrangement of the structure, except in the case of public buildings." "Interior arrangement" is not defined in the Code.

In light of the City Council's previous determination that the WMML project was a renovation, the design team put together a complete interior package for the HSPB to review. The complete package was presented to the HSPB at their meeting of May 13, 2014, and the Board determined "Approval with Conditions". (Copy of the HSPB staff report and exhibits are attached). The Conditions are as follows (see attached Minutes of the HSPB meeting):

1. Remove the proposed Medallion/logo completely.
2. Explore the gift offer of the Palm Springs Preservation Foundation; replicate the front desk in shape, size and overall design.
3. Replace the table top "candlestick" lighting.
4. Remove the wall covering from the wall behind the book cases.
5. Change the chandelier to a single stem fixture like the Woman's Club.
6. Switch the furniture to wood style furniture.
7. Select a new table lamp representative of "1940 Palm Springs".

THE MEDALLION/LOGO



CIRCULAR DESK



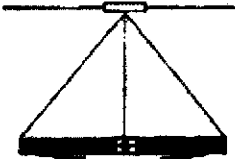
CANDLESTICK LAMP



WALL COVERING



CHANDELIER



FURNITURE



During the HSPB meeting several members of the Board expressed disappointment they were not included in the users design process of the interior, and indicated the Interior Designer was provided inconsistent direction; in summary, his work was to have been a restoration of the building.

The “restoration” vs. “renovation” issue was previously resolved when the City Council determined and provided direction that the overall design effort was to be one of renovation and refurbishing. Based on the City Council direction Michael Thomas, Design Collective, was added to the design team to develop an interior design that did not replicate but rather was respectful of the historic nature of the building and that met the needs of the users and the adaptive re-use of the building.

To carry this effort, out Mr. Thomas met with all three of the potential users to listen to their needs and conducted research of the design standards of the time; early 1940's. Mr. Thomas documented his approach to the design in a Memo to the HSPB dated May 2, 2014, copy attached as part of the HSPB staff report.

Once a preliminary concept was developed, the design concept was presented for initial comment and direction to Library Staff, Library Board Subcommittee, Historical Society, Library Board and the City Council Subcommittee. The user/reviewing groups were completely elated with the design, and approved it for submittal to the HSPB. If there were issues with the design from the users the project timeline allowed for us to take the design to the HSPB subcommittee for their review and input; however, after the unanimous approval from the user groups, direction was given to go before the HSPB with the design for their input.

Specific comments to the Conditions of Approval are as follows:

1. Medallion/Logo: The “circle in the square” brings together in one symbol the four guiding principles in the reuse of WMML; information, education, knowledge and research. Such a unifying feature was thought to be a great idea for the rebirth of this facility.
2. Front Desk Gift Offer: Staff has had two meetings, more than four months apart, with the designer provided by the Palm Springs Preservation Foundation; little or no progress was being made, so with the project time constraints the task to design a circular front desk was given to the interior designer. The proposed design brings back a circular desk installed approximately at the same location as the original, however the needs of a modern library (computers, point of sale devices, etc.) were designed into the desk as well as ADA standards were met.
3. Table Top Lighting: This is purely a selection by the interior designer which was supported by the users and not supported by HSPB.
4. Remove Wall Covering: The easterly wall in the main room of the building, in historic pictures, is shown as a place where art work was displayed. That is the intent of

the design; the wall covering was added to help with poor acoustics in the room and as a better mounting methodology to easily change-out art exhibits.

5. Chandelier: The design offered is one with four rods suspending the fixture; HSPB wanted it to be like the one in original pictures with a single rod.


6. Switch to Wood Furniture: Before this design was offered it was proposed to utilize all wood furniture and the subcommittee rejected it outright.

7. Table Lamp: Same as three above.

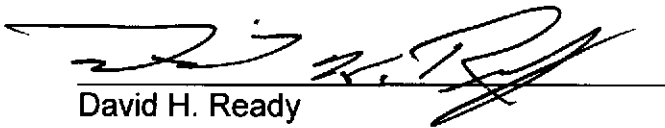
FISCAL IMPACT:

The City Council has directed and urged the project is to move as quickly as possible after the years of delay. Making the changes suggested by the HSPB, to facilitate a restoration rather than the City Council approved renovation, will necessitate redesign work, additional design fees, re-review by all the reviewing bodies and additional time delays of as much as 60 days.

To minimize the further delay and associated cost impact specific direction is sought from the City Council.



Allen Smoot
Special Projects Coordinator



David H. Ready
City Manager

Attachment:

1. Minutes HSPB Meeting
2. HSPB staff report including submitted exhibits and designers memo

**HISTORIC SITE PRESERVATION BOARD
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA**



**MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2014
LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL**

CALL TO ORDER: Chair DeLeeuw called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Chair DeLeeuw, Vice-Chair Johns, Board members Burkett, Ploss, Williamson.

ABSENT: Board member Hays

ALSO PRESENT: Director Wheeler, Associate Planner Lyon.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA: No changes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- 2.D. A CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL REQUEST BY THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS FOR RENOVATION OF THE INTERIOR SPACES AT THE WELWOOD MURRAY MEMORIAL LIBRARY, A CLASS 1 HISTORIC SITE, LOCATED AT 100 SOUTH PALM CANYON DRIVE, ZONE CBD, (CASE 3.1032 MAA, HSPB #3).**

Al Smoot, Project Administrator, said that he has gone to five groups before he got here and each group has unanimously approved the proposal.

Michael Thomas, designer, presented the proposals.

Vice-Chair Johns said he does not see that what is proposed in the letter is what we will see when it opens. The HSPB has a subcommittee for the Welwood Murray also. Was there another design scheme rejected? Were there other proposals that went to these groups?

Mr. Thomas said he had sufficient data input and put his ideas into the design.

Vice-Chair Johns said it was overly decorated and ornamented and hopes to work with Mr. Thomas to eliminate some things. The lighting feature combined with the circle in square feature is over-ornamented. He would like it to have an original institutional feel. As of now it has more of a 1999 feel not 1940's.

Board member Burkett said the difference between restore and redesign is important. It was barebones back in the 40's. The acoustical wall cover is not in character and the colors are not understandable.

Board member Williamson said the use of space is done very well. He did not find the design choices, especially the use of medallions, incongruent with the building and its design.

Board member Ploss highlighted that John Porter Clark designed clean lines and clerestory windows. The computer station desk looks more like New York City not Palm Springs. The layout is fine, but the style of interior is not Palm Springs. The medallions, chandelier and use of color do not have the same intent as the original building. The overuse of medallions is not appropriate.

Chair DeLeeuw said he was disappointed that the HSPB subcommittee was not involved, because Mr. Thomas was not given the correct direction. We need to preserve our building. We all agree the layout is ok and the colors are generally ok. The medallions are a problem as is the front desk. The PSPF volunteered to buy a replica desk, but unfortunately the gift was denied.

Motion by Vice-Chair Johns with second by Board member Ploss with conditions:
1) Remove all medallions. 2) Explore gift from PSPF to replicate the original desk. Desk to be original size, style and shape. Amendments were proposed and accepted:

Board member Ploss: 3) Candlestick lights to be removed.

Board member Burkett: 4) Wall covering to be removed. 5) Chandelier shall be hung from a single pole.

Vice-Chair Johns 6) The new table lamps shall reflect 40's Palm Springs and return to HSPB for review. 7) Wood style chairs shall return to HSPB for review.

M/S/C Approved 5-0

Board member Williamson noted that he favored the proposal without conditions.



HISTORIC SITE PRESERVATION BOARD STAFF REPORT

DATE: May 13, 2014

NEW BUSINESS

SUBJECT: CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL REQUEST BY THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS FOR THE INTERIOR DESIGN OF THE RENOVATION AND REHABILITATION OF THE WELWOOD MURRAY MEMORIAL LIBRARY AT 100 SOUTH PALM CANYON DRIVE (CASE 3.1032 MAA / HSPB #3, ZONE CBD)

FROM: Department of Planning Services

SUMMARY

The HSPB has issued several certificates of approval for various aspects of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library Renovation. At its meeting of November 2013, the Board reviewed minor revisions on the project scope and at that time it was noted that the interior finish schedule and scope would be submitted at a later date for approval. That interior design is the scope of this certificate of approval request.

RECOMMENDATION:

Issue a certificate of approval for the fixtures, furnishings, equipment and color and material selections for the interior of the library with the following conditions:

1. Require a photometric study to assure proper and adequate lighting.
2. Bring the exterior landscape plan to the HSPB for approval at a future date.

ISSUES:

Pursuant to Municipal Code Section 8.05.180(3) and 8.05.195 any change that affects the "interior arrangement" of a public building is to receive a certificate of approval from the HSPB prior to issuance of building permits.

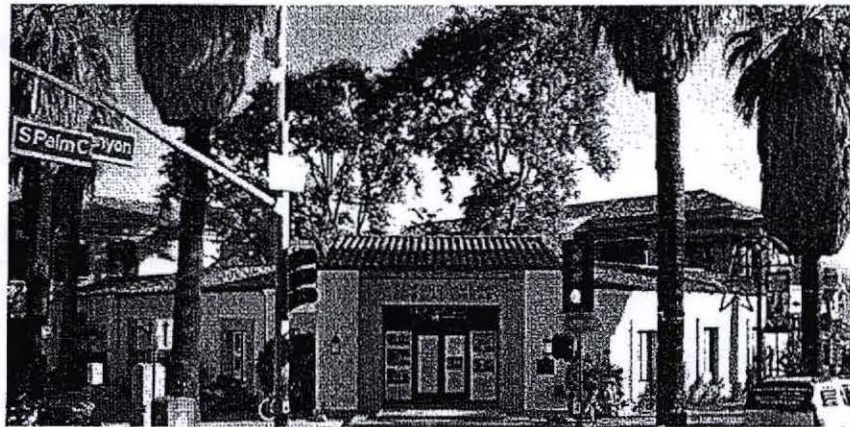
The Board's previous comments, concerns and conditions of approval are noted herein.

