

GEISEL LIBRARY SELF-GUIDED TOUR



John Baldessari, Read/Write/Think/Dream
UCSD Stuart Collection 2001
Photo by Philipp Scholz Ritterman

UC SAN DIEGO LIBRARIES
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Brochure designed by C. Garcia

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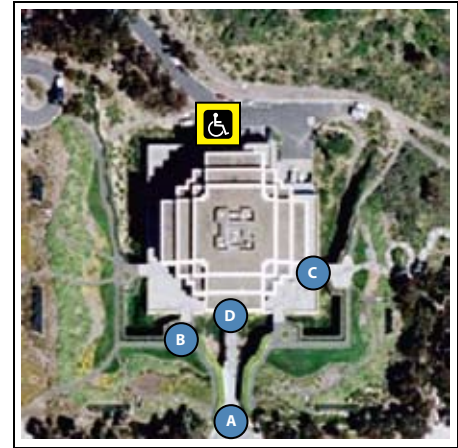
WELCOME TO UC SAN DIEGO'S GEISEL LIBRARY!

This self-guided tour is designed to help you find the many hidden treasures within one of San Diego's greatest landmarks and the visual icon for UC San Diego. Included within the Geisel Library building are the newly-renovated Arts Library, Mandeville Special Collections Library, Science & Engineering Library, and the Social Sciences & Humanities Library. During this tour, you will learn about the building and its many fun, interesting, and unique features. When exploring Geisel Library, please keep your visit to the first and second (main) floors of the library as the upper floors are reserved for quiet study. We hope you enjoy visiting the Geisel Library. If you need any assistance or additional information about the UC San Diego Libraries, please direct your questions to the Information Desk.



Named one of the world's 25 most modern libraries, the futuristic concrete and glass Geisel Library building was designed by world-renowned architect William Pereira in 1970. This campus landmark was named for Audrey and Theodor Geisel (aka Dr. Seuss) in 1995. The building's unique geometric design has inspired descriptions such as "a beacon" or "a grounded spaceship bringing knowledge to an imperfect world." Pereira, admired for his futuristic designs, is also known for works such as the Transamerica Tower in San Francisco, the master-planned community of Irvine, space-launch facilities at Cape Canaveral, and the Houston Center. In 1992, underground wings on the east and west sides of the building were built by Gunnar Birkerts & Associates. The addition was designed to add extra space while preserving the original silhouette of the building. The underground wings are a remarkable architectural feat; in spite of their subterranean nature they let in as much natural light as is found on the upper floors.

ART IN & AROUND GEISEL LIBRARY



- A** At the beginning of the walkway leading into Geisel Library is a metal sculpture often referred to as the silent tree. The tree is part of an art installation called *Trees* by artist Terry Allen. *Trees* is part of the UCSD Stuart Collection, a unique collection of site-specific works of art located across campus.
- B** On the west side of the building, on the third-level forum (the stairs to the forum are on the right and left sides of the main entrance), is a life-size bronze statue of Theodor Seuss Geisel, better known to his many fans as Dr. Seuss. The statue, an original sculpture by Lark Grey Dimond-Cates, shows Geisel sitting at his desk while a towering 7½ foot "Cat in the Hat," the sculptor's depiction of Geisel's alter ego, looks over his shoulder.
- C** While still on the third-level forum, take a walk over to the east side of the building and view the *Snake Path* leading down the hill. The path, made entirely of slate tiles, was designed by artist Alexis Smith and is part of the UCSD Stuart Collection. The snake winds its way around a book by an Edenic garden, marking a symbolic path to Geisel Library, the intellectual heart of the campus.

Outside the library, you may hear the carillon chime. The carillon is an acoustical instrument which can be played "live" via a keyboard housed in a small bunker-like room on the roof. The carillon was donated to UCSD by Joe Rubinger. The University Carillonneur takes music requests for the chimes and oversees a music commissioning program for the carillon.

- D** The highlight of the main entrance to Geisel Library is the *READ/WRITE/THINK/DREAM* installation by artist John Baldessari. The installation, also part of the UCSD Stuart Collection, encourages visitors to reflect and dream, featuring images of UCSD students standing upon books, resembling columns in Greek architectural structures. Notice the television and computer in the upper corners, reflecting that information can be obtained from a variety of media.

