Architectural Design and Planning of Lviv Media Libraries: Urban Aspect

Olha Khymytsia

Department of Architectural Design, Lviv Polytechnic National University, Ukraine, Lviv, St. Bandery Street, 12, E-mail: olha.khymytsia@gmail.com

Abstract – The article is devoted to the architectural planning and designing of a new type of buildings – media libraries, which appeared as a result of transformation of traditional libraries under the influence of modern social, economic and technological factors. The author investigates the architectural features and the urban design component. Examples of plan and design for media libraries created by the author are presented.

Key words – architecture, media library, library building, library space, multifunctional, architectural designing, reconstruction, architectural planning, urban studies, urban features.

I. Introduction

The intensification of communicative processes in modern media libraries puts new requirements on their design and planning. Particularly relevant is the urban aspect of media library planning, which takes into account constant communication between the various subjects of an architectural project, fundraising and the search for appropriate people interested in changes. Urban approach also involves the search and selection of projects, which aim is to serve the common good rather than individual interest of a particular person or group.

Media library is a multi-functional library, which combines the technological features of the media object and the social functions of public buildings. The main purpose of the media library is the interaction between information technologies and people, human adaptation in the information environment. The task of the architect is to create the most convenient conditions for the maximum extension of these contacts and to keep them in the library space. A modern library needs to eliminate the established clear hierarchy of internal space. The principle of "one room library" - composition free planning, flowing into each other space areas contribute to the fullness of visitors’ perception of the entire building as a whole, rather than its particular parts [1].

II. Analysis of research and publications

The formulation and the solution of problems in media library planning are based on modern scientific achievements in the field of architectural theory and the foundations of visual perception. These features were studied on the basis of scientific works of such scientists: Faulkner Brown H., Marahovskij A.A., Marejcheva M.M., Koniecza D., Walczak A. and M. Panov.

Characteristic features and principles for the realization of architectural spatial library organization of the XXI century were proposed by the British architect Harry Faulkner Brown. The scientist has identified ten rules that should guide architects designing modern library buildings: elasticity (flexible) - designed taking into account the organizational and spatial changes in the structure and services; compactness (compact) - the feature of all rooms there is an open space for quick and convenient movement of visitors, staff and books; organisation (organised) - providing users with a quick and easy access to the information sources and services; extensibility (extendible) - the buildings’ suitability to the expansion and restructuring, if necessary, without destroying the existing integrity and content; accessibility (accessible) - the planning of all parts of the building aimed at facilitating orientation in space; differentiation (varied) - the creation of appropriate conditions for users to provide free access to various information; comfort (comfortable) - the arrangement of comfortable working places for users and staff for the purpose of the most efficient information use; environment stability (constant in environment) - the creation of suitable microclimatic conditions for the preservation and maintenance of proper physical condition of library collections; safety (secure) – the planning of rooms considering the latest technology and appropriate equipment for theft prevention; efficiency (economic) – the building should be operated with minimal cost [2].

Marahovskij A.A., Marejcheva M.M. consider in the article «Form of forms of communicative spaces in interior design of media libraries as reflection of the newest technologies» the conception of “communicative space” and an association with principle architectural and designer’s environment organization. Connection between communicative spaces and architectural shaping interior of media library also possibility application approach in real design building, design and functional reorganization of library with new achievement information [3].

The researchers emphasize that the modern library is first and foremost a cozy place for friendly meetings and library functions as an educational complex are secondary [4]. The importance, according to the researchers, acquires the aim to satisfy the comfort of an external user, the equipment of staff working areas, and drawing attention to the needs of “internal user”, namely to the comfort of the library personnel [5].

The article written by N. Panov allocates the functionally-planning structure of the media library with such proportionate ratios of areas: a traditional printed library (in particular the separation of users according to their age: adult sector, children's sector) – 26 %; exhibition space – 20 %; digital info-block – 11.5 %; media space (kernel) – 20 %; classrooms, hall-rooms – 12.5 %; office-administration unit – 3 %; the unit of involved (commercial) services (in particular Internet cafes, cafeteria, a multimedia store) – 5 %; technical unit (specifically the copy center) – 2 % [6].

The purpose of this article is to analyze the architectural planning and design of media libraries of Lviv in 2016, considering the requirements of urban planning.

III. Analysis of architectural designs and plans of media libraries in Lviv

In 2013-2014 in Lviv, the Project of a new-type community center the First Lviv Media Library was launched. Since 2015 the Multicenter "Fleshk@" and the Urban Library are open in Lviv, which expands the scope of traditional library thanks to the powerful synergy of
design, personnel and technological innovations. First Lviv Media Library is equipped with modern computers, provides access to the Internet and documents on digital media in the spacious "Media Hall", offers educational board games in the area of "ГраVita", provides an opportunity to visit the cinema, to make a presentation, meeting, exhibition, performance (flash mob) etc.