BACKGROUND:

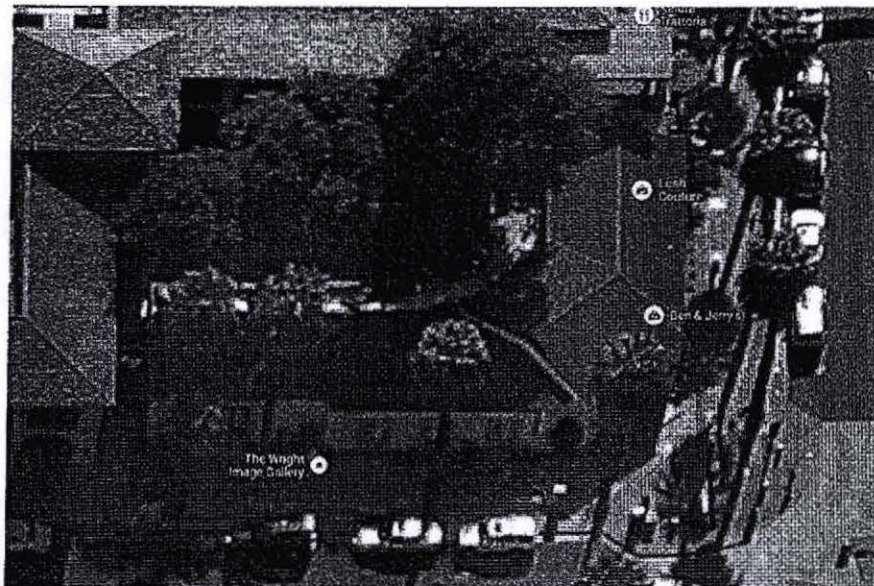
The Welwood Murray Memorial Library (WMML) is a Class 1 historic site. In 1938 George Welwood Murray donated the land at the southeast corner of Tahquitz Canyon

Way and Palm Canyon Drive to provide for a public library as a memorial to his father, Welwood Murray, pioneer hotel operator.

Cornelia White donated an additional strip of property on the eastern end of the site. The existing structure, designed by John Porter Clark and constructed by Charles Chamberlin, opened as the first permanent home of the Palm Springs Public Library in February 1941. With the completion of the Library Center at Sunrise Plaza in October 1975, the Welwood Murray Memorial Library became the downtown branch.



FRONT VIEW OF WELWOOD MEMORIAL LIBRARY BUILDING.



AERIAL VIEW OF WELWOOD MURRAY MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Over time the library became obsolete, as more print, reading and reference material have become accessible on-line via the internet. The library was closed several years ago and the City has been working in conjunction with the Library Board to remodel the library as a general information center and accessory library for residents and visitors to Palm Springs.

The current project will provide state-of-the-art computer access systems, all new fixtures, furnishings and equipment, upgrades to infrastructure, mechanical systems, and restoration, renovation, and stabilization of the building itself. The scope of the renovation includes fully repainting the building in its original exterior color palette. The current project will also create archival storage areas for the Palm Spring's Historical Society archives.

Related Relevant City Actions of Planning, PIA, Building, etc.	
1941	Welwood Murray Library opened.
October 3, 1984	City Council designates the property at 100 South Palm Canyon Drive, the Welwood Murray Memorial Library as a Class 7 (now recognized as Class 1) historic site.
July 13, 2010	Review of design and height of proposed roof on a proposed addition to the rear of the building.
August 4, 2010	Review and approval of the revised project scope.
October 12, 2010	HSPB denied application for part of the project scope for the library renovation.
November 17, 2010	City Council voted 3-2 to deny an appeal request to reverse the HSPB action of 10/12/10
June 14, 2011	HSPB grants a Certificate of Approval with conditions for a renovation and rehabilitation of the library and approves the request with conditions including revisions to the interior floor plan.
September 13, 2011	HSPB approved an amendment to the Certificate of Approval for repair to the existing roof abate lead-based paint, provided ADA access and other minor exterior modifications.
November 6, 2012	HSPB grants a Certificate of Approval with conditions for interior scope of work
February 12, 2013	HSPB approved minor amendments to the project (5-0-1 Gilmer absent) and appointed a sub-committee (Glenn, McGrew, Ploss) to assist with review and input on project scope between regularly scheduled HSPB meetings.
October 8, 2013	HSPB appoints new subcommittee (Johns, Ploss, Burkett) due to board member changes.
November 12, 2013	HSPB votes 6-0 to approve a certificate of approval for minor revisions to the project scope including removal of windows, replacement of doors, improvements at dumpster, etc.

Past actions specifically related to the interior renovation are outlined below. On June 14, 2011 the HSPB granted approval of a certificate of approval that included revisions of the interior floor plan. The following condition specific to the interior scope was imposed:

COA 6.14.11/1. 1b. Submit to the board complete interior plans, including finishes, fixtures and permanent furnishings.

On November 6, 2012 HSPB reviewed an interior floor plan to satisfy Condition "1b" of the approval granted on June 14, 2011. The Board approved the interior plans subject

to the following recommendations:

- COA 11.6.12/1. *Use the historic images in determining finishes, details, furnishings and fixtures so that they are sympathetic to the originals.*
- COA 11.6.12/2. *Maintain visibility of the ceiling through the building to the greatest degree possible.*
- COA 11.6.12/3. *Create an ADA-compliant reception desk that resembles the original.*

At the February 12, 2013 meeting, the Board approved minor amendments to the project scope with specific conditions of approval related to the interiors as follows:

1. *Reference historic images and select interior furnishings and finishes that are sympathetic to the buildings' history.*
2. *Consider the historic nature of the building when selecting lighting fixtures and integration of the security alarm system.*

The final design of the interior fixtures, furnishing, equipment and color and materials are the subject of this approval request.

ANALYSIS:

The current certificate of approval request is seeking approval for all remaining aspects of the interior renovation of the Welwood Memorial Library. Scope includes all proposed fixtures, equipment casework, chairs, reference counter, lighting fixtures, bookcases, etc), paint, carpet and fabric selections.

The only remaining aspect of the library that will be reviewed at a future date will be the landscaping of the site, including the back courtyard.

REQUIRED FINDINGS:

Pursuant to Municipal Code Section 8.05.190, the Board shall consider the following factors in reviewing and acting upon each application:

- (1) *The historic value and significance, or the architectural value and significance or both, of the structure and its relation to the historic value of the surrounding area;*

The project proposes all new interiors for the subject site. The semi-circular front reference counter is proposed with a base of pecan-colored wood veneer reflecting the stain color and shape of the original semi-circular reference counter element that was removed. The recessed toe kick of the original circulation desk is reflected in the design of the newly proposed desk. The desk-height circulation desk counter is augmented

with a counter-height, dark walnut-toned wood veneer element that conceals computers and desk clutter. For many of the new reference tables and bookcases, the same dark-toned veneer and stain is proposed. This dark stain color (which the designer states reflect the color of palm tree trunks) does not appear in the photos of the original furniture, and does not seem sympathetic to the lighter “blond” or “pecan” tones that appear to be the common wood theme in the original interiors.

The design of many of the proposed tables and cabinetry feature framed doors and end caps with inset panels, metal strips and highlights, metal medallions (circle in four squares) and a shadow line, or reveal around the inset panel. It seems reminiscent of neo-classical or “transitional” furniture detailing and construction. The base of these pieces are chunky with a somewhat wide “base cap”, however the casework seen in the original photos either has no base, or was designed with a recessed base or toe kick. The “circle in four squares” motif is used in most of the furniture pieces and the pendant lighting. No such medallions or inlays are seen in the original photos.

From review of the older photos of the original library interior, the original furnishings appear very spartan; with clean, smooth lines and streamlined surfaces, free of ornament, inset panels, or other superfluous detail or decoration. Even the large reading tables are very bold in their form, with no overhang between the table top and the apron. The original circulation desk appears to be faced in some sort of fine-grained plywood (possibly mahogany?). (Plywood technologies advanced in the twenties and thirties and many architects at the time experimented with its ability to produce smooth, clean, uniformly grained surfaces.) Thus, while staff believes the proposed interiors are competent in their design, attractive in their detailing and colorful, the condition of approval imposed by the board that the interiors be “sympathetic and sensitive” to the aesthetic of the original is only partially achieved.

(2) The relationship of the exterior architectural features of any structure to the rest of the structure itself and to the surrounding area;

John Porter Clark is considered by many to be among the early Modernist architects practicing in Palm Springs. The exterior of the library reflects this modernist label, and exhibits a clean, undecorated, almost raw use of poured in place concrete; leaving the woodgrain of the concrete forms to create surface texture on the exterior. Other than the half barrel clay roof tiles, the exterior is devoid of any overhanging eaves, rafter tails, arches, nooks, or other traditional architectural details. Similarly, the original interiors featured smooth plaster, flat trim and very little ornament or elaborate detailing. As the interior designer notes, Clark even carried this clean, stripped down aesthetic into the lettering of the main entry which is a sans serif type, modern letter style.

Thus, while the proposed fixtures, furnishings and equipment do not detract from the architecture of the existing structure, they are more traditional in their detailing, use of ornament, medallions and inset strips of metal, dark stain colors, and panelized end caps and doors. Staff believes the furniture is competently designed, but a more modern aesthetic in the interior furnishings and casework would create a stronger, more

unified relationship between the architecture of the building and the “architecture of the furnishings”. There are no other aspects of the current review that affects the exterior of the project.

(3) The general compatibility of exterior design, arrangement, texture and material which is proposed by the applicant;

Again, since this certificate request is for the interior only, staff has evaluated the *interior* design, arrangement, texture and material selections and lighting. As previously noted, the proposed fixtures, furnishings and equipment (FF&E) would be more compatible with the architecture of the building if it were simpler in its detailing, with less ornament, fewer edges and reveals to collect dust, and a lighter stain color.

