

New Canaan Library

New Construction

Location	New Canaan, Connecticut	Size	46,000 square feet
Architect	Centerbrook Architects and Planners	Cost	\$30 million
Services	MEP/FP, Technology Design, Energy Modeling	Completed	2023
Awards	<i>American Libraries' 2023 Library Design Showcase Recognition in Climate-Conscious Category</i>		



This brand-new, three-floor library is the result of a highly collaborative process that engaged many stakeholders and garnered much support from the community. In addition to the library and collection spaces, programming includes an art gallery, auditorium, business center, cafe, children's room, conference rooms, demonstration kitchen, maker space, STEM center, and teen center. The new library also features an outdoor terrace suitable for gatherings and community events.

Kohler Ronan designed MEP/FP and technology systems and conducted energy modeling in support of programming and the architectural plan. Heating and cooling are provided by multiple variable refrigerant flow (VRF) units serving all spaces, while three rooftop-mounted dedicated outdoor air systems (DOAS) ensure fresh air. Noise from the DOAS units and kitchen exhaust is minimized via sound attenuation on both the supply and return ductwork. Lighting throughout is provided by high-efficiency LED fixtures, and a mobile generator is available in the event of long-term outages. Building systems incorporate automatic wet sprinkler and standpipe systems, as well as a complete fire alarm system, to optimize life safety and property protection.

A new IT structured cabling system, consisting of high-speed data cabling, and support spaces for both wired and wireless LAN are incorporated within our technology designs. Video surveillance, electronic access control, and intercommunications systems are also included. Regarding audio visual systems, the auditorium has video projection and sound systems capable of supporting livestreaming and recording both presentations and live music performances for the community. Finally, our energy modeling team helped identify and incorporate sustainable elements such as a photovoltaic array, atop the building's flat roof, and overhangs which help reduce energy consumption while providing shade.





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