



مشروع احياء مكتبة الاسكندرية القديمة

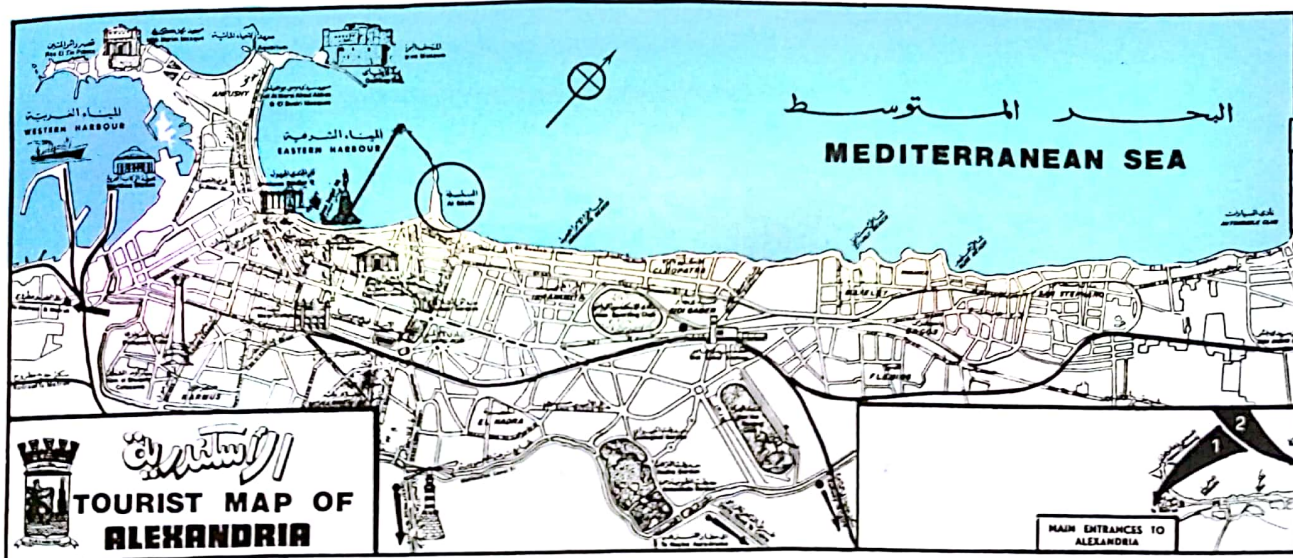
١٩٨٦

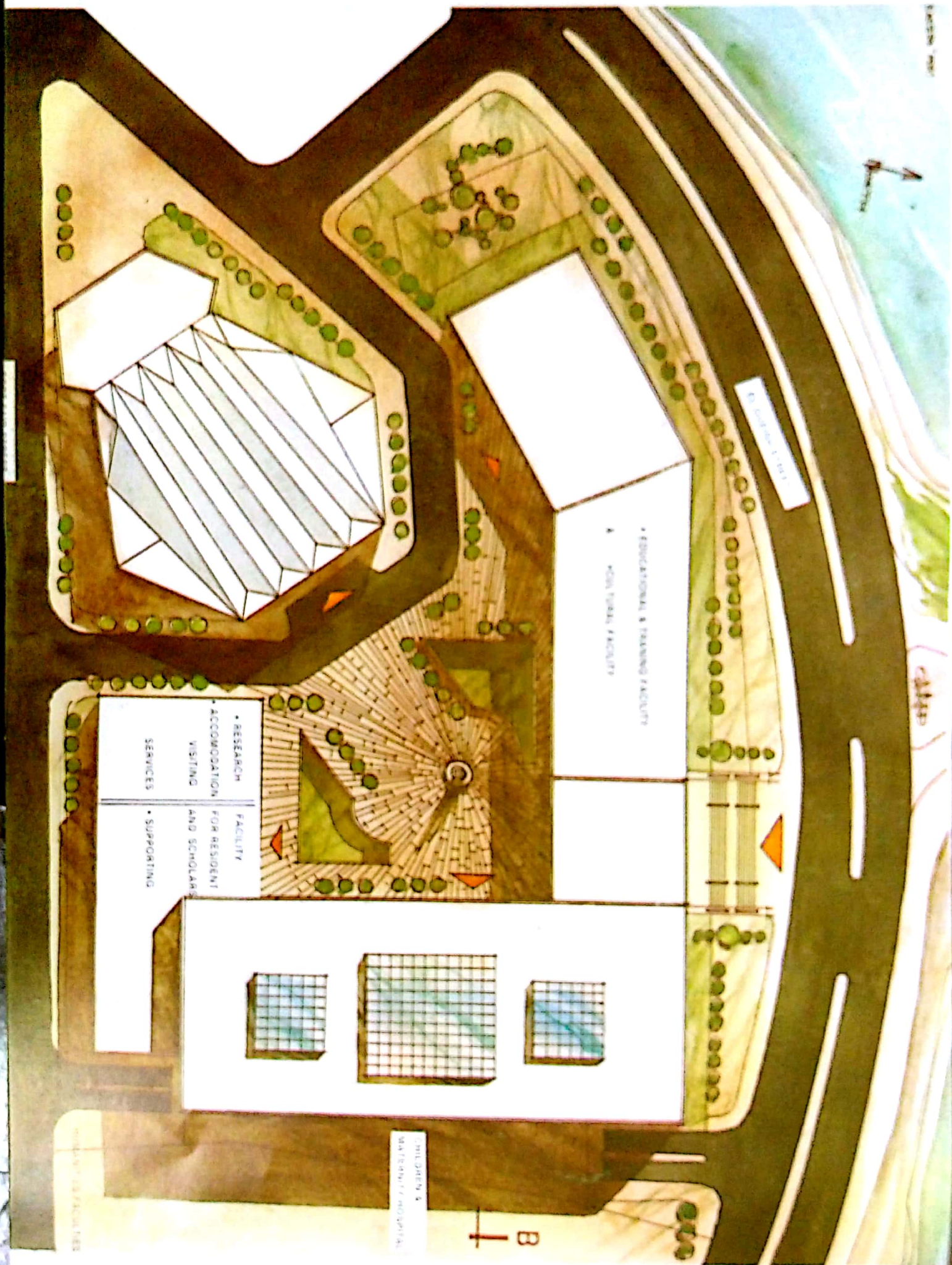


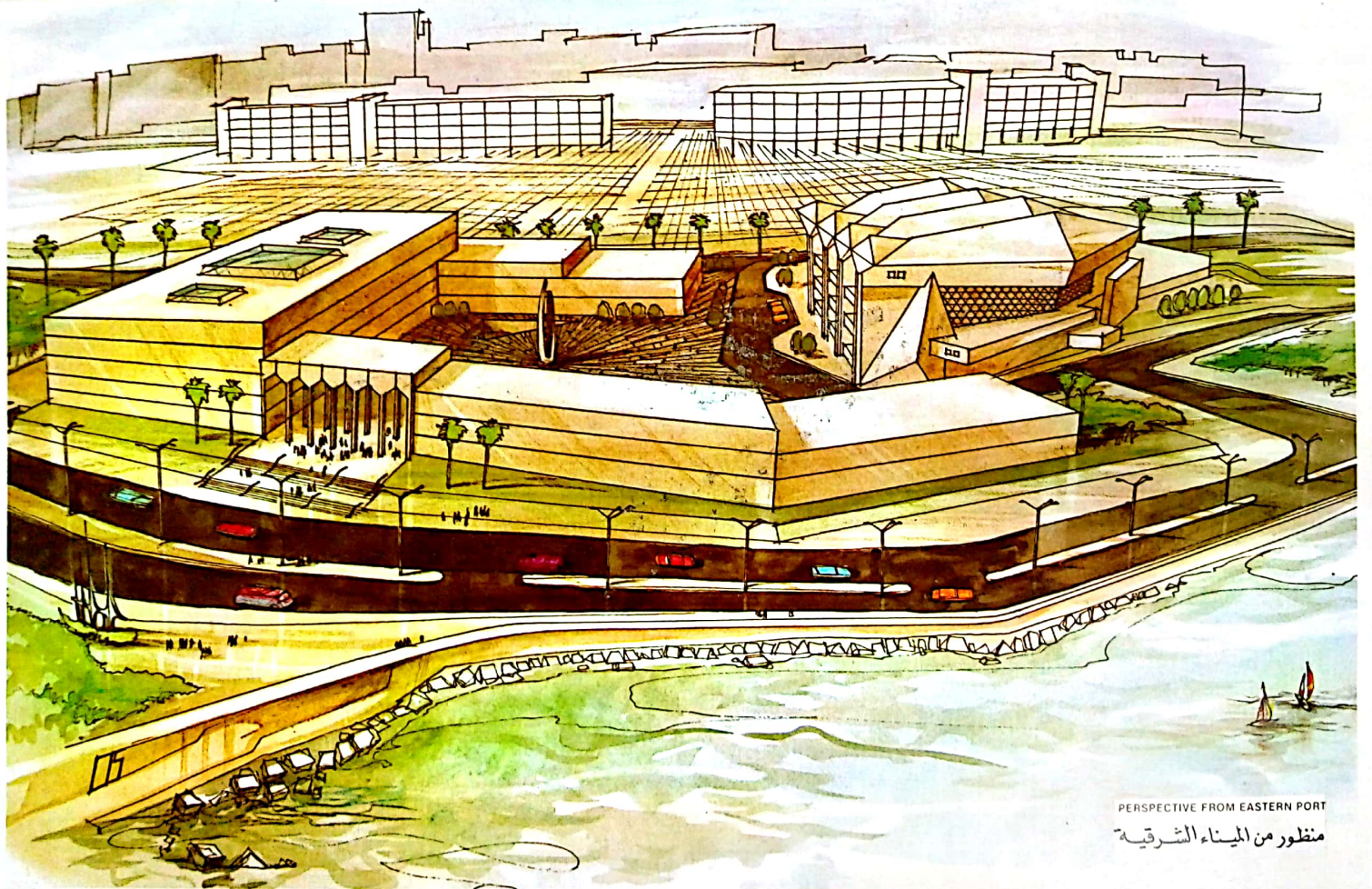
مشروع احياء مكتبة الاسكندرية القديمة

THE NEW ALEXANDRIANA

1986 - ١٩٨٦

