



The Library as Place: History, Community, and Culture

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The Library as Place is an edited collection of 14 original papers, which provide diverse and wide-ranging perspectives on the role of the library as a physical, social and intellectual place. Libraries, as a component of cultural space, are ubiqui

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Editorial Review

Review

"There is something here for most readers. Those with an interest in historic libraries, library architecture and furnishings, libraries as community centers, and libraries as an idea will find something both enjoyable and enlightening in this collection." - **Public Libraries**

"The Library as Place would be a fitting addition to a library system's professional collection or an academic library." - American Reference Books Annual

"Library as Place: History, Community, and Culture features 14 papers that examine the library as a physical, social, and intellectual space. This is an eclectic collection, ranging from a history of the establishment of far-flung military libraries during the heyday of the British Empire (to instill sober, regular, and moral habits among the troops) to an analysis of the function of the Sunnydale High School library in Buffy the Vampire Slayer. It's thought-provoking--the next time I visit my local library, I'll go with a perspective beyond just browsing the new-fiction shelves." - American Libraries

"A well-chosen compilation of library scholarship; as always with such things some pieces are far more interesting than others, but for those whose interests run to deep discussions of library philosophy, this book's for you." - **PhiloBiblos (blog)**

"In this collection of 14 original papers contributors analyze the cultural, symbolic and intellectual meanings of library spaces of all sorts, ages, compositions and aspirations. Papers cover libraries of the past, including the military libraries of the British Empire, the private libraries of the early nineteenth century, and the Carnegie libraries; libraries as places of communal experience, as in a black community before civil rights, for women seeking public lives, for sexual minorities or for those seeking an information community; as places of learning and scholarship as serendipitous space for scholars and goads for undergraduates; and as elements of culture as places of pleasure or imagination, as in the hellish library of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*." - **Reference & Research Book News**

About the Author

John E. Buschman holds a B.S. in history and sociology and an M.L.S. - both from Ball State University, and an M.A. in American Studies from Saint Joseph's University. He has published two books: *Dismantling the Public Sphere: Situating and Sustaining Libraries in the Age of the New Public Philosophy* (Libraries Unlimited 2003) and *Critical Approaches to Information Technology in Librarianship: Foundations and Applications* (Greenwood 1993). He is co-editor of the journal *Progressive Librarian* and on the editorial board of *Library Philosophy and Practice*.

Gloria J. Leckie has an MLIS as well as an MA and PhD in Geography from the University of Western Ontario. Her research interests include information-seeking behavior, the work of scholars and professionals, academic librarianship, information literacy and libraries as public space. Gloria is currently on the Board of the Association for Library and Information Science Education, as well as on the Editorial Boards of *Library Quarterly* and the *Canadian Journal of Information and Library Science*.

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