THE LIBRARIES IN GEISEL

SCIENCE & ENGINEERING LIBRARY

The Science & Engineering (S&E) Library supports academic research and teaching in astronomy, biochemistry and chemistry, bioengineering, computer science, engineering, mathematics, and physics. S&E collections include extensive print and online holdings including books, journals, conference proceedings, databases, reference handbooks, numeric property resources, patents, standards, and indexes. Students engage in group or individual work in a fully wireless space, with computers, powered tables and carrels, group study rooms, a presentation practice room, and the S&E information commons. A popular science browsing collection, and games, puzzles, and toys to challenge your mind are also available.

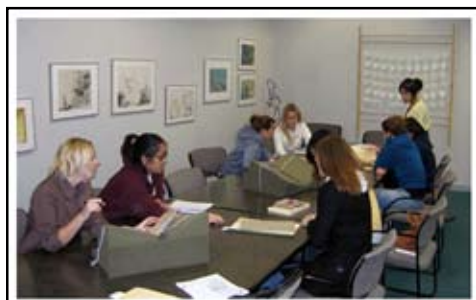


SOCIAL SCIENCES & HUMANITIES LIBRARY



With more than 5 million books, periodicals, government documents, maps, and microforms, the Social Sciences & Humanities Library (SSHL) is the largest library in the building. SSHL contains collections and services that support innovative research and teaching in a myriad of fields, including anthropology, economics, ethnic studies, history, literature, political science, psychology, and sociology. The SSHL government documents collection includes publications produced by the United States, California, and San Diego city governments, as well as publications from the European Union. In addition to providing more than 100 computers for access to a wide array of databases and collections, SSHL is the place to find comfy seating for late night studying, group study space, and laptop-friendly tables. Throughout the academic year, SSHL hosts a variety of author talks, exhibits, and special events that reflect the richness and diversity of the social sciences & humanities disciplines at UC San Diego.

MANDEVILLE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARY



The Mandeville Special Collections Library (MSCL) houses rare and unique materials that are used for research. This library holds 250,000 books, more than 18 million manuscripts, and numerous maps, photographs, art works, and other original media. Strengths of the collection include the Spanish Civil War, early voyages of exploration to the Pacific, contemporary American poetry, California and San Diego history, Melanesian anthropology, artists' books, and the culinary history of the American Southwest and Latin America. MSCL also houses the personal archive of Theodor Seuss Geisel, including most of his original drawings for his many children's books, his advertising artwork, and his World War II editorial cartoons.

ARTS LIBRARY



The recently renovated Arts Library supports innovative, award-winning faculty research, teaching, and performance in visual arts, music, film, and theater & dance. Collections include books, periodicals, musical scores, reference tools, databases, and a wide range of media collections, including audio (LP, CD, tape), digital images, and moving image materials (video, DVD, 16mm film). The Arts Library provides reference services as well as listening and viewing facilities, and offers a lively community outreach program that includes novel events such as Short-Attention Span concerts, film screenings, and exhibits, all of which are free and open to the public.

SCIENCE & ENGINEERING LIBRARY

1 As you enter the S&E Library, look in the stairwells to see model planes created by UCSD students for the American Institute of Aeronautics & Astronautics' annual "Design, Build & Fly" competition. Keeping watch over the planes is a bust of Dr. Harold C. Urey, one of the founders of the UC San Diego Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. Urey won the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1934 for his discovery of heavy hydrogen.

After you enter the library, you will be greeted by a life-size action figure, a "Chameleon Jumpsuit" from the popular Journeyman Project "Legacy of Time" computer video game. More information about the suit, which was donated by UCSD alumnus and video game pioneer Michel Kripalani, can be found in the exhibit display adjacent to the installation.

S&E is a visually and intellectually stimulating environment, with exhibits and displays that showcase student-built projects and inspire users to envision the work of professional scientists and engineers. S&E patrons are also exposed to cutting-edge research through events like the Faculty Lecture Series.



SOCIAL SCIENCES & HUMANITIES LIBRARY

4 You are now in the Social Sciences & Humanities Library reference area. If you take a minute to look outside, it is possible to see the tower (Floors 4 through 8) that houses the vast Social Sciences & Humanities Library (SSH) collections. Visitors are asked not to explore these floors as they are quiet study areas for students.

The SSH reference area includes a Data & Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Lab that provides a dedicated computing environment for Data & GIS to UCSD community members across nearly every discipline.