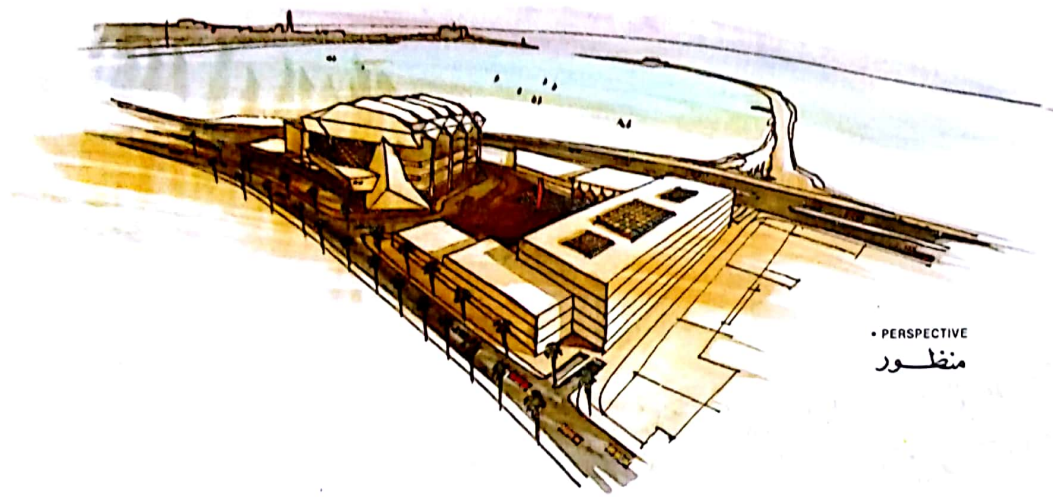




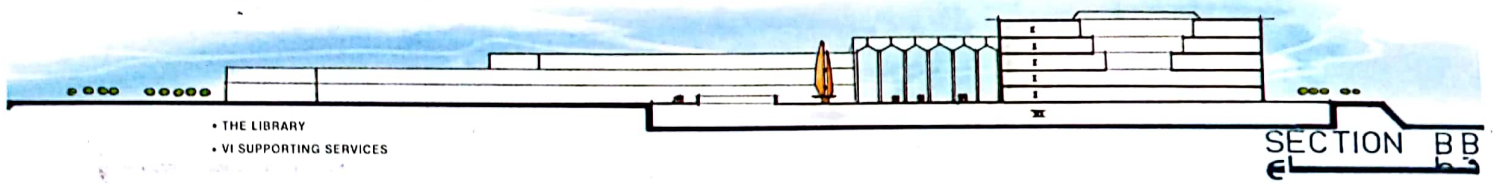
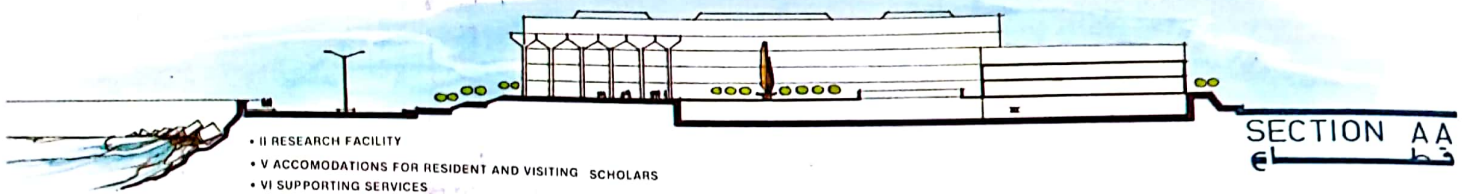


PERSPECTIVE FROM EASTERN PORT

منظور من الميناء الشرقية



• PERSPECTIVE
منظور



■ Lounges ■ Smoking Room	90 m ²
■ Technical Department	120 m ²
■ Library Services	120 m ²
■ Administration Department	120 m ²
■ Printing Shop/ Press (Library & Scholarly Works)	150 m ²
■ Reproduction Room	150 m ²
■ Financial/ Procurement Department	180 m ²
■ Central Computer Room	200 m ²
■ Cafeterias (Public/ Staff/ Research)	300 m ²

IV EDUCATIONAL & TRAINING FACILITY

■ Lounge/ Living Room	100 m ²
■ Indoor Sports/ gymnasium	100 m ²
■ Kitchen (in-House Management) ■ Dining Hall	150 m ²
■ Efficiency/ Studio Units	1600 m ²

