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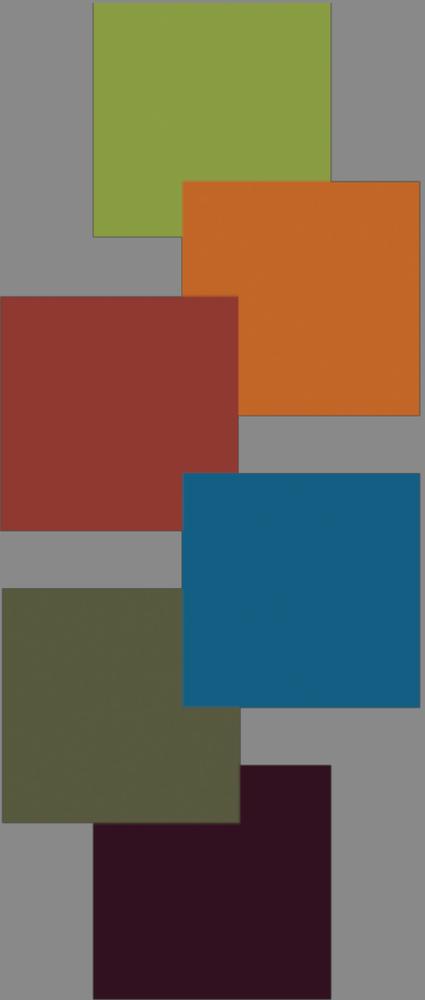
Joe and Rika Mansueto Library: A Year Later – Lessons Learned

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Joe and Rika Mansueto Library: A Year Later – Lessons Learned

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The Joe and Rika Mansueto Library





The Joe and Rika Mansueto Library

- The Program
- The Building
- Its Impact
- Lessons Learned





The Program

- Four programmatic areas:
 - Storage for the equivalent of 3.5 million volumes in an automated storage and retrieval system
 - Reading room with seating for 180 users
 - Circulation department for retrieving, reshelving, and circulating materials
 - Preservation department with a conservation laboratory and digitization laboratory



