

NEW LIBRARY TO INCLUDE CITY'S PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

MAYOR ANNOUNCES FIRST STEPS TOWARD CONSTRUCTION

Norfolk, VA (January 19, 2010). Mayor Paul Fraim announced today that a nationally recognized New Haven, Connecticut architectural firm has been selected to lead the creative team that will design the new main library in downtown Norfolk.

Fraim said Newman Architects was selected following a 6-month search which began when 20 companies responded to the city's request for proposals.

"During almost 50 years, Newman Architects has established an enviable reputation for the design of new buildings and the restoration and renovation of existing buildings," Mayor Fraim said. "The founder of the firm, Herbert Newman, is the recipient of numerous awards, including the prestigious Thomas Jefferson Award for Public Architecture."

Fraim said the firm's extensive experience in historic preservation was a critical factor in its selection. The Seaboard Building, which was built in 1900, will serve as the centerpiece of the new library. The building is currently serving as the interim main library.

"The city is convinced that Newman Architects can develop a plan to combine the historic integrity of the Seaboard Building with a seamless expansion creating a state of the art, highly efficient library complex." Fraim said.

The \$20 million dollar gift from Frank Batten Sr., announced in 2008, allowed the city to accelerate the planning and construction of the downtown library by at least 10 years, Fraim said.

"Mr. Batten was a man of extraordinary generosity who believed that investing in the lives of people represented a meaningful investment in the future well being of our communities," Fraim said. "This commitment was the cornerstone of Mr. Batten's remarkable life and the guiding principal of his philanthropic endeavors."

In keeping with Mr. Batten's wishes, Fraim said the library will be named in honor of Colonel Samuel L. Slover, a former Norfolk Mayor and the founder of Landmark Communications who raised Mr. Batten after the death of his father.

"Mr. Batten also challenged the city to use his gift to build the most technologically advanced library in the state," Fraim said. "I can assure you that meeting Mr. Batten's challenge is our number one priority."

Fraim also announced that Providence Associates, a library consulting firm, has been chosen to help develop the program and building plan for the Slover Main Library.

Construction of the library could begin as early as 2011, Mayor Fraim said.

"The combination of the restoration of the Seaboard Building and the construction of the new structure will create a national model for blending an historic building with the most up-to-date library technology giving Norfolk citizens the latest in technology while preserving precious memories of the past," Fraim said.

The 108,000 square foot Slover Main Library will consist of the interim Norfolk Main Library (Seaboard Building), located at 235 E. Plume Street and the new structure. The new building will be constructed next to the Seaboard Building on the site of the HIPAGE building, which will be demolished at a later date.

The Seaboard Building will also undergo a complete renovation of its interior and infrastructure. In addition to the Slover Main Library, a 30,000 square foot Library Service Center will be off-site and house the Library's administrative offices and support services. By combining the square footage of Slover Main Library with the Service Center, the total space increases to 138,000 square feet. This compares well to the 77,000 square feet of space that was in the former Kirn Memorial Library. That building was demolished last year to clear the way for the construction of the main Light Rail Passenger station.

For more information, please call Norman Maas, Library Director at 441-5910 or 647-3035.

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About Norfolk Public Library:

The Norfolk Public Library offers access to information, books, programs, and online resources to meet the needs of our diverse community for life-long learning. The library system consists of one main library, ten branch libraries, one anchor branch library, and a Bookmobile. All programs are FREE of charge. Visit www.npl.lib.va.us or call us at (757) 664-READ for more information. *NPL- Creating a City of Readers.*

For Immediate Release
January 25, 2011

The Colonel Samuel L. Slover Memorial Library To Be Expanded
Generous Gift to make Community's Vision a Reality

Norfolk VA - The City of Norfolk announced today that the results of the community outreach and input are in for the new Colonel Samuel L. Slover Memorial Library and call for an expansion of the previously contemplated plan.

The expansion calls for a 30% increase in size but only 20% increase in cost which is estimated to total \$60 million for the total project. The additional square footage will be accomplished by increasing the size of the project to include space in the Selden Arcade and adding floors to the addition to provide amenities such as; a rooftop terrace, a "forum" where people can gather and events can be held, a community engagement meeting room, and a glass "showcase" feature which will be flooded with natural light. The project's contemporary forum will link two historic treasures, the Seaboard Building to the East and the Selden Arcade to the West.

The Slover Library Steering Committee has provided leadership and guidance as the library's planning and design phases have been completed. As chairman of the Slover Library Steering Committee, Mrs. Jane P. Batten has played an integral role throughout these processes. Her strong leadership and commitment to the project has acted to assure a high level of engagement and creativity among all the partners involved.

"It is my pleasure to announce that in response to the outpouring of community support and the vision that is being created in adherence to Mr. Batten's wishes, Mrs. Batten has generously increased the Batten gift by an additional \$20 million, in the form of a "challenge grant", meaning the Batten Foundation gift can reach a total of \$40 million, making the expansion a reality," stated Mayor Fraim.

