

A library grows with trees

An extension of the existing library of Basel University with new reading room for students and big archive space. This new library stands at the edge of the plot, leaves as much green space in front, blocks the noise from the city road, and shows certain respect to the old library façade.

The site is now a small park in front of the old university library.

Keeps as much as green in front, proving a breathing space in the urban scale and also not block up the façade of the existing library. And the park enclosed by this new library can have its new characteristic that provide better and unique experience inside the reading space.

This new library will have a strong relationship with the big trees in the park. Enter into the ground floor with a very limit height, the columns merges with the foot of the trees, giving a feeling that we are standing between the trees. The reading space with double height face directly the green space, the structure here is slim and high together with thin frame of window, correspond with the brunches of trees outside the windows. This gives an experience of reading in a forest. The office space and workshops are placed on the city side, a regular frame of the façade is a response to the city expression.