(4) Archaeological or ecological significance of the area.

There is no known archaeological or ecological significance to the subject site.

CONCLUSION

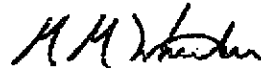
The proposed interior design is competent, well-coordinated, and carefully detailed. The design of the front circulation desk captures roughly the same footprint and circular shape as that seen in the historic photos. Preservation of the views over the circulation desk to the outdoor rear courtyard from the main entry has been achieved. The designer has created an ornamental motif and symbolism in the casework and pendant light fixtures that is based on translating the four new functional demands of the building into a clever “four squares and a circle”. A stronger stylistic reference to the modernist aesthetic of John Porter Clark could be realized in the interior design choices which would strengthen the overall experience of the library.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, the project has been determined to be categorically exempt from further environmental review pursuant to Section 15331 “*Restoration/rehabilitation of a Historic Resource*”.



Ken Lyon, RA,
Associate Planner



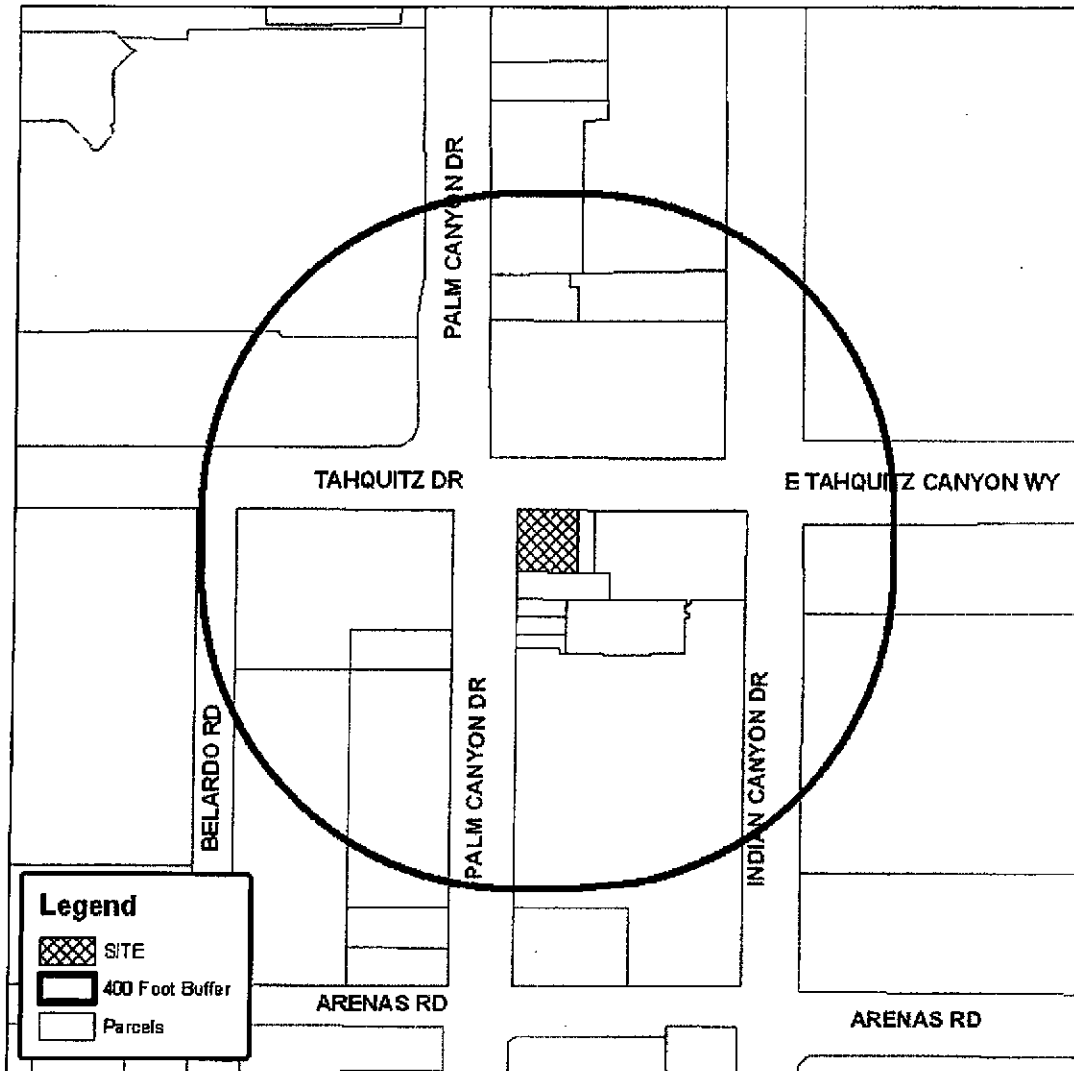
M. Margo Wheeler, FAICP
Director of Planning Services

ATTACHMENTS




1. Vicinity Map.
2. Public Comment Letter
3. Interior Designer Narrative and Drawings
4. Historic Photos of the library interior.



**Department of Planning Services
Vicinity Map**



Legend

-  SITE
-  400 Foot Buffer
-  Parcels

CITY OF PALM SPRINGS

CASE NO.:
3.1032 MAA / HSPB - 3

APPLICANT: City of Palm Springs

DESCRIPTION: Request for a Certificate of Approval from the Historic Site Preservation Board by the City of Palm Springs, owner, of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library, a Class 1 historic site, located at 100 South Palm Canyon Drive, Zone CBD.



Rec'd
5-7-14
12:20
MV

May 7, 2014

Mr. Tom DeLeeuw
Chair, Historic Site Preservation Board
City of Palm Springs
3200 East Tahquitz Canyon Way
Palm Springs, CA 92262

Subject: Welwood Murray Memorial Library Interior Remodel

Dear Mr. DeLeeuw,

The Palm Springs Preservation Foundation is excited that the remodel of the Welwood Murray Memorial Library is upon us! Through lengthy discussions with the Historic Site Preservation Board over the last few years, we commend the city's current plans that speak to the architectural integrity of the building.

One concern we do have is the authenticity of some of the interior design elements, specifically the turn of the century Arts and Crafts pattern that is repeated throughout the interior design (to include the desk, the bookshelves and the lighting fixtures). The WMML's original design is clean and unornamented. The proposed design motif is simply inappropriate. Vintage interior photos of the WMML should be consulted and can be found on the PSPF website.

PSPF would like to remind the HSPB that at the November 7, 2012 City Council meeting, we offered to help with the desk's reconstruction to include both architectural renderings and financial assistance. We hope that the City still accepts our offer and moves forward with a more historically accurate remodel of the interior.

Please do not hesitate to contact the Foundation at 760-837-7117 with any questions.

Kind regards,



Erik Rosenow
President

Copy to: Mayor Pougnet and Councilmembers Foat, Mills, Hutcheson and Lewin



M E M O

To: Palm Springs Historic Site Preservation Board
From: Michael A. Thomas, FASID, CAPS, CASE
Project: Welwood Murray Memorial Library (WMML)
Date: May 2, 2014

In early March, 2014, the Design Collective Group, a Palm Springs interior design firm, was contracted to provide the design programming, interior design and design specifications as a part of the renovation of the Palm Springs Welwood Murray Memorial Library.

The initial steps necessary to begin this project focused on the gathering of relevant information that would form the structure for the design and guide the development of the interior. Team partners William Kleindienst, the WMML project architect, Jeannie Kays, the Palm Springs Director of Library Services, Al Smoot, Assistant City Manager of the City of Palm Springs and the museum curators of the Palm Springs Historical Society have all provided insight.

With the data provided, it didn't take much time to establish a design vision outlined by five guiding principles that would be referenced in each phase of the design development.

Following are the five principles:

- (1) The design will be multi-faceted due to support the three stakeholders that will occupy the facility.
- (2) Design solutions shall be complimentary to the era of Palm Springs and John Porter Clark's design.
- (3) When practical, solutions shall embrace sustainable design practices.
- 4) The inspiration for the style, shape, color and form shall be derived from the local environment.
- (5) The design of the interior and selection of furnishings will be of timeless and classic characteristics yet able to adapt to the future needs of stakeholders and the facility.

Following this cover, I have provided more depth information on each of the five principles.

I look forward to meeting with the Historic Site Preservation Board (HSPB) and sharing the solutions in person, the design solutions that reference the historic nature of the site and position the Welwood for the future.

• Principle 1.

The design will be multi-faceted due to support the three stakeholders that will occupy the facility.

The Welwood will bring together three individual entities and staff under one roof: the Palm Springs Library, the Palm Springs Board of Tourism and the Palm Springs Historical Society archives. The interiors have been designed to be supportive of these groups' activities, to present the brand of the Welwood and that of Palm Springs in a positive, distinctive, progressive manner and at all times to consider those who cross the Welwood threshold.

As such, the interior design is planned to serve the needs of the three while also addressing the expectations of Welwood guests: the local community, tourists and historic researchers.

Building on the past responsibilities of a community library and in looking to the future, the space is expected to support the efficient delivery of four distinct guest benefits:

- information,
- education,
- knowledge, and
- research.

Furnishings and fixtures have also been positioned to support that delivery of these benefits while making accommodations for the work of staff and flow of traffic.

After reviews of the plans in stakeholders meetings, it is apparent that storage of materials, products and paper supplies, placement of computer printers and point-of-sale equipment, and the public display of items will be at a premium. To help meet the demand, cabinets have been designed to accommodate as much and as many of the items as possible. Solutions include providing storage in base cabinets with locking doors, a credenza behind the reception desk for printers and POS equipment and built-in wood framed glass doors for display purposes.