Under the terms of this Challenge Grant, the Batten Foundation's full match will be achieved, provided that a minimum of \$4 million of additional contributions and pledges are realized from private entities or individuals to the Slover Library Foundation. Mayor Fraim said, "Given the very generous terms of this challenge, we are confident that the Foundation will not only meet, but exceed this requirement."

Mayor Fraim went on to say, "This will be a most treasured destination where everyone is welcomed and all are served. As a result of Mr. and Mrs. Batten's shared vision all of the citizens of the City of Norfolk, indeed all of the residents of the Hampton Roads region, will have a brighter future."

A fundraising committee is now in the process of being formed to facilitate contributions to the Slover Library. Signature Financial Management is receiving gifts on behalf of the Slover Library Foundation.

In 2008, the City of Norfolk announced a gift from Mr. Batten which allowed the Slover Library to come into being by placing the city in the position to advance a new central library by more than a decade. At that time, the Mayor stated that he and many in Norfolk agreed that the new library to be the most important public facility we can provide for nurturing and stimulating learning and civic interaction on all levels. The city's contribution was identified as \$20 million.

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Revised January 24, 2011

About Colonel Samuel L. Slover

It is the intention of the Batten Foundation for "the memory of Colonel Samuel L. Slover" be preserved perpetually in recognition of his contribution to development of the City of Norfolk.

Colonel Slover was the uncle of Frank Batten Sr., and raised him from the age of one after his father died. Colonel Slover was the founder of Landmark Communications and a former Mayor of Norfolk. Colonel Slover loved Norfolk, and he believed that an informed citizenry is one of the most important keys to its success. In 1954 at the age of 27, Batten assumed the leadership of the Virginian Pilot and the Ledger Star. With strategic acquisitions and key investments, Batten developed Landmark Communications into one of the nation's largest and most influential media companies.

The community vision for the new library includes a top priority placed on learning for all ages, allowing programmable space for children, teens and families; a first-rate destination; innovation in enlivened areas and technological offerings and a center of the city's history.

Norfolk library project gets \$20 million challenge grant

NORFOLK

Plans for a new downtown library have grown, and so has the financial commitment from its benefactors.

On Tuesday, Mayor Paul Fraim announced a \$20 million "challenge grant" from the Batten Foundation to help cover costs and establish an endowment for the Slover Memorial Library.

The late Frank Batten Sr. - former chairman of Landmark Communications, predecessor to Landmark Media Enterprises, which publishes The Virginian-Pilot - and his wife, Jane Batten, donated \$20 million in 2008. The new grant could make the total Batten donation \$40 million.

The city has committed \$20 million for the project, the cost of which has grown since it was announced in October 2008. The total price of the library is now estimated at nearly \$63 million. It originally was pegged at about \$50 million, though the city had said the cost could increase.

After receiving community feedback, the library design was modified to increase space by about 30 percent, and that contributed to the cost increase, Fraim said.

Public suggestions included a large children's area, meeting rooms and gathering spaces for events, more computers, and better technology. The revised design also includes a rooftop terrace.

The planned size of the library has grown to 137,000 square feet from 108,000.

To receive the full \$20 million grant from the Batten Foundation, at least \$4 million must be raised from private entities, such as community groups, or individuals. The city cannot add money toward that requirement. Fraim said he is confident the community will meet, and even exceed, the amount.

Frank Batten Jr., who was present for the announcement, said his mother, Jane, who served on the library steering committee, wanted "to get others involved in giving to the library in addition to her."

The library complex will combine the Seaboard Building, a 19th-century location that served as Norfolk's City Hall and now as the city's Main Library, with a forum, similar to an atrium, and a six-story building. The Seaboard Building will house the Sargeant Memorial Room collection of local and family history, books and computers. The forum, with glass ceilings and walls, will be used as a gathering and information space.

The forum represents "a portal and a gateway to learning," said Herbert Newman, founder and lead architect of Newman Architects, which developed the design.

Construction is to begin in November, with completion anticipated in late 2013.

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Source URL (retrieved on 02/08/2011 - 13:24): <http://hamptonroads.com/2011/01/norfolk-library-project-gets-20-million-challenge-grant>

Beach adopts modified scale

In fall, an A will be 90 and up; failing grades will be below 64

By Lauren Roth
The Virginian-Pilot

VIRGINIA BEACH

The School Board voted Tuesday to change the school system's grading scale to one based on 10-point intervals.

The scale, which goes into effect in the fall, will significantly change the A range, allowing students to earn an A with 90 instead of 94. It also changes the lowest passing grade to 64 from 70.

The board voted 6-3 to approve the plan, which employs the same scale used by public schools in Fairfax County, the largest system in Virginia. Rita Sweet Bellitto, Patrick Salyer and Bill Brunke voted against it. New board member Scott Seery abstained, and Todd Davidson was caring for sick family members.

