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Interior Planning of College and University Libraries

(Continued from page 235)

stimulating—it must be integrated with the remainder of the building, since the homogeneous function of a library dictates a constancy of atmosphere throughout. Thus, a continuity of color should be adhered to. If changes in general color combinations are made, they should be alterations of such subtlety that one is not directly conscious of the change. The building as a whole should, architecturally, be a single unified entity, and so should the colors carry out this policy of sustained uniformity. Otherwise the analogy of a library, or any building with a single functional purpose, would be lost.

A great deal more could be said about color, and additional data submitted pertaining to the accomplishment of an homogeneous interior. However, the primary importance of color within the building cannot be underestimated, since this background definitely establishes the sensory impressions on which are founded the general reaction and ultimate success of the library.

Every building program produces its own amalgam of problems, each of which must be solved in its own way. However, the general conditions mentioned here, as they pertain to interior planning, should be met. It is hoped that they will serve as an aid in organizing and approaching the arduous task of coordinating the interiors with the remaining phases of library planning. Functional efficiency, proper handling of materials and color, careful selection of equipment and furnishings, intelligent architectural and interior planning—all of these factors interrelate within the organization and development of the building program, and each is essential to the creation of a successful library.