MANDEVILLE SPECIAL COLLECTIONS LIBRARY

2 One of the permanent installations of artwork in MSCL is located in the exhibit area. The *Alphabet of Bones* by Joyce Cutler-Shaw, is a three-dimensional piece located in the soffit overhead. Anatomically-correct drawings of the bones of pigeons, located on the walls, depict the characters in the *Alphabet of Bones*.

3 Exhibitions in the MSCL display cases change several times per year and generally display a wide range of unique materials that showcase the university's rich and varied special collections. Selections from the Seuss Collection are usually exhibited during the summer and the month of March when UC San Diego celebrates Dr. Seuss's birthday. Around the corner is the Seuss Room, Geisel Library's largest lecture and meeting room, named in honor of Theodor Seuss Geisel.



CURRENT PERIODICALS, NEWSPAPERS, & MICROFORMS

5 Located on the first floor of Geisel Library is the Current Periodicals, Newspapers & Microforms (CPNM) section of the Social Sciences & Humanities Library. In CPNM you can relax and enjoy a popular magazine or daily newspaper, or conduct research in hundreds of academic journals. CPNM houses current newspapers, journals, and magazines in all areas of the social sciences and humanities including art and architecture, business, history, literature, music, politics, psychology, and sociology. Current newspapers include popular local, state and other U.S. titles, as well as selected titles from France, Germany, Iran, Israel, Mexico, and Russia. CPNM also houses a rich collection of resources on microfilm and fiche including historical popular news titles, a collection of America's Historical papers from 1690-1876, a collection of American poetry from 1609-1870, and the Underground Newspaper collection, a series of alternative press titles worldwide covering the period of 1963-1985.



