

Stockholm Library Asplund >>>



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project
extention library Asplund

location
Stockholm, Sweden

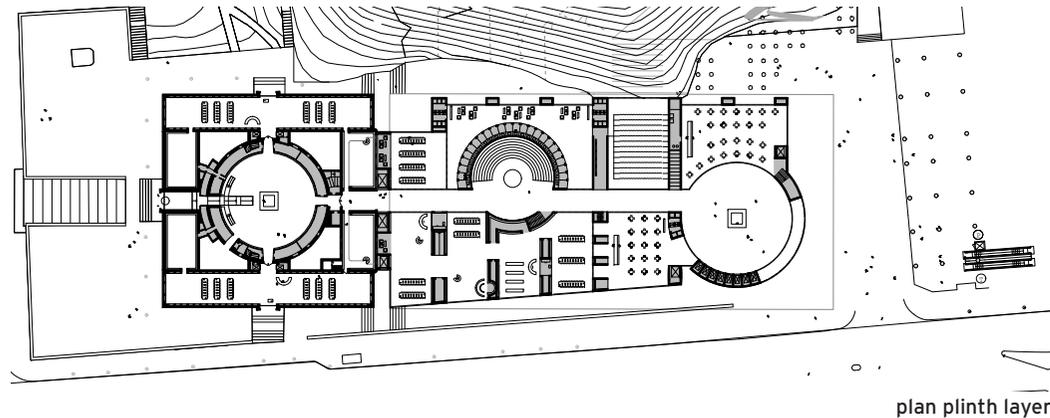
designers
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partners
M3H architecten

client
Stockholm City Council

size
1 ha.

year of design
2006



A green enclave in the city

The area surrounding Observatory Hill occupies a unique place in Stockholm's network of streets. The hill on which the library is located and the neighbouring buildings form a green enclave in the city. Asplund positioned his library on a plinth next to the hill, withdrawing it from the city and creating numerous public places around the building as well as on and around the hill.

From an urban development perspective, the addition is situated in such a way that it becomes part of this green enclave and its public areas.

<<: façade to Observatory hill



aerial view of the old library and new extension



view from Odengatan



north façade

A new public domain

The network of public routes and places around the hill is expanded in order to connect the city with the library and the hill. Gyldengatan becomes a new public a new public plaza that provides access to the library and the hill. The plinth contains the library's most public floor. On the new 'Gyldenplan' it houses public facilities such as the university book-store, an academic hostel and pedestrian entrances to the parking garage, subway and Galleria.

The building nestles into the hill. The green is incorporated with the building in various ways: the outside continuation of the auditorium on the flank of the hill, a slope with outdoor quiet spots in the study area and a meeting point by the grove of trees next to the restaurant.



current and future composition in the city network

**From closed sanctuary to open,
multi-media library**

The essence of the assignment is to transform the library, an icon of Stockholm, from a hallowed book depository elevated above the city to an open, multi-media library that is part of the city. The plan 'Reading Asplund' is based on the respect for Asplund's building and design principles.

The way building volume, location and routing are coordinated and combined with the spatial organization and attention to detail results in a new entity that welds the existing building, the new addition and the immediate surroundings into one ensemble: a renewed icon for Stockholm.



next page: view to Gyldengatan

siteplan

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