



# A Short Story on a Big Subject The John Spoor Broome Library Is Open

**The plot thickened** on October 7, 2005, when the dirt was officially turned at the groundbreaking ceremony for the new library at California State University Channel Islands. Over the next 1036 days, the story developed as the concrete, steel, and glass came together to create a campus landmark.

On April 4, 2008, the wait was over, and the grand opening of the John Spoor Broome Library, with all of its architectural magnificence and unique contents, was celebrated.

There is much more to the John Spoor Broome Library than can be celebrated in a single day, beginning with the very name of this new building. John Spoor Broome and the Broome family have been a part of the Ventura County region for more than 120 years and have always believed in the importance of education. The grand-opening ceremony was as much of a celebration of the University's new library as it was a celebration of Broome's generosity and commitment to CSUCI and higher education.

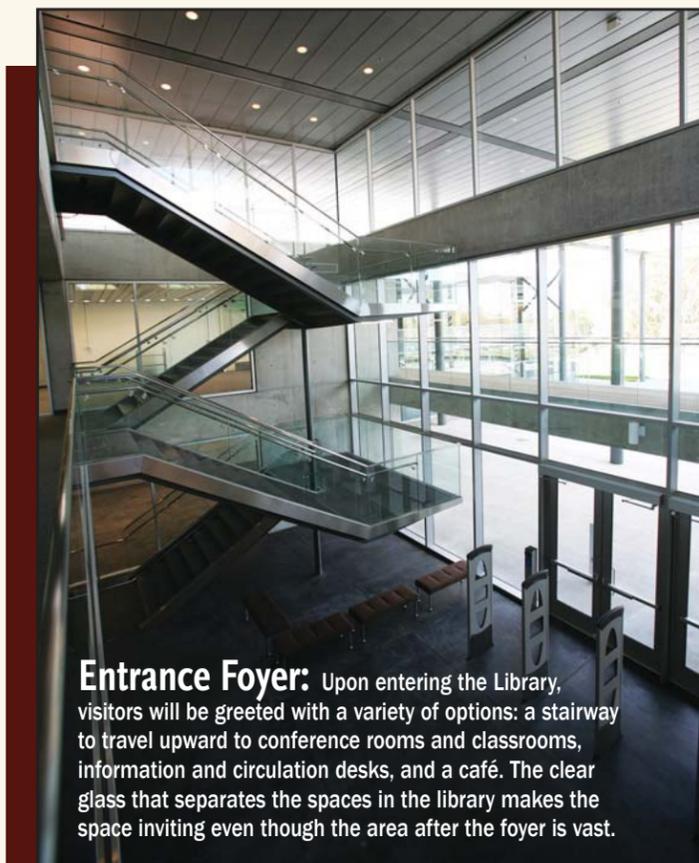
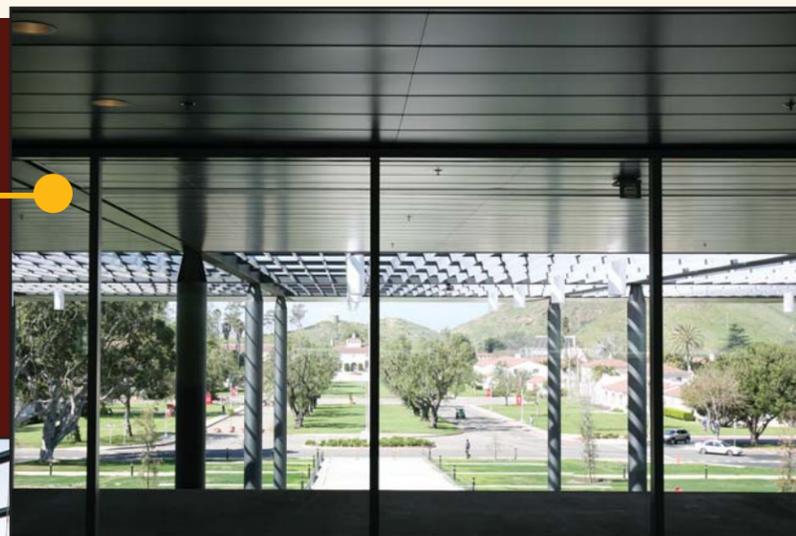
The Library is a marriage between the signature Mission Revival and Spanish Colonial Revival architecture that defines the buildings on campus and the modern Lord Norman Foster design that incorporates natural light and clean lines. The following is a pictorial tour highlighting the details about the John Spoor Broome Library.

## Plaza and Entrance Canopy:

Creating fluidity between the campus and the Library was the intention of the architect when he developed the Library Plaza and Entrance Canopy.

This space is directly on the east and west axis of the University campus, which runs through the mall and the center of campus to the Aliso Science Plaza and the dolphin fountain at the western end. Louvers in the canopy filter natural light into the building as the day passes. Note that the books never receive direct sunlight.

Within the plaza area under the canopy is a pool that reflects various images of the library depending on the time of the day and where a person is standing.



**Entrance Foyer:** Upon entering the Library, visitors will be greeted with a variety of options: a stairway to travel upward to conference rooms and classrooms, information and circulation desks, and a café. The clear glass that separates the spaces in the library makes the space inviting even though the area after the foyer is vast.

**Reading Room:** This is the center of the Library. From the reading room it's easy to see the different layers of the building.

The first layer is the modern part of the building, which is created by the canopy that extends from the plaza over the reading room. It is supported by large cylindrical steel beams, four of which are in the Reading room.

The second layer comprises the stacks themselves that hold the 85,000 volumes along with DVDs, CDs, and the children's collection.

The outer layer is made up by the original hospital wings that flank three sides of the reading room. The original structures will be used as classroom and group study space. The wings are separated from the Reading Room by a "buffer zone" that is naturally lit and extends to the roofline. The exposed concrete of the buffer zone walls will be used as gallery space for faculty and student artwork.

High above the ground floor, and covering the third floor, is a translucent fiber glass aluminum composition glass ceiling. This material is extremely energy efficient and thermally insulated. Using this material is a testament to the University's commitment to sustainability.

