Proposed is a local library for the above two districts to share. The library will be a general research library for high school students, in addition to the usual local lending functions. Therefore, it will need significantly more capacity for books than a normal branch lending library. The library will also support a wide set of needs for adjacent neighborhoods. It will include public event rooms, meeting rooms, neighborhood association offices, social services offices and homeless services (see attached program of uses).

The site for the library is on Couch Street between Broadway and Park Streets. This site connects literally and symbolically the two neighborhoods, while being a presence on Broadway and the Park Blocks, two historic major organizing elements of downtown Portland. The configuration of the proposal will be important as a contribution to current discussions on the character of future buildings on the Park Blocks and on Broadway.

Of major concern is the scale, size and density of future buildings in this area as the renovation of the Post Office site is being considered. It is important that you as designers consider this building’s potential future impact on development in this area and what your building can contribute to improve Portland.

A building in this location can contribute to city improvement in several ways. Socially it will provide services for those who live locally. People who use the library services will come together, as will those who use the public rooms and those who are members of the two neighborhood groups. Visually the building should express ideas about the values and opportunities of the library. The building should indicate ideas about the future (betterment) of the Park Blocks and the character of N. Broadway, as well as the configuration, scale and character of future development.

Careful consideration should be given to the sustainability of the building. Your building should demonstrate systems and considerations that promote a sustainable quality of life, through its construction and services.

Urban design, building design, and sustainable ideas incorporated in the building should be written and sketched as you develop your building. These ideas should be kept in a notebook as an integral part of discussions about your work, presented for criticism and at reviews.
Library Program

**Library:**

Lobby 1,500 sq. ft.
Coat Room
Toilets
Security
Reading Room (main) 10,000 sq. ft.
  Book Storage for
  350,000 books 8,000 sq. ft.
Rare Books 2,500 sq. ft.
Map Room 2,500 sq. ft.
Music Library 2,500 sq. ft.
Children’s Library with small theater 3,500 sq. ft.
  Book Storage 2,000 sq. ft.
Young Persons Reading Room 2,500 sq. ft.
Class Rooms 4 @ 400 sq. ft. ea. 1,600 sq. ft.
Computer Room 5,000 sq. ft.

**Book Preparation:**

Binding 500 sq. ft.
New Book Cataloguing 500 sq. ft.

**Administration:**

Office (general staff) 1,000 sq. ft.
Librarian 400 sq. ft.
Accountant 350 sq. ft.
Meeting Rooms (2) 600 sq. ft.

Circulation 20% 43,950 sq. ft. x .20
  subtotal 53,650 sq. ft.

**Neighborhood:**

Office 4,000 sq. ft.
Director 350 sq. ft.
Public Meeting Rooms (4) 1,200 sq. ft.
Large Public meeting Room 5,000 sq. ft.
  Food Preperation 800 sq. ft.
  Toilets
Social Services Office 2,000 sq. ft.
  Meeting Rooms (2) 600 sq. ft.
M.&W.Showers & Toilets w/External entry
directly from street 2,000 sq. ft.

15,950 sq. ft. x .20

subtotal 18,740 sq. ft.
  72,390 sq. ft.
Class Time Line:

Site reconnaissance (groups of 3) + Favorite Library - Site character (sketches), opportunities, issues
1 week - presentation on 2nd Monday in studio

Preliminary Design Sketches (individuals)
1 week - presentation on 3rd Monday in studio

Preliminary Design Plans
2 weeks – Presentation on 4th Monday in studio

Mid-term Review
1 week - Presentation of 5th Monday in studio

Final Review
4 weeks - Presentation in week 9 (Thursday?)

Class Reading:


Anne-Catrin Schultz, *Carlo Scarpa Layers*,

Roudolph Wittkower, *Architecture in the Age of Humanism* (U of O Library)

Aldo Rossi, *The Architecture of the City* (U of O Library)