# LIBRARY PROGRAMMING & DESIGN





SILVER/PETRUCELLI+ASSOCIATES
Architects/Engineers/Interior Designers

3190 Whitney Avenue | Hamden CT 06518 203.230.9007 | silverpetrucelli.com info@silverpetrucelli.com **Multi-disiciplined staff.** The strength of the firm rests on an in-house staff of 50 talented architects, engineers, interior designers, specification writers, and construction administrators.



**Experience.** Library projects include some of the state's most recognizable libraries including:

- Blackstone Memorial Library, Branford
- Silas Bronson Library, Waterbury
- Easton Public Library, Easton
- Ferguson Library, Stamford
- Kent Memorial Library, Suffield
- Clark Memorial Library, Bethany
- Bishop's Corner Library, West Hartford
- Derby Public Library, Derby
- Bugby Memorial Library, Killingly
- Whiton Memorial Library, Manchester
- Pequot Library, Southport
- Belden Public Library, Cromwell

**Educational Libraries too!** Bringing school libraries into the twenty-first century means designing many features we find in our public library projects including:

- Defined circulation desk/reception area
- Computer work stations
- Collaborative learning spaces
- Soft seating and work table arrangements
- Recreational reading areas
- Outdoor education features (i.e. Peace Garden)
- Display and performance spaces

Award Winning. In 2017 the firm earned an *Award of Merit* from the Connecticut Trust for Historic Preservation for restoration of the front portico on the historic Ferguson Library in Stamford (c. 1909). *See the back page*.

**Design Resources.** S/P+A is supported by leading edge computing and workplace technology. Advanced 3D technologies such as Revit, are fully integrated in house to enhance both design and construction.



▲ James Blackstone Memorial Library (c. 1896), Branford, CT New entrance & lobby, interior renovations, mechanical improvements; 26,000 s.f., \$5 million



▲ Silas Bronson Library, Waterbury, CT Interior Renovations



▲ Clark Memorial Library, Bethany, CT Energy Efficiency Improvements



Whiton Memorial Library (c. 1895)

Manchester, CT

Capital Needs Assessment





Bishop's Corner Library, West Hartford, CT Renovations





▲ Library/Reading Room at Middletown Senior Center (c. 1929) Middletown, CT Restoration and rehabilitative reuse and addition; 13,000 s.f., \$5 million



▲ Willimantic Public Library, Windham, CT Interior Renovations



▲ Pequot Library (c. 1889), Southport, CT M/E/P Engineering Design Services



► Westerly Public Library (c. 1894), Westerly, RI Modification of M/E systems related to program changes within the library; 50,000 s.f., \$4 million



Kent Memorial Library, Suffield, CT Roof Replacement & Renovations



▲ Belden Public Library, Cromwell, CT Interior Renovations are under way



Bugbee Memorial Library (c. 1902) Killingly, CT Facility condition assessment, roof/parapet repairs







Educational Libraries & Media Centers
Chatfield Lo-Presti Elementary School, Seymour (top)
East Shore Middle School, Milford (lower left); Berlin High School, Berlin (lower right)



Derby Public Library (c. 1902), Derby, CT Facility needs assessment, water infiltration, masonry repairs



## PROJECT PROFILE

The Ferguson Library, Stamford, CT

## The Ferguson Library Restoration

The Ferguson Library in Stamford was established in 1877 by John Day Ferguson and moved to its present location in 1909. The building, designed by Egerton Swartwout, is a two-story Georgian Revival style brick building that is listed on the



National Register as part of the National Register-listed Downtown Stamford Historic District. The library was expanded in 1930 to 40,000 square feet; in 1982 to four stories and 100,000 square feet; and renovated from 2008 to 2010 with no expansion.

S/P+A's historic architects completed an envelope study where maintenance and restoration needs were identified in a formal plan that was presented and approved by the City of Stamford Historic Preservation Advisory Committee (HPAC).

Needs identified included restoration/replacement of historic columns at the front portico, deteriorated facade sections and restoration of the front portico pediment details. Balustrade rails at the roof line needed to be replaced/restored and the frieze panel at top of the first story needed restoration. The 100-year-old marble steps also required preservation and restoration as well as the brick landing. Plaster mutules, upper soffits and the iconic wooden front door were also restored and replaced.

S/P+A also provided design/presentation support for the Library's successful application for a \$200,000 grant from Connecticut's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). All restoration work on the façade of the library was conducted in compliance with the National Park Service Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Preservation. Deteriorated features were replaced with the same detail, scale, proportion, material and color as the original.

Replacing the missing front column with a replica in wood was especially challenging. The original wood column had been damaged from a fire and subsequently cut up by the local fire department when extinguishing the fire. The remaining columns where measured, their profiles scribed and the antithesis documented. The new wood column shaft was constructed in-kind to the original with a western red cedar shaft and a Spanish cedar

base. The remaining plaster capital had been badly damaged and reuse was impossible. A new plaster capital had to be recreated by stripping away about 30 layers of paint (¼") from the remaining capital quadrant and then a prototype cast was created. New plaster casts were later fused together to form a singular capital. Mutules at the pediment were also restored using this same method of plaster casting with great success.



S/P+A earned a 2017 Merit Award from the CT Trust for Historic Preservation for this project.

### Before









#### After