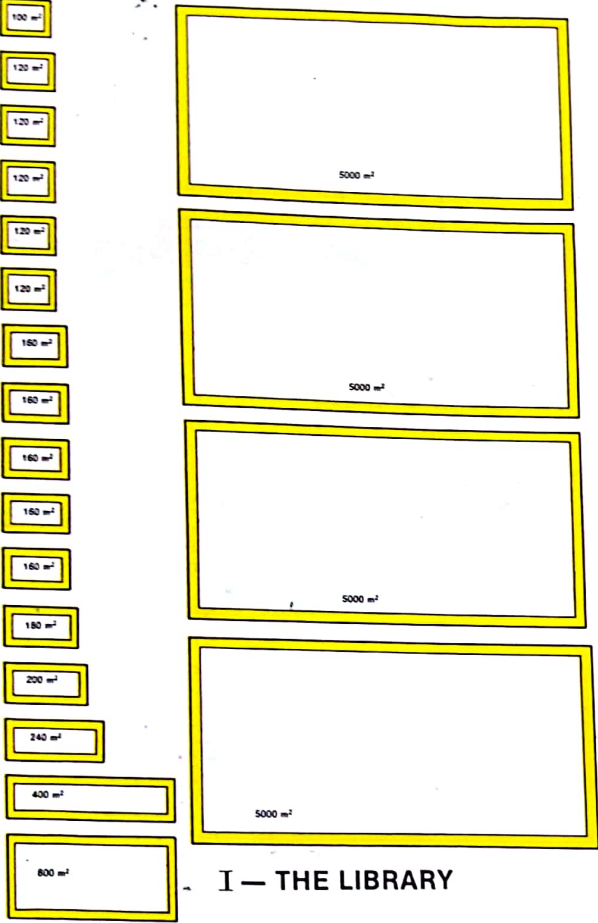
V — ACCOMODATIONS FOR RESIDENT AND VISITING SCHOLARS

■ Indexing	100 m ²
■ Vault (Safe Keeping)	100 m ²
■ Shelter ■ Environmental/Control And Security	100 m ²
■ Employees' Changing Room/ Rest Area	120 m ²
■ Toilets/ Rest Room	120 m ²
■ Guards Posts ■ Emergency power Room/ Transformers	120 m ²
■ Work Room ■ Maintenance Workshops	120 m ²
■ Receiving And Shipping (Linked to Service Entrance)	150 m ²
■ Sorting And packing	150 m ²
■ Mechanical Space — H.V.A.C.	200 m ²
■ Storage	250 m ²

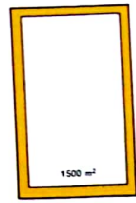
■ Parking Area (Staff/ Visitors/Public) 200 Cars	5000 m ²
--	---------------------

VI — LIBRARY SUPPORTING SERVICES

- Consultation Room
- Chief Librarian
- Assistant Librarian
- Rare Book Collections
- Special Research Rooms
- Micro-Film Room
- Computer Terminals Room
- Exhibition
- Main Circulation Desk
- Encyclopedia And Reference Room
- Media Room
- Audio-Visual Room
- Studio Room
- Mail Room
- Music Room
- Video Reference Room
- Periodical Room
- Reference Room
- Group Study
- Historical Manuscript Room
- Special Collection
- Entrance Lobby
- Key or Reference Catalogues
- Study And Research Carrels



I — THE LIBRARY



■ Main Reading Hall

■ Book Stacks/ Storage
20 000 m²

- Seminar Room
- Research Cubicles
- Small Auditoriums

II — RESEARCH FACILITY

- Hall of Fame And Memoria
- Two Chamber Music Halls
- Exhibition Room
- Museum of Calligraphy
- Supporting Services
- Science Museum/Planetarium

III — CULTURAL FACILITY

3. Small auditoriums (2x100)*

III. CULTURAL FACILITY :

1. Exhibition rooms.
2. Museum of calligraphy.
3. Science museum / planetarium.
4. Hall of Fame and Memoria.
5. Two halls for Chamber Music (50 persons)
6. Supporting services for above.

IV. RESIDENT AND VISITING SCHOLARS, ACCOMODATIONS :

1. A group of efficiency units.
2. Reception, dining room and supporting facilities.

VI. LIBRARY AND SUPPORTING SERVICES :

1. Open stack area.
2. Receiving and shipping.
3. Storage.
4. Sorting and packing.
5. Indexing.
6. Maintenance workshops.
7. Reproduction room.
8. Central computer room.
9. Administration department.

