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Women in the Design World: Work in Progress

Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts

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Kathleen Sheppard Curry, AIA, LEED AP / Master  
of Architecture, 1997

Sam Fox School of Design and Visual Arts

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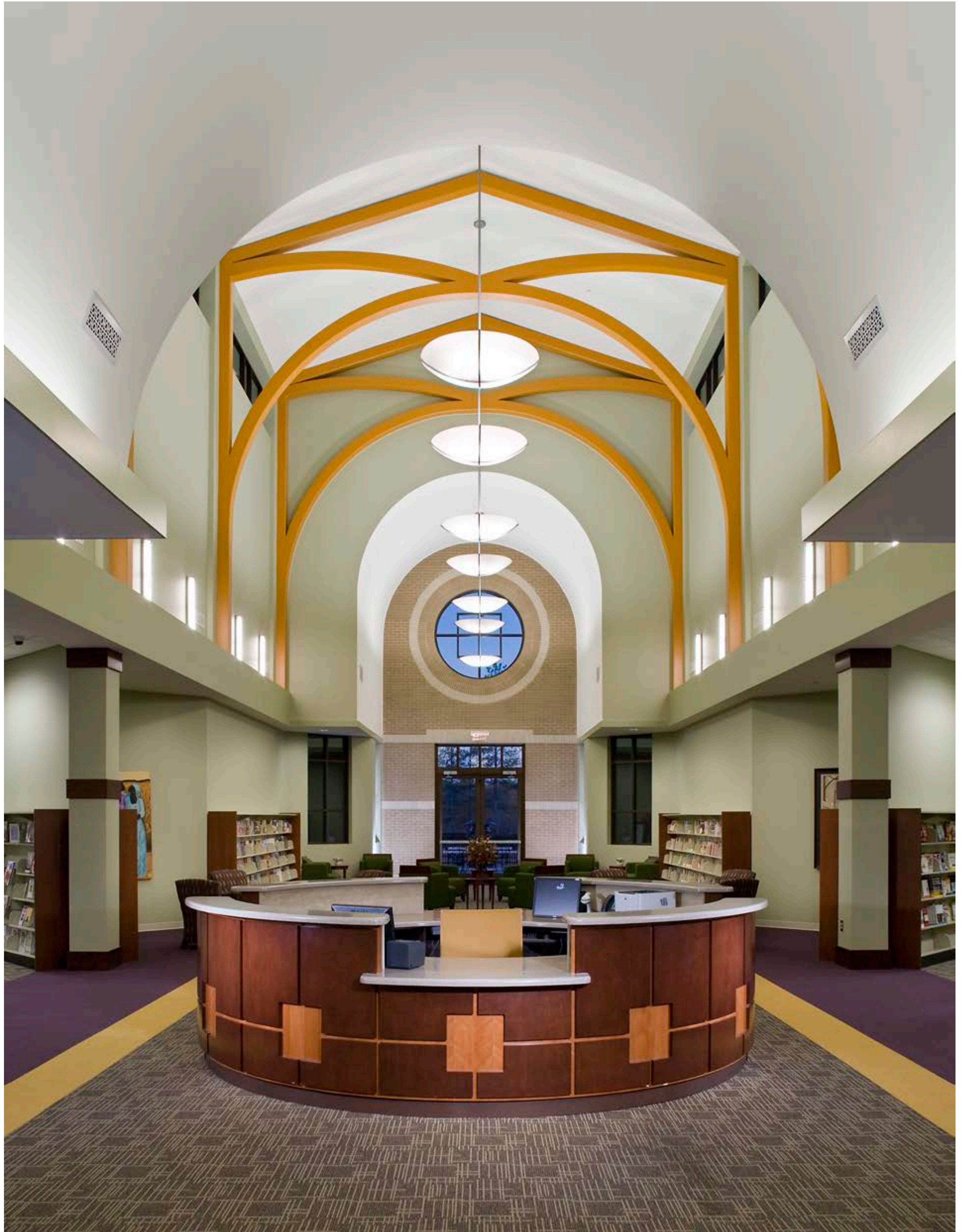
NEW CONSTRUCTION | COWETA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY ARCHITECT 2006 - 2008

Size: 1-story, 25,000 square feet on a 7.6 acre site  
Construction Cost: \$6 million

The Coweta County Central Library is set in a naturally beautiful meadow, as the headquarters for the County Library System. The building houses a collection of 20,000 volumes. The meadow-like site was the inspiration for its design. The winged floor plan allows each main functional area to have three exterior walls, with a generous amount of windows for natural daylight and pleasant views.

The exterior materials of the building used natural colors and textures, reminiscent of the meadow, while the project's interiors feature a vivid color scheme. Special features of the library's floor plan are a storytelling nook, and inviting, furnished casual reading areas with a visible, accessible main public entrance feature. It was important for the design to create secure, usable outdoor spaces, including a sun deck and a children's butterfly garden. These areas are constantly being used throughout the year for library activities.

The Coweta Library was designed for the special community it services.



Alumnae Biography

BIOGRAPHY

Currently, I am an architect at a small firm in Downtown Atlanta. I attended undergraduate school in Atlanta at Georgia Tech before graduate school at Wash. U; and always wanted to move back to Atlanta. I worked briefly for larger firms, before settling where I have been now for over twelve years. I work all facets of my

profession, which I truly love. I see all projects from inception to end and even beyond, which is a true joy. And library projects have become one of my favorite building types because it involves so much of a community. Attending a library's grand opening is the most enthusiastic to experience as an architect, since the public's input was so essential to it becoming a reality.

AWARDS

AIA Atlanta netWorking Women Group Chair  
AIA Atlanta Service Award

PUBLICATIONS

Library Journal, 12/15/2008, Library Buildings 2008: Keeping the "ECO" in Economy  
Georgia Library Quarterly, 01-01-2008, Spotlight on Construction: New Coweta County Library