"I don't see how we cannot change our grading scale," Board Member Brent McKenzie said in a workshop before

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convicted

Man enters Alford plea in 2007 slaying of an Ocean View man and is set to be sentenced in March.

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Norfolk

Newman Architects, an award-winning firm from New Haven, Conn., specializes in designing new buildings that blend into historic areas. It will design a structure adjacent to the Seaboard Building, the temporary home of the city's downtown library.



Preliminary renderings show open walkways between the two buildings. The top floor on the library addition would offer views of downtown and the Norfolk harbor.



NEWMAN ARCHITECTS © OF NEW HAVEN, CONN.

COUPLE FROM ENGLAND KILLED BY CAR CRASH IN VA. BEACH

charged

Driver Christopher Dockiewicz, 44, was "traveling in excess of the speed limit," but an estimated speed was not available, Virginia Beach police spokesman Adam Bernstein said. He was charged with DUI and two counts of aggravated manslaughter.

By Patrick Wilson and Jen McCaffery
The Virginian-Pilot

VIRGINIA BEACH

A married couple from England visiting family in Virginia Beach were killed Tuesday after a suspected drunken driver lost control and crashed into their car on Princess Anne Road.

Anthony Eden Tonking, 74, and Mary Jean Tonking, 72, were driving home from spending time at a park in Pungo about 2:30 p.m. when the crash happened.

Mary Jean Tonking was pronounced dead at the scene. Anthony Tonking, who was driving a Ford Contour, died at a hospital.

Their vehicle was hit by a 1996 BMW in the 1900 block of

See CRASH, BACK PAGE

PANEL PUTS HOLD ON NEW RULES FOR STORMWATER

By Scott Harper
The Virginian-Pilot

Just before leaving office, then-Gov. Timothy M. Kaine signed off on new regulations intended to curb a major pollutant in the Chesapeake Bay: stormwater.

Kaine issued a news release for the occasion, declaring victory for Virginia finally had secured a path forward for reducing oil, fertilizer, animal waste, silt and other contaminants that wash off development sites and city streets whenever it rains and foul the Bay.

But last week, a state panel voted to put those rules on hold, citing petitions from more than 25 developers and builders concerned about the timing and extent of the new stormwater

See WATER, BACK PAGE

City's new library to be designed with scenery and open space in mind

A structure will be built to complement the current facility

By Harry Minium
The Virginian-Pilot

NORFOLK

A Connecticut firm will design the city's \$50 million Col. Samuel L. Slover Library, Mayor Paul Fraim announced Tuesday.

Newman Architects of New Haven, which specializes in designing new buildings that blend into historic areas, was chosen from among more

than 20 bidders.

The Seaboard Building, where the city's downtown library is temporarily housed, opened as a federal building in 1900. It served as City Hall from 1938 to 1965. Newman Architects is tasked with designing an adjacent structure to be connected to the Seaboard Building by walkways enclosed in a glass atrium. Together, the two buildings will comprise the 108,000-square-foot Slover Library, scheduled to open in 2013.

City officials say it will be one of the world's most

See NORFOLK, PAGE 3

■ "Our thought is to create a seamless connection between the two buildings."

Herbert Newman, founder of Newman Architects

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NORFOLK | *Library* is scheduled to open in 2013

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technologically advanced libraries.

Preliminary renderings were released by Newman on Monday showing open walkways between the two buildings. The top floor on the library addition would offer views of downtown and the harbor.

"Our thought is to create a seamless connection between the two buildings," said Herbert Newman, who founded Newman Architects nearly five decades ago. The design will be "transparent and open to light, with large open spaces and porches."

"A lot of wonderful architectural firms were interviewed, and I think we've come up with the absolutely ideal person and group to deal with this," said Jane Batten, a member of the Slover Library advisory committee.

Jane Batten is the widow of Frank Batten Sr., the former publisher of The Virginian-Pilot and retired chairman of its parent company, now known as Landmark Media Enterprises LLC.



NEWMAN ARCHITECTS OF NEW HAVEN, CONN.