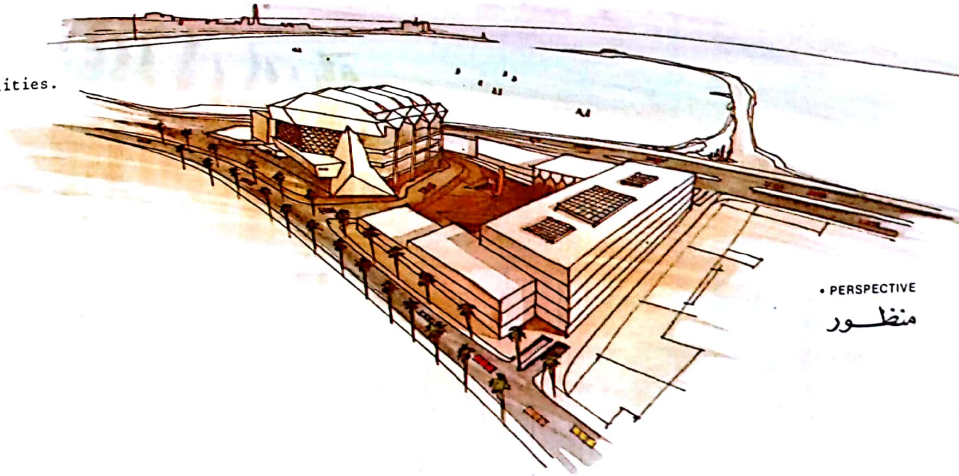
* Larger auditoriums are available in the adjacent conference centre.

10. Technical department.

11. Printing shop/press (library & scholarly work)

13. Environmental control and security, etc

proceedings of the



• PERSPECTIVE
منظور

THE SITE OF THE LIBRARY COMPLEX :

The present site allocated for the revival of the famous Alexandriana is situated in the vicinity of the historic and famous ancient Library. This site is located directly on the waterfront of the eastern port which was planned by Deinocrates since the establishment of the city in 332 B.C. by Alexander the Great. To the west of the site is located the new 3500-seat Conference and Assembly Hall of Alexandria University. Across the street to the south is the campus of the schools of Humanities (Arts, Economics and law). To the east lies the Maternity and the Pediatrics Hospital.

The total site area is about 45,000 square meters. It is estimated that this site's unique location and frontage make it one of the most valuable and strategic sites in the entire city of Alexandria, with a minimum assessment of \$ 1300 per square meter. This means that the site value is estimated at approximately \$ 60,000,000 which represents the main contribution of Alexandria University towards the revival of the "ALEXANDRIANA". The site plan shown hereafter illustrates its relationship regarding the old city of Alexandria as well as the actual boundaries of the site.

FUNCTIONAL AND SPATIAL COMPONENTS :

The Library of Alexandria will be composed of six principal components :

I. THE LIBRARY :

The Library should accommodate about four million volumes expandable to five million in the future. The Library design should allow for future expansion of stacks to accommodate double the proposed capacity. The Library collection should include volumes on :

- a. General subjects on Art, Humanities, Science and Technology.
- b. Specialized subjects.
- c. Rare books and manuscripts.
- d. Special collections.
- e. Maps.
- f. Periodicals.
- g. Music.
- h. Visual Arts.
- i. Other acquisitions relating to the cultural and historical heritage of Egypt and the Mediterranean region.

II. RESEARCH FACILITY :

1. Research cubicles (25)
2. Seminar rooms (4)

3. Professor Mostafa El-Abbadi
Head, Classical Civilization Department
University of Alexandria
4. Professor Mohsen Zahran.
Professor of Architecture and Urban Planning
University of Alexandria

This nucleus committee decided upon the following plan of action:

First: NATIONAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE (NPC):

The NPC is to be composed of a group of distinguished Egyptian personalities renowned for their cultural and public activities, in addition to the above four members of the ANC. They advise on:

1. details of the project
2. Selecting the IPC members

Second: INTERNATIONAL PREPARATORY COMMITTEE (IPC):

The above NPC is to be enlarged by the addition of international personalities, known for their interest in the promotion of international cultural links and in Egyptian civilization.

This committee will advise on:

1. details of the project
2. the suggestion of names for the international steering committee "ISC"
3. the agenda for the meeting that will take place in Alexandria around November or December 1986 and its participants. This meeting will take the form of a workshop which will deal with means of implementation, ways of finance and a system of control.

4. preparing and publishing the proceedings of the meeting.