While the Welwood is an important Class One historical property, current building codes and the Americans With Disabilities (ADA) have influenced certain design decisions such as the requirement to provide one accessible entrance, an accommodating design for the staff bathroom and the creation of multiple levels of the reception desk.

• Principle 2

Design solutions shall be complimentary to the era of Palm Springs and John Porter Clark's design.

According to the Palm Springs Historical Society, there are only four "original" photographs of the interior of the library. Later photos published by the Desert Sun add to the data compiled about the interior. After reviewing those images, certain design elements became clear that would be incorporated into the new interior plans.

The first is that the interior was basic and to some degree institutional. Not surprising considering other late 1930s government buildings featured similar characteristics. Basic ceiling moldings, steel windows, raw concrete floors, exposed poured-in-place concrete walls could have been included in the design because of cost as well as being somewhat low maintenance. The neighboring Oasis Hotel and the famed Desert Inn were also poured-in place concrete structures.

Certain assumptions can also be made from a review of Clark's architecture style in his other projects. He certainly would have been aware of the "streamline moderne" style that was becoming popular Europe and North America in the 1920s and 30s. While Porter's buildings frequently feature simple, clean often-horizontal lines, the Welwood's Spanish barrel tile roof might have been chosen simply to compliment existing building styles in the downtown area. It was also a readily available material that had proven it to be a wise investment due to its ability to stand the test of time.

To echo the materials used in Clark's design, certain selections have been made that clearly reference his design. Those include the ogee-edged moldings installed on the ceiling as before; the refinishing of the steel window frames in a rusty red color as evident on the exterior; the raw concrete floor to be finished in a manner that shows a thousand foot steps; the "agave green" paint color on the exterior trim repeated in the interior in fabrics; and a finish on much of the existing walls to emphasize the the concrete texture.

While it is challenging to identify the wood species used in the interior of the building from black and white photos, a few assumptions can be made. First, a North American hardwood, specifically oak, was the preferred choice for interiors of this era and purpose. And if one considers what remains of the interior as a clue, oak would have been an appropriate material by Clark because of its availability, price and sturdiness.

Clearly oak was used for the bookcases and finished without a colorant stain, top coated with a varnish or shellac allowing the natural grain to show thru. Oak used for other purposes like for the reading tables would have been an appropriate choice by Clark. A photograph of one of the original chairs shows they were made from oak.

Over time the bookcase finish has oxidized because of naturally occurring and man-made ultraviolet light (UV) light sources. At some point, fluorescent lighting was added to the interior. This choice would have added a significant source of UV light. Current wood colors, depending on the exposure to that UV, sunlight and other naturally occurring elements, range from a typical time-etched color to a worn driftwood appearance, nearly a grey-beige in color. Where UV has been limited, such as along the south wall of the west wing, the woods appear somewhat richer in color.

The original curved reception desk was fabricated using two differing materials. The recessed base is likely oak as the grain is evident in photos. Oak may have been the material used for the counter as well since it is a hardwearing material. The vertical face material is hard to identify. By process of elimination, it can be assumed that it was not oak because the absence of a flamed grain pattern; nor was it a painted finish.

Two photos clearly show a vertical face in a contrast from the base and counter, a strong uniformity of visual texture and a bright light-reflecting sheen. This might lead one to consider that if it were a wood, it would have been a straight grain such as ash or poplar and in a brown stain. One other possibility is that it might have been fashioned in a "brown" leather since in one image there is a well-defined "seam" in the face.

A new semi-circular reception desk, designed in a non-descript straight wood grain in two colors, a brown and driftwood gray finish will greet Welwood guests. This desk will be adapted to house computers, telephones and point-of-sale. Two differing counter heights, one at 29", the other at 42" above the finished floor will accommodate the needs of the broadest number of people and will address the Federal ADA regulations. It approximates the same footprint, is about the same dimension as the original and will be located in about the same location based on the "ghost print" on the concrete floor.

Photos from the Desert Sun Newspaper indicate the interiors thru the years became a "mix and match" of finishes, woods, colors and fabrics as purchases and/or acquisitions were made.

• Principle 3

When practical, solutions shall embrace sustainable design practices.

Whether designing a building, remodeling an existing structure or creating an interior, specifying materials that are sustainable by their very nature, by how they are fabricated and by where they are sourced is becoming an industry and professional standard for the architect, builder and interior designer. As for this design firm, this was an important element and would be featured in the selections for the Welwood from the inception and when practical, when cost effective and appropriate.

Materials and products which are inherently "green" and sustainable included in the specified design of the Welwood interiors include counters made from recycled papers as furniture and counter tops; recycled-engineered wood as wood grain cabinet finishes and interior lighting using long-life and efficient LED technologies. One goal is the consideration and choice of vendors to supply goods, such as the seating for the community room, determined by being no further than 500 miles from the Welwood location and thus limiting the carbon footprint effects of transportation.

• Principle 4

The inspiration for the style, shape, color and form shall be derived from the local environment.

The color scheme being developed for the interior of the Welwood was easy. Just look outside as a source of inspiration. There are three distinct color tones being used in the interior.

- The first color significantly references the green accent color found on the exterior of the building. In the absence of a physical sample, one might simply describe the color as "agave green," a tone that varies from pistachio to cactus.

- The second color comes from the brown of a palm tree trunk. Using quarter-sawn oak, engineered wood veneers and laminates, the wood colors are a medium brown color. A similar color can be seen in the bronze-metal of the copper coach fixtures on either side of the Welwood main entry and in the frames of the square, recessed can fixtures over the exterior doors.

- The third color comes from the color of the surrounding mountain ranges, what can only be described as a worn, sun-distressed, driftwood grey with a visually textured look, ranging from a mid-value to a deeper gun-metal.

Each of these is incorporated throughout the selection of fabrics, finishes and furnishings in varying degrees and amounts.

As to the style and form of cabinetry, fixtures and furnishings, the choice was easy: simple and clean. The design firm has chosen a chosen strong line that runs repeatedly thru the custom casework. New chairs for the staff and community meeting room were chosen not to compete with more significant elements.

In the design of the display cabinets and open bookcases, the thought was to create casework that resembles classically styled furniture pieces rather than recently completed built-ins. Our design features framed wood flat panel-style and glass panel doors, square edged, semi-chunky base moldings on tables typical of the era and bookcases featuring institutional decorative hardware to continue the historic theme while adding to the detail needed for such a project.

• Principle 5

The design of the interior and selection of furnishings will be of timeless and classic characteristics yet able to adapt to the future needs of stakeholders and the facility.

Furnishings and fabrics have been chosen with care. Chairs through out will have mixed coverings, leather-look vinyl patterns for seats, a timeless classic and something that naturally occurs over time in commercial interiors when seats are reupholstered or refinished on an "as needed" basis. When new they may match; over time they don't. The 8 "signature style" lounge chairs strongly carry the streamlined nature from the 1920s and 30s while providing good, practical seating with little maintenance.

The candlestick lamps, made with a plug-in outlet and USB connectivity in the base, reference similar designs frequently seen in libraries all over, from the great reading hall at the New York Public Library to the Rancho Mirage library's reading room. With lampshades made from recycled newsprint, they will become a strong design element for years to come.

In order to reinforce and visually emphasize the deliverable guest benefits, a design element has been utilized to give the stakeholders a "brand" statement and is a component included the interior: a circle within a square design (see drawings cover page). Designs such as these are frequently found in the legacies of Native Americans and symbolize the stages of life, as in the evolution of the Welwood from the exclusive use as a library at the beginning to one that is a multi-faceted, multi-purposed facility.

Well known examples of similar brand design in similar situations is the "lion in a circle" image for the New York Pubic Library (<http://www.nypl.org>), the "open book" design for the Boston Public Library (<http://www.bpl.org>) and the flag-inspired book for the Library of Congress (<http://www.loc.gov>).

In the case of the "circle in the square" design, the four guiding principles of • information, • education, • knowledge and • research are brought together in one symbol to further the global preservation, protection and heritage of the Welwood.

By using a memorable "brand" in the design and displaying it in the interior, in the interior signage, in stakeholder communications and marketing, the result provides guests with a set of consistent visual cues of identity, timelessness and authority. Such designs can also communicate many subtle meanings such as symbolically telling the Welwood's new story, including products and services offered by the stakeholders provided in what is a non-traditional library setting.

Interior graphic standards such as signage and way-finding shall be designed in a sans-serif style of font type, one that closely follows the lettering on the outside entry and provides another measure of historic continuity. Identifying this font also provides guidelines for the stakeholders to use in all their printed, visual and virtual communications and once again demonstrates that few details have been left in the past nor left for chance, and thoughtfully moved forward into the Welwood's future.

• Conclusions

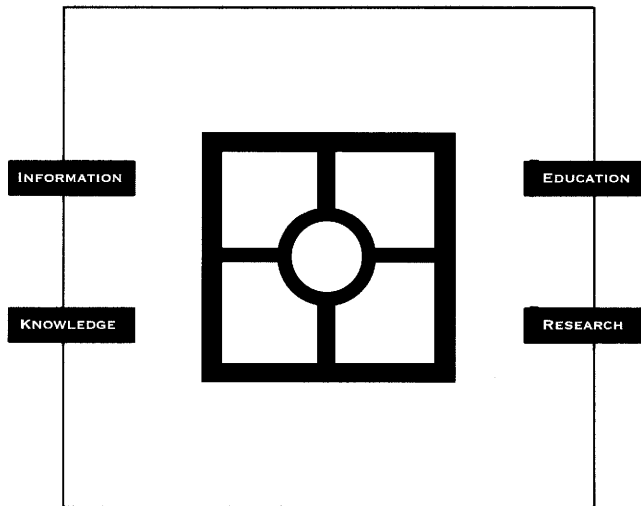
These Welwood design principles have been developed after meetings with many in the community including representatives of all the stakeholders. They have and continue to inform the design as the work to complete the interior moves from concept to specification to implementation. These principles will help guide any changes, adaptations or additions to the facility in the future to keep a sense of continuity. After all, design is never static, should be flexible and as it is for any space, a work in progress.

