Architectural Elements
As Structure
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Thesis submitted to the faculty of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Architecture in Architecture.

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April 27, 2012
Alexandria, Virginia

Keywords: Library, Water, Community
If there is magic on this planet, it is contained in water.

"Loran Eiseley, The Immense Journey, 1957"
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I dedicate my thesis book in memory of my biggest inspiration my father Celestino Guerreiro

"Do what you love and you would never have to work again"

&

My Committee
Jaan Holt
Paul F Emmons
Marcia F Feuerstein

and my family & friends at 901 and 1001 building for all there encouragements
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INTRODUCTION

The site had a major impact on my design inspiration. My early years I lived in Venezuela in South America. I remember going to the southern part of Venezuela and water has a major impact on how people live and work.

I remember seeing homes in piles elevated enough so the rainy season there houses would be dry. It gave me an idea of using the same system to elevate the library and use the steel structure to hold on the roof and concrete piles to hold the floor plates.

Having two structure systems help me set a grid and a system to work with. Part of the roof will shed the water to a large gutter that will direct the rain water to river creating a waterfall.

Also I used the existing street and extended to the river creating an extension from the land to the water. Also serving a dual purpose of having the boats dock and used the library or the community center.

SITE

- The site is located in Old town Alexandria Virginia on the Waterfront. I was looking on extending the street in to the water. For pedestrians and boats to dock and use the library and distinguishing between land and water.
PROCESS

Process will display from start to end to show process.
Study model: experimenting on trying to make 3 large book stacks in side the building show in white.
Study model: experimenting with having the circulation thru the book stacks and perimeter on the proposed library.
Study model:
Four large book stacks show in white also using the book stacks as structural support for the roof and the books.

I was also experimenting with copper for the major gutters of the building. Circulation was in the rear and front of the building, while also the curvature of the wall use on both sides for books and nooks for readers.
Interior renderings showing the trusses and walls where the book stacks will be, using as much of natural day light for the large open gathering spaces.
IMAGE CREDITS

All site maps are Google Maps & Bing.com
Model Pics and rendering by Jose Dasilva