The Architect: Helmut Jahn





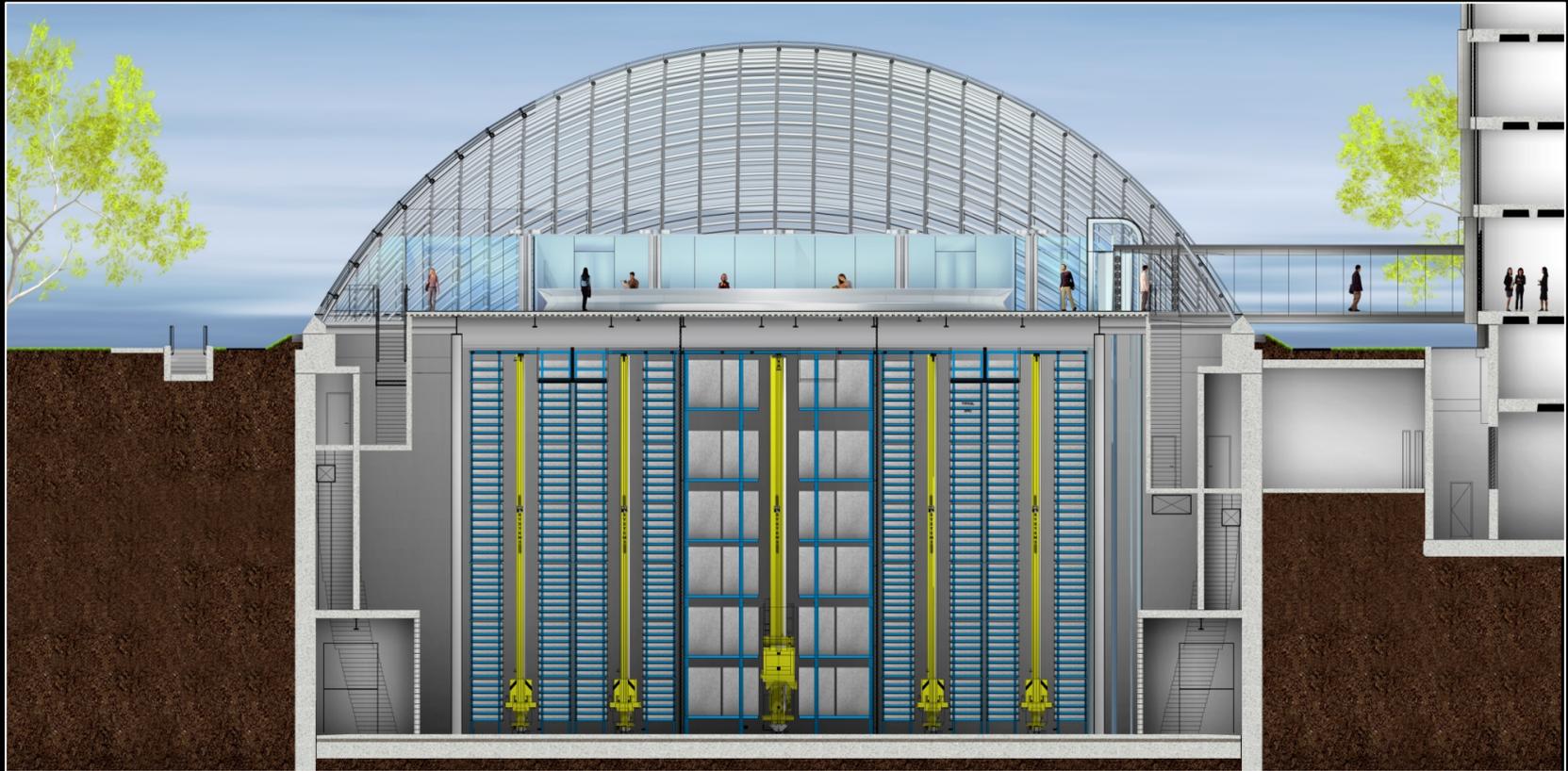
The Building



240 ft x 120 ft x 3.5 stories high



Below Ground Storage Facility



- 3.5 million volume equivalent capacity in high-density automated shelving
- Humidity (30% RH) and temperature (60 degrees) controlled for optimal preservation environment
- Slurry wall construction and pumps with emergency backup to prevent water damage



Bin and Shelf Rack Storage



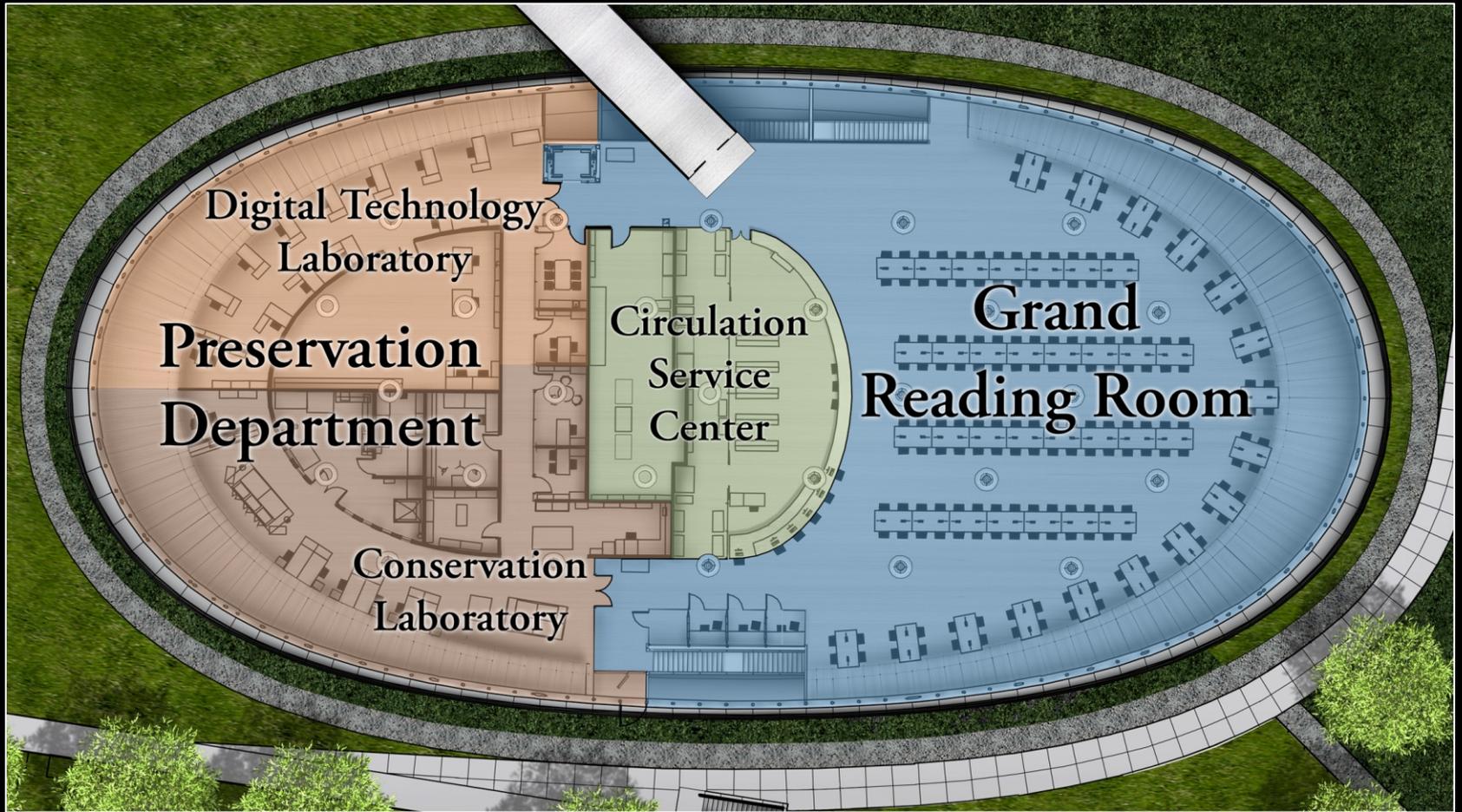
24,000 bins: 10", 12" and 15" heights
4 aisles of bins