THIRD: INTERNATIONAL Board (IB)

The International Board is to be formed of international personalities willing to spend time and effort for the realization of the project. Its duties will be to:

1. hold a workshop in Alexandria, to study the project in all its details. The preliminary date suggested is November or December 1986.
2. conduct a world wide campaign for raising funds.
3. study and discuss reports presented by the executive committee, at regular intervals.
4. audit accounts.
5. nominate international experts to advise on the formation of the library, and on its administration.
6. announce an international competition for the construction of the library and to appoint a board to select the most appropriate plans.
7. take the necessary steps towards the actual construction of the library.

FOURTH: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC)

The IB nominates members, both Egyptian and non Egyptian for this committee to supervise all the practical steps necessary. The EC will submit reports at regular intervals to the IB for discussion and adoption.

the project at \$ 160,000,000 to be assigned as follows:

- \$ 60,000,000 estimated value of the site.
- \$ 60,000,000 construction work.
- \$ 40,000,000 books and equipments.

Therefore, the University of Alexandria places its hope in those who sincerely believe in the spreading of civilization and the unity of human destiny; it is a feat worthy of the co-operation of nations for the sake of culture and knowledge. The following are suggestions for financing the project :

1. The University of Alexandria has provided a most appropriate site, 45.000 square meters (valued at \$ 60.000.000) within the area of the ancient Ptolemaic palaces where the Library and Museum were located.
2. A large conference centre (of four halls, total capacity 3.500 seats), already constructed by the University of Alexandria, within the same enclosure, covering an area of 5.000 square meters and facing the Library (valued at \$ 20.000.000) will constitute part of the library complex.
3. The Egyptian Government and the Governorate of Alexandria, will contribute towards financing the project.
4. A general appeal will be launched throughout Egypt for generous subscriptions.

5. All interested countries will be invited to contribute towards its fulfilment, similar to the appeals made to the UNESCO for the salvage of the Temples of Abu Simbel, the Acropolis and the monuments and treasures of Venice.
6. Prominent interested personalities and institutions from all over the world, will be contacted and invited to participate in one way or another in efforts leading to the realization of this international project of human heritage.

PLAN OF ACTION :

The President of the University of Alexandria issued a decree for the formation of an Alexandria Nucleus Committee of four members of the University to plan the initial necessary steps towards the realization of the project (ANC). Members of the ANC are :

1. Professor Mohammed Lotfy Dowidar, Chairman
Former President of the University of Alexandria
Emeritus Professor of Surgery
2. Professor Abdel Rahman El-Sadr, Vice Chairman
Former Deputy President of University of Alexandria.
Director of Alexandria University Research Centre.
Emeritus Professor of Urology.

4. The establishment of a special collection on African studies which will include all published traditional African inscriptions as well as modern scholarly works that deal with the affairs of the Continent.
5. The acquisition of all available works on the history of science and medicine, in view of the important role the region played in these fields.
6. The achievements of modern scientific scholarship will also be included. A science museum will be appropriate.
7. In view of Alexandria's contribution to the study of astronomy and geography, a planetarium with a special section for maps will be provided.
8. As the Alphabet was developed in the region, a museum of the history of writing and of writing materials and equipments is to be attached.
9. Other additional sections : a record and film library, an archive of printed pictures and slides of persons, monuments and landscapes of the region.
10. A hall of fame of Eminent Historical Scientists.

SERVICES PROVIDED ON THE PREMISES :

Librarianship has undergone a thorough revolution within the last fifteen years as a result of the introduction of computer systems. The proposed library should benefit from the experience of other major libraries in this respect, especially that of the

integrated systems developed in the U.S.A. The advice of the International Association of Libraries and Librarians should be sought. The following services will be available :

1. A computerized catalogue.
2. A network for the exchange of information.
3. A centre for archives and statistics.
4. An up-to-date printing press for the publication of specialised scholarly work, provided with types in Hieroglyphic, Greek, Latin, Hebrew, Coptic, Arabic etc. letters, as well as all modern scientific signs and symbols.
5. Workshops for the preservation, restoration and binding of books as well as for providing facilities for photocopying in its various forms.