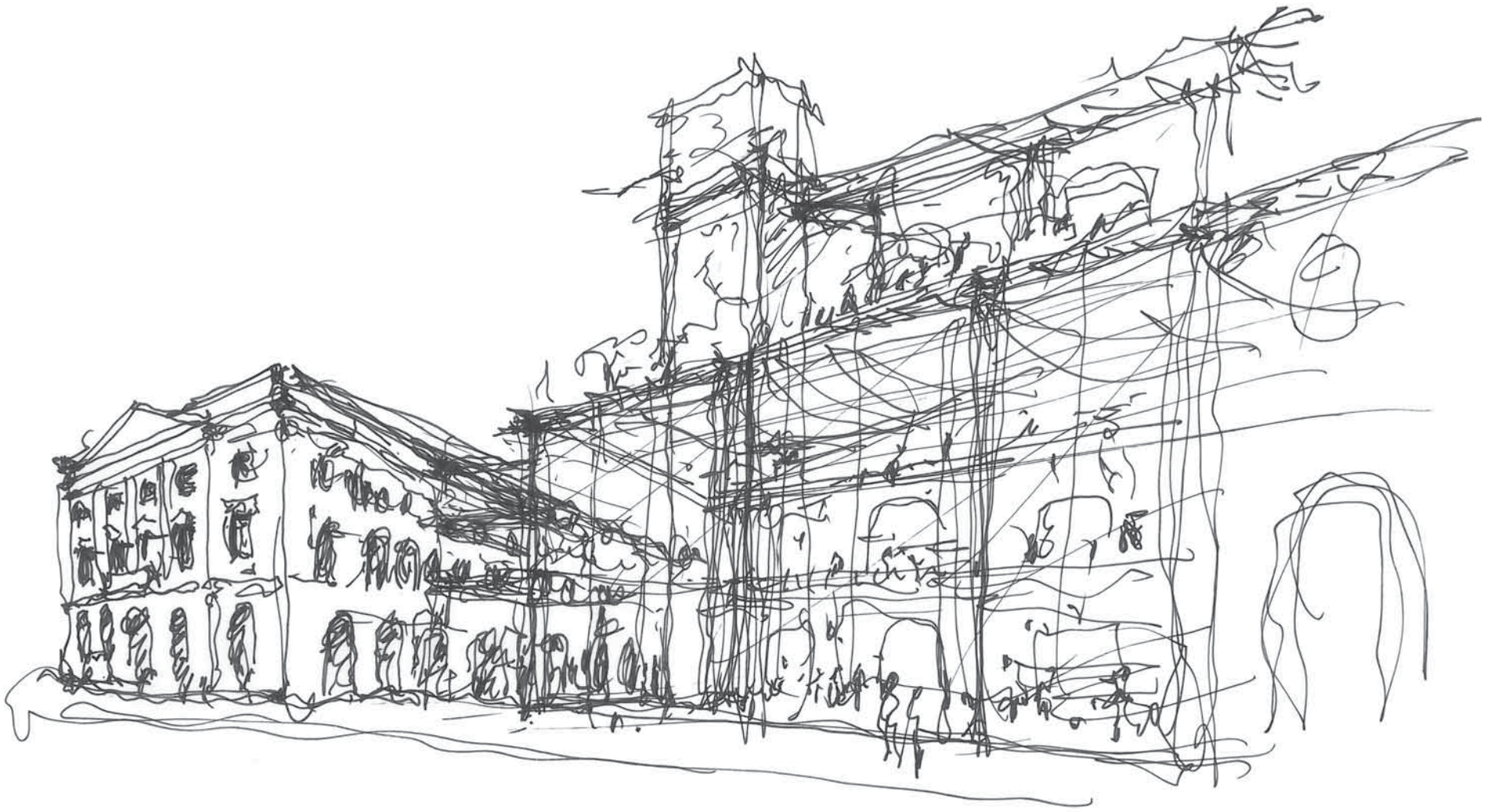
Frank Batten donated \$20 million to the city to build the library and asked that the library be named for Slover, a Norfolk mayor who founded Landmark Communications and raised Batten.

"It honors the person who was the most important influence in my father's life," said Frank Batten Jr., CEO of Landmark Media Enterprises.

Jane Batten said she and the rest of committee members will play active roles in the 18-month design process, including sitting in with focus groups that will provide feedback about what amenities should be in the new library.

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At left is a rendering of the \$50 million Col. Samuel L. Slover Library in downtown Norfolk. City officials say the 108,000-square-foot facility will be one of the world's most technologically advanced libraries when completed.