1,200 shelf racks: 3'x5'x6'
1 double deep shelf rack aisle

Current Content:

- Print journals available online or indexed electronically
- Oversize and other non-standard items
- Special Collections materials

Reading Room, Circulation Service Center, Preservation (Digitization & Conservation)





Impact: Abundant Storage





Impact: Efficient, Almost Real-Time, Retrieval





Impact: Facilitating Research





Impact: Exquisite Reading Space





Impact: Conserving Materials



Impact: Preservation-Quality Digitization





Impact: Preservation-Quality Digitization





Lessons Learned: Planning and Execution

1. Making the case was more difficult than constructing or opening the new Library
 - Keeping collections on-site and available in almost real time academically distinguishes the University
2. Develop and sustain expertise in-house
3. A glass dome near ground level invites climbers



Lessons Learned: Communications

4. Architecture matters

- An architecturally distinctive building brings a demand for tours from an international audience

5. Robotic cranes capture the imagination

- 196,000 views of “How It Works” video on YouTube

6. Browsing and serendipitous discovery is still valued

- When communicating about the building, make certain to explain how the new fits in with existing system

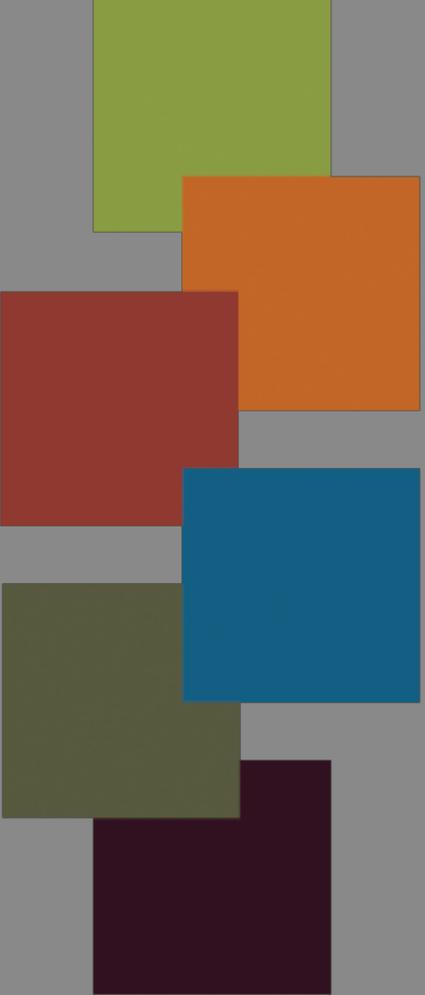


Lessons Learned: Library-wide Impact

7. Mansueto is a great enabler

- Enables repurposing spaces previously housing collections – for a café, for partnerships and collaborations, for future explorations of programs and spaces

8. Success breeds success



“Mansueto is the epitome of the idea that at Chicago, we take ideas and learning seriously—so seriously that we just had to keep the books with us; we couldn’t send them off-site. The physical depth of Mansueto is to me a metaphor for the profundity of the scholarship and teaching that make Chicago what it is.”

– *Professor Anne Robertson*

Thank You

mansueto.lib.uchicago.edu