FINANCING THE PROJECT :

It is obvious that to finance such a project according to acknowledged international standards, large funds in Egyptian and foreign currencies will be needed. This requires national and international co-operation, not only for the actual building of the library with its various appendages, but also to finance the training of librarians and administrative personnel as well as the acquisition of books, periodicals and modern sophisticated equipment and apparatuses. The committee estimates the total cost of

Yet, this universality of human knowledge is not a prerogative of the modern world. It was first realized and practised to an astonishing degree of accomplishment more than two thousand years ago in ancient Alexandria, (Later on, it was again to be found during the Islamic Abbassid Caliphate in Baghdad). The city of Alexandria is proud that it was the abode of the Alexandriana, the largest library in all antiquity, in which an attempt was made to "acquire the writings of all nations".

Due to its favourable location on the Mediterranean at a junction of international commerce and communication, this city was once able to realize one of Alexander's dreams in founding it, to act as a melting pot for the noblest civilizations of the day, of Greece, Egypt and the Near East. It is not surprising therefore, that the modern University of this city should hope to revive such a great tradition and work for its achievement at this crucial turn of the century.

AIM OF THE PROJECT :

Like its ancient prototype, the immediate aim of the new Alexandriana is to establish a public research library, in order to enable the whole region to resume its past reputation for scholarship along modern lines. It is hoped that the new library will ultimately

include all that the human mind has produced, in whatever form available, from various civilizations and languages. All necessary modern library facilities will be available. In addition to this central aspect, the project intends to give this library special features that will distinguish it from other libraries of the same nature. Special attention and care will be devoted to certain branches of learning that bear a direct connection with the historical, geographical and cultural background of Alexandria, Egypt and the Middle East. Thus, the Alexandriana will, it is hoped, become a centre for all scholarship connected with the region. This can be achieved by taking the following measures :

1. The acquisition of all that is available in the form of books, periodicals and manuscripts (or their microfilms and microfiches) connected with the cultural and intellectual legacy of the Mediterranean and the Middle East.
2. The acquisition of studies on Egyptian civilization throughout the ages, and the collecting of all published papyri and inscriptions in the various languages (ancient Egyptian, Greek, Latin, Aramaic, Coptic and Arabic).
3. The acquisition of manuscripts or copies of books in Arabic, Persian, Turkish, Hebrew, Syriac and other oriental languages that provide a record of Islamic intellectual achievement.

University Of Alexandria

The New Alexandriana

Revival Of The Library Of Alexandria

Egypt, in preparation for the new era that is to be heralded with the year 2000, has already held several conferences, both national and international, in order to cope with some of her pressing problems such as housing, urbanization, pollution, population explosion, advancement of science, reform of the educational system etc. The University of Alexandria, reflecting this national mood, has looked at the situation from its own special angle. It realized that the terrific rate of advance in science and technology, constitutes the real challenge to our ability to acquire, absorb and participate in modern knowledge.

By international standards, all existing public and University libraries in Egypt are inadequate and perhaps incapable of satisfying the needs of serious modern research. So, in response to the nation's need in this respect, the University of Alexandria has decided to embark upon a project to revive the institution of the Alexandriana. This project is no doubt ambitious, but it will certainly be a definite step forward towards getting ready to cope with the ever developing technological revolution.

A most impressive characteristic of modern knowledge is perhaps, its universality; much of modern research and its application takes on at once global dimensions. A glance at the formation of some of the world's major libraries, reveals this global nature of present day knowledge.*

* National Libraries

- National Library, Paris	10,000,000	vols.
- British Museum, London	8,000,000	vols.
- Lenin Library, Moscow	28,750,000	vols.
- Congress Library, Washington	20,000,000	vols.
- National Library, Peking	10,000,000	Vols.
- National Library, Cairo	1,500,000	Vols.

University Libraries

- Sorbonne U.L.	3,000,000	Vols.
- Oxford U.L.	4,500,000	Vols.
- Gorky U.L.	6,500,000	Vols.
- Harvard U.L.	10,000,000	Vols.
- Cowing Hua U.L.	2,000,000	Vols.
- Cairo U.L.	300,000	Vols.



THE NEW ALEXANDRIANA

1986