Slover Memorial Library

Image courtesy of Newman Architects, LLC



Slover Memorial Library

Image courtesy of Urban Design Associates



Slover Memorial Library

Image courtesy of Urban Design Associates



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Slover Memorial Library

Image courtesy of Urban Design Associates



Slover Memorial Library

Image courtesy of Urban Design Associates



Slover Memorial Library

Image courtesy of Newman Architects, LLC



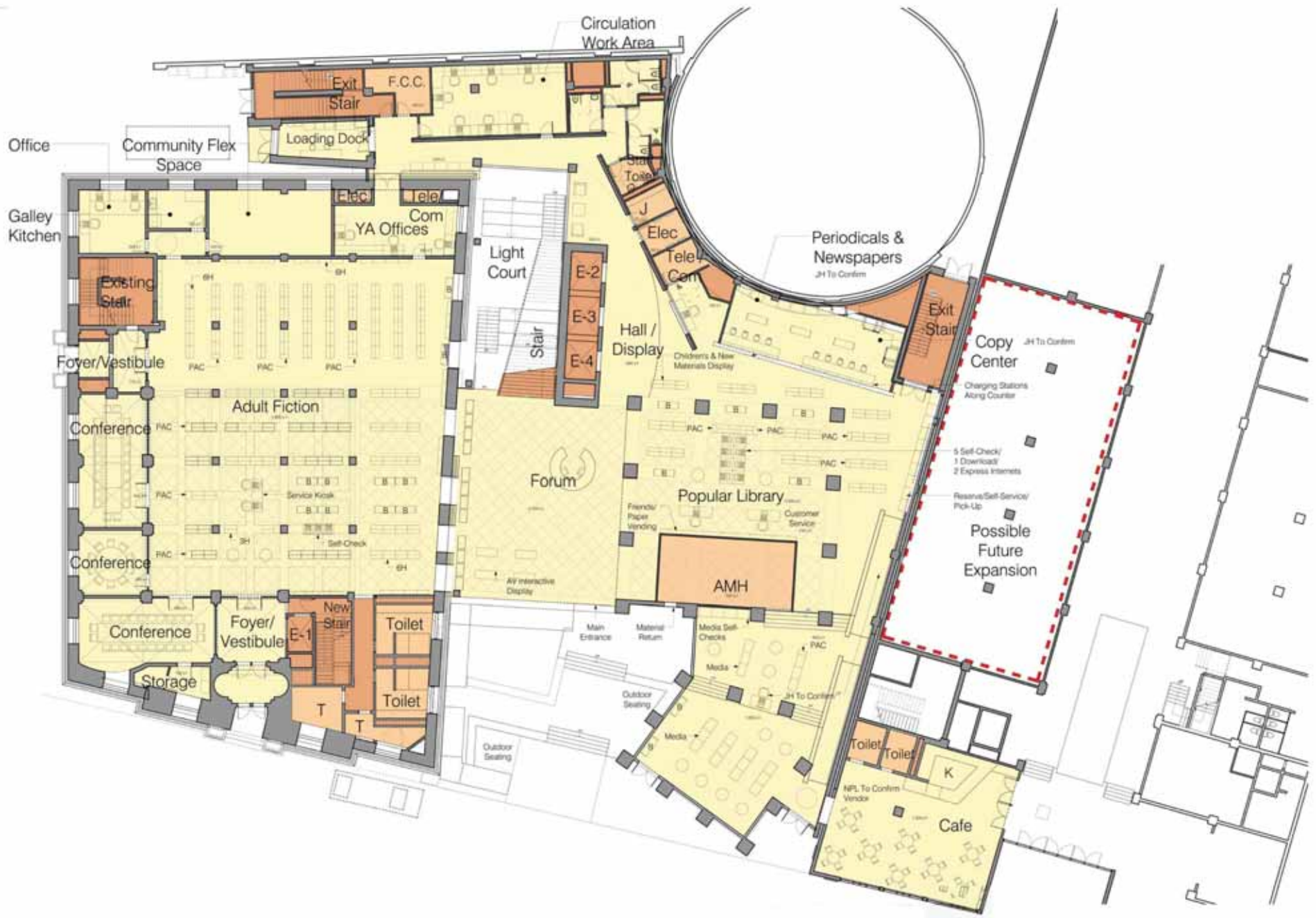
Slover Memorial Library

Image courtesy of Newman Architects, LLC



Slover Memorial Library

Image courtesy of Newman Architects, LLC



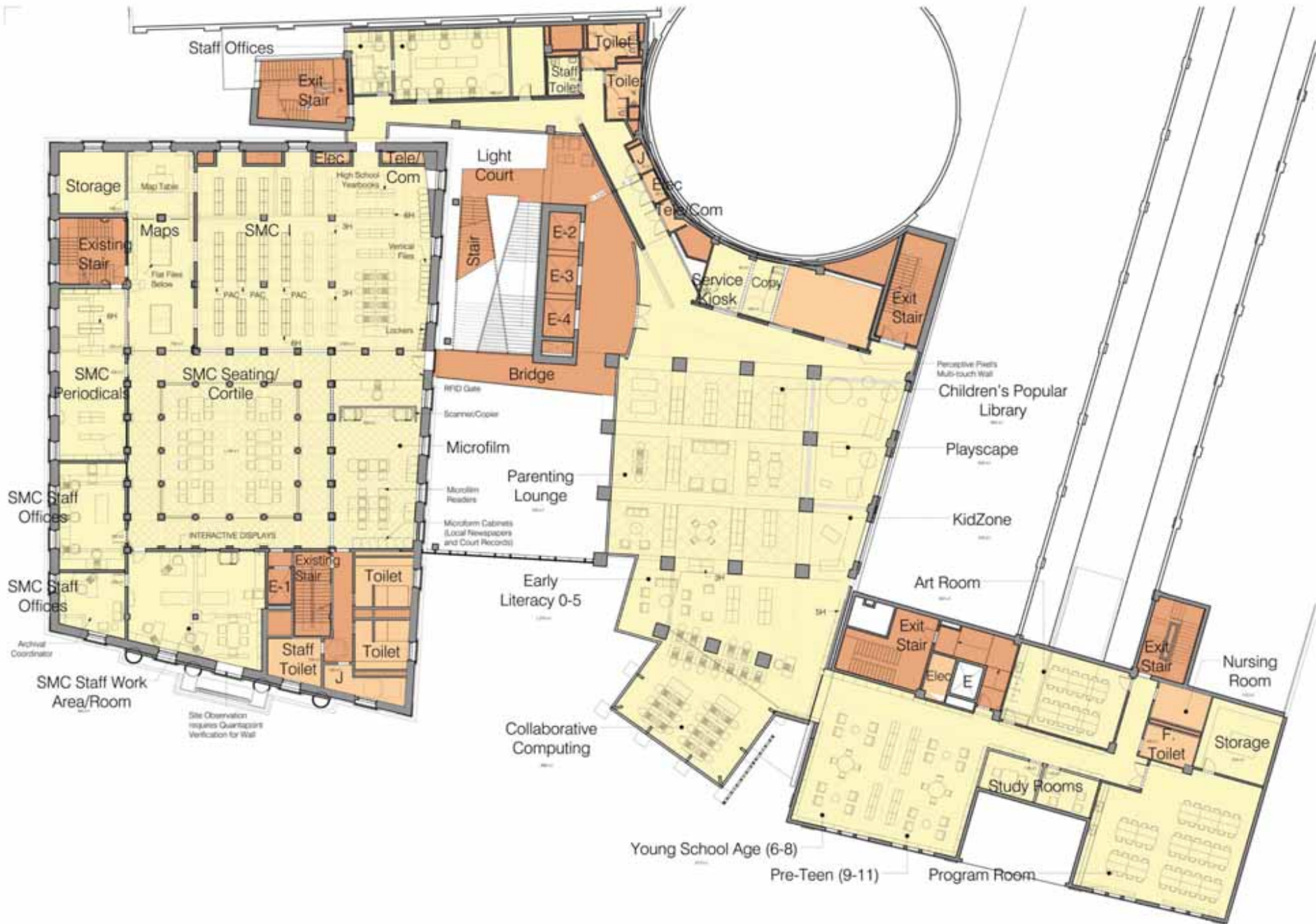
Slover Memorial Library