In the words of Melvil Dewey (1851-1931), an American librarian, educator and inventor of the Dewey Decimal System, *"A library's function is to give the public in the quickest and cheapest way information, inspiration, and recreation. If a better way than the book can be found, we should use it."*









WELWOOD MURRAY MEMORIAL LIBRARY

INTERIOR DESIGN PLANS

"A library's function is to give the public in the quickest and cheapest way information, inspiration, and recreation. If a better way than the book can be found, we should use it."

- Melvil Dewey (1851-1931)
American Librarian and Educator



325 N Palm Canyon Drive
Sierraville 9577
Palm Springs, CA 92266

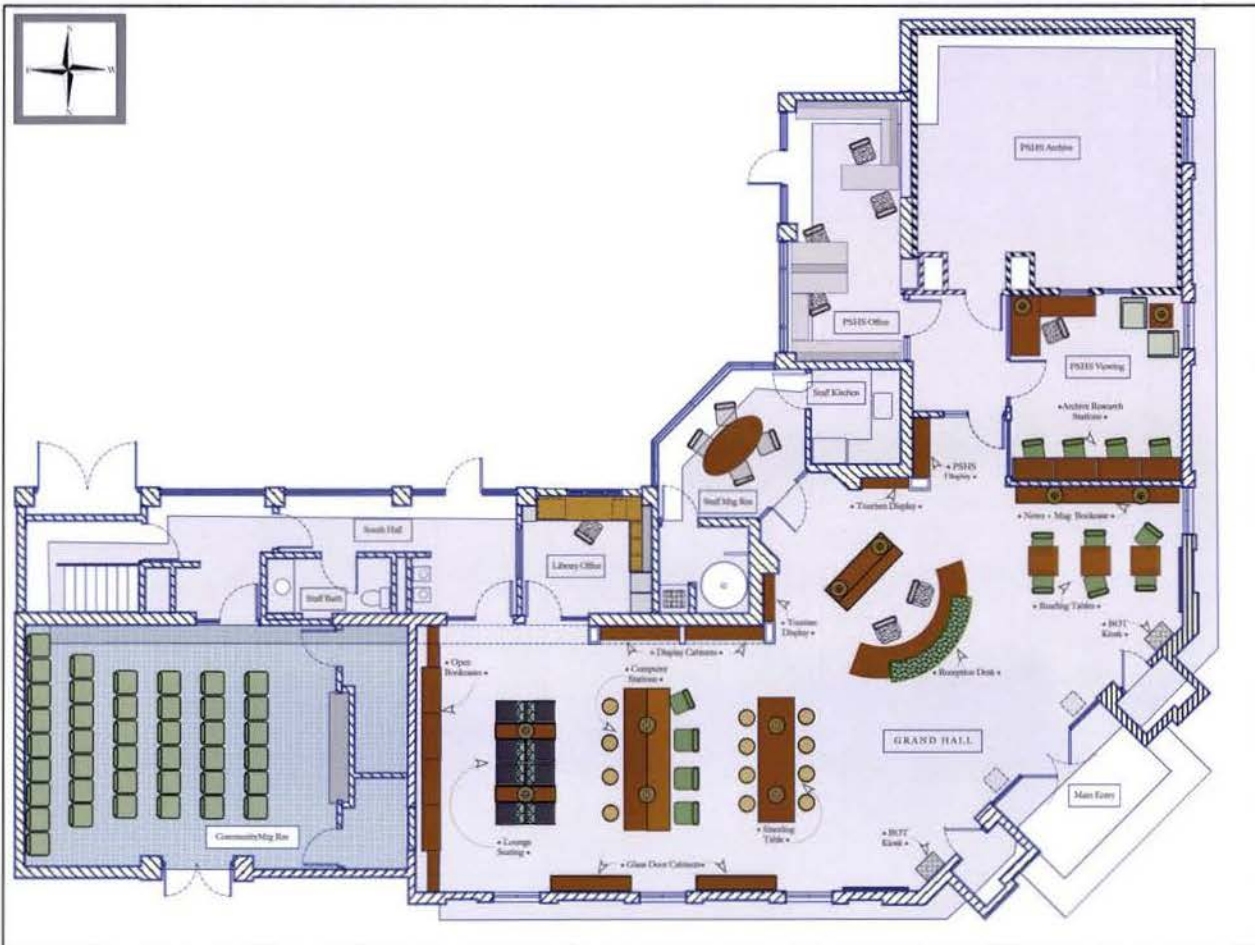
Phone: (951) 333-9984
Fax: (951) 743-9986

www.TheDesignCollectiveGroup.com

Welwood Murray
Memorial Library
Palm Springs, CA

DESIGN BY:
Michael A. Thomas
FASID, CAPS

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 Palo Alto, CA 94301
 Phone: (650) 222-2226
 Fax: (650) 742-2226
 www.DesignCollectiveGroup.com

**Wellwood Murray
 Memorial Library**
 Palo Alto, CA
 Project:
 Programming Plan
 1/04/11

DESIGN BY
Michael A. Thomas 1/04/11

Date: 01 March 2014
 Update: April 1, 2014
 Update: April 16, 2014
 Update: April 28, 2014
 Scale: 1/8" = 1'-0" Plan

Approved: _____
 Date: _____

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Palo Alto, CA 94301
Phone: (650) 321-2584
Fax: (650) 321-2585
www.DesignCollectiveGroup.com

Webwood Murray
Memorial Library
Palo Alto, CA

Project:
Reception Desk

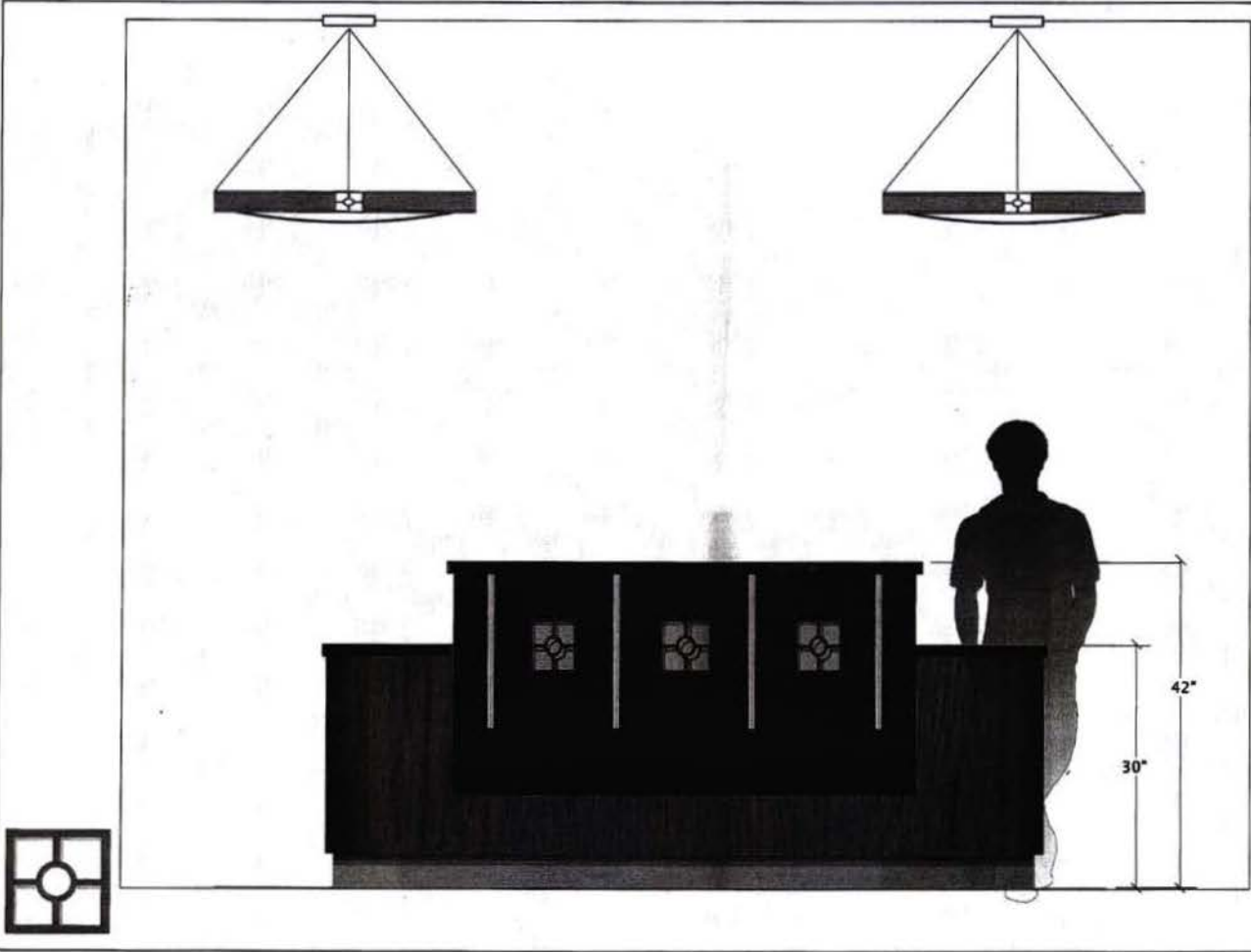
DESIGN BY:
Michael A. Thomas
FASID, CAPS

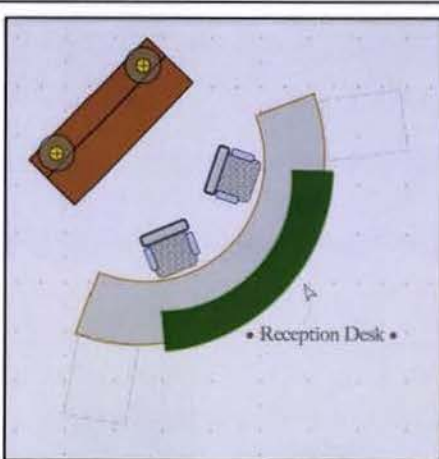
Date: 01/26/04
Scale: As Shown

Approved: _____

Date: _____

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 Palm Springs, CA 92262

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 Fax: (760) 742-0376

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Widwood Murray
 Memorial Library
 Palm Springs, CA

