

C.V. STARR EAST ASIAN LIBRARY

BERKELEY, CA



Project Description

University of California at Berkeley's distinguished East Asian studies programs educate future leaders in business, politics, culture, and scholarship. At the heart of these programs is the C. V. Starr East Asian Library, which offers the largest and most comprehensive collection of East Asian documents in the western United States. The University dedicated a new home to this esteemed collection in 2006.

CMG worked with the University and Todd Williams Billie Tsien & Associates to design the new library facility and associated campus open space, including the primary campus access from North Gate to Memorial Glade. We began the design process by studying the character and evolution of the campus. Based on that understanding, we worked closely with the campus planners and the architects to site the building and create a variety of usable open spaces around the new facility, which bind it to the existing campus landscape. The basis of the site design was to establish open space specifically associated with the library, while reinforcing cross campus circulation and the identity of unique campus neighborhoods. Distinct rooms and landscape open spaces are also the result of treating difficult grading conditions on a constricted site. Site grading, material choices and planting design employ sustainable design principles.

Client

University of California, Berkeley

Architect

Todd Williams Billie Tsien & Associates

Awards

2009 AIA/ALA Library Building Awards of Excellence



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