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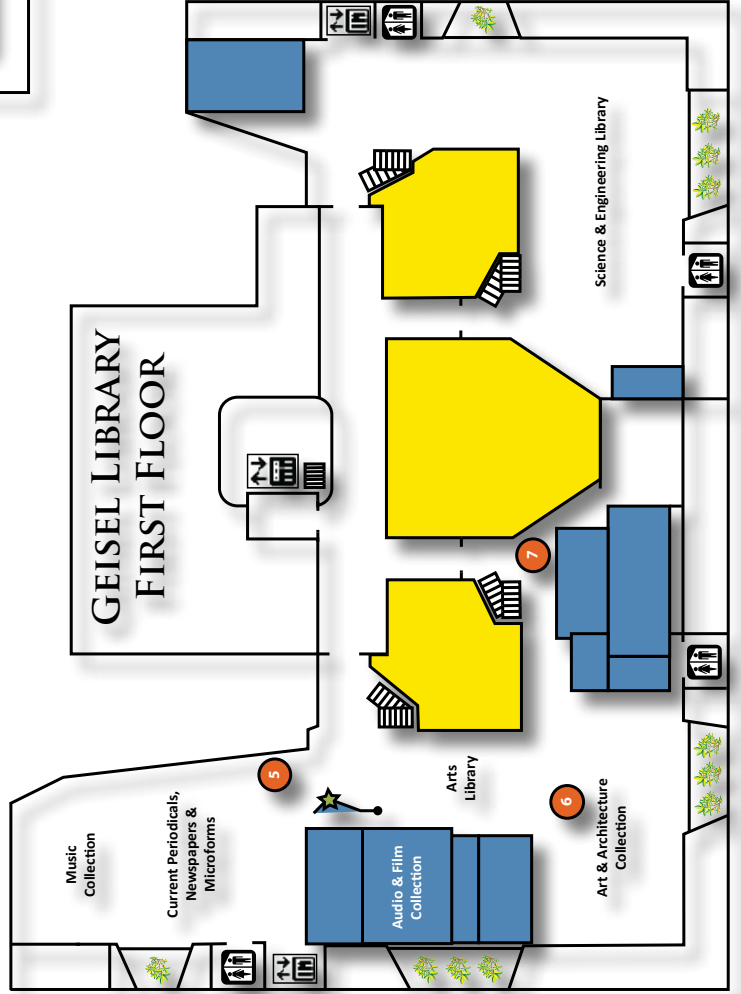
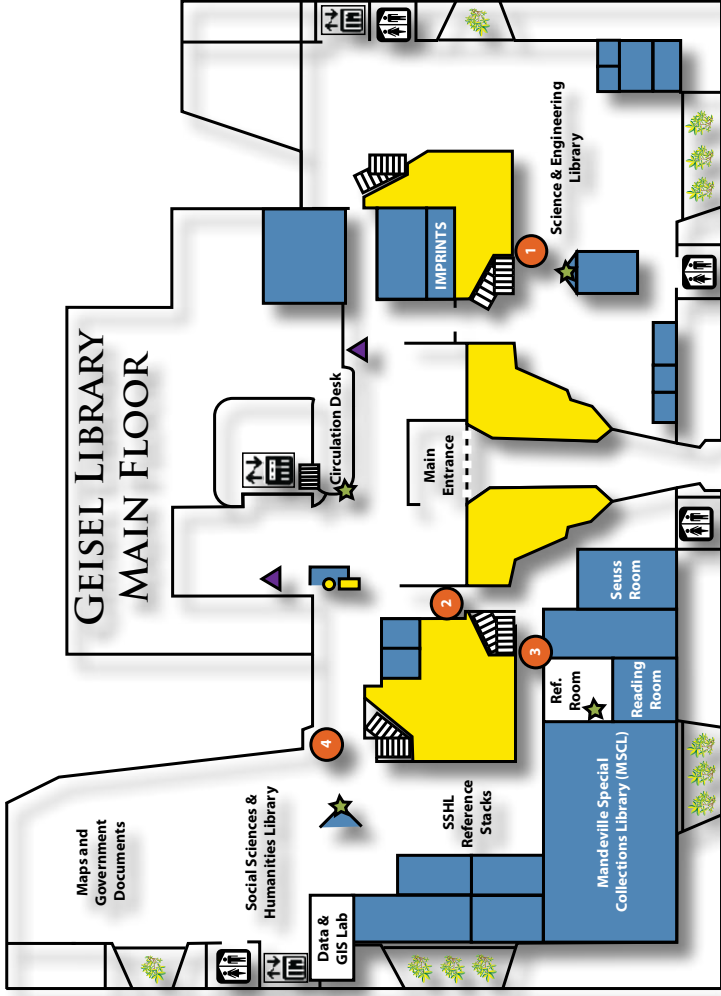
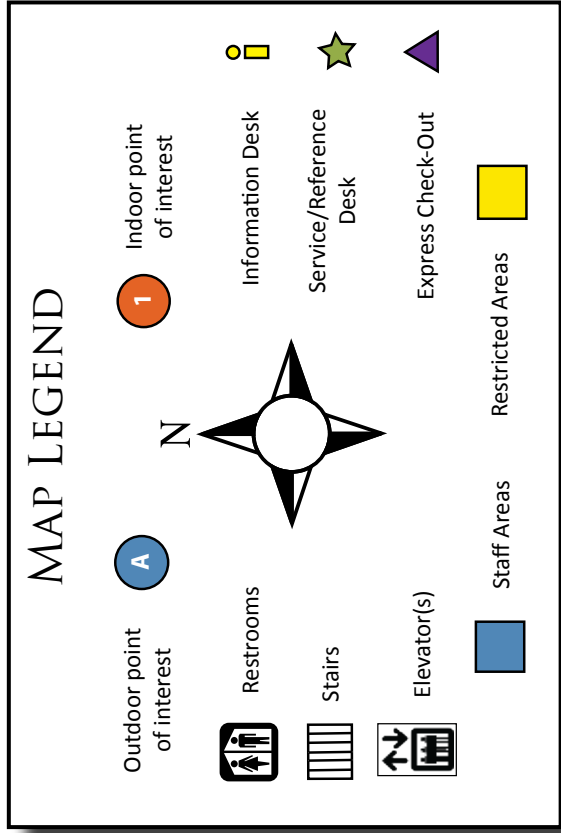
ARTS LIBRARY

6 Because space is at a premium in the Arts Library, there is "compact shelving" for housing the extensive collection of print materials. Open study areas with abundant natural light, comfortable reading chairs, and computers make this area popular with individuals and groups of students.

Straight ahead is one of Geisel Library's subterranean gardens. The glass structures you may have noticed outside are skylights that project through the buried perimeter of the building's addition, allowing natural light to penetrate the below-ground levels of the structure.

7 Check the Arts Library's exhibit cases for the current display celebrating the arts and collections. This area is often the location for on-site events such as the popular Toy Piano Festival or performances by the Teeny Tiny Pit Orchestra.





For more information on Geisel Library parking and access for patrons with disabilities, please contact the Information Desk at (858) 534-3339.