PROJECT:
 Reception Counter
 R158-11

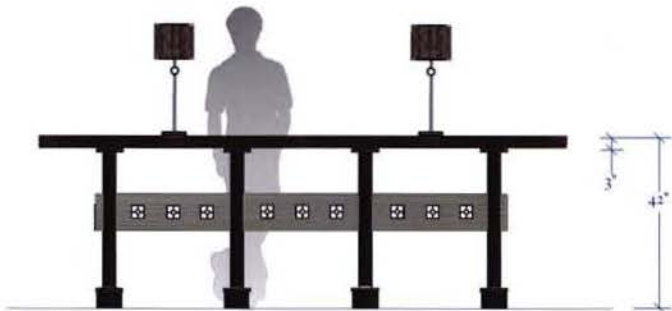
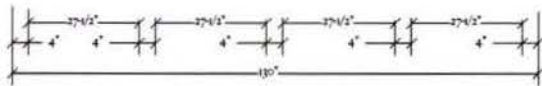
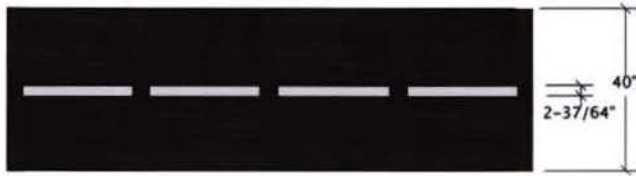
DESIGN BY:
 Michael A. Thomas
 FASID, CAPS

Date: 03/28/14
 Update: April 2, 2014
 Scale: As Dimensioned

Approval:

Date:

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 Palm Springs, CA 92262

Phone: (951) 321-2784
 Fax: (951) 321-0976

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Webwood Murray
 Memorial Library
 Palm Springs, CA

Project:
 Standing Desk
 (108K)

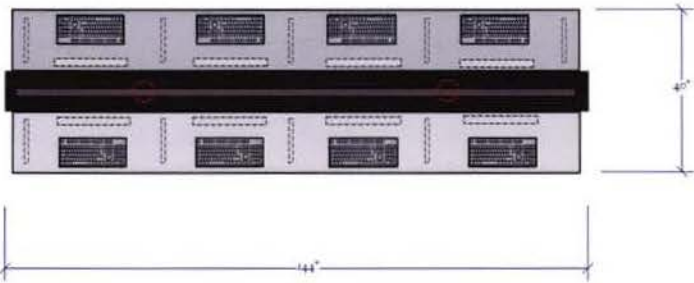
DESIGN BY:
 Michael A. Thomas
 FASID, CAPS

Date: © March 2014
 Scale: 1/2" = One Foot

Approval:

Date:

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 Palm Springs, CA 92262
 Voice: (951) 322-2764
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 www.TheDesignCollectiveGroup.com

**Welwood Murray
 Memorial Library**
 Palm Springs, CA

PROJECT
 Computer Station
 0366_310

DESIGN BY:
 Michael A. Thomas
 FASID, CAPS

Date: © March 2014
 Updated: April 25, 2014
 Scale: 1/4" = One Foot

Approval:

Date:

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 Voice: (760) 322-2784
 Fax: (760) 328-0796
 www.DesignCollectiveGroup.com

Webwood Murray
 Memorial Library
 Palm Springs, CA

PROJECT
 South Wall Bookcase
 02/08/14

DESIGN BY
 Michael A. Thomas
 FASID, CAPS

Date: 01 March 2014
 Update: April 7, 2014
 Scale: 1/2" = One Foot

Approved: _____
 Date: _____

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**Wichwood Murray
 Memorial Library**
 Palm Springs, CA

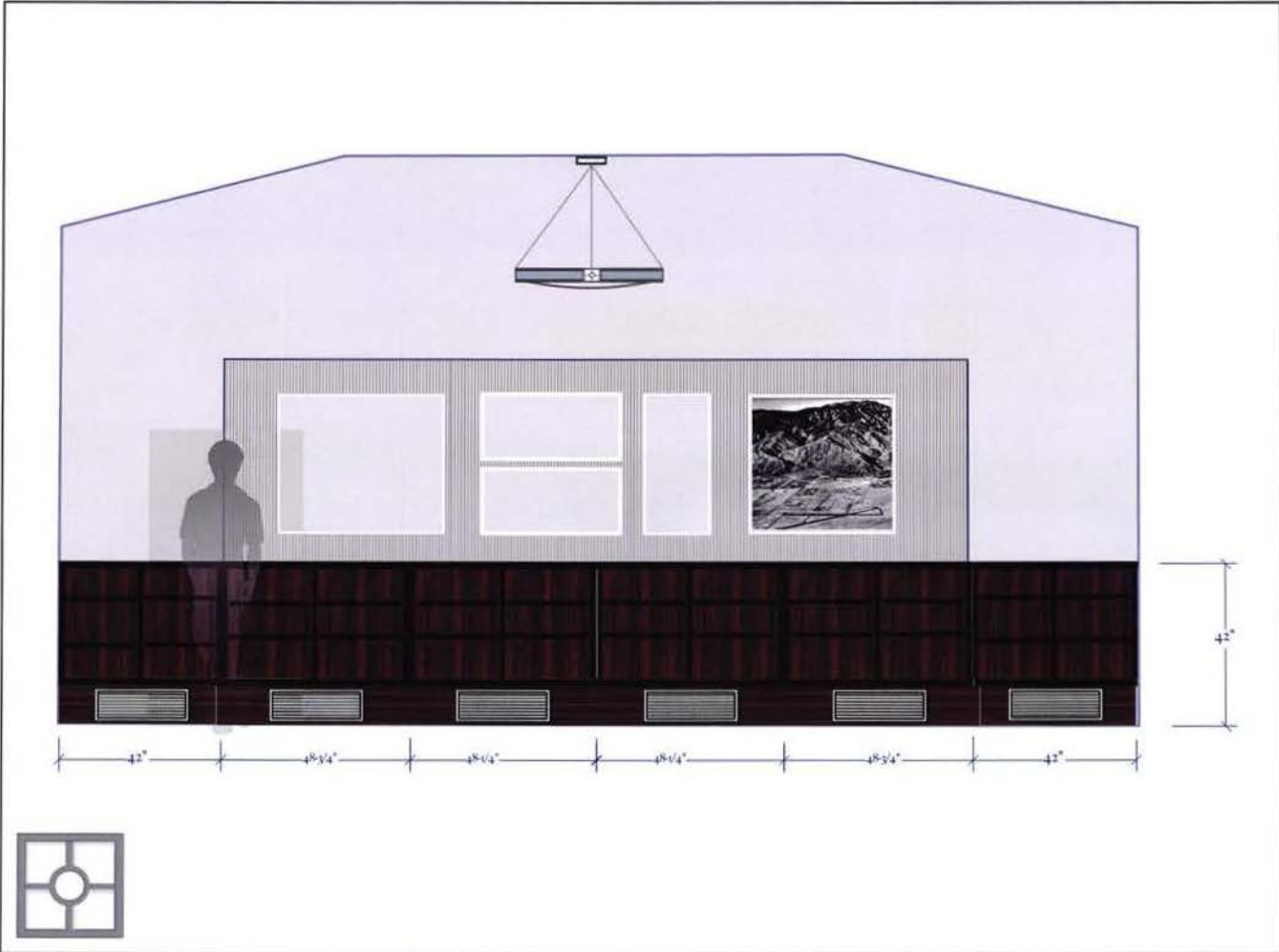
Project:
 East Wall Bookends
 (1006.1)