In 2016, the reconstruction and revitalization of Lviv libraries continued. In June the reconstruction of the library-branch No. 18 TSBS for adults of Lviv was started. It is located in Stryiskyi Park, 22 U.Samchuk St. (Fig.1).

![Fig. 1. The modern look of the library-branch No. 18 of Lviv adult Centralized Library System](image)

After the conducted measurements a new architectural senosoteka project was developed. It has a recording Studio, space for workshops, the accessibility for people with limited mobility is taken into account, there are places for bicycles (Fig.2).

![Fig. 2. Architectural plan of the reconstruction of library-branch No. 18 of Lviv adult Centralized Library System](image)

In the architectural design and plan the lighting is significantly improved by the increasing of the window openings in walls (Fig.3, 4, 5).

![Fig. 3. Visualization of the exterior of the library-branch No. 18 of Lviv adult Centralized Library System](image)

A. Before reconstruction  
B. Visualization

![Fig. 4. The interior of the library-branch No. 18 of Lviv adult Centralized Library System](image)

![Fig. 5. The interior of the library-branch No. 18 of Lviv adult Centralized Library System](image)

Since August 2016 the discussion and the architectural design development of the media library in the district Riasne-1 has started. The library is planned to be organized in the building of inoperative household service center (Fig.6).

The plan provides a conference hall, facilities for children, art center, space for lectures, events and workshops. Also the building will house the center for providing administrative services with the lift for people with limited mobility (Fig. 7, 8, 9, 10).

In the former cinema "Arlekino" (285 Horodotska St.) it is planned to create a social development center. To work out ideas to transform this place, on the initiative of the urban Institute together with the residents and architects, in early September the workshop was organized. During two weeks the activists were working on the development concept of the former cinema, where is the library number 17. Among the...
residents a sociological survey was conducted (a sample of 60 people, including library visitors and residents of the area), in which all the respondents unanimously voted for the creation of a media library. 80% of respondents proposed to create a space where you can hold presentations and meetings, 30% voted for children’s room – a place where teachers will work with children, and the active leisure zone and coworking both received 12%. All wishes and suggestions were taken into account by the architect during the planning of floors of the building.

Fig. 6. The existing exterior of the building of the household service center in Riasne-1

Fig. 7. Visualization of the exterior design of the building of the household service center in Riasne-1

Fig. 8. The new plan of media library and the centre of administrative services in Riasne-1

Fig. 9. Visualization of the interior of the centre of administrative services in Riasne-1

Fig. 10. Visualization of the interior of the media library in Riasne-1

Fig. 11. The plan of the first floor of the media library. (285 Horodotska St.)

Fig. 12. The plan of the second floor of the media library. (285 Horodotska St.)
The building on 285 Horodotska St. has three floors. In particular, the architectural plan of the first floor takes into consideration: library and reading halls, an area for exhibitions, a wardrobe and a children’s area (Fig. 10). The second floor is a mini kitchen and three different areas for holding events (Fig. 11). The highlight of this space is an outdoor terrace on the third floor (Fig. 12, 13). Also, the project provided for the construction of the stair lifts for wheelchairs.

Today such versatility of media libraries determines their popularity in Ukraine. 2014 in Lviv the Project of a new-type community center the First Lviv Media Library was launched. Since 2015 the Multicenter "Fleshk@" and the Urban Library are open in Lviv, which expands the scope of traditional library thanks to the powerful synergy of design, personnel and technological innovations 2016 in Lviv, the creation of three more media libraries began. Their polyfunctional opportunities are based on the principle of open access to the information. In library-branch No. 18 of Lviv adult Centralized Library System, which is located in Striyskyi Park it is already under construction to create sensoteka. In Riasne-1 it is planned to create a media library with a conference room, children’s room, art center, rooms for lectures, events and workshops.

The most successful plan is to create a social development center, based on zoning/redevelopment of the premises of the former cinema "Arlekino", 285 Horodotska St. The optimality of the architectural plan is largely determined by the results of a survey among the residents, where a special attention was paid to epy questions about media library resources’ availability for various population categories.

The distribution of design and planning practice of media libraries with the mandatory requirements of the urban demands will contribute to their ability to raise the creative and intellectual potential of inhabitants of Lviv, and as a result will create an open dialogue between library centers and the wide audience of Lviv.

References