Image courtesy of Newman Architects, LLC



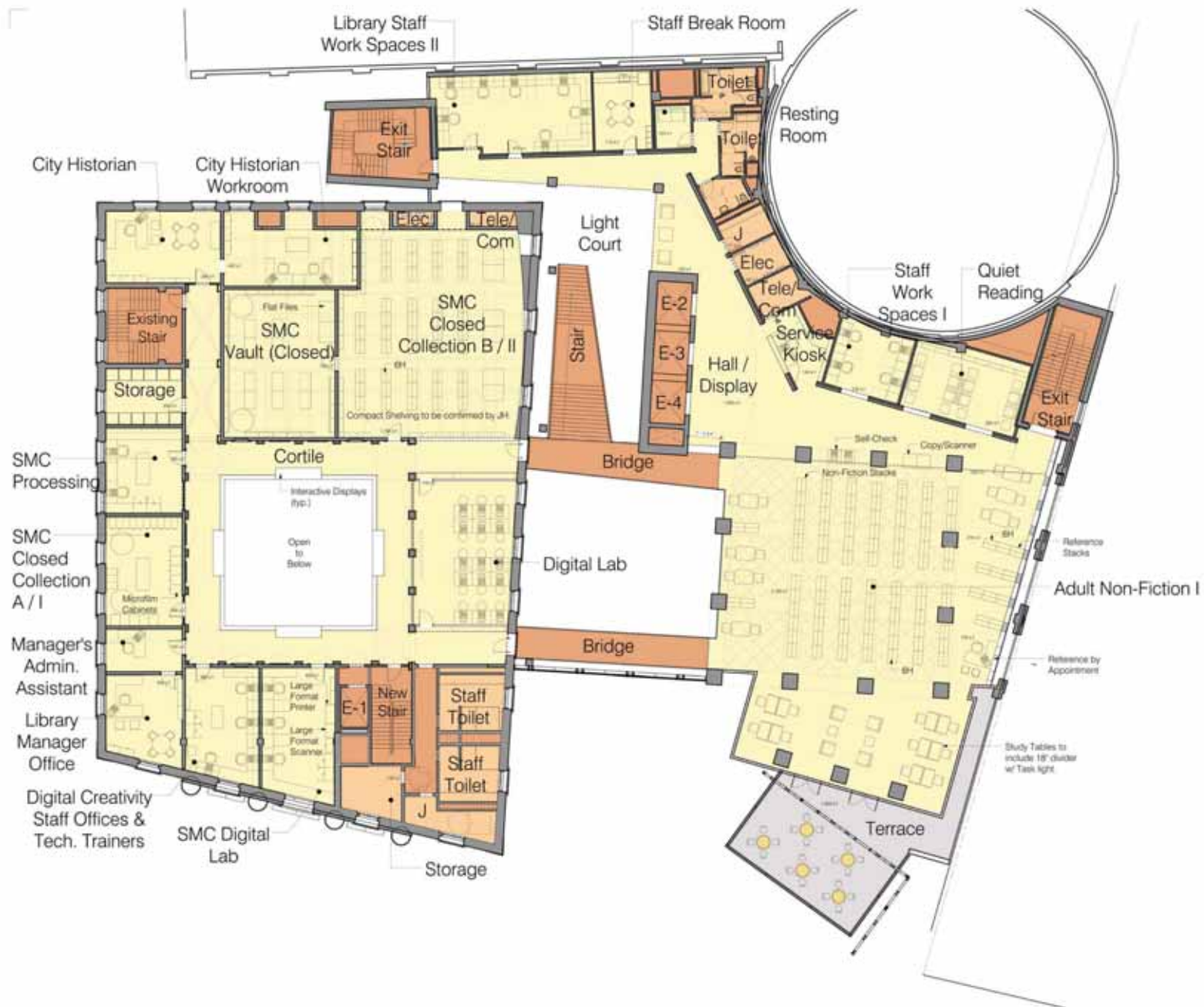
Slover Memorial Library

Image courtesy of Newman Architects, LLC

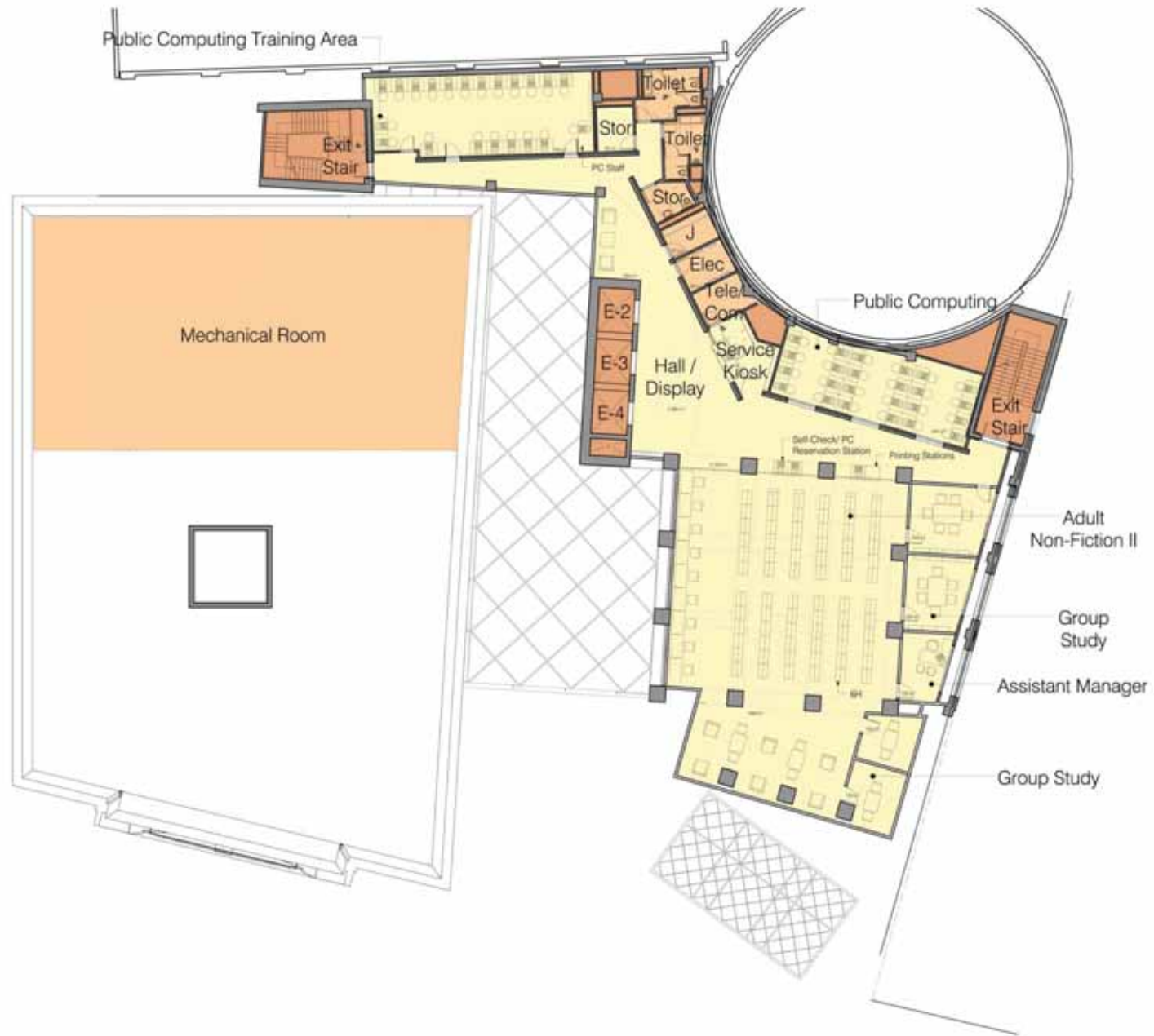


Slover Memorial Library

Image courtesy of Newman Architects, LLC



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Image courtesy of Newman Architects, LLC