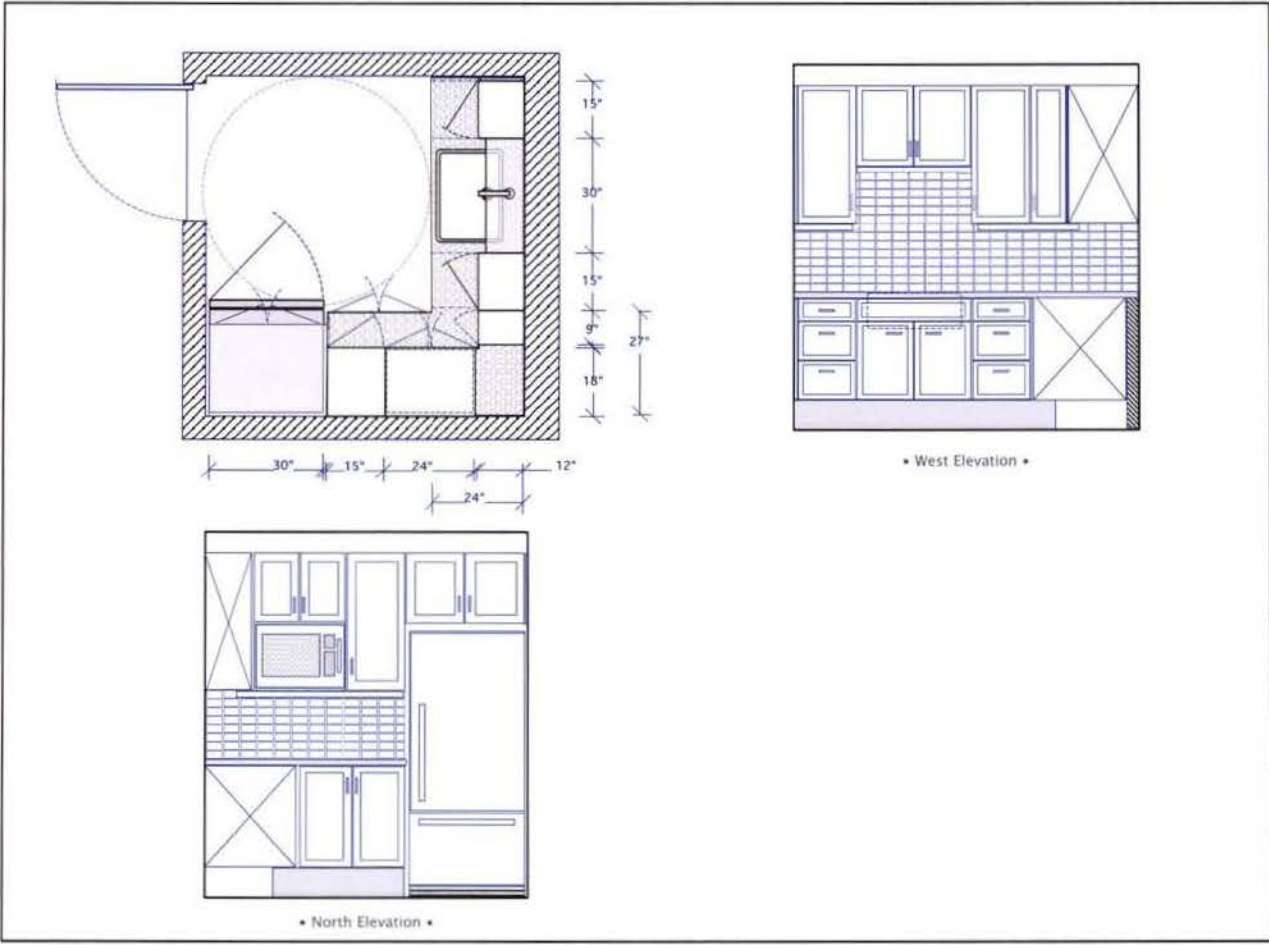
DESIGN BY:
Michael A. Thomas
 FASID, CAPS

Date: © March, 2014
 Updated: April 8, 2014
 Updated: April 17, 2014
 Scale: 1/2" = One Foot

Approved: _____
 Date: _____

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 Suite 4000 #100
 Palm Springs, CA 92262
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 Fax: 760.325.2775
www.DesignCollectiveGroup.com

CLIENT:
WMML

PROJECT:
**Staff Kitchen v1.2
 IDSK L.O.**

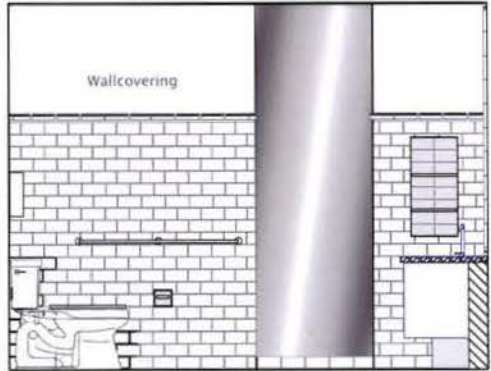
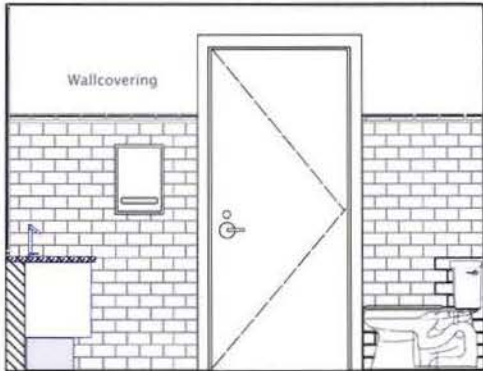
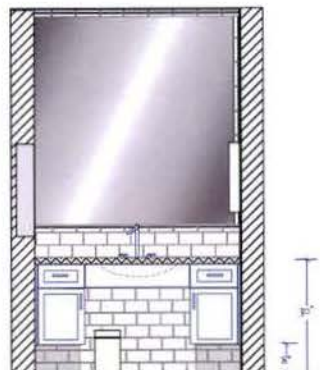
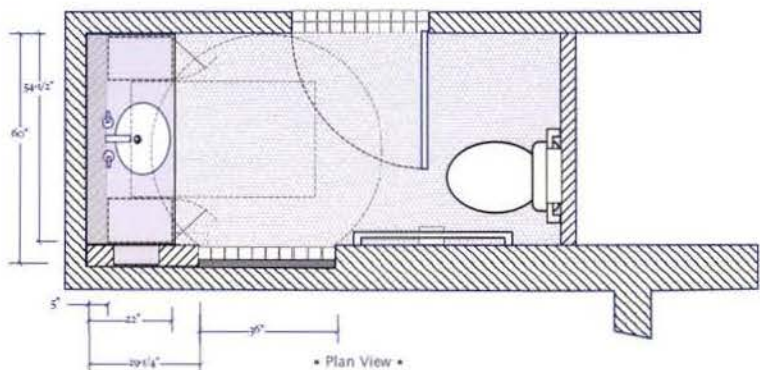
DESIGN BY:
**Michael A. Thomas
 FASID, CAPS**

Date: 05/12/14
 Scale: 1/4" = 1'-0" (As Shown)

Approved: _____

Date: _____

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 Fax: (760) 322-2264
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CLIENT:
WMML

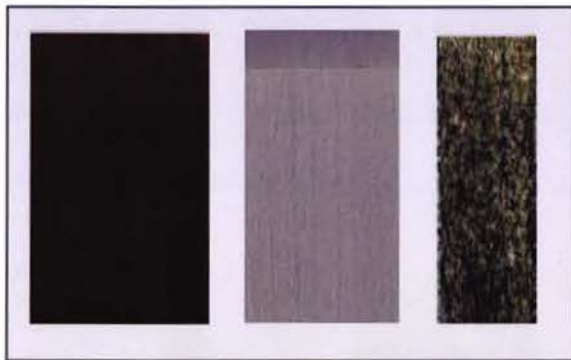
PROJECT:
**Staff Bath v.15
 HD&K LD**

DESIGN BY:
**Michael A. Thomas
 FASID, CAPS**

Date: 01-20-14
 Update: 02-07-14
 Scale: 1/4" = 1'-0" (Floor)

Approved: _____
 Date: _____

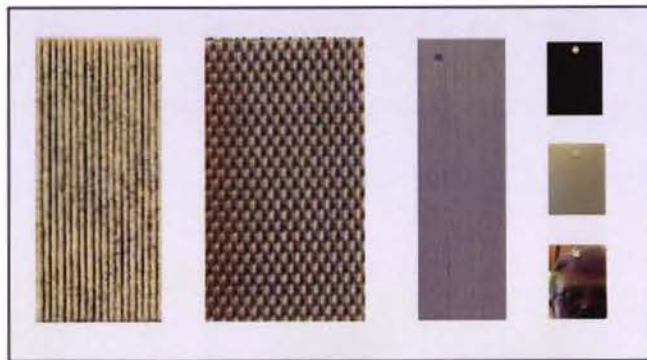
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• Wood Finish (A)

• Wood Finish (B)

• Reception Counter



• Acoustic Wallcovering

• Solar Screen Blinds

• Wood Star Blinds

• Metal Accents



• Staff Bath Tile, Cabinetry, Counter and Wallcovering



• Staff Kitchen Tile, Cabinetry, Counter and Wall Paint



• Meeting Room Floorcovering



• Interior Paint Finishes



33 N Palm Canyon Drive
 Showroom #103
 Palm Springs, CA 92262
 Voice: (760) 322-2754
 Fax: (760) 322-0976
 www.DesignCollectiveGroup.com

Wellwood Murray
 Memorial Library
 Palm Springs, CA
 PROJECT
 FINISHES - PHASE

DESIGN BY
 Michael A. Thomas

Date: 01 April 06, 2004

Approval: _____

Date: _____

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Fax: (951) 242-0976

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Wellwood Murray
Memorial Library
Palm Springs, CA

Project:
Chairs and Seating
ID#04.0

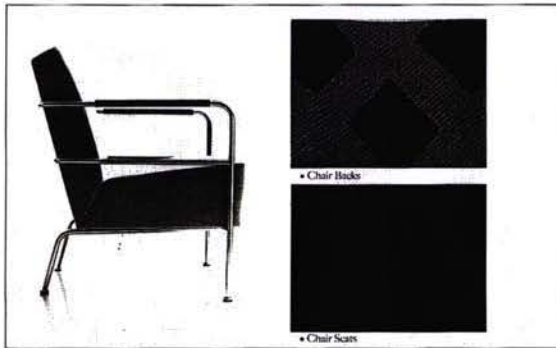
DESIGN BY:
Michael A. Thomas www.cort

Date: © April 9, 2004

Approved: _____

Date: _____

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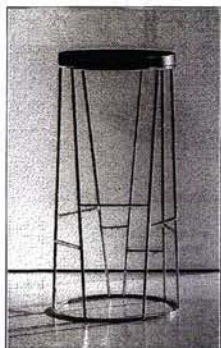


• Arm Chairs for Lounge Seating

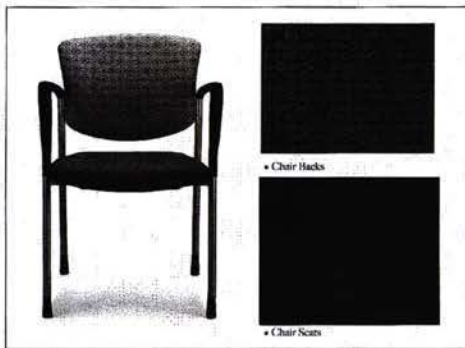


• Community Meeting Room Chairs • Troiky

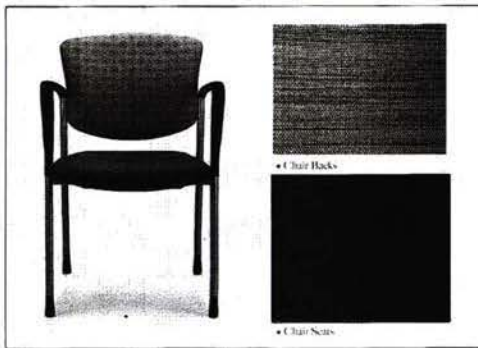
• Arm Chairs for Reception Desk • Library Staff Office



• Bar Stool for Standing Table



• Reading Table • Computer Table/Task Chair



• Archive Viewing Chairs



• Concept Design For
Candlestick Lamp



• Concept Design For
Pendant Lighting



211 N Palm Canyon Drive
Bloomington #102
Palm Springs, CA 92262
Voice: (760) 329-0754
Fax: (760) 329-0756
www.DesignCollectiveGroup.com

Wellwood Murray
Memorial Library
Palm Springs, CA
Project:
Light Fixture Concept
DDSK 3.4

DESIGN BY:
Michael A. Thomas 10001205

Date: 0 April 2, 2014
Update: April 1, 2014
Updated: April 10, 2014

Approved: _____
Date: _____

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Webwood Murray
Memorial Library
Palm Springs, CA

PROJECT:
South Wall Bookcases
030814

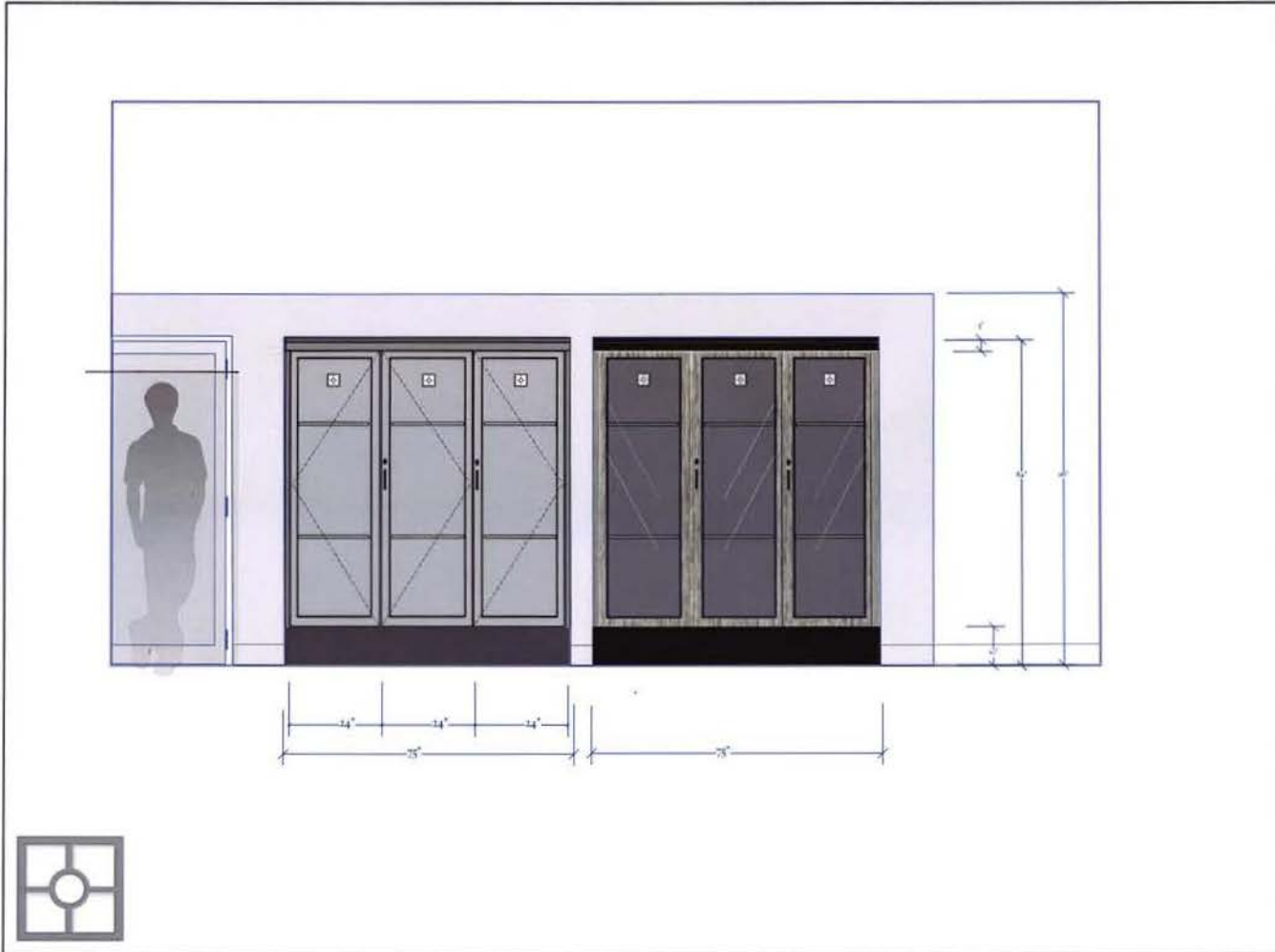
DESIGN BY:
Michael A. Thomas
FASID, CAPS

Date: © March 2014
Updated: April 22, 2014
Updated: April 23, 2014
Scale: 1/2" = 1'-0" (Not Final)

Approval:

Date:

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**Webwood Murray
Memorial Library**
Palm Springs, CA

PROJECT:
PHOTO Display Bookcase
R1006.2

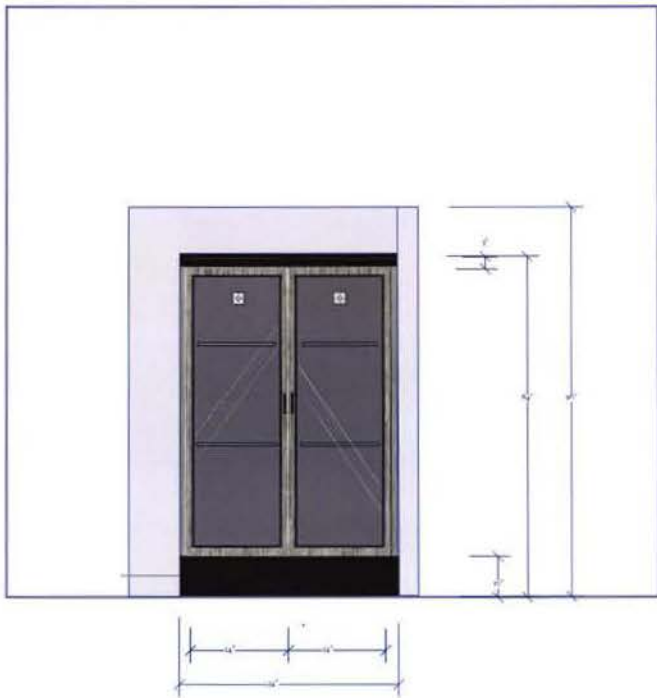
DESIGN BY:
Michael A. Thomas
FASID, CAPS

Date: © March 2014
Updated: April 29, 2014
Updated: April 29, 2014
Scale: 1/2" = One Foot

Approval:

Date:

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Voice: (951) 322-2764
Fax: (951) 243-2766

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Webwood Murray
Memorial Library
Palm Springs, CA

PROJECT
Tourism Rack Card Display
R00065

DESIGN BY:
Michael A. Thomas
FASID, CAPS

Date: © April 21, 2014

Scale: 1/2" = 1'-0" Floor

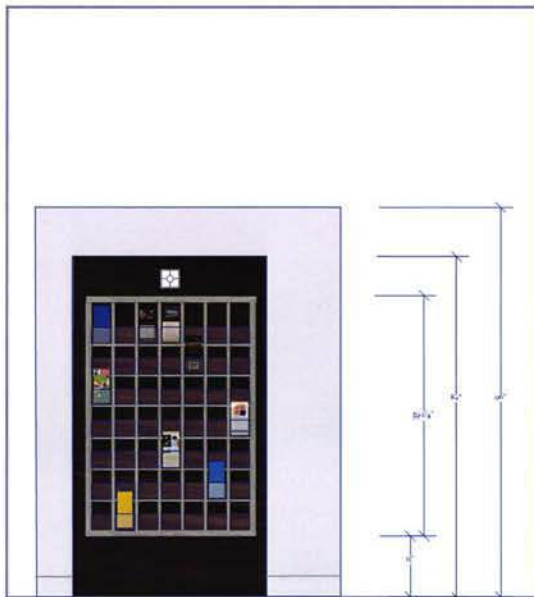
Approved: _____

Date: _____

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East Wall Rack



South Wall Rack





City of Palm Springs

James Thompson
Chief of Staff/City Clerk

3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way • Palm Springs, California 92262
TEL (760) 323-8299 • FAX (760) 322-8332 • TDD (760) 864-9527 • Web www.palmspringsca.gov

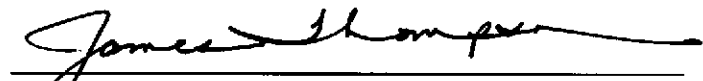
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CITY COUNCIL REVIEW

TO: Councilmember Mills
DATE: May 13, 2014
RE: Review of the Historic Site Preservation Board Decision

This serves as acknowledgement of your timely request, pursuant to Palm Springs Municipal Code § 2.06.030, for the City Council review of the decision of the Historic Site Preservation Board on May 13, 2014, with respect to the Commission's decision to approve the interior design of the Welwood Memorial Library as conditioned.

This item will be placed on the May 21, 2014, City Council agenda.

Respectfully,
CITY OF PALM SPRINGS



JAMES THOMPSON
Chief of Staff/City Clerk