Slover Memorial Library

Image courtesy of Newman Architects, LLC

Courtesy Newman Architects, LLC © 2010



Model rendering of the proposed Samuel L. Slover Library in downtown Norfolk, Virginia (newmanarchitects.com)

Courtesy Newman Architects, LLC © 2010



Conceptual rendering of the proposed Samuel L. Slover Library in downtown Norfolk, Virginia (newmanarchitects.com)



Model rendering of the proposed Samuel L. Slover Library in downtown Norfolk, Virginia (newmanarchitects.com)

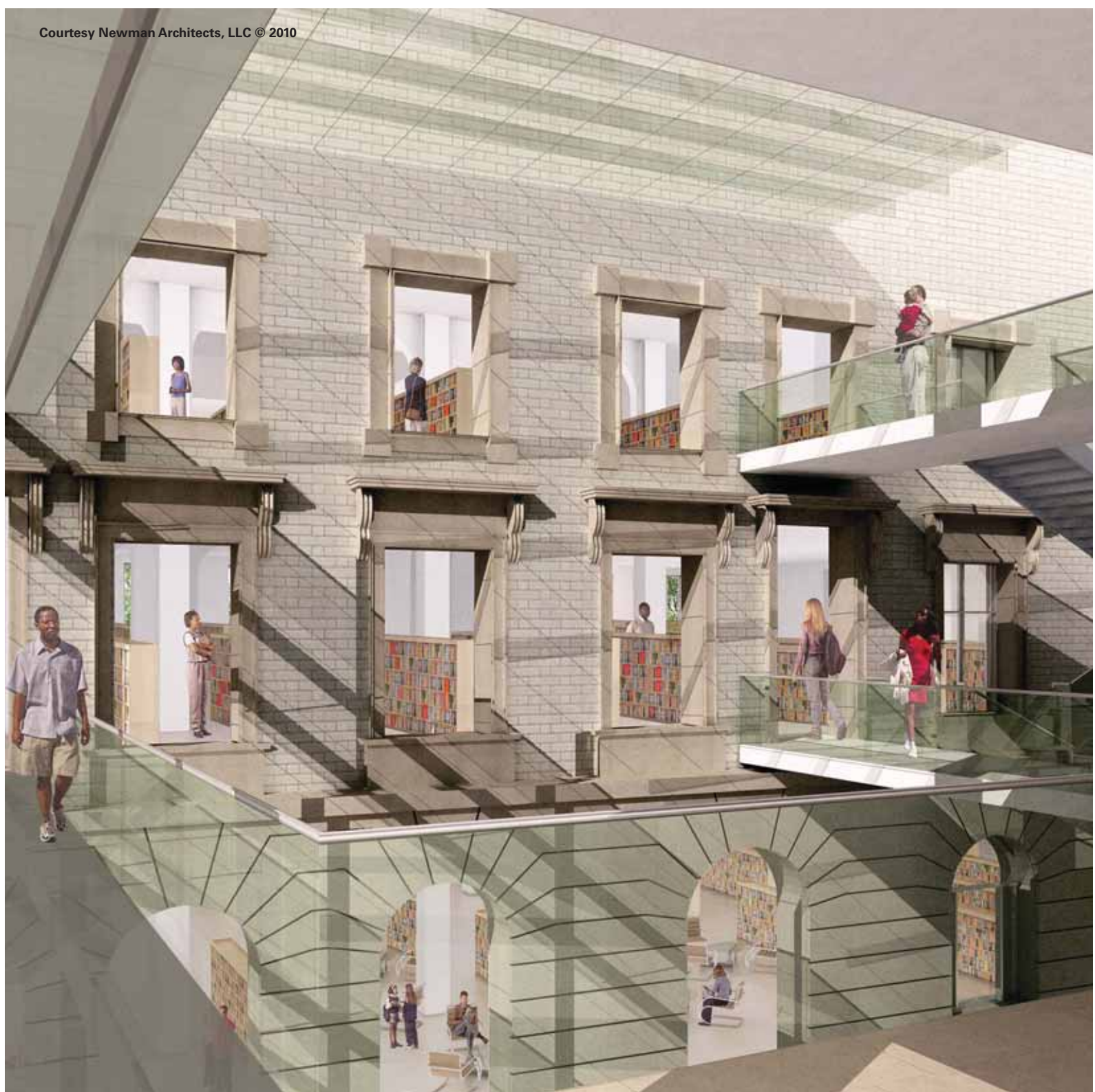
Courtesy Newman Architects, LLC © 2010



Model rendering of the proposed Samuel L. Slover Library in downtown Norfolk, Virginia (newmanarchitects.com)



Conceptual rendering of the proposed Samuel L. Slover Library in downtown Norfolk, Virginia (newmanarchitects.com)



Conceptual rendering of the proposed Samuel L. Slover Library in downtown Norfolk, Virginia